# Resolution 2018-23

Appeal of the Kenai Peninsula Borough Planning Commission's Denial of A Conditional Land Use Permit in the Anchor Point area.

KPB Tax Parcel ID# 169-010-67
Tract B, McGee Tracts
Deed of Record Boundary Survey (Plat 80-104)
Deed recorded in Book 4, Page 116,
Homer Recording District.

Applicant Beachcomber, LLC

Landowner Beachcomber, LLC



# Planning Department

144 N. Binkley Street, Soldotna, Alaska 99669 • (907) 714-2200 • (907) 714-2378 Fax

Charlie Pierce Borough Mayor

"I, Max J. Best, the Kenai Peninsula Borough Planning Director, do hereby certify that to the best of my knowledge the attached record contains true and correct copies of all documents required by KPB 21.20.270 to be included in the record on appeal in the matter of a conditional land use permit denial for sand and gravel extraction in the Anchor Point area at the Kenai Peninsula Borough Planning Commission meeting of July 16, 2018."

Planning Director

Kenai Peninsula Borough

STATE OF ALASKA

)SS.

THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT

The foregoing instrument was acknowledged before me this by Max J. Best day of

of the Kenai Peninsula Borough, a municipal corporation, on behalf of the corporation.

OFFICIAL SEAL STATE OF ALASKA PATRICIA HARTLEY NOTARY PUBLIC

Notary Public for the State of Alaska

My commission expires: 3-7-21

## **INDEX**

	Record Page Numbers	Document Name
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# **VERBATIM TRANSCRIPT**

T	through T	Verbatim Transcript / Index
	_	July 16, 2018

# CONDITIONAL LAND USE PERMIT APPLICATION

SOLDOTNA, ALASKA 99669

# **KPB 21.29** Conditional Land Use Permit Application For a Sand, Gravel or Material Site

ı.	APPLICANT INFORMATION		
	Applicant Beachcomber LLC ATTN: Emmitt Trimble	Landowner same	
	Address PO Box 193	Address	
	City, State, Zip Anchor Point AK 99556		
	Telephone 907-299-1459 Cell		
		Email	
il.	PARCEL INFORMATION  KPB Tax Parcel ID# 16901067 Legal Desc	cription	
	T5S R15W Section 5 S.M., McGee Tracts Deed of Record		
	If permit is <u>not</u> for entire parcel, describe specific location with acres", or "5 acres in center of parcel".	nin parcel to be material site, e.g.; "N1/2 SW1/4 I	NE1/4 – 10
	Easterly 27.7 acres		
<b>▼</b>	\$300.00 permit processing fee payable to: Kenai Peninsula E Site Plan, to scale, prepared by a professional surveyor (licer parcel boundaries location of boundary stakes within 300 ft. of excavation area (to be in place at time of application) proposed buffers, or requested buffer waiver(s) proposed extraction area(s), and acreage to be mined proposed location of processing area(s) all encumbrances, including easements points of ingress and egress anticipated haul routes	<ul> <li>nsed and registered in Alaska) showing, where a</li> <li>location/depth of testholes, and depth to if encountered</li> <li>location of all wells within 300 ft. of parcel location of water bodies on parcel, included</li> </ul>	applicable: groundwater, I boundary
<u>√</u> √	Site Plan Worksheet (attached)  Reclamation Plan (attached) and bond, if required. Bond  Bonding requirements pursuant to AS 27.19.050  Please Note: If a variance from the conditions of Kl	requirement does not apply to material sites	
	attached. (A variance is NOT the same thing as a waive	r.)	on must be
I۷	CERTIFICATION STATEMENT		
	The information contained on this form and attachments are permission for borough staff to enter onto the property for the	ne purpose of processing the permit application.	. I grant
	Applicant Date	reduced frequired it not applicantly	D010

### Site Plan Worksheet for Conditional Land Use Permit Application

Use additional space provided on next page, if necessary. Indicate item # next to comments.

1	Applicant Beachcomber LLC Owner Beachcomber LLC
	KPB Tax Parcel ID # 16901067 Parcel Acreage 41.72
2. 3.	Cumulative acres to be disturbed (excavation <u>plus</u> stockpiles, berms, etc.) <u>27.7</u> acres  Material to be mined (check all that apply): gravel sand peat other(list)  Equipment to be used (check all that apply): excavation processing other  Proposed buffers as required by KPB 21.29.050.A.2 (check all types and directions that apply)
••	
	Proposed depth of excavation: 18' ft. Depth to groundwater: +20' ft.
	How was groundwater depth determined? Testhole on parcel & exposed surface water to north
	A permit modification to enter the water table will be requested in the future: X YesNo
8.	Approx. annual quantity of material, including overburden, to be mined: <50,000 cubic yards
9.	Is parcel intended for subdivision?Yes X No
0.	Expected life span of site? 15 years
1.	If site is to be developed in phases, describe: the excavation acreage, anticipated life span, and reclamation date <u>for each phase</u> : (use additional space on page 4 if necessary)  Kindly see page 4.
	Voluntary permit conditions proposed (additional buffers, dust control, limited hours of operation, etc.)
C.	

# Material Site Reclamation Plan for Conditional Land Use Permit Application

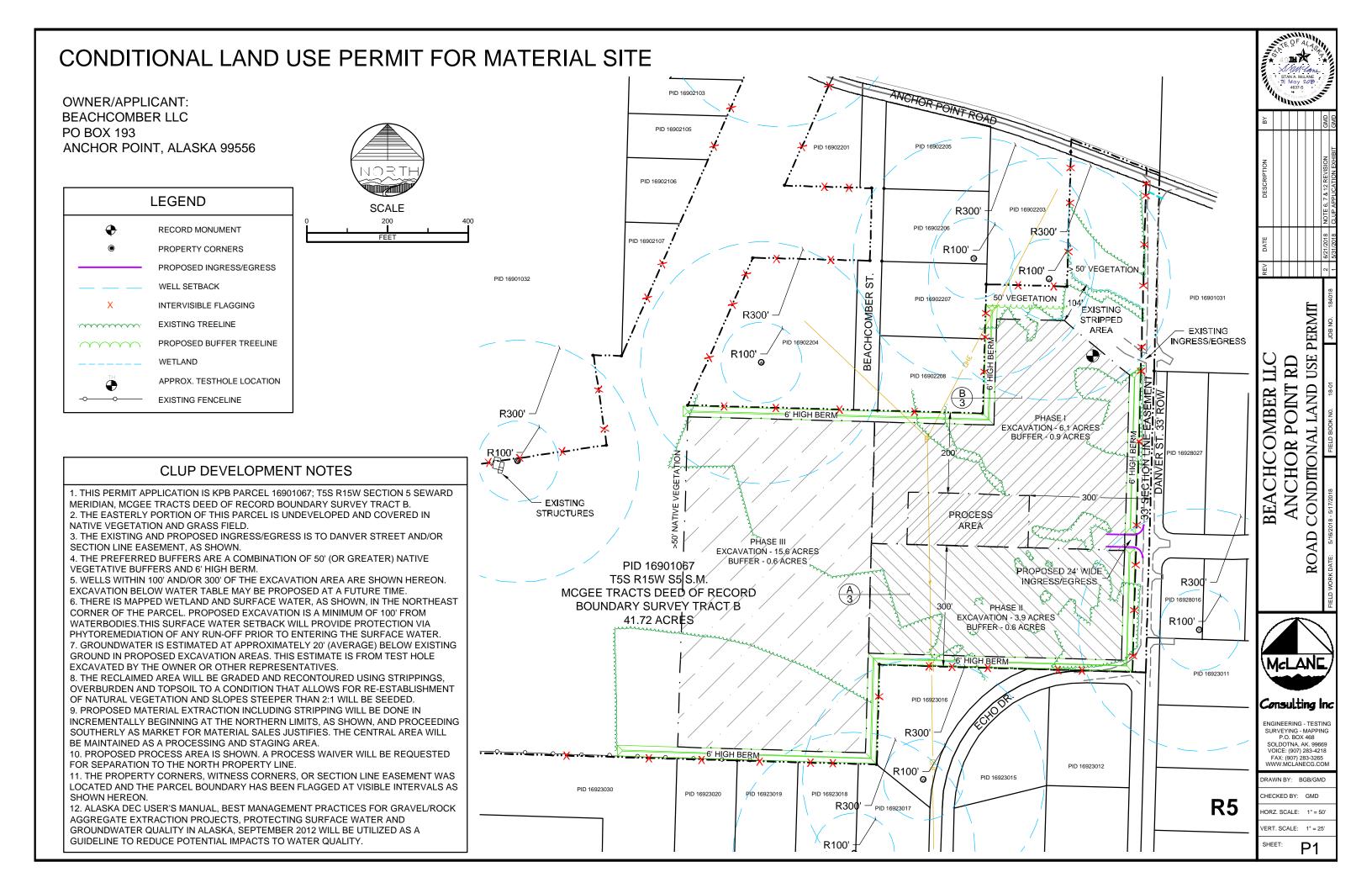
1.	All disturbed land shall be reclaimed upon exhausting the material on-site, so as to leave the land in a stable condition.
2.	All revegetation shall be done with a "non-invasive" plant species.
3.	Total acreage to be reclaimed each year: 2-5acres
4.	List equipment (type and quantity) to be used in reclamation:
	Loader & dozer
5.	Describe time schedule of reclamation measures:
	Reclamation will be completed annually before the growing season ends (September). Seeding will be applied
	as necessary each season to areas that achieve final grade in order to minimize erosion and dust.
6.	The following measures must be considered in preparing and implementing the reclamation plan, although not all will be applicable to every plan –  theck" all that apply to your plan.
	Topsoil that is not promptly redistributed to an area being reclaimed will be separated and stockpiled for future use. This material will be protected from erosion and contamination by acidic or toxic materials and preserved in a condition suitable for later use.
	The area will be backfil led, graded and recontoured using strippings, overburden, and topsoil to a condition that allows for the reestablishment of renewable resources on the site within a reasonable period of time. It will be stabilized to a condition that will allow sufficient moisture for revegetation.
	Sufficient quantities of stockpiled or imported topsoil will be spread over the reclaimed area to a depth of four inches to promote nat ural plant growth that can reasonably be expected to revegetate the area within five years. The applicant may use the existing natural organic blanket representative of the project area if the soil is found to have an organic content of 5% or more and meets the specification of Class B topsoil requirements as set by Alaska Test Method (ATM) T-6. The material shall be reasonably free from roots, clods, sticks, and branches greater than 3 in ches in diameter. Areas having slopes greater than 2:1 require special consideration and design for stabilization by a licensed engineer.
	Exploration trenches or pits will be backfilled. Brush piles and unwanted vegetation shall be removed from the site, buried or burned. Topsoil and other organics will be spread on the backfilled surface to inhibit erosion and promote natural revegetation.
	Peat and topsoil mine operations shall ensure a minimum of two inches of suitable growing medium is left or replaced on the site upon completion of the reclamation activity (unless otherwise authorized).
	Ponding will be used as a reclamation method. (Requires approval by the planning commission.)

Revised 10/26/12 Page 3 of 4

ADDITIONAL APPLICATION COMMENTS (Please indicate the page and item # for which you are making additional comments.)

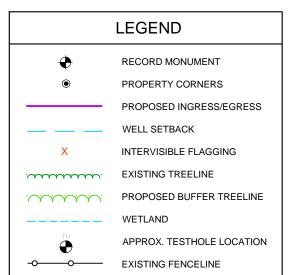
Page 2 Item 11.
This material site will be developed in Phases on an "as-needed" extraction basis. Development will begin at the Phase I
area in the northeastern corner. There is an existing ingress/egress in this area to Danver Street and the associated
section line easement. Phase I is 6.2 acres with an additional 0.9 acres in buffer area. A process area is proposed in
Phase I and is located 300 feet from all property lines, excluding the south property line of PID 16902208. A waiver to the
process area setback is being requested. The Phase II area is immediately south of the Phase I area and is 3.9 acres
plus 0.6 acres buffer. Phase III area is westerly of both Phase I & Phase II areas.
Monitor wells are planned for installation deem if the site is viable for extraction below the water table at a future time.

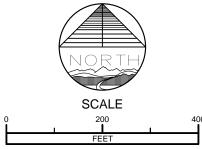
**R4** 



# CONDITIONAL LAND USE PERMIT FOR MATERIAL SITE

OWNER/APPLICANT: BEACHCOMBER LLC PO BOX 193 ANCHOR POINT, ALASKA 99556





### **CLUP DEVELOPMENT NOTES**

- 1. THIS PERMIT APPLICATION IS KPB PARCEL 16901067; T5S R15W SECTION 5 SEWARD MERIDIAN, MCGEE TRACTS DEED OF RECORD BOUNDARY SURVEY TRACT B.
  2. THE EASTERLY PORTION OF THIS PARCEL IS UNDEVELOPED AND COVERED IN NATIVE VEGETATION AND GRASS FIELD.
- 3. THE EXISTING AND PROPOSED INGRESS/EGRESS IS TO DANVER STREET AND/OR SECTION LINE EASEMENT, AS SHOWN.
- 4. THE PREFERRED BUFFERS ARE A COMBINATION OF 50' (OR GREATER) NATIVE VEGETATIVE BUFFERS AND 6' HIGH BERM.
- 5. WELLS WITHIN 100' AND/OR 300' OF THE EXCAVATION AREA ARE SHOWN HEREON. EXCAVATION BELOW WATER TABLE MAY BE PROPOSED AT A FUTURE TIME.
  6. THERE IS MAPPED WETLAND AND SURFACE WATER, AS SHOWN, IN THE NORTHEAST CORNER OF THE PARCEL. PROPOSED EXCAVATION IS A MINIMUM OF 100' FROM WATERBODIES.THIS SURFACE WATER SETBACK WILL PROVIDE PROTECTION VIA PHYTOREMEDIATION OF ANY RUN-OFF PRIOR TO ENTERING THE SURFACE WATER.
  7. GROUNDWATER IS ESTIMATED AT APPROXIMATELY 20' (AVERAGE) BELOW EXISTING GROUND IN PROPOSED EXCAVATION AREAS. THIS ESTIMATE IS FROM TEST HOLE EXCAVATED BY THE OWNER OR OTHER REPRESENTATIVES.
- 8. THE RECLAIMED AREA WILL BE GRADED AND RECONTOURED USING STRIPPINGS, OVERBURDEN AND TOPSOIL TO A CONDITION THAT ALLOWS FOR RE-ESTABLISHMENT OF NATURAL VEGETATION AND SLOPES STEEPER THAN 2:1 WILL BE SEEDED.

  9. PROPOSED MATERIAL EXTRACTION INCLUDING STRIPPING WILL BE DONE IN INCREMENTALLY BEGINNING AT THE NORTHERN LIMITS, AS SHOWN, AND PROCEEDING SOUTHERLY AS MARKET FOR MATERIAL SALES JUSTIFIES. THE CENTRAL AREA WILL BE MAINTAINED AS A PROCESSING AND STAGING AREA.
- 10. PROPOSED PROCESS AREA IS SHOWN. A PROCESS WAIVER WILL BE REQUESTED FOR SEPARATION TO THE NORTH PROPERTY LINE.
- 11. THE PROPERTY CORNERS, WITNESS CORNERS, OR SECTION LINE EASEMENT WAS LOCATED AND THE PARCEL BOUNDARY HAS BEEN FLAGGED AT VISIBLE INTERVALS AS SHOWN HEREON.
- 12. ALASKA DEC USER'S MANUAL, BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES FOR GRAVEL/ROCK AGGREGATE EXTRACTION PROJECTS, PROTECTING SURFACE WATER AND GROUNDWATER QUALITY IN ALASKA, SEPTEMBER 2012 WILL BE UTILIZED AS A GUIDELINE TO REDUCE POTENTIAL IMPACTS TO WATER QUALITY.





MBER LLC POINT RD I LAND USE PERMIT

ANCHOR POIN'
AD CONDITIONAL LANI

McLANE

## Consulting Inc

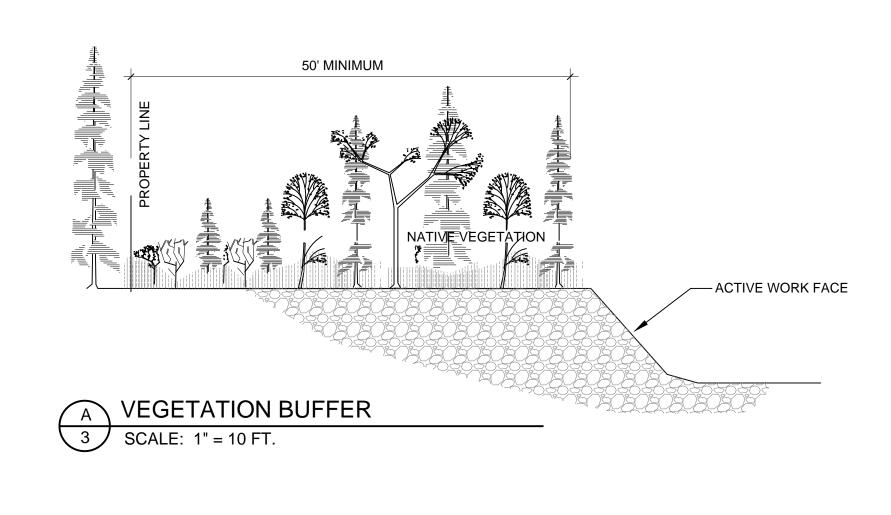
ENGINEERING - TESTIN SURVEYING - MAPPINC P.O. BOX 468 SOLDOTINA, AK. 99669 VOICE: (907) 283-4218 FAX: (907) 283-3265 WWW.MCLANECG.COM

DRAWN BY: BGB/GMD

CHECKED BY: GMD

VERT. SC. R. 6

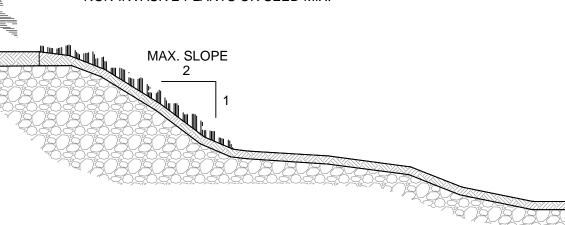
RT. SC. (0= 25')
HEET: P1.1



1. GRADE SLOPES NO STEEPER THAN 2:1.

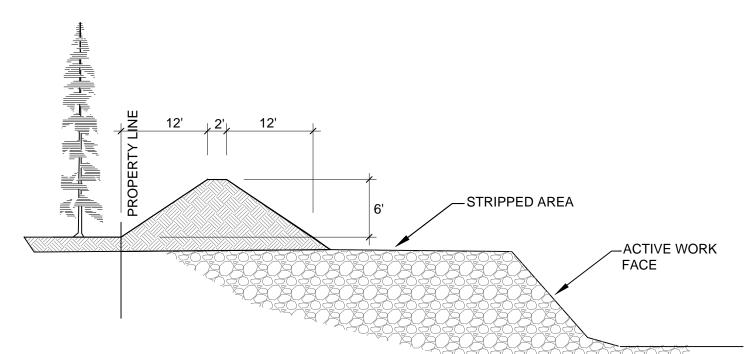
2. COVER SLOPES WITH 4" MINIMUM SITE TOPSOIL MIX AND ORGANIC CLEARING DEBRIS

3. DOZER TRACK AND SEED RECLAMATION SLOPES WITH NON-INVASIVE PLANTS OR SEED MIX.



**RECLAMATION SLOPE** 

SCALE: 1" = 10 FT.



C EARTHEN BERM BUFFER

SCALE: 1" = 10 FT.

**R7** 

Consulting Inc

ENGINEERING - TESTING
SURVEYING - MAPPING
P.O. BOX 468
SOLDOTNA, AK. 99669
VOICE: (907) 283-3218
FAX: (907) 283-3265
WWW.MCLANECG.COM

McLANE

CONDITIONAL LAND USE PERMIT

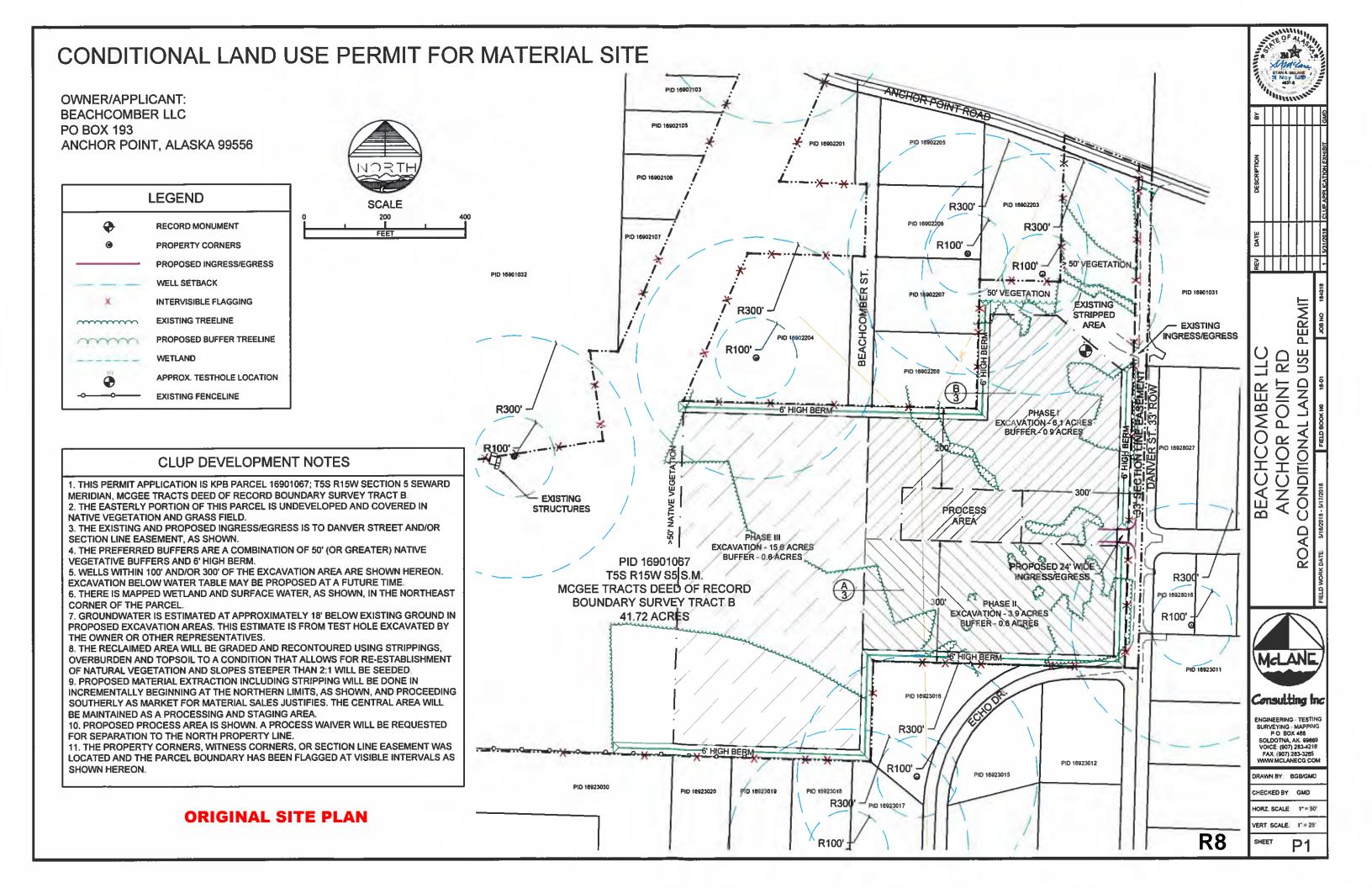
ROAD

BEACHCOMBER LLC ANCHOR POINT RD

DRAWN BY: BGB/GM
CHECKED BY: GMD

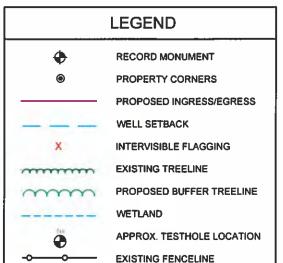
HORZ. SCALE: 1" = 50'

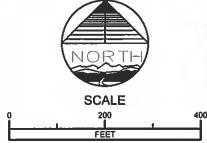
SHEET: P2



# CONDITIONAL LAND USE PERMIT FOR MATERIAL SITE

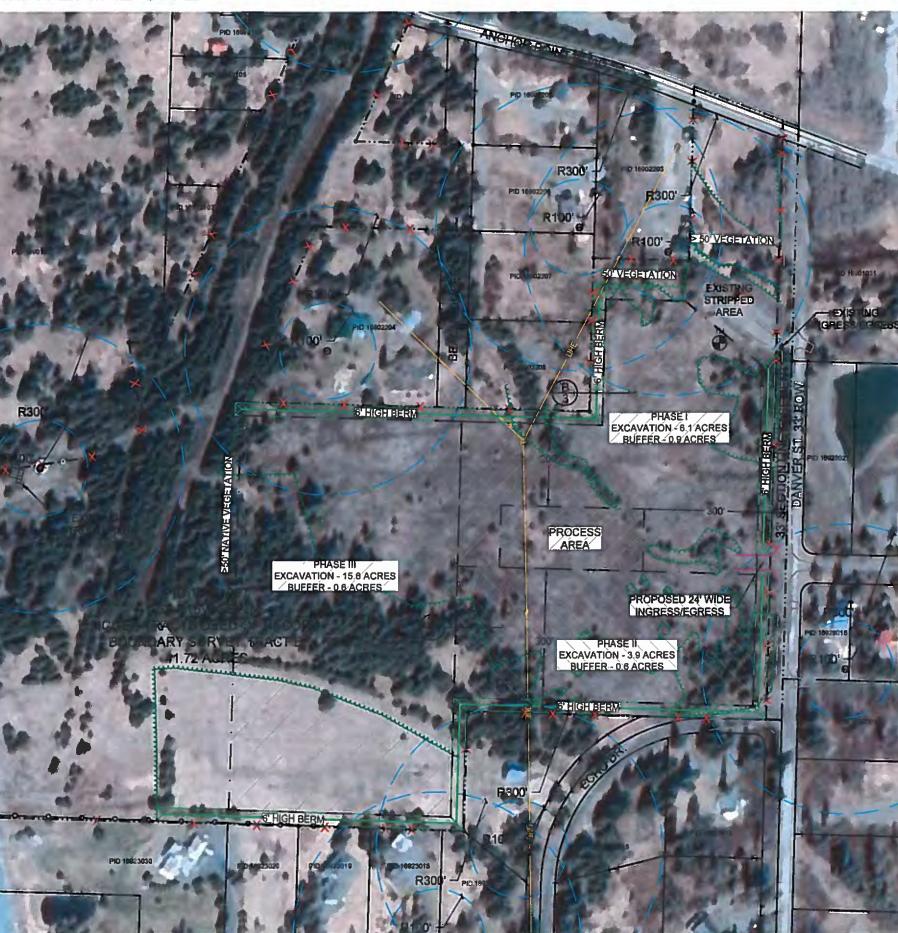
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ATE DESCRIPTION BY

BEACHCOMBER LLC ANCHOR POINT RD DAD CONDITIONAL LAND USE PERA



### Consulting Inc

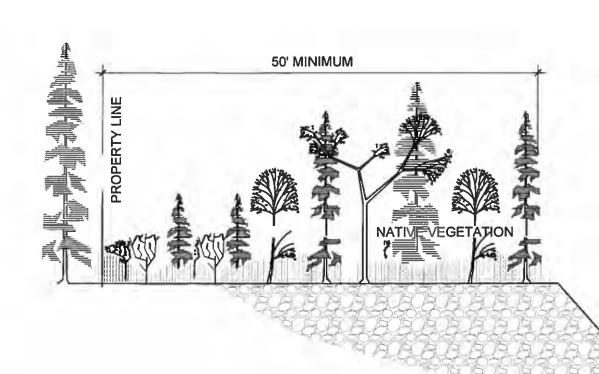
ENGINEERING + TESTING SURVEYING - MAPPING P.O. BOX 468 SOLDOTNA, AX, 99669 VOICE; (907) 283-4218 FAX; (907) 283-3265 WWW.MCLANECG.COM

DRAWN BY B

CHECKED BY: GMD

HORZ. SCALE: 1° = 50'

SHEET SCALE 9 25'

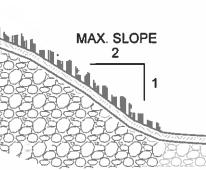


**ACTIVE WORK FACE** 

**VEGETATION BUFFER** 

SCALE: 1" = 10 FT.

1. GRADE SLOPES NO STEEPER THAN 2:1. 2. COVER SLOPES WITH 4" MINIMUM SITE TOPSOIL MIX AND **ORGANIC CLEARING DEBRIS** 3. DOZER TRACK AND SEED RECLAMATION SLOPES WITH NON-INVASIVE PLANTS OR SEED MIX.



PROPERTY LINE STRIPPED AREA -ACTIVE WORK FACE

**RECLAMATION SLOPE** 

SCALE: 1" = 10 FT.

3

**ORIGINAL SITE PLAN** 

**EARTHEN BERM BUFFER** 

SCALE: 1" = 10 FT.

**R10** 

BEACHCOMBER LLC CONDITIONAL LAND **ANCHOR POINT** 

**USE PERMIT** 

RD D



Consulting Inc

ENGINEERING - TESTING SURVEYING - MAPPING P.O. BOX 468 SOLDOTNA, AK, 99669 VOICE: (907) 283-4218 FAX (907) 283-3285 WWW.MCLANECG. COM

DRAWNBY BGB/GMD

CHECKED BY GMD

HORZ SCALE. 1" 50"

VERT SCALE. 1"= 25" SHEET P2

# PLANNING COMMISSION RESOLUTION 2018-23

### KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH PLANNING COMMISSION RESOLUTION 2018-23 HOMER RECORDING DISTRICT

A resolution granting a conditional land use permit to operate a sand, gravel, or material site for a parcel described as Tract B, McGee Tracts - Deed of Record Boundary Survey (Plat 80-104) - Deed recorded in Book 4, Page 116, Homer Recording District.

- WHEREAS, KPB 21.25 allows for land in the rural district to be used as a sand, gravel or material site once a permit has been obtained from the Kenai Peninsula Borough; and
- WHEREAS, KPB 21.25.040 provides that a permit is required for a sand, gravel or material site; and
- WHEREAS, on June 4, 2018 the applicant, Beachcomber LLC, submitted a conditional land use permit application to the Borough Planning Department for KPB Parcel 169-010-67, which is located within the rural district; and
- WHEREAS, public notice of the application was mailed on June 22, 2018 to the 200 landowners or leaseholders of the parcels within one-half mile of the subject parcel pursuant to KPB 21.25.060; and
- WHEREAS, public notice of the application was published in the July 5, 2018 & July 12, 2018 issues of the Homer News; and
- WHEREAS, a public hearing of the Planning Commission was held on July 16, 2018;

# NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE PLANNING COMMISSION OF THE KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH:

**SECTION 1.** That the Planning Commission makes the following findings of fact pursuant to KPB 21.25 and 21.29:

### **Findings of Fact**

- 1. KPB 21.25 allows for land in the rural district to be used as a sand, gravel or material site once a permit has been obtained from the Kenai Peninsula Borough.
- 2. KPB 21.29 governs material site activity within the rural district of the Kenai Peninsula Borough.
- On June 4, 2018 the applicant, Beachcomber LLC, submitted a conditional land use permit application to the Borough Planning Department for KPB Parcel 169-010-67, which is located within the rural district.
- 4. KPB 21.29 provides that a conditional land use permit is required for material extraction that disturbs more than 2.5 cumulative acres.
- 5. The proposed disturbed area is approximately 27.7 acres.
- 6. A public hearing of the Planning Commission was held on July 16, 2018 and notice of the meeting was published, posted, and mailed in accordance with KPB 21.25.060 and KPB 21.11.
- 7. The site plan indicates that the processing area is 300 feet from the south and east property lines and is greater than 300 feet from the west property line. A waiver was requested from the north property line.

- 8. The site plan shows the proposed processing area being 200 feet south of Parcel 169-022-08, which is undeveloped. Parcel 169-022-04 is developed and located within 300 feet of the proposed processing area; this parcel is owned by the applicant's daughter.
- 9. A 200-foot separation distance to the property boundaries for the processing area is not sufficient to minimize noise disturbance to other properties.
- 10. The proposed extraction meets material site standard 21.29.040(A1); "Protects against the lowering of water sources serving other properties", as evidenced by:
  - A. Permit condition number 6 requires that the permittee not extract material within 100 horizontal feet of any water source existing prior to issuance of this permit.
  - B. The submitted site plan shows several wells located within 300 feet of the parcel boundaries but none within 100 feet of the proposed excavation area.
  - C. Permit condition number 7 requires that the permittee maintain a 2-foot vertical separation from the seasonal high water table.
  - D. The application indicates that the depth to groundwater is greater than 20 feet and that the depth of the proposed excavation is 18 feet.
  - E. Permit condition number 8 requires that the permittee not dewater either by pumping, ditching or any other form of draining.
- 11. The proposed extraction meets material site standard 21.29.040(A2); "Protects against physical damage to other properties". There is no evidence in the record to indicate that physical damage will occur to any other properties as a result of the operations of a material site at this location.
- 12. The proposed extraction meets material site standard 21.29.040(A3); "Minimizes off-site movement of dust", as evidenced by:
  - A. Permit condition number 13 requires that the permittee provide dust suppression on haul roads within the boundaries of the material site by application of water or calcium chloride.
- 13. The proposed extraction meets material site standard 21.29.040(A4); "Minimizes noise disturbance to other properties" as evidenced by:
  - A. Permit condition number 2 requires that the permittee maintain the following buffers that will reduce the noise disturbance to other properties:
    - 50-foot vegetated buffer adjacent to the section line easement on the east property line with a 6-foot high berm inside the vegetated buffer.
    - 50-foot vegetated buffer adjacent to the Echo Drive right-of-way and the north and west property line of the adjacent Lot 1, Block 1, Silver King Estates with a 6foot high berm inside the vegetated buffer.
    - 12-foot high berm along the south property line where a 6-foot high berm is shown on the site plan adjacent to Lots 2 - 6, Block 1, Silver King Estates. The placement of the berm shall take place prior to removing the existing vegetation in the western portion of the material site.
    - Greater than 50-foot vegetated buffer west of the material site as shown on the site plan.
    - 50-foot vegetated buffer in the east 400 feet adjacent to the northern boundary of the material site as shown on the site plan.
    - 6-foot high berm along the northern property as shown on the site plan.
  - B. Permit condition number 5 requires that the processing area be located greater than 300 feet from the property boundaries.
- 14. The proposed extraction meets material site standard 21.29.040(A5); "Minimizes visual impacts" as evidenced by permit condition number 2 that requires that the permittee maintain the following buffers that will reduce the visual impacts to other properties:
  - 50-foot vegetated buffer adjacent to the section line easement on the east property line with a 6-foot high berm inside the vegetated buffer.
  - 50-foot vegetated buffer adjacent to the Echo Drive right-of-way and the north and west property line of the adjacent Lot 1, Block 1, Silver King Estates with a 6-foot high berm inside the vegetated buffer.
  - 12-foot high berm along the south property line where a 6-foot high berm is shown on the site plan adjacent to Lots 2 - 6, Block 1, Silver King Estates. The placement of the berm

shall take place prior to removing the existing vegetation in the western portion of the material site.

- Greater than 50-foot vegetated buffer west of the material site as shown on the site plan.
- 50-foot vegetated buffer in the east 400 feet adjacent to the northern boundary of the material site as shown on the site plan.
- 6-foot high berm along the northern property as shown on the site plan.
- The proposed extraction meets material site standard 21.29.040(A6); "Provides for alternate postmining land uses" as evidenced by:
  - A. The submitted application contains a reclamation plan as required by KPB 21.29.060.
  - B. The applicant has submitted a reclamation plan that omits KPB 21.29.060(C3), which requires the placement of a minimum of four inches of topsoil with a minimum organic content of 5% and precludes the use of sticks and branches over 3 inches in diameter from being used in the reclamation topsoil. These measures are generally applicable to this type of excavation project. The inclusion of the requirements contained in KPB 21.29.060(C3) is necessary to meet this material site standard.
  - C. Permit condition number 15 requires that the permittee reclaim the site as described in the reclamation plan for this parcel with the addition of the requirements contained in KPB 21.29.060(C3) and as approved by the planning commission.

### PERMIT CONDITIONS

- 1. The permittee shall cause the boundaries of the subject parcel to be staked at sequentially visible intervals where parcel boundaries are within 300 feet of the excavation perimeter.
- 2. The permittee shall maintain the following buffers around the excavation perimeter or parcel boundaries:
  - 50-foot vegetated buffer adjacent to the section line easement on the east property line with a
     6-foot high berm inside the vegetated buffer.
  - 50-foot vegetated buffer adjacent to the Echo Drive right-of-way and the north and west property line of the adjacent Lot 1, Block 1, Silver King Estates with a 6-foot high berm inside the vegetated buffer.
  - 12-foot high berm along the south property line where a 6-foot high berm is shown on the site plan adjacent to Lots 2 - 6, Block 1, Silver King Estates. The placement of the berm shall take place prior to removing the existing vegetation in the western portion of the material site.
  - Greater than 50-foot vegetated buffer west of the material site as shown on the site plan.
  - 50-foot vegetated buffer in the east 400 feet adjacent to the northern boundary of the material site as shown on the site plan.
  - 6-foot high berm along the northern property as shown on the site plan.

These buffers shall not overlap an easement.

- 3. The permittee shall maintain a 2:1 slope between the buffer zone and pit floor on all inactive site walls. Material from the area designated for the 2:1 slope may be removed if suitable, stabilizing material is replaced within 30 days from the time of removal.
- 4. The permittee shall not allow buffers to cause surface water diversion which negatively impacts adjacent properties or water bodies.
- 5. The permittee shall operate all equipment which conditions or processes material at least 300 feet from the parcel boundaries.
- 6. The permittee shall not extract material within 100 horizontal feet of any water source existing prior to issuance of this permit.
- 7. The permittee shall maintain a 2-foot vertical separation from the seasonal high water table.
- 8. The permittee shall not dewater either by pumping, ditching or any other form of draining.
- 9. The permittee shall maintain an undisturbed buffer, and no earth material extraction activities shall take place within 100 linear feet from a lake, river, stream, or other water body, including riparian wetlands and mapped floodplains.
- 10. The permittee shall ensure that fuel storage containers larger than 50 gallons shall be contained in impermeable berms and basins capable of retaining 110 percent of storage capacity to minimize the potential for uncontained spills or leaks. Fuel storage containers 50 gallons or smaller shall not be placed directly on the ground, but shall be stored on a stable impermeable

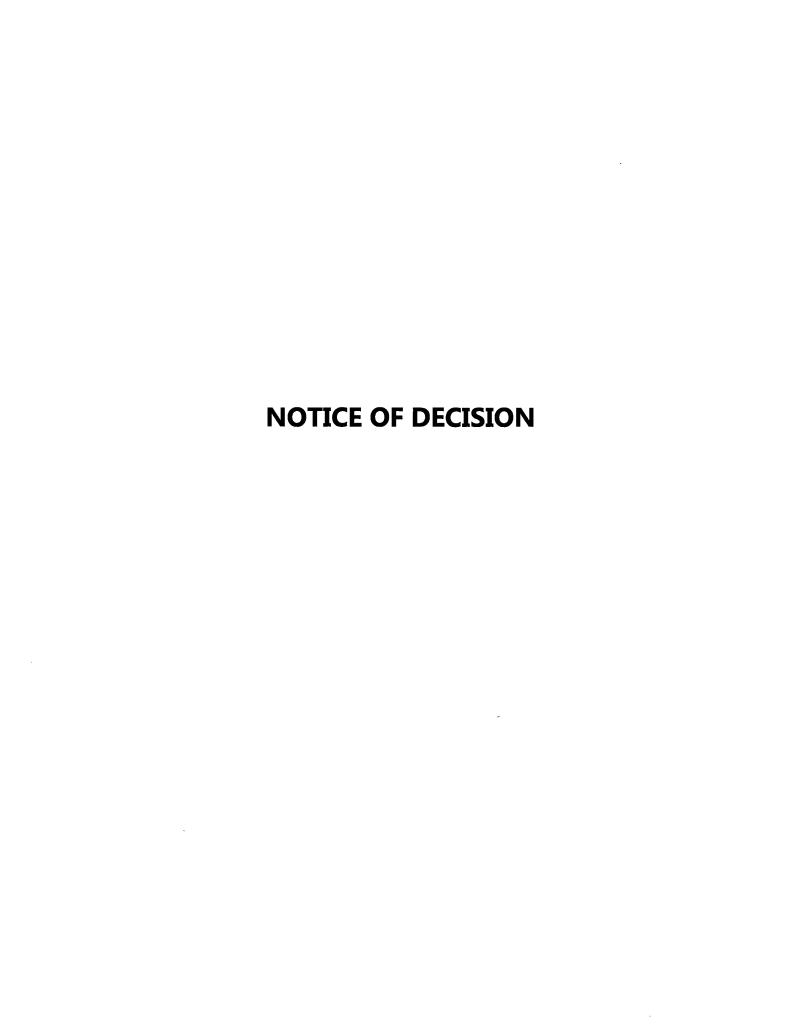
surface.

- 11. The permittee shall conduct operations in a manner so as not to damage borough roads as required by KPB 14.40.175, and will be subject to the remedies set forth in KPB 14.40 for violation of this condition.
- 12. The permittee shall notify the planning department of any further subdivision or return to acreage of this property. Any further subdivision or return to acreage may require the permittee to amend this permit.
- 13. The permittee shall provide dust suppression on haul roads within the boundaries of the material site by application of water or calcium chloride.
- The permittee shall not operate rock crushing equipment between the hours of 10:00 p.m. and 14. 6:00 a.m.
- 15. The permittee shall reclaim the site as described in the reclamation plan for this parcel with the addition of the requirements contained in KPB 21.29.060(C3) and as approved by the planning
- 16. The permittee is responsible for complying with all other federal, state and local laws applicable to the material site operation, and abiding by related permits. These laws and permits include, but are not limited to, the borough's flood plain, coastal zone, and habitat protection regulations, those state laws applicable to material sites individually, reclamation, storm water pollution and other applicable Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) regulations, clean water act and any other U.S. Army Corp of Engineer permits, any EPA air quality regulations, EPA and ADEC water quality regulations, EPA hazardous material regulations, U.S. Dept. of Labor Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA) regulations (including but not limited to noise and safety standards), and Federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearm regulations regarding using and storing explosives.
- 17. The permittee shall post notice of intent on parcel corners or access, whichever is more visible if the permittee does not intend to begin operations for at least 12 months after being granted a conditional land use permit. Sign dimensions shall be no more than 15" by 15" and must contain the following information: the phrase "Permitted Material Site" along with the permittee's business name and a contact phone number.
- 18. The permittee shall operate in accordance with the application and site plan as approved by the planning commission. If the permittee revises or intends to revise operations so that they are no longer consistent with the original application, a permit modification is required in accordance with KPB 21.29.090.
- 19. This conditional land use permit is subject to review by the planning department to ensure compliance with the conditions of the permit. In addition to the penalties provided by KPB 21.50, a permit may be revoked for failure to comply with the terms of the permit or the applicable provisions of KPB Title 21. The borough clerk shall issue notice to the permittee of the revocation hearing at least 20 days but not more than 30 days prior to the hearing.
- 20. Once effective, this conditional land use permit is valid for five years. A written request for permit extension must be made to the planning department at least 30 days prior to permit expiration, in accordance with KPB 21.29.070.

ADOPTED	BY	THE	PLANNING	COMMISSION	OF	THE	KENAI	PENINSULA	BOROUGH	ON
THIS			DAY	OF			, 2018	3.		
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ATTEST:										
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Patti Hartley Administrative Assistant

PLEASE RETURN Kenai Peninsula Borough Planning Department 144 North Binkley St. Soldotna, AK 99669





# Planning Department

144 N. Binkley Street, Soldotna, Alaska 99669 • (907) 714-2200 • (907) 714-2378 Fax

Charlie Pierce Borough Mayor

July 24, 2018

- «OWNER»
- «ATTENTION»
- «ADDRESS»
- «CITYSTATEZIP»

### NOTICE OF DECISION

At their July 16, 2018 meeting, the Planning Commission <u>disapproved</u> a conditional land use permit for a material site that was requested for KPB Parcel 169-010-67; Tract B, McGee Tracts - Deed of Record Boundary Survey (Plat 80-104) - Deed recorded in Book 4, Page 116, Homer Recording District.

### **FINDINGS OF FACT**

- 1. The noise will not be sufficiently reduced with any buffer or berm that could be added.
- 2. The visual impact to the neighboring properties will not be reduced sufficiently.

This decision may be appealed through the Borough Clerk within fifteen days of the date of the Notice of Decision.

Bruce Wall, AICP

03-72l

Planner

July 24, 2018

Date

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		captainboomer@hotmail.com		RICHARD CLINE scantnichie@ichoud.com>		Particular Control of the Control of	Marie Cariton <seaburyroad@live.com></seaburyroad@live.com>	Gary L. Gordon <garygordon4@gmail.com></garygordon4@gmail.com>			Gary and Eileen Sheridan <twoshar@acsalaska net=""></twoshar@acsalaska>	R. O. Baker II chohkleen@accalacks not	mailtothomordontal@homoraot aot	AK Oza u z koza z z z z z z z z z z z z z z z z z z	AN DON IT AND TOUR SOME BUILDING THE PARTY OF THE PARTY O						Mark Yale <markyale2001@yahoo.com></markyale2001@yahoo.com>	Mark Yale <markyale2001@yahoo.com></markyale2001@yahoo.com>	Hans ccatchalaska@alaska,net>	Phil Brna <fisheyeak@gmail.com></fisheyeak@gmail.com>	Coowe Walker <cmwalker9@alaska.edu></cmwalker9@alaska.edu>	Joseph Sparkman <iav1332@att.net></iav1332@att.net>		Lorri Davis <homesteadart@gmail.com></homesteadart@gmail.com>	David Gregory <davidgregory0754@gmail.com></davidgregory0754@gmail.com>	shirley gruber <shirleydx@yahoo.com></shirleydx@yahoo.com>	shirley gruber <shirleytdx@yahoo.com></shirleytdx@yahoo.com>	Linda Patrick <mlpatrick335@yahoo.com></mlpatrick335@yahoo.com>	Tom Alexander <pre><pre>com&gt;</pre></pre>	joseph Alired <hungryegret@outlook.com></hungryegret@outlook.com>	rob@reeyesamodio.com	sleepybear@alaska.net	David Driggers <david.driggers@gmail.com></david.driggers@gmail.com>	mailto:marieherdegen@icloud.com	mailto:kyra@homerswcd.org	L Rick Oliver <roliverb747@me.com></roliverb747@me.com>			Bill Scott <naturesventures@gmail.com></naturesventures@gmail.com>	Carla Milburn ccim2@me.com>	•			
ANCHOR BOINT AN ODER	AINCHON FOIMI, AK 99556	ANCHOR POINT, AK 99556	NINILCHIK, AK 99639	UNDERWOOD, WA 98651	WASILLA, AK 99623	VENIMENTO'S WAS ACCOUNT	NEININEWICK, VVA 99557	WASILLA, AK 99687	GUNTERSVILLE, AL 35976	ANCHOR POINT, AK 99556	ANCHOR POINT, AK 99556	ANCHOR POINT, AK 99556	ANCHOR POINT, AK 99556	ANCHORAGE AK DOE15	HOMED AV OCCU	ANCHOR DOINT AN ORES	WASHIA AK GOGST	ANCHOR DAMA	ANCHON POINT, AK 99556	ANCHOR POINT, AK 99556	ANCHOR POINT, AK 99556	ANCHOR POINT, AK 99556	ANCHOR POINT, AK 99556	ANCHORAGE, AK 99507	HOMER, AK 99603	ANCHOR POINT, AK 99556	ANCHOR POINT, AK 99556	ANCHOR POINT, AK 99556	ANCHOR POINT, AK 99556	ANCHOR POINT, AK 99556	ANCHORAGE, AK 99516	ANCHOR POINT, AK 99556	PALMER, AK 99645	HOMER, AK 99603	ANCHORAGE, AK 99501	ANCHOR POINT, AK 99556	ANCHOR POINT, AK 99556	ANCHOR POINT, AK 99556	HOMER, AK 99603	ANCHOR POINT, AK 99556	EVERGLADES CITY, FL 34139	EVERGLADES CITY, FL 34139	ANCHOR POINT, AK 99556	ANCHOR POINT, AK 99556	ANCHOR POINT, AK 99556	CAPE CORAL, FL 33914	ANCHOR POINT, AK 99556	Section Follows
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Biocharalaska@gmail.com	Bob Shavelson <bob@inletkeeper.org></bob@inletkeeper.org>	Gina Debardelaben <ginadebar@mcianecg.com> Emmitt Trimble <emmitttrimble@gmail.com></emmitttrimble@gmail.com></ginadebar@mcianecg.com>	
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		BEACHCOMBER LLC	
PETE KINNEEN	BOB SHAVELSON OVERSON ELDON WHITMORE LYNN XOCHITL LOPEZ-AYALA ELMALEH JOSHUA L	ISENHOUR LAUREN Gina M. DeBardelaben EMMITT TRIMBLE CARLTON RICHARD D STEVE HABER	Marie Carlton

# **MEETING PACKET**

&

# LAY DOWN PACKET

**JULY 16, 2018** 

(Please note that some information has been dispersed throughout the record so that there was not duplicate information.)

### AGENDA ITEM F. PUBLIC HEARING

4. Conditional Land Use Permit for a Material Site; Anchor Point Area

STAFF REPORT

PC MEETING: July 16, 2018

Applicant:

Beachcomber LLC

Landowner:

Beachcomber LLC

Parcel Number:

169-010-67

Legal Description:

Tract B, McGee Tracts - Deed of Record Boundary Survey (Plat 80-104) - Deed

recorded in Book 4, Page 116, Homer Recording District.

Location:

74185 Anchor Point Road

BACKGROUND INFORMATION: The applicant wishes to obtain a permit for sand, gravel, and peat extraction on a portion of the parcel listed above.

The submitted site plan indicates that the material site haul route will be Danver Street, which is a Borough maintained road. The site plan and application proposes the following buffers:

North: 6-foot high berm except along the east 400 feet where a 50-foot vegetated buffer is proposed.

South: 6-foot high berm. East: 6-foot high berm.

West: Greater than 50-foot vegetated buffer.

The application indicates that the depth to groundwater is 20 feet and that the depth of the proposed excavation is 18 feet. The groundwater depth was determined by a test hole on the property and exposed surface water to the north. The site plan indicates that the processing area is 300 feet from the south and east property lines. It is greater than 300 feet from the west property line. A waiver is being requested from the north property line. The site plan indicates that the proposed processing area is located 200 feet south of Parcel 169-022-08, which is undeveloped. Parcel 169-022-04 is developed and located within 300 feet of the proposed processing area; this parcel is owned by the applicant's daughter. Staff does not recommend approval of the processing distance waiver request.

The site plan indicates that there are several wells located within 300 feet of the parcel boundaries but none within 100 feet of the proposed excavation area. The site plan indicates 100-foot setback from the wetlands area located in the northeast corner of the property and that this setback will provide protection via phytoremediation of any site run-off prior to entering the surface water. The site plan also indicates that the Alaska DEC user's manual, Best Management Practices for Gravel/Rock Aggregate Extraction Projects, Protecting Surface Water and Groundwater Quality in Alaska, will be utilized as a guideline to reduce potential impacts to water quality.

The application states that reclamation will be completed annually before the growing season ends (September) and that seeding will be applied as necessary each season to areas that achieve final grade in order to minimize erosion and dust. The applicant estimates a life span of 15 years for the site with an approximate annual quantity of less than 50,000 cubic yards.

Much of the vegetation was removed from this property 20-30 years ago. The neighboring properties adjacent to the southeast corner of the proposed material site are at a higher elevation than the subject property. The proposed 6-foot high berm alone will do little to minimize the visual impact or noise disturbance to other properties. Staff recommends that a 50-foot vegetated buffer be required adjacent to the section line easement on the east property line with a 6-foot high berm inside the vegetated buffer. Staff also recommends that a 50-foot vegetated buffer be required adjacent to the Echo Drive right-of-way

and the north and west property line of the adjacent Lot 1, Block 1, Silver King Estates with a 6-foot high berm inside the vegetated buffer. Staff recommends that a 12-foot high berm be placed along the south property line where a 6-foot high berm is shown on the site plan adjacent to Lots 2 - 6, Block 1, Silver King Estates. The placement of the berm should take place prior to removing the existing vegetation in the westem portion of the material site.

PUBLIC NOTICE: Public notice of the application was mailed on June 22, 2018 to the 200 landowners or leaseholders of the parcels within one-half mile of the subject parcel. Public notice was sent to the postmaster in Anchor Point requesting that it be posted at their Post Office. Public notice of the application was published in the July 5, 2018 & July 12, 2018 issues of the Homer News.

KPB AGENCY REVIEW: Application information was provided to pertinent KPB staff and other agencies on July 6, 2018.

### **ATTACHMENTS**

- Conditional Land Use Permit application and associated documents
- Aerial map
- Area land use map
- Ownership map
- Contour map

### **FINDINGS OF FACT**

- 1. KPB 21.25 allows for land in the rural district to be used as a sand, gravel or material site once a permit has been obtained from the Kenai Peninsula Borough.
- 2. KPB 21.29 governs material site activity within the rural district of the Kenai Peninsula Borough.
- 3. On June 4, 2018 the applicant, Beachcomber LLC, submitted a conditional land use permit application to the Borough Planning Department for KPB Parcel 169-010-67, which is located within the rural district.
- 4. KPB 21.29 provides that a conditional land use permit is required for material extraction that disturbs more than 2.5 cumulative acres.
- 5. The proposed disturbed area is approximately 27.7 acres.
- 6. A public hearing of the Planning Commission was held on July 16, 2018 and notice of the meeting was published, posted, and mailed in accordance with KPB 21.25.060 and KPB 21.11.
- 7. The site plan indicates that the processing area is 300 feet from the south and east property lines and is greater than 300 feet from the west property line. A waiver was requested from the north property line. The site plan shows the proposed processing area being 200 feet south of Parcel 169-022-08, which is undeveloped. Parcel 169-022-04 is developed and located within 300 feet of the proposed processing area; this parcel is owned by the applicant's daughter. A 200-foot separation distance to the property boundaries for the processing area is not sufficient to minimize noise disturbance to other properties.
- 8. The proposed extraction meets material site standard 21.29.040(A1); "Protects against the lowering of water sources serving other properties", as evidenced by:
  - A. Permit condition number 6 requires that the permittee not extract material within 100 horizontal feet of any water source existing prior to issuance of this permit.
  - B. The submitted site plan shows several wells located within 300 feet of the parcel boundaries but none within 100 feet of the proposed excavation area.
  - C. Permit condition number 7 requires that the permittee maintain a 2-foot vertical separation from the seasonal high water table.
  - D. The application indicates that the depth to groundwater is greater than 20 feet and that the depth of the proposed excavation is 18 feet.
  - E. Permit condition number 8 requires that the permittee not dewater either by pumping, ditching or any other form of draining.
- 9. The proposed extraction meets material site standard 21.29.040(A2); "Protects against physical damage to other properties". There is no evidence in the record to indicate that physical damage will occur to any other properties as a result of the operations of a material site at this location.
- 10. The proposed extraction meets material site standard 21.29.040(A3); "Minimizes off-site

movement of dust", as evidenced by:

- A. Permit condition number 13 requires that the permittee provide dust suppression on haul roads within the boundaries of the material site by application of water or calcium chloride.
- 11. The proposed extraction meets material site standard 21.29.040(A4); "Minimizes noise disturbance to other properties" as evidenced by:
  - A. Permit condition number 2 requires that the permittee maintain the following buffers that will reduce the noise disturbance to other properties:
    - 50-foot vegetated buffer adjacent to the section line easement on the east property line with a 6-foot high berm inside the vegetated buffer.
    - 50-foot vegetated buffer adjacent to the Echo Drive right-of-way and the north and west property line of the adjacent Lot 1, Block 1, Silver King Estates with a 6-foot high berm inside the vegetated buffer.
    - 12-foot high berm along the south property line where a 6-foot high berm is shown on the site plan adjacent to Lots 2 6, Block 1, Silver King Estates. The placement of the berm shall take place prior to removing the existing vegetation in the western portion of the material site.
    - Greater than 50-foot vegetated buffer west of the material site as shown on the site plan.
    - 50-foot vegetated buffer in the east 400 feet adjacent to the northern boundary of the material site as shown on the site plan.
    - 6-foot high berm along the northern property as shown on the site plan.
  - B. Permit condition number 5 requires that the processing area be located greater than 300 feet from the property boundaries.
- 12. The proposed extraction meets material site standard 21.29.040(A5); "Minimizes visual impacts" as evidenced by permit condition number 2 that requires that the permittee maintain the following buffers that will reduce the visual impacts to other properties:
  - 50-foot vegetated buffer adjacent to the section line easement on the east property line with a 6-foot high berm inside the vegetated buffer.
  - 50-foot vegetated buffer adjacent to the Echo Drive right-of-way and the north and west property line of the adjacent Lot 1, Block 1, Silver King Estates with a 6-foot high berm inside the vegetated buffer.
  - 12-foot high berm along the south property line where a 6-foot high berm is shown on the site plan adjacent to Lots 2 - 6, Block 1, Silver King Estates. The placement of the berm shall take place prior to removing the existing vegetation in the western portion of the material site.
  - Greater than 50-foot vegetated buffer west of the material site as shown on the site plan.
  - 50-foot vegetated buffer in the east 400 feet adjacent to the northern boundary of the material site as shown on the site plan.
  - 6-foot high berm along the northern property as shown on the site plan.
- 13. The proposed extraction meets material site standard 21.29.040(A6); "Provides for alternate postmining land uses" as evidenced by:
  - A. The submitted application contains a reclamation plan as required by KPB 21.29.060.
  - B. The applicant has submitted a reclamation plan that omits KPB 21.29.060(C3), which requires the placement of a minimum of four inches of topsoil with a minimum organic content of 5% and precludes the use of sticks and branches over 3 inches in diameter from being used in the reclamation topsoil. These measures are generally applicable to this type of excavation project. The inclusion of the requirements contained in KPB 21.29.060(C3) is necessary to meet this material site standard.
  - C. Permit condition number 15 requires that the permittee reclaim the site as described in the reclamation plan for this parcel with the addition of the requirements contained in KPB 21.29.060(C3) and as approved by the planning commission.

### STAFF RECOMMENDATION

In reviewing the application staff has determined that the six standards contained in KPB 21.29.040 will be

met and recommends that the Planning Commission deny the processing distance waiver request, approve the conditional land use permit with listed conditions, and adopt the findings of fact subject to the following:

- 1. Filing of the PC Resolution in the appropriate recording district after the deadline to appeal the Planning Commission's approval has expired (15 days from the date of the notice of decision) unless there are no parties with appeal rights.
- 2. The Planning Department is responsible for filing the Planning Commission resolution.
- 3. The applicant will provide the recording fee for the resolution to the Planning Department.
- 4. Driveway permits must be acquired from either the state or borough as appropriate prior to the issuance of the material site permit.

### PERMIT CONDITIONS

- 1. The permittee shall cause the boundaries of the subject parcel to be staked at sequentially visible intervals where parcel boundaries are within 300 feet of the excavation perimeter.
- 2. The permittee shall maintain the following buffers around the excavation perimeter or parcel boundaries:
  - 50-foot vegetated buffer adjacent to the section line easement on the east property line with a 6-foot high berm inside the vegetated buffer.
  - 50-foot vegetated buffer adjacent to the Echo Drive right-of-way and the north and west property line of the adjacent Lot 1, Block 1, Silver King Estates with a 6-foot high berm inside the vegetated buffer.
  - 12-foot high berm along the south property line where a 6-foot high berm is shown on the site plan adjacent to Lots 2 - 6, Block 1, Silver King Estates. The placement of the berm shall take place prior to removing the existing vegetation in the western portion of the material site.
  - Greater than 50-foot vegetated buffer west of the material site as shown on the site plan.
  - 50-foot vegetated buffer in the east 400 feet adjacent to the northern boundary of the material site as shown on the site plan.
  - 6-foot high berm along the northern property as shown on the site plan.

These buffers shall not overlap an easement.

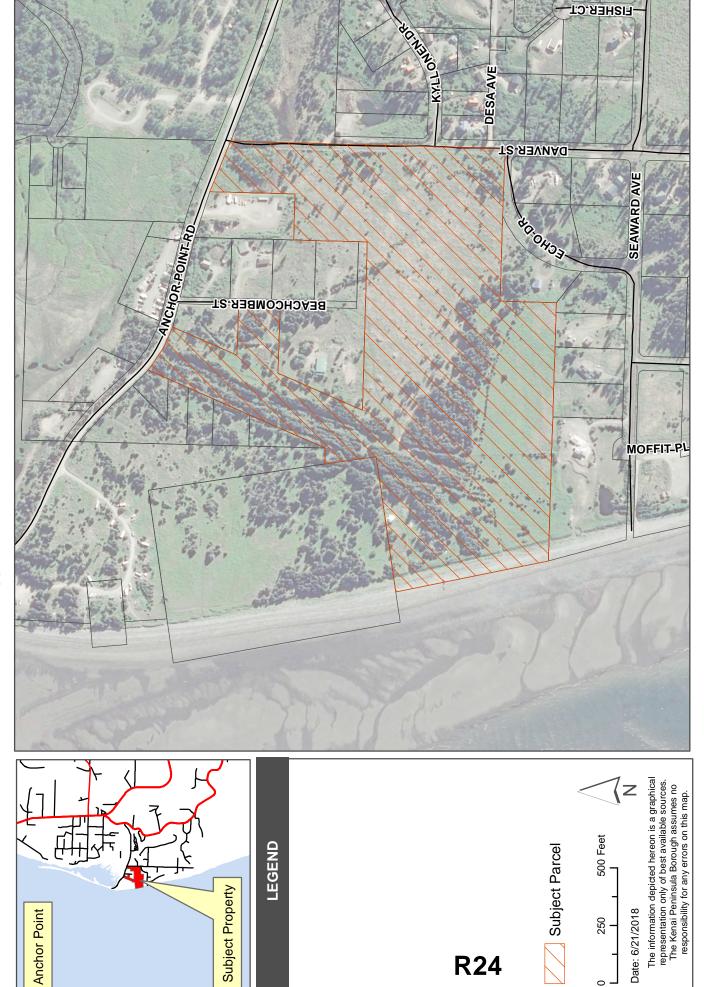
- 3. The permittee shall maintain a 2:1 slope between the buffer zone and pit floor on all inactive site walls. Material from the area designated for the 2:1 slope may be removed if suitable, stabilizing material is replaced within 30 days from the time of removal.
- 4. The permittee shall not allow buffers to cause surface water diversion which negatively impacts adjacent properties or water bodies.
- 5. The permittee shall operate all equipment which conditions or processes material at least 300 feet from the parcel boundaries.
- 6. The permittee shall not extract material within 100 horizontal feet of any water source existing prior to issuance of this permit.
- 7. The permittee shall maintain a 2-foot vertical separation from the seasonal high water table.
- 8. The permittee shall not dewater either by pumping, ditching or any other form of draining.
- 9. The permittee shall maintain an undisturbed buffer, and no earth material extraction activities shall take place within 100 linear feet from a lake, river, stream, or other water body, including riparian wetlands and mapped floodplains.
- 10. The permittee shall ensure that fuel storage containers larger than 50 gallons shall be contained in impermeable berms and basins capable of retaining 110 percent of storage capacity to minimize the potential for uncontained spills or leaks. Fuel storage containers 50 gallons or smaller shall not be placed directly on the ground, but shall be stored on a stable impermeable surface.
- 11. The permittee shall conduct operations in a manner so as not to damage borough roads as required by KPB 14.40.175, and will be subject to the remedies set forth in KPB 14.40 for violation of this condition.
- 12. The permittee shall notify the planning department of any further subdivision or return to acreage of this property. Any further subdivision or return to acreage may require the permittee to amend this permit.

- 13. The permittee shall provide dust suppression on haul roads within the boundaries of the material site by application of water or calcium chloride.
- 14. The permittee shall not operate rock crushing equipment between the hours of 10:00 p.m. and 6:00 a.m.
- 15. The permittee shall reclaim the site as described in the reclamation plan for this parcel with the addition of the requirements contained in KPB 21.29.060(C3) and as approved by the planning commission.
- 16. The permittee is responsible for complying with all other federal, state and local laws applicable to the material site operation, and abiding by related permits. These laws and permits include, but are not limited to, the borough's flood plain, coastal zone, and habitat protection regulations, those state laws applicable to material sites individually, reclamation, storm water pollution and other applicable Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) regulations, clean water act and any other U.S. Army Corp of Engineer permits, any EPA air quality regulations, EPA and ADEC water quality regulations, EPA hazardous material regulations, U.S. Dept. of Labor Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA) regulations (including but not limited to noise and safety standards), and Federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearm regulations regarding using and storing explosives.
- 17. The permittee shall post notice of intent on parcel corners or access, whichever is more visible if the permittee does not intend to begin operations for at least 12 months after being granted a conditional land use permit. Sign dimensions shall be no more than 15" by 15" and must contain the following information: the phrase "Permitted Material Site" along with the permittee's business name and a contact phone number.
- 18. The permittee shall operate in accordance with the application and site plan as approved by the planning commission. If the permittee revises or intends to revise operations so that they are no longer consistent with the original application, a permit modification is required in accordance with KPB 21.29.090.
- 19. This conditional land use permit is subject to review by the planning department to ensure compliance with the conditions of the permit. In addition to the penalties provided by KPB 21.50, a permit may be revoked for failure to comply with the terms of the permit or the applicable provisions of KPB Title 21. The borough clerk shall issue notice to the permittee of the revocation hearing at least 20 days but not more than 30 days prior to the hearing.
- 20. Once effective, this conditional land use permit is valid for five years. A written request for permit extension must be made to the planning department at least 30 days prior to permit expiration, in accordance with KPB 21.29.070.

NOTE: Any party of record may file an appeal of a decision of the Planning Commission in accordance with the requirements of the Kenai Peninsula Borough Code of Ordinances, Chapter 21.20.250. A "party of record" is any party or person aggrieved by the decision where the decision has or could have an adverse effect on value, use, or enjoyment of real property owned by them who appeared before the planning commission with either oral or written presentation. Petition signers are not considered parties of record unless separate oral or written testimony is provided (KPB Code 21.20.210.A.5b1). An appeal must be filed with the Borough Clerk within 15 days of the notice of decision, using the proper forms, and be accompanied by the \$300 filing and records preparation fee. (KPB Code 21.25.100)

**END OF STAFF REPORT** 

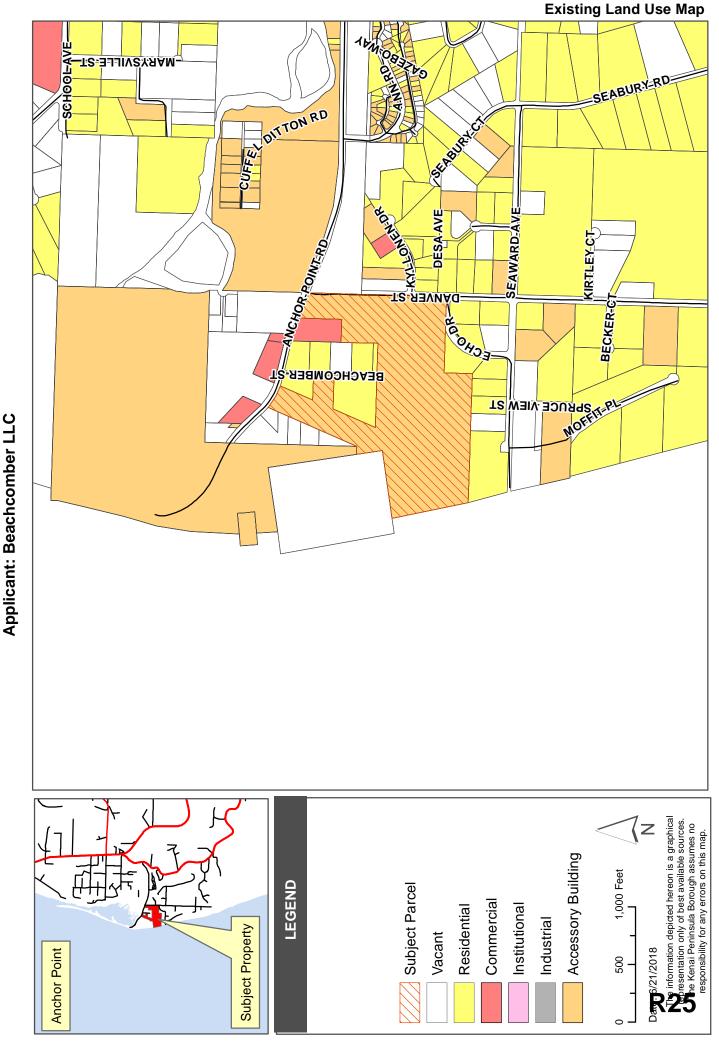
Parcel Number: 169-010-67
Applicant: Beachcomber LLC



**Aerial Map** 

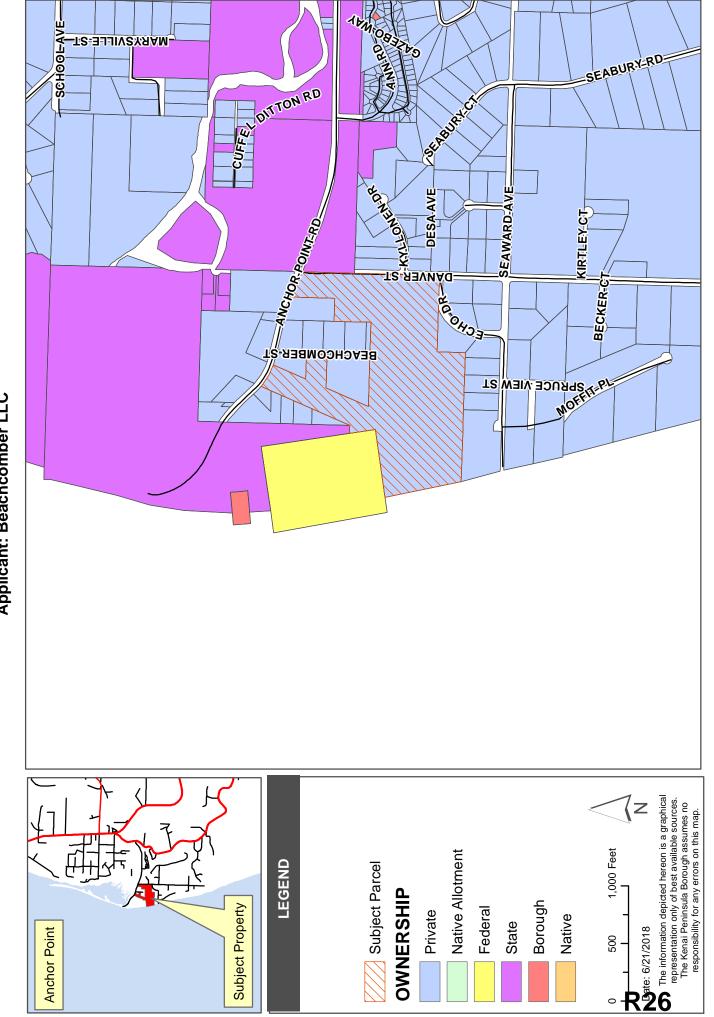
# Kenai Peninsula Borough Planning Commission Meeting, July 16, 2018 Conditional Land Use Permit for a Material Site

Parcel Number: 169-010-67
Applicant: Beachcomber LLC



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**Ownership Map** 

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DESA AVE LONEN.DR 84 92 24 56 60 4 20 4 48 20 PAG-ONDIA ---ANCHOR-POINT-RD\_ 40 EEACHCOMBER-ST 4 36 36 Applicant: Beachcomber LLC 32 32 36 36 36 32 32 32 32 28 32 32 36 24 20 12 10 4 88 The information depicted hereon is a graphical representation only of best available sources. The Kenai Peninsula Borough assumes no responsibility for any errors on this map. 400 Feet LEGEND Subject Parcel 4' Contours Subject Property **D**ate: 6/21/2018 **Anchor Point** 200

**Contour Map** 

KENI PENNINSULA PLANNING BOARD

144 BINKLEY STREET

SOLDOTNA, AK 99669

**JUNE 26, 2018** 

I AND MY NEGIHBORS STRONGLY OBJECT TO THE PERMITTING OF THIS PLANNED GRAVEL PIT. THE ROADS THAT WILL BE USED BY THE THOUSANDS OF COMMERCIAL TRUCKS ARE IN DEPLORABLE CONDITION AND WITH THE PLANNED TRUCK TRAFFIC IN AND OUT OF THIS PIT THE ROADS WILL BE DESTROYED. UNLESS BEACHCOMBER LLC POSTS A BOND TO REPLACE AND MAINTAIN THE ROADS THAT THE TRUCKS WILL BE TRAVELING, THIS PERMIT SHOULD NOT BE GRANTED. THE PLANNING BOARD OWES THE RESIDENTS AND CURRENT USERS OF THESE ROADS THE PROTECTION THEY ARE ENTITLED TO FROM BEACHCOMBER LL WHO WILL DO NOTHING BUT RAPE THE LAND AND LEAVE AN UNSIGHTLY MESS AND HOLE IN THE GROUND.

IF THE COMMERCIAL TRUCKS ARE ALLOWED TO USE "THE BEACH ROAD" IT WILL CAUSE HUGE PROBLEMS WITH THE BOATS THAT TRAVEL THIS ROAD TO AND FROM THE TRACTOR LAUNCH WHICH IS A CRITICAL PART OF THE ANCHOR POINT ECONOMY.

MP Lutar

JOHN AND BARBARA GIRTON

**PO BOX 869** 

73460 TWIN PEAKS LOOP

**ANCHOR PONT, AK 99556** 



### Wall, Bruce

From:

james gorman <captainboomer@hotmail.com>

Sent:

Tuesday, June 26, 2018 8:31 AM

To:

Wall, Bruce

Subject:

Beachcomber LLC gravel pit

### Dear Chairman-

I received a letter yesterday regarding this proposed development. Although I have no objections to the extraction of the materials from this site, I do have reservations about the transport of same. The corridor, what we call the beach road, is a narrow two-lane road in serious need of an upgrade. The pavement is separating in several places and it has very narrow shoulders, making it hazardous to pedestrians when two wide vehicles travel in opposite directions. Given that there Is a popular boat launch and several RV parks along this route, this is not uncommon. Boat and Rv traffic is heavy at times during the summer months.

I would recommend wider shoulders along the beach road portion and repaving this corridor.

I also have a question about the route these trucks would take. Would they cross the Anchor River bridge or use the Old Sterling? If the bridge, I have concerns about it's integrity and it's narrow width. The Old Sterling is another road in need of an upgrade if that is the route taken.

In conclusion, my concerns are about conflicts in the corridor with the various user groups and the poor condition of the roads.

Any addition information your could forward to me on these matters would be appreciated.

Sincerely,

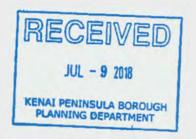
James Gorman

**Anchor Point** 

Sent from my iPad

Thomas J Brook PO Box 39004 Ninilchik, AK 99639

July 1, 2018



Planning Commission Chairman Kenai Peninsula Borough 144 N. Binkley Street Soldotna, AK 99669

To Whom It May Concern,

I am in receipt of the KPB Planning Commission Notice of Public Hearing on the proposed sand, gravel and peat extraction request by Beachcomber LLC, Parcel No 169-010-67 at 74185 Anchor Point Road.

I will not be available on July 16 to attend the meeting and give oral testimony, thus this letter should serve as my input. I am vehemently and adamantly opposed to the issuance of a permit for sand, gravel, and peat extraction on this site. Such an endeavor will dramatically detract from the property I currently own abutting Echo Drive and Spruce View Street. This is a developing home site community and the currently existing homes and home values would be seriously devalued should a permit of this type be granted in this area. The deterrents to lot sales and existing homes would be numerous but some of the most serious would be the devaluation of property, the ugly sight of a gravel pit from the road, specifically Danver Street which I use to access Echo and Spruce View Streets, plus along Anchor Point Road, the daily noise of a "gravel pit" which, at the very least is obnoxious, and the dust generated which can have a serious impact on anyone with allergies or lung conditions aggravated by dust and dirt (pollutants) in the air, not to mention the housekeeping nightmares. There is also no way to measure the damage to the ground and surrounding ground with the gravel pit activity and you can't possibly tell me or others that this absolutely WILL NOT affect the ground water servicing our wells. I realize you think berms are meant to provide a barrier, however a 6 foot berm does nothing to alleviate or eradicate the above listed concerns. I don't think it's adequate to say that the Planning Commission approve the conditional land use permit because all six standards have been met.

There's far more at stake here than just meeting the borough's six standards. This is no longer the wild west of Alaska and because Anchor Point has not traditionally been a highly populated area does not automatically make it eligible for a gravel pit land use off Anchor Point Road.

I am shocked that this proposal is even being given consideration. This area has been growing in popularity as a housing area of development for many years now, especially view lots and beachfront (both high and low bluff) and is a highly inappropriate area to put a pit. The Planning Department should have denied this usage request before it even got to this stage. Just imagine for a moment if this were your home or your valuable property and now the view you have from any surrounding hill is this gravel pit. Would you allow this proposal in your neighborhood? I think not, so just because an application meets your technical criteria does not mean it's an appropriate or even necessary usage type. I completely understand the pressure exerted to grant this permit because the owner(s) of this land are obviously anxious to make the potential money, as gravel pits are trying to pop up seemingly everywhere in the borough as very lucrative endeavors. However, this particular one is at the expense of the homes, people and potential for land development in this immediate area. I don't think that can be ignored nor sacrificed for the lucrative potential of a gravel pit just because your criteria does not specifically prohibit this activity.

Again, I cannot stress this point enough, I do not, cannot, and will not support the application for a gravel pit as proposed. Please reconsider your inclination and recommendation to approve this permit.

Sincerely,

Thomas J. Brook

Mr. Bruce Wall Planner Kenai Peninsula Borough 144 North Binkley Street Soldotna, Alaska 99669

Dear Mr. Wall,

We are writing to you on behalf of our small community of Anchor Point neighbors who are upset about a proposed sand, gravel, and peat extraction permit submitted by Emmitt and Mary Trimble of Beachcomber LLC/Coastal Realty. The 40+ acre property in question is located on the west side of Danver St. between Anchor River Road and Echo. We respectfully request that you reconsider your draft recommendation of approval and reject the proposed permit.

We are sorry we cannot be present at your public hearing to be held July 16, 2018 in Soldotna at 7:30 P.M. Unfortunately, Richard and I are already obligated in Washington State, but we hope that this letter can be read to those present at the meeting. The following are our key concerns:

# [1] Visual enjoyment of property

Currently, the hillside view overlooking the proposed gravel pit is of a lovely green meadow, spruce and alder trees, and spectacular Cook Inlet and Alaska Range beyond. A dusty gravel pit is not what we had in mind when we purchased our lots here. Those neighbors who abut the property are naturally quite concerned about the potential loss of property value as well as the aesthetics of losing their Alaskan green space. Of course we would all be thrilled to have enough money to purchase enough acres to completely ensure our privacy and solitude. Not being in a financial position to do so, we have trusted our realtors to speak the truth about the land we consider purchasing. We trust the borough officials to protect our interest and desire to live peacefully with our neighbors. We hope that we can together find a solution that will render everyone contented. Surely there must be a suitable, alternative location that the Trimbles can find to locate their sand, gravel, and peat business that does not so negatively impact local Alaskan residents.

# [2] Noise

Alaskans take pride in the beauty of their land. Some, like Richard and I, love the pastoral setting and mountain views afforded by a hillside home. Others prefer the quiet solitude of a home nestled hidden among spruce and alder. **ALL** of us are adamantly opposed to an unpleasant drone of gravel excavators, machinery, and dump trucks next door. Several years ago when the Trimbles cleared the property, there was a constant obnoxious noise from heavy equipment, easily heard from all surrounding properties. As you review the proposed three phases of sand, gravel, and peat extraction, we implore you to consider thoughtfully the full import of your decision on our neighborhood as well as the precedent it could set for future Kenai Peninsula communities.

## [3] Dust

Richard and I have built our cabin over the past four summers. We have experienced first hand the weather and winds here in Anchor Point. We can appreciate the dismay of Marie Drinkhouse, Lee and Mark Yale, Bob Baker (to name a few) when they were apprised of the proposed permit application. The Anchor Point winds would carry excavation dust, dirt, and debris straight south to their houses. All of us within at least a half mile would be negatively effected by the dust pollution created by such an operation. Today is a sunny, clear day. I hate to imagine what the air would smell, taste, look, or feel like with an excavation project underway.

We understand that there are several sand, gravel, and peat excavation permits under current consideration. Each will succeed or fail on its individual merits or problems. We hope that as you deliberate and examine the concerns, goals, and plans of all parties involved, you also include the honorable aspect of this issue. When all is said and done, it is our hope that everyone will feel good about the outcome. Perhaps someone can offer the Trimbles assistance in locating a more suitable location for the business of sand, gravel, and peat. In the end, we are neighbors and a community that wants the best for each and every citizen.

Thank you for your consideration, Mr. Wall. We look forward to hearing from you. If there is anything else we can do to plead our case, please let us know.

Respectfully,

Ann and RC Cline

From:

Rokos, Jay M (DNR) <jay rokos@alaska.gov>

Sent:

Friday, July 6, 2018 1:41 PM

To:

Wall, Bruce

Subject:

Re: KPB CLUP Material Site Application - Parcel 169-010-67

Attachments:

Reclamation Plan.pdf

Bruce,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the subject public notice. Per AS 27.19, a mining operation must have Reclamation Plan approval with the State of Alaska prior to operations. This requirement is for all land ownerships.

To date, DNR does not have an approved Reclamation Plan for the subject parcel. DNR requests for the applicant to apply for a Reclamation Plan at the Southcentral Regional Office at 269-8503. An application is attached.

Applicant:

Beachcomber LLC

Landowner:

Beachcomber LLC

Parcel Number:

169-010-67

Legal Description:

Tract B, McGee Tracts – Deed of Record Boundary Survey (Plat 80-104) – Deed recorded in Book

4, Page 116, Homer Recording District

Jay Rokos
Natural Resource Technician II
Alaska Department of Natural Resources
Division of Mining, Land and Water
Southcentral Region Office
Leasing Unit
550 W. 7<sup>th</sup> Ave. Suite 900C

Phone: (907) 269-5047 Fax: (907) 269-8913 Bruce Wall, AICP Planner Planning Commission Chairman 144 N Binkley Street Soldotna, AK 99669

Re: Parcel Number 169-010-67, 74185 Anchor Point Road

RECEIVED

KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH PLANNING DEPARTMENT

marig Drinklouse

I would like to pose some questions and concerns on this proposed gravel pit.

Is DEC involved in this process?

Is Beachcomber LLC required to submit a 15 year time line action plan?

Are there other places in the area where this process has been completed and the reclamation process also complete? It would be nice to see this process at various stages. Does the applicant have a history in this type of endeavor? Could we see one of their reclamations?

What are the hours of operation and the usual season of operation? Will the truck traffic be going over the old bridge?

What type of soil is left after this process? What is the reclamation process?

With the tides rising over extended periods of time and this lowering the land by 10 feet close to the inlet don't you have some concern for the long term affect?

There has to be someplace further away from the water and further away from homes that could provide these resources!

How does Fish and Game feel about this operation? Poor Anchor Point has so struggled to get tourism going in the area and this surely can't help the cause.

Does the Anchor Point Chamber of Commerce know about this?

Have you walked the property? What happens to the trees on the property?

Thank you for taking my concerns into consideration. I look forward to your thoughtful answers.. I own the property @ 34925 Echo Drive in Anchor Point.

Marie Drinkhouse 5949 S Hayfield Road Wasilla, AK 99623 907-3540847

From: Carver, Nancy

**Sent:** Friday, July 6, 2018 1:30 PM

To: Wall, Bruce

Subject: RE: KPB CLUP Material Site Application - Parcel 169-010-67

#### No Habitat concerns

Nancy Carver Habitat Resource Planner 907-714-2463 ncarver@kpb.us

# KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH 514 Funny River Road Soldotna, Alaska 99669

PUBLIC RECORDS LAW DISCLOSURE: This email and responses to this email may be subject to provisions of Alaska Statutes and may be made available to the public upon request.

From:

Marie Carlton <seaburyroad@live.com>

Sent:

Sunday, July 8, 2018 11:32 PM

To:

Wall, Bruce

Subject:

regarding the proposed Beachcomber LLC Gravel Pit site

Dear Bruce, My husband and I live at Parcel 16936027, 73500 Seabury Rd. T5S R 15 W Sec 9 Seward Meridian HM 2001035 Meadow View Estates Tract 15A. We are responding to the public announcement document provided to us by the Kenai Peninsula Borough June, 22 2018 and wish to respond and object to the Beachcomber LLC application as stated. We have grave concerns about the proposed "Gravel Pit." We have a retirement home with a substantial investment and chose Alaska for its beauty, wildlife and solitude. The reviewed documents do not reflect an environmental impact study regarding the proposed "Gravel Pit." This proposed "Gravel Pit" will run the risk of negatively impacting wildlife and wetlands. This is a critical Moose calving area as well as Bald Eagle nesting sites. With rock crushing, dust and noise, we will loose the very reason we chose Alaska as a place to retire. This would terminate the beauty of the wildlife we value and enjoy. With children bicycling, walking to the beach the increased truck congestion may reveal disastrous results. The Anchor Road is always congested but with increased traffic, a failing, narrow road with no path to walk, the risks of a fatality increase substantially. I have witnessed current loaded rock trucks rarely adhering to the speed limit. The dust pollution will affect many areas. We don't look forward to the smell, taste and appearance of blowing dust. This not why we chose Alaska. In Alaska we love the quiet, beauty and solitude of out home and not the unpleasant drone of truck engines and rock crushers. I believe the property value of our homes will plummet. Who wants to purchase a home with a gravel pit in their backyard? We hope you will not approve the application for Beachcomber LLC. We have worked very hard to be able to retire in this beautiful area. Thank you for allowing us a voice. Rick and Marie Carlton 509-430-4304 seaburyroad@live.com

From:

Gary L. Gordon <garygordon4@gmail.com>

Sent:

Monday, July 9, 2018 12:55 PM

To:

Wall, Bruce

Subject:

Fwd: Beachcomber LLC Gravel Pit Application

>> My name is Gary L. Gordon, my wife Pamela C. Gordon and I own an assessed \$280,000 view home at 34919 Fisher Court, directly above the proposed gravel pit. We also own two more lots off Danver and High Seas Court, assessed at over \$120,000. We don't want a gravel pit in our view, nor the additional traffic on Danver, resulting in excessive noise and dust. I own and operate a commercial gravel pit here in Dillingham, AK. They are noisy and dusty even if the operator or operators of the gravel pit maintain the public roads. Applicant is not going to operate this gravel pit, nor does he have the experience or equipment to develop the pit. He intends to sell gravel to highest bidder; therefore, if a project, say Anchor Point Bridge comes out to bid, applicants representative will solicit his gravel pit as the extraction source. The contractor will most likely use it, for it is the closest source. That contractor will further develop the source, move man camp in, job trailers, offices, rock crushing plant and an asphalt plant. They will work 84 hours a week, maybe more if weather hinders paving operation. We the land owners and tax payers now get an asphalt smoke screen and an enormous amount of noise and dust blown on us from tidal winds through the summer.

>> Developing the proposed commercial gravel pit operation in heart of the only recreation site Anchor Point has, is not acceptable. There are State camping parks, boat launch facilities, private RV parks and guiding businesses, plus us the home and land owners that will be adversely affected. Locals, other Alaskans and visiting tourists all travel these wore out roads and bridge now, putting fifty or more loaded dump trucks on these roads a day is going to ruin them. Our State has no funding to repair or rebuild this infrastructure that our lives require to occupy our homes and businesses. >> Another serious consideration is line 7 on page 2 of 4 of permit, gravel extraction into OUR water table, stated again

on page 4, monitoring wells. This has a potential to be very bad for all surrounding owners and businesses.

>> I hope the federal land owners between this site and the beach have been notified, as well as the wet land issues north of this site.

>>

>> Bottom Line, This is not good for Anchor Point it's residents or businesses.

>>

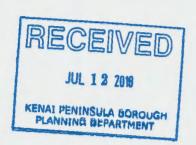
>> Cordially, Gary L. Gordon

>>

>>

Dan and Cathy Millard 35060 Danver St Anchor Point, AK 99556

July 9. 2018



Dear Planning Commission Chairman.

In regards to the proposed grower pit, please address that this is in the middle of recreational and residential area. Also, the road is weak and broken already. At times it has extremely heavy traffic as well as pedestrian traffic with no shoulder as walking trails.

There is the problem of silt generated from the pit flowing to wellands which will not be able to be controlled.

The view property in the area will need to be reassessed for the change of value, as part of the view. becomes a large hole /gravel pit.

We are extremely against this proposed gravel pit. It will forever change a much loved and used recreational area as well as devalue residential property.

Kind regards, Dan and Cathy Millard R39 Planning Commission Chairman 144 N. Binkley St. Soldotna, Alaska. 99669

Re: Public Testimony Regarding Beachcomber LLC's Application for a Permit for Sand, Gravel, and Peat Extraction on A Portion of Parcel Number 169-010-67, Tract B, McGee Tracts - Deed of Record Boundary Survey (Plat 80-104), Location: 74185 Anchor Point Road

#### Dear Planning Commission:

We are property owners and Party of Record in the vicinity of the above proposed "Gravel Pit". Our property is located at 34860 Seabury Court, Anchor Point, Alaska 99556 (Lot 6-A Silver King Ten, Plat No. 97-41 Homer Recording District). We built our house here in 2004 and have a substantial investment in our property and home.

We are deeply concerned about the proposed "Gravel Pit" and wish to document our objection to the Beachcomber LLC's application as described in public announcement provided us by the Kenai Peninsula Borough June 22, 2018.

#### **Environmental Impact Statement:**

There is no reference to there being an Environmental Impact Statement regarding the proposed location of the "Gravel Pit". While the Borough may not deem it is required for this proposal, it is evident that the proposal will effect wildlife and birds in the area which includes the wetlands.

Moose: The specific location and surrounding area is an annual moose calving and rearing area. We know this to be a fact as having lived here for 14 years. Each year, cow moose wander throughout the proposed extraction area and across all the extraction area boundaries to give birth to young moose. This is a critical time for young moose as they are literally born in this area and are nursed and oversaw by cow moose until they are able to fend for themselves. In the 14 years we have lived here, we have personally observed more and more habitats made less available to cow moose birthing due to new home construction and other development. They are extremely sensitive to noise and human activity during this period. There's also concern that cows may abandon their young if enough pressure is brought to bear as proposed by this "Gravel Pit" application.

Birds and Small Game Animals: The specific location and surrounding area is home to numerous birds and small wild animals. From the smallest Chickadee to the largest eagle, they use this area daily and are seen throughout the proposed "Gravel Pit" site. We have personally observed Eagles abandon their nests with young in them due to too much human activity and noise. While there may not be a large number of Eagle nests immediately in the proposed site boundaries, there may be, but we know there are a number of Eagle nests in adjacent locations.

The addition of a 'Rock Crusher' in the project will exacerbate the already large impact of noise and activity many birds and wildlife can't withstand. The noise and intrusion of a 'Rock Crusher' in this critical moose calving area will do immeasurable harm to them.

The area being proposed as a "Gravel Pit" is a disastrous breach of our husbandry of Alaska's bird and wild life. It is near to the State Park and camp ground and world renown fishing river.

If an Environmental Impact Statement isn't demanded by the Kenai Borough regarding this application then we question the integrity of the Borough's interest in the proposed project.

#### **Public Safety:**

The Anchor River Road (from the Anchor River Bridge/Old Sterling Highway to the end of it at the Tractor Launch is narrow and in complete disrepair. Major pavement cracks, pot holes, heaving, and other roadway hazards currently exist. During the summer heavy traffic from commercial fishing charters, tourists, and local residents battle these bad road conditions.

The roadway is extremely narrow without any significant shoulders for pedestrians, and bike riders to get away from the heavy summer traffic. There are a number of "blind" corners making even more dangerous for people walking or bike riders. While this roadway is posted with a 25 mile per hour speed limit, very few drivers observe the limit and often are traveling at least 35 miles per hour and even more.

With the proposed application, the applicant will be introducing another layer of traffic to an already problematic roadway. However, this won't be light weight vehicles. They will be at minimum, large dump trucks filled with heavy loads of gravel and sand. In fact, there is no restrictions regarding the size of heavy trucks that can be used. If it's in the applicant's interests to haul using large 'belly dump' rigs he'll likely do so. Regular 'dump trucks' will soon tear up the Anchor River Road to the point it will be unusable for all of us. Lets face it, dump truck operators are on the clock and inevitably push the speed limit as it is. Already, with the limited amount of dump truck use of the Anchor River Road, we observe them driving well over the 25 mph speed limit.

Even if the Anchor River Road surfaces were brought up to standard, there would continue to be a major public safety issue due to the lack of shoulders and blind corners making pedestrian and bike traffic perilous.

No where in the proposed application are these problems addressed. For these reasons alone, we oppose the application for a 'Gravel Pit' in this area.

If the Borough is insistent upon granting this permit, then the applicant and/or Borough should provide a new roadway from Danver to the Old Sterling Highway, thereby, eliminating the Anchor River Road from the equation. There has been a proposal to make this connection by extending Seaward Avenue to the Old Sterling for a number of years.

At minimum, the Kenai Borough should photographically document the existing condition of the Anchor River Road prior to the applicant's engaging in and hauling activity in order to ensure applicant's compliance with KPB 14.40.175 and KPB 14.40.

#### **Property Values:**

When we built our home in 2004, the area adjacent to the proposed "Gravel Pit" was little developed and there were very few homes in our area. We selected our home site understanding that Anchor Point was a tourist destination to enjoy the Anchor River fishing and the beautiful flora and fauna found here. Our home location was and remains relatively quiet and peaceful. We have a secondary view of Cook Inlet and our home's value has increased

substantially since we built it. There was no 'talk' about a 'Gravel Pit' being made near our home. If there had been, we wouldn't have even considered building our house anywhere near it. Now, instead of an almost pristine environment with quiet and solitude, a beautiful river nearby, and almost constant opportunities for bird and wildlife viewing, we will be subject to a layer of human impact that can only subject our home's value to degradation. If this application granted we will be lucky to regain our original investment. No one will be interested in property that is near to a large 'Gravel Pit' operation.

#### **General Comments:**

- 1. Under discussion of groundwater as being 20' and that the depth of the proposed excavation is 18 feet, we are concerned about two issues: 1) This was apparently established by only one test hole on the proposed project site. This seems to be a very limited testing approach given that the project is over 25 acres in scope. It would seem prudent to require additional test hole at various locations throughout the project area to ensure the water table is consistent; 2) There does not appear to be any consideration related to the water table level upon the removal of all surface vegetation. It seems obvious the groundwater level will be effected by such removal. Provisions should be made to protect groundwater throughout the project and adjacent properties to the extent possible.
- 2. 50 foot buffer zones- We were pleased to see that the Staff have recommended these 50 foot buffer zones be required. However, we would like to see the applicant be required to create a 12 foot berm all along the East boundary of the project inside the 50 foot buffer zone if this project is going to be approved.
- 3. Staff have recommended that, "The permittee shall not operate rock crushing equipment between the hours of 10:00 p.m. and 6:00 a.m." It has been traditional throughout Alaska that construction activities be between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 9:00 p.m. to give families brief periods of respite from loud noise and general neighborhood disturbances. We believe this should not only include rock crushing activities but hauling activities activities as well.
- 4. Regarding permit renewal at the end of five years, we believe it should be required that the public also be notified of a request for permit extension at least 30 days prior to the permit extension and a public hearing be held by the Borough to determine how the applicant has performed under the original permit if its given.

We wish to thank you for your consideration of our comments.

Sincerely,

Gary and Eileen Sheridan

PO Box 661 Anchor Point, Alaska 99556

907-235-5542 twoshar@acsalaska.net

Cc Bruce Wall, AICP bwall@kpb.us

From:

R. O. Baker II <bobkleen@acsalaska.net>

Sent:

Tuesday, July 10, 2018 5:39 PM

To:

Wall, Bruce; susan@reevesamodio.com

Cc:

leeyale2008@yahoo.com; markyale2001@yahoo.com

Subject:

Photos taken by you 7.02.18 / 1020 ADT

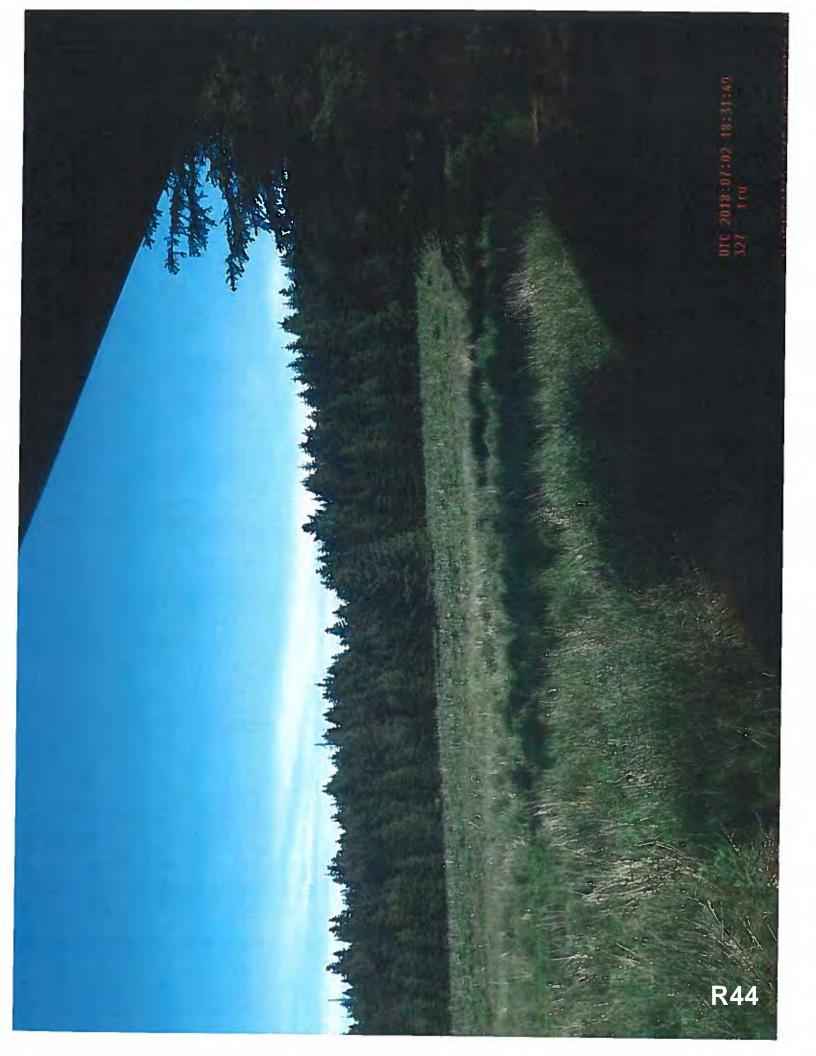
Hi Bruce,

Please insure that enlarged copies of the photos, which you took from my porch, are available for viewing at the meeting scheduled for Monday, 16 July.

Yours,

Bob

Sent from Mail for Windows 10



Borough Planning Commission,

I am writing in regard to the following agenda item: Applicant for

Conditional Use Permit: Beach Comber LLC

Parcel: 169-010-67

Tract: Tract B, McGee Subdivision

I live within 500 ft. of this proposed gravel pit and am asking that the Planning Commission look hard and long before granting this permit. The community is on the Inlet and adjacent to a state park. Those of us that live there have peace and quiet, and such beautiful scenery, that it is hard to quantify how much it means to us. I am sure those that come to the park also feel that they have rarely seen anything more beautiful.

It may be news to those on the Planning Commission that many people who are living in this area are retired and have invested in new homes and have a quiet, rural lifestyle. We have much pride in our homes and gardens and love this community. This isn't just a summer fishing place where tourists come to visit. The tourists are a part of summer life but Anchor Point is a real community that is growing.

Please ask yourself if you would like to have a 40 acre gravel pit next to your home. Please make this decision as if it was your neighborhood that was about to be invaded with heavy equipment, loud noises, dirt and dust filling the air you breathe, possible loss of water in your well and loss of animals that have been habitating in that 40 acres. How would you like 5,000 loads of gravel traveling on your road that isn't designed well enough to manage the traffic it already has. How would you like to not be able to ride your bike along the road anymore, or even take a walk, because of the large equipment, including dump trucks. Remember that in that world "time is money" and these vehicles don't go slow. How would you like to think that these trucks may not keep the rules that regulate the 11 ton limit going over the old and rickety bridge that covers the Anchor River.

I have no objection to gravel pits that are isolated and away from public view. Gravel is important, but there seems to be adequate gravel pits in our area. I think a "certificate of need" should be required when so much raw land is dug up. There are, potentially, many repercussions that may ensue if this permit is granted to Beach Comber LLC, or if that corporation doesn't follow the requirements specified in the permit.

Is the borough prepared to reduce our personal property taxes? As you might imagine, the property values will go down and our availability to sell our homes will be lost too .....due to the 40 acre gravel pit just out our front door.

I ask you once again to really think this permit over as there are many, many peoples lives that will be changed due to this project. Why should one land owner's needs be met in front of the many that have lived in the community for a long time, and have so much to lose.

Thank you for the ability to express my concerns.

Sincerely,
Vickey Hodnik

Vickey Hodnik 35031 Moffit Ln.

Anchor Point, Alaska

From:

AK Don H <hortons6@gmail.com>

Sent:

Tuesday, July 10, 2018 5:59 PM

To:

Wall, Bruce

Subject:

Gravel pit on Danver st in Anchor Point

Dear Sir,

My wife and I own the lot to the south of purposed gravel pit, we bought it for recreational and maybe to build on someday.

Our only view is looking across the property in question, we have great view of Mt. Redoubt it would suck to look across a gravel pit to see it. I can give you lots of reasons not to approve the permit like noise, dust, dump truck traffic on the beach access rd and danver st both of are already pos roads, a old bridge over the river that is need of repair and isn't rated for that kind of weight anyway, environmental issues to surrounding area, ground water issues to near by wells and the Anchor River, not to mention it will drop mine and everybody else's property value to almost 0. There is no way I would build a house across the street to a gravel pit and wouldn't be able to sell if I wanted to. I'm sure that no one on this planning comision would want this in their front yard like it would be in mine.

Please do not approve this permit in no fashion it will literally ruin the little slice of Heaven/Alaska that we own!

Don and Lori Horton

July 10, 2018

Borough Planning Commission,

I would like to tell you of my concern for the gravel pit permit being sought by Beach Comber LLC, of Anchor Point.

The gravel pit will potentially cover 40 acres and it located near the state park and tractor launch, and the bluff, south of the tractor launch. This area is both park and residential, with gravel roads and nice homes. These homes are expensive and have their own wells and septic systems. Vacation homes make up some of these residences and these people come to relax and enjoy the quiet and beauty of Cook Inlet and the beach.

I chose to move to Anchor Point for my retirement years; I sold everything I owned in Homer and now have invested that money in a new home. Two weeks ago the news of the gravel pit was delivered by mail. If that pit happens, my land values will decrease, and no one would want to buy my property as it is within 500 ft. of the gravel pit.

My concerns lie with the noise, dust, disruption of beautiful property, what happens to the salmon who return to this area, ground water and private wells and the danger of the dump trucks on Danver, River Road and the Old Sterling Highway. The bridge over the Anchor River is not capable of handling more than 11 tons.

Those at the borough have stated that "these permits are never withheld"....really? Do the adjoining residents not have a say about what happens in their neighborhood? Why does a new landowner have his/her desires met over those who have been there for sometime and paid considerable tax dollars to the borough. Will the borough pay the home owners for the lost value of their property due to this gravel pit?

A dramatic change like this in our neighborhood would be heart breaking and also ruin the ambiance of the state park. The parcel of land that this pit could be developed on is beautiful and is a lovely habitat for wildlife, or could become awesome home lots. A gravel pit is not appropriate for this neighborhood.

Upon issuing this permit, who is liable for the dust, noise, disruption of view, increased traffic, possible loss of water for private wells, decline of salmon and disruption of wildlife. Who will make sure that the 5,000/yr. dump truck-loads don't cross the old bridge and that speed violations don't happen on the Old Sterling highway? Who will monitor that this pit doesn't operate 24/7 so that there is no relief for those living near it?

In 2018 why do we have to beg for quality of life in our neighborhoods? There are plenty of gravei pits up and down the Sterling Highway. I don't thing there is a need for this pit and I think families and lifestyle should come first.

Respectfully,

4. Henge Krier

George Krier

PO Box 1165

35031 Moffit Ln.

Anchor Point, Alaska

July 10, 2018

Planning Commission Chairman 144 North Binkley Street Soldotna, AK 99669

Re: Beachcomber LLC Application for Conditional Land Use Permit for material extraction of sand, gravel, and peat on a portion of Tract B, McGee Tracts

Location: Anchor Point, AK

Parcel #: 169-010-67

To Whom it May Concern,

My partner and I live at 1/2 mile south Danver Street, Anchor Point — approximately 1/4 mile south of the proposed site for extraction of sand, gravel by Beachcomber LLC. Other than Danver Street traffic, this is a quiet neighborhood and has been since we moved here in 1990.

We are opposed to a business that will create noise, dust, and more traffic on Danver Street, which is well known to have great deal of truck traffic as it is. Danver Street is notorious for people who like to speed and ignore stop signs at the corner of Echo Drive, Kyllonen Drive, Desa Avenue, and Seaward Avenue and cut the corner at Danver and Anchor Point Road.

One issue that wasn't mentioned in the Public Hearing Notice is the use and condition of Anchor Point Road. Anchor Point Road is notorious for the lack of maintenance by the State of Alaska. It is a narrow road that has no bike trails, no shoulders, is full of cracks and holes that get filled but never fixed. Add to that in the summer, traffic consists of motor homes driving in and out of four campgrounds, pickups hauling boats and trailers to and from the Cook Inlet boat launch, people driving four wheelers, people walking on the edge of a road that has no shoulders or walking trails, bicyclists sometimes 20 at a time riding in single file in either lane, trucks delivering water, fuel oil, wood etc., not to mention the locals who use it every day — we don't need more traffic on Anchor Point Road, especially trucks hauling sand and gravel to add to the chaos.

Finally, we are opposed to a business in our neighborhood that will likely lower our property values.

Thank you for your consideration.

Mike Wartburg

Sharon Fromong

Co-Owners 35236 Danver Street, Anchor Point, AK

(907) 235-2626

RECEIVED

JUL 1 2 2019

KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH PLANNING DEPARTMENT Beachomber LLC. Concern Morse Dust troffic Arads What is the plan for reclamation of the land. When the develop planning on selling all the peet? What is to be used for top soil for reclaiming. Concer From ours David Hesar Ronne Desa

From:

Mark Yale <markyale2001@yahoo.com>

Sent:

Tuesday, July 10, 2018 6:56 PM

To:

Wall, Bruce; susan@reevesamodio.com

Cc:

R. O. Baker II; mariedrinkhouse@yahoo.com

Subject:

Re: Property Line to the house

Attachments:

property line 2.jpg; property line.jpg

On Tuesday, July 10, 2018 06:50:05 PM AKDT, Mark Yale <markyale2001@yahoo.com> wrote:

Bruce,

Per our conversation of today of, how close the proposed Gravel Pit Property line is to out back deck on the back sided of our home, please find attached two photographs showing the line is only 5 yards from our home!

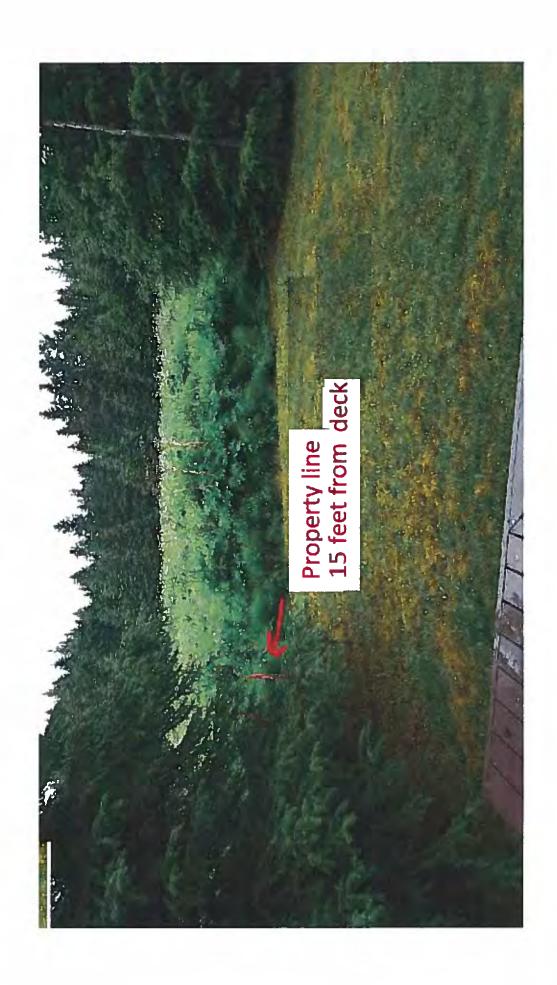
The map reflects a 6 foot berm and you stated that the engineer is recommending at least a 12 foot berm. Both of which are going to be insufficient!

Please forward these photos to all commission personnel to convey how unconsciousable this proposal is to all three of properties on the south border.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mark and Lee Yale





From: Hans <catchalaska@alaska.net>

**Sent:** Wednesday, July 11, 2018 4:47 PM

To: Wall, Bruce

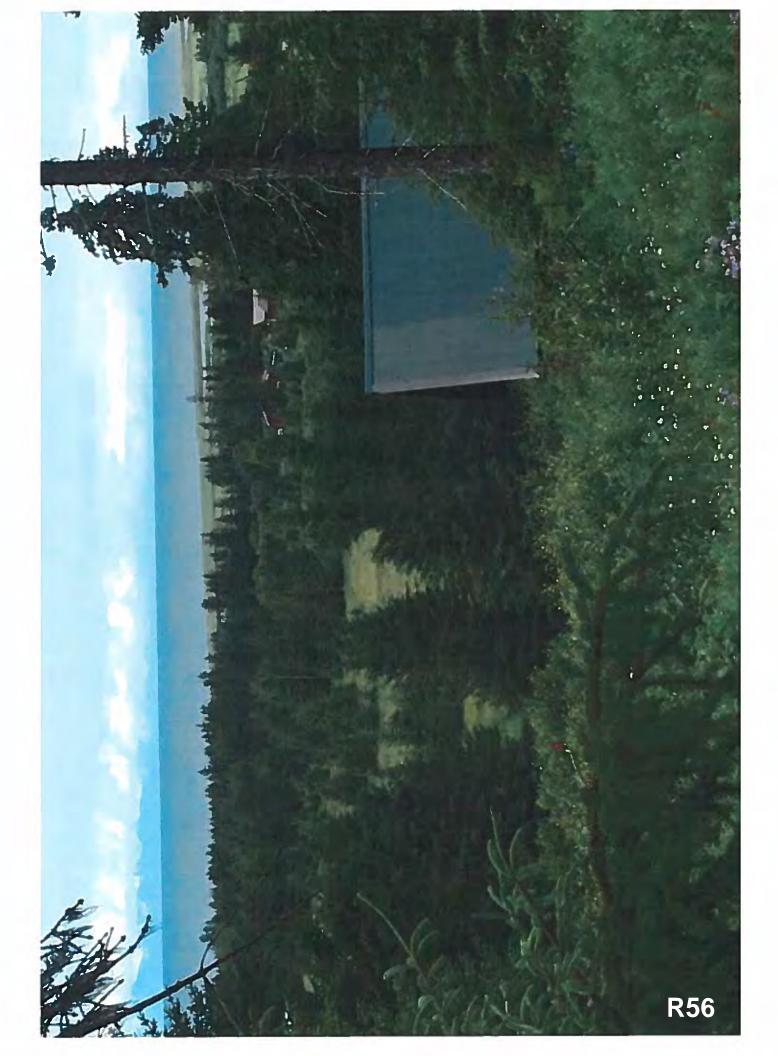
Subject: Anchor Point Road CLUP

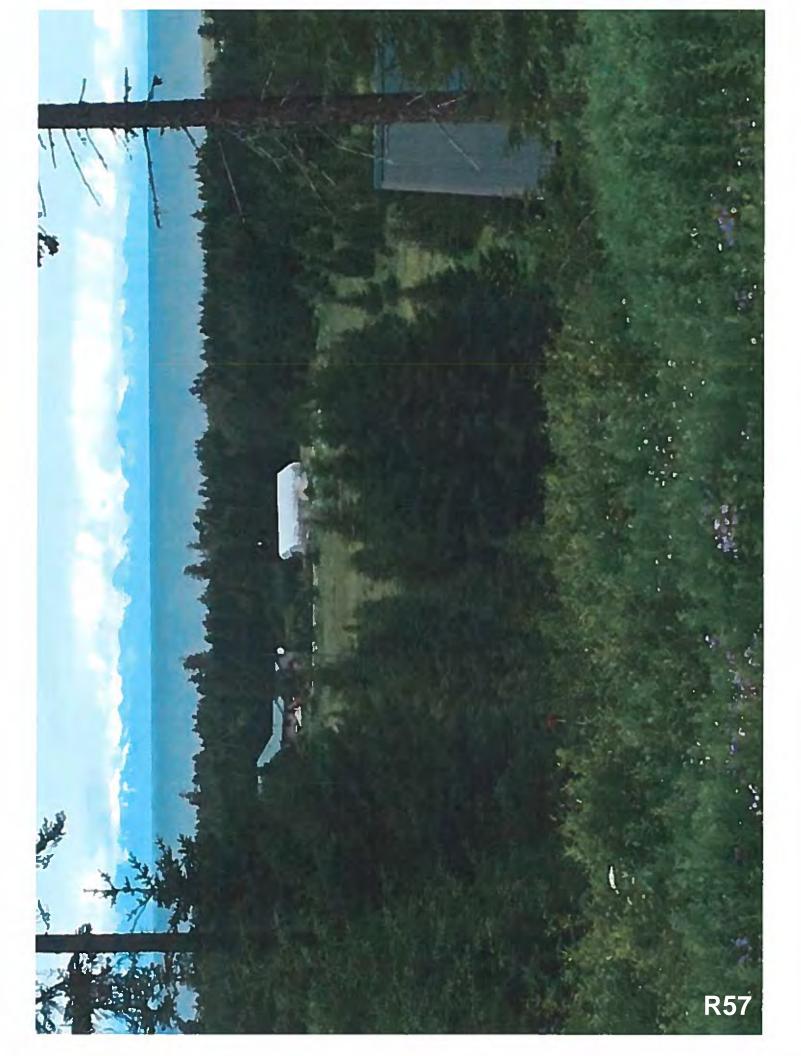
#### Hi Bruce.

I am attaching two pictures taken from my deck, and overlooking the property which would become a gravel pit if the CLUP for Beachcomber LLC (Emmit Trimble) is granted. As is true with all properties (of which there are many) located at higher elevations than the proposed pit, it is not possible for the applicant to meet Standard #5 — Minimize visual impacts. Because of the unique topography of the area surrounding the proposed site and the way sound is transmitted within the bowl, Standard #4 — Minimize noise disturbance to other properties is also not attainable. In light of the inability of the applicant to meet these two standards, as well as a multitude of other legitimate concerns, this CLUP needs to be denied.

The parcel is located in the very heart of a residential/recreational gem and development of a gravel mine upon it would adversely affect the quality of life for residents, drastically lower property values in the surrounding area, and in all likelyhood impact tourism (the lifeblood of Anchor Point) when visitors to the area find camping next to the noise and dust generated by a gravel mine is unacceptable.

Hans Bilben 35039 Danver St Anchor Point





# Philip J. Brna 5601 E. 98<sup>th</sup> Avenue Anchorage, AK 99507 (907) 346-2131

July 11, 2018

Planning Commission Chairman Kenai Peninsula Borough 144 N. Binkley St. Soldotna, AK 99669 Via email to bwall@kpb.us

RE: Comments on Conditional Land Use Permit for Material Site; Beachcomber LLC; 169-010-67

I am providing comments on the referenced Land Use Permit application.

- 1. I am opposed to development of a material site and approval of a land use permit at this location. I request that the KPB deny the permit.
- I am the owner of the residential parcel (PID 169-022-08), which is immediately to the north of the proposed processing area and which is almost completely surrounded by the proposed material site.
- 3. I purchased this property in 2001 and installed an access road and pad. My intent is to build a recreational cabin at this location. I own another cabin in the Clark Peterson subdivision near the Steelhead Campground and adjacent to the Anchor River. This cabin has experienced flooding in recent years and my wife and ! have been investigating building another cabin on our property at PID 169-022-08.
- 4. Approval of the proposed material site application will preclude me from building another cabin because of noise and dust related disturbances. Additionally, a material site will significantly diminish my property value and will impact my ability to sell this property. Development of a material site at this location effectively constitutes a taking of my property value.
- 5. This is a residential and recreational area and it is inappropriate for the KPB to allow development of a material site at this location. A material site will significantly impact property values and use and enjoyment of residential and recreational property, including the Anchor River Recreational Unit, a part of the State Park System. A material site will conflict with existing residential and recreational use of the area.

- 6. There is considerable recreational use of the Anchor Point Road and Danver Street by people, including children, walking, running, walking dogs, bicycle tours, and riding bikes in the summer. Use of these roads by gravel trucks is a disaster waiting to happen.
- 7. I am concerned that this project could affect ground water input to the Anchor River and its estuary but these affects cannot be quantified without better groundwater data.

If the KPB approves this material site application over the objections of local people, the permit conditions must be adequate for protection of residential and recreational use of adjacent properties. I therefore recommend:

- 1. There be no onsite processing of gravel, especially crushing. This would mitigate many concerns related to noise and dust.
- 2. There must be a minimum of a 6 foot high vegetated berm and a separate 50 foot vegetated buffer along the entire northern boundary of the property.
- 3. The requested waiver from the 300 foot setback of the processing area from the northern boundary should not be approved.
- 4. There shall be no equipment operations between the hours of 6 p.m. and 8 a.m.
- 5. If the KPB approves this material site application property taxes of all adjacent properties should be reduced.

Philip J. Brna

From: Coowe Walker <cmwalker9@alaska.edu>

Sent: Wednesday, July 11, 2018 4:55 PM

To: Wall, Bruce

**Subject:** Fwd: Anchor River estuary, salmon and new potential gravel operations

Attachments: T-1T-31-13 Estuary habitat use by juvenile chinook and coho salmon in a Kenai

Lowlands (Anchor) River\_Final Report9-20-16.pdf; Hoem-Neher et al. 2013 Estuarine

environ as rearing habs TAFS.pdf

#### Hello Bruce,

I am sharing information from my perspective as an ecologist regarding the potential new gravel operations on the parcels to the east of the Anchor River estuary. I have been studying this estuary (as well as other estuaries in the Kachemak Bay region) since 2009. I am attaching a couple of documents - a final report and a peer reviewed journal article that reflect data on juvenile salmon use specifically in the Anchor River estuary. A few salient points are:

- 1) There are thousands of juvenile salmon (Coho and Chinook salmon primarily), as well as other species (Steelhead, Dolly Varden, Starry Flounders, sculpins, sticklebacks) rearing in the Anchor River estuary;
- 2) Juvenile fish rearing in the Anchor estuary exhibit many different life history patterns, and preliminary data indicates that these patterns reflect genetic diversity in the salmon populations of the estuary.
- 3) Juvenile salmon move broadly throughout the estuary, using tidal channels, pools, as well as river habitats,
- 4) Juvenile salmon are present in the Anchor River estuary year round.
- 5) Conductivity measurements taken in the estuary indicate that groundwater flows are supporting juvenile salmon habitats

I am very concerned that the proposed gravel operations could impact groundwater flows that support salmon habitat, and also create dust that could settle on the surface and adversely affect salmon. The estuary of the Anchor River is relatively small, but is an extremely important component of the Anchor River watershed. All salmon use the estuary as habitat at least twice in their lives, as adults returning from the ocean, and as juveniles transitioning to the ocean. As I pointed out earlier, we know that some juveniles rear in the estuary for prolonged periods, and that these may represent genetically distinct fish. There is no other 'alternative' estuary habitat for the fish of the Anchor River to use. In my opinion, it would better to have more understanding of the potential consequences before any of the proposed operations proceed.

Unfortunately, I won't be able to attend the public meeting. Please let me know if I can provide any more information.

Thanks,

Coowe

Coowe Walker Reserve Manager Program Watershed Ecologist 2181 Kachemak Drive Homer, Alaska (907) 235-4792 This article was downloaded by: [Coowe Walker]

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# Estuarine Environments as Rearing Habitats for Juvenile Coho Salmon in Contrasting South-Central Alaska Watersheds

Tammy D. Hoem Neher  $^{a\ e}$  , Amanda E. Rosenberger  $^{b\ f}$  , Christian E. Zimmerman  $^c$  , Coowe M. Walker  $^d$  & Steven J. Baird  $^d$ 

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>f</sup> U.S. Geological Survey, Missouri Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit, Department of Fisheries and Wildlife Sciences, University of Missouri, 303H Anheuser-Busch Natural Resources Building, Columbia, Missouri, 65211, USA

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#### ARTICLE

# Estuarine Environments as Rearing Habitats for Juvenile Coho Salmon in Contrasting South-Central Alaska Watersheds

## Tammy D. Hoem Neher\*1

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School of Fisheries and Ocean Sciences, University of Alaska Fairbanks, 905 North Koyukuk Drive, 245 O'Neill Building, Post Office Box 757220, Fairbanks, Alaska 99775-7220, USA

#### Christian E. Zimmerman

U.S. Geological Survey, Alaska Science Center, 4210 University Drive, Anchorage, Alaska 99508, USA

#### Coowe M. Walker and Steven J. Baird

Kachemak Bay Research Reserve, 95 Sterling Highway, Suite 2, Homer, Alaska 99603, USA

#### Abstract

For Pacific salmon, estuaries are typically considered transitional staging areas between freshwater and marine environments, but their potential as rearing habitat has only recently been recognized. The objectives of this study were two-fold: (1) to determine if Coho Salmon Oncorhynchus kisutch were rearing in estuarine habitats, and (2) to characterize and compare the body length, age, condition, and duration and timing of estuarine occupancy of juvenile Coho Salmon between the two contrasting estuaries. We examined use of estuary habitats with analysis of microchemistry and microstructure of sagittal otoliths in two watersheds of south-central Alaska. Juvenile Coho Salmon were classified as estuary residents or nonresidents (recent estuary immigrants) based on otolith Sr: Ca ratios and counts of daily growth increments on otoliths. The estuaries differed in water source (glacial versus snowmelt hydrographs) and in relative estuarine and watershed area. Juvenile Coho Salmon with evidence of estuary rearing were greater in body length and condition than individuals lacking evidence of estuarine rearing. Coho Salmon captured in the glacial estuary had greater variability in body length and condition, and younger age-classes predominated the catch compared with the nearby snowmelt-fed, smaller estuary. Estuary-rearing fish in the glacial estuary arrived later and remained longer (39 versus 24 d of summer growth) during the summer than did fish using the snowmelt estuary. Finally, we observed definitive patterns of overwintering in estuarine and near shore environments in both estuaries. Evidence of estuary rearing and overwintering with differences in fish traits among contrasting estuary types refute the notion that estuaries function as only staging or transitional habitats in the early life history of Coho Salmon.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>Present address: U.S. Geological Survey, Missouri Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit, Department of Fisheries and Wildlife Sciences, University of Missouri, 303H Anheuser-Busch Natural Resources Building, Columbia, Missouri 65211, USA. Received December 5, 2012; accepted June 10, 2013

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Pacific salmon exhibit multiple life histories in response to variability in selection pressures and habitat conditions (Healey 1994, Groot and Margolis 1991). Early marine entry and presmolt growth just prior to entry is a time of severe selective pressure due to the physiological and environmental changes experienced by salmon smolts (Williams 1996; Thorpe et al. 1998; Beamish et al. 2004). This life stage has been linked to an optimal out-migration survival period that corresponds to a period when ocean conditions provide suitable temperatures and abundant resources for growing and feeding (Gargett 1997; Johnsson et al. 1997; Beamish et al. 2008). The period and duration of optimal out-migration timing may change from year to year depending on precipitation levels, wind patterns, and solar energy inputs (Gargett 1997; Beamish et al. 2008). Fish size, body condition, and timing of marine entry are instrumental for optimal timing and to ensure coincidence with both the quantity and quality of available prey and the ability of the individual to use it (Beamish and Mahnken 2001; Hobday and Boehlert

Estuaries play an important role as transitional habitats prior to the ocean entry phase of salmon smolt. The mixing zone of freshwater and saltwater environments buffers against osmoregulatory and physiological stress in smolts (Healey 1982; McMahon and Holtby 1992; Miller and Sadro 2003; Beamish et al. 2004; Bottom et al. 2005a). Estuaries, however, also have potential to serve as important salmon rearing habitats; Chinook Salmon Oncorhynchus tshawytscha, in particular, have increased survival rates (Magnusson and Hilborn 2003) and life history variability (Bottom et al. 2005a; Campbell 2010; Volk et al. 2010) with estuarine habitat use. Factors expected to impact individual fish survival include the duration of estuary occupancy, timing of early marine entry, and environmental conditions that affect body condition (Healey 1982; Bohlin et al. 1993; Beamish et al. 2004). Given their importance for rearing, we anticipated that strong spatial and temporal variability in environmental conditions within estuaries may play a key role in trait expression of individuals subject to overall conditions within these habitats.

Estuaries fed by different freshwater hydrologic regimes may provide contrasting rearing environments for resident biota (Saltveit et al. 2001). Freshwater influx into northern estuaries is expected to be particularly high during snowmelt periods; however, within Alaska, many estuarine habitats are fed by glacial river systems. For these systems, peak freshwater discharge occurs in midsummer rather than early spring, yielding cold, sediment-laden discharge during the warmest months. Differences between glacial and snowmelt-fed estuaries may therefore contribute to variability in the timing and duration of estuarine use for juvenile salmon.

Previous investigations into estuary ecology of juvenile Coho Salmon *O. kisutch* are limited, but indicate that the transition from fresh to salt water life stages is complicated and may differ by age or life stage (McMahon and Holtby 1992). For example, young-of-year fish undertake seasonal migrations within the up-

per estuarine ecotone and freshwater river channels and sloughs, and residency between these areas is estimated to be as long as 8 months (Miller and Sadro 2003; Koski 2009). Fingerling (age-1 and -2) Coho Salmon were present in estuaries for only 2 months (McMahon and Holtby 1992), and individuals within these populations were reported to have short estuary residence times (up to 17 d; Chittenden et al. 2008). Understanding some of the environmental conditions that lead to the differences in use by young salmon may provide insight into critical rearing habitats for conservation and management.

Direct and unbiased documentation of estuarine habitat use by juvenile salmon is difficult, given a limited suite of tracking and marking techniques applicable to small fish. The use of otolith microchemistry in combination with examination of microstructure (incremental growth layers) can be used to determine ontogenetic patterns of habitat occupancy when water chemistry contrasts strongly between habitats (Neilson et al. 1985; Campana 1999; Kennedy et al. 2002; Réveillac et al. 2008). The salinity of the surrounding environment, in particular, has been linked to ratios of strontium to calcium (Sr: Ca) deposited in otoliths, a useful feature for measuring life history patterns in diadromous fishes (Zimmerman 2005). In tandem with microchemical analysis, microstructural analysis of incremental growth patterns and age of fish can allow discernment of habitat transitions through time (Campana and Neilson 1985; Neilson et al. 1985; Volk et al. 2010). It can be difficult, however, to determine and validate daily incremental growth patterns, particularly during periods of low growth (Campana and Neilson 1985). In that case, seasonal growth patterns may provide sufficient resolution to determine history, particularly in the case of estuarine or marine versus freshwater habitat use.

In this study, we investigated and compared the ecology and life history patterns of juvenile Coho Salmon captured within two contrasting estuary environments. Our first question was two-fold: (1) were juvenile Coho Salmon rearing within estuary systems, and (2) did fish rearing within estuaries show trait differences (condition, dates of entry, and weights) from those that did not? Using otolith microanalyses, we determined the timing and duration of use and correspondence with fish traits of different ages of juvenile salmon captured within estuary channels. We hypothesized that fish using estuaries, having a longer time for osmoregulatory adjustment and thereby benefiting from these environments, would exhibit greater lengths and body condition than those without evidence of estuary residence. The second question of our work was, did patterns of estuary use by juvenile Coho Salmon, including timing and duration of occupancy, differ between two estuaries with contrasting freshwater environments? We hypothesized that differences in freshwater discharge regimes (i.e., a glacial-fed versus snowmelt-fed estuary) that result in differences in thermal regimes and available habitats may be factors that drive use of differing estuary systems. This would suggest that physical processes are important drivers of ontogenetic variability in use of estuarine environments and therefore life history expression in juvenile salmon.

#### **STUDY SITE**

The large tidal range (>8 m depth) of Kachemak Bay and Cook Inlet (NOAA 2012) in south-central Alaska can create extensive estuarine ecotones with diverse habitat conditions, particularly in glacial rivers with heavy silt deposition zones. Our study compared environmental conditions and fish collected from similar channel habitat types sampled within two contrasting estuaries of the Anchor and the Fox rivers, located approximately 29 km apart, (Figure 1). Juvenile salmon were captured within channels located in the intertidal zone of each estuary, bordered by mud flats and vegetation. Channels were chosen to maximize habitat similarity between the estuaries (i.e., similar connectivity to the main-stem river, locations within the intertidal zones respective of the estuary size, channel shape, and channel length).

The Anchor River delta is a snowmelt and spring-fed, barbuilt estuary that abruptly transitions into the marine environment of southern Cook Inlet; its estuary length is about 0.8 km (measured from the high-water tide line to its confluence with the Cook Inlet). The Fox River delta is a glacially fed estuary that transitions through a large delta, approximately 6 km long, into Kachemak Bay. The Fox River watershed is located in a smaller, more constrained valley and lacks freshwater back-channel areas in the lower river, whereas the Anchor River has numerous side-channel areas in the lower river. Compared with the Anchor River estuary, the Fox River estuary has more gradual, extended ecotones between the marine environments of Cook Inlet and freshwater environments of the Fox River.

#### **METHODS**

Habitat characteristics.—We sampled fish and recorded environmental data in tidal channels spaced within the intertidal zone of each estuary. Habitats upstream of these channels are

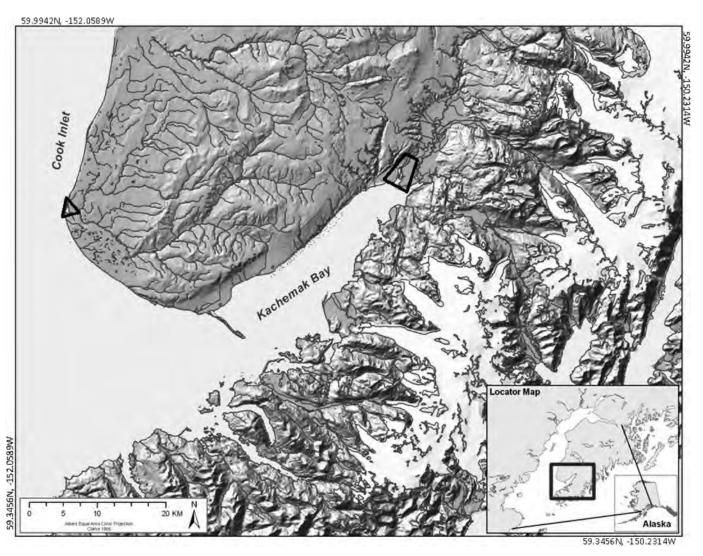


FIGURE 1. The study area on the lower Kenai Peninsula, Alaska, where age-0 to age-2 Coho Salmon were sampled from the Anchor River (triangle) and Fox River (trapezoid) estuaries.

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not tidally influenced and therefore were not considered estuary habitats for this study. Four channels were sampled in the Fox River estuary and two channels were sampled in the Anchor River estuary, twice monthly from April through September for a total of 10 sampling events in the Anchor River and 11 sampling events in the Fox River. Sampling occurred during moderate tide levels in both estuaries because some channels could not be sampled at high tide. Sample events in each estuary usually occurred within 7 d of one another, often within the same week. Temperature and depth were measured and recorded using Solinst TM 3001 level loggers (Solinst Canada Ltd., Ontario, Canada) calibrated with a Solinst TM 3000 barologger set onsite. Level loggers were set at 15-min recording intervals and placed in 5 × 25 cm plastic PVC housings attached to steel fence posts driven approximately 25 cm into the substrate. Fence posts were located five meters upstream from the channel mouth in each of the six channels sampled, and one logger was placed along the margin of each river channel. In addition, measurements were taken for each sampling event at a cross-section downstream of the fence posts for each sampling event. Thalweg depth, conductivity (direct and standardized for temperature), salinity (measured as salt concentration), and temperature (with probe at the surface, mid water column, and channel bottom) were measured using a YSI model 30.

Habitat data were summarized for analyses as follows: continuous water level data as 7-d mean, minimum, and maximum depths for each estuary channel and the main-stem river. Continuous temperature data were summarized as daily averages summed for accumulated thermal units by week and month. Point measurements of salinity collected at each sampling event were combined and expressed as monthly mean, minimum, and maximum recordings.

Fish capture.—Juvenile Coho Salmon were captured in tidal channels of the intertidal zones of Fox and Anchor river estuaries within 25-m reaches using three depletion passes with a pole-seine (2.2  $\times$  6.1 m, 0.31 cm mesh) twice per month from late April through September 2011. Prior to fish sampling, each unit was closed with blocking nets  $(2.2 \times 6.1 \text{ m})$ 0.31 cm mesh) secured along the sides and bottom with stakes to prevent fish escape. Fish from each pass were placed in separate, 19-L aerated tubs filled with water from the channel. All fish captured were identified to species and counted. Fifty juvenile Coho Salmon captured from each of three passes of the seine (total, 150 fish/site per each event) were anesthetized in tricaine methanesulfonate (MS-222) at 70 mg/L of water (Bailey et al. 1998; Chittenden et al. 2008) and measured for FL (mm). If more than 150 Coho Salmon were captured at each site, samples were indiscriminately selected by gently stirring the incarcerated fish and removing samples with a hand dip net. Age-classes of Coho Salmon were apparent by length; therefore, three juvenile cohorts (<10% of the catch) at each were indiscriminately collected at each site: small (age 0, <50 mm FL), medium (age 1, 50-85 mm FL), and large (age 2, >85 mm FL) and sacrificed via overdose of MS-222 at

140 mg/L, labeled, placed on ice, returned to the laboratory, and frozen.

Fish condition.—We used dry weight and Fulton's condition factor measured from the frozen specimens for metrics of condition (Jonas et al. 1996; Pope and Kruse 2007). Fulton's condition,  $K = (W/L^3)100,000$ , was calculated using laboratory measures of fish length (FL; mm) and whole fish weight (W; g). Dry weights were determined from dissected samples with all tissue other than stomachs and otoliths returned to the sample prior to drying. Coho Salmon samples were placed in a drying oven at  $65-70^{\circ}$ C for 3 d, weighed, and returned to the oven for 24 h, and then re-weighed. Samples were considered dried when minimal change was detected between consecutive daily weights (Jonas et al. 1996).

Estuary residence time.—We used analysis of otolith microchemistry combined with microstructural analysis to determine if juvenile Coho Salmon were rearing in the saline environments of estuaries. Sagittal otoliths were removed from both sides of the cranial cavity of fish prior to condition analyses, rinsed, and stored in plastic vials. Otoliths were mounted in thermoplastic cement on sections of cover slips and glued to standard microscope slides (Donohoe and Zimmerman 2010). Otoliths were mounted sulcus down, and the sagittal plane was ground with 2,000-grit sand paper to expose a clean, flat surface. The sample was reheated, turned over to expose the sulcus, and ground to expose the nucleus (Zimmerman 2005; Donohoe and Zimmerman 2010). The sample was labeled and aged via winter counts, and the cover slip was cut to remove the mounted sample. The sample was then glued in a 2.54-cm-diameter circle centered on a petrographic slide for analysis. Once the slide was filled, it was washed, rinsed with deionized water, and allowed to air dry prior to processing.

We used the Laser-ablation Inductively Couple Plasma Mass Spectrometer (Agilent mass spectrometer 7500ce fitted with a CS lens stack combined with a New Wave UP213 laser, LA-ICPMS) housed at the Advanced Instrumentation Laboratory of the University of Alaska Fairbanks to complete the microchemical analyses. Transects were ablated from the primordia perpendicular to the growth increments into the mounting medium beyond the distal edge of one otolith from each fish. Count data were collected for the elements strontium (88Sr) and calcium (43Ca). Calcium (43Ca) was used as an internal standard and background-subtracted counts of Sr were adjusted to Ca and calibrated to glass standard reference material (NIST 610, National Institute of Standards and Testing). Calibration standards were run for 10 samples or less, depending on the number of samples on the slides, and one sample duplicate (both sagittal otoliths from one fish) was run for the entire batch. Laser speed was set at 5 µm/s with a 25-µm spot diameter on a single pass transect set to 80% power. The elemental count/s output of the LA-ICPMS was then converted to concentration and sampling distance using the elemental weights for each constituent and the laser settings, respectively. Strontium: calcium (Sr: Ca) ratios were then calculated for each of the distance

measures. Otoliths were photographed under  $4\times$ ,  $10\times$ ,  $20\times$ , and  $40\times$  magnification using a Leica DM1000 compound light microscope fitted with a Leica DFC425 digital camera housed at the Alaska Science Center (Anchorage, Alaska). Images were taken using a 1,000- $\mu$ m stage standard at all magnifications to calibrate otolith measurements, and the images were digitally processed to enhance clarity of incremental growth patterns. ImageJ software (version 1.46 h, http://imagej.nih.gov) was used to process digital images and to overlay distance-ratio graphs on the image, calibrated to the laser distance.

Estuarine residence time was determined by counting incremental growth marks on otoliths from juvenile salmon captured in the estuary (Miller and Simenstad 1997; Neilson et al. 1985). We defined residence time as the daily growth within the saline reaches of the estuary. Residence time was calculated as the number of incremental growth bands following the point of estuarine entry determined by the Sr: Ca inflection point with the distance-matched ratio graph overlaid on the otolith digital image. The inflection point, or estuary signature, was defined as an abrupt increase in Sr: Ca, as visually determined as the consecutive ratio increase of >0.3 per reading; levels remaining at >1.0 followed the freshwater mean ratios (Figure 2). Inflection points often correspond with dark banding, identified by some researchers as an estuary growth check (Lind-Null and Larsen 2011). These growth checks, though not always easily identifiable or consistent among individuals, corresponded to inflection points and provided additional support in identifying the points of estuary entry. All fish were categorized according to the presence or absence of an estuarine salinity signature (inflection point followed by growth), and incremental growth counts were completed to determine duration of estuary use on those with estuary signatures. Duration of estuarine rearing was determined by using a digital image of the otolith taken at  $20 \times \text{magnification overlaid with the distance-matched } (\mu \text{m})$ Sr: Ca graph. Inflection points were digitally marked on the image and were considered the point of estuarine entry. Growth increments were counted along two different radii from the distal edge of the otolith to the inflection point to determine days of residence (Figure 2). If counts differed between readings, a third count was made, and the median of the three counts was used. One group of salmon overwintered in estuarine/marine environments, therefore comparisons were made using summer season (April-September) residence times calculated as the date of capture less the incremental growth count (days) to the first discernible daily growth increment. The growth incrementtime relationship was validated by marking a sample of four fish with alizarin complexone (Zimmerman 2005), holding them in a small net pen in an estuary channel for 6 d, sacrificing the fish, and counting the increments past the Alizarin mark on prepared otoliths. The results from this test verified that incremental growth rings indeed represented a 24-h period, all fish showing six increments corresponding to the 6 d held in captive nets in the estuary.

Statistical analyses.—Based on our study questions, we wanted to determine whether (1) estuaries were used by Coho Salmon for rearing purposes, (2) those salmon that used estuaries for rearing differed from those that showed no evidence of estuarine rearing, (3) salmon rearing in two different estuaries show differences in traits and residence times related to environmental conditions, and (4) factors that contribute most to the variability in fish traits (e.g., presence of estuarine rearing, estuary habitat conditions, or the age of the fish) could be identified. The otolith microchemistry and microstructural analysis described above addressed whether fish were using estuaries for rearing, and we used analyses of empirical data to address the remaining objectives. When possible, confounding sources of variability, such as timing of capture, were included in these analyses, along with several potential sources of error and bias.

Because samples were a subset of the total catch and collected over the summer season, potential sources of bias and error must be addressed. Our protocol sampled evenly across age-classes for fish retained for laboratory analyses; therefore, the composition of the laboratory fish sample did not correspond to catch composition. We therefore tested (chi-square goodness of fit) for differences in age-class composition of measured fish between estuaries and in the laboratory sample versus the measured group age structure. Finding significant differences on both accounts, we ran analyses to compare length, age-class composition, and capture date based on two subsamples of the total catch: those that were caught, measured, and released (hereafter, measured group) versus those sacrificed and analyzed in the laboratory (hereafter, laboratory group). For each sampling event we inferred age-class composition of the measured group via their length-frequency histograms from length groups validated via otolith-determined ages of the laboratory group. Analyses completed with all age-classes pooled were weighted to ensure that the laboratory sample results reflected the composition of the population relative to the total catch of fish; laboratory fish data were weighted by percent composition of each age-class from the measured group of fish for each estuary. We also examined the relationship between capture date and residence time using simple linear regression for each estuary; a strong linear relationship between residence time and date of capture would indicate bias.

For the second objective, we compared those juvenile Coho Salmon that had a marine signature in their otolith, indicating estuarine rearing, with those salmon that were captured in the estuary but lacking detectible marine signature in the otolith. Those comparisons were done to determine whether fish in these groups showed differences in trait patterns (time of entry, condition, length, and weight). Two separate analyses were used: ANCOVA for all age-classes pooled, and Student's *t*-tests for individual age-classes (due to small sample lengths and disproportionate distribution of age-classes between estuaries). We tested data from the laboratory fish group captured in each estuary via ANCOVA analyses. This analysis used the independent

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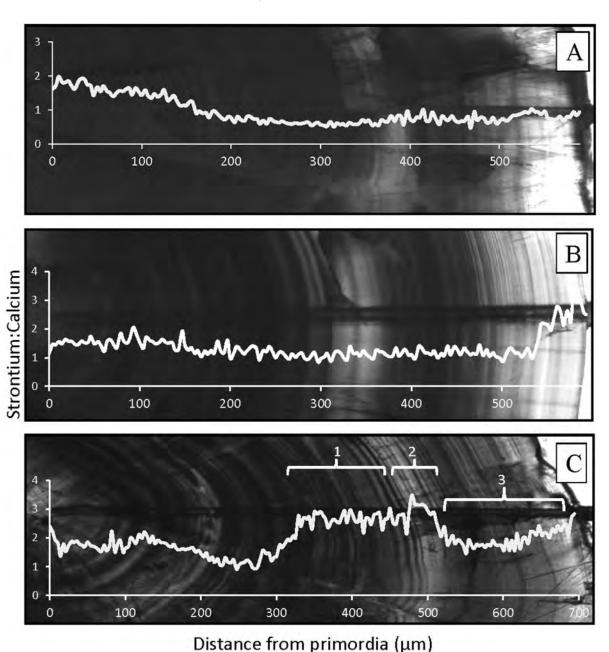


FIGURE 2. Images of otoliths of Coho Salmon from the Fox and Anchor River estuaries showing Sr: Ca ratio graphs overlaid with laser transect distances. Different estuary use patterns are depicted: (**A**) no estuary use, (**B**) summer season estuary use signature, and (**C**) age-2 fish with overwintering signature and variable use of salinities during the summer season, where (1) is the first summer estuary signature, (2) is the winter estuary signature, and (3) is the second summer estuary signature.

variable (condition) and dependent variable (date of capture) with estuary rearing as the covariate for fish comparison for all ages pooled (weighted bycatch). For the age-class comparisons, we compared traits (length, condition, dates of entry, and weights) between signature patterns using Student's unpaired two-sample *t*-tests for each age-class; estuaries were analyzed separately. Because, in this scenario, each variable was repeat tested a total of four times (for age-0 and age-1 classes by two es-

tuaries), we adjusted our alpha values accordingly (Dunn Sidak correction alpha level 0.013; Abdi 2007).

Our third objective focused on whether fish using the glacial Fox River estuary showed differential trait expression from those using the snowmelt, spring fed Anchor River estuary. Two separate analyses were performed as described above. For the between-age-class comparisons, traits were examined for differences between estuaries using Student's unpaired

two-sample *t*-tests for each age-class. To compare fish traits with all age-classes pooled, we used an ANCOVA analysis with each dependent variable (length, dry weight, condition) and capture date as the independent variable with estuary of capture as the covariate.

The final objective was to examine the influence of three potential factors (age, estuary type, and presence of an estuary signature) in explaining variability in Coho Salmon traits. We used a three-way catch-weighted ANOVA with the laboratory group data to address this question.

Data were standardized to the mean of each variable and fourth-root transformed (when necessary) to meet homogeneity assumptions for all linear tests. Data were checked for equal variance using F-tests for age-class comparisons. If samples had unequal variances and could not be transformed to meet this assumption, a Welch two-sample, unpaired t-test was used for comparison of age-class data.

#### **RESULTS**

## **Estuary Habitats**

Temporal trends in habitat features followed trends and differences anticipated for snowmelt versus glacially fed estuaries. Minimum salinities were higher and more variable in the snowmelt-fed Anchor River estuary channels, particularly in midsummer (Student's two-sample unpaired t-test: t=1.32, P<0.001, df = 18; Figure 3; Table 1). Data from the stationary loggers placed in the sampling sites showed expected patterns in trends associated with each watershed type. The glacial Fox River showed seasonal increases in water depth and decreases in temperature associated with the glacial runoff, whereas the snowmelt and spring-fed Anchor River exhibited peak water depths and coolest temperatures in the early spring. The highest 7-d average estuarine water temperatures occurred in late May  $(13.3^{\circ}\text{C})$  for the Fox River and late July  $(15.3^{\circ}\text{C})$  for the Anchor River.

#### Fish

We captured a total of 1,743 Coho Salmon in the Anchor River and measured 532. In the Fox River we captured 4,232 individuals and measured 1,621. We sacrificed and retained 35

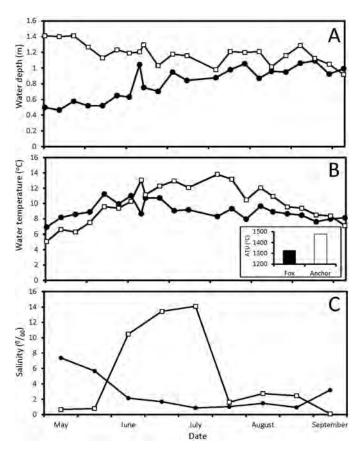


FIGURE 3. Continuous data logger results for the Fox River (black circles) and Anchor River (open squares) estuaries showing the summer-season 7-d average (A) water levels, and (B) water temperatures with an inset in accumulated thermal units (ATU). (C) Average weekly point measurements of salinity.

from the Anchor River estuary and 73 fish from the Fox River estuary for laboratory analysis.

Three age-classes of Coho Salmon were captured in both estuaries (0, 1, 2), though the relative dominance of age-classes within the measured group differed significantly between estuaries ( $\chi^2 = 338.4$ , P < 0.001, df = 2, Table 2; Figure 4). Fish captured in the Fox River estuary were primarily composed of younger age-classes (age-0 and age-1 fish), with less than 5% of the catch composed of age-2 fish. The Anchor River estuary

TABLE 1. Mean monthly measures of environmental conditions for the south-central Alaska's Fox and Anchor river estuary channels. Metrics were calculated for all channels combined within the Fox or Anchor estuaries. Water temperature is in accumulated thermal units (ATU).

	Fox River: mean (var)			Anchor River: mean (var)		
Month	Temperature ATU (°C)	Depth (m)	Salinity (mS/cm)	Temperature ATU (°C)	Depth m (var)	Salinity (mS/cm)
May	50.2 (17.3)	0.7 (0.1)	7.8 (4.5)	52.4 (11.4)	1.3 (0.3)	0.7 (1.2)
Jun	74.8 (5.0)	0.7 (0.4)	2.0 (2.5)	78.7 (13.2)	1.2 (0.2)	8.5 (11.1)
Jul	60.0 (10.3)	0.9 (0.4)	1.3 (2.3)	90.7 (9.3)	1.1 (0.2)	7.9 (10.8)
Aug	58.6 (4.0)	1.0 (0.3)	1.5 (1.5)	74.6 (10.6)	1.2 (0.2)	2.5 (1.1)

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TABLE 2. Numbers of measured and laboratory Coho Salmon grouped by age for the Fox River and Anchor River estuaries. Counts of fish showing estuary use is denoted for the laboratory group in parentheses.

Estuary	Age 0	Age 1	Age 2	Total	
Measured group composition: numbers of fish					
Fox	$\bar{7}85$	760	76	1,621	
Anchor	291	133	108	532	
Total	1,076	893	184	2,153	
Laboratory group composition: numbers of fish					
Fox	24 (6)	45 (17)	4(1)	73 (24)	
Anchor	9 (3)	14 (11)	12 (10)	35 (24)	
Total	33 (9)	59 (28)	16 (11)	108 (48)	
Percent of total laboratory group with estuary signature					
Laboratory group	41	48	69	44	

measured fish group was composed of over 20% age-2 fish and had a smaller proportion of age-1 fish than the Fox River (Table 2). We were restricted in retaining age-2 fish for individual analysis from the Fox River estuary due to low catch rates of this age-class in the system.

A substantial proportion of laboratory group fish displayed elevated Sr: Ca signatures, indicating growth within the saline reaches of the estuary (44%, 48 of 108 collected fish). Of these, 10 individuals overwintered in saline environments (either estuarine or near shore environments), 13 exhibited summer season use patterns of residence in saline environments followed by use of less saline environments (e.g., Figure 2A). Of the 35 Anchor River fish and 73 Fox River fish analyzed, 24 from each river exhibited evidence of estuary rearing. The Fox River fish showed a significantly lower proportion of fish with estuary signatures. Only two fish from the Fox River estuary showed estuary—marine overwintering signatures (one individual each from age-classes 1 and 2).

Disparity in patterns of capture, estuary use, and entry dates were apparent in comparisons of fish captured in the two estuaries (Table 3). The highest total capture of Coho Salmon occurred in the Anchor River estuary in late August and in late July in the Fox River (Figure 4). In both estuaries, most age-2 individuals were captured in April–June. Age-1 individuals predominated the June and early July catches, and age-0 individuals were not captured until later in June. Fish captured in the Anchor River estuary entered earlier during the sampling period and had shorter and less variable times of use than those captured in the Fox River estuary; however, these differences were not statistically significant (weighted 2-way linear model) for the pooled, catch-composition-weighted data for laboratory group with estuarine rearing: entry dates (F = 1.71, P = 0.20, df = 46) and residence (F = 2.06, P = 0.16, df = 463.69; Table 3). Only two variables were significant (Student's unpaired t-test) among comparisons made between estuaries by

TABLE 3. Mean residence times and capture dates for the laboratory group of Coho Salmon captured in the Fox and Anchor rivers in 2011.

Estuary	Age 0	Age 1	Age 2			
Average summer season use (d)						
Fox	49.33	39.23	6.00			
Anchor	36.33	29.72	14.80			
Mean capture dates (estuary signature)						
Fox	Aug 21	Jul 31	May 28 <sup>a</sup>			
Anchor	Aug 8	Jul 20	May 29			
Mean capture date (no estuary signature)						
Fox	Jul 13	Jul 18	Jun17			
Anchor	Aug 23	Jul 13	Jul 4			

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>a</sup>Sample size was 1

age-class: laboratory group age-0 entry date (t = -2.50, df = 30, P = 0.02) and condition (t = -1.92, df = 30, P = 0.06).

Generally, fish captured and measured within the two estuaries differed in length, weight, and body condition; however this was only statistically significant when single age-classes were compared (Table 4). Compared with Fox River fish, the Anchor River mean FL at age was significantly (Student's unpaired t-tests) larger and less variable for each age-class in the measured group, i.e., age 0 (t = -151.15, P < 0.01, df = 306), age 1 (t = -6.22, P < 0.01, df = 889), and age 2 (t = -3.35 P < 0.01, df = 108; Table 5). Fish in the laboratory group followed a similar pattern as the measured group; however, these differences were statistically significant only in some comparisons made by separate age-classes (Table 5).

The age and presence or absence of an estuary signature significantly contributed to variability between traits (length, condition, dates of capture, and weights), whereas the estuary of capture did not. Fish that demonstrated more extended estuary use tended to be captured in the estuaries later than those that showed little to no estuary use (weighted 2-way linear model: F = 5.14, P = 0.02, df = 103; Table 5). Fish using the estuary were significantly (weighted 2-way linear models) greater in length and had higher condition when samples from both estuaries were pooled: length (F = 5.75, P < 0.01, df = 103) and condition (F = 13.12, P < 0.01, df = 103; Table 4). Finally, the evidence of estuarine rearing significantly (ANCOVA) accounted for variation in fish condition over time for both the Anchor (F = 11.06, P < 0.01) and Fox (F = 6.42, P = 0.01)river estuaries. Generally, fish in both estuaries increased in condition over time. However, fish lacking estuary signatures showed smaller sizes and lower condition when captured, and the condition increased at a greater rate over the summer season than it did among fish with an estuary signature (Figure 5).

In summary, juvenile Coho Salmon used estuaries for rearing, the greatest variability in fish traits (body condition, length, weight, capture date) being explained by the age-class and the presence or absence of estuary rearing. All fish exhibiting estuary use were significantly larger and had greater weights and

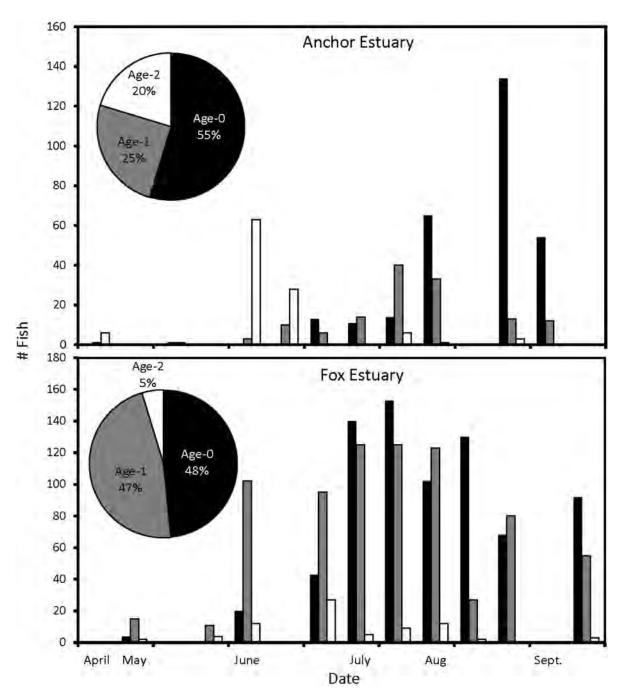


FIGURE 4. Comparison of total sample catch of Coho Salmon separated by age-class in the Fox and Anchor river estuaries. Inset pie charts illustrate age composition.

higher body condition than those lacking estuary-use signatures. Patterns of trait differences between estuaries were apparent, though not statistically significant given our limited sample sizes of estuary residents. Compared with fish in the Fox River estuary, those using the Anchor River estuary showed a higher proportion of overwintering use, and the summer composition of residents was higher in older individuals with greater body condition, length, earlier entry, and shorter times of use.

Finally, we addressed the potential for capture date to bias residence. We found a weak, though significant, positive relationship between capture date and residence days for fish from the Fox River estuary (P < 0.01, adjusted  $r^2 = 0.18$ ) but not for fish from the Anchor River estuary (P = 0.28, adjusted  $r^2 = 0.01$ ). This relationship could potentially be explained by the differences in behavior patterns of the fish from the two estuaries.

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TABLE 4. Mean and variance of body size, weight, and condition for measured (n = 2,153) and laboratory (n = 108) groups of Coho Salmon captured in the Fox River and Anchor River estuaries.

Estuary	Age 0	Age 1	Age 2
	Measured group mea	an size (variance)	
Fox	40.68 (73.16)	72.86 (176.75)	85.34 (166.70)
	Laboratory group me	an size (variance)	
Fox	41.91 (117.63)	76.11 (332.58)	90.75 (189.30)
Estuary signature	51.50 (96.30)	79.10 (214.74)	$80.10^{a}$
No signature	38.50 (85.01)	74.10 (411.18)	93.00 (207.33)
Anchor	48.22 (84.94)	77.90 (173.91)	99.75 (86.75)
Estuary signature	53.30 (114.33)	79.10 (137.69)	98.10 (76.98)
	Laboratory group mean	dry weight (variance)	
Fox	0.15 (0.02)	1.13 (0.80)	1.47 (0.42)
Estuary signature	0.30 (0.03)	1.22 (0.42)	$0.96^{a}$
No signature	0.09 (0.01)	1.08 (0.89)	1.60(0.45)
Anchor	0.25 (0.02)	1.04 (0.40)	1.99 (1.05)
Estuary signature	0.32 (0.04)	1.11 (0.42)	1.91 (1.12)
No signature	0.18 (0.01)	0.70 (0.36)	2.40 (1.08)
	Laboratory group Fulton's n	nean condition (variance)	
Fox	0.91 (0.04)	1.08 (0.02)	1.05 (0.01)
Estuary signature	1.12 (0.01)	1.12 (0.01)	$1.14^{a}$
No signature	0.84 (0.03)	1.06 (0.04)	1.03 (0.01)
Anchor	1.05 (0.02)	1.12 (0.01)	1.00 (0.02)
Estuary signature	1.12 (0.01)	1.15 (0.00)	1.00 (0.02)
No signature	1.02 (0.03)	0.99 (0.00)	1.02 (0.02)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>a</sup>Sample size too small for variance calculations.

#### **DISCUSSION**

Fish using the estuaries in our study exhibited substantially greater estuary use times in the saline reaches of the estuary than previously reported for juvenile Coho Salmon, particularly older

cohorts (age-1 and age-2 juveniles; McMahon and Holtby 1992; Thorpe 1994; Magnusson and Hilborn 2003). Juvenile Coho Salmon in all age-classes used estuaries for extended periods of time, including overwintering in estuaries or nearshore areas,

TABLE 5. Trait comparisons between estuaries and signature groups for pooled, catch weighted data shown by age-class for Coho Salmon captured in the Fox River and Anchor River estuaries. Only tests with probability values <0.10 are reported.

Metric	Statistical significance	Pattern			
Comparisons between estuaries					
Age 0					
Size	$t = 61.27, P < 0.01^{a}, df = 751$	Measured fish, Anchor fish larger			
Entry date	t = -2.50, P = 0.02, df = 30	Laboratory fish, Anchor fish earlier entry date			
Condition (Fulton's)	t = -1.92, P = 0.06, df = 30	Laboratory fish, Anchor fish higher condition			
Age 1					
Size (FL)	$t = -5.95, P < 0.01^{a}, df = 889$	Measured fish, Anchor fish larger			
Age 2					
Size (FL)	$t = -3.36$ , $P < 0.01^{a}$ , df = 182	Measured fish, Anchor fish larger			
Comparisons between estuary signatures					
Condition (Fulton's)	$F = 13.12, P < 0.01^{a}, df = 103$	Fish with signature had higher, less variable condition			
Dry weight	F = 3.34, P = 0.07, df = 103	Fish with signatures had higher, less variable dry weight			
Capture date	F = 5.14, P = 0.02, df = 103	Fish with signatures showed later entry dates			
Size (FL)	F = 5.75, P = 0.02, df = 103	Fish with signatures showed larger, less variable size			

 $<sup>^</sup>a\text{Data}$  are shown for all tests, Dunn-Sidak  $\alpha=0.013$  for significant tests.

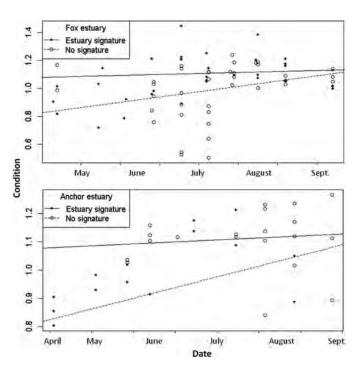


FIGURE 5. Fulton's condition factor for Coho Salmon shown by signature group and collection data from laboratory analyzed fish captured in the Fox River (upper panel) and Anchor River (lower panel) estuaries.

and these patterns of use differed between the two estuaries. The smaller, Anchor River estuary fed by snowmelt and spring water had larger, older fish that overwintered in the estuary or nearshore environments, and these fish used the estuary for shorter and earlier summer season periods prior to outmigration than did juveniles in the Fox River estuary. Fish in the larger, more complex, glacially fed Fox River estuary were composed of younger age-classes with longer summer residence times and few estuarine overwintering fish. Direct measurements of residence of older age-classes (ages 1–2) previously described were substantially shorter than those in our findings: up to 16 d (Chittenden et al. 2008) to 18 d (Miller and Sadro 2003).

Our observation of estuarine and nearshore overwintering juvenile Coho Salmon has theoretical implications regarding life history variability throughout the species range, though our observations are restricted to a central Alaska coastal population. This estuarine–marine overwintering life history pattern may be simply random movement or a response to a saturated or poor quality lower-river rearing habitat (Murphy et al. 1997) or, conversely, high estuarine habitat quality. Alternatively, it could represent exploitation of higher coastal productivity, forage, and nearshore habitat quality. All of these factors are expected to differ over the species range, even among adjacent systems within the same region. We note that incorporation of materials into the otolith matrix and our sampling regime do not allow us to distinguish between overwintering in the estuary channels themselves or the near shore environments of Kachemak Bay and Cook Inlet. The possibility exists that Coho Salmon enter nearshore marine environments and rear by moving between a number of fjords and estuary habitats such as those that exist along the shoreline of Kachemak Bay and Cook Inlet. Further research is necessary for an understanding of the drivers and full range of overwintering areas used by these estuarine-resident juveniles.

Although we did not examine the mechanisms driving differential patterns of estuarine habitat use, we speculate that differences in timing of use among estuaries may be due to spatial variability in water turbidity, temperature regimes, and environmental factors that affect channel depths. Use of channels by juvenile salmon is often associated with water depth (Miller and Simenstad 1997; Webster et al. 2007; Hering et al. 2010), which in the glacially fed Fox River estuary increased gradually from mid-June to late August. The glacial run-off led to cooler and less variable water temperatures. Anchor River estuary channels are deepest in early spring during peak snowmelt and become most shallow and warm in mid-July and early August, cooling thereafter with fall rains. We captured most fish in late August in the Anchor River and in late July in the Fox River, suggesting a suitable combination of water temperature and channel depth to accommodate most estuary use.

Our findings also suggest variable use of estuaries by youngof-year and older age-classes of Coho Salmon. Miller and Sadro (2003) and Koski (2009) discuss the potentially important role of the "nomad" or young-of-year Coho Salmon that spend up to 8 months in the upper estuary ecotone and then return to freshwater to overwinter. Although a large proportion of youngof-year migrants exhibited summer season patterns of movement between freshwater and estuaries, we found no evidence of movement to freshwater environments to overwinter. The discrepancy here could be due to differences in the relative size and the definition of the estuary ecotones between our study and others or differences in methods. We defined the upper and middle estuary ecotones in which the sampling sites were located as the intertidal zone (point from highest to lowest tidal fluctuations) and may contain some channels with lower mean salinity levels at the upstream region of the intertidal zone. This may result in fewer fish from lower-salinity channels showing estuary use. We did examine the point measures of salinity across the tidal inundation zone and found that the most upstream channel of the Fox River estuary had generally low salinity (average, <2 mS/cm) with the exception of the spring tidal periods. However, we do not believe this biased our results because the sample size of fish was small and the relative proportion of fish with estuary signatures; i.e., fish lacking estuary signatures was similar to the overall sample (1:5 upper channel, 24:73 in the Fox River sample). Additional differences in our study may result from the variability of the tidal range (>8 m) because the Cook Inlet region is most likely very different from locations where other studies have been completed in lower latitudes. Finally, the methods we employed to determine estuarine residency were direct measures of Sr: Ca ratios (salinity of environment) and fish growth, as determined from the otoliths. Many other studies provide inference from mark-recapture work, which may be 1492 HOEM NEHER ET AL.

biased to shorter periods and short-distance movements in areas where fish can be efficiently recaptured (Gowan et al. 1994).

Our study raises several interesting questions regarding the importance of the freshwater environment and watershed characteristics and their influence on exploitation of the estuarine environment—a point for future investigation. The influence of the watershed type and availability of suitable upstream rearing habitat may play a role in estuary use. Murphy et al. (1997) discuss the importance of lower-river freshwater areas in large glacial river systems for juvenile salmon rearing. We noted that the Fox River lacks the lower-river freshwater areas discussed by Murphy et al., whereas the Anchor River has ample lower-river habitats. The Anchor River estuary had a large proportion of older, larger resident fish with early entrance dates and shorter summer residence times, whereas the Fox River estuary had a smaller proportion of younger residents entering later and staying longer. This suggests that more suitable and extensive freshwater rearing habitat upstream may exist in the Anchor watershed (to allow for greater growth prior to estuary entry) and that temperature differences (cold glacier melt water versus warmer snowmelt and spring water) may contribute to patterns in growth and emergence timing. All but two of the Anchor River age-2 fish exhibited estuary overwintering during their second winter, implying an important role for the estuary, despite its small extent.

We did not determine the overall proportion of fish using the estuary during the juvenile phase in each population. It is possible that fish using the estuary for any amount of time may only contribute small numbers to the overall population within each river; it is probable that this varies from year to year. Simultaneous study of emigrating juvenile populations in the Anchor River (Gutsch 2012) noted a sudden drop in average length of Coho Salmon juveniles from approximately 100 mm to 80 mm toward mid-summer. These smaller individuals may overwinter within the estuary rather than move to the oceanic environment during a suboptimal period or body size—another possibility that warrants investigation. Regardless of the proportion of the reproductive population that these strategies compose, they contribute a unique suite of behaviors that increase trait diversity of each river's Coho Salmon population, diversity that represents adaptive potential that could contribute to population resilience to environmental change (Schindler et al. 2010).

Some interesting directions for future work include investigating the mechanisms for the differences in length, condition, residence times, and age composition found between fish using contrasting estuaries. We note that a possible nonlinear relationship between fish condition and time may exist in both estuaries (Figure 5). Though we are unable to address this question with our study sample, the possibility of influences of other estuarine environmental conditions on smolt condition (such as temperature and salinity) raises interesting questions for further investigation. A broader understanding of the importance of estuaries to different runs of salmon could be ascertained by determining the proportion of estuary residents in adult returns and how this

proportion varies over space, time, and estuarine complexity. Additionally, an understanding of the connections between the watershed, estuary, and near-shore environments during early marine rearing in Coho Salmon will facilitate strategic and knowledge-based management of these fragile and dynamic areas, thereby providing for resilient fisheries.

Prolonged use of estuary habitats (months during the summer and throughout the winter) may represent a distinct life history strategy that contributes to the overall population life history portfolio (Schindler et al. 2010). It follows, then, that pristine, functioning estuary habitats can contribute to resilience of salmon populations to environmental changes in two ways: (1) by providing a place for some individuals to increase in length and condition prior to ocean entry to improve survival, and (2) by providing for alternative life history strategies. Maximizing both the availability of supplemental habitats and life history diversity is particularly important given increasing human populations that stress land and water resource development and fishery resource use. Gaps in our understanding of environmental influences on life history expression arise from the fact that many of the highly studied salmon ecosystems in the Northeast Pacific are disturbed or substantially altered in some manner that has caused loss of variability in life history traits within populations (Miller and Simenstad 1997; Cornwell et al. 2001; Magnusson and Hilborn 2003; Bottom et al. 2005b; Healey 2009). Managers require a thorough understanding of the suite of environmental factors that influence the structure and survival of exploited fish populations to make decisions that provide the greatest benefit to all stakeholders (Bottom et al. 2009). This need stresses the importance of understanding functioning watersheds to inform management of endangered or threatened stocks.

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## STATE WILDLIFE GRANT (SWG)

STATE: Alaska GRANT: T-31-13
PROJECT: P-01

**WORK LOCATION:** Homer

**PERIOD DURATION:** February 1, 2015–June 30, 2016

**PROJECT REPORTING PERIOD:** February 1, 2015–June 30, 2016

**PROJECT TITLE:** Estuary Habitat Use by Juvenile Chinook and Coho Salmon in a Kenai Lowlands (Anchor)

River.

**PROJECT AUTHORS:** Coowe Moss Walker and Brianna Pierce

## **Project Objectives:**

The purpose of the project: This project investigates key aspects of juvenile salmon use of estuaries in south-central, Alaska, including patterns of movement and residence in different estuary habitats.

**Objective 1**: Research demographic patterns of juvenile Chinook and Coho Salmon movement and residence through different reaches and channel systems in the estuary.

**Objective 2:** Identify characteristics (metrics) of tidal channels that potentially relate to fish occupancy, residence and feeding.

## **Summary of Project Accomplishments:**

This project explores key aspects of juvenile salmon estuarine habitat use in a snowmelt, groundwater supported estuary of south-central Alaska. We investigated patterns of juvenile fish movement and residence in estuary habitats (objective 1), including different marsh channels and mainstem sites along a tidal gradient, through repeated fish sampling at the sites, tagging, recaptures and antenna detections. Features of those habitats that related to fish use (objective 2) were investigated through stationary loggers and point sampling. Our results revealed distinct environmental characteristics of the different habitats, with dissolved oxygen and water stratification explaining much of the variability between marsh channels and mainstem sites. Eight fish species were regularly captured in the estuary, including Chinook Salmon (Oncorhynchus tshawytscha), Coho Salmon (O. kisutch), Dolly Varden (Salvelinus malma), Sockeye Salmon (O. nerka), staghorn sculpin (Leptocottus armatus), starry flounder (Platichthys steallatus), steelhead (O. mykiss), and three-spine sticklebacks (Gasterosteus aculateatus). Fish community assemblages differed between the habitats. In 2016, juvenile Chinook Salmon characterized the middle and upper mainstem habitats; however chinook were rarely captured in 2015, likely due to the low adult return of the previous year. After excluding highly abundant young of the year sticklebacks, juvenile Coho Salmon were the most abundant species in the estuary in both 2015 and 2016, averaging at least 25% of the total catch in all of the habitats. Small, age 0 Coho Salmon continued to enter the estuary from June through November. Marsh channel habitats were utilized by juvenile Coho Salmon, and to a lesser degree by juvenile Chinook Salmon. These marsh channels were characterized by large numbers of staghorn sculpin and three-spine sticklebacks in addition to the salmon. Starry flounder and staghorn sculpin were most

characteristic of the lower mainstem site. Data from tagged, recaptured and antenna detected salmon revealed juvenile Coho Salmon residing in the estuary for nearly 11 months, and juvenile Chinook residing for nearly 1 month. Both juvenile Chinook and Coho were documented moving upstream and downstream throughout the estuary, between mainstem and marsh channel habitats. Collectively, project results demonstrate that juvenile salmon use on a broad array of habitat types within the estuary, and highlight the importance of even small estuaries to juvenile salmon growth and resilience.

## Study Site:

The Anchor River is located at the southern end of Cook Inlet (Figure 1), where there is a large tidal range (> 8 m depth) that can potentially create broad ecotones of habitat conditions within estuaries. Hydrology in the Anchor River watershed is driven by snowmelt and shallow ground water. The watershed encompasses over 580 square kilometers, including 266 river kilometers accessible to anadromous fishes (Kervliet *et al.* 2013). The estuary at the mouth of the Anchor abruptly transitions into the marine environment of Cook Inlet after flowing through an expansive marsh habitat, protected from maritime storms and erosion by a gravel and sand bar that extends along the shoreline. Measured from high-water tide line to the confluence with Cook Inlet, the estuary is nearly 3 km in length (Hoem Neher *et al* 2013b).

We established five sites within the Anchor River estuary, representing a range of conditions, including two marsh sites, one located at the lower extent of the vegetated marsh, and one located in a mid-marsh area, and three sites along the river mainstem (Figure 2).



Figure 1. Overview of the middle marsh area of the Anchor River estuary in mid-summer.



Figure 2. Aerial image of the Anchor River estuary, showing sampling locations. Sampling sites: orange stars = estuary marsh habitat; blue stars = mainstem river sampling sites along a gradient from the upper extent of saltwater influence (light blue) to the lower extent of marsh vegetation (dark blue).

#### Methods

We collected data in 2015 and 2016, at the five established sites. In 2015, sites were sampled approximately once per week from late-July to early-September, with additional sampling in October and November. In 2016 sites were sampled every other week beginning in late May and continuing through September. Continuous depth, temperature and salinity data were collected from stationary loggers placed in each of the marsh channel habitats (Solinst TM 3001 level loggers, Solinst Canada Ltd., Ontario, Canada), calibrated with a Solinst TM 3000 barologger set onsite. Level loggers were set at 15-min recording intervals and placed in 5 × 25 cm plastic housings attached to steel fence posts driven into the substrate. Point measurements were taken for each sampling event at all of the sites to collect data on maximum depth, flow, temperature, salinity, and dissolved oxygen, taken at three points in the water column (just below the surface, mid-water column, and just above the substrate) using a YSI model 30. Turbidity data were collected using a YSI 6600 series data sonde, with a YSI 6136 turbidity sensor (YSI Instruments Inc.)

Fish were sampled by seining; in the marsh channels, block nets (0.3 cm mesh) were placed at both ends of the 25 m reach and fish were captured in three passes with a pole seine  $(2.2 \times 6 \text{ m}, 0.3 \text{ cm mesh})$ . At mainstem sites, a pole seine was pulled 25 m parallel to the bank in the upstream direction in 2015; and in 2016, we used a 20 ft beach seine, pulling either upstream, or across the channel (Figure 3). Fish were counted, identified to

species, weighed, measured, and returned to the channel. Salmon over 55 mm in length received a Passive Integrated Transponder (PIT) tag, and a subset of fish had their stomach contents sampled via gastric lavage. Fish were held in recovery pens in the channel prior to release.

PIT tag reading antennas were established in four sites in 2015, reduced to three sites for 2016 due to one of the sites becoming too dry (Figure 4). Each antenna array consisted of two antennas so that direction of movement could be detected. Antenna efficiency was calculated for segments of time between each sampling event by dividing the number of unique tags detected at the antenna by the number of tags known to have passed through (as determined by detection or recapture) (Table 1).

To compare fish catch samples across sites, we used log transformed catch per unit effort (CPUE), using the first pass from each sampling event.

CPUE = #fish per area sampled
area sampled = transect length\*net curved-width for mainstem sites and
transect length\*average channel width for marsh channels.
average channel width = mean wetted width at 5m intervals along the transect at low tide.
CPUE was log transformed

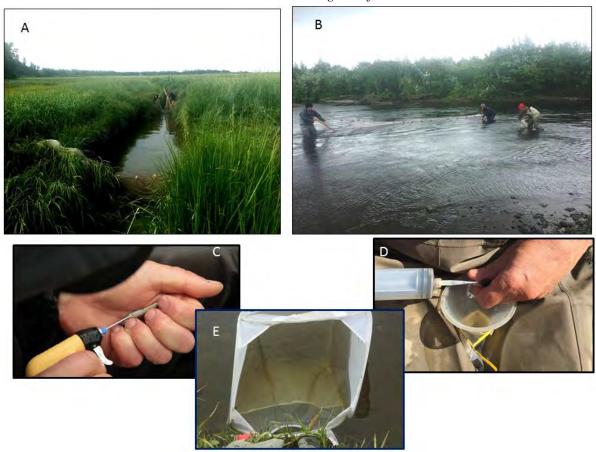


Figure 3. Fish were captured using pole seines in block-netted marsh channels (A), or beach seining in the mainstem (B). Salmon > 55 mm in length were PIT tagged (C); gastric lavage was used to collect stomach samples from representatives of all age classes of juvenile Coho and Chinook Salmon (D); fish recovered in protected in-stream pens (E).

To estimate the standard growth rate (SGR) of PIT tagged Coho Salmon and staghorn sculpin, we measured the length and weight of recaptured fish (excluding recaptures within ten days of tagging):

Standard Growth Rate= ln(recap weight/initial weight)/days since tagging



Figure 4. PIT tag reading antenna locations, shown as yellow bars.

#### Results

Channel metrics

Environmental conditions varied temporally and spatially in the different estuary habitats (Figure 5). Mainstem sites were consistently deep (~1 m), with stronger flows (> 20 cm/s), salinities near zero, and consistently high dissolved oxygen levels (> 10 mg/L). Both marsh channels had consistently low flows. Marsh channel B (closest to the river mouth), showed a marked response to extreme tide events, with higher and more variable salinities. This is likely due to each channel's connectivity to the mainstem, where a silt sill at the mouth of the channel requires the tide to reach approximately 4.5 m before the channel is inundated. The mid marsh channel, Marsh channel A, by contrast, is always connected to the mainstem. This physical feature enables Marsh channel B to maintain environmental stability during low and moderate tides. Temperatures at all sites generally increased over the course of the field season, although July rains lowered the temperature and correspondingly increased turbidity in mainstem sites, but not in the marsh channels. At times during midsummer temperatures in mainstem sites consistently exceeded 15° C. Marsh channel sites were generally cooler (rarely exceeding 15° C), and had much lower dissolved oxygen levels, with the mid marsh channel (A) dropping below 4 mg/L in August.

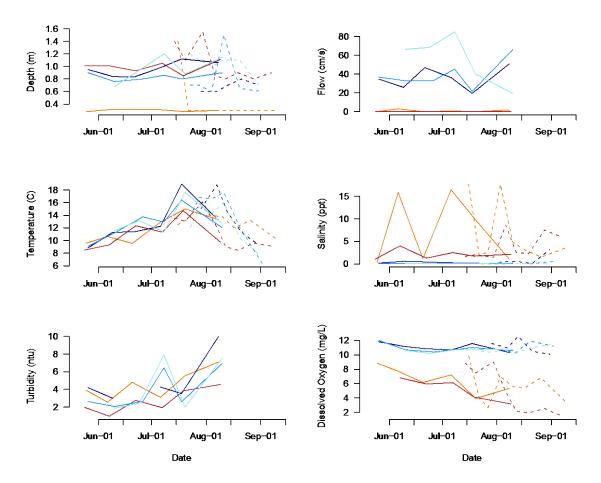


Figure 5. Point measurements of environmental variables over time at each sampling site in 2015 (dashed lines) and 2016 (solid lines). Line colors correspond to sites as indicated in Figure 2 (red = Marsh A, orange = Marsh B, purple = lower mainstem, dark blue = middle mainstem, light blue = upper mainstem). Note: Turbidity and flow were not recorded in 2015.

A Principle Components Analysis (PCA) of environmental variables for 2015 and 2016 revealed that the two marsh channels were distinct from each other, and from the mainstem sites (Figure 6). Substantial variability in the two marsh channels contrasted with the mainstem sites, where the environmental conditions were much more stable. In both years, higher dissolved oxygen levels in the mainstem, and a greater degree of water stratification in the marsh channels were primary drivers of differences in environmental conditions between the different habitats.

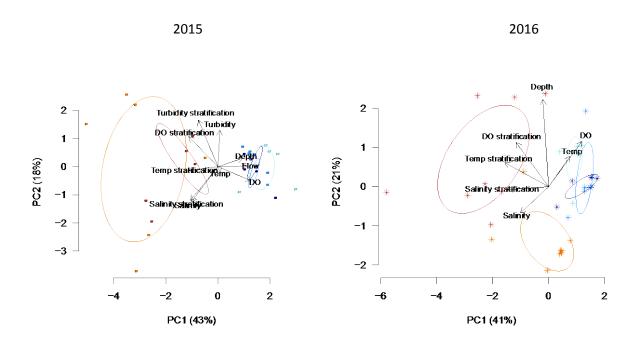


Figure 6. Principle components analysis (PCA) of environmental variables collected during each sampling event for 2015 (left) and 2016 (right). In both years, PC1 explains significantly more variability than would be expected from the null distribution (p < 0.01). PC2 is not significant. Points represent individual sampling events and are colored by site, corresponding to colors indicated in Figure 2. Ellipses denote the standard deviation from each site centroid. The association of environmental variables with the principle component axes is illustrated by the vector arrows, with the length of arrow proportional to the variance explained. DO = dissolved oxygen, Temp = temperature. Point readings were taken at three points in the water column (bottom, middle, and surface).

# Fish Similar to other estuaries in Alaska, the Anchor River estuary has relatively low fish diversity. Of the over 16,400 fish sampled, fifteen species were represented, nine of which were present at multiple life history stages, including large numbers of young of the year (< 20 mm) staghorn sculpin and three-spine sticklebacks (Figure 7).



Figure 7. The most abundant captured fish included three age classes of juvenile Coho Salmon (A), juvenile Chinook Salmon (B), starry flounder (C) including young of year (D) staghorn sculpin (E) including young of the year (G), and three-spine stickle backs (H) including young of the year.

Species composition varied across the sites (Figures 8 and 9). Coho Salmon were abundant in all sites, comprising on average nearly three-quarters of the total catch in the mid marsh channel (Marsh A), but only 25% in marsh channel B. In the mainstem channels, Coho were most abundant (although much less so than Chinook Salmon) in the middle mainstem site during late June. Two main pulses of Coho Salmon, one in early June and one in early August, occurred in the marsh channels, and to a lesser degree in the lower mainstem channel, and small, age 0 Coho Salmon continued to enter the estuary into November (Figure 15). Chinook Salmon comprised less than 1% of the catch in 2015, but were commonly found in mainstem sties in 2016. They were abundant early in the season at the upper mainsteam site and to a lesser degree in Marsh channel A, with another pulse of juvenile Chinook Salmon at the upper mainstem site in late August. The highest abundance of Chinook Salmon (densities of 4 fish/m<sup>2</sup>), were in the middle mainstem site in early June. Staghorn sculpin were most abundant in the lower marsh channel (Marsh B), where they increased from June to July, reaching and maintaining densities of 3 fish/m<sup>2</sup> through early August. Starry flounder were most abundant in the lower mainstem site, and lower marsh channel (Marsh B), with a marked increase in abundance in early August in both marsh channel habitats, as well as the upper mainstem. Dolly Varden were only present in small numbers in the mainstem sites, and three-spine sticklebacks were only present, but in large numbers, in the marsh sites. Small numbers of Sockeye Salmon were captured in all sites, except for the lower mainstem, although they were most abundant in the marsh channels, and Steelhead were found only in the upper and rarely in the middle mainstem site.

Overall, the two marsh channel habitats generally had higher densities of fish than the mainstem sites, with the exception of the middle mainstem site, which had high densities of Chinook Salmon in early June, steadily decreasing throughout the summer. Trends in abundance appear relatively consistent between 2015 and 2016;

with the exception of Chinook Salmon, which were only present in very small numbers overall in 2015, and juvenile steelhead, which were rare in 2016.

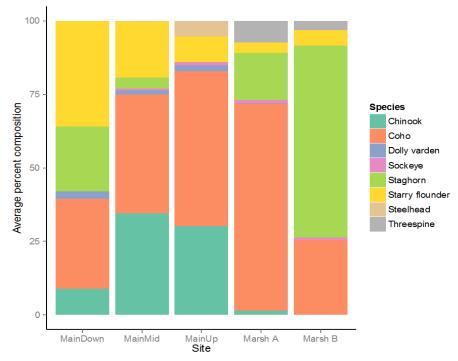


Figure 8. Average species composition at each site (2015 and 2016 data combined) based on log-transformed catch per unit effort. Staghorn = staghorn sculpin, Threespine = three-spine stickleback.

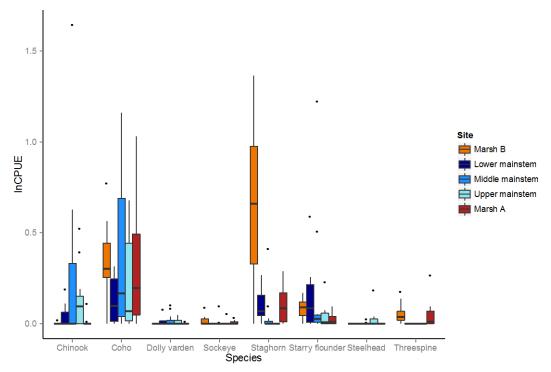


Figure 9. Boxplot of catch per unit effort of the primary fish species at each site (2015 and 2016 data combined). Staghorn = staghorn sculpin, Threespine = three-spine stickleback.

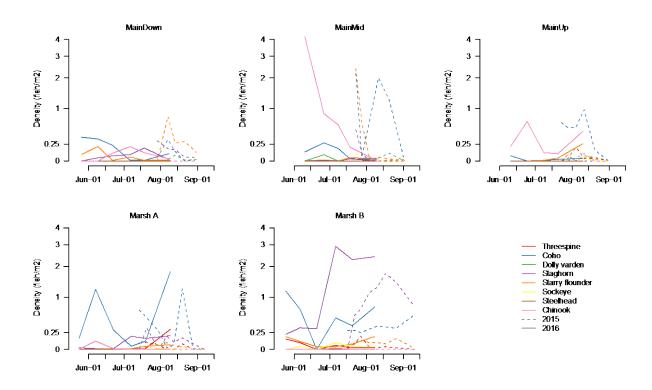


Figure 10. Catch per unit effort over time at each site for the primary fish species. Note log scale on the y-axis. Staghorn = staghorn sculpin, Threespine = three-spine stickleback. Dashed lines are 2015 data, solid lines are 2016 data.

A non-metric multidimensional scaling (NDMS) analysis of relative fish species abundance revealed distinct differences that remained fairly consistent for the two marsh habitats and the lower mainstem habitats. Newly hatched three-spine sticklebacks numerically dominated the fish community in the mid marsh site (Marsh A), staghorn sculpins dominated the lower marsh site (Marsh B), and a mix of staghorn sculpin and starry flounder typified the lower mainstem site (Figure 11). The middle and upper mainstem sites were characterized by Coho Salmon and steelhead in 2015; however Chinook Salmon were the characteristic species for these two sites in 2016 (Figure 11). The middle mainstem site exhibited the most variable fish assemblage in both years, as evidenced by the wide spread of sample points.

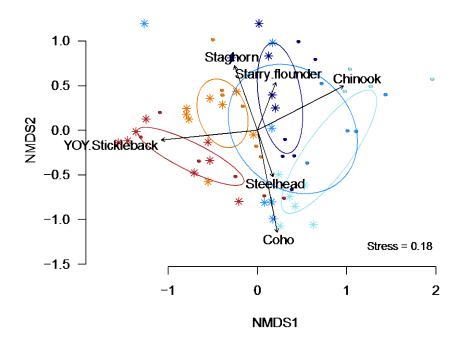


Figure 14. Two-dimensional nonmetric multidimensional scaling plot of relative species abundance for 2015 (stars) and 2016 (points) using Bray-Curtis dissimilarity. CPUE was log-transformed because the data were heavily right-skewed, and then row-standardized to compare relative species abundance across samples. Points represent samples and are colored according to site as indicated in Figure 2. Ellipses represent the dispersion of each site, and are based on the standard deviation to the site centroid. Vectors indicate the magnitude and direction of species loadings (variable weights) on the composite axes. Only those species that significantly contribute to the ordination (p < 0.01) are displayed. YOY = young of year sticklebacks (< 20 mm fork length), Staghorn = staghorn sculpin.

In both 2015 and 2016, three age classes of Coho Salmon were present in the estuary habitats. Length frequency distributions for 2015 and 2016 indicates that small, age 0 fish continue to enter the Anchor River estuary throughout the summer and fall (June – November) (Figures 15 and 16).

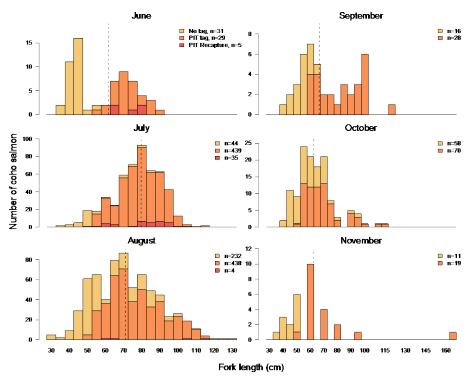


Figure 15. Length frequency histograms for Coho Salmon sampled in 2015. Bars are colored to indicate fish that were not PIT tagged (yellow), PIT tagged (orange), and PIT tagged fish that were later recaptured (pink). The vertical dashed line marks the median length.

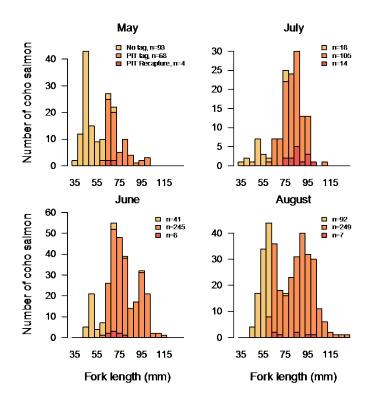


Figure 16. Length frequency histograms for Coho Salmon sampled in 2016. Bars are colored to indicate fish that were not PIT tagged (yellow), PIT tagged (orange), and PIT tagged fish that were later recaptured (pink).

#### Movement and residence

Unfortunately, the PIT tag detecting antenna arrays were rarely working in synchrony in 2015, and were inoperable during the winter due to severe icing and tidal movement of large pieces of wood debris. Antenna operation was re-established in April 2016, and we calculated detection efficiencies for each antenna that was consistently operational as the number of unique tags detected by the antenna divided by the number of tags known to have passed through (as determined by detection or recapture). As Table 1 shows, detection efficiencies were marginal during most periods (Connolly *et al* 2011).

Table 1. Detection efficiencies for each PIT antenna in 2016 in approximately two-week intervals corresponding to tagging events at each site.

Data range	Marsh A up	Marsh A down	Marsh B up	Marsh B down
Late May – early June	0.381 (8/21)	0.532 (25/47)	0.571 (16/28)	0.571 (8/14)
Mid June	0.097 (3/31)	0.419 (13/31)	0.533 (8/15)	0.00 (0/2)
Late June – early July	0.654 (17/26)	0.442 (19/43)		0.500(2/4)
Mid July	0.714 (5/7)	0.000 (0/4)	0.500 (8/16)	0.00 (0/5)
Overall efficiency	0.388 (33/85)	0.456 (57/125)	0.542 (32/59)	0.400 (10/25)

Over three-hundred Chinook Salmon, the majority of which were in the upper and middle mainstem sites, as well as approximately sixteen-hundred Coho Salmon, the majority of which were tagged in the marsh channels, were PIT tagged between 2015 and 2016; (Figure 17). Although recapture rates of PIT tagged fish were low, they appear to reflect the size distribution of tagged fish, indicating that recapture is not biased by fish size (Figures 15 and 16).

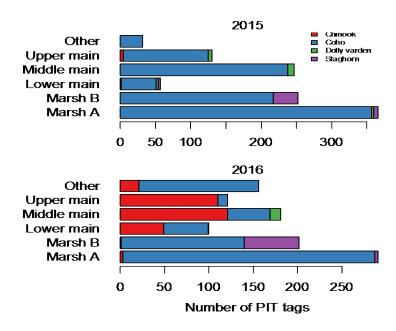


Figure 17. Distribution of PIT tags by site and species in 2015 and 2016. Data extends through 9/2/16.

Through a combination of antenna data and recaptures, we were able to detect fish movement between sites. Although fish were commonly recaptured in the same site that they were first tagged in, they were also frequently recorded in other habitats, indicating a broad range of movement, including upstream and downstream, from the mainstem into marsh channels, and from marsh channels into mainstem habitats (Figure 18).



Figure 18. (*left top*) A chord diagram indicating the number of recaptured Coho Salmon and their movement among sites (colored by original tagging location); and (*right*) generalized observed patterns of movement.

Recaptured juvenile Coho Salmon and staghorn sculpin showed an average standard growth rate (% increase in body weight per day) of 1.43% and 3.06%, respectively, over the 2016 season. In terms of length, this corresponds to approximately 0.37 mm/d for Coho Salmon and 0.91 mm/d, for staghorn sculpin (Figure 19).

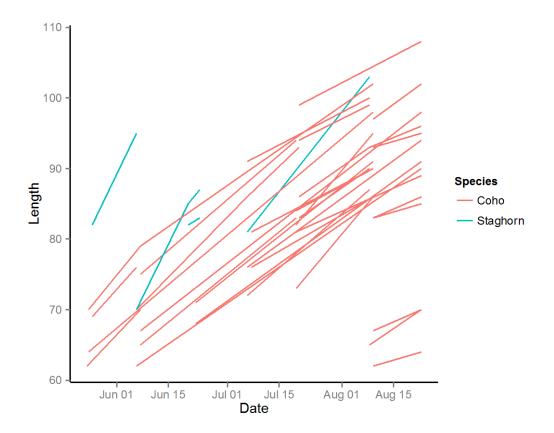


Figure 19. Growth of recaptured fish over time. Each line segment refers to an individual fish indicating its length when it was initially tagged and subsequently recaptured. Data presented here are from 2016 only, extending through 9/2/16.

#### Discussion

Coho and Chinook Salmon have different life history types, with some individuals spending considerable portions of their life cycle (1-3 years) in freshwater and estuarine environments before migrating to open ocean. It is believed that this diversity in life histories results in high resilience of these salmon populations to environmental variability and change (Bottom et al. 2011). Results from this project show that distinct environmental conditions can exist even within a rather small estuary, such as the Anchor, and that juvenile salmon are present across a broad range of habitats. Juvenile Coho Salmon were present in marsh channels and mainstem habitats, with pulses of small, age 0, fish coming into the estuary throughout the summer and fall. The longest record of estuary residence from this study was a Coho Salmon that was initially tagged in mid-June of 2015 in a small channel near the upper mainstem site that went dry soon after the tagging event. Although we thought that the fish present at that site would be trapped by low river flows, it is likely that high tide events allowed the fish to escape, enter the mainstem, and eventually make its way to the mid marsh channel, where it was recaptured 327 days later (mid-June 2016). Residing nearly a year in the estuary, this fish illustrates the long term use of estuary habitats that may be a distinct life history strategy for juvenile Coho Salmon (Miller and Sadro 2003; Koski 2009, Hoem Neher et al 2013a). This adds to the growing recognition that estuaries may support alternative life history strategies of Coho Salmon that contribute to overall population resilience and health (Schindler 2010; Hoem Neher et al 2013a; Hoem Neher et al 2013b).

Chinook Salmon were predominantly present in mainstem sites, although there was some movement into the marsh channel sites as well. In general, Chinook Salmon had lower residence times within the estuary than Coho Salmon, with the longest record being a juvenile Chinook that was tagged in the middle mainstem site in

ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME SPORT FISH DIVISION PO Box 115526 Juneau, AK 99811-5526

early July, and was detected at a PIT antenna nearly 30 days later in the mid marsh channel. Interestingly, two other species; staghorn sculpin and Dolly Varden, also exhibited long residence times within the estuary (189 days, and 231 days, respectively). Few Chinook Salmon were captured in 2015, which is likely due to the very low adult returns of the previous year. In 2014, roughly 2,500 adults returned, whereas in 2015, over 10,000 adults Chinook Salmon returned to the Anchor River, with the result that far more juvenile Chinook Salmon were rearing in the estuary in the 2016 season.

The range of environmental conditions present at the different sites in the Anchor, including fast flowing mainstem sites that are well mixed, with high dissolved oxygen levels, to marsh channel sites that have low flows, and a high degree of stratification, provide a broad suite of conditions, and juvenile salmon apparently take advantage of their ability to move between habitats, as evidenced by the observed movement patterns. Further study is needed to understand the drivers of movement. The presence of other fish species likely has some influence on juvenile salmon. For example, small staghorn sculpin were observed as prey for juvenile salmon, yet will become predators of juvenile salmon when they are larger.

The high densities, prolonged residence, movement and growth of juvenile salmon in the Anchor River estuary support the importance of even relatively small estuaries to juvenile salmon rearing. The amount of movement among estuary habitat types supports the concept of conservation for the entire estuary in order to maintain full habitat potential and resilience.

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- Miller BA, Sadro S. 2003. Residence time and seasonal movements of juvenile Coho Salmon in the ecotone and lower estuary of Winchester Creek, South Slough, Oregon. Transactions of the American Fisheries Society 132: 546-559.

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Schindler DE, Hilborn R, Cghasco B, Boatright CP, Quinn TP, Rogers LA, Webster MS. 2010. Population diversity and the portfolio effect in an exploited species. Nature 465: 609-612.

**Final Report Status:** This performance report is the final report for this project during the reporting period (February 1, 2015–June 30, 2016).

## Prepared By:

Coowe Moss Walker

Watershed Ecologist, Kachemak Bay National Estaurine Research Reserve, UAA

Brianna Pierce, MS candidate, University of Washington

Date: September 2016

## Wall, Bruce

From: Joseph Sparkman <jay1332@att.net>

Sent: Friday, July 13, 2018 1:41 AM

To: Wall, Bruce

Subject: Proposed gravel pit on Danver street in Anchor Point

Bruce Wall, My wife and I are another couple who are very disturbed by this proposed gravel pit.

We would first ask you to put yourself in our and our fellow neighbors positions of having a mining operation in our back yard. How would you feel about this for you and your family?? Any other state I have lived in this proposal would not have a chance. This is an area of private homes, not of commercial enterprise! The key points you will consider as I understand it are: dust, noise, and visual impacts. All these are inarguably detrimental to all of us around this proposed mining operation and they can not be minimized.

The destruction of our visual enjoyment of our property can not be minimized because we are on a hill overlooking the proposed mine about 80 feet up, a 6 foot berm is not going to hide this operation. We will then have our retirement home overlooking the Anchor River, Cook Inlet and a gravel Pit! It is also obvious there is nothing they can do to minimize the dust, How?? Excavators, Loaders, rock crushers, dump trucks etc = dust and lots of noise. I hope you will consider your fellow neighbors when making this decision.

thanks for your time and consideration of this matter,

Sincerely,

Joseph and Denise Sparkman 73884 Seaward ave Anchor Point, AK

## Wall, Bruce

From:

Noyes, Karyn

Sent:

Tuesday, July 10, 2018 12:08 PM

To:

Wall, Bruce

Subject:

RE: KPB CLUP Material Site Application - Parcel 169-010-67

Bruce,

I have reviewed the proposed Conditional Land Use Permit application for a Material Site located in the Anchor Point Area, indicated by the parcel listed below.

## **Legal Description**

T 5S R 15W SEC 5 SEWARD MERIDIAN HM 0800104 MCGEE TRACTS DEED OF RECORD BOUNDARY SURVEY TRACT B

KPB Parcel ID 16901067

Although the State of Alaska has allowed the Coastal program to lapse, the Kenai Peninsula Borough has the coastal program set in Ordinance.

This project is consistent with the Kenai Peninsula Borough's Coastal Management Plan. Future plans to excavate below the water table may require further evaluation to assess the impact changes in groundwater may have on the anadromous Anchor River.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

## **Karvn Noves**

Resource Planner Ph: (907) 714-2468

# **KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH**

514 Funny River Road Soldotna, Alaska 99669



PUBLIC RECORDS LAW DISCLOSURE: This email and responses to this email may be subject to provisions of Alaska Statutes and may be made available to the public upon request.

From: Wall, Bruce

**Sent:** Friday, July 06, 2018 9:34 AM

**To:** Best, Max; Carver, Nancy; CEPOA-RD-KFO, POA; Chandler Long (chandler.long@alaska.gov); Charley Palmer (charley.palmer@alaska.gov); Christopher Miller (chris.miller@alaska.gov); Clark Cox (clark.cox@alaska.gov); David May (DMay@kpbsd.k12.ak.us); Dearlove, Tom; Dustin Firestine (firestine.dustin@dol.gov); Harris, Bryr; Jeff Green (jeffrey.green@alaska.gov); Kyle Graham; Malone, Patrick; Mark Fink (mark.fink@alaska.gov); Michael Walton

(michael.walton@alaska.gov); Montague, Holly; Mueller, Marcus; Ninilchik Tribe (ntc@ninilchiktribe-nsn.gov); Noyes,

Karyn; Shears, Jennifer; Simpson, Danika L (DOT)

Cc: Gina Debardelaben; emmitttrimble@gmail.com

Subject: KPB CLUP Material Site Application - Parcel 169-010-67

Please see the attached public notice, staff report, application, and associated documents for a conditional land use permit application.

Thanks,

Bruce Wall, AICP Planner 208-369-0089



PUBLIC RECORDS LAW DISCLOSURE: This email and responses to this email may be subject to provisions of Alaska Statues and may be made available to the public upon request.

## Wall, Bruce

From: Lorri Davis < homesteadart@gmail.com>

**Sent:** Thursday, July 12, 2018 1:01 PM

To: Wall, Bruce

Subject: Gravel pit at Danver and beach access, Lorri Davis

My comments concerning the proposal for a gravel pit on Danver and the beach access road.

I am a resident of Anchor Point. I was shocked when I heard of a plan to operate a gravel pit in an area where it is quite obvious it is a well established *residential* and *recreation* area. It makes no sense to put one persons desire to run a business of this kind in the area where it will have an impact on all people coming to recreate and live in that area. Anchor Point is a beautiful and bountiful location for families and fisherman. It has been this way for years and a gravel pit right in the middle of it all will become a deterrent to people visiting and enjoying the area. It would adversely affect the economy of Anchor Point in many ways from small businesses, to the boat launch and campgrounds. Here are the reasons I see to not permit this gravel pit.

- 1. We have well established campgrounds, one that borders on this property and others close by, run privately. A gravel pit next to or near by makes no sense. The noise and dust would be a great downer to anyone trying to enjoy these areas. These businesses will suffer because of it and how can a business so opposite to fishing, wildlife, and recreation fit in this area? This would no longer be a place for recreation. It is like oil and water. They do not mix. It will change the whole perception of the entire area.
- 2. The beach access road or Anchor Point Rd. will not be able to handle the traffic of large boats, large RV"s and gravel trucks going back and forth. Right now, a person walking on the road is taking their lives into their own hands. The road is somewhat narrow, not to mention the bridge is basically a one lane bridge. Recently there was a gas pad proposal approved on private property just up the hill off the Old Sterling Hwy that will increase truck traffic going back and forth. I am not sure this was even considered with that proposal but I see a huge increase of big trucks on these small windy roads is a disaster waiting to happen.
- 3. I feel heartsick for the residents who already established homes in the area of the pit. I am sure they never thought they would wake up one day to find their backyard of vegetation, trees and wildlife are to be scoured to unearth gravel. The noise is another factor. Who doesn't enjoy the sound of trucks and machinery over the sound of the ocean and peace and quiet? Many, many of us! I think it is really irresponsible and shows lack of respect for neighbors living in Anchor Point. This will have an impact on everyone's home prices and business prices for sure.
- 4. The environmental impact to the area is not known but it is not a positive step forward. The Kachemak Bay Bird Festival draws lots of people, every year, from out of state, to the area. One of the areas they encourage Birders to drive to, to observe all kinds of migrating birds is Anchor Point. We all have wildlife sharing our beaches and properties. Take out many acres from this very sensitive area and it will have a direct impact to the amount of wildlife. Noise, dust and loss of habitat is not a positive thing. Personally this is a big concern of mine. I am an artist and have been working on establishing children's art academy for Anchor Point that focuses on introducing kids to the habitat and beauty of Anchor Point. I was looking to purchase a small property in the area for a studio but have now reconsidered due to lack of support for the environment coming from all the proposals that seem to want to change Anchor Point to an industrial area. Frankly, I am really discouraged about the mindset. We have a world class area of recreation known for fishing in the Anchor River and ocean and it seems we would sooner destroy it all for a few people to make financial gains. It goes counter to all groups trying their hardest through volunteer time to their own finances to preserve the river and ocean at Anchor

Point. These are not "tree huggers". They are people wanting to see the area preserved in a way that supports the beauty, wildlife and small businesses that are springing up in Anchor Point that cater to those using the area. The focus is not on gravel for everyone.

In closing, I would like to say there are other profitable things Mr. Trimble can do with that land. It takes getting creative sometimes but subdividing for small cabins or something else that fits in with the mindset when people think of Anchor Point. This would be best for EVERYONE! Gravel pits are a dime a dozen around our area. We do not need more gravel pits! Just take a look at google maps to see all the properties scoured into gravel pits along the Anchor River and other locations. We need the planning committee to understand there are lots of people living in Anchor Point trying to develop a beautiful area for this world class fishing area that draws people to the area including the winter months. I frequent the beach year round and find many others do as well. This is a beloved area and space for people around Ak including those who live out of state but especially those who in live in Anchor Point. Please do not allow this proposal to go forward.

Thank you, Lorri Davis

72640 Norwegian Woods Road P.O. Box 946 Anchor Point, AK 99556

## Wall, Bruce

From: Palmer, Charley (DEC) <charley.palmer@alaska.gov>

**Sent:** Thursday, July 12, 2018 1:41 PM

To: Wall, Bruce

Cc: DEC.TWUA@alaska.gov; Forgue, Scott A (DEC); Forgue, Geraldine E (DEC)

Subject: FW: KPB CLUP Material Site Application - Parcel 169-010-67

**Attachments:** 169-010-67\_2018-07-06\_Notice.pdf; 169-010-67\_2018-07-03\_Staff\_report.pdf;

169-010-67\_2018-06-21\_Site\_Plan.pdf; 169-010-67\_2018-06-18\_Application.pdf;

169-010-67 2018-06-21 Contour Map.pdf; 169-010-67\_2018-06-21

\_Land\_Use\_Map.pdf; 169-010-67\_2018-06-21\_Ownership\_Map.pdf; 169-010-67\_2018-06-21\_Aerial\_Map.pdf; DEC\_PWS\_Map.jpg; DEC-EH\_DW\_Recommendations for

General Construction Projects\_June\_2016.pdf

#### Bruce,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment with respect to public water system (PWS) sources. Given the location(s) provided, work associated with this CLUP application is near an active registered PWS source (see attached "DEC\_PWS\_Map.JPG" and summary table below). For this reason, we ask that the applicant please adhere to the attached **Recommendations for General Construction Projects**, where applicable. Also, because this project is associated with a rock/gravel extraction project, we ask that the applicant adhere to the requirements and recommendations in the "ADEC User's Manual: Best Management Practices for Gravel/Rock Aggregate Extraction Projects" (Revised September 2012).

PWSID: AK2249882

Water System Name: DIV PARKS SLIDEHOLE

Water System Type: GW (Groundwater)

Water System Classification: NC (Transient, Non-Community water system)

Water System Activity Status: A (Active)

State Assigned Source ID: WL001

Source Name: WL DIV PARKS SLIDEHOLE

Source Facility ID: 35331 Source Type: WL (Well)

Source Activity Status: A (Active)

## Regards,

--

Charley Palmer, *Hydrologist*Alaska DEC Drinking Water Protection
907-269-0292



Last modified: June 8, 2016



#### Alaska DEC/Division of Environmental Health-Drinking Water Program

#### Recommendations for General Construction Projects associated with, or near, a Public Water System (PWS)

- Identify on a legible map the location of existing public water system (PWS) drinking water protection areas (DWPA) for PWS sources (e.g. springs, wells, or surface water intakes) that intersect the boundary of the proposed project/permit area. The DWPAs can be found using the interactive web map application, "Alaska DEC Drinking Water Protection Areas", located at <a href="http://dec.alaska.gov/das/GIS/apps.htm">http://dec.alaska.gov/das/GIS/apps.htm</a>. Basic instructions for using this web map can be found at http://dec.alaska.gov/eh/dw/DWP/protection areas map.html.
- Where the project/permit intersects a PWS DWPA, notify the PWS contact. PWS contact information can be obtained using the online application, *Drinking Water Watch*, <a href="http://dec.alaska.gov/DWW/">http://dec.alaska.gov/DWW/</a>, by entering the appropriate 6-digit PWS ID (e.g. 220025).
- 3. Within the identified DWPA, control stormwater discharge.
- 4. Within the identified DWPA, restrict project/permit activities that could significantly change the natural surface water drainage or groundwater gradient.
- All data related to the project/permit, including but not limited to, water quality results (field and lab), survey data, water levels, subsurface lithologic descriptions and depth, and groundwater flow direction and gradient information, should be made available to the permitting agency upon request.
  - a. When associated with the development, construction, modification, or operation of a PWS, all water quality sampling and hydrologic data collection should be accomplished under the supervision of a qualified professional and follow a written sampling plan approved by the permitting entity.
- 6. Limit the amount of equipment storage, maintenance and operation, and other potential sources of contamination, within the following DWPAs:
  - a. Zone A DWPA (several-months-time-of-travel for contributing groundwater, or 1,000-foot buffer of the contributing surface water body and its immediate tributaries);
  - b. Zone E DWPA (1,000-foot buffer of the contributing surface water body and its immediate tributaries for a source using groundwater under the direct influence of surface water (GWUDISW)); or
  - c. Provisional DWPA (1,000-foot radius around a PWS source).
- Implement best management practices where equipment storage, maintenance and operation, or other potential sources
  of contamination are located within a PWS DWPA and that will minimize the potential for contamination to enter the water
  source used by a PWS.
- 8. Immediately notify the nearby PWS of any identified potential contamination, such as spills or excess erosion.

Charley Palmer, Hydrologist III

Alaska DEC/Division of Environmental Health-Drinking Water Program

Drinking Water Protection

E-mail: charley.palmer@alaska.gov

555 Cordova St Anchorage, AK 99501

Phone: (907)269-0292 Fax: (907)269-7650

## Wall, Bruce

From: Ter

Teresa Ann <tajg1234567@gmail.com>

Sent:

Thursday, July 12, 2018 11:22 PM

To: Cc: Planning Dept,

Wall, Bruce

Subject:

Gravel permit hearing Monday July 16,2018

Kenai Peninsula Borough Planning Commission 144 N Binkley St Soldotna, Ak 99669

July 12, 2018

Greetings to the Planning Commission Members,

I am an Alaska resident of Anchor Point and a land owner. This letter is regarding the notice we received concerning a Conditional Land use Permit Application for sand, gravel and peat extraction on their beachfront property of 41.72 acres - proposed excavation is 25.6 acres over a 15 year period by Beachcomber LLC which is owned by Emmett and Mary Trimble of Coastal Realty Anchor Point.

The proposed area is located on Anchor Point Road right in the central recreation area of the Anchor River and the Anchor Point Beach area.

Public Hearing Monday July 16, 2018 7:30pm

A gravel pit operation in this location would negatively impact our neighborhood, our community and the Anchor Point Recreation area. 15 years is a very long time to have a gravel pit operation in our residential area and in the Anchor River, Anchor Point Beach Recreational area!

I would Hope the Commission members would drive to this area before even voting on the application and studying the surrounding map of the area.

In the KPB AK code of ordinances 21.29.040.

Standards for sand, gravel or material sites. A. These material site regulatins are intended to protect against aquifer disturbance, roade damage, physical damage to adjacent properties, dust, noise, and visual impacts. Only the conditions set forth in KPB 21.29.050 may be imposed to meet these standards:1-6.

#### 1. Protects against the lowering of water sources serving other properties.

## Concerning #1

The one test hole that was dug on the North end of the property indicates the groundwater is 18 feet but does not indicate which way the ground water is moving. The question needs to be proved -does the ground water re- charge the Anchor River?

Also will the gravel pit affect the nearby residential water wells?

On the map made by the McLane Consulting Engineering......

# 5 of the Clup Development Notes states......

Wells within 100' and/or 300' of the excavation area are shown hereon

Excavation below the water table may be proposed at a future time.

Ground water is indicated at 18 ft and proposed excavation is 10 ft deep.

#### 2. Protects against physical damage to other properties

#### Concerning #2

Lowering the area's properties value seems to me to be "physical damage".

#### 3. Minimizes off-site movement of dust

#### Concerning #3

The dust will be on a gravel site and the winds in the area will be blowing dust into residents homes, campsites, rv parks.

#### 4. Minimizes noise disturbance to other properties

#### Concerning #4

I am a year round resident living up the hill from this proposed gravel pit area.

The neighbor hood around the proposed gravel pit is a very quiet area where we can hear the eagles and seagulls even the ocean surf at times carries up the hill.

The Alaska State Halibut Campground is within hearing distance of where the equipment will be operating.

#### 5. Minimizes visual impacts

#### Concerning #5

Many residents live above this proposed area so we all will be "visually affected".

There are many homes above this property that look out over this area towards the inlet view. A 6ft berm will not be able to cover the gravel pit from the hillside and hill top residents. The gravel pit area is surrounded immediately by residents and an RV park on the North side.

Further impact is the State Parks on the Anchor Point Road which is the only route for the trucks to haul the sand, gravel, and peat from this proposed gravel site. Campers and visitors to the Anchor River and Anchor Point Beach walk this road with their families and children walk and bike along the Anchor Point road back and forth to the beach area very close by.

#### 6. Provides for alternate post-mining land uses

#### Concerning #6

Alternate land uses were not listed.

According to the Material Site Permitting ......Culp.......Conditional Land use permits are valid for only 5 years. This permit is requested for 15 years.

I want to state again:

A gravel pit operation in this location would negatively impact our neighborhood, our community and the Anchor Point Recreation area.

I sincerely Hope that you as members will not allow this gravel pit permit application.

Thank you kindly for reading and listening to our concerns for our community.

Teresa Ann Jacobson Gregory PO Box 904 Anchor Point, Alaska 99556 907-399-0063

I am adding pictures of the area......the highlighted area is the property proposed for the gravel pit. As you can see the Anchor River and the State recreation areas are very close.

In the second picture you can see all the residential lots in the area where our homes are ......these are on a hill above the proposed gravel pit.

The bottom picture shows they have already begun to remove gravel.





This picture is on Danver Rd.



From:

shirley gruber <shirleytdx@yahoo.com>

Sent:

Thursday, July 12, 2018 5:26 PM

To:

Wall. Bruce

Subject:

KPB CLUP Material site App AKA Beachcomber LLC GRAVEL PIT

Dear Mr. Bruce Wall

Bruce,

Thank you for fielding and organizing all the public comments in the permitting process, for Beachcomber LLC gravel pit request. It is not an easy job, in my mind.

Therefore, I too appreciate the chance to submit my (our) concerns with regards to the material extraction...IE: Gravel pit. I see staff recommendation is to approve this permit, it appears to be a boiler plate request, but I ask you to reconsider that assessment for the following reasons.

I am aware of section 21.29.040 and .050 list regulations meant to protect the surrounding areas.

So Resolution 2018-23 Section 1 of Finding the Facts

Paragraph 10 item D states water is below 20 Ft, with intention to dig to only 18'

• Permit requester advocates he can did down 40' for all the gravel he wants. The borough never checks. Thus my concern is to have water holes for swimming, or teenage hang outs bringing increased crime to the area.

Paragraph 10 item E, does not allow the removal of said water.

• Thus in a round about way the Borough has approved these potential water pits. Yes pumping it would bring habitat issues that would allow contaminated water to end up directly into the neighboring property and the Anchor River itself. Thus I also disagree with Nancy Carver that there is no habitat concerns, the loss of gravel will no longer cleanse the ground water that runs to and into the Anchor River, thus this brings us to damages.

Paragraph 11, Other property damage.

- Damage comes in two ways, physical and financial, it has been noted that the connecting property values will decline, while that gravel pit's value will have increased.
  - > Will the loss of tax revenue from the existing home/property owners be offset by the increase tax revenue from this pit? In this case it is likely that even the Borough will have some damages (monetary) if approving this permit.

> There is a complete buffer now in one section next to Beachcomber street and a new camp ground. To tear down those trees only to replace it with a berm for visual buffer, will cause revenue damage since a treed back drop is one reason campers stay there.

#### Paragraph 12, Dust control:

• As noted in the permit, Danver Road is the haul out road, Danver road is gravel road so calcium chlorides or water would be sufficient, HOWEVER this borough road is not the only haul out road to be used. Danver Road is a dead end road. In order to reach the Sterling Highway, trucks must travel the Anchor Point Beach access road. This is a paved 2 lane no shoulder road. Calcium Chloride does not work on pavement and to continually wet this road would only create a muddy and slippery surface for the other road users. And this does not address the Anchor River Bridge, which cannot support the load.

#### Paragraph 13 and 14 Minimizing noise and visual impacts

- Other Road users will be extremely impacted with both noise, sights and added dangers from the haul trucks. The Anchor Point Road (beach access road) is a road that is loved to death. It is a highly used road, kids, bikes boats, pets, tourists, 4th of July parades, but not eligible for much financial or DOT support. Heavy commercial use on this already loved to death road will meet its end or someone on it will.
- It is the only way in and out for the families from their home and for beach goers that utilize the boat launch plus there are 5 Camp grounds on this road. And if anything bad happens, no evacuation could occur and no emergency vehicles could get in. There needs to be an alternate route to take out the gravel.
- The vegetation berms, are good, but only if you live at the flat ground level, any one who has a home that looks to the ocean also will have to watch equipment, rock crusher, gravel shaker, the full blown commercial operation.

For these reasons I don't think it passes the grade of the Code,-but each has there own interpretation, do I think it could pass, yes with a bit of fine tuning, versus a standard boiler plate permit version, as it appears now.

Lastly, yes everyone is of the nature that "not in my back yard", so it is easy to protest and complain, but hard to have a solution. Progress comes with a price, and heck who does not have a gravel drive, or pad on their lot, **I simply ask** that the commission post pone the approval until an alternate route can be established. And some of the concerns listed be fined tuned to allow the permitting, Currently there is another gravel pit on the docket, so getting gravel should not be a hardship, and if the Borough needed a reason to finish Danver Road to the south, well that time is now.

Respectfully

Shirley Gruber

73510 Twin Peaks Loop

Anchor Point.

From: Coowe Walker <cmwalker9@alaska.edu>

**Sent:** Thursday, July 12, 2018 11:13 AM

To: Wall, Bruce

Cc: Bob Shavelson; Lynn Whitmore; Sue Mauger; Blackwell, Jack D (DNR); Steven Baird;

Jacob Argueta Jacobs

**Subject:** groundwater flow paths south of the Anchor River estuary

Attachments: AnchorEstuaryFlowpaths.jpg

#### Good morning.

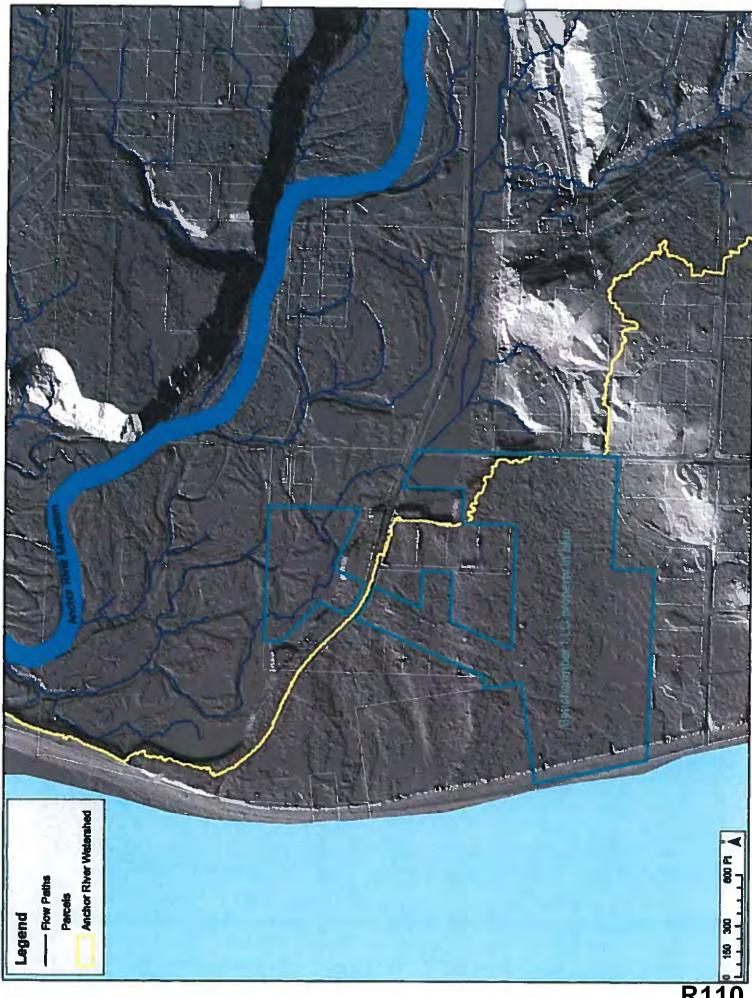
I am attaching an image showing groundwater flowpaths associated with the Beachcomber gravel site and the Anchor River. Parcels owned by Beachcomber LLC are outlined in blue, the Anchor River watershed is outlined in yellow, and groundwater flowpaths supporting the river are shown in purple. It will be very important to not disrupt the flowpaths and keep all potential gravel operations out of the Anchor River watershed, meaning no operations north or east of the yellow line.

Please let me know if you have any questions, or would like more information.

Coowe

Coowe Walker Reserve Manager Program Watershed Ecologist 2181 Kachemak Drive Homer, Alaska (907) 235-4792





To: Kenai Borough Planning Commission Chairman

From: Linda and Mike Patrick 34897 Fisher Ct.

Anchor Point, Ak. Phone: 907-299-2165

Subject: Beachcomber LLC proposed surface mining project

We object to the development of the site on the following grounds:

- 1. At a public meeting in Anchor Point(July 11, 2018), the Owner of the said Beachcomber LLC., did not demonstrate much knowledge of the water sources in this area. Water sources are complex, full of wells at different depths and underground springs flowing towards the inlet. In my opinion, this site requires a lot more scrutiny than some other possible inland sites. I cannot prove it will interfere with water supplies, nor can Beachcomber LLC prove that it won't. \* Should we not do more than drill one hole in the ground to determine the water ecology in this area due to the close proximity to residential area, Cook Inlet, and the Anchor River.
- 2. How does this plan protect against damage to other properties? For example, 50,000 cubic yards of material, equates to approximately 5,000 truck loads at about 52,000 pounds each, will this not damage Danver/River Road intersection, River Road itself (which is already falling apart), and a very fragile bridge over the Anchor Point river. This pathway is not only essential to Anchor Point residents, tourists from all over the world, charter businesses, campers in the State Park, and the safety of all who use the narrow road for access to their homes, State Parks, Cook Inlet, and the farthest westerly point on the United States highway system.
- 3. What is the plan to minimize off-site movement of dust?
  Regular residential traffic on Danver Rd. stirs up dust. I cannot imagine the amount of dust that will be generated by 1000's of dump trucks, gravel processors, excavating machinery, and gravel loaders. This area is subject to a sea breeze and a land breeze cycle. Sea breezes blow the dust towards residential areas and

land breezes directs dust towards beach habitat were eagles, gulls, shores birds, and marine mammals frequent, not to mention birder and other beachcombers roam. These breezes are substantial. Exactly how is the dust going to be abated and who will monitor this? Will the dust have an effect on human inhabitants near the site? Will dust affect the salmon/trout that swim nearby to enter the river and leave the river? Will dust enter the river itself and effect the reproduction of said fish? Will the dust impact plants, birds, moose, and domestic animals. Will the quality of water in Danver Lake directly across the street from the proposed site be impacted? Will the water level in that lake be impacted? Will lakes be created similar to Danver Lake during land reclamation by Beachcomber LLC. Do these lakes serve as expanded breading grounds for mosquitoes?

- 4. Noise pollution abatement plan?
  - Land structure around the Anchor Point area in question is like an amphitheater, I can hear dogs barking on the bluffs across the river, a rooster crow just down the hill, neighbors talking on there porches, and the surf falling on the beach. I can't imagine how loud the noise would be from a gravel mine a few hundred yards away. How pleasant will it be for people to camp at the state camp ground with dump trucks roaring by, dust permeating the air from the operating pit and dust blowing off the trucks themselves. And yes, there is a private RV park adjacent to the proposed gravel mine. Several residences are nearby and elevated above the site, 18 feet berms(permit indicated 6ft berms) would not impact sound transmission to elevated residences. My house is about 200 vards away and approximately 80 feet above the tract of land in question. Over the past 26 years I have witnessed over 2 dozen moose born on or adjacent to my property. Will this level of noise impact the moose population in the Anchor Point area?
- 5. Visual impact? What is the plan to spare the several homes that overlook this area from a higher elevation from an unobstructed view of the pit?
- 6. Property values? The owner of Beachcomber LLC, a real estate agent, stated this permit would improve the valve of his land and in response to another question, he said it could decrease the

value of the surrounding view properties. There were approximately 50 people there at the meeting at the VFW in Anchor Point on the 11<sup>th</sup> of July. Very few of them were happy.

\*\*\*\* This permit should not be issued for this area because of a lack of healthy infrastructure to support it. It will create an safety hazard to all that travel the River Road and Danver Road. It will impact living organisms (humans, plants, animals) in a negative way with its noise and dust. Keep in mind that this will impact thousands of people who visit this area during the summer. And, it will destroy the property of the Alaskan people in the form of the state maintained road and bridge at a time when the state is in financial turmoil and cannot afford to fix this infrastructure.

Planning Commission Chairman 144 N. Binkley St. Soldotna, Alaska 99669

RE: Addendum to our written Testimony dated July 9, 2018, Regarding Beachcomber LLC's Application for a Permit for Sand, Gravel, and Peat Extraction on A Portion of Parcel Number 169-010-67, Tract B, McGee Tracts - Deed of Record Boundary Survey (Plat 80-104), Location: 74185 Anchor Point Road

#### Dear Planning Commission:

We attended a meeting last night with Emmitt Trimble at the Anchor Point VFS, who we found out was owner of the land, and Beachcomber LLC's. At the meeting he said, that he had not had anyone come to him about his plan for the above Gravel Pit. He also mentioned he had given his mineral rights over to some (he was not specific on who) oil and gas company, and he only planned to do a small amount of extraction at this time and as neighborhood persons attending this meeting, we should trust him. When asked why he was then asking for these permits covering the whole area, he said he was asking for this permit as there were suppose to be a changes to Kenai Peninsula Borough more stringent regulations sometime in September for Gravel Pits. He wanted to get the permits to cover so he'd have the permit before any new requirements were made.

At the meeting we were told the Planning Board made your determination as to if a party could get these permits was by satisfying the current Regulations: "21.29.040. - Standards for sand, gravel or material sites."

- A. These material site regulations are intended to protect against aquifer disturbance, road damage, physical damage to adjacent properties, dust, noise, and visual impacts. Only the conditions set forth in KPB <u>21.29.050</u> may be imposed to meet these standards:
- 1. Protects against the lowering of water sources serving other properties: (if an oil and gas company took this property area, this might be a factor, which Mr. Emmitt has the right to sell it to.) Plus, the wetland areas, water birds, etc. would be affected by this. Water is like "gold" here to make it drinkable.
- 2. Protects against physical damage to other properties; our way of exit from Anchor point is from Danver and the State Road, Anchor Point Road, and the Borough Roads, of the old Sterling Highway. (The problems of the roads and physical damage is covered in our original message Under **Public Safety.** We know you aren't interested in hearing about the State road; however, Danver is very important to us. Actually, our road Seabury Court is more a trail then a road in the borough.
- 3. Minimize the off-date movement of dust: that is pretty hard to do and would require a lot more water, etc. to do this. We lived in an apartment near a gravel area with trucks moving a lot, and the extra dust in the house is tremendous even with care. This can cause more upper respiratory conditions.
- 4. Minimizes noise disturbance to other properties. In our original written testimony we address that under **General Comments, and Environmental Impact Statement.** The proposed gravel pit site is centered in a large bowl enclosed by 50 to 100 foot hill sides on two sides and most of a 3rd side on the South side. We can hear loud noises in the Park area throughout the summer so we know a large gravel operation to include a major rock crushing operation will disturb us. Heavy trucks that now infrequently use the Anchor River Road and Danver Ave. create noise levels that already create a disturbance. The increased use of heavy trucks and a rock crusher will make our peace and quiet a thing of the past. When asked, if the development of a gravel pit where it is proposed will lower all the homeowner property values at a meeting with him last night, he admitted that all our property values will be lowered due to such activity. The application proposes to operate the gravel pit from 6:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.

This is unacceptable to us as a private property owners. The idea that a 50 foot buffer on some of the sides of the project is ludicrous. We already know how periodic noise from heavy duty trucks and road graders negatively effect our enjoyment of our property. And thats before the applicant has even removed more trees and natural habitat in the proposed gravel pit area. What are we to do when the applicant himself admits that a gravel pit where he proposes to place it will lower all our property values? It seems this regulation is the only one that has any hope of protecting us from the noise pollution the gravel pit will create.

- 5. Minimizes visual impacts..even a 12 foot berm is not something to eliminate or minimize the visual impact. (Our testimony on Property Value and General Comments talks to that.)
- 6. Provides for alternate post-mining land uses. Selling the area to an Oil and Gas Company or another big Gravel Pit company could be done, etc. The permitting doesn't talk to that.

Sincerely,

Gary L. Sheridan Eileen D. Sheridan P.O. Box 661 Anchor Point, Ak 99556-0661

1-907-235-5542 CC: Bruce Wall, AICP. <u>bwall@kpb.us</u>

From: Tom Alexander <pmedic1568@yahoo.com>

**Sent:** Friday, July 13, 2018 4:59 PM

To: Wall, Bruce

**Subject:** Opposition to Danver Gravel Pit Project

Dear Sir,

This letter constitutes my wife and I's objection to the placement of a gravel pit at the southwest corner of the intersection of Danver Road and Anchor Point Beach Road. We are property owners and taxpayers at 73734 Seaward Avenue, Anchor Point, Alaska 99665. In our opinion, Beachcomber, LLC has not shown, and has no intention of showing any good faith as a responsible gravel pit owner/operator at this location. The myriad concerns brought up during a recent public meeting at the Anchor Point VFW were met with very negative remarks by Beachcomber, LLC, and with no attempts at offering any solutions to any of the concerns. Our wish would be that Beachcomber, LLC NOT be granted a permit to continue with this venture. Thank you in this matter.

Sincerely,

Tom and Patty Alexander

From: Joseph Allred <hungryegret@outlook.com>

**Sent:** Friday, July 13, 2018 6:32 PM

To: Wall, Bruce

**Subject:** Tremble gravel pit.

I hope that the borough will look at this

Project critically.. while I understand the value and necessity of gravel in our lives, I also understand the not so obvious value. There is an estuary just north, homes all around. And in summer, Anchor points economic engine. All at ground zero. Water migrates thru the whole area, (into the estuary/river) as a purifying system, its value inestimable.

Also there will be an economic Loss to all who own real estate in the area. Thanks for your careful consideration.

Safety and The condition of the roads must be

Factored in as well. Thanks.

Get Outlook for Android

## REEVES AMODIO LLC



July 13, 2018

Direct Phone (907) 222.7107

Direct Facsimile (907) 222.7199

E-Mail rob@reevesamodio.ca

Blair Martin Chairman Kenai Peninsula Borough Planning Commission 144 N. Binkley Street Soldotna, AK 99669

Re:

Conditional Use Permit application for a Material Site by Beachcomber, LLC, at Parcel Number 169-010-67

Dear Mr. Martin:

Reeves Amodio, LLC, submits comments on a Conditional Use Permit application for a Material Site by Beachcomber, LLC, at Parcel Number 169-010-67, on behalf of Robert Baker II as Trustee for the R O Baker II Revocable Trust ("Baker"). Baker owns Parcel Number 169-230-19, at 74160 Seaward Avenue, Anchor Point, AK 99556 ("Baker Parcel"). The Baker Parcel is one of six residential properties bordering Parcel Number 169-010-67, 74185 Anchor Point Road, Anchor Point, AK 99556 ("Beachcomber Parcel") to the south. Beachcomber LLC ("Beachcomber") owns the Beachcomber Parcel.

nit for a

Baker opposes Beachcomber's application for a Conditional Use Permit for a gravel pit on the Beachcomber Parcel ("Application").

# 1. A gravel pit at this location cannot be adequately regulated to protect the environment.

The Beachcomber Parcel is bounded to the west by a Cook Inlet beach where eagles regularly feed, seals and sea otters rest and swim, Boy Scouts camp, and local homeowners regularly picnic. To the north is a large undeveloped Bureau of Land Management Parcel (which itself backs up to the Anchor River State Recreation Area), and immediately across the Anchor Point Road is a world-class estuary for the Anchor River itself, which supports three anadromous salmon (king, silver, and pink salmon) plus Dolly Varden and steelhead trout.

Dewatering and drainage will impact groundwater flowing downgradient from the pit and into the Anchor River. The current Application proposes to provide a 2' vertical buffer to groundwater, half of the 4' vertical separation between extraction operations and

500 L STREET Suite 300 ANCHORAGE Alaska 99501

Telephone (907) 222-7100 Facsimile (907) 222-7199 Website the seasonal high water table<sup>1</sup> recommended by the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (ADEC). Increasing the risk to groundwater even further, the Application also states that Beachcomber intends to modify the permit and enter the water table in the future. This seems likely to mean that Beachcomber will be dewatering the pit, altering groundwater flow. Fish are sensitive to such alterations, including both dewatering and flooding activities.<sup>2</sup>

Beachcomber's application is misleading regarding depth to groundwater. Beachcomber drilled its well at essentially the highest point in the parcel,<sup>3</sup> adjacent to the lowest point in the parcel.<sup>4</sup> We believe that sampling at this location, due to the extreme differential from the embankment, provides insufficient data to accurately measure depth to groundwater. In fact, we question whether groundwater is at a 20' depth. Considering that most of the property is at around 40' in elevation, with the highest portion to the southeast, the groundwater is likely to be encountered at much shallower depths throughout most of Beachcomber's property.

Coastal erosion is also factor. Development of this gravel pit adjacent to the beach will exacerbate erosion. Kenai Peninsula Borough (KPB or Borough) records show that the adjacent beach is eroding at a rate of between 0.5-0.9 feet per year. Although Beachcomber is suggesting a buffer of at least 50' to the beach, over the development's lifespan that buffer is estimated to be cut down by up to 13.5'. Climate change and rising sea levels will only exacerbate this erosion. Water is likely to eventually spill into the pit and erode into other adjacent properties.

The Beachcomber Parcel itself holds numerous nesting sites, and our client observed one or more eagle nests. The noise from equipment, traffic, and the crusher, which is likely to exceed 90 dB(A),<sup>5</sup> the equivalent of operating a lawnmower or a motorcycle,<sup>6</sup> will harass wildlife and drive it away. Developing a gravel pit at this site will also destroy the high habitat values of the parcel.<sup>7</sup> Fugitive dust also will be driven by wind from the gravel pit into the estuary, potentially adversely affecting water quality in the Anchor River. Calcium chloride and water will be used to reduce dust generated by trucks and mining operations within the pit, but it cannot be used in winter. Furthermore, calcium chloride will do nothing to address dust generated by operating

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Shannon & Wilson, Inc., Alaska Dep't of Envtl. Cons., Best Management Practices for Gravel/Rock Aggregate Extraction Projects 12 (2012) (hereinafter "ADEC User Manual").

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> LaRoche + Associates & Kenai Pen. Borough Coastal Mgmt. Program Staff, Kenai Peninsula Borough Coastal Zone Management Plan 119 (2008) (hereinafter "CZMP").

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Excepting an outlier peak in the southeast corner, which is a component of the larger substantial uphill grade to the southeast.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Excepting the beach itself, below the 30' bluff.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> E. R. BAUER & E. R. SPENCER, SNAPSHOT OF NOISE AND WORKER EXPOSURES IN SAND AND GRAVEL OPERATIONS 1 (2018), available at <a href="http://www.yyccares.ca/wp-content/uploads/2018/01/sonaw.pdf">http://www.yyccares.ca/wp-content/uploads/2018/01/sonaw.pdf</a> (last accessed July 13, 2018).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> IAC ACOUSTICS, SOUND SEAL INC., COMPARATIVE EXAMPLES OF NOISE LEVELS 1 (2018), at <a href="http://www.industrialnoisecontrol.com/comparative-noise-examples.htm">http://www.industrialnoisecontrol.com/comparative-noise-examples.htm</a> (last accessed July 13, 2018).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> While clearing the trees will also destroy habitat, even a residential development will destroy significantly less habitat, and will ultimately provide continued space for wildlife corridors.

equipment such as the crusher and/or aggregate separator. The Coastal Zone Management Plan adopted by the Borough as a planning document states that, in siting facilities and development activities, the KPB should "[s]ite developments away from highly sensitive wildlife habitats and use area including . . . waterfowl and shorebird nesting, molting, and staging areas; . . . [and] marine mammal haul-outs . . . . "8

#### 2. A gravel pit at this location will undermine recreational values.

As earlier discussed, noise and habitat destruction could drive wildlife away not only from the Beachcomber Parcel, but also from adjacent federal and state lands, including the Anchor River State Recreation Area. Anchor Point's economy is significantly influenced by seasonal recreation, in the summer, when construction activities and the gravel pit's operations will be heaviest. Anglers fishing on the Anchor River only 1500' away will be negatively affected by equipment noise and fugitive dust. Similarly, campers in the Anchor River State Recreation Area campgrounds, as close as 750' away, will be affected. With wildlife being pushed away, the opportunities to observe and photograph birds and marine mammals will also be gone.

The Anchor Point Road is the public access to the Anchor River State Recreation Area and the tractor launch permitted by Alaska State Parks. This road is extremely narrow and not designed to withstand the regular use from heavy dump trucks. Nonetheless, Beachcomber proposes to use the Anchor River Road, adding its dump trucks to the existing car, boat and motor home traffic. It is easy to foresee incidents between local residents or tourists with trucks. There is no shoulder on this road, and it is bordered by ditches. There is a legitimate safety concern.

#### 3. A gravel pit at this location will destroy the residential character of the neighborhood.

Beachcomber is proposing to place a 27.7-acre industrial site in the center of a residential neighborhood. KPB records show 13 "residential" classified parcels either bordering the Beachcomber Parcel or very near to it. Without including the dozen or so parcels classified as "undeveloped" and likely destined to have houses, there are approximately 40 "residential" parcels within 1500' of Beachcomber's proposed pit.

There are wetlands in the parcel's extreme northeast corner. Beachcomber's only access route will be down Danver Street (which presently serves only residences), onto the Anchor River Road and to the Old Sterling Highway. Danver Street does not satisfy ADEC's best management practices for access to material extraction sites because it is not a dedicated haul road and it is too narrow. Further, there are well over 100 residences that depend on the Anchor River Road for access. Each of those home owners and their families will be forced to compete with heavy dump trucks in trips to and from their homes, in addition to the summer seasonal traffic. Although the

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> CZMP, *supra* n.2, at 114.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> The road suffers significantly just from the existing traffic; even after being paved, the increased seasonal recreational traffic with the tractor launch's opening, combined with the lack of quality underlayment, causes substantial cracks, ruts, and dips in the road even today.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> ADEC USER MANUAL, supra n.1 at 46.

Anchor River Road is maintained by the State, Danver Street is a maintained by the Borough. The Borough will see increased road maintenance costs.

Beachcomber proposes only 6' high berms as a buffer for the adjacent residential parcels. This berm will do very little to impede noise into those homes, especially since most were built above grade with crawlspaces because of the high-water tables in the area. A house built on a 3' crawlspace places the top of the berm at a homeowner's waist height. Noise will travel directly to and through windows and doors, even on a first floor. As noted above, noise will exceed 90 dB(A). The windows on the second floors will provide a clear views of Beachcomber's industrial activities; namely, the rock crusher.

A berm will do nothing to prevent children from crossing into the industrial area. It will be an attractive nuisance. Children could play in or on the equipment, creating a public safety hazard. The Beachcomber Parcel is less than a mile from Chapman Elementary School, and children ride bicycles and ATVs to/from the school (as a play area when it is closed) and to and from the Anchor Point beach. Children using the school playground could also be affected by fugitive dust, and, perhaps more significantly, the learning environment will be disturbed by noise from the gravel pit's operation.

Recent testimony before the Materials Site Working Group documented how winds carry gravel fugitive dust from pits onto adjacent residences. One commenter in particular described how in the winter, extreme winds effectively sandblast his home, vehicles, etc. Given the proximity to Cook Inlet and the Anchor River flats, which is located within a HUD wind classification Zone III,<sup>11</sup> even a generous application of water or calcium chloride will not stop a 110 mph wind from blasting dust throughout the area.

A person's home is his family's largest financial investment. During recent testimony before the Material Site Working Group, the Borough Assessor stated that although a gravel pit nearby does not automatically reduce an assessment, any comparable sales that show a reduction in home value based on the gravel pit will cause the assessor to reduce assessments for all homes near the operation. Families do not want to live next to an industrial operation, particularly one that runs nearly continuously during the summer. Residents along Danver Street can expect their property appraisals (and assessments) to fall by approximately 36%<sup>12</sup> if the Planning Commission approves the Application.

While Baker recognizes Beachcomber's right to develop its property, he reasonably did not expect a 27.7-acre industrial facility adjacent to his backyard and within his view shed. Based on the development patterns off Danver Street, he reasonably expected low-density rural residential and/or recreational property development for the Beachcomber Parcel. This would

FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY, WIND ZONE COMPARISONS G-3 (2013), available at <a href="https://www.fema.gov/media-library-data/20130726-1501-20490-5921/fema">https://www.fema.gov/media-library-data/20130726-1501-20490-5921/fema</a> p85 apndx g.pdf (last accessed July 13, 2018).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> See Diane Hite, Summary Analysis: Impact of Operational Gravel Pit on House Values, Delaware County, Ohio 2 (2006).

bring more neighbors, more back yards and houses. Under no circumstances is it reasonable to replace those houses with a large industrial complex.

Fundamentally, gravel pits are not pretty. While the 50' buffer the staff recommends may alleviate some of the impacts to the east, it does nothing for Baker and others on the Seaward Avenue parcels to the south. Even the proposed 12' high berm, with no buffer, will not mitigate fugitive dust or muffle sound in second story bedrooms. If it issues a permit, the Planning Commission should require both a 12' high berm and a 50' vegetated buffer around the entire Beachcomber Parcel as a permit condition under its authority in KPB 21.29.050(A)(2)(c).

The staff recommends prohibiting operation of rock crushing equipment between 10:00 p.m. and 6:00 a.m. This condition does not help residents who work nights. Baker, for example, travels to and from his work assignments at odd hours. Furthermore, the noise and dust from a rock crusher operating between 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. will interfere with after-school activities, including play and homework. Noise and dust from 5:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. interferes with families' evening activities (reading, watching television, or conversing with family over dinner). Certainly, 90 dB(A) of noise eliminates the possibility of enjoying any outdoors time in the backyard.

#### 4. Anchor Point does not need an additional gravel pit.

As the Planning Commission is certainly aware, gravel pit development is rampant, and permitting such pits has been a hotly contested issue in the Anchor Point community in the past. KPB records show at least 50 parcels in the area that either qualify as a Prior Existing Use pit or have a Conditional Land Use Permit to operate a gravel pit. While the availability of low cost gravel and a few jobs in the materials industry could be important for a small community, Anchor Point is flush with gravel sites. Many of these pits are in more rural areas. There is no need to authorize a new gravel pit in a residential and recreational area close to Anchor Point's downtown core. There is much gravel already available locally.

## 5. The Application should be denied until the Kenai Peninsula Borough implements recommendations from the Material Site Work Group.

Earlier this year, the KPB adopted Resolution 2018-004, establishing a Material Site Work Group. The resolution discusses the fact that the last code update took place over 12 years ago and that members of the public expressed many concerns "about dust, noise, water, and negative secondary impacts of material sites." The KBP Assembly's stated intent was to collaborate with the public and industry to discuss changes to the material site code. Numerous homeowners living near existing gravel pits voiced concerns regarding their individual experiences with ruined water, flooding, noise (both from crushers and hauling), and dust. Although the Material Site Work Group took public testimony and considered reclamation, buffers, noise, dust, roads, public safety, and quality of life for home owners, it took no action and adjourned for the summer of 2018 at industry request due to the construction season.

Beachcomber wishes to avoid the public concerns being addressed by seeking authorization while the changes are being addressed. The Planning Commission should not allow

Beachcomber to use industry's requested delay to avoid community concerns. Rather than grant the application, the Planning Commission should deny or stay the application and process it only after the Material Site Work Group's recommendations are considered and acted upon by the KPB Assembly.

If the Planning Commission is unwilling to deny or stay the Application, it should only approve Beachcomber's Phase I development: the 6.2-acre area in the northeast. At Beachcomber's proposed cumulative acreage disturbance plan over 15-year life, it would take 3.3 years to develop Phase I. This would give the Material Site Working Group and the KPB enough time to develop and implement a comprehensive regulatory scheme that addresses homeowner concerns.

#### CONCLUSION

For the foregoing reasons, Baker urges the Planning Commission to deny the permit. If it issues any permit, even for the limited Phase I development, the commission should require additional conditions to restrict operational times and require Beachcomber to provide a 50' or greater vegetated buffer along the southern border along with the 12' high berms.

Sincerely,

REEYES AMODIO LLC

Robert W. Corbisier

Counsel for Robert Baker, II, as Trustee

Cc: Cook Inlet Keeper 3734 Ben Walters Lane Homer, AK 99603 13 July 2018

Kenai Peninsula Planning Commission 144 Binkley Street Soldotna, AK 99669

To Whom It May Concern:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the purposed conditional land use permit for parcel 169-010-67 (applicant Beachcomber LLC).

I am the current owner of Sleepy Bear Cabins LLC located at 34053 North Fork Road, Anchor Point, AK 99556. I have the following concerns and proposals:

- 1. Issue Negative impact to the Anchor River State Recreational Area: The Anchor Point Community and its businesses rely heavily on the recreation area. Whether directly or indirectly the residents and businesses will be negatively impacted by the noise pollution and industrial traffic the location of this gravel pit will cause. The recreational area is financially vital to the Anchor Point tourism industry. My business as well as others rely on the tourist activity that the park brings for the river, boat launch, and beach. The additional noise of the heavy equipment coming from the gravel pit will disrupt the visitors and park guests. This will drive down the number of tourists wishing to visit the recreational area and therefore Anchor Point, which will financially impact and potentially devastate our local businesses and economy.
- Issue Condition of and safety issue with the Anchor Point Road: Due to its current condition,
  the Anchor Point Road is currently not equipped to handle the additional industrial trucks and
  heavy equipment. The road does not have adequate shoulders or any sidewalks / bike paths for
  pedestrians and bicyclists. There is great potential not only for the road to be devasted and
  therefore access to the recreational area to be heavily impacted, but also an increase for
  accident and injury.

#### Proposals:

- 1. Postpose a decision on this permit: Allow more time for the Planning Commission as well as residents to further investigate and understand the overall impact to residential property, the Anchor Point Road, the state recreation area, and the Anchor Point community as a whole, and better determine additional requirement that must be met in order for the permit to be issued. the location of the property is unique and therefore poses unique issues. The application appears to abide by the regulations currently in place. However, the current regulations do not take into account the uniqueness of the surrounding properties and recreation area.
- 2. If the permit is approved the following additional requirements should be considered:
  - a. Larger vegetation buffer: The minimum buffer should be more than 50 feet
  - b. All berms should be 12 feet
  - c. The entire property should be required to have vegetation buffers and 12-foot berms (with the exception of the access point to the property)
  - d. The minimum distance from waterbodies should be more than 100 feet and digging below the water table should not be permitted

- e. The applicant should voluntarily restrict operation days and hours to include digging, processing, and hauling as to not impede the quality of life for residents and recreational area visitors (i.e. operating hours 9am-6pm, no operation on weekends, etc.)
- f. Improvements to Anchor Point road should be done to correct the before mentioned issues prior to the permit being approved. A maintenance / repair provision on the part of the applicant should be in place as well

When I moved back home to Alaska four years ago and chose Anchor Point as my new permanent home, I did so to live back in a rural community where nature and the wild of Alaska are out my front door. I am not one to impede another's ability to prosper and do as they wish with their land. However, I do find I am put in a position to speak up when it impedes myself and others from doing the same.

As a community we need to find ways to work together to resolve conflicts of interest to ensure harmony with our neighbors. What is best for one may not be what is best for the majority or the community. Open communication and cooperation are needed to ensure a healthy community. Like myself, I don't believe the majority here wish to live, work, and play in an industrial area.

Thank you for taking the time to read and carefully / thoughtfully consider my comments and proposals.

Sincerely,

Teresa Cosman Sleepy Bear Cabins LLC 907-235-5625 Sleepybear@alaska.net

From:

David Driggers <david.driggers@gmail.com>

Sent:

Friday, July 13, 2018 8:51 PM

To:

Planning Dept,; Wall, Bruce

Cc: Subject: Pierce, Charlie; Representative.Paul.Seaton@akleg.gov

Beachcomber LLC Gravel Pit Anchor Point

Dear Mr. Wall,

I am writing to provide public comment on the proposed material site permit on parcel 169-010-67. As the owner of property adjacent to the proposed material site, I was disappointed that I did not receive a mailed notice from the borough. I did however attend a locally organized public meeting at the VFW at which there was nearly universal opposition to proposed material site.

My primary concerns for the permit are based around safety along Anchor Point Road. As you know, the proposed material site is in the middle of the Anchor River State Recreation Area which is heavily used during the summer months. The community has already met with Representative Seaton, Assemblyman Dunne, Mayor Pierce, and various representatives from the State of Alaska to address the safety issues along Anchor Point Road. We have heavy pedestrian and vehicle traffic on the shoulder-less Anchor Point Road during the summer months, and adding heavy traffic to the road in the form of dump trucks will just exacerbate an already dangerous situation. I have had to move off the road very quickly to avoid being hit multiple times already this year. Adding even more heavy traffic with drivers who are motivated to make quick runs is a recipe for disaster.

This is especially concerning as we've already met with representatives at all levels of the government, and explained our concerns. We have made this concern public via meetings and the press:

### http://www.homertribune.com/article/1728anchor point petitions for state help

I also thought that it was a bit ironic that as I was driving to the community meeting about the material site, I was tailgated on Anchor Point Road by a 14 yard dump truck. I would ask the planning commission to please solve the access issue (or at least investigate options) prior to issuing a material site permit.

Kind Regards,

**David Driggers** 

From:

David Gregory < davidgregory 0754@gmail.com>

Sent:

Friday, July 13, 2018 12:53 PM

To:

Wall, Bruce

Subject:

Gravel pit application by Beachcomber Ilc. on Danver St.

#### Planning Commission Chairman

#### Mr Chairman,

I am David Gregory. I live on Seaward Ave where my wife and I own our home, and within 1/2 mile of the proposed sand gravel and peat operation proposed by Beachcomer LLC.

The first and foremost reason I oppose the permit for this operation is the possibility for it to alter the well water activity of wells in the area. This operation would be in the lowest possible point in the area and could cause a lowering of water level in nearby wells.

Secondly is the noise and dust created by machinery and equipment necessary to operate the operation.. Noise travels upward very well. A 6 ft berm is totally insufficient to control that noise.

Nor will it control the dust created. Dust is a health hazard to many people and will travel a great distance with the prevailing winds, which quite often blow very strong in that area.

The increase of heavy truck traffic will only increase the undesirable noise and dust. It will also be destructive to the road surfaces.

David Gregory P O Box 904 Anchor Point, AK 99556 907 399 2510

## Hartley, Patricia

From:

Planning Dept,

Sent:

Friday, July 13, 2018 10:03 AM

To: Cc: Wall, Bruce Hartley, Patricia

Subject:

FW: BeachcomberLLC Permit request

----Original Message-----

From: Marie Herdegen [mailto:marieherdegen@icloud.com]

Sent: Friday, July 13, 2018 10:01 AM

To: Planning Dept,

Subject: BeachcomberLLC Permit request

Dear Planning Commission Chairman,

I would like to voice my opposition to Beachcomber LLC, tract number 169-010-67, 74185 Anchor Point Rd, Anchor Point, Ak 99556 request for conditional land use permit extraction. I believe this is an inappropriate use of residential property.

Marie Herdegen 69195 Karen Circle Anchor Point, Ak 99556

Sent from my iPad

July 13, 2018

**Dear Borough Planning Commission members** 

At its monthly meeting on July 11, the Homer Soil and Water Conservation District was asked to comment on the Notice of Public Hearing for a Conditional Land Use Permit for a material site. The site is located on parcel number 16901067 and is outlined in red in the map below. Homer Soil and Water supports responsible

development of peninsula resources.

We note that the landowner who made this request was given less than a week to submit comments from the date they received the notification in the mail.

Homer Soil and Water Conservation
District Board of Supervisors identified
a number of questions, issues, and
concerns related to the Land Use Permit
application. Although the board took
no further action at its meeting, it
emphasizes that this location for a
gravel pit is unique on the peninsula, as
outlined below, and that proper vetting
of this project is essential.

The LUP site presents unique challenges because of its proximity to the Cook Inlet coast and to coastal processes, including saltwater intrusion, storm surges, and tsunamis. The site is also unique because of its proximity to the mouth of the Anchor River. Finally, the

CAIL SHOTCH PUTTER AVE SCHOOL SCHOOL nchor AVE Point ANCHOR SENRO RIVER STATE RCF R 畐 1-VCHOR POINT RO CUFFEL DITTON RD A ANCHOR POINT RO ANCHOR POINTRO ANN ANN HOAG CT LONENDR RO RO KWIN PEAKS LOOP 占 16901067 × SEAWARD AVE SER Parcel ID 16901067 MORFIT Physical Addresses 74185 ANCHOR POINT RD T 5S R 15W SEC 5 SEWARD GAIN Legal AGP MERIDIAN HM 0800104 MCGEE TRACTS DEED OF RECORD BOUNDARY SURVEY TRACT B 41.72 Acreage BEACHCOMBER LLC Owner

site is adjacent to the Anchor River State Recreation Area (see above). Two campgrounds are very near the parcel.

The Board recommends that the Borough Planning Commission take the extra time it needs to properly consider the unique features of this site before making a final decision on the LUP application. The commission may want to seek information from entities such as the Anchor Point Chamber of Commerce, Alaska Division of Parks and Outdoor Recreation, Alaska Department of Fish and Game, and Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (because of possible saltwater intrusion impacts to water quality in wells close to the gravel pit). Homer Soil and Water would also urge the Borough Planning Commission to take such comments into full and careful consideration during its decision making.

"To provide education and leadership in the conservation and sustainable use of soil- and waterrelated resources through cooperative programs that protect, restore and improve our environment." Thank you for this opportunity to comment, and below is the list of questions, issues, and concerns identified

during our board meeting.

 What impacts to the gravel pit are likely given its vulnerability to winter storms and storm surges?

- Specifically, what design features of the proposed coastal berm have been included to prevent storm surges from eroding the berm and causing its collapse?
- Has the applicant identified increased traffic volumes and weight likely on Anchor Point Road as a result of material site operations? How will road impacts be addressed?
- What information has been gathered to determine the likelihood of saltwater intrusion into gravel pit subsoils as a result of reductions in hydraulic pressure caused by removal of gravel?
- Is the gravel pit site within the historic Anchor River floodplain and, if so, what impacts to the river system might occur if the mainstem channel migrated into the gravel pit, for example, during 100-year or larger storm events?
- What information about local rates and impacts of sea level rise have been considered during project planning?
- Is there a long-term goal to establish a harbor at this site? If so, what comprehensive, integrated planning process is now underway to evaluate the long-term use of the area?
- What data have been collected about local noise levels from proposed gravel operations, including gravel trucks, and the effects of noise on campers and residents? Will noisegenerating activities be restricted to certain hours?
- Are site-specific reclamation plans available for public and agency review?
- Have the potential economic impacts to tourism been evaluated by the applicant or any other entity?
- As shown in the maps and elevation profile below, much of the site is between 30 and 40 ft above sea level. What will be the greatest depth of material excavation above sea level? What impacts will removal of this overburden have on groundwater levels and nearby water quality?

Finally, the borough maintains outstanding geographic information resources readily accessible to the public. Two of these were used to develop the maps included here: the kpb parcel viewer at <a href="http://mapserver.borough.kenai.ak.us/kpbmapviewer/">http://mapserver.borough.kenai.ak.us/kpbmapviewer/</a> and the terrain viewer at

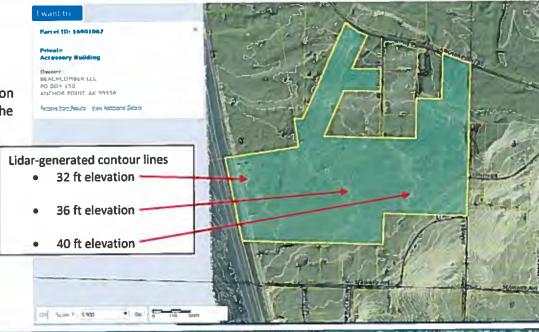


https://gis.kpb.us/map/index.html?viewer=terrain. Other outstanding kpb gis sites include the anadromous habitat viewer at <a href="https://maps.kpb.us/gc/Html5Viewer/Index.html?viewer=P">https://maps.kpb.us/gc/Html5Viewer=terrain</a>. Other outstanding kpb gis sites include the anadromous habitat viewer at <a href="https://maps.kpb.us/gc/Html5Viewer/Index.html?viewer=P">https://maps.kpb.us/gc/Html5Viewer/Index.html?viewer=P</a> KRCViewer (which shows recently mapped anadromous stream channel locations in blue, as on the Anchor River above) and the wetlands viewer at <a href="http://maps.kpb.us/wetlands/">http://maps.kpb.us/wetlands/</a>.

Providing links to these resources in public notifications, or even better, including such information in notification packets, would enable the public to provide much more informed comments.

Thank you again for this opportunity to comment.

Chris Rainwater, Chair





From:

L Rick Oliver < roliverb747@me.com>

Sent:

Friday, July 13, 2018 9:30 AM

To: Cc: Wall, Bruce

CC:

Hans Bilben

Subject:

Gravel mining of Beacomber LLC Tract B McGee Tracts Plat (80-104)

**Attachments:** 

Gravel Pit Pictures.zip

To the Planning Commission Chairman,

My name is Lawrence (Rick) Oliver and a longtime resident of Anchor Point. My property is directly adjacent to, and above, the proposed mining sight. Enclosed are pictures of the sight as it is today, as taken from my front deck, and additional pictures of the smaller parcel (adjacent to the proposed plat) from which the applicant has already removed significant material. It is my understanding that the applicant must adhere to certain standards for the removal of material from the proposed sights.

#1of said standards addresses the lowering of water sources serving other properties. The existence of the substantial lake just below my property indicates that a major mining operation can't help but affect the water source of my property. I'm told there is significant additional information regarding this standard to be presented.

#3 addresses the "minimization of dust to off-site areas". Due to the proposed placement of the processing equipment, ANY on shore breeze will bring that dust to my home, directly across the street.

#4 addresses the noise disturbance to other properties. According to the radii shown on the application, the processing equipment is to be set much less that 300' from my front door. How can the noise and vibration from this equipment be, in any way, "minimized" in my home?

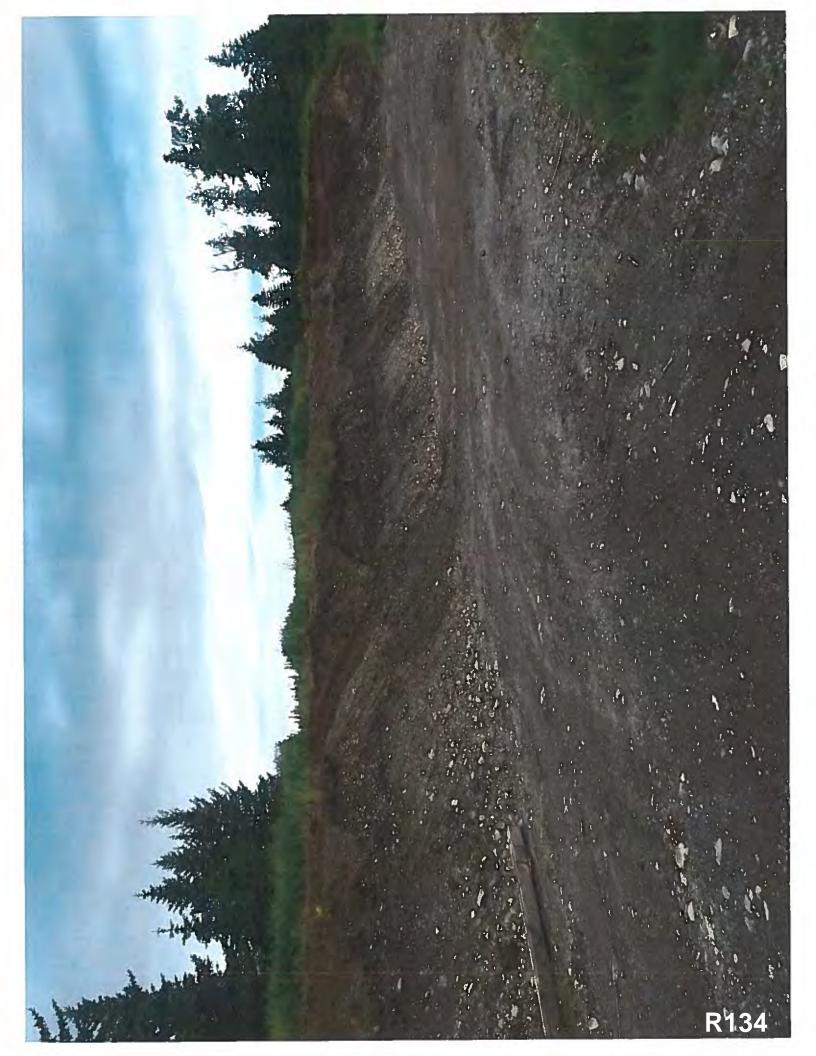
#5 addresses (again) the "minimization" of visual impact. I'll let the pictures tell that story.

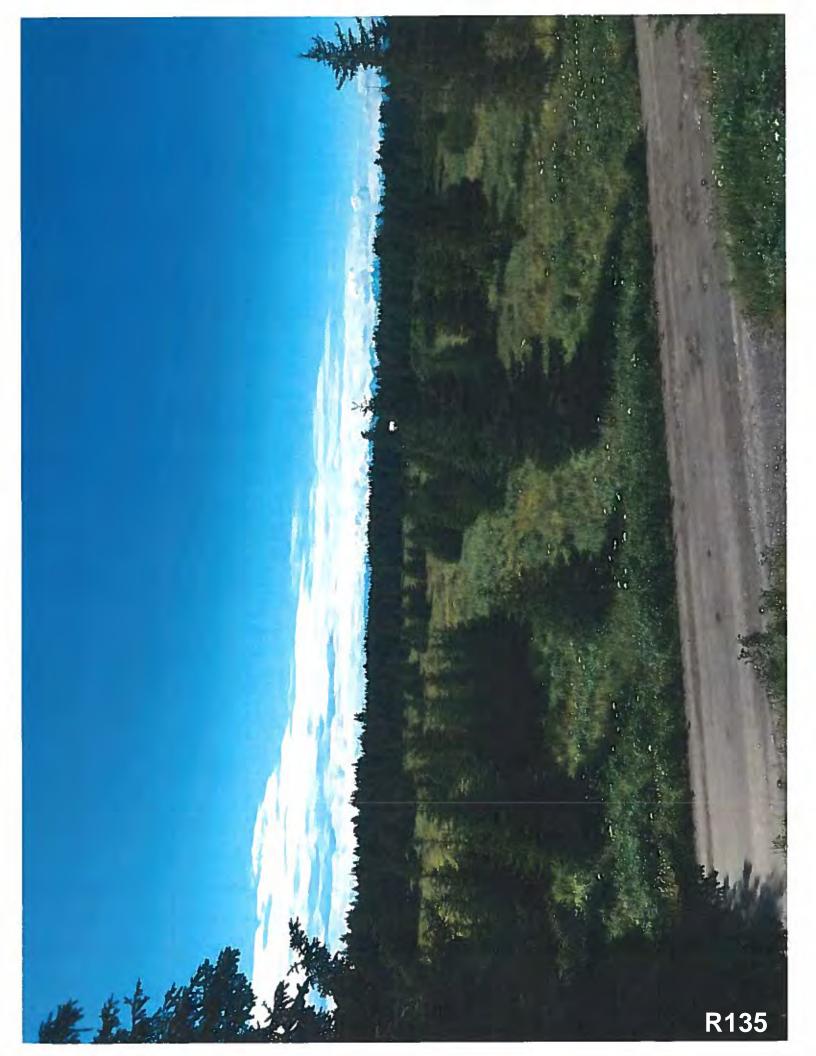
For the record, let it be known that my family and I (along with the other several hundred other people residing in this area vehemently oppose the granting of this permit.

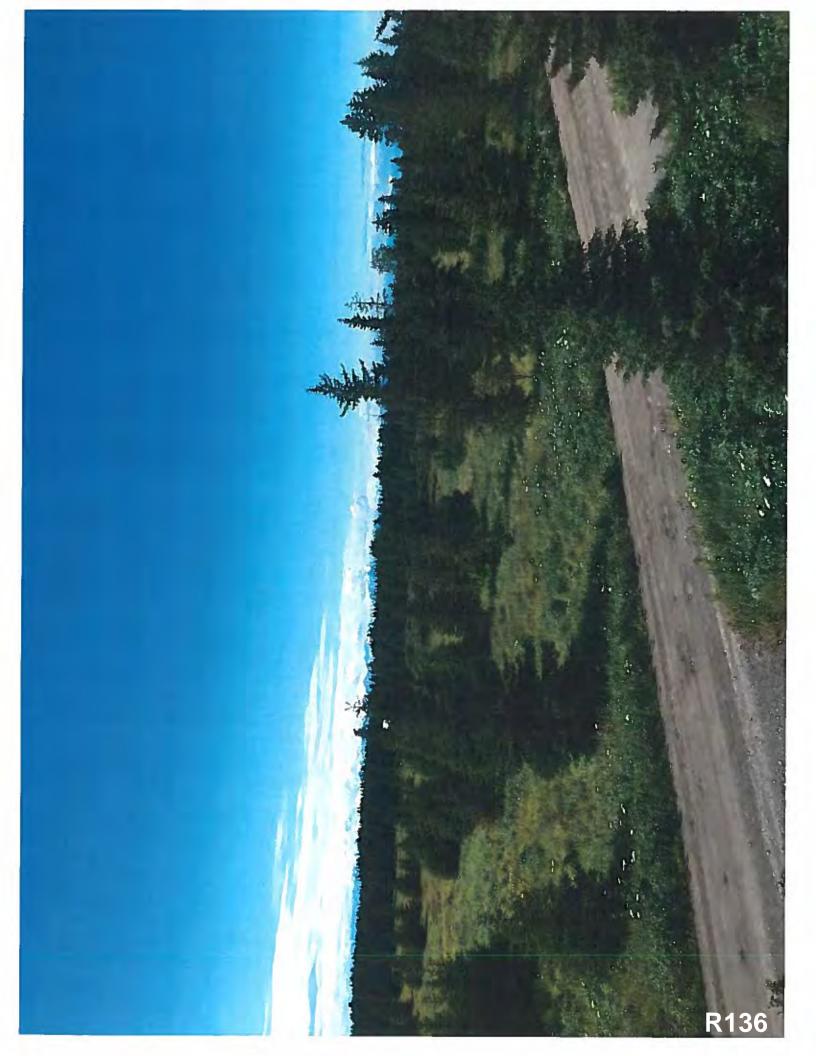
Sincerely.

Lawrence R. Oliver









# OPPOSITION TO THE PROPOSED MATERIAL EXTRACTION ON THE B MCGEE TRACTS

APPLICANT: BEACHCOMER LLC

We, the undersigned adamantly oppose the proposed permit for material possible extraction in the McGee Tracts / Anchor Point area.

The community of Anchor Point is heavily dependent on recreational use for its annual revenue. There are 5 state campgrounds providing 136 campsites and 31 day use parking and a private RV park providing 58 spaces. During the season there are approximately 40 boats launched each day. The main access to these campgrounds and the boat launch is the Anchor River Beach Road.

Sharing the road with the estimated additional truck traffic will negatively impact the fragile structure of the Anchor Point Beach Road. The proposed seasonal removal of approximately 50,000 cubic yards of material equates to 5,000 truck loads, each weighing 52,000 lbs. The road surface is not such that could withstand this heavy use.

In addition the pedestrian traffic safety would be in jeopardy. The road does not have the standard 2 foot shoulder.

<b>Printed Name</b>	Signature	Address	Date	Comments
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-	-	Kenui AK	22	R137

# OPPOSITION TO THE PROPOSED MATERIAL EXTRACTION ON TRACK B MCGEE TRACTS

**APPLICANT: BEACHCOMER LLC** 

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To: Kenai Peninsula Borough Planning Commission

From: James and Susan Reid 73820 Seward Ave. Anchor Point, AK 99556

Phone: 299-226-3418

Subject: Beachcomber LLC proposed surface mining permit We object to the issuance of the permit: for the following reasons:

- 1. Have Mary and Emmit Trimbul submitted their reclamation plan to DNR as of 7/6/2018?
- 2. Regarding the hours of 6: AM to 10:00 PM for the use of the machinery, we consider that time period being excessive because this is a residential area. For example Dibble Creek's hours of operation are 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM.
- 3. In regard to the P code 21.29.040, what is the plan to protect the water aquifer and road damage. One test hole does not seem adequate. Also the current river road is falling apart. How will that be addressed?
- 4. What is the seasonal high water table level? How was it determined?
- 5. We are concerned about this highly congested residential and recreational area in the summer. There are literally thousand of people that live and visit this area.
- 6. In regard to the water filtration, removal of gravel and topsoil will effect filtration properties of the surface water as is exhibited in "Danver Lake". Will it possibly contribute pollutants to the Anchor River?
- 7. What is the definition of waiver in regard to the North property line? Staff does not recommend approval of the processing distance waver request. Why?

### Wall, Bruce

From: Bill Scott <naturesventures@gmail.com>

**Sent:** Friday, July 13, 2018 10:33 AM

To: Wall, Bruce

Subject: Anchor Point Road gravel pit

Dear Mr. Wall,

I am writing today to oppose the gravel pit permits being requested on Anchor Point Rd. I strongly disagree to the possibility of having a gravel pit right by the Anchor River. I believe that area should be under some kind of protection from any kind of ground disturbances.

The people of Anchor Point rely on the tourism and fisheries of this this river and gravel pits and drilling rigs put the area at risk.

A great way to kill a town is to make it ugly and kill the river.

People invest in this Anchor Point because of the fishery and it's peaceful.

I am fed up with our state and borough passing out permits that impact people's livelihoods and investments to line the pockets of the few.

### **Concerned AP citizens**

Leah and Bill Scott 28279 Sterling Hwy PO Box 1193 Anchor Point, AK 99556 218-380-0623 907-399-0623

Sent from my iPhone

### Wall, Bruce

From: Carla Milburn <cjm2@me.com>

Sent: Saturday, July 14, 2018 3:00 AM

To: Wall, Bruce

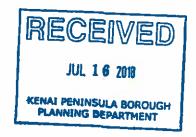
**Subject:** Anchor Point Gravel Pit

I just got word that about the prospect of a gravel pit somewhere in the vicintiy of Danver street in Anchor Point.

I strongly object to this project due to it's location in a residential and recreational area.

Please carefully consider other options elsewhere for this activity!

Thank you, Carla J. Milburn 66090 Moosewood Ct Anchor Pt, Alaska 99556 907-235-4192 July 10, 2018



Dear planning commission,

I am writing this letter to express grave concerns and objection to the proposed Gravel Pit permit that is pending for Beachcomber LLC. here in Anchor Point. I have listened to many folks speak of the noise and the lost view that will impact their homes, but my concern goes beyond a personal level.

This gravel pit has no business being allowed with the Anchor River flowing within 200 yards of the Northside of the property. The fisheries are a resource that many enjoy and the potential for damages to our water is real and likely. The roadway that follows the anchor river is a rural, narrow, road and is in need of repair. The State and the Borough, both do not have the funding to fix this recreational road, let alone, allow heavy equipment and trucks to run the road daily.

There are many gravel pits in the Anchor Point area, several are taken good care of, but there are others that are an absolute mess and eye sore. I read the regulations and they state that ADEC and others enforce the rules. I find that interesting since the North Fork road has open, unsightly pits at this very minute. Who will tell Beachcombers LLC, to fix the roads and waterways when they violate these rules, how can we be sure that we don't end up with one of those less maintained areas?

The coastal water runs on the edge of this property, and the area is wet normally, the chances of hitting ground water and mixing the surface and ground water is huge. Surely, you do not think that this group will self-report that they have violated the water rules before it becomes a massive expensive cleanup?

I find this permit request surreal. The level of greed that this landowner demonstrates is of no benefit to the community. The fact that the borough could allow one person to effect so many taxpayers and landowners in one area, is shocking. I have heard the tale that this landowner could not sale the land and that is why he is requesting to have this permit. I did my homework and he was offered money for that land several times and each time he quoted an unreasonable amount, this information alone indicates that this individual had another plan and a one sided plan it is!

Gravel pits are not meant to be dug in river bottom areas especially along a fishery such as the Anchor River. This is a disastrous plan and will effect generations of citizens if allowed to move forward. Please consider the ramifications and reject this permit.

Respectfully

Mark and Lee Yale

74140 Seaward Ave.

**Anchor Point** 

AK 99556

### Wall, Bruce

From: L Rick Oliver <roliverb747@me.com>

**Sent:** Sunday, July 15, 2018 5:29 PM

To: Wall, Bruce Cc: Hans Bilben

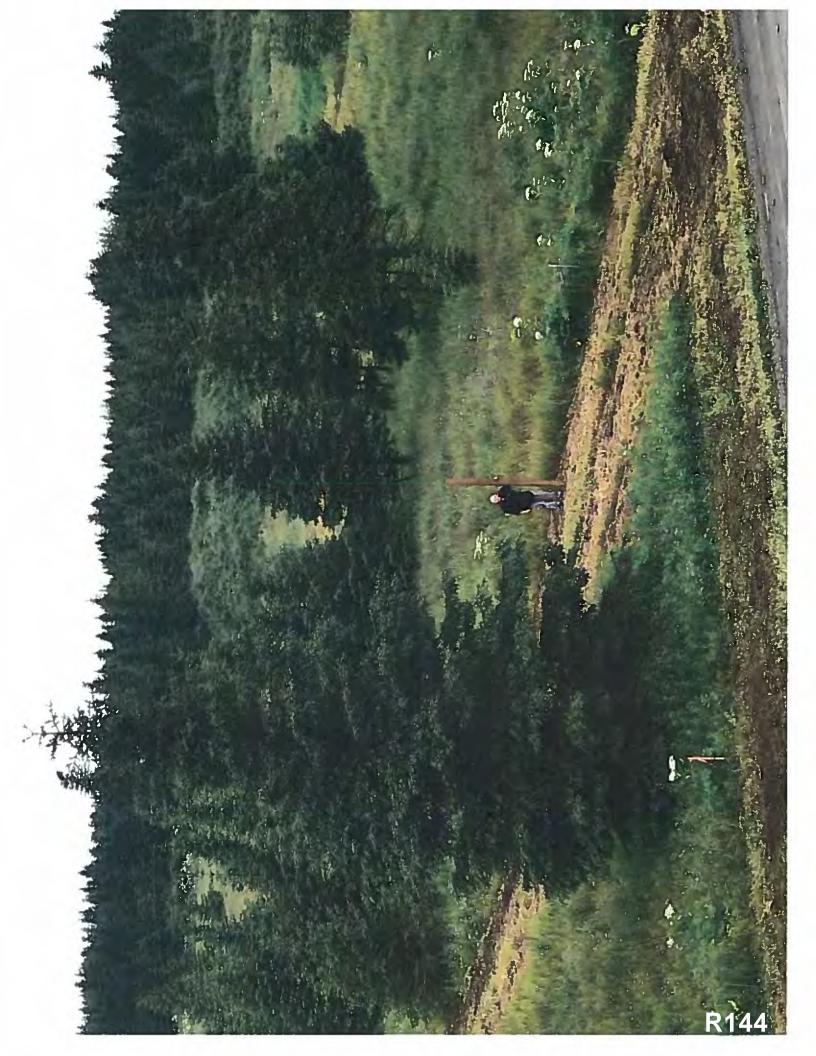
**Subject:** Danver St. Gravel mining application

Hey Bruce,

Here's a picture of me at 6' (almost) holding a board 10' tall. I'm sure you can see my concern with "minimizing" visual impact from my house with a 6' berm. I'm standing 50' inside the newly designated property line. Hope this will help.

Sincerely,

Rick Oliver



### Hartley, Patricia

**Subject:** 

FW: KPB CLUP Material site App AKA Beachcomber LLC GRAVEL PIT

From: Planning Dept,

Sent: Monday, July 16, 2018 1:57 PM

To: Hartley, Patricia Cc: Wall, Bruce

Subject: FW: KPB CLUP Material site App AKA Beachcomber LLC GRAVEL PIT

From: shirley gruber [mailto:shirleytdx@yahoo.com]

Sent: Monday, July 16, 2018 1:51 PM

To: Planning Dept,

Subject: KPB CLUP Material site App AKA Beachcomber LLC GRAVEL PIT

This message is for Syverine Bentz, and perhaps any other commissioner with an interest regarding the above referenced item.

Good Afternoon, Syverine

My name is Shirley Gruber, and through contact with W. Dunne, he has suggested that I reach out to you with regards to the subject gravel permit request.

Currently at this point, I am sending my comments that were already submitted, but did not see them included in the meeting packet. I guess I just want to make sure they are available and perhaps considered in the decision process. Yes, they were submitted in time...

Please note that I am not really in support of a gravel pit, but then who is, but an alternative product removal route would really ease some of the stress myself and the community are experiencing. I understand, progress brings compromise.

I wish to thank you in advance for any consideration you can give to address my concerns.

### Regards

Shirley Gruber 73510 Twin Peaks Loop Anchor Point

---- Forwarded Message -----

From: shirley gruber < shirleytdx@yahoo.com>

To: bwall@kpb.us <bushus>

Sent: Thursday, July 12, 2018, 5:26:14 PM AKDT

Subject: KPB CLUP Material site App AKA Beachcomber LLC GRAVEL PIT

Dear Mr. Bruce Wall

Bruce,

Thank you for fielding and organizing all the public comments in the permitting process, for Beachcomber LLC gravel pit request. It is not an easy job, in my mind.

Therefore, I too appreciate the chance to submit my (our) concerns with regards to the material extraction...IE: Gravel pit. I see staff recommendation is to approve this permit, it appears to be a boiler plate request, but I ask you to reconsider that assessment for the following reasons.

I am aware of section 21.29.040 and .050 list regulations meant to protect the surrounding areas.

So Resolution 2018-23 Section 1 of Finding the Facts

Paragraph 10 item D states water is below 20 Ft, with intention to dig to only 18'

• Permit requester advocates he can did down 40' for all the gravel he wants. The borough never checks. Thus my concern is to have water holes for swimming, or teenage hang outs bringing increased crime to the area.

Paragraph 10 item E, does not allow the removal of said water.

• Thus in a round about way the Borough has approved these potential water pits. Yes pumping it would bring habitat issues that would allow contaminated water to end up directly into the neighboring property and the Anchor River itself. Thus I also disagree with Nancy Carver that there is no habitat concerns, the loss of gravel will no longer cleanse the ground water that runs to and into the Anchor River, thus this brings us to damages.

Paragraph 11, Other property damage.

- Damage comes in two ways, physical and financial, it has been noted that the connecting property values will decline, while that gravel pit's value will have increased.
  - > Will the loss of tax revenue from the existing home/property owners be offset by the increase tax revenue from this pit? In this case it is likely that even the Borough will have some damages (monetary) if approving this permit.
  - > There is a complete buffer now in one section next to Beachcomber street and a new camp ground. To tear down those trees only to replace it with a berm for visual buffer, will cause revenue damage since a treed back drop is one reason campers stay there.

### Paragraph 12, Dust control:

• As noted in the permit, Danver Road is the haul out road, Danver road is gravel road so calcium chlorides or water would be sufficient, HOWEVER this borough road is not the only haul out road to be used. Danver Road is a dead

end road. In order to reach the Sterling Highway, trucks must travel the Anchor Point Beach access road. This is a paved 2 lane no shoulder road. Calcium Chloride does not work on pavement and to continually wet this road would only create a muddy and slippery surface for the other road users. And this does not address the Anchor River Bridge, which cannot support the load.

### Paragraph 13 and 14 Minimizing noise and visual impacts

- Other Road users will be extremely impacted with both noise, sights and added dangers from the haul trucks. The Anchor Point Road (beach access road) is a road that is loved to death. It is a highly used road, kids, bikes boats, pets, tourists, 4th of July parades, but not eligible for much financial or DOT support. Heavy commercial use on this already loved to death road will meet its end or someone on it will.
- It is the only way in and out for the families from their home and for beach goers that utilize the boat launch plus there are 5 Camp grounds on this road. And if anything bad happens, no evacuation could occur and no emergency vehicles could get in. There needs to be an alternate route to take out the gravel.
- The vegetation berms, are good, but only if you live at the flat ground level, any one who has a home that looks to the ocean also will have to watch equipment, rock crusher, gravel shaker, the full blown commercial operation.

For these reasons I don't think it passes the grade of the Code,-but each has there own interpretation, do I think it could pass, yes with a bit of fine tuning, versus a standard boiler plate permit version, as it appears now.

Lastly, yes everyone is of the nature that "not in my back yard", so it is easy to protest and complain, but hard to have a solution. Progress comes with a price, and heck who does not have a gravel drive, or pad on their lot, **I simply ask** that the commission post pone the approval until an alternate route can be established. And some of the concerns listed be fined tuned to allow the permitting, Currently there is another gravel pit on the docket, so getting gravel should not be a hardship, and if the Borough needed a reason to finish Danver Road to the south, well that time is now.

Respectfully

Shirley Gruber

73510 Twin Peaks Loop

Anchor Point.

### Wall, Bruce

From: Hans Bilben <catchalaska@alaska.net>

Sent: Monday, July 16, 2018 2:19 PM

To: Wall, Bruce

**Subject:** Fwd: Anchor Point Gravel Point

Attachments: humanremainshandout.pdf; contractorlistcurrent.pdf

Hi Bruce,

Here is more info on the proposed site in Anchor Point—I hope you'll pass it along to the Planning Commission,

See you tonight,

Hans Bilben

### Begin forwarded message:

From: "Johnson, McKenzie S (DNR)" < mckenzie.johnson@alaska.gov>

Subject: RE: Anchor Point Gravel Point Date: July 16, 2018 at 1:05:55 PM AKDT

To: Hans <atchalaska@alaska.net>

File No.: 3130-4R Private-Jeanne Bilben

2018-00873

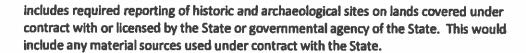
Ms. Bilben.

The Alaska State Historic Preservation Office (AK SHPO) received your request for information regarding known historical sites in the area of a proposed gravel mine. Upon review of the Alaska Heritage Resources Survey (AHRS) database there are two reported cultural resource sites in the area of the proposed mining.

- SEL-00280, prehistoric site, reported to consist of two house pits. Location is represented as a large polygon, exact location of features is unknown but current projected boundaries are within the proposed mining area.
- SEL-00281, historic graves and possible cache pits, reported to consist of 5 graves that at one
  time had grave markers, depressions tentatively described as cache pits were reported north of
  the graves. Location is represented as a large polygon, exact location of features is unknown but
  current projected boundaries are within the proposed mining area.

In Alaska there are two historic preservation laws that *may* apply unless the project is entirely private in nature:

 Alaska Historic Preservation Act (AHPA): State law requires all public construction or improvement activities conducted by, or requiring licensing or permitting from, the State of Alaska to comply with the Alaska Historic Preservation Act (AS 41.35.070). This also



National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA): If there is Federal involvement (financial assistance, permit, license or approval) with the project it is the statutory obligation of the lead Federal agency to comply with Section 106 (36 CFR § 800) of the National Historic Preservation Act, which requires the Federal agency to take into account the effects that their undertaking may have on historic properties.

Were either of those laws to apply, our office would be likely to request that an archaeological survey is conducted to verify the site locations and assess the potential effects of the project pursuant to the applicable historic preservation law. In addition, there are State laws regarding the discovery and/or intentional disturbance of human remains, this pertains to ALL lands in Alaska, including private. I have attached our handout regarding human remains.

Due to the lack of clear information regarding the site locations our office strongly encourages the use of a qualified cultural resource professional to verify the site locations/boundaries, and offer recommendations to avoid adverse impacts to cultural resource sites by the proposed gravel mine. I have attached a list of cultural resource professionals for your reference if a survey is chosen to be conducted.

Thank you for contacting our office, if we can be of further assistance please let me know. Our website may also provide useful reference at <a href="http://dnr.alaska.gov/parks/oha/index">http://dnr.alaska.gov/parks/oha/index</a>.

Mckenzie S. Johnson Archaeologist I Alaska State Historic Preservation Office/Office of History and Archaeology 550 W. 7<sup>th</sup> Ave, Suite 1310 Anchorage, AK 99501 Phone: 907-269-8726

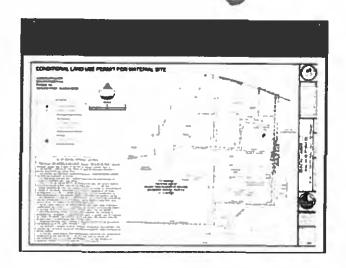
E-mail: mckenzie.johnson@alaska.gov

From: Hans [mailto:catchalaska@alaska.net]
Sent: Monday, July 16, 2018 10:44 AM

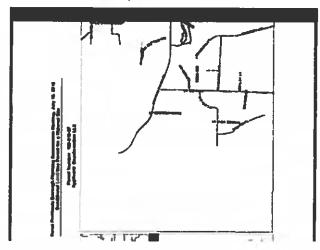
To: Johnson, McKenzie S (DNR) < mckenzie.johnson@alaska.gov>

Subject: Anchor Point Gravel Point

Hi, please send any info you might have concerning the historical importance of this potential gravel mine location. These are the maps of the proposed area. Thanks, Jeanne Bilben. (399-6156)



Sent from my iPad



### **GUIDELINES**

## Laws and Protocols Pertaining to the Discovery of Human Remains in Alaska

The treatment of human remains following inadvertent discovery is governed by state and federal laws, land status, postmortem interval (time since death), and biological/cultural affiliation. First and foremost, the site of discovered remains should be regarded a potential "crime scene" until a person with appropriate expertise and authority determines otherwise.

### State Laws:

Several State laws are applicable to the discovery of human remains in Alaska. The State Medical Examiner (SME) has jurisdiction over all human remains in the state (with rare exceptions, such as military aircraft deaths), regardless of age.

AS 12.65.5 requires immediate notification of a peace officer of the state (police, Village Public Safety Officer, or Alaska State Trooper [AST]) and the State Medical Examiner when death has "been caused by <u>unknown</u> or criminal means, during the commission of a crime, or by suicide, accident, or poisoning."

In this regard, contact the Alaska State Troopers in the applicable region first. (See list of contacts on following page.) The AST has interpreted notification procedures as applicable to all remains, including ancient remains.

- AS 11.46.482(a)(3), which applies to <u>all</u> lands in Alaska, makes the "intentional and unauthorized destruction or removal of any human remains or the intentional disturbance of a grave" a class C felony.
- AS 41.35.200, which applies only to <u>State</u> lands, makes the disturbance of "historic, prehistoric and archeological resources" (including graves, per definition) a class A misdemeanor.
- AS 18.50.250, which applies to <u>all</u> lands in Alaska, requires permits for the disinterment, transport, and reinterment of human remains. Guidance and permits are available from Health Analytics & Vital Records (see attached list of contacts).

### Federal Laws:

On Federal lands and Federal trust lands, the unauthorized destruction or removal of <u>archaeological</u> human remains (i.e., more than 100 years old) is a violation of **16 USC 470ee** (Archeological Resources Protection Act). If human remains on federal or federal trust lands are determined to be Native American, their treatment and disposition are also governed by the Native American Graves and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA) of 1990 (PL 101-601; 25 USC 3001-30013; 104 Stat. 3048-3058; 43 CFR 10). NAGPRA also applies to Native American human remains from <u>any</u> lands <u>if</u> the remains are curated in any institution that receives federal funds.

### General Guidance:

Your first contacts should be the regional Alaska State Troopers, the Alaska State Medical Examiner's Office, local law enforcement, AST/Missing Persons Clearinghouse, the Alaska Office of History and Archaeology, and the landowner.

In many instances, the field archaeologist must make a judgement call regarding the age of the remains, his/her level of confidence in the evaluation, and whether further investigation by a specialist is warranted. While notification under State Law is required, peace officers and the SME generally regard archaeologists competent to make these type determinations and welcome input that may assist with the investigation. With regard to ancient remains (> 100 years old), the SME and AST will generally defer to the opinion of the field archaeologist and require no further criminal investigation. However, the remains and a surrounding buffer area should not be disturbed until appropriate reporting and consultation have occurred.

### CONTACT INFORMATION FOR STATE OFFICIALS INVOLVED WITH HUMAN REMAINS ISSUES IN ALASKA

\*Denotes suggested contact person in list below.

### 1.) Alaska State Troopers. Missing Persons Clearinghouse:

Phone: (907) 269-5038 Fax: (907) 337-2059

Lt. Paul Fussey

Phone: (907) 269-5682

E-mail: <u>paul.fussey@alaska.gov</u>

\*Malia Miller

Phone: (907) 269-5038

E-mail: malia.miller@alaska.gov

\*After contact by phone, send e-mail with relevant information and photos to Lt. Fussey and Malia Miller.

2.) Alaska State Medical Examiner's Office:

\* Reporting Hotline (Death Hotline) to speak with on-duty investigator.

Phone: (907) 334-2356

1-888-332-3273 (Outside Anchorage)

Stephen Hoage, Operations Administration

Phone: (907) 334-2202 Fax: (907) 334-2216

e-mail: stephen.hoage@alaska.gov Dr. Gary Zientek, Chief Medical Examiner

> Phone: (907) 334-2200 Fax: (907) 334-2216

e-mail: gary.zientek@alaska.gov

### 3.) Alaska Office of History and Archaeology (State Historic Preservation Office):

Office Phone: (907) 269-8700

\*State Archaeologist

Fax: (907) 269-8908

Email: oha.permits@alaska.gov

4.) Health Analytics & Vital Records
For burial transit permits and disinterment/transit/reinterment questions:

\* Registration Help Line

Phone: (907) 465-5423

Board of Directors: Alaska Association for Historic Preservation, Historic Preservation Plan Inventory Assessments and Updates Historic documentation, landmark commissions, HABSHAER, EIS, 9 NEPA TK. Substationce, NEPA -Martime Archaeology Subsistance. ¥ relveA fi.) VisneseeA 2AH M ы 56 ж ję 34 34 × × H × H × × × × H × 8 H × × × ĸ pt. ж × ж × THE PRESIDES SOM new lifes, com Contractor's List. The consultants listed are not certified in any way by this office. It is up to the individual to make sure the consultant is qualified to do the work for which they were lines. E8 wengnorthwindarch.com a@northernlanduse.com ate andors@srbak.com eth/99503@yehoo.com storig searchine, com ERCameron@acl.com exarcheo@sol.com no@mtaonine.net shoyle@bolerch.com emcombe@gd.net 809-867-0795 907-276-6117 907-339-2457 907-349-1325 208-447-4749 208-447-8462 907-276-6117 50-436-5048 866-397-7580 907-346-3990 907-746-0051 807-588-6150 ext 201 850-607-2846 phone, 850-261-1609 cell 907-380-2888 cell: 907-277-6687 land 909-887-0795 907-786-6416 907-346-2457 907-891-3677 065-367-2480 BOT-346-3990 907-746-7571 907-278-6222 907-279-0280 1480 1480 922388 98645 966 98119 9969 99503 377725 1086 20500 12501 × ¥ ¥K ¥ 3 ¥ ¥ ¥ ¥ Ĕ ¥ ٣ ¥ Lyde Creek Anchorage Anchorage Anchorage Pensacola Anchorage Anchorage Anchorage Anchorage Dandridge Juneau 150 Western Ave W Ste 486 725 Christensen Dr. Sults 4 P.O. Box 39, 13625 Polard Orive 7480 Upper O'Malley Road 1231 Gambell Street, Suits 400 200 West 34th Avenue, #8 842 South Alaska Street 8100A 1225 Spring Creek Road 446 East 23rd Avenue 700 N. 9th Avenue, 120 Seward Street P.O. Box 10-1480 P.O. Box 10-1480 Northern Land Use Research Alaska, LLC. (NLUR Alaska) Anchorage Office urthaeological Consulting Services - ACS sestem Archaeological Research, Fernitory Heritage Resource Consulting Stephen R. Braund & Associates (SRB&A) Shaphan R. Braund & Associates (BRB&A) BOLA Architecture and Planning 9 Combe and Combe, AIA VorthWind Anchitects, JAH Architects, LLC Ivision Andribecture Browne Research portional Express First name John Stephen Seam Mark S undsay Petricia iedo. 80 Combs. AM. NCARE. Andhect Cassel, PhD ums, RPA Boyle, AJA 30th, ALA

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Address	3900 C Street, Suits 700	1319 G Street	127 Bawdan Street	4211 Misty Moming Way, Apt. 2502	327 Bawden Street	1750 Bern Swellow Way	2247 Fox Heights Lene, Suite A	P.O Box 1718	212 Front Street	3604 East 67th Avenue	3504 East 67th Averse	21741 Wooddiff Drive	4041 B Street
	ASRC Energy Services Alaska	DWV Consulting	Welan Whiteley Architects, LLC	John S. Whitehead	Welsh Writinley Arablects, LLC	Circa 69	Golder Associates, Inc.	BRS Corp	Bettiaworth North Architecte and Planner Inc.	Cultural Resource Consultants LLC - CRC 3604 East 67th Avenue	Cuffirmi Resource Consultanta LLC - CRC \$504 East 67th Averue	Devid R. Yasner, Archaological Consultant	DOWL HIGH
First name Company	Jernifer	Dougats W.	Amanda	John S.	Timothy	Jemes	David	Arrestants 8	Green	Unda Plnn	Michael	David R.	Lucy Plym C
entrame	Tobey	Voltre	Welsh, AlA	Whitehand	Whiteley, ALA	Whitney	Wilcox	Willey	Wille	Yarborough	Varborough	Yesher	Ordainn

From: To: Subject:

Wall. Bruce Hartley, Patricia FW: Danver Gravel Pit

Date:

Monday, July 16, 2018 4:17:36 PM

From: Paul Roderick [mailto:pauls.services1970@gmail.com]

Sent: Monday, July 16, 2018 3:17 PM
To: Wall, Bruce <br/>
Subject: Danver Gravel Pit

Dear Mr Wall,

It has come my attention that I must address the land valuation issue concerning a gravel pit owned by Emmitt Trimble on Danver Street in Anchor Point. A neighbor mentioned they were just sold a piece of land (of high value) and was never informed by the realtor, Coastal Realty, Mr Trimble, that he owned a gravel pit nearby. A terrible breach of ethics concerning our new community members! This is not the only neighbor expressing concern.

As any prospective land owner would have considered for this neighborhood on Danver Street, I would not have chosen to buy land at the value I purchased it at had I known it would be devalued by the installation of a gravel pit in this vicinity.

There is an older gravel pit owned by Buzz Kyllonnen that has caused much controversy in the area. The care for it has been problematic and dangerous. The pond there has high sides with little slope and no attempt to warn or protect the public of the whereabouts or dangers contained therin. Furthermore, the Beach Rd is considered a lower category highway, too narrow for heavy traffic.

It is my observation that many of the land owners with \$.25million or more homes in this area would be displeased at the prospect of a gravel crusher in their front yard. The Kenai Peninsula Borough may find themselves looking at potential lawsuits concerning this matter.

Respectfully Yours, Paul Roderick Filed Electronically : bwall@kpb.us.

June 16, 2018

Kenai Peninsula Planning Department 144 N. Binkley St. Soldotna AK. 99669

Dear Planning Commission,

Kachemak Bay Conservation Society (KBCS) is a nonprofit grassroots organization with over 80 members who live and work in the area of Kachemak Bay at the southern end of the Kenai Peninsula. For over 35 years KBCS has come together to work for protection of the environment of the Kachemak Bay region and encourage sustainable use and stewardship of local natural resources through advocacy, education, information, and collaboration. Please accept the following comments on behalf of the members of KBCS.

The proposed Resolutions 2018-22 & 2018 13, before you this evening have major ramifications to the health of the Anchor River Drainage and fishing industry that depends on the Anchor River. The fact that the proposed Resolution 2018- 22 spans the North Fork of the Anchor is appalling. The question of water quality ramifications has certainly not been answered nor has a ground water flow been considered. The effects of these two developments is not understood nor considered at this point.

Fort the above reasons it is prudent, and parmount that these Resolutions, 2018-23 & 2018-22 be rejected or postponed.

With the Borough looking at new Gravel Pit Extraction Regulations in the near future it would be prudent to put off any decision until such time as this is accomplished and a better understanding of the effects these pits could have on the surrounding ecosystem is understood.

The Kachemak Bay Conservation Society (KBCS) which represents all it's members on this issue strongly states that more thought has to go into these two resolutions and hopes that NO Action will be taken to move these forward at tonights meeting.

Sincerely, Roberta Highland President, Kachemak Bay Conservation Society

### Hartley, Patricia

From:

Christy Cupp <christycupp5@hotmail.com>

Sent:

Monday, July 16, 2018 4:33 PM

To:

Hartley, Patricia

Subject: Attachments:

Comments for tonight's meeting
Comments for tonights meeting.docx

Good afternoon,

Please give these comments to tonight's meeting on Beachcomber LLC's proposed gravel pit. Comments are attached.

Thank you, Christy Elmaleh

Dear Kenai Peninsula Borough Planning Committee,

I am unable to make it to tonight's meeting because of my work schedule, but I wanted to submit my comments on Beachcomber, LLC's proposed gravel pit.

I am opposed to this gravel pit.

My husband, two young children, and I own a property on Seabury. I take my dog, infant, and six year old walking past that property on a regular basis. Sadly, if this proposed gravel pit is approved, the increase in traffic will prohibit me from being able to safely take my children on a walk down that road.

I am also opposed to this gravel pit because it will lower the property values in our neighborhood.

Another reason I am opposed to this gravel pit is that it is right across the road from a state recreation campsite. Revenues that the state gathers from this campsite will be lowered, as many people prefer not to camp across for an industrialized area.

My family bought our house specifically because of the proximity to the state recreation area. We want our children to grow up in a natural, peaceful, and safe part of town.

Please join me in opposing Beachcomber LLC's request for a gravel pit. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Christina Elmaleh



VIA EMAIL ONLY (mbest@kpb.us)

July 16, 2018

Max Best, Planning Director
Kenai Peninsula Borough Planning Department
144 North Binkley Street
Soldotna, Alaska 99669

Re: Resolution 2018-23; Beachcomber LLC Proposed Gravel Pit & Milling Operation at the Mouth of the Anchor River (KPB Parcel No. 16901067)

Dear Mr. Best & Planning Commission Members:

Please accept these comments on the above-referenced gravel pit and milling operation proposed at the mouth of the Anchor River.

Cook Inletkeeper is a community-based nonprofit group formed by concerned Alaskans in 1995 to protect the Cook Inlet watershed and the life it sustains. Inletkeeper is intimately familiar with gravel pits and their potential impacts: over the past twenty-plus years, Inletkeeper has reviewed many dozens of gravel pit proposals, and responded to many groundwater, surface water, habitat and other concerns regarding gravel pits.

Gravel pits provide an invaluable service to our community; we all use gravel and it's literally and figuratively a foundation for our local communities. At the same time, gravel pits highlight some of the thorniest conflicts between allowable uses, because in the alluvial systems found on the Kenai Peninsula, extractable gravel resources often lie in close proximity to the lakes, streams and wetlands that support our wild salmon. And wild salmon drive our local economies, and in many ways, define what it means to be Alaskan.

The current KPB Material Sites Ordinance is woefully inadequate to protect the water and wetlands resources that support our salmon, and other local, state and federal laws and rules fall far short too. That said, the current application fails to meet even current KPB gravel pit standards.

The Material Site Ordinance is "intended to protect against aquifer disturbance...to protect[] against the lowering of water resources serving other properties." KPB Ordinance 21.29.040(A)(1). For all Conditional Land Use Permits (CLUPS), the applicant must maintain a two-foot vertical separation from the "seasonal high water table." KPB Ordinance 21.29.050(A)(4)(c) (emphasis added). Yet the application merely states groundwater depth was determined by "[t]esthole on parcel and exposed surface water to the north." The application does not indicate the timing of the test hole, and whether it accurately reflects the "seasonal high water table." As a result, the application is incomplete and should be rejected because it fails to provide the information needed to "protect against aquifer disturbance" as required by KPB Ordinance.

The complexity of our salmon systems cannot be overstated, and the interplay between surface water and groundwater near the mouth of the Anchor River is vitally important for the health of our wild salmon. The comments from the National Estuarine Research Reserve highlight the connectivity between the proposed gravel pit site and the Anchor River estuary, and reveal the importance of the estuary to salmon at various life stages. These issues take on additional importance because the application states a desire to mine into the water table at some point in the future.

While many believe the Planning Commission has its "hands tied" by the KPB Material Site Ordinance, the fact is that the Planning Commission has broad delegated authorities to investigate and make recommendations to the Assembly:

Investigation and recommendation authority. The planning commission may consider and investigate subject matter tending to the development and betterment of the borough and make recommendations as it considers advisable to any department of the borough government and to the assembly. The commission may make or have made surveys, maps or plans.

KPB Ordinance 2.40.050.

Accordingly, the Planning Commission has considerable discretion here, and due to the considerable public controversy surrounding this application, and in light of its close proximity to the mouth of one of the most recognized salmon streams on the Kenai Peninsula, we recommend the Planning Commission undertake additional investigations to answer the following questions:

- What is the seasonal high water level?
- What is the rate and direction of groundwater flow?
- What effects will flow from the removal of peat and other vegetation with regard to surface runoff?
- How much dust and dirt will enter the Anchor River through airborne deposition from gravel extraction, milling and hauling activities under prevailing conditions?

These are but a sampling of questions which need to be answered if we hope to maintain the ecological integrity of the Anchor River. As we all know, the Anchor River is under incredible stress, and piecemeal development, warming stream temperatures, overharvest and habitat impacts are playing out the "death by a thousand cuts" problem that has plagued wild salmon systems elsewhere.

Therefore, in addition to the request to reject this application — or at least defer it for future consideration until the application is complete - we call on the Kenai Borough Assembly and the Planning Commission to put a moratorium on all gravel pit authorizations until the Material Sites Task Force has completed its work and adopted enforceable standards that will protect our public land, water and fish resources.

Thank you for your attention to this important issue, and please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions at 907.299.3277 or <a href="mailto:bob@inletkeeper.org">bob@inletkeeper.org</a>

Yours for Cook Inlet.

Bt 8hh

Bob Shavelson inletkeeper

### **MISCELLANEOUS**

82

### **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

# Petition to Reject Proposed Sand, Gravel, and Peat Extraction near Danver St., Anchor Point, Alaska

We, the citizens of the town of Anchor Point, petition the Kenai Borough to reject the proposed sand, gravel, and peat extraction permit application submitted by Mary and Emmitt Trimble of Beachcomber LLC.

The negative impact to the surrounding residential properties renders the proposed operation intolerable with regard to noise, dust/dirt, damage to roadways, decrease in property values, and devastation of the natural beauty of the view we currently enjoy.

We respectfully demand that the Kenai Peninsula Planning Commission reject the proposed permit. We hope that the Trimbles will find a more suitable location for their excavation business.

Name	Address	Phone #	Signature
Ann Cline	34926 Danver St.	(425) 449-3540	Ann Cline
Richard Cline	34926 Danver St.	(907)715-7237	RiClin
Joseph Sparene	73984 U SEUNINDAYC	3053214404	The John
Oniver Syllin	7:3884 Sound AVE	337-4406	Divine Book and
Fichel Beth	7355 Solina	509-430-648	Suchied Ditte
Pete Kinne	N 34969 DAN	er - <i>727-332</i>	Pete Kinneen
Maus Portly	73 50 Sinhalles	130-430-430	Mand Soft
	34897 Fisher G.	907-299-2165	
Linda letris	184897 Fishera	901-199-2619	Janda Marick
Janice Krytel	73884 Staward	970 3008940	Jain Frelle
Ereca J. bus	73850 Saward	907-399-0063	Son Front
David D Gregary	1389 Earry	907-399-2510	Soul Dun

SUSAN REID	56AWARD AVI	907-	Supan J. Reid
J.D. Raid	I SEALLORD AUE	907 2263418	gone on
WAYNE TOURANGER	38940	907-295	Way of Journagens
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Josh mutt	34885 Stabistycont	319-8675	Chill
Eleghenda	34860 Seabury Cot	10335-5542	Ellen D. Steinstein
GARY L.	34860 Igoury Ly	907.235-5542	Son I Shid
Thiwn Alla	1393 H OLSAH AVE		Alaus gille
		Sir &	
12-230-200-200-200-200-200-200-200-200-20			

From: Johnson, McKenzie S (DNR) mckenzie.johnson@alaska gov 🖋

Subject: RE: Anchor Point Gravel Point Date: July 16, 2018 at 1:06 PM To: Hans catchalaska @alaska.net

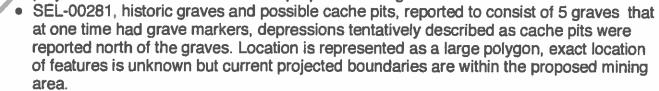
File No.: 3130-4R Private-Jeanne Bilben 2018-00873

Ms. Bilben,

The Alaska State Historic Preservation Office (AK SHPO) received your request for information regarding known historical sites in the area of a proposed gravel mine. Upon review of the Alaska Heritage Resources Survey (AHRS) database there are two reported cultural resource sites in the area of the proposed mining.



• SEL-00280, prehistoric site, reported to consist of two house pits. Location is represented as a large polygon, exact location of features is unknown but current projected boundaries are within the proposed mining area.

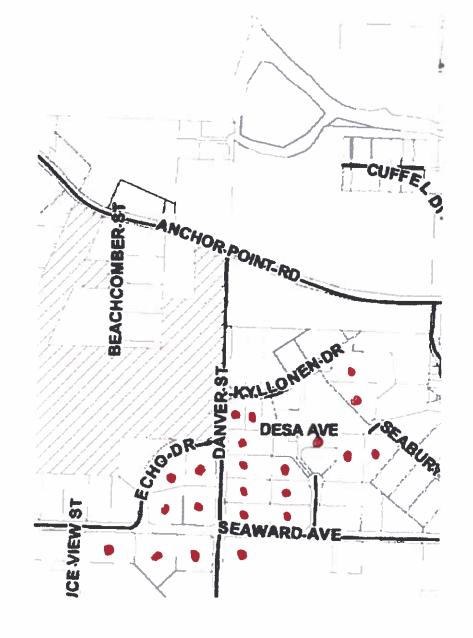


In Alaska there are two historic preservation laws that *may* apply unless the project is entirely private in nature:

- Alaska Historic Preservation Act (AHPA): State law requires all public construction
  or improvement activities conducted by, or requiring licensing or permitting from,
  the State of Alaska to comply with the Alaska Historic Preservation Act (AS
  41.35.070). This also includes required reporting of historic and archaeological
  sites on lands covered under contract with or licensed by the State or
  governmental agency of the State. This would include any material sources used
  under contract with the State.
- National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA): If there is Federal involvement (financial assistance, permit, license or approval) with the project it is the statutory obligation of the lead Federal agency to comply with Section 106 (36 CFR § 800) of the National Historic Preservation Act, which requires the Federal agency to take into account the effects that their undertaking may have on historic properties.

Were either of those laws to apply, our office would be likely to request that an archaeological survey is conducted to verify the site locations and assess the potential effects of the project pursuant to the applicable historic preservation law. In addition, there are State laws regarding the discovery and/or intentional disturbance of human remains, this pertains to ALL lands in Alaska, including private. I have attached our handout regarding human remains.

Due to the lack of clear information regarding the site locations our office strongly encourages the use of a qualified cultural resource professional to verify the site



RED DOT INDICATES PROPERTIES

AT ELEVATIONS THAT CANNOT BE

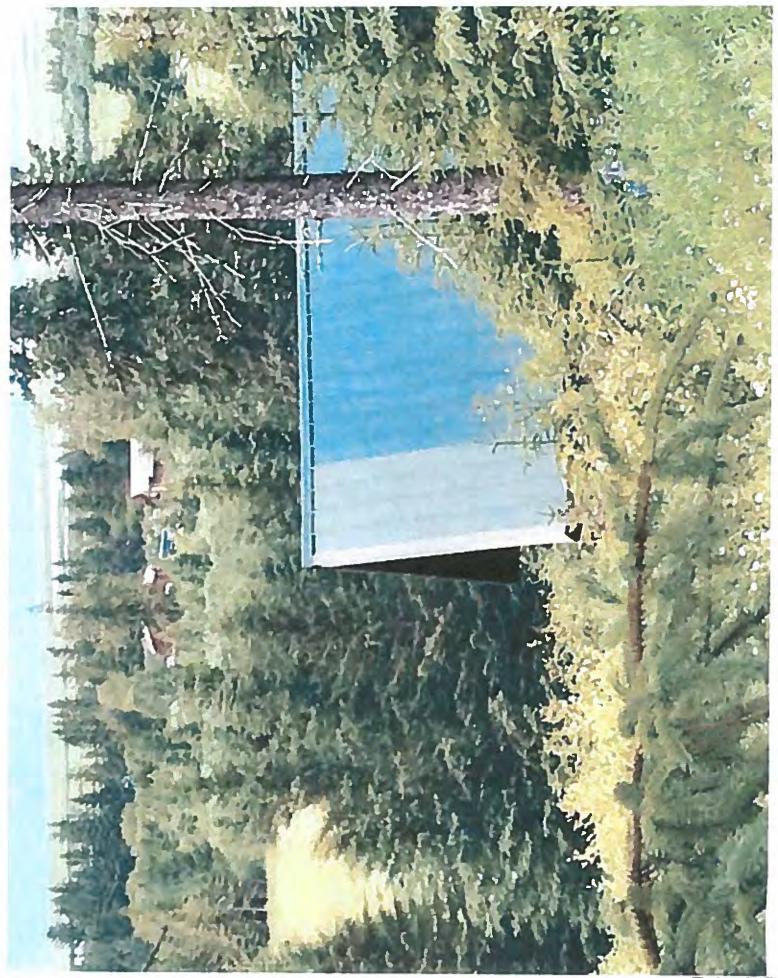
PROTECTED FROM NOISE OR

VISUAL IMPACT BY BERMS OR

BUFFERS. MORE NORTH OF PROSECT

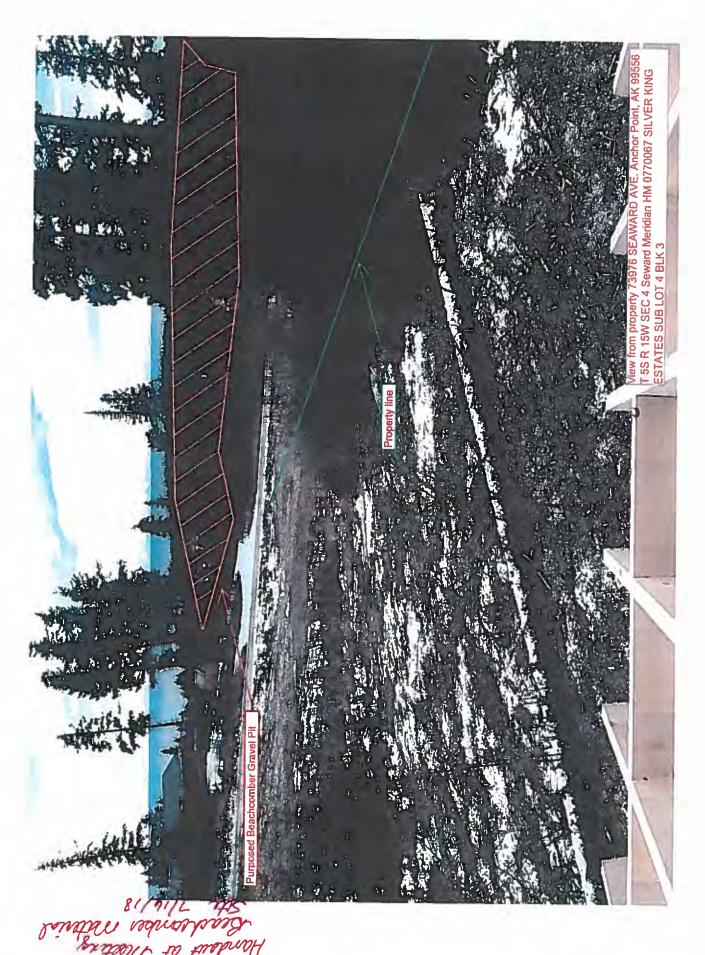


R170



R171





R173

Ownership Map Direction of Picture taken. ONTONED CRALENCA BEVGHOOMBER Ls Parcel Number: 169-010-67 Applicant: Beachcomber LLC 73976 SEAWARD AVE. Anchor Point, AK 99556 The information deptrated hereon is a graphical representation only of best available sources. The Kersel Peninsula Borough assumes no responsibility for any errors on this map. 1,000 Feel Native Allotment LEGEND Subject Parcel OWNERSHIP Subject Property Private Borough Federal Native State **Anchor Point** Date: 6/21/2018 8

Kenal Peninsula Borough Planning Commission Meeting, July 16, 2018 Conditional Land Use Permit for a Material Site

**R174** 











From:

Emmitt Trimble <emmitttrimble@gmail.com>

Sent:

Monday, July 16, 2018 11:11 AM

To: Subject: Wall, Bruce FW: Video

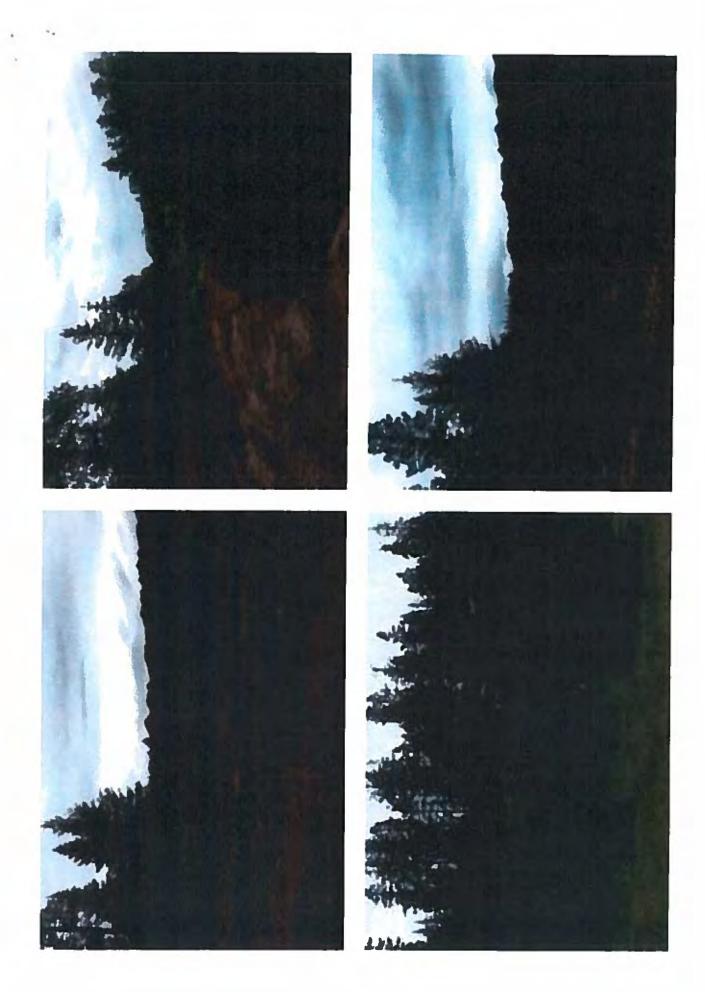
**Attachments:** 

IMG\_0843.MOV; Untitled attachment 00596.txt

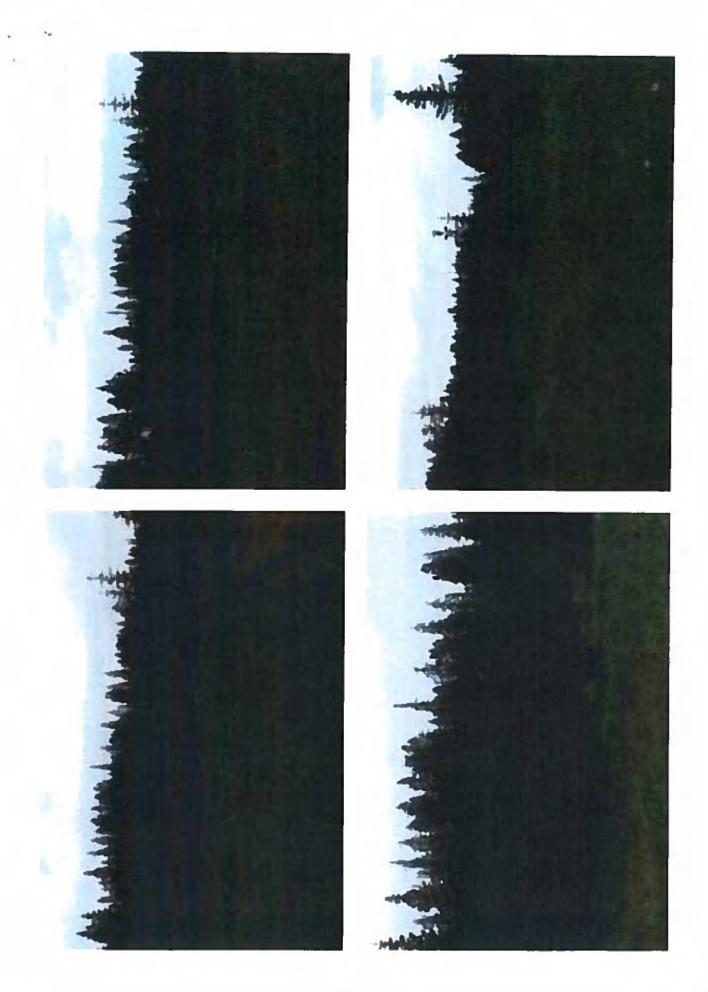
Hi Bruce,

This was done yesterday in 3 hours, and can be reproduced each time I would expand to the south, where at most 5 homes have a very limited view of the area now.

**Emmitt** 















## Planning Department

144 N. Binkley Street, Soldotna, Alaska 99669 \* (907) 714-2200 \* (907) 714-2378 Fax

Charlie Pierce Borough Mayor

«OWNER» «ATTENTION» «ADDRESS» «CITYSTATEZIP»

## KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH PLANNING COMMISSION NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Public notice is hereby given that a conditional land use permit application has been received for material extraction on a parcel in the **Anchor Point** area. This notice is being sent to landowners located within ½ mile of the subject properties. All members of the public are invited to comment. The projects under consideration are described as follows:

**Applicant:** 

Beachcomber LLC

Landowner:

Beachcomber LLC

**Parcel Number:** 

169-010-67

**Legal Description:** 

Tract B, McGee Tracts - Deed of Record Boundary Survey (Plat 80-104) - Deed

recorded in Book 4, Page 116, Homer Recording District.

Location:

74185 Anchor Point Road

Proposed Land Use:

The applicant wishes to obtain a permit for sand, gravel, and peat extraction on a

portion of the parcel listed above.

**KPB Code:** Conditional land use permit applications for material extraction are reviewed in accordance with KPB Code 21.25 and 21.29. Copies of these ordinances are available from the Planning Department or at: <a href="https://kpb.us">kpb.us</a>

**Public Hearing:** A hearing will be held by the Kenai Peninsula Borough Planning Commission to consider the application on **Monday, July 16, 2018**, commencing at 7:30 p.m., or as soon thereafter as business permits. The meeting will be held in the assembly chambers of the borough administration building located at 144 N Binkley St, Soldotna.

**Public Comment:** Those wishing to comment may come to the above meeting to give testimony or may submit a written statement addressed to: Planning Commission Chairman, 144 N Binkley St, Soldotna, AK 99669. A statement addressed to the chairman may also be emailed to: bwall@kpb.us. Please provide written statements by Friday July 13, 2018. Aggrieved persons, who participate in the public hearing, either by written or oral statement, may appeal the Planning Commission's decision within 15 days of the date of notice of the decision.

The application and staff report will be available on the Planning Commission website a week prior to the meeting. <u>For additional information</u> or to obtain a copy of the application materials earlier, please call the planning department at (907) 714-2206, or 1-800-478-4441 (toll free within the Borough).

Bruce Wall, AICP

Planner

TS-3111VSYAAM SEABUR DITTON RD SEAWARD AVE KIRTLEY CT BECKER BEACHCOMBER. TR. N. SPRUCE VIEW 81 Parcel Number: 169-010-67 Applicant: Beachcomber LLC The information depicted hereon is a graphical representation only of best ensist be scarces. The Kenel Peninsula Borough assumes no responsibility for any errors on this map. 1,000 Feet LEGEND Subject Parcel Subject Property **Anchor Point** Date: 6/21/2018 ĝ-

Kenai Peninsula Borough Planning Commission Meeting, July 16, 2018 Conditional Land Use Permit for a Material Site

**R184** 

#### ABBREVIATED STAFF REPORT

Applicant:

Beachcomber LLC

Landowner:

Beachcomber LLC

Parcel Number:

169-010-67

**Legal Description:** 

Tract B, McGee Tracts - Deed of Record Boundary Survey (Plat 80-104) - Deed

PC MEETING: July 16, 2018

recorded in Book 4, Page 116, Homer Recording District.

Location:

74185 Anchor Point Road

BACKGROUND INFORMATION: The applicant wishes to obtain a permit for sand, gravel, and peat extraction on a portion of the parcel listed above.

The submitted site plan indicates that the material site haul route will be Danver Street, which is a Borough maintained road. The site plan and application proposes the following buffers:

North:

6-foot high berm except along the east 400 feet where a 50-foot vegetated buffer is

proposed.

South:

6-foot high berm. 6-foot high berm.

East: West:

Greater than 50-foot vegetated buffer.

The application indicates that the depth to groundwater is 18 feet and that the depth of the proposed excavation is 10 feet. The groundwater depth was determined by a test hole on the property and exposed surface water to the north. The site plan indicates that the processing area is 300 feet from the south and east property lines. It is greater than 300 feet from the west property line. A waiver is being requested from the north property line. The site plan indicates that the proposed processing area is located 200 feet south of Parcel 169-022-08, which is undeveloped. Parcel 169-022-04 is developed and located within 300 feet of the proposed processing area; this parcel is owned by the applicant's daughter. The site plan indicates that there are several wells located within 300 feet of the parcel boundaries but none within 100 feet of the proposed excavation area.

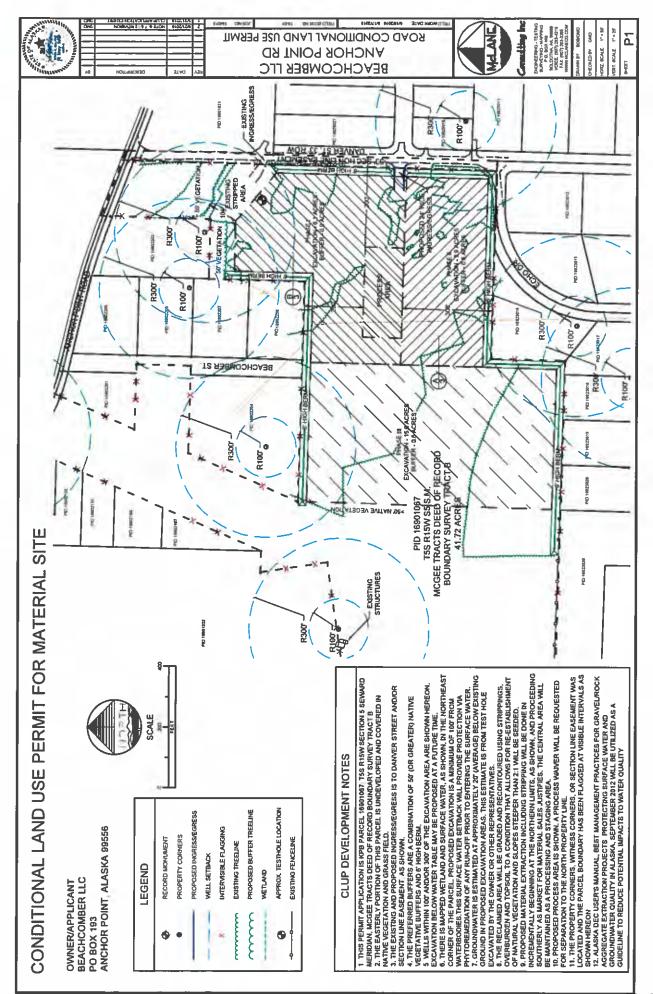
The application states that reclamation will be completed annually before the growing season ends (September) and that seeding will be applied as necessary each season to areas that achieve final grade in order to minimize erosion and dust. The applicant estimates a life span of 15 years for the site with an approximate annual quantity of less than 50,000 cubic yards.

#### STAFF RECOMMENDATION

It is anticipated that staff will recommend that additional buffers be required in the southern portion of the site where a 6-foot berm may not be sufficient to provide visual and noise screening of the proposed use. It is anticipated, that with the additional buffer requirement, that the six standards contained in KPB 21.29.040 will be met and that staff will recommend that the Planning Commission approve the conditional land use permit with the conditions listed in the full staff report.

#### ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

The application and complete staff report, including staff recommended findings and conditions, will be available on the Planning Commission website a week prior to the meeting. <u>For additional information</u> or to obtain a copy of the application materials earlier, please call the planning department at (907) 714-2206, or 1-800-478-4441 (toll free within the Borough).



Parcel Number: 169-010-67

NEFRON'ST NDER SCHOOL-AV SEABURYERD ZANCHOR.ROINT-RD -DESAIAVE-SEAWARD AV KIRTLEYCT A CHOSE TS: BENNED PARKINS Applicant: Beachcomber LLC The information depicted hereon is a graphical representation only of best available sources. The Kenal Peninsula Borough essumes no responsibility for any errors on this map. Parcels selection 2 Notification Area 1,280 Feet LEGEND Subject Parcel Subject Property Date: 6/21/2018 Anchor Point 80 **R187** 

From: Wall, Bruce

Sent:Tuesday, July 10, 2018 2:26 PMTo:'susan@reevesamodio.com'Subject:Beachcomber - Wetlands map

**Attachments:** 169-010-67\_2018-07-09\_Wetland\_Map.pdf

Susan,

I am not aware of a wetlands delineation being done on this property. In my visits to the property I did not observe any additional areas that would be considered wetlands by casual observation.

Thanks,

Bruce Wall, AICP
Planner
208-369-0089
KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH
144 North Binkley Street
Soldotna, Alaska 99669

PUBLIC RECORDS LAW DISCLOSURE: This email and responses to this email may be subject to provisions of Alaska Statues and may be made available to the public upon request.

Kenai Peninsula Borough Planning Commission Meeting, July 16, 2018 Conditional Land Use Permit for a Material Site

Parcel Number: 169-010-67

FISHER.CT -KYLL ONEN DR DESA'AVE DANVER-ST SEAWARD AVE AGO,OHOR. ANCHOR POINT RD BEACHCOMBER:ST Applicant: Beachcomber, LLC MOFFIT-P The information depicted hereon is a graphical representation only of best available sources. The Kenai Peninsula Borough assumes no responsibility for any errors on this map. 500 Feet LEGEND Subject Parcel **ECOSYSTEM** Riverine Subject Property Tidal Date: 7/10/2018 250 **R189** 

From:

Wall, Bruce

Sent:

Monday, July 9, 2018 9:11 AM

To:

'R. O. Baker II'

Subject:

RE: Beachcomber staff report and related documents

**Attachments:** 

169-010-67\_2018-06-19\_Notification\_List.pdf

Bob,

An email notification was sent to the following:

Ninilchik Traditional Council

Alaska DEC Alaska DNR Alaska Mental Trust Alaska Fish and Game Alaska DOT&PF

US Fish & Wildlife
US Army Corp of Engineers
US Dept. of Labor

Kenai Peninsula School District
KPB Anadromous Waters Protections District
KPB Floodplain Manager
KPB Coastal Zone Management
KPB Roads
KPB Code Compliance
Other KPB Legal & Planning staff

CIRCAC AND CIRI were not notified. If they would like to be notified of future material site application in the Borough please have them get in touch with me.

If there are additional people at ADEC that would like to be notified of future material site application in the Borough please have them get in touch with me.

Thanks, Bruce

From: R. O. Baker II [mailto:bobkleen@acsalaska.net]

Sent: Monday, July 9, 2018 7:27 AM To: Wall, Bruce <br/>
Cc: mariedrinkhouse@yahoo.com

Subject: RE: Beachcomber staff report and related documents

Hi Bruce,



Secondly, I have forwarded your email below onto counsel.

Thirdly, as the week unfolds you will continue to hear from me. A request, please. Would you furnish a list of all of those individuals and entities to whom you had your office send the Notice of Public Hearing. For example, several residents did not receive same and, entities such as CIRCAC, ADEC, and CIRI are unaware of the notice.

I look forward to hearing from you

Yours,

Bob

Sent from Mail for Windows 10

From: Wall, Bruce

Sent: Friday, July 6, 2018 5:27 PM

Subject: FW: Beachcomber staff report and related documents

From: Wall, Bruce

Sent: Friday, July 6, 2018 4:22 PM

To: 'eldon.overson12@gmail.com' <eldon.overson12@gmail.com'; 'twoshar@acsalaska.net' <twoshar@acsalaska.net';

'bobkleen@acsalask.net' < bobkleen@acsalask.net >; 'anndotcalm@gmail.com' < anndotcalm@gmail.com >

Subject: Beachcomber staff report and related documents

Bruce Wall, AICP
Planner
208-369-0089
KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH
144 North Binkley Street
Soldotna, Alaska 99669

PUBLIC RECORDS LAW DISCLOSURE: This email and responses to this email may be subject to provisions of Alaska Statues and may be made available to the public upon request.

From:

Wall, Bruce

Sent:

Wednesday, June 27, 2018 1:51 PM

To:

'Hans'

**Subject:** 

RE: Question about a conditional land use permit??

#### Hans,

Thank you for your email. I became aware that he was extracting material from his property a year or two ago. Somebody else contacted me a couple of months ago concerned about the extraction on this property. I visited the site both times and have determined that he is not in violation of the Borough code. The Borough code exempts extraction that disturbs less than an acre from the requirements to obtain a permit. I spoke to Emmitt Trimble about this in the past and I will continue to keep an eye on the property before and after he obtains a permit.

#### Thanks,

Bruce Wall, AICP Planner 208-369-0089

KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH 144 North Binkley Street Soldotna, Alaska 99669

PUBLIC RECORDS LAW DISCLOSURE: This email and responses to this email may be subject to provisions of Alaska Statues and may be made available to the public upon request.

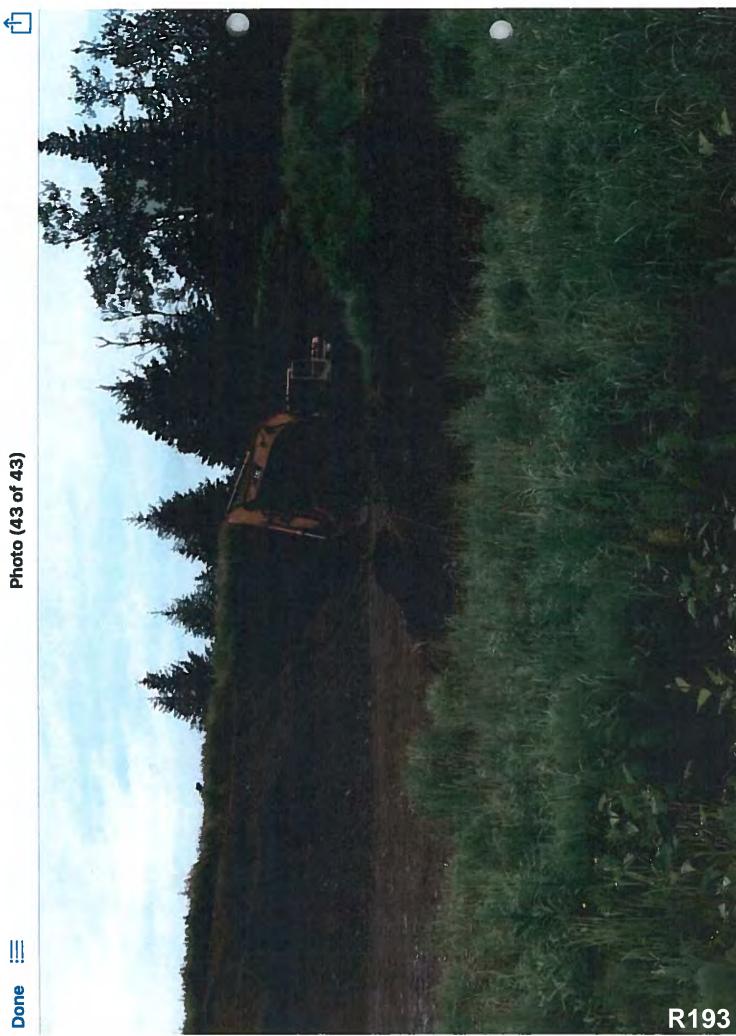
From: Hans [mailto:catchalaska@gci.net]
Sent: Wednesday, June 27, 2018 12:41 PM

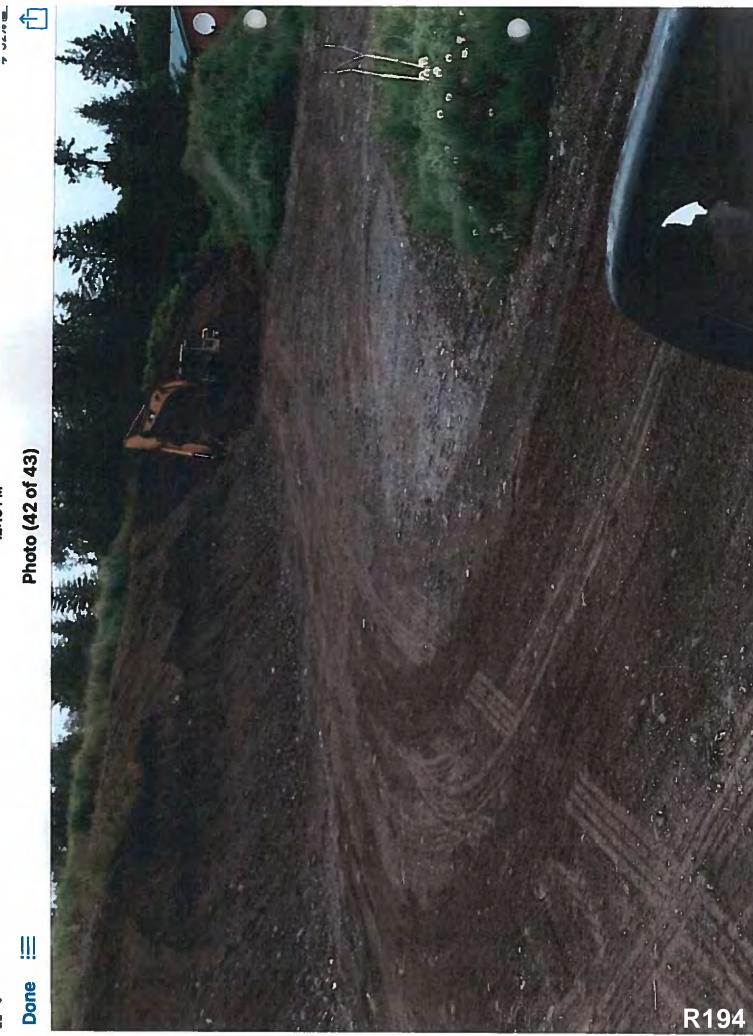
To: Wall, Bruce < bwall@kpb.us>

Subject: Question about a conditional land use permit??

#### Hi Bruce,

My name is Hans Bilben and I live at 35039 Danver Street in Anchor Point. I want to find out if Emmit Trimble (Beachcomber LLC) is in violation of Borough Code by selling gravel and transporting it from the parcel he owns on Danver Street. I believe he is! Emmit has applied for a CLUP on this parcel and the hearing will be held on July 16th. I would certainly hope that his blatant disregard of the rules (which has always been his standard operating procedure) will be taken into consideration when reviewing his application. The pictures I have attached were taken today, July 27. You can see that he has hauled several hundred yards of material from the site, and has been doing so for several months, as recently as yesterday. I would appreciate hearing back from you on this matter. Thanks, Hans





From:

Gina Debardelaben < ginadebar@mclanecg.com>

Sent:

Thursday, June 21, 2018 10:08 AM

To:

Wall, Bruce; 'emmitttrimble@gmail.com'

Subject:

RE: Beachcomber LLC

#### Bruce,

You can expect revised submittal today to address the surface water protection.

#### Other items:

- 1. North boundary you already sorted.
- 2. The Borough mapping is not correct. I knew you would ask, so we went through the plats/easements/re-tracing before submittal.
- 3. Process waiver. Although it is a large parcel, the configuration has limited potential process area. The waiver is requested to the north as 169-022-04 is owned by the applicant's daughter & 169-02-208 is not developed.
- 4. South buffer. It seems like a berm is the best option due to the limited vegetation at the south boundary. We could propose a higher berm but I'm not sure that makes sense either.

Revisions to follow....if my phone quits ringing. (I start this email 2 hours ago)

Thanks Gina

Gina M. DeBardelaben, PE
Principle
McLane Consulting, Inc.
P.O. Box 468; Soldotna, Alaska 99669
907-283-4218 office
907-398-8143 cell

From: Wall, Bruce [mailto:bwall@kpb.us]
Sent: Thursday, June 21, 2018 8:58 AM

To: Gina Debardelaben <ginadebar@mclanecg.com>

Subject: FW: Beachcomber LLC

Disregard this paragraph. Now that I looked at the plat ... it all makes sense to me.

I was unable to determine the north boundary along Anchor Point Road near Danver Street during my site visit. There were no stakes along Anchor Point Road except one on the south side of the road near the NW corner of that portion of the property, but it was marked as property line rather than property corner. There was also a stake on the north side of the road near the NE corner of the property but it did not appear to line up with the stakes along Danver Street and it was not labeled at all. I suspect that the Borough's mapping is incorrect in this case. Can you help me better understand the staking?

From: Wall, Bruce

Sent: Wednesday, June 20, 2018 3:23 PM

To: Gina Debardelaben; 'emmitttrimble@gmail.com'

Subject: Beachcomber LLC

Gina,

KPB 21.29.030(A)(8)(i) states that the site plan must include the following:

Surface water protection measures for adjacent properties, including the use of diversion channels, interception ditches, on-site collection ditches, sediment ponds and traps, and silt fence; provide designs for substantial structures; indicate which structures will remain as permanent features at the conclusion of operations, if any;

I don't see this on the site plan. Am I overlooking something?

Parcel 169-022-08 is shown as abutting the subject parcel. The Borough's GIS shows it being separated by a portion of Parcel 169-022-04. Is the Borough mapping incorrect?

I was unable to determine the north boundary along Anchor Point Road near Danver Street during my site visit. There were no stakes along Anchor Point Road except one on the south side of the road near the NW corner of that portion of the property, but it was marked as *property line* rather than *property corner*. There was also a stake on the north side of the road near the NE corner of the property but it did not appear to line up with the stakes along Danver Street and it was not labeled at all. I suspect that the Borough's mapping is incorrect in this case. Can you help me better understand the staking?

The application is requesting a waiver of the 300-foot processing distance requirement. Because of recent feedback from the planning commission

I am undecided about how I will handle the request in my staff report.

The site plan and application proposes a 6-foot high berm along the south property line. However, some of the houses south of the property sit several feet higher than the subject property. It does not appear that the 6-foot high berms will provide sufficient visual and noise screening in some of these areas.

Thanks,

Bruce Wall, AICP
Planner
907-714-2206
KENAT PENINSULA BOROUGH
144 North Binkley Street
Soldotna, Alaska 99669

PUBLIC RECORDS LAW DISCLOSURE: This email and responses to this email may be subject to provisions of Alaska Statutes and may be made available to the public upon request.

### **PUBLISHER'S AFFIDAVIT**

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, SS: STATE OF ALASKA

Elizabeth A. Ulricksen being first duly sworn, on oath deposes and says:

That I am and was at all times here in this affidavit mentions, Supervisor of Legals of the Sound Publishing/Homer News, a newspaper of general circulation and published at Homer, Ataska, that the advertisement, a printed copy of which is hereto annexed was published in said paper on the dates listed below:

PHN: Beachcomber

July 5, 2018

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN to me before

day of

2018 .

NOTARY PUBLIC in favor for the State of Alaska.

My commission expires Wall

**Hotary Public** J. HAMLIN State of Alaska My Commin on Expires May 6, 2015 sking. For additional information or to obtain a copy of the application materials ming department at (907) 714-2206, or 1-800-478-4441 (toll free within the Borough)

application and staff report will be available on the Planning Commission website a w

lic Hearing:

QPB Code: Conditional land use permit applications for material extraction are reviewed in accordance with QPB Code 21.25 and 21.29. Copies of these ordinances are available from the Planning Department or at

reed Land Use: The applicant wishes to obtain a permit for sand, gravel, and peat extraction on a portion

It prior to

istraction on a percel in the Anchor Point eres. The project 169-010-67; Legal Description: Tract B. recorded in Book 4. Page

R197



Kenai Peninsula Borough 144 North Binkley Street Soldotna, AK 99889

Invoice: 2160344

07/05/18	Legal - PHN Beachcomber	101.01
	EPntFee	2.50
	Affidavit	10.00
		RECEIVED
		JUL 1 9 2018  KPB  FINANCE DEPT ACCOUNTING
	Total Due	\$113.51



Charlie Pierce Borough Mayor

July 9, 2018

Postmaster 33790 Sterling Hwy Anchor Point, AK 99556-9606

Enclosed is a notice for a public hearing. Kenai Peninsula Borough Ordinance (21.25.060) requires that notice of public hearings for Conditional Land Use Permits be posted in the post office of the impacted community.

Can you post this for me in the Anchor Point Post Office?

Thanks,

Bruce Wall, AICP

Planner

bwall@kpb.us

144 N. Binkley Street, Soldotna, Alaska 99669 \* (907) 714-2200 \* (907) 714-2378 Fax

Charlie Pierce Borough Mayor

# KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH PLANNING COMMISSION NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Public notice is hereby given that a conditional land use permit application has been received for material extraction on a parcel in the **Anchor Point** area. This notice is being sent to landowners located within ½ mile of the subject properties. All members of the public are invited to comment. The projects under consideration are described as follows:

Applicant: Beachcomber LLC

Landowner: Beachcomber LLC

**Parcel Number:** 169-010-67

Legal Description: Tract B, McGee Tracts - Deed of Record Boundary Survey (Plat 80-104) - Deed

recorded in Book 4, Page 116, Homer Recording District.

Location: 74185 Anchor Point Road

Proposed Land Use: The applicant wishes to obtain a permit for sand, gravel, and peat extraction on a

portion of the parcel listed above.

**KPB Code:** Conditional land use permit applications for material extraction are reviewed in accordance with KPB Code 21.25 and 21.29. Copies of these ordinances are available from the Planning Department or at: kpb.us

**Public Hearing:** A hearing will be held by the Kenai Peninsula Borough Planning Commission to consider the application on **Monday, July 16, 2018**, commencing at 7:30 p.m., or as soon thereafter as business permits. The meeting will be held in the assembly chambers of the borough administration building located at 144 N Binkley St, Soldotna.

Public Comment: Those wishing to comment may come to the above meeting to give testimony or may submit a written statement addressed to: Planning Commission Chairman, 144 N Binkley St, Soldotna, AK 99669. A statement addressed to the chairman may also be emailed to: bwall@kpb.us. Please provide written statements by Friday July 13, 2018. Aggrieved persons, who participate in the public hearing, either by written or oral statement, may appeal the Planning Commission's decision within 15 days of the date of notice of the decision.

The application and staff report will be available on the Planning Commission website a week prior to the meeting. <u>For additional information</u> or to obtain a copy of the application materials earlier, please call the planning department at (907) 714-2206, or 1-800-478-4441 (toll free within the Borough).

Bruce Wall, AICP

Planner

From: Wall, Bruce

**Sent:** Friday, July 6, 2018 9:34 AM

To: Hartley, Patricia

Subject: FW: KPB CLUP Material Site Application - Parcel 169-010-67

Attachments: 169-010-67\_2018-07-06\_Notice.pdf; 169-010-67\_2018-07-03\_Staff\_report.pdf; 169-010-67\_2018-06-18\_Application.pdf;

169-010-67\_2018-06-21\_Contour\_Map.pdf; 169-010-67\_2018-06-21

\_Land\_Use\_Map.pdf; 169-010-67\_2018-06-21\_Ownership\_Map.pdf; 169-010-67\_

2018-06-21\_Aerial\_Map.pdf; 169-010-67\_2018-07-03\_Staff\_report.doc

From: Wall, Bruce

Sent: Friday, July 6, 2018 9:34 AM

To: Best, Max <MBest@kpb.us>; Carver, Nancy <ncarver@kpb.us>; 'CEPOA-RD-KFO, POA' <CEPOA-RD-Kenai@usace.army.mil>; 'Chandler Long (chandler.long@alaska.gov)' <chandler.long@alaska.gov>; 'Charley Palmer (charley.palmer@alaska.gov)' <charley.palmer@alaska.gov)' <charley.palmer@alaska.gov>; 'Clark Cox (clark.cox@alaska.gov)' <clark.cox@alaska.gov>; 'David May (DMay@kpbsd.k12.ak.us)' <DMay@kpbsd.k12.ak.us>; Dearlove, Tom <tdearlove@kpb.us>; 'Dustin Firestine (firestine.dustin@dol.gov)' <firestine.dustin@dol.gov)' <firestine.dustin@dol.gov>; Harris, Bryr <bharris@kpb.us>; 'Jeff Green (jeffrey.green@alaska.gov)' <jeffrey.green@alaska.gov>; 'Kyle Graham' <kyle\_graham@fws.gov>; 'Malone, Patrick' <PMalone@borough.kenai.ak.us>; 'Mark Fink (mark.fink@alaska.gov)' <mark.fink@alaska.gov>; 'Michael Walton (michael.walton@alaska.gov)' <michael.walton@alaska.gov>; 'Montague, Holly' <HMont@borough.kenai.ak.us>; 'Mueller, Marcus' <MMueller@borough.kenai.ak.us>; 'Ninilchik Tribe (ntc@ninilchiktribe-nsn.gov)' <ntc@ninilchiktribe-nsn.gov>; 'Simpson, Danika L (DOT)' <danika.simpson@alaska.gov>

Cc: Gina Debardelaben <ginadebar@mclanecg.com>; 'emmitttrimble@gmail.com' <emmitttrimble@gmail.com' <subject: KPB CLUP Material Site Application - Parcel 169-010-67

Please see the attached public notice, staff report, application, and associated documents for a conditional land use permit application.

Thanks,

Bruce Wall, AICP Planner 208-369-0089

KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH 144 North Binkley Street Soldotna, Alaska 99669

PUBLIC RECORDS LAW DISCLOSURE: This email and responses to this email may be subject to provisions of Alaska Statues and may be made available to the public upon request.

#### Members:

Best, Max
Carver, Nancy
CEPOA-RD-KFO, POA
Chandler Long (chandler.long@alaska.gov)

Charley Palmer (charley.palmer@alaska.gov)

Christopher Miller (chris.miller@alaska.gov)

Clark Cox (ciark.cox@alaska.gov)
David May (DMay@kpbsd.k12.ak.us)
Dearlove, Tom
Dustin Firestine (firestine.dustin@dol.gov)

Harris, Bryr Jeff Green (jeffrey.green@alaska.gov)

KPB Road Service Area
Kyle Graham
Mark Fink (mark.fink@alaska.gov)
Michael Walton (michael.walton@alaska.gov)

Montague, Holly Mueller, Marcus Ninilchik Tribe (ntc@ninilchiktribe-nsn.gov)

Noyes, Karyn Shears, Jennifer Simpson, Danika L (DOT) MBest@kpb.us ncarver@borough.kenai.ak.us CEPOA-RD-Kenai@usace.army.mil

chandler.long@alaska.gov

charley.palmer@alaska.gov

chris.milier@alaska.gov ciark.cox@alaska.gov DMay@kpbsd.k12.ak.us tdearlove@borough.kenai.ak.us

firestine.dustin@dol.gov bharris@kpb.us

jeffrey.green@alaska.gov roads@kpb.us kyle\_graham@fws.gov mark.fink@alaska.gov

michael.walton@alaska.gov HMont@borough.kenai.ak.us MMueller@borough.kenai.ak.us

ntc@ninilchiktribe-nsn.gov KNoyes@kpb.us jshears@kpb.us danika.simpson@alaska.gov **Contact Group Name:** 

**Material Site Notice** 

First Name	Last Name	Сотрапу	Job Title	Business Street	<b>Business City</b>
Chandler	Long	Department of Natural Resources	Natural Resource Specialist II	Division of Mining, Land & Water- Anchorage	Anchorage
Charley	Palmer	Environmental Conservation	Hydrologist III	555 Cordova St	Anchorage
Christopher	Miller	Environmental Conservation	Environ Program Spec IV	555 Cordova St	Anchorage
Clark	Cox	Alaska Dept of Natural Resources	Natural Resource Mgr II	550 W 7th Ave Ste 900c	Anchorage
Danika	Simpson	Alaska Dept of Transportation & PF	Right of Way Agent	PO Box 196900	Anchorage
David	May	Kenai Peninsula Borough School District	Planning and Operations Director		
Dustin	Firestine	U.S. Department of Labor		Mine Safety and Health	Anchorage
Jeff	Green	Alaska Mental Health Trust Land Office	Southcentral Lands Manager	2600 Cordova Street, Suite 100	Anchorage
Kyle	Graham				•
Mark	Fink	Fish and Game	Habitat Biologist IV	333 Raspberry Road	Anchorage
Michael	Walton	Alaska Dept of Natural Resources	Natural Resource Mgr II	550 W 7th Ave Ste 1020	Anchorage
		Niniichik Tribe		P.O. Box 39070	Ninilchik

OWNER ATTENTION ADDRESS CITYSTATEZIP **AARON BRIAN K** PO BOX 5511 CHINIAK, AK 99615 ABBOTT RYAN E PO BOX 3479 **CHAPEL HILL, NC 27515** AKEE BRITTNAY PO BOX 514 **ANCHOR POINT, AK 99556** ALASKA STATE D N R 550 W 7TH AVE 5TE 650 **ANCHORAGE, AK 99501** ALASKA STATE PARKS DIVISION 550 W 7TH AVE STE 1380 **ANCHORAGE, AK 99501** ALEXANDER THOMAS 785 CASCADE CT **PALMER, AK 99645 ALLEN DANIEL J** PO BOX 1463 **ANCHOR POINT, AK 99556 ALLEN LEE D & CHARLOTTE A** 9101 E MILE 6 RD **PALMER, AK 99645** ANCHOR RIVER RV LLC DAVID DRIGGERS PO BOX 745 **ANCHOR POINT, AK 99556** ANDERSON MELISSA L & JOHN 5 Jr PO BOX 1466 **ANCHOR POINT, AK 99556** AURORA SMC INC **STEVEN & MICHELLE CROPSEY** 1960 E AGUA VIEW RD **MOHAVE VALLEY, AZ 86440** BAIR FRED D 1227 ALDER AVE TRLR 44 **LEWISTON, ID 83501 BAKER R O II REVOCABLE TRUST ROBERT O BAKER II TRUSTEE** PO BOX 870 **ANCHOR POINT, AK 99556 BALLAND D THOMAS** 66437 OUT THERE AVE **ANCHOR POINT, AK 99556** BANKS JEAN L **PO BOX 127 ANCHOR POINT, AX 99556 BARNETT MARY JO** PO BOX 2782 HOMER, AK 99603 **BARTLETT DOUGLAS C** PO BOX 670162 CHUGIAK, AK 99567 BARTLEY INVESTMENTS ILC **PO BOX 147 EUREKA, NV 89316** BEACHCOMBER LLC **PO BOX 150 ANCHOR POINT, AK 99556 BEASLEY ALAN** PO BOX 311 **ANCHOR POINT, AK 99556 BELLAMY LEHUA NANI M** 3801 JAMES DR **ANCHORAGE, AK 99504 BERKBIGLER WILLIAM J ANCHORAGE, AK 99517 2313 W TUDOR RD BILBEN HANS & JEANNE** PO BOX 1176 **ANCHOR POINT, AK 99556 BLAIR GERALD A TRUST** PO BOX 978 ANCHOR POINT, AK 99556 **BLISS GORDON A & ELIZABETH A** 3415 HOLLYWOOD AVE MEDFORD, OR 97501 BLOCK 16 LLC **395 E SUNSET RD** LAS VEGAS, NV 89119 **BODDE BRAD & MARY** 25245 CRYSTAL CREEK DR **EAGLE RIVER, AK 99577 BRANTLEY MICHAEL JOHN LIVING TRUST** 7764 BOUNDARY AVE **ANCHORAGE, AK 99504 BRATCHER EDITH BERNICE** 6214 BIG HOUSE RD **BLACKSHEAR, GA 31516 BREESE DONALD N** 35090 OLD STERLING HWY **ANCHOR POINT, AK 99556** 12012 SWEETWATER CIR UNIT B **BREZINA STEPHEN D EAGLE RIVER, AK 99577 BRINCKERHOFF SCOTT & DONNA E 269 PLAINS RD** HADDAM, CT 06438 **BRNA PHILIP J** 5601 E 98TH AVE **ANCHORAGE, AK 99507 BROOK THOMAS J** PO BOX 39004 **NINILCHIK, AK 99639 CANNON JAMES E** PO BOX 886 **ANCHOR POINT, AK 99556 CARLSON STANLEY D & BECKY ANN 4002 E SUMAC DR** SPOKANE, WA 99223 **CARLTON RICHARD D 722 W 45TH AVE KENNEWICK, WA 99337** 3492 LARK RDG **WAYCROSS, GA 31503** CARTER HAROLD J **CATHEY SHYAN** PO BOX 1066 **ANCHOR POINT, AX 99556** CATLIN DEANNA C **PO BOX 34 ANCHOR POINT, AK 99556** CHICARELL DONALD L & EDNA M 211 RHODODENDRON DR **SEQUIM, WA 98382** CLINE ANN G AND RICHARD L LEGACY TRUST **61 TRILLIUM TRL** UNDERWOOD, WA 98651 CNUDDE MATTHEW 10046 W RHETT ST **BOISE, ID 83709 COBURN JAMES** 1112 COLONIAL DR **KENAI, AK 99611 COMBS ROGER** 2560 FRUITVALE GLENDALE RD FRUITVALE, ID 83612 905 RICHARDSON VISTA RD APT 37 **ANCHORAGE, AK 99501 COX CHARLES B** CULLIP GARY L & SANDRA L CAPE CORAL, FL 33914 1523 SW 58TH LN **38797 FRITZ CREEK VALLEY DR** C-VIEW CABINS LLC **HOMER, AK 99603 DEAL THOMAS W** 1200 W DIMOND BLVD SPC 905 **ANCHORAGE, AK 99515 22 PLUVIER LANN 1933 STERREBEEK** DESTEXHE FLEONORE BELGIUM DITTON ROBERT L & CHARLENE R PO BOX 601 **HOMER, AK 99603** 5949 5 HAYFIELD RD DRINKHOUSE MARIE L **WASILLA, AK 99623 DUKE PHILIP B & TOMOKO** 19809 EAGLE RIVER RD **EAGLE RIVER, AK 99577 DUNCAN 8RYAN & CAVALIER NICOLE** PO BOX 1436 **ANCHOR POINT, AK 99556 DUNCAN CHARLES M LIVING TRUST** 911 JAYME CT **ANCHORAGE, AK 99518 DURAN BILLIE F & LANE FRED H** PO BOX 1417 **ANCHOR POINT, AK 99556 EDELEN H C** 13840 HIGHWAY PP **NEW HARTFORD, MO 63359 EHMEN JARED** 1926 MAPLEWOOD DR **CEDAR FALLS, IA 50613 ELLISON JEFFREY S** PO BOX 569 **ANCHOR POINT, AK 99556 ELMALEH JOSHUA L PO BOX 542 ANCHOR POINT, AK 99556** ENGLISHBEE VIRGIL W LIVING TRUST PO BOX 201 **ANCHOR POINT, AK 99556 FAULK SAMANTHA** 12641 FOSTER RD **ANCHORAGE, AK 99516** FINNEY PAUL G & SUANNE Y 1588 HILLSIDE PL **HOMER, AK 99603** FIRTH BENJAMIN A **1802 GOLF COURSE RD** LITTLETON, NC 27850

FLEMING LEON R 13943 W KNIGHTS DR **WASILLA, AK 99623 FOUSEL SKIP** 860 W PLACITA DOS LOMAS **TUCSON, AZ 85704 FUGITT DEBORAH** PO BOX 1454 **ANCHOR POINT, AK 99556 GIRTON JOHN & BARBARA PO BOX 869 ANCHOR POINT, AK 99556** GO FOR IT 33881 STERLING HWY STERLING, AK 99672 **GORDON GARY & PAMELA** PO BOX 876130 WASILLA, AK 99687 **GORMAN FAMILY TRUST** PO BOX 1239 ANCHOR POINT, AK 99S56 **GORMAN MICHAEL LEE 4 TOOMEY CIR BURLINGTON, MA 01803 GREGOR FORREST E & WILMA J PO BOX 169** ANCHOR POINT, AK 99556 **GREGORY DAVID DEAN** PO BOX 904 ANCHOR POINT, AK 99556 **Gregory Krier** Vickey Hodnik PO Box 1836 **HOMER, AK 99603** HABER MCKENZY SAGE PO BOX 2429 **HOMER, AK 99603** HALEY KATHLEEN PO BOX 1194 STERLING, AK 99672 HART STEVEN E 4008 W LANE AVE PHOENIX, AZ 85051 HARTVIGSEN RICHARD M 2339 N 1000 E **LEHI, UT 84043** HENDERSHOT SANDY 1508 BUMBLEBEE AVE KENAI, AK 99611 **HENDRIKS JERRY L & RITA D** PO BOX 709 **ANCHOR POINT, AK 99556 HERBST BRIAN** 959 MILAM HEIGHTS RD WATERLOO, SC 29384 **HERBST GREOGRY J** 244 COATES RD **INMAN, SC 29349** HERRICK JOHN B & JOAN A COMMUNITY PROPERTY TRUST PO BOX R7 **ANCHOR POINT, AK 99556** HIBBERT KIM 13020 GALVESTON CIR **ANCHORAGE, AK 99516** HIBBERT KIM O 2940 WESTWIND CT **ANCHORAGE, AK 99516** HOLMES NATHAN W J **10 DORMAN RD** CAMPOBELLO, SC 29322 **HORTON DONALD LEE Jr** 221 ELLEN CIR **ANCHORAGE, AK 99515 HOUGLUM HOWARD & ELIZABETH PO BOX 1379 ANCHOR POINT, AK 99556 HOUGLUM JOHN** PO BOX 1336 **ANCHOR POINT, AK 99556 HOZA ANTHONY J FAMILY TRUST PO BOX 1177 HOMER, AK 99603** ISBELL CAROLYN YORK 2333 TIMOTHY DR COOKEVILLE, TN 38506 ISENHOUR LAUREN **PO BOX 317 ANCHOR POINT, AK 99556** JENKINS GINGER N 3126 W 80TH AVE **ANCHORAGE, AK 99502** JENSEN JAY F **PO BOX 447** PAULDEN, AZ 86334 JERMAIN JANE B PO BOX 292 INDEX, WA 98256 JOHNSON EDWIN D & DENISE **PO BOX 3244** 5EWARD, AK 99664 JOHNSON JANET R **4915 NE TOLO RD BAINBRIDGE ISLAND, WA 98110 JORGENSEN JUDY LOUISE** PO BOX 1352 **ANCHOR POINT, AK 99556** JOSLYN SEAN A PO BOX 34492 **JUNEAU, AK 99803** KEEFER DONALD C & VICKI T 12231 KINLIEN CIR **ANCHORAGE, AK 99516** KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH **144 N BINKLEY ST SOLDOTNA, AK 99669 KENALTRUST DIANNE-JENNINGS TRUSTEE** PO BOX 895 MINDEN, NV 89423-0895 KLOBERDANZ THOMAS W **PO BOX 330 WAPITI, WY 82450 KOCH DOUGLAS A & VALERIE D PO BOX 554 ANCHOR POINT, AK 99556** KYLLONEN H V **C/O KYLLONEN ENTERPRISES ANCHOR POINT, AK 99556 PO BOX 49** LANZ STEPHEN H 3531 W 80TH AVE **ANCHORAGE, AK 99502 LARSON ERIC & MONICA** 2208 LINCOLN AVE **ANCHORAGE, AK 99517 LAWRENCE KATHY M PO BOX 403 HEALY, AK 99743 LEIGHTY ROBIN L & JONES MICHAEL A** PO BOX 91865 ANCHORAGE, AK 99509 **LEWIS DARRELL L & CAROLYN FRANCES EAGLE RIVER, AK 99577** 18231 SANCTUARY DR **MADSEN MARCY ANCHOR POINT, AK 99556** PO BOX 1104 MANSER HOWARD TRUST PO BOX 1091 **ANCHOR POINT, AK 99556** MAPSTON DAVID AND LADONNA LIVING TRUST 13900 MULLIGAN RD **ANCHORAGE, AK 99516** MARKS DALE L & CHARLENE L PO BOX 875035 WASILLA, AK 99687 MARSH MICHAEL J & LILY A 1564 CACHE DR ANCHORAGE, AK 99507 MATTER BERNADINE R 140 CARLSON PKWY APT 220 MINNETONKA, MN 55305 MAXWELL BRIAN MONTGOMERY LIVING TRUST **BRIAN MAXWELL** 1001 S ANDERSON ST **TACOMA, WA 98405** MCCURLEY FRANK J Jr ANCHORAGE, AK 99516 12531 TURKS TURN ST MCGAW HELEN G PO BOX 1286 **HOMER, AK 99603** MCVEE CURTIS V REVOCABLE TRUST DECLARATION **1601 BAYLOR WAY ANCHORAGE, AK 99508** MEADS ALFRED TRUST 170 PETTIS RD **ANCHORAGE, AK 99515** MIKESELL JAMES DAVID **PO BOX 772 ANCHOR POINT, AK 99556** MILLARD DANIEL C 2266 PANORAMA WAY W **GUNTERSVILLE, AL 35976** MILLER ROBERT E PO BOX 7088 OCEAN VIEW, HI 96737 MISHLER LINDA J PO BOX 2193 **HOMER, AK 99603** MORINO PAUL 7360 WHITE HAWK DR **ANCHORAGE, AK 99507** MUNSELL GEORGE R III & CYNTHIA J PO BOX 596 ANCHOR POINT, AK 99556 MYERS BRANDON **371 OBANNON AVE** NEWARK, OH 43055

**NELSON ROBERT W & KERRY E NORCROSS JAMES HIE OLIVER LAWRENCE R ORCUTT BETTE L ORCUTT STEPHEN** 

**OSBORNE DONALD G & VIVIAN A** 

OVERSON ELDON PALAKOVICH JOHN N PARKER MICHAEL H PARKINSON STANLEY KIRT Jr PATRICK WILLIAM M & LINDA M

PETERSON FRANK R **PETRIE JOAN A** POINDEXTER DUSTIN POLLOCK JOHN MARK

PRITCHARD CHARLES E & REBECCA A

**REID JIM & 5USAN RELAXING TRUST REYES RAMON VICENTE** RICHARDSON WILLIAM CLAIRE

RICHTER FRANCIS J **ROLAND ANGELA** SCHLOTT ALFRED O Jr SCHMIDT KATHERINE A SEAWARD DAVID CHULE SGLK LIVING TRUST

SHAFER RONALD A & CHARLOTTE M SHERIDAN GARY L & EILEEN D

SHOWALTER GLEN

SILVER KING CAMP ASSOCIATION

SIMONDSEN ERIC SLATER CAROL A **SLUSHER TERRY L** SMITH CHAD

SMITH FRANK R & KAZUKO SPARKMAN JOSEPH J & DENISE

STAMPS DOUGLAS

STAREGOWSKI VINCENT F Jr

STERLING TRUST CO CUSTODIAN FBO MICHAEL I TONER

STRONG KIMBERLY L & JOHNSON ERIC W

SWICK KENNETH A Jr **SWISHER BRIAN** SYME DANIEL R **TALLMAN PAUL** 

TESAR DAVID J & BONITA G THOMPSON KRETA JO THOMPSON RUTH E THOMPSON STEVEN P THOMSON JOHN J & LAURA E

TIGERT ALLEN **TOURANGEAU WAYNE** 

TRIMBLE EMMITT & MARY JOINT REVOCABLE TRUST

TRUITT JOHN W TUSTIN CLARK PAGE LIDELHOVEN JAMES **UNITED STATES BLM UYEMA STANLEY K & MARY N** 

VANHAUWAERT MARC

**VARNER ALLEN J & UNSOON** VINCENT MICHAEL T & TAMI D

**VROMAN ROBERT H REVOCABLE TRUST** 

WARREN WILLIAM F WARTBURG MICHAEL G

WASLER ANN M & PETERSON ROYS **WASLER ANN M & STACIE A** 

PO BOX 3676 PO BOX 1444 PO BOX 39243 PO BOX 39222 7009 WARFIELD PL PO BOX 1318 **622 MAIN 5T** 

PO BOX 201407

PO BOX 1446

**PO BOX 205** 

**PO BOX 335** 29492 RIDGE RD 11438 UPPER SUNNY CIR

PO BOX 1163 535 MOREMEN RD 10750 COUNTY ROAD 204

**PO BOX 85** 

17255 E RELAXING RD PO BOX 1418 PO BOX 1325 PO BOX 532

**4014 BEN WALTERS LN APT C6** 

**PO BOX 98** PO BOX 39273 912 E 6TH AVE **13701 ERVIN RD** 24044 ALPENGLOW DR PO BOX 661

PO BOX 7 PO BOX 242491 PO BOX 1186 1143 BAINBRIDGE BLVD

**40 ANTLER CT** 49 JESSE CT

2067 CRATAEGUS AVE **PO BOX 767 420 SCORPIO CIR 3705 ARTIC BLVD** 

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8521 FLAMINGO DR **PO BOX 112 PO BOX 24** PO BOX 1457 1211 KAUHIKOA RD PO BOX 871567 111 PAULA ST **3742 W 79TH AVE PO BOX 310** 1618 W PARK AVE 1192 GLEN ASPEN DR **PO BOX 197** 

**PO BOX 193** 1430 DAHLIA ST PO BOX 1083 **PO BOX 126** 222 W 7TH AVE STOP 13

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**EAGLE RIVER, AK 99577** ANCHOR POINT, AX 99556 **BRANDENBURG, KY 40108** DE BEQUE, CO B1630 **EVERGLADES CITY, FL 34139** 

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PALMER, AK 99645 **ANCHOR POINT, AK 99556 ANCHOR POINT, AK 99556** 

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ASHLAND, OR 97520

**SELDOVIA, AK 99663** 

**ANCHORAGE, AK 99502** 

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**ANCHORAGE, AK 99515 KENAI, AK 99611 PALMER, AK 99645** KENAI, AK 99611 **ANCHOR POINT, AK 99556** 

**ANCHORAGE, AK 99513** 

PEARL CITY, HI 96782

ANAHEIM, CA 92807 6983 E SHORECREST DR ANAHEIM, CA 92807



785 MOSQUITO LN SW
13020 FOSTER RD
PO BOX 355
280B 244TH AVE SE
3041 RIVERWOOD DR
9902 PACIFIC AVE
74140 SEAWARD AVE
1220 HUFFMAN RD STE 24

ALEXANDRIA, MN 56308 ANCHORAGE, AK 99516 ANCHOR POINT, AK 99556 SAMMAMISH, WA 98075 JUNEAU, AK 99801 ANAHEIM, CA 92804 ANCHOR POINT, AK 99556 ANCHORAGE, AK 99515

# Wall, Bruce

From:

Wall, Bruce

Sent:

Monday, July 30, 2018 10:02 AM

To:

'markyale2001@yahoo.com'

Subject:

NOD

**Attachments:** 

Yale from 169-010-67\_2018-07-24\_Merged\_Notice\_of\_Decision.pdf

I have updated your contact information to PO Box 429. The Borough clerk will mail your notice of appeal to the updated address.

Thanks,

Bruce Wall, AICP Planner 208-369-0089

KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH
144 North Binkley Street
Soldotna, Alaska 99669



From: Wall, Bruce

Sent: Monday, July 30, 2018 12:59 PM
To: 'homerdental@homernet.net'

Subject: NOD

Attachments: Hodnik 169-010-67\_2018-07-24\_Merged\_Notice\_of\_Decision.pdf

This mailing was returned. Future correspondence on this matter will be sent to your PO box in Homer.

Bruce Wall, AICP Planner 208-369-0089

KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH 144 North Binkley Street Soldotna, Alaska 99669

# Wall, Bruce

From:

Wall, Bruce

Sent:

Monday, July 30, 2018 1:04 PM

To:

'Biocharalaska@gmail.com'

Subject:

**NOD address** 

**Attachments:** 

Kinneen 169-010-67\_2018-07-24\_Merged\_Notice\_of\_Decision-2.pdf

Pete,

Please supply me with your mailing address. This notice was returned as undeliverable.

Thanks,

Bruce Wall, AICP Planner 208-369-0089

KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH 144 North Binkley Street Soldotna, Alaska 99669

# Wall, Bruce

From:

Wall, Bruce

Sent:

Monday, July 30, 2018 1:24 PM

To:

'shirleytdx@yahoo.com'

Subject:

NOD

Attachments:

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This was returned to us as undeliverable. Please provide me with your email address for future correspondence on this matter.

Thanks,

Bruce Wall, AICP Planner 208-369-0089

KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH
144 North Binkley Street
Soldotna, Alaska 99669



KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH 144 N. BINKLEY ST. • SOLDOTIVA, ALASKA • 99699-7520

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**R217** 

# Wall, Bruce

From:

Steve Thompson <stevethompson1961@yahoo.com>

Sent:

Saturday, July 7, 2018 9:07 PM

To:

Wall, Bruce

Subject:

Proposed gravel pit, Anchor Point

Dear Mr. Walls, This letter to you is to let you know that I am against the proposed gravel pit, just of panver street in the Anchor Point area. This gravel pit will ruin what is currently a beautiful view of the inlet and the land leading up to the beach. It is also in close proximity to the river as well as the beach. The no se and dust this pit will create would not be too pleasant. This is primarily a residential area, and I would trink that this land would be put to better use as future homesites. I've seen some of the other gravel pits on the peninsula and most of them aren't located right in the middle of residential area's. I am currently out at work and am not scheduled to be off until the 19th. So, unfortunately can't attend the meeting.

# **PLANNING COMMISSION**

**MINUTES** 

**JULY 16, 2018** 

# KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH PLANNING COMMISSION ASSEMBLY CHAMBERS GEORGE A. NAVARRE ADMINISTRATION BUILDING 144 NORTH BINKLEY STREET SOLDOTNA, ALASKA 99669

July 16, 2018 - 7:30 P.M.

# **UNAPPROVED MINUTES**

AGENDA ITEM A. **CALL TO ORDER** 

Chairman Martin called the meeting to order at 7:54 p.m.

AGENDA ITEM B. **ROLL CALL** 

Commissioners Present Syverine Abrahamson-Bentz, Ninilchik / Anchor Point Paulette Bokenko-Carluccio, City of Seldovia Cindy Ecklund, City of Seward Diane Fikes, City of Kenai Blair Martin, Kalifornsky Beach Virginia Morgan, East Peninsula Robert Ruffner, Clam Gulch / Kasilof Franco Venuti, City of Homer Paul Whitney, City of Soldotna

With 9 members of a 13-member Commission in attendance, a quorum was present.

Staff Present Max Best, Planning Director Patti Hartley, Administrative Assistant Scott Huff, Platting Manager Holly Montague, Deputy Borough Attorney Jordan Reif, Platting Technician Bruce Wall, Planner

Others Present Xochiti Lopez-Ayala Todd Bareman Hans & Jeanne Bilben Gerald Blair

Walt Blauvelt, Axtel Enterprises

Michael Brantley

Phil Brna

**Tammy Buss** 

Richard Carlton

Robert Corbisier, Attorney, Reeves Amodio, LLC

Gary Cullip

Gina DeBardelaben, McLane Consulting, Inc.

Josh Elmaleh

Kate Finn

John Girton

James Gorman

David Gregory

Steve Haber

Don Horton (Father)

KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH PLANNING COMMISSION JULY 16, 2018 MEETING MINUTES

PAGE 1

Don Horton (Son)
Lauren Isenhour
Pete Kinneen
Rick Oliver
Eldon Overson
William Michael & Linda Patrick
Jim & Susan Reid
Bob Shavelson, Cook Inletkeeper
Eileen Sheridan
Emmitt Trimble, Beachcomber, LLC
Josh Updike, Peninsula Paving, LLC

#### AGENDA ITEM F. PUBLIC HEARING

4. Conditional Land Use Permit for a Material Site; Anchor Point Area

Staff Report given by Bruce Wall PC MEETING: July 16, 2018

Applicant: Beachcomber LLC

Landowner: Beachcomber LLC

**Parcel Number:** 169-010-67

Legal Description: Tract B, McGee Tracts - Deed of Record Boundary Survey (Plat 80-104) - Deed

recorded in Book 4, Page 116, Homer Recording District.

Location: 74185 Anchor Point Road

BACKGROUND INFORMATION: The applicant wishes to obtain a permit for sand, gravel, and peat extraction on a portion of the parcel listed above.

The submitted site plan indicates that the material site haul route will be Danver Street, which is a Borough maintained road. The site plan and application proposes the following buffers:

North: 6-foot high berm except along the east 400 feet where a 50-foot vegetated buffer is proposed.

South: 6-foot high berm. East: 6-foot high berm.

West: Greater than 50-foot vegetated buffer.

The application indicates that the depth to groundwater is 20 feet and that the depth of the proposed excavation is 18 feet. The groundwater depth was determined by a test hole on the property and exposed surface water to the north. The site plan indicates that the processing area is 300 feet from the south and east property lines. It is greater than 300 feet from the west property line. A waiver is being requested from the north property line. The site plan indicates that the proposed processing area is located 200 feet south of Parcel 169-022-08, which is undeveloped. Parcel 169-022-04 is developed and located within 300 feet of the proposed processing area; this parcel is owned by the applicant's daughter. Staff does not recommend approval of the processing distance waiver request.

The site plan indicates that there are several wells located within 300 feet of the parcel boundaries but none within 100 feet of the proposed excavation area. The site plan indicates 100-foot setback from the wetlands area located in the northeast corner of the property and that this setback will provide protection via phytoremediation of any site run-off prior to entering the surface water. The site plan also indicates that the Alaska DEC user's manual, Best Management Practices for Gravel/Rock Aggregate Extraction Projects, Protecting Surface Water and Groundwater Quality in Alaska, will be utilized as a guideline to reduce potential impacts to water quality.

The application states that reclamation will be completed annually before the growing season ends (September) and that seeding will be applied as necessary each season to areas that achieve final grade in order to minimize erosion and dust. The applicant estimates a life span of 15 years for the site with an approximate annual quantity of less than 50,000 cubic yards.

Much of the vegetation was removed from this property 20-30 years ago. The neighboring properties adjacent to the southeast corner of the proposed material site are at a higher elevation than the subject property. The proposed 6-foot high berm alone will do little to minimize the visual impact or noise disturbance to other properties. Staff recommends that a 50-foot vegetated buffer be required adjacent to the section line easement on the east property line with a 6-foot high berm inside the vegetated buffer. Staff also recommends that a 50-foot vegetated buffer be required adjacent to the Echo Drive right-of-way and the north and west property line of the adjacent Lot 1, Block 1, Silver King Estates with a 6-foot high berm inside the vegetated buffer. Staff recommends that a 12-foot high berm be placed along the south property line where a 6-foot high berm is shown on the site plan adjacent to Lots 2 - 6, Block 1, Silver King Estates. The placement of the berm should take place prior to removing the existing vegetation in the western portion of the material site.

With the proposed 6-foot berm, staff was not able to state that the standards in KPB 21.29.040 had been met but with the addition of the 50-foot vegetated buffer in portions of the property staff then was able to draft the findings stating that the standards had been met. This decision concerning buffers is entirely up to the Planning Commission. The code states, "The vegetation and fence shall be of sufficient height and density to provide visual and noise screening of the proposed use as deemed appropriate by the planning commission."

PUBLIC NOTICE: Public notice of the application was mailed on June 22, 2018 to the 200 landowners or leaseholders of the parcels within one-half mile of the subject parcel. Public notice was sent to the postmaster in Anchor Point requesting that it be posted at their Post Office. Public notice of the application was published in the July 5, 2018 & July 12, 2018 issues of the Homer News.

Numerous letters from adjacent property owners and agencies were received.

KPB AGENCY REVIEW: Application information was provided to pertinent KPB staff and other agencies on July 6, 2018.

#### **ATTACHMENTS**

- Conditional Land Use Permit application and associated documents
- Aerial map
- Area land use map
- Ownership map
- Contour map

#### FINDINGS OF FACT

- 1. KPB 21.25 allows for land in the rural district to be used as a sand, gravel or material site once a permit has been obtained from the Kenai Peninsula Borough.
- 2. KPB 21.29 governs material site activity within the rural district of the Kenai Peninsula Borough.
- On June 4, 2018 the applicant, Beachcomber LLC, submitted a conditional land use permit application to the Borough Planning Department for KPB Parcel 169-010-67, which is located within the rural district.
- 4. KPB 21.29 provides that a conditional land use permit is required for material extraction that disturbs more than 2.5 cumulative acres.
- 5. The proposed disturbed area is approximately 27.7 acres.
- 6. A public hearing of the Planning Commission was held on July 16, 2018 and notice of the meeting was published, posted, and mailed in accordance with KPB 21.25.060 and KPB 21.11.
- 7. The site plan indicates that the processing area is 300 feet from the south and east property lines and is greater than 300 feet from the west property line. A waiver was requested from the north property line. The site plan shows the proposed processing area being 200 feet south of Parcel 169-022-08, which is undeveloped. Parcel 169-022-04 is developed and located within 300 feet of the

proposed processing area; this parcel is owned by the applicant's daughter. A 200-foot separation distance to the property boundaries for the processing area is not sufficient to minimize noise disturbance to other properties.

- 8. The proposed extraction meets material site standard 21.29.040(A1); "Protects against the lowering of water sources serving other properties", as evidenced by:
  - A. Permit condition number 6 requires that the permittee not extract material within 100 horizontal feet of any water source existing prior to issuance of this permit.
  - B. The submitted site plan shows several wells located within 300 feet of the parcel boundaries but none within 100 feet of the proposed excavation area.
  - C. Permit condition number 7 requires that the permittee maintain a 2-foot vertical separation from the seasonal high water table.
  - D. The application indicates that the depth to groundwater is greater than 20 feet and that the depth of the proposed excavation is 18 feet.
  - E. Permit condition number 8 requires that the permittee not dewater either by pumping, ditching or any other form of draining.
- 9. The proposed extraction meets material site standard 21.29.040(A2); "Protects against physical damage to other properties". There is no evidence in the record to indicate that physical damage will occur to any other properties as a result of the operations of a material site at this location.
- 10. The proposed extraction meets material site standard 21.29.040(A3); "Minimizes off-site movement of dust", as evidenced by:
  - A. Permit condition number 13 requires that the permittee provide dust suppression on haul roads within the boundaries of the material site by application of water or calcium chloride.
- 11. The proposed extraction meets material site standard 21.29.040(A4); "Minimizes noise disturbance to other properties" as evidenced by:
  - A. Permit condition number 2 requires that the permittee maintain the following buffers that will reduce the noise disturbance to other properties:
    - 50-foot vegetated buffer adjacent to the section line easement on the east property line with a 6-foot high berm inside the vegetated buffer.
    - 50-foot vegetated buffer adjacent to the Echo Drive right-of-way and the north and west property line of the adjacent Lot 1, Block 1, Silver King Estates with a 6-foot high berm inside the vegetated buffer.
    - 12-foot high berm along the south property line where a 6-foot high berm is shown
      on the site plan adjacent to Lots 2 6, Block 1, Silver King Estates. The placement
      of the berm shall take place prior to removing the existing vegetation in the western
      portion of the material site.
    - Greater than 50-foot vegetated buffer west of the material site as shown on the site plan.
    - 50-foot vegetated buffer in the east 400 feet adjacent to the northern boundary of the material site as shown on the site plan.
    - 6-foot high berm along the northern property as shown on the site plan.
  - B. Permit condition number 5 requires that the processing area be located greater than 300 feet from the property boundaries.
- 12. The proposed extraction meets material site standard 21.29.040(A5); "Minimizes visual impacts" as evidenced by permit condition number 2 that requires that the permittee maintain the following buffers that will reduce the visual impacts to other properties:
  - 50-foot vegetated buffer adjacent to the section line easement on the east property line with a 6-foot high berm inside the vegetated buffer.
  - 50-foot vegetated buffer adjacent to the Echo Drive right-of-way and the north and west property line of the adjacent Lot 1, Block 1, Silver King Estates with a 6-foot high berm inside the vegetated buffer.
  - 12-foot high berm along the south property line where a 6-foot high berm is shown
    on the site plan adjacent to Lots 2 6, Block 1, Silver King Estates. The placement
    of the berm shall take place prior to removing the existing vegetation in the western
    portion of the material site.
  - Greater than 50-foot vegetated buffer west of the material site as shown on the site plan.

- 50-foot vegetated buffer in the east 400 feet adjacent to the northern boundary of the material site as shown on the site plan.
- 6-foot high berm along the northern property as shown on the site plan.
- 13. The proposed extraction meets material site standard 21.29.040(A6); "Provides for alternate post-mining land uses" as evidenced by:
  - A. The submitted application contains a reclamation plan as required by KPB 21.29.060.
  - B. The applicant has submitted a reclamation plan that omits KPB 21.29.060(C3), which requires the placement of a minimum of four inches of topsoil with a minimum organic content of 5% and precludes the use of sticks and branches over 3 inches in diameter from being used in the reclamation topsoil. These measures are generally applicable to this type of excavation project. The inclusion of the requirements contained in KPB 21.29.060(C3) is necessary to meet this material site standard.
  - C. Permit condition number 15 requires that the permittee reclaim the site as described in the reclamation plan for this parcel with the addition of the requirements contained in KPB 21.29.060(C3) and as approved by the planning commission.

#### STAFF RECOMMENDATION

In reviewing the application staff has determined that the six standards contained in KPB 21.29.040 will be met and recommends that the Planning Commission deny the processing distance waiver request, approve the conditional land use permit with listed conditions, and adopt the findings of fact subject to the following:

- 1. Filing of the PC Resolution in the appropriate recording district after the deadline to appeal the Planning Commission's approval has expired (15 days from the date of the notice of decision) unless there are no parties with appeal rights.
- 2. The Planning Department is responsible for filing the Planning Commission resolution.
- 3. The applicant will provide the recording fee for the resolution to the Planning Department.
- 4. Driveway permits must be acquired from either the state or borough as appropriate prior to the issuance of the material site permit.

#### REVISED STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS

The staff report in the packet recommends approval of the conditional land use permit, however, because of the amount of written materials staff recommends conducting the public hearing and continuing the hearing to the next meeting of August 13 to allow time to read the written comments that have been received.

#### **PERMIT CONDITIONS**

- 1. The permittee shall cause the boundaries of the subject parcel to be staked at sequentially visible intervals where parcel boundaries are within 300 feet of the excavation perimeter.
- 2. The permittee shall maintain the following buffers around the excavation perimeter or parcel boundaries:
  - 50-foot vegetated buffer adjacent to the section line easement on the east property line with a 6-foot high berm inside the vegetated buffer.
  - 50-foot vegetated buffer adjacent to the Echo Drive right-of-way and the north and west property line of the adjacent Lot 1, Block 1, Silver King Estates with a 6-foot high berm inside the vegetated buffer.
  - 12-foot high berm along the south property line where a 6-foot high berm is shown on the site
    plan adjacent to Lots 2 6, Block 1, Silver King Estates. The placement of the berm shall take
    place prior to removing the existing vegetation in the western portion of the material site.
  - Greater than 50-foot vegetated buffer west of the material site as shown on the site plan.
  - 50-foot vegetated buffer in the east 400 feet adjacent to the northern boundary of the material site as shown on the site plan.
  - 6-foot high berm along the northern property as shown on the site plan.

These buffers shall not overlap an easement.

- 3. The permittee shall maintain a 2:1 slope between the buffer zone and pit floor on all inactive site walls. Material from the area designated for the 2:1 slope may be removed if suitable, stabilizing material is replaced within 30 days from the time of removal.
- 4. The permittee shall not allow buffers to cause surface water diversion which negatively impacts

- adjacent properties or water bodies.
- 5. The permittee shall operate all equipment which conditions or processes material at least 300 feet from the parcel boundaries.
- 6. The permittee shall not extract material within 100 horizontal feet of any water source existing prior to issuance of this permit.
- 7. The permittee shall maintain a 2-foot vertical separation from the seasonal high water table.
- 8. The permittee shall not dewater either by pumping, ditching or any other form of draining.
- 9. The permittee shall maintain an undisturbed buffer, and no earth material extraction activities shall take place within 100 linear feet from a lake, river, stream, or other water body, including riparian wetlands and mapped floodplains.
- 10. The permittee shall ensure that fuel storage containers larger than 50 gallons shall be contained in impermeable berms and basins capable of retaining 110 percent of storage capacity to minimize the potential for uncontained spills or leaks. Fuel storage containers 50 gallons or smaller shall not be placed directly on the ground, but shall be stored on a stable impermeable surface.
- 11. The permittee shall conduct operations in a manner so as not to damage borough roads as required by KPB 14.40.175, and will be subject to the remedies set forth in KPB 14.40 for violation of this condition
- 12. The permittee shall notify the planning department of any further subdivision or return to acreage of this property. Any further subdivision or return to acreage may require the permittee to amend this permit.
- 13. The permittee shall provide dust suppression on haul roads within the boundaries of the material site by application of water or calcium chloride.
- 14. The permittee shall not operate rock crushing equipment between the hours of 10:00 p.m. and 6:00 a.m.
- 15. The permittee shall reclaim the site as described in the reclamation plan for this parcel with the addition of the requirements contained in KPB 21.29.060(C3) and as approved by the planning commission.
- 16. The permittee is responsible for complying with all other federal, state and local laws applicable to the material site operation, and abiding by related permits. These laws and permits include, but are not limited to, the borough's flood plain, coastal zone, and habitat protection regulations, those state laws applicable to material sites individually, reclamation, storm water pollution and other applicable Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) regulations, clean water act and any other U.S. Army Corp of Engineer permits, any EPA air quality regulations, EPA and ADEC water quality regulations, EPA hazardous material regulations, U.S. Dept. of Labor Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA) regulations (including but not limited to noise and safety standards), and Federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearm regulations regarding using and storing explosives.
- 17. The permittee shall post notice of intent on parcel corners or access, whichever is more visible if the permittee does not intend to begin operations for at least 12 months after being granted a conditional land use permit. Sign dimensions shall be no more than 15" by 15" and must contain the following information: the phrase "Permitted Material Site" along with the permittee's business name and a contact phone number.
- 18. The permittee shall operate in accordance with the application and site plan as approved by the planning commission. If the permittee revises or intends to revise operations so that they are no longer consistent with the original application, a permit modification is required in accordance with KPB 21.29.090.
- 19. This conditional land use permit is subject to review by the planning department to ensure compliance with the conditions of the permit. In addition to the penalties provided by KPB 21.50, a permit may be revoked for failure to comply with the terms of the permit or the applicable provisions of KPB Title 21. The borough clerk shall issue notice to the permittee of the revocation hearing at least 20 days but not more than 30 days prior to the hearing.
- 20. Once effective, this conditional land use permit is valid for five years. A written request for permit extension must be made to the planning department at least 30 days prior to permit expiration, in accordance with KPB 21.29.070.

NOTE: Any party of record may file an appeal of a decision of the Planning Commission in accordance with the requirements of the Kenai Peninsula Borough Code of Ordinances, Chapter 21.20.250. A "party of record" is any party or person aggrieved by the decision where the decision KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH PLANNING COMMISSION JULY 16, 2018 MEETING MINUTES

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has or could have an adverse effect on value, use, or enjoyment of real property owned by them who appeared before the planning commission with either oral or written presentation. Petition signers are not considered parties of record unless separate oral or written testimony is provided (KPB Code 21.20.210.A.5b1). An appeal must be filed with the Borough Clerk within 15 days of the notice of decision, using the proper forms, and be accompanied by the \$300 filing and records preparation fee. (KPB Code 21.25.100)

#### **END OF STAFF REPORT**

Chairman Martin opened the meeting for public comment.

#### 1. Rob Corbisier, Attorney

Mr. Corbisier is a resident of Anchor Point and was representing Rob Baker of the R.O. Baker Trust who is an adjacent property owner.

Mr. Corbisier gave the following points:

- There was no way that a conditional use permit in this location could adequately protect the
  environment. Fugitive dust was going to be coming off of the gravel pit into the adjacent
  wetlands, the Anchor River and the estuary.
- There are going to be drainage and dewatering issues although the applicant has stated at this time that he will be staying above the water table. The application states that sometime in the future, he intends of going into the water table. The well location itself is deceptive in that the gradient of where the test hole was dug is at a high point in the area adjacent to the bluff that drops way off. Naturally there will be a lower water table at the spot. This also violates the ADEC Best Practices Manual which suggests having a four-foot separation.
- There will also be noise that will damage wildlife habitat. This proposal violates the Borough's Coastal Zone Management Plan.
- Also, this will not be able to preserve recreational values. There are two State Park campsites
  adjacent to the area. Anglers fishing on the Anchor River and camping on the beach and
  campsites are going to be able to hear the noise. The heavy truck traffic will interfere with
  recreational traffic going to and from the beach and tractor launch site.
- That road is quite narrow which will be ripe for disaster.
- It was going to impact residential values dramatically. There are 13 classified residential
  classified parcels that are adjacent to this proposed site. There are approximately 40 within 1,500
  feet. A 6-foot berm was not going to be sufficient for either visual separation or auditory
  separation especially when there are second story houses.
- This is going to create and attract nuisance. There is the Chapman Elementary School which is not far from this location. Children go down and play near the beach all the time.
- In the Borough's working group on the Material Site regulations there was testimony describing
  that winds in the wintertime turn vacant gravel pits into sand blasting facilities that absolutely
  knock out someone's house next door. In this location, it is adjacent both to Cook Inlet and the
  Anchor River flats. There will undoubtedly going to be high winds.
- It will impact property values. He understood the Borough Assessor does not necessarily drop property values based on the existence of a gravel pit, however studies in the lower 48 show a documented drop of around 33 or higher percent when a gravel pit was developed.
- Although staff has recommended a buffer on the east and north side, there is not a buffer that
  was being recommended on the south side. There will still be residential parcels with nothing
  other than a 6-foot berm.
- Danver St does not comply with the ADEC Best Management Practices for a dedicated access point.
- This material site is not needed. There are approximately 50 parcels in the greater Anchor Point
  area either off the Old Sterling Highway, the Sterling Highway or the North Fork Road that either
  have conditional land use permits or are existing prior use gravel pits.
- The borough should just wait until the new regulations come out. There is no reason for the Planning Commission to improve this application right now. Let the process that has been started by the Assembly finish before the conditional use permit was authorized. If the Planning

Commission felt a need to do something, then the alternative that should be considered would be to only develop the Phase 1 portion of the project and then allow the applicant to come back for the other phases after the new regulations are in place.

His client asked him to make the following additional points at this meeting.

- To his knowledge, the applicant has no experience operating a gravel pit. Beachcomber LLC is a brand new LLC and has no business history.
- There are questions about what the financing was for the extraction, the startup costs, the ability
  for the applicant to post a requisite bond, what was the insurance going to be like, and what was
  the LLC solvency in the event that the LLC was to become insolvent. There is a potential of an
  outside operator to come in and continue to decimate the mouth of the Anchor River.
- Mr. Corbisier was available to answer questions.

Chairman Martin asked if there were questions for Mr. Corbisier. Hearing none the public hearing continued.

# 2. <u>Michael Brantley, 74057 Anchor Point Rd.</u>

Mr. Brantley stated that his property is 300 feet west of Danver Rd which was going to be the access road for this pit. He just retired after 41 years working for the Federal Government of which 31 years of that working history had been working with gravel pits and quarries.

Mr. Brantley has seen and heard a lot of noise. He expressed concern that these gravel pits create carcinogens which is cancer. Imagine someone with their family driving down with their RV or SUV with their windows down and their children breathe in all this air.

Mr. Brantley also expressed the concern of the traffic problem on the beach road. To be exact that road is a disaster and hazard. His opinion is that it's a liability to the Kenai Peninsula Borough that needs to be rectified.

This proposed pit is on the back side of his lot and borders it on the north of the applicant's line. Mr. Brantley stated that he has spent hundreds of thousands of dollars to build his dream, his business which is a fly tying shop and now there was a pit going in next door. He has guests that get up at all hours to fish because they go according to the tide and weather so he felt that if they are going to put a berm up then they should also put up a wall.

Mr. Brantley commented that they will need to have regular ADEC inspections if this was going to happen. He has 12 certificates dealing with hazardous waste working for the Air Force so he has experience in all this.

Mr. Brantley felt that this is not right for the neighborhood. He has spent tens of thousands of dollars to get his ADEC engineer approved water system installed. Four wells have been drilled right next to one that was producing 26 gallons a minute. Mr. Brantley went down a few hundred feet and still couldn't find water. Fortunately for him, the Borough came back and changed the regulations and now his well is classified as private however that well is only 38 feet deep. He stated that ADEC has approved his system.

When Mr. Brantley first bought his property he found out an interesting story about it. His property was previously owned by Albert & Dawn Magee from Oregon. The story was that they had a son that had passed away so he buried his son on the subject property. He has been in contact with the family members to verify this and will inform the Commission with what he finds out.

Chairman Martin asked if there were questions for Mr. Brantley.

Mr. Wall asked if his well was approved as a public water supply system. Mr. Brantley replied yes. Mr. Wall asked when that was approved. Mr. Brantley replied that he received approval a couple of weeks ago.

Mr. Brantley stated that the ancestry of the deceased son that was buried on the property was Cherokee. He hoped the commission would make the right decision on this application. The community can't have this. If this was going to be pushed through then he would like the road to be completely redone from the boat launch all the way to the bridge.

There being no further comments or questions, the public hearing continued.

# 3. Gary Cullip, Seabury Ct.

Mr. Cullip overlooks this whole proposed gravel pit area. The applicant may meet all of the regulations but thought there was circumstantial evidence that was involved that the Commission really needs to take a hard look at. He thought this needed to be tabled to the August 13 meeting.

Mr. Cullip expressed concerns regarding the condition of the road. He knows the Borough does not have the money to rebuild the road. If that has to happen then there needs to be a condition on the permit to make the permittee liable for it. The number one safety issue is that the road is the main access for people to get from the State Parks down to the beach. There are all kinds of foot traffic on a very, very narrow road. There are up to 40 boats traveling that road to get launched every day. It will be a disaster to include the dump truck traffic in that. This is a very different permit that is being talked about since it is in the middle of a residential area. Lots and lots of people will be affected by it.

Mr. Cullip recommended tabling this at this time, get all the information and then make a wise decision at the next meeting.

Chairman Martin asked if there were questions for Mr. Cullip. Hearing none the public hearing continued.

#### 4. William Michael Patrick, 34897 Fisher Ct, Anchor Point

Mr. Patrick ran away from the Lower 48 in 1990 and came up here and taught in rural Alaska for a long time. He came to Anchor Point because it was a beautiful place. Mr. Patrick picked a lot on a hill. When he looks out his front window he can see Mt. Iliamna, when he looks out his side window he can see Mt. Redoubt and then he goes to his neighbor's house and they can see Mt. Augustine.

Over the past six years he has had the pleasure, the ecstatic pleasure of a lifetime, a quality of life to see three sets of twin calves born in his front yard. In the fall, there are Sand Hill Cranes that fly above the amphitheater bowl that is at the mouth of the Anchor River. They land on the hillside and down in the very area where the pit is going to be. Mr. Patrick stated that he can drive down to the beach and see people walking on the beach and enjoying it. There is much beauty there so this is a very unique area. It is not down some dirt road. He stated that this is the farthest westerly point on the America Highway system is right here.

Mr. Patrick stated that he doesn't begrudge anyone making money or doing business. Below are a few questions that he asked as a Science teacher.

- Is the groundwater subject to pollution when people develop gravel pits and let them fill up with water because it was now in contact with the atmosphere?
- What attractive nuisance is there when they allow them to dig that out and put a pond in there?
- Would the gradient in the pond be too steep if a neighbor kid or a moose falls in there so they couldn't' get out of the hole that was covered up with water so that the gravel operator didn't have to reclaim it?
- What types of viruses or bacteria would be there? Would they be helpful or harmful?
- What happens when they are made airborne on dust particles and they blow around.

Mr. Patrick's house sits at a 110-foot elevation which is about 150 yards from the entrance of this pit. The pit was at 44-foot elevation. They would have to put a dome over it to keep him from seeing into it. He also stated that Mt. Iliamna and Mt. Redoubt would disappear which might cause a big stir in the National Geographic Society.

The sea and land breezes cause dust to blow on his property and on the surrounding properties. As someone comes up his private road, he had three more neighbors and these people are closer than 150 yards. There is a rise in elevation of approximately 66 feet.

Mr. Patrick has two wells at his house. When he drilled his first well he ran into an underground stream which was perfect water but it gave out in a couple of years so he had to drill another well which is about 70 feet down. If they go 70 feet down from his house into the aquifer that he is in that puts the ground level estimate to be about 4 feet above the water table. He suggested that the applicant dig more than one hole to determine the validity of the water table in that area. Particularly in that area because it has many underground streams. The gravel filters water and that water runs down toward the Anchor River.

Mr. Patrick stated that he was going to get the noise, dust and visual impacts. He was going to be subjective to safety by pulling out of his road and not getting run over by a dump truck and so are many of other people. He has seen the kids at the elementary school on walking field trips on this road. The bridge that services that Anchor River road is currently condemned.

Chairman Martin asked if there were questions for Mr. Patrick.

Commissioner Bentz asked what the depth of his first well. Mr. Patrick replied that it was 20 feet.

There being no further comments or questions, the public hearing continued.

#### Todd Bareman

Mr. Bareman lives on the Old Sterling Highway in Anchor Point and owns the tractor launch at the beach. He stated that the road needs some addressing. It was in terrible shape, that's not what they were here for but they were here to not make it any worst and cut into the recreational use.

Mr. Bareman stated that if this pit if was permitted then there would be a crusher where five campgrounds, a trailer park and two RV parks that would be able to hear it. He wondered how the recreational people were going to get along with that much less than all the residents that have a problem with it.

Mr. Barman also stated that they are at this meeting because there are not enough regulations. He felt this should be tabled until new regulations are in place. This is not a normal gravel pit and is not in a normal area.

Mr. Barman asked that the commission be a little bit lenient about people testifying since this was very personal because it was their property and their livelihood that are going to be affected.

Chairman Martin asked if there were questions for Mr. Bareman. Hearing none the public hearing continued.

#### 6. Linda Patrick, 34897 Fisher Ct.

Ms. Patrick expressed concern with the noise level that would be created by the gravel pit. There is currently excavating going on at the north corner of the designated area. There is digging already going on and trucks going in and out of there which starts sometimes at 7:00 a.m. and runs all day. They can close their doors and windows but that noise still permeates their house. She questioned where their hearing and safety protection was.

Chairman Martin asked if there were questions for Ms. Patrick. Hearing none the public hearing continued.

#### 7. John Girton, Twin Peaks Loop

Mr. Girton stated that he was about a mile from this proposed gravel site so it wouldn't affect him as much. There are at least two graves in the middle of this site; one is the son of John & Gladys Dandona and the other is a son of the McDonald's.

Mr. Girton moved to Anchor Point 25 years ago for the use of the beach road and launch because he fishes. That road is so bad that someone is going to get killed the way it is now. Three times in the last 25 years, he has had gravel trucks that hit his boat and his tow vehicle. There is not a lot of room to move over to make room for these gravel pit trucks and boats. Also there is no place to go now that the berm was dug out. He stated that there are sometimes up to 125 boats down that road plus there are the campers and motor homes. It is going to be a very serious problem when these trucks start moving as there are a lot of walkers, kids and bicyclers.

Mr. Girton recommended that they put in a restriction that there be no Jake brakes if this gets approved which he hoped would not get approved. Those trucks that go down the hill on the Old Seward Highway use their Jake brakes and it is horrible. There is no enforcement. He had a couple of gravel pit operators tell him that once they get the permit then they can do whatever they want.

Mr. Girton felt that this would be signing a death warrant for Anchor Point if this gets approved. He also felt that if the tractor launch cannot continue to operate because of the road conditions and the lack of boats going down to launch then there will be nothing to do in Anchor Point. It is a very serious thing they were going to do to Anchor Point if they allow this gravel pit to go in. Safety is his whole concern.

Chairman Martin asked if there were questions for Mr. Girton. Hearing none the public hearing continued.

# 8. Hans Bilben, 35039 Danver St.

Mr. Bilben has resided at his home for the last 15 years. He presented a handout that was distributed to the Planning Commissioners.

Mr. Bilben read the following statement which sums up why they and most of the people reside in Anchor Point: "The natural beauty, the authenticity of the people, the adventure and the peaceful life come together to make Alaska a place to realize dreams." The funny thing about that statement is that it was the first paragraph from the Coastal Realty website which is the company that is owned by the same people who want to destroy the lifestyle that they claim to promote. They want to develop a mine in the very heart of Anchor Point.

Mr. Bilben felt there were an unlimited number of well qualified reasons not to have a gravel pit in this location but greed was truly the only driving force for its creation. They realize that the Planning Commission is bound by the borough code of ordinances in their decision making process but unfortunately these codes are severely lacking and vague in some areas. The six standards that the applicant must satisfy are pretty skimpy but that is what the commission has to live by for now. In the case of this application there was no possible way that the applicant can meet those standards due to the topography of the area surrounding this proposed mine. No amount of berming or vegetated buffer will meet the standards pertaining to minimizing noise or visual impact on other properties and other homes as required by the code because of the steep rise in elevation to the north, east and south of the proposed mine. He stated his property is 500 feet south of the proposed area and 75 feet above the existing floor. From their property they have clear view and ear shot of the large percentage of the proposed site.

Mr. Bilben referred to the two photos that were in his handouts which shows what they look at out their window. There are a lot of people that are much more impacted by this pit than they are. Recently he and a friend walked through and talked with neighbors and actually looked at the view from the area. He referred to his handout which had red dots on the parcels in the map. The red dot indicates properties at elevations that cannot be protected from noise or visual impacts by berms or buffers. They counted 22 homes and most of those people will be impacted by visual and noise because no amount of berming could cover that up.

Again, Mr. Bilben referred again to a photo in his handout which shows his friend, Mr. Oliver in the picture. The vegetated buffer is shown in the photo which is the one tree to the left. The road that he is standing on is the access road to the pit which will be to the processing plant. Mr. Oliver walked onto Mr. Trimble's property about 50 feet. He was standing with a 10 foot 2x6 board. The trees

behind him will all be lost because it will be part of the pit. Mr. Bilben noticed that Mr. Oliver's house will be impacted by the visual, noise and dust of the proposed pit.

Mr. Bilben stated that Mr. Trimble handed out a handout with pictures before the meeting which stated that it took only 3 hours to do what he did and that only 5 homes have limited view now. He questioned how many homes do they need to destroy and decimate before they say no to a gravel pit. The truth of the matter is that this doesn't have anything to do with homes but has to do with properties. People who own property there are going to lose value and will be impacted by the visual and noise of the gravel pit. There is no way he can get around it because of the topography of the area.

Mr. Bilben stated that the proposed mine is within the heart of a residential recreational gem which is called Anchor Point. This property could be a very desirable addition to the community if this property is properly developed. It is the function of the elected and appointed officials to represent and hold up these ordinances and not merely to rubber stamp this application. He felt this pit is in the wrong place and has no business getting this far in the process.

Chairman Martin asked if there were questions for Mr. Bilben. Hearing none the public hearing continued.

#### 9. Pete Kinneen, 34969 Danver St.

Mr. Kinneen was at the meeting with a slightly different take. He was an Irishman and was as passionate as anyone else however he was going to put that to the side.

Mr. Kinneen stated that there are reasons that the commission can cite to not approve this application. It does not meet the six standard conditions. There are valid concerns about the safety of the road but that was not within the toolbox that the commission could use to make a decision. He thought that none of the conditions could be met just going on the ordinance and the exact interpretation of the code. If this was not a permit of right, then they must come and ask permission and comply with the conditions. Mr. Kinneen suggested that if this were to pass then there would be no other operation in the Kenai Peninsula Borough because of the uniqueness of the area then they might as well rip up the ordinance and say they can do anything they want. Title 21.29.050A(2)(c) states that "Buffer requirements shall be made in consideration of and in accordance with existing uses of adjacent property at the time of approval of the permit." He stated that shall is a mandatory word and is not permissive. The commission must do that and they must keep this in mind. The road and the kids getting run over is real but it was not what the commission used to make their decision.

Mr. Kinneen stated that the tall bluffs were the uniqueness of this area with an amphitheater that inundates right there on the subject property which was caused by the outflow of the Anchor River. It is a small flat area surrounded by a bathtub type shape. The noise comes in from the water and the noise cannot be minimized. He felt there can be all the buffers but it will not minimize the noise.

Mr. Kinneen handed out photos of the area that was taken from his living room. They are pictures that look out over the top of the trees. Just beyond the house with the blue roof is the material site property. A 6 foot or 12-foot fence and a buffer of 50 feet or 150 feet will not make a difference with visual and sound. He felt this was a unique situation all the way around.

Mr. Kinneen felt that the stated intent was found in Title 21.29.040(A) which states, "intent". He questioned what the intent was and wondered if the intent was just to shovel out to anyone who comes in and asks for a gravel mine anywhere and at any time. That was not what the intent says. The intent says protect. It is the six conditions that gives protection against dust, noise and visual impact. If there ever was a gravel mine application that should be denied this is it because of the uniqueness of this area. He doesn't understand how a permit could be issued for this under these ordinances.

Mr. Kinneen invited Mr. Wall to come to his home to look at the site. There are a lot of people that will be impacted by this. He could see the entire mine from his house and questioned how they could protect them per the ordinance. There are original, vibrant, green mature spruce trees up to Echol Rd

because of the atmospheric conditions. Past that and coming up the hill doesn't because the ecosystem that comes in behind them was the uplands forest that has been decimated by the beetle kill

Mr. Kinneen was available for questions. He felt this permit application could be denied because all they need is one condition not being met. As he challenged and asked Mr. Wall how they follow the intent of the code. They are open to ideas but a 50-foot buffer wasn't going to do anything at all.

Chairman Martin asked if there were questions for Mr. Kinneen. Hearing none the public hearing continued.

#### 10. Rick Oliver, 34880 Danver St

Mr. Oliver stated that his home was above and somewhat directly opposite of the proposed site. The activity allowed by this application will totally decimate the property value of their home as well as the quality of life that they now enjoy. They are definitely not alone in this regard. Obviously, the standard set for the sand, gravel and material site are set to protect against aquifer disturbance, road damage, visual damage to adjacent properties dust, noise and visual impacts. He stated unequivocally that the proposed setbacks, berms, vegetation, buffers, etc. will not and cannot protect their homes from these disturbances.

Mr. Oliver made the following statements:

- Number 1 of said standards addresses the lowering of water sources serving other properties.
   The existence of the substantial lake just below my property indicates that a major mining operation can't help but affect the water source of my property. I'm told there is significant additional information regarding this standard to be presented.
- Number 3 addresses the "minimization of dust to off-site areas". Due to the proposed placement
  of the processing equipment, ANY on shore breeze will bring that dust to my home, directly
  across the street.
- Number 4 addresses the noise disturbance to other properties. According to the radii shown on
  the application, the processing equipment is to be set much less than 300' from my front door.
  How can the noise and vibration from this equipment be, in any way, "minimized" in my home?
  He explained the photo of him holding the 10' tall board which shows the concern he has with
  "minimizing" visual impact from my house with a 6' berm. He was standing 50' inside the newly
  designated property line.
- Number 5 addresses (again) the "minimization" of visual impact.

Mr. Oliver stated that Mrs. Trimble approached a neighbor of his after the informal meeting last Wednesday and stated that she and her husband had walked the property and said that they could only see six houses. This does not include other properties as addressed by the code that could at some point be developed. He questioned how many homes does the project have to decimate in order to convince this body that it should not happen.

For the record, let it be known that he and his family along with the other several hundred other people residing in this area vehemently oppose the granting of this permit.

Chairman Martin asked if there were questions for Mr. Oliver. Hearing none the public hearing continued.

#### Jeanne Bilben

Ms. Bilben is the wife of Hans Bilben who has already testified. She gave a handout that includes information that they discovered. She stated they love this beautiful recreation area. Some of them have bought and built homes there. They own land there just as the permit owner owns land but they are not digging a gravel pit in his front or back yard.

Ms. Bilben stated that they are not against a gravel pit but they do not want them in their neighborhoods. She thought that they would have just as many rights as a gravel pit since they also pay their taxes.

Ms. Bilben commented that this so called gravel pit will be disturbing the peace of their beautiful area. She understood that once this permit was issued then it goes with the land no matter who owns it making it even more valuable to the owner and making their property values go down.

Ms. Bilben stated that this was not only is a recreational area but it was also a historic area. They have been in contact with the State Historic Preservation Office that there is a highly potential historic archeological site at this location. She asked that they stop this permit and keep this area away from mining and gravel. The State Recreational area in Anchor Point is where people come to see the beauty and history of this part of the world.

Ms. Bilben questioned if they really want a gravel pit in this place for them to see. She requested that the commission keep gravel pits away from their neighborhoods, historical lands and recreational areas.

Chairman Martin asked if there were questions for Mr. Bilben. Hearing none the public hearing continued.

#### 12. Jim Reid, 73820 Seaward Ave.

Mr. Reid was a retired paramedic and fire fighter and stated that his issue had to do with the safety factor. He stated that in the wintertime someone is not stopping when the gravel trucks come down off that hill down Danver because of the iced over road. Everybody in the neighborhood has complained about it.

Mr. Reid expressed that his other concern had to do with the kids. There are five parks in the area where gravel trucks have to pass by three of them with every load. They are not talking about a couple hundred trucks a year but about 5,000 trucks. With the amount of aggregate that the applicant wants to take out of there, there would be 10 yards a truck at 5,000 trucks. This is not a little operation. He stated that no matter what happens he would write a letter on this. This is what he did and he does not like picking up kids.

Mr. Reid stated that one day he believed he saw Mr. Trimble's daughter walking with his grandson as he was coming out with his boat to go to Homer. There was another car coming down the road when he was leaving and he had to stop and he saw the woman push her kid off the side of the road because it was too narrow to walk and have cars go by. He felt this was really a serious problem.

Mr. Reid stated that someone has to turn right and go out 7 or 8 miles to the Sterling Highway since the bridge was condemned. That road is like a snake so staff should have included notice to all those people that live down that road who are going to be looking at those 5,000 trucks. He reiterated that the road is dangerous.

#### 13. Susan Reid, 38720 Seaward Ave.

Ms. Reid stated that they stand there in support of all of their friends and neighbors as well as the community to let the commission know that they are really opposed to this proposed gravel site. She stated they object to the applicant for all the reasons everybody stated from the bridge that will not hold the weight, from the property values of the properties. She assumed that if their property values do go down then the borough would be very happy to lower their taxes. In addition, she assumed that if the commission approves the permit then the road will be widen because right now it was not wide enough for all of this traffic. It will probably cost the borough about 1½ million dollars to fix the road.

Mr. Reid interjected that right now the trucks that are empty go across the bridge. They just lowered the weight to 11 tons, which is 22,000 pounds. Right now they are not abiding by the law with an empty truck weighing about 26,000-28,000 pounds.

Ms. Reid stated that the road is a highly, highly congested residential area. She stated that all of the residents want the commission to know that they are not taking this. They do not want the commission to approve and grant the permit for this application.

Ms. Reid understood that the applicant has a right to make money off his land but years ago, they all bought into this beautiful neck of the woods because it was quiet with not a lot of noise. She has been hearing a beeping backup noise and did not care how much white noise alarms are put on the trucks, they are still going to hear it.

Ms. Reid thanked the commissioners for listening to them.

#### 14. Don Horton, 34910 Echo St

Mr. Horton lives directly across the street from the proposed gravel pit. They bought this property 15 years ago for recreational purposes and maybe someday to build a house on when he retires. A month ago he retired and then gets a letter stating that he was going to be looking at a gravel pit. His only view is the field that will be used for the proposed gravel pit. He looks across this field and looks at Mt. Redoubt. If the applicant builds a 6, 8, or 12-foot berm then he will be looking at a berm, a gravel pit and Mt. Redoubt.

Mr. Horton felt that this proposal would virtually ruin the property. He would now never even consider building on it with what was going on now. Mr. Horton could never even give the property away. He has three sons, a daughter and a grandson that hopefully this property could be theirs someday, Mr. Horton would hate to see the commission ruin his little slice of heaven.

# 15. <u>Eileen Sheridan, 34860 Seabury Ct., Anchor Point</u>

Ms. Sheridan is a 50-year resident of Alaska. They have lived in Juneau, Sitka, Palmer and now lives in Anchor Point. She stated they are above this proposed gravel site area.

Ms. Sheridan understood the noise issue because they can feel the wind when it blows up and down that river. She felt there was no way berms or vegetation like that will take away that noise. It was so distracting when they had the oil gas people out there in the bay, running their sonograms all summer long so this gravel pit will be distracting too.

Ms. Sheridan stated that they put their retirement into this home and felt their property value will go down if this gravel pit goes in. Even Mr. Trimble said that a gravel pit would make the property values go down. They had hoped that their kids could enjoy this property later in life also. They have worked hard to do what they are doing so she understood him wanting to do something too but not a gravel pit that they have to live with.

Ms. Sheridan expressed concern regarding the dust that will be created by this gravel pit. She had terrible allergies up in the valley so they moved down here because her allergies were better here living right by the ocean instead of by the hay fields. Ms. Sheridan reiterated her concern regarding the noise and dust. They already get dust from their dirt roads. She stated that the trucks speed down that road so there is no other way that they don't get the dust from the roads. They lived next to a gravel pit when they were building their home and was very glad to get up to their peaceful house to look at Mt. Iliamna and Mt. Redoubt.

Ms. Sheridan realized that if the applicant receives the permit then he has the right to sell and maybe even have a bigger gravel pit in there. She noticed that there was only one test hole shown and was wondering if there was any consideration of the loss of vegetation and the lowering of water sources. It appeared that there were some wetlands in the area after she looked at the maps.

Ms. Sheridan said when they go down Danver to the right just across from this property there are ducks and moose have their babies there. She felt that if there is noise from the gravel pit then those moose mothers will get so disturbed that they could be leaving their babies.

Chairman Martin asked if there were questions for Ms. Sheridan. Hearing none the public hearing continued.

#### 16. Gerald Blair, 73600 Twin Peaks Loop

Mr. Blair stated that most of what he was going to say has already been said by prior speakers probably far more eloquently than what he would have.

Mr. Blair stated that there was one issue that has not been covered which is not just the safety of the road but the cost of the road. What he has been able to determine is that the road started as a cat trail that went from the Sterling Highway out to the beach. It was never engineered or properly built so it has no base. It does not even have enough right-of-way to be any wider than it is in spots and that is barely wide enough. He felt that two trucks could lose their mirrors if they are not careful because there was no way to get off the road particularly with a loaded truck. An estimate to fix that road to where it will handle these dump trucks will cost in excess of \$2 million and bring it up to par. There will also be right-of-way work that will need to be done as well as achieving the necessary right-of-way to make the road wide enough.

Mr. Blair also stated that the trucks that he sees going up the North Fork weigh well in excess of 100,000 pounds. There are tractors pulling two side dump trailers that haul 20 yards of rock a piece which is about 60,000 worth of rock per trailer plus the truck and the trailers. Over the lifespan of this pit if the road isn't totally fixed in the beginning then they could spend \$6 million in maintenance maintaining that road for 15 years if the pit stops at 15 years. He doesn't know if the Kenai Borough has that kind of money laying around that they would want to put into that when all they are going to get is minimal separation fees which won't amount to much money.

Mr. Blair felt lucky enough to be far enough away from the pit that the dust and noise will be minimal. The truck noise will be there but by in large the cost to the Borough to maintain that road or to rebuild that road would not be a business that he would go into because it would cost \$2-\$3 million and would get back almost nothing.

Mr. Blair thought the bridge was going to be built anyway and did not know if the gravel pit will have much to do with that.

# 17. <u>Bob Shavelson, Director of Advocacy for the Cook Inletkeeper</u>

Mr. Shavelson stated he has heard many concerns from the property owners. It brings to mind the whole notion of private property, which is vital to their economic system. One of the central tenants of property rights is that someone can do what they want on their own property but cannot harm folks around them. It includes private and public property, which is the issue he wanted to address at this meeting.

Mr. Shavelson referred to the ground and surface water resources. Finding of Fact 8 states, "The permittee must maintain a 2-foot vertical separation from the seasonal high water table." Again, he was going to come back to the issue that he raised the last time. There was nothing in the application that says that the test hole was drilled and monitored to ascertain the seasonal high water mark so he questioned how the planning commission or the staff could know what that level was. He felt they could not.

Mr. Shavelson felt that the permit could not be approved, if they want to abide by the ordinance. If the permit is approved, then it was just guesswork. They should not be gambling with the resources that they have in the estuary of the Anchor River. He referred to the scientist from the National Estuarine Research Reserve who provided them with the groundwater flow that shows that this parcel, at least partially flows into the Anchor River and that water plays a vital role in the life stage of various salmon. When he first thought about an estuary, he thought salmon goes down, goes through the estuary, and then comes back, and goes through the estuary again but it was a lot more complicated than that. They are just beginning to scratch the surface on this complexity. All the ecology of the salmon systems is kind of like fabric, when the threads are pulled then the fabric will unravel. He stated that they have to be really careful, this is one of the things that really concerns him.

Mr. Shavelson also stated that the ordinance states that it has to comply with other environmental laws and rules. There is something that he calls the myth of rigorous permitting. The myth of rigorous permitting is that there is this whole alphabet soup of Local, State and Federal laws and rules so if all the i's are dotted and all the t's are crossed then there will salmon habitat protection.

He has been doing this for 25 years and he can tell them that this is not the case. There is the 50-foot buffer on the salmon streams in the Kenai Peninsula Borough but he also knows that Mayor Pierce was looking actively to revoke some or all of those protections. There is Title 16 in the State law, which is the Habitat Protection law. It is one law in the State that protects habitat. It was one sentence long and was adopted at Statehood. There is an effort now to revise that in a ballot measure that was causing a lot of controversy but many people feel that there is this whole alphabet soup of laws and rules that don't protect the habitat.

Mr. Shavelson commented that this reminds him of a book entitled, "The King of Fish" by a professor named David Montgomery at the University of Seattle. Mr. Montgomery talks about the demise of salmon from Europe, to New England and to the Pacific Northwest. The thing that is taken from this book was that it was not neglect that led to the loss of salmon runs across the world but knowing the neglect. It was that they knew what they were doing was wrong but did it anyway. That is how he felt about these permits that continue to get rubber-stamped through this process.

Mr. Shavelson thought that many of the commissioners feel like their hands are tied. There is the ordinance that puts them in a strait jacket so they think they cannot do anything. He felt that the commission does have enormous discretion. They have discretion that was given to them by the borough. According to KPB Ordinance 2.40.050, the planning commission has broad discretion to investigate and make recommendations including to the Assembly.

Mr. Shavelson assumed this would be postponed to the August 13 so he encouraged the commission to ask the questions that need to be answered to do this right because the mouth of the Anchor River is a special place. He felt this body needed to represent the public interest. The private interest was always adequately represented and the public interest needs to be represented which he felt was the job of the Planning Commission.

Chairman Martin asked if there were questions for Mr. Shavelson. Hearing none, the public hearing continued.

# 18. Eldon Overson, 73976 Seaward Ave.

Mr. Overson gave a handout to the commissioners showing the view that he has from his property. He read the following statement into the record.

"I would like to thank you guys for hearing my thoughts on the proposed Beachcomber gravel pit that is being submitted by Emmitt and Mary Trimble in our community. I will thank even more after this meeting, if you reject the proposed land use permit that will decimate my neighbors' and my view for the next 15 to 20 years.

I was at work on the slope when I got the email for this planning meeting and I flew today and drove down from Anchorage, just for today. I have to drive up and fly back up to work tomorrow. I say this to show the importance that this proposed gravel means to me and how much I do not wish it to go forward. I feel that this is a very bad proposal and deserves more of his time and effort.

I bought my lot on the corner of Danver and Seaward about eight years ago and it's the spot that I would eventually build my dream home. I started to build a cabin on the lot to use for summertime camping, this winter. That picture is of me standing on my loft from that cabin. The red area that is marked is where the proposed gravel pit will be. I am approximately 65 feet above the gravel pit so I will be looking directly into it. The view of Iliamna, the ocean and the river was the main reason for me purchasing my property.

As the permit states, that the six-foot-high berm in the plan will offer little to no relief from the visual impact of the gravel pit. This is true for my lot, my neighbors' and many others. I don't feel that they have offered mitigating factors to lowering our value of the surrounding properties to increase his. Noise is also another factor that will keep me from using my property in the future

as I intended. The machinery that it will be working in the daytime hours will make me, basically not want to be there. There is no buffer between me and the gravel pit so I will have to hear the constant droning of the processing of the sand and gravel for the next 15 plus years. This was a very tranquil neighborhood and I enjoyed hanging out there in the summer months.

In closing, I find it very disingenuous and unethical that Emmitt & Mary Trimble have profited from selling many of the lots in our neighborhood and now singlehandedly want to undermine the enjoyment, the view and the property values of the same people that they sold the property to. I find it very disrespectful that they did not consider anybody but themselves and do not wish to accurately describe what they want to use the property for. I have heard from many of the neighbors from the meeting that they attended that they said that they only wanted to down 10 feet. The permit states that they want to go down 18 and then apply further in the future for going down even further.

I would like him to address those and also on the permit it says that this land was not intended for future subdivision which he also claims that's why he was only going down 10 feet to later subdivide the property which will also make all the septic's in that area lower to the water table.

The questions I have are:

- How could the Borough simultaneously tax him for my view while also approving a big eyesore right in the middle of it? In Homer, they have started to assess view on top of property.
- Will there be a waiver granted for all of them who are being impacted by this gravel pit and if so what was the loss revenue to the Borough?

I mention the campgrounds but that has already been addressed, better then he would have. Also, there is some incorrect or wrong statements on the permit concerning that there were no wells within 100 feet of the property boundary. I do believe, though that "We Tie Fly" has a well within 100 feet so that is inaccurate on the permit. I don't know how they can claim there was no wells within 100 feet of the property when there is.

Thank you for your time."

Chairman Martin asked if there were questions for Mr. Overson. Hearing none, the public hearing continued.

Chairman Martin called for a recess at 10:07 p.m. Chairman Martin reconvened the meeting at 10:15 p.m.

# 19. Phil Brna, 5601 E. 98th Ave, Anchorage

Mr. Brna spent a good number of his springs, summers and falls in Anchor Point for the last 24 years. He owns a cabin on the Anchor River inside the State Park and has a piece of property that is surrounded by the proposed gravel pit.

Mr. Brna stated that in the last 41 years he spent 21 years with the Alaska Department of Fish & Game as a Habitat Biologist and 14 years with the US Fish & Wildlife Service. He has retired from both so he has lots of experience with large development projects like Pebble Mine, Donlin Mine, and Chitina Mine. Mr. Brna was their fish and wildlife service biologist on all those projects. He stated that the science related to groundwater and the other gravel permit was a total joke. He has worked with some of the best groundwater hydrologists in the country and in Canada. It's pretty stunning that they are making decisions based on groundwater with no groundwater data other than one test hole that was dug who knows where. As former Governor Jay Hammond once said about Pebble Mine, "The only worse place for a mine would be in my backyard." This proposed gravel pit was in his backyard. In fact, it surrounds his one-acre property on three sides. Mr. Brna owned the last lot on Beachcomber. He bought the property to build a small house when he fully retired which he did two years ago. This proposal will pretty much destroy his plans to do that and will destroy his property value.

Mr. Brna thought that in 2018, it was ludicrous to think that someone could develop a gravel pit in the middle of a residential area and in one of the most heavily used recreational areas in Alaska. It was really unthinkable.

Mr. Brna expressed concern about the noise. When the property was being cleared and the other little gravel pit across the street was being built he could hear every truck that was backing up, every truck that was going down the road and the tractors. Someone can hear everything in that valley and it was not going to be any better with a gravel pit.

Mr. Brna also stated that there were archeological sites on his property. There were old cache pits and probably one house pits. He walked the gravel pit property a long time ago and there were a lot of house pits and cache pits on that property as well. There was an old wagon road that goes off the end Beachcomber that was built in the 1920's to get to an old homestead. It goes across his property and through the gravel pit.

Mr. Brna submitted written comments and asked the commission to read them. He hoped the Kenai Borough Planning Commission denies the proposal for this project because it was not good for Anchor Point, not good, for the people who live there and it's not good for the people that come there to recreate. There are people from all over the world that come to this area. He was fishing the Anchor River today and probably spoke to 20 people from all over the world. This is not a good thing.

Chairman Martin asked if there were questions for Mr. Brna. Hearing none, the public hearing continued.

# 21. <u>Lynn Whitmore, 34680 Beachcomber</u>

Mr. Whitmore's lives adjacent to the proposed project, which is literally in his backyard. When the applicant first bought the property, he was told that they were going to subdivide it and put homes on the property. He considered moving since he had a nice piece of the world to himself for a long time with just one neighbor.

Mr. Whitmore stated that when he was told it was going to be a gravel pit then he went to the staff who told him that this pretty much flies through if it meets the six conditions. Everybody he talked to said that the proposal was just going to fly through. It is a frustrating thing to watch all these people speak knowing that it was just going to fly through so he asked why was there a public hearing. He asked what the purpose was and what was being gained out of it, if the applicant meets the conditions. Maybe that would not be the best way to approach this thing to tell everyone that it was going to fly through.

Mr. Whitmore asked the commission that if there was a chance to consider their feelings and what they are going to listen to and what he was going to hear and listen to and they can reduce or stop that that then it would be a great benefit to him.

# 22. <u>James Gorman, 73608 Twin Peaks Loop, Anchor Point</u>

Mr. Gorman stated he looks right down on the beach road. He sees the things these people say every day. Mr. Gorman was a history major in college and read the following letter.

"The Alaska State Historic Preservation Office (AK SHPO) received your request for information regarding known historical sites in the area of a proposed gravel mine. Upon review of the Alaska Heritage Resources Survey (AHAS) database there are two reported cultural resource sites in the area of the proposed mining.

- SEL-00280, prehistoric site, reported to consist of two house pits. Location is represented
  as a large polygon; exact location of features is unknown but current projected
  boundaries are within the proposed mining area.
- SEL-00281, historic graves and possible cache pits, reported to consist of 5 graves that at one time had grave markers, depressions tentatively described as cache pits were

reported north of the graves. Location is represented as a large polygon; exact location of features is unknown but current projected boundaries are within the proposed mining area.

In Alaska there are two historic preservation laws that may apply unless the project is entirely private in nature:

Alaska Historic Preservation Act (AHPA): State law requires all public construction or improvement activities conducted by, or requiring licensing or permitting from, the State of Alaska to comply with the Alaska Historic Preservation Act (AS 41.35.070). This also includes required reporting of historic and archaeological sites on lands covered under contract with or licensed by the State or governmental agency of the State. This would include any material sources used under contract with the State.

National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA): If there is Federal involvement (financial assistance, permit, license or approval) with the project it is the statutory obligation of the lead Federal agency to comply with Section 106 (36 CFR § 800) of the National Historic Preservation Act, which requires the Federal agency to take into account the effects that their undertaking may have on historic properties.

Were either of those laws to apply, our office would be likely to request that an archaeological survey is conducted to verify the site locations and assess the potential effects of the project pursuant to the applicable historic preservation law. Inaddition, there are State laws regarding the discovery and/or intentional disturbance of human remains, this pertains to ALL lands in Alaska, including private. I have attached our handout regarding human remains.

Due to the lack of clear information regarding the site locations our office strongly encourages the use of a qualified cultural resource professional to verify the site."

Mr. Gorman was available to answer questions. He stated that the State Park owns both sides of the beach road and will not permit a widening of the road according to the recently retired chief ranger of the park system.

Chairman Martin asked if there were questions for Mr. Gorman. Hearing none, the public hearing continued.

# 22. Xochitl Lopez-Ayala, 34910 Echo; Corner of Danver & Echo

Ms. Ayala stated that she currently resides in Homer but her family owns the property directly across from the proposed gravel pit. They would be looking up at a berm if they were standing at the edge of their property. She submitted a photo of what their proposed view would look like if this goes through.

Ms. Ayala wanted the commission to see that everyone drove down from Anchor Point, Homer and Anchorage to attend this meeting. She wanted the commission to make that same commitment to them that they are making at this meeting. Since there is a proposal to postpone, Ms. Ayala asked the commission to drive down to Anchor Point and look at this proposed site. That way they would see what the neighborhood is so passionate about.

Ms. Ayala stated that this has been really great for the community since it has brought them all together and she has gotten to know many of the neighbors that she didn't know before. They have all grouped together and found one common thing that they have all loved which is Anchor Point.

Ms. Ayala felt this proposal should be designated as a mine and not a pit. A mine is not good for them and is not good for Anchor Point. She stated there is a lot of passion that is at this meeting and asked that the commissioners recognize that. There are tons of people who want to talk and want the commission to hear their testimony. She asked that they read over the information and understand and do what is right for the public, not necessarily just to a private owner because it is affecting all of them.

Ms. Ayala asked that they realize that it was kind of odd that there are a lot of gravel pits and mine proposals going up now that the new gravel pit ordinance has been pushed back a year. She asked how many more they were going to see which creates a lot of red flags that should be seen to make sure someone isn't trying to skirt around something or get past something. Ms. Ayala asked that they look into why they are trying to do this; are they trying to sell to a corporation up in Anchorage or sell to an out of state investor.

Ms. Ayala asked that they keep what they love which is why they moved here to the Peninsula. She and her husband just relocated here from Juneau and now they are going to get to look at a mine pit and a berm.

Ms. Ayala thanked the commission and for everyone who attended this meeting. She felt this was hard on everyone.

#### 24. Josh Elmaleh, 34885 Seabury Ct.

Mr. Elmaleh stated that he and his wife looked over many properties over the last couple of years. They purchased their place a year ago overlooking several probably half a dozen to a dozen houses that were beautiful houses and beautiful land but they were close to a gravel pit. He expressed opposition to the proposed pit.

Mr. Elmaleh stated that he caught his first king salmon in the Anchor River. He wants that same thing for his four-month old son and for his six-year-old daughter. He wants them to be able to enjoy the things that he got to enjoy. This is a piece of heaven.

Chairman Martin asked if there were questions for Mr. Elmaleh. Hearing none, the public hearing continued.

# 25. Lauren Isenhour, 34737 Beachcomber St.

Ms. Isenhour is the daughter of Emmitt & Mary Trimble. She lives on three acres that borders this subject property so this project is in her backyard. Ms. Isenhour understood and respects everyone's concerns and opinions. Also she understood the scope of what the permit allows, which is a lot and again reiterated that she certainly understood and respects everyone's concerns.

Ms. Isenhour stated that she and her husband live at their location for all the same reasons that everyone else has chosen to live in Anchor Point. They recreate, walk on that road, go to the beach, do all the things everyone else does, and loves it there. She was born and raised in Anchor Point.

Ms. Isenhour's parents have been in Anchor Point for 40 years and have made a living in real estate by developing and improving land. They have a great reputation of improving land, selling it and caring for the land. They are very meticulous in how they care for things and everyone can see that because they look out at this beautiful property. Her parents have bought the property and invested \$60,000 into improving it by clearing all the stumps, burning the burn piles, mowing it and caring for this property because that is how they care for land. They have done it for a long time.

Ms. Isenhour's parents have other subdivisions that they have developed in Anchor Point that are on solid gravel but they chose not to develop that into a gravel pit. They are land developers and not pit developers. As someone mentioned they do not have equipment and don't have a plan for operating procedures as people have been asking for detail information about that. She understood the scope of the permit and the concerns.

Ms. Isenhour stated that there is obviously a benefit to gravel and everyone in that community has benefited by the road development in that subdivision. All the subdivisions back in there all have used the gravel for their driveways and foundations and the majority of it from a previous pit right off of Danver that has been reclaimed, subdivided, sold and now homes are on the property. There is a balance and a need for gravel in Anchor Point. She stated that gravel is a main cornerstone to the infrastructure of Anchor Point and for the families that are employed by road construction, building residential construction and by the equipment that operates in the area. There are a lot of families that not represented here that are employed by it.

Ms. Isenhour reiterated that she understood and respected everyone's concerns and they do represent a portion of Anchor Point but there is another portion of Anchor Point that is fine with pit development. They understand the balance of it and that is why there are the regulations. They do need gravel. She respects her parents' ability to develop land in such a strategic and thoughtful way. There is a way with the regulations that the borough set to excavate some gravel and reclaim it. There are pit developers like Mr. Walt who use the permit as soon as they get it and start immediately to excavate gravel.

Ms. Isenhour's stated that her parents' primary interest in this property is the property. Other land developers' primary interest would be the resource below the property for financial gain. She understood that they are requesting a permit with a large scope and that it could be a gravel pit.

Ms. Isenhour lives right there too and her parents would like to build a house on the property. It is in their best interest as real estate investors who have fought for a long time to help maintain property and home values in Anchor Point. They have roots in the community and have an invested interest in maintaining a quality of life in Anchor Point. Their first home in the 1970's was on Beach Access Rd when it was a dirt trail where they operated a tackle shop. They have had an invested interest in this area for many decades and they have managed to develop land and provide a living for them and their family in this small area. They have done that with great care for property and for land and is something, they have instilled in her and her sister which is care for the land.

Again, Ms. Isenhour reiterated that she understood the concerns in this room about the scope of the permit and what could potentially be there. This is her area too and she has a lot of respect for her parents and how they care for the land. Some previous speakers, Lynn Whitmore who has been a good friend of her parents for a long time and Phil Brna who has the property next door, neither chose to mention that her parents' voluntary built a 14-foot berm along their property at their own cost; to try to protect them when they were not required to do so. Her parents are the type of people to do those things.

Chairman Martin asked if there were questions for Ms. Isenhour.

Commissioner Carluccio asked if she was saying that her parents don't have any plans to develop this right now, that they just want to get this gravel pit on the books. Ms. Isenhour replied that she could speculate at what she thought their plans were. She understood that their primary plan for the property was to own it and what they want above all else is to own the property in its entirety. They have plans to subdivide it but that doesn't mean they are going to enact that plan. Her opinion is that they would like the permit to potentially do a gravel pit.

Commissioner Fikes understood that she was near the location of the mining and asked what kind of impact would there be on her personal well. She also asked how far her well was from this proposed pit. Ms. Isenhour replied that she wasn't sure.

Hearing no further comments or questions, the public hearing continued.

#### 26. Gina DeBardelaben, McLane Consulting, Inc.

Ms. DeBardelaben was a principle engineer for McLane Consulting and was hired by the property owner to survey and prepare the permit application.

Ms. DeBardelaben pointed out that the Anchor River Road is a State owned and maintained road. DOT enforces the required gross vehicle weight measure on the bridge, speed, proper use of lane, shoulders, the health and use of the road. It doesn't apply to the borough CLUP permitting process.

Ms. DeBardelaben stated that there is a well within 100 feet of the property but not within the proposed extraction area. There are fine points about the permit that always needs to be read that sometimes isn't interpreted well in public meetings. She hoped that the commission would read the fine points and read the notes in the permit application.

Ms. DeBardelaben stated that gravel extraction from a material site is usually based on perspective sales as it is with this site. This site is not being permitted for a DOT or a commercial development project. The amount of material to be utilized is just a perspective, which is why the application states less than 50,000 square cubic yards. That number is usually based on the area and DNR permitting changes with greater than and less than 50,000 yards. The reality of 50,000 cubic yards coming out of this material site in a year is not very realistic. A large gravel sale in a rural area like this would be 10,000 yards or maybe 25,000 yards which would equate (it is still a lot) to less than 1,500 trucks, not 5,000 trucks. If they are going to sell a large amount of material, then they are not going to run it in a 10-yard end dump but would be running a side dump or belly dump.

Ms. DeBardelaben stated that there was one test hole dug at the time of application. There have been additional test holes dug since then. She continues to state that a developer or an operator continue test hole for groundwater and for different materials that meet specification as they enter the pit. All roads have a specification that the material has to meet. They are going to move around, dig test holes and constantly test groundwater if it varies. The whole requirement is that they stay 2 feet above it.

Ms. DeBardelaben stated that the owner would be installing monitor wells. She stated that it is a great benefit to the owner and the borough by putting monitor wells on the property. It gives them some comprehensive data on a quarterly or monthly basis of where the groundwater was. They are proposing that they might do that in the future even though this permit is not to enter the groundwater table.

Ms. DeBardelaben also referred to the other concerns of site buffers that were mentioned. She was available to answer questions.

Chairman Martin asked if there were questions for Ms. DeBardelaben. Hearing none the public hearing continued.

#### 27. Emmitt Trimble

Mr. Trimble was the managing member of the Beachcomber, LLC and the principal applicant. He was available to answer questions as he did, voluntarily, in Anchor Point last Wednesday. There were a number of things that could be clarified but most of them were not pertinent to what the commission will be deliberating on so he was not going to try to counter those things.

Chairman Martin asked if there were questions for Mr. Trimble.

Commissioner Ruffner asked what his thoughts were on staff's recommendation for postponement. Mr. Trimble replied that he had no problem with postponement. Commissioner Ruffner stated that there will be the opportunity to ask further questions since staff was recommending postponement and the applicant had no problem with postponement.

Mr. Trimble stated that he gave some photos to staff that showed the berm that he put up. They were able to install an extensive berm in about three hours, mostly as a demonstration as to what could be done blocking those homes. There were about five homes that he could not see from the top level of excavation area with the berm, which could be replicated moving back. Mr. Trimble stated that he was not in the gravel business but it was part of the asset value of this property and it was incumbent upon him to protect his family and their investment to maximize that possible value. What he would like to do with the property was really his own business. He has a subdivision plan but he has no intention for preliminary approval, it is just that he wants to know that he has done his homework ahead of time. They have taken a few loads of gravel out of the pit for the ramp at the boat launch ramp and for the expansion of the parking area. He does intend to pursue this.

Commissioner Carluccio asked if he had intention of developing this property as a gravel pit. Mr. Trimble replied that they have already started developing this as a small gravel pit that was within the one-acre confines. He wants to go through this procedure, submit himself to the process, live up to the permit if and when he gets it so that he would be able to do whatever the permit will allow him to do. His plan was a small KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH PLANNING COMMISSION JULY 16, 2018 MEETING MINUTES

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scale being for local projects. All of those home and people have those properties because Buzz Kyllonen took a small pit, built all those roads and driveways, and provided the gravel for almost all of those people or those properties would not be there now. It was now one of the nicest looking properties in the area.

Commissioner Venuti asked if he heard the concerns from the people regarding the hazards of trucks on the haul road as well as the condition of the bridge that goes over the Anchor River. He presumed that any haul road out of the pit would go over the bridge. Mr. Trimble replied that it is not possible to go over that bridge now. It has been condemned which is why people are having to drive from the North Fork Road all the way to Eight Mile and back down the Old Sterling Highway to bring gravel to the beach. He stated that it was going to be rebuilt within a year or two. Right now, there are gravel trucks going up and down Danver all the time. Mr. Trimble stated that he has no problem with the big boats going up and down that road. He and Mr. Kyllonen got that road paved through a maintenance budget with DOT for \$150,000 because they gave them permission to go through their properties.

Hearing no further comments or questions, the public hearing continued.

#### 28. Don Horton, 34910 Echo

Mr. Horton stated that his father said that the property was directly across the street from the proposed gravel pit. He asked if the permit was attached to the property or attached to the owners of the property if a permit is issued. If the property was sold, does the permit stay with the property.

Chairman Martin replied that the permit is attached to the property.

Mr. Horton stated that the applicant wants to maximize the value of his property while it was at the expense everyone's property around it. He thought that was not right.

#### 29. Richard Carlton, 73500 Seabury Rd.

Mr. Carlton was a retired lineman and fell in love with the Anchor Point River area in 1996 when he started coming up here regularly. He and his wife purchased a piece of ground in 2007. Mr. Carlton stated that this was very emotional thing for him because he fell in love with the place which has a lack of noise. He spent 40 years hearing backup alarms and backhoes.

Mr. Carlton goes to his property and sits on his patio and looks out at Iliamna and drinks his coffee and he is in heaven. It is a wonderful thing. He has wonderful neighbors that care about one another. If they need something, then they help each other. If they are making too much noise, then they say something and they quiet down. It is a great life.

Mr. Carlton doesn't know why it matters who owns the road that goes to the beach. The bridge is condemned. The Old Sterling Highway is a hazard and if they take just a 10 -12-yard dump truck by itself and drive it up and down that road with its Jake brakes, that quiet goes away.

Mr. Carlton stated that there are all these RV Parks. The Buzz Kyllonen RV Park was where they fell in love with the area. They come here year after year and it's right across where one of the entrances is to this Beachcomber road. He would take a rubber boat out and catch a halibut and then drive down to southeast Washington and plan for next year to come back up here. That will all change if a big hole is dug.

Mr. Carlton was kind of like the other people, he doesn't begrudge anyone making a living but this proposal has no place where it's at. People raise concerns about the Pebble Mine but it's a long way away. Maybe it could trash a lot of streams and salmon runs but he doesn't see it so it's not personal to him.

Mr. Carlton stated that if he has to drive to the Post Office and has to come up Danver and hear backup alarms or white noise then he was not going to enjoy the place liked he used to. He thought the commission should be able to have an input on this project regarding the road, safety and all the things expressed even though the borough doesn't have any jurisdiction with the road because it's a State Road. He asked that the commission to the right things.

**MOTION:** Commissioner Ruffner moved, seconded by Commissioner Carluccio to suspend the rules so that public comment can be extended and to be able to finish the business beyond the normal closing time of 11:00 p.m.

**VOTE:** The motion passed by unanimous consent.

BENTZ	CARLUCCIO	ECKLUND	ERNST	FIKES	FOSTER	ISHAM
YES	YES	YES	ABSENT	ABSENT	ABSENT	ABSENT
MARTIN	MORGAN	RUFFNER	VENUTI	WHITNEY		9 YES
YES	YES	YES	YES	YES		3 ABSENT

# 30. Steve Haber

Mr. Haber felt that someone was going to die if this project goes through. He unfortunately had a high school incident with his son's school many years ago. A traffic light couldn't get installed until after three kids were killed. Mr. Haber stated that the commission might be under such tremendous pressure from the way they do this that this will be approved. This won't work with this beach road. Everything that everybody else has said about the views doesn't compare with the bike companies going up and down that road. The boat trailers are going 60 miles per hour who aren't obeying the laws either. He reiterated that somebody was going to die on that road but it could be prevented.

#### 31. David Gregory, 73850 Seaward

Mr. Gregory lives near the proposed gravel excavation site, which is really a mine. He works at a mine and felt there was a place for mines. The mine that he works at is way out in a remote area.

Mr. Gregory expressed concern regarding noise and dust. The noise goes uphill where there are numerous homes. There may be only five homes that could be seen from one particular point but there are dozens up this hill that the noise will carry right up there as well as the dust. The dust can be carried by the wind or if the wind is still, it just hangs in the air.

Seeing and hearing no one else wishing to speak Chairman Martin closed the public comment period and opened discussion among the Commission.

**MOTION:** Commissioner Ruffner moved, seconded by Commissioner Bentz to postpone action and continue the public hearing until the next meeting of August 13, 2018.

Commissioner Ecklund stated that she would like to take action on this agenda item rather than postponing to the next meeting of August 13, 2018. They have heard the public and have read through the material prior to the meeting.

Commissioner Whitney concurred with Commissioner Ecklund.

There being no further comments or questions, Chairman Martin called for a roll call vote.

**VOTE:** The motion failed by majority consent.

BENTZ	CARLUCCIO	ECKLUND	ERNST	FIKES	FOSTER	ISHAM
YES	NO	NO	ABSENT	NO	ABSENT	ABSENT
MARTIN YES	MORGAN NO	RUFFNER YES	VENUTI YES	WHITNEY		4 YES 5 NO 2 ABSENT

**MOTION:** Commissioner Ecklund moved, seconded by Commissioner Carluccio to approve the conditional land use permit application for a material extraction site on a parcel in Anchor Point.

Commissioner Ecklund believed they have sufficient findings to deny granting this permit based on the public testimony, the borough code as it is written now and the facts that were written in the staff report.

Commissioner Ecklund asked if they could even address this because the applicant requested a waiver for the processing portion of the pit and staff recommends denying the waiver request which would not allow them enough area for a processing plant. She asked if that would require a new submission of their application. Mr. Wall replied that the permit would be for the material extraction but to process the material there would be a narrow area within the material site. The material extraction would be approved but they would not be able to process outside of that narrow area which would be quite narrow if it was narrowed down to the 300 foot from the property lines. Commissioner Ecklund thought it would be 50 feet wide which would be a fairly narrow area.

Commissioner Ecklund stated that the motion was to approve the material site and asked if they had to address the waiver request. Mr. Wall understood the motion to approve as recommended in the staff report, which would include the denial of the waiver.

Commissioner Ruffner had hoped this would have been postponed as he had a couple of legal questions that he wanted to ask. He didn't think they had time to go through a memo that he was going to ask for. Commissioner Ruffner summarized where he believed they stood legally with looking at this and why he had to give this talk a number of times in an uncomfortable way. The Borough Assembly has given them the rules by which they are allowed as Planning Commission members to work under so they have put the sideboards up there that says what they can and cannot approve. The six criteria that staff have laid out which shows in their opinion that it meets those conditions. What he wanted to hear from his fellow commissioners is of those six criteria which ones, if they were going to vote against this, were not being met. That way he can understand where they would be deviating from what was presented in the staff report.

Commissioner Ecklund suggested the following findings.

# **Findings**

- Ordinance 21.29.040(A)(4), minimizes the noise disturbance to other properties. From the testimony she heard and the documents that have been submitted she felt the berms or the vegetated buffers will do justice to minimize the noise to other properties.
- 2. Ordinance 21.29.040(A)(5), minimizes visual impacts. She felt that the visual effects will not be reduced sufficiently with buffers and berms as they can't be built high enough.
- 3. The application was submitted without the seasonal high water determination. This was not sufficiently delineated in the application.
- 4. They need to determine if that well was within 100 feet of the material site.

Commissioner Ecklund stated that was her case and the vote would determine if they stated it in and if the motion failed to approve then there was follow up procedures that could be taken by the applicant.

Commissioner Ecklund asked what the appeal process would be for the applicant if this were denied. Mr. Wall replied that there is a 15-day appeal period once the notice of decision is issued. That appeal would go through the Clerk's office to a hearing officer. Anyone who testified or submitted written comments would have the ability to appeal. Commissioner Ecklund asked if the hearing officer would receive a transcript of any comments either those who verbally testified or submitted written comments. Mr. Wall replied yes, a transcript would be provided to the hearing officer.

Commissioner Ruffner explained the legal standing that they have at this meeting. They have the broad authority that has been given to the Planning Commission according to Borough Code. It is 240.050 which authorizes the planning commission to consider all the factors in everything they do and make a good determination. Later on, KPB 21.25 lays out the procedures for when they would authorize a conditional land use permit which has several steps. Now there is KPB 21.29 which is the code specifically relating to gravel pits. His understanding of their interpretations of how they have gotten to this point in the past has been that KPB 21.29 really lays out what can be done with buffers and what limitations they could put on a pit operator. Those are handed down to them from the Assembly. Previously, they have heard that the KPB 21.29 is the code that governs their decisions. Looking further up the code where they have broader latitude has not been afforded to them in the past. That has been his understanding and asked if legal counsel could give any clarification or corrections to that.

Ms. Montague replied that was a good summary. One thing that she would add would be that it was not just a matter of the ordinance that was adopted later in time but also the ordinance that was most specific to what they are reviewing which in this case is KPB 21.29. KPB 21.29 very specifically addresses materials sites so that has more weight than a very general purpose clause. For example, the Planning Commission can review the public health, safety and welfare. She stated that the very specific criteria in KPB 21.29 is how the Assembly has chosen to protect the public health, safety and welfare.

Commissioner Carluccio stated that KPB 21.29 says that 50 feet of vegetation and a ten-foot berm was one of the criteria yet the pit was lower than all the surrounding area so the 50 foot does not do anything. She asked if they have some authority to say that this is the letter of the law but was not the intent of the law because the intent of the law was to protect the surrounding landowners. Ms. Montague replied that the intent of the law was to protect the surrounding landowners in the way that the Assembly has laid out in the Borough Code.

Chairman Martin felt it was the unique topography that gets them in this corner right now. It is hard to foresee all the different ramifications of a crater.

Commissioner Carluccio agreed and stated that she would not be able to support the motion in granting approval of the permit.

Commissioner Bentz observed that the staff report states that the proposed extraction meets the material site standards in KPB 21.29, minimizing noise disturbance from other properties but she does not agree with that. She thought that these conditions would not minimize noise disturbance to other properties and will not minimize visual impacts.

Commissioner Morgan agreed as well and did not see how the 50-foot buffer or berms would minimalize visual impact or sound impact because of the unique topography.

Commissioner Ruffner thought the commissioners did a good job of laying out the record of why and how they were going to vote. This will most likely be appealed if it is not approved. If it is appealed, then he thought the hearing officer will have a good record from the Planning Commission of why they thought it might not meet those criteria of being able to screen the vegetation.

There being no further comments or questions, Chairman Martin called for a roll call vote.

**VOTE:** The motion failed by majority consent.

BENTZ	CARLUCCIO	ECKLUND	ERNST	FIKES	FOSTER	ISHAM
NO	NO	NO	ABSENT	NO	ABSENT	ABSENT
MARTIN YES	MORGAN NO	RUFFNER YES	VENUTI YES	WHITNEY NO		3 YES 6 NO 3 ABSENT

Chairman Martin thanked everyone for the effort and sacrifice it took to come to this hearing. He encouraged them to stay connected as a community.

**AMENDMENT MOTION:** Commissioner Ecklund moved, seconded by Commissioner Carluccio to attach the following findings to the denial of the conditional land use permit for the Anchor Point material extraction site.

### **Findings**

- 1. Borough Code 21.29.040(A)(4), the noise will not be sufficiently reduced with any buffer or berm that could be added.
- Borough Code 21.29.040(A)(5), the visual impact to the neighboring properties will not be reduced sufficiently.

**VOTE:** The motion passed by unanimous consent.

BENTZ	CARLUCCIO	ECKLUND	ERNST	FIKES	FOSTER	ISHAM
YES	YES	YES	ABSENT	YES	ABSENT	ABSENT
MARTIN	MORGAN	RUFFNER	VENUTI	WHITNEY		9 YES
YES	YES	YES	YES	YES		3 ABSENT

AGENDA ITEM G. ANADROMOUS WATERS HABITAT PROTECTION (KPB 21.18) - None

AGENDA ITEM H. VACATIONS NOT REQUIRING A PUBLIC HEARING – None

AGENDAJTEM I. SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS - None

AGENDA ITEM J. SUBDIVISION PLAT PUBLIC HEARINGS

Chairman Carlucoto reported that the Plat Committee reviewed and conditionally approved 5 preliminary plats.

AGENDA ITEM K. \ OTHER/NEW BUSINESS - None

AGENDA ITEM L. ASSEMBLY COMMENTS - None

AGENDA ITEM M. LEGAL REPRESENTATIVE COMMENTS - None

AGENDA ITEM N. DIRECTOR'S COMMENTS

Mr. Best reported that the Assembly did not have a meeting since the last Planning Commission meeting.

Chairman Martin asked if there were questions for Mr. Best. Hearing none, the meeting continued.

AGENDA ITEM O. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

AGENDA ITEM P. PENDING ITEMS FOR FUTURE ACTION

AGENDA ITEM Q. ADJOURNMENT

**MOTION:** Commissioner Carluccio moved to adjourn the meeting at 11:24 p.m. Seeing and hearing no discussion or objection, the motion passed by unanimous consent.

Patti Hartley

Administrative Assistant

# **VERBATIM TRANSCRIPT**

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#### KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH PLANNING COMMISSION

LOCATION

Assembly Chambers
George A. Navarre Administration Building
144 North Binkley Street
Soldotna, Alaska 99669

July 16, 2018 7:30 p.m.

TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS - EXCERPT Pages 1 - 111, inclusive

Commissioners Present:

Syverine Abrahamson-Bentz, Ninilchik/Anchor Point Paulette Bokenko-Carluccio, City of Seldovia Cindy Ecklund, City of Seward Diane Fikes, City of Kenai Blair Martin, Kalifornsky Beach Virginia Morgan, East Peninsula Robert Ruffner, Clam Gulch/Kasilof Franco Venuti, City of Homer Paul Whitney, City of Soldotna

## Staff Present:

Max Best, Planning Director Patti Hartley, Administrative Assistant Scott Huff, Platting Manager Holly Montague, Deputy Borough Attorney Jordan Reif, Platting Technician Bruce Wall, Planner

Others Present:
Xochitl Lopez-Ayala
Todd Bareman
Hans & Jean Bilben
Gerald Blair
Walt Blauvelt, Axtel Enterprises
Michael Brantley
Phil Brna
Tammy Buss
Richard Carlton
Robert Corbisier, Attorney, Reeves Amodio, LLC

Transcribed by: Sheila Garrant, Notary Public

1	Page 2		Page 4
1			r age 4
1	- · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	1	will do little to minimize the visual impact or noise
2	Gina DeBardelaben, McLane Consulting, Inc.	2	disturbance to other properties. Staff recommends that
3	Kate Finn	3	a 50-foot vegetated buffer be required adjacent to the
4	John Girton James Gorman	4	section line easement on the east property line; that
5	David Gregory Steve Haber	5	would be along Danver Road.
6		6	Part of Danver Road is a half dedication.
7	Lauren Isenhour Pete Kinneen	7	Part of it is not well, let me rephrase that. Part
8	Rick Oliver Eldon Overson		of it is Danver Road is platted, and the portion on
9	William Michael & Linda Patrick		his property is a section line easement. And then also
10			the northern part, both sides of the roadway is a
11			section line easement.
12	Josh Updike, Peninsula Paving, LLC	12	
13			proposing that a 50-foot vegetated buffer be required
14		14	
15			line easement, and then a six-foot berm inside of that.
16		16	And then down along Echo Drive and going
17			to the west, the same buffer is being proposed by
			staff: 50-feet of vegetation and then a six-foot berm
18			<u> </u>
19			on the inside of the vegetated buffer. And then
20			wrapping around to the south there, that little leg
21			there adjacent to that parcel, the same buffer.
22		22	
23			a few subdivision lots down on the south side there and
24			there's really no vegetation there at all. There staff
25		25	recommends a 12-foot high berm to provide the visual
	D 0		Davis 5
	Page 3		Page 5
1	PROCEEDINGS	1	impacts there.
2	7:52:35	2	The west side, he's not excavating in the
3	(This portion not requested)	_	
		3	-
4	8:44:01		far west portion of the property, he's going to leave
5	8:44:01	3 4	far west portion of the property, he's going to leave that vegetated. And then the berms as he proposed, a
5	8:44:01  CHAIRMAN MARTIN: We'll move to Item F4,	3 4 5	far west portion of the property, he's going to leave that vegetated. And then the berms as he proposed, a six-foot berm along the other property lines except for
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25

The proposed six-foot high berm alone

25 able to generate a new map for tonight's meeting.

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What I'm getting at there is Beachcomber
Street on the north portion of the property coming off
of Anchor Point Road, where it ends it looks like

4 there's a gap between that parcel -- at the end of

5 Beachcomber Street and the parcel, and that's6 inaccurate.

To get a better representation of that
would be to go to the site plan on page 113 where you
can see that there's not that gap there. Like I say,
we're fixing that.

So now that we are looking at the site
plan, it indicates that the proposed processing area is
located 200 feet from the south of the last lot of
Beachcomber Street, which is currently undeveloped.
The parcel across the street from that one is developed
and it is located within 300 feet of the proposed
processing area.

This parcel is owned by the applicant's
daughter. A waiver is being requested for the 300-foot
processing distance requirement from this property
line. Staff does not recommend approval of the
processing distance waiver request.

We have numerous letters from adjacent property owners and agencies in your desk packet tonight. The staff report in your packet recommends

1 representing Robert Bob Baker on behalf of the R.O

2 Baker Trust. He is an adjacent property owner. I have

3 submitted written comments, I'd like to briefly

4 summarize them orally though.

5 I primarily make five points in the

6 written comments. First of all, there's no way that a

7 conditional use permit in this location could

8 adequately protect the environment. Fugitive dust is

9 going to be coming off of the gravel pit into the

10 adjacent wetlands, the Anchor River, and the estuary.

There is going to be drainage issues.

12 There's going to be dewatering issues. Although the

13 applicant has stated at this time he's planning on

14 staying above the water table, the application does

15 state at some point in the future he intends on going

16 into the water table.

The well location itself is deceptive
when you look at the gradient of where the test hole

19 was dug. It is at a near -- it's at a high point in

20 the area adjacent to a bluff that drops way off, and so

21 naturally you are going to have a lower water table at

22 that spot. It also violates the ADEC best practices

23 manual, which suggests having a four-foot separation.

You are also going to have noise that is going to damage wildlife habitat and it violates the

Page 7

Page 9

1 approval of the conditional land use permit, however

2 because of the amount of written materials that you

3 have received tonight, I'm recommending that you

4 conduct the public hearing tonight and then continue

5 the hearing to your August 13th meeting to allow

 $\ensuremath{\mathbf{6}}$  yourselves time to read the written comments that you

7 have received.

8

That is the end of my report.

9 **CHAIRMAN MARTIN:** Thank you. Anyone here 10 wishing to testify? Please state your name and address 11 at the microphone.

12 **ROBERT CORBISIER:** This is the right 13 gravel permit?

14 CHAIRMAN MARTIN: Yes, sir.

15 **ROBERT CORBISIER:** Mr. Chairman, I do 16 apologize. I was working on my notes, and all of a 17 sudden I heard "materials site extraction," and I 18 wanted to jump. I was like, "Why isn't anybody else 19 saying anything?"

My name is Rob Corbisier. I do have prepared statements. I would ask for ten minutes, I think I can still get through it in five.

23 CHAIRMAN MARTIN: Go for it.

24 ROBERT CORBISIER: I am a resident of 25 Anchor Point, however, I'm an attorney here 1

1 borough's Costal Zone Management Plan.

2 Second, it's not going to be able to

3 preserve recreational values. There are two state park

4 campsites adjacent to the area. Anglers fishing on the

5 Anchor River and camping on the beach and in the

6 campsites are going to be able to hear the noise, and

7 the heavy truck traffic is going to interfere with

8 recreational traffic going to and from the beach and

9 the tractor launch site. That road is quite narrow,

10 that is going to be ripe for disaster.

It is going to impact residential values
transfer dramatically. There are 13 classified -- residential
classified parcels that are adjacent to right next to
tit. There are -- I counted approximately 40 within
15 1,500 feet.

A six-foot berm is not going to be sufficient for either visual separation or auditory separation especially when you consider second-story houses.

This is going to create an attractive nuisance. You have Chapman Elementary School that is

22 not far from that. Children go down and play near the

23 beach and in that area all the time.

In the borough's working group on the material site regulations there was testimony

level HUD wind zone.

gravel pit is developed.

4

7

8

13

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22

1 describing how winds in the wintertime turn otherwise

In this location, it is adjacent both to

It is going to impact property values. I

9 understand the borough assessor does not necessarily

12 documented drop of around 33 or higher percent when a

Although staff has recommended a buffer

10 drop property values just based on the existence of a

11 gravel pit; however, studies in the Lower 48 show a

15 on the east side and the north side, there is not a

16 buffer that is being recommended even on the south

parcels with nothing other than a six-foot berm.

practices for a dedicated access point.

side. And so you are still going to have residential

Lastly, for residential values, Danver

20 Street does not comply with the ADEC best management

Third, this is not needed. There are

23 approximately 50 parcels in the greater Anchor Point

24 area either off the Old Sterling Highway, the Sterling

25 Highway, or the North Fork Road that either have

3 absolutely knock out somebody's house next door.

5 Cook Inlet and the Anchor River flats there, there is

6 undoubtedly going to be high winds. It is the highest

Page 10

- 1 insolvent, there is a potential for an outside operator
- 2 vacant gravel pits into sandblasting facilities that2 that could come in and continue to decimate the mouth
  - 3 of the Anchor River and its recreational values in the
  - 4 event that there's a sale.
  - 5 Thank you very much. I will otherwise
  - 6 defer to my comments. Are there any questions?
  - 7 CHAIRMAN MARTIN: Any questions?
  - 8 ROBERT CORBISIER: Thank you.
  - 9 CHAIRMAN MARTIN: None at this time.
  - 10 Thank you. Next testifier, please.
  - 11 MICHAEL BRANTLEY: Good day, ladies and
  - 12 gentlemen of the assembly. You are here today to
  - 13 represent --
  - 14 CHAIRMAN MARTIN: Name and address for
  - 15 the --
  - 16 MICHAEL BRANTLEY: Pardon me?
  - 17 CHAIRMAN MARTIN: Name and address for
  - 18 the record.
  - 19 MICHAEL BRANTLEY: Yes, ma'am -- yes,
  - 20 sir.
  - 21 My name is Michael Brantley. My address
  - 22 is 74057 Anchor Point Road, 300 miles west -- I mean,
  - 23 300 feet west of Danver Road, which is going to be the
  - 24 access road for this pit.
  - 25 I just retired after 41 years and three

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- conditional use permits as gravel pits or are existingprior uses.
- 3 So lastly, the borough should simply just
- 4 wait for the regs to come out. There's no reason for
- 5 the Planning Commission to approve this application
- 6 right now. Let the process that has been started by
- 7 the assembly finish before the conditional use permit
- 8 is authorized.
- 9 If the Planning Commission feels a need
- 10 to do something, an alternative that should be
- 11 considered would be only developing the Phase 1 portion
- 12 of the project allowing then the applicant to come back
- 13 for later phases after the regulations are in place.
- Now lastly, my client asked me to make
- 15 several additional points here at this meeting. To his
- 16 knowledge, the applicant has no experience operating a
- 17 gravel pit. I mean, simply from an LLC standpoint,
- 18 Beachcomber, LLC is a brand new LLC, it has no business
- 19 history.

25

- 20 He has questions about what -- what is
- 21 the financing for the extraction? The start-up costs?
- 22 The ability for the applicant to post a requisite bond?
- 23 What is the insurance going to be like? What is the
- 24 LLC's solvency?
  - In the event that the LLC is to become

- 1 months working for the federal government. 31 years of
- 2 that working history I worked gravel pits and quarries.
- 3 I've seen a lot of noise, or heard a lot of noise too
- 4 actually, and these things create carcinogens, and
- 5 carcinogens is cancerous.
- 6 Imagine somebody with their family
- 7 driving down with their RV or SUV, windows down, and
- 8 their children breathing in all this air every day that
- 9 this is going on. Just imagine that.
- 10 We have a traffic problem as it is on the
- 11 beach road. And to be exact, that road is a disaster,
- 12 it is a hazard, it is a liability to the Kenai
- 13 Peninsula Borough as of this day, that is my opinion.
- 14 This needs to be rectified.
- This pit is on the backside of my lot, it
- 16 borders it. I am north of his line there. I spent
- 17 hundreds of thousands of dollars the past couple of
- 18 years to build my dream, my business down there, a
- 19 fly-tying shop. And now I will have a pit going in20 next door.
- 21 I've got guests that gets up at all types
- 22 of hours to fish, you all know that, they go according
- 23 to the tide and the weather. So if they are going to
- 24 put a berm up there, they better also put up a wall.
  - They also need to have DEC inspections if

3

1 this is going to happen, and I mean on a regular basis.

- 2 I had 12 certificates dealing with hazardous waste
- 3 working for the Air Force, so I have experience in all
- 4 of this, and I'm telling you that it's not right for
- 5 the neighborhood.
- 6 I've spent tens of thousands of dollars
- 7 to get my DEC engineer-approved water system put in.
- 8 That was quite the experience. I drilled four wells
- 9 right next to one that was producing 26 gallons a
- 10 minute. I went down a few hundred feet and still
- 11 couldn't find water. Fortunately for me the borough
- 12 came back and changed the regulations and now my well
- 13 is classified as private, so therefore I can use it.
- 14 However, the well is only down 38 feet. And I'll let
- 15 you know again, Kenai Peninsula Borough/DEC has
- 16 approved this.
- 17 There is something that came to my
- 18 attention some time ago when I first bought this
- property. The property was previously owned by Albert
- 20 Don Magee from Oregon. Now some time ago I heard a
- 21 story, so I did some inquiring. The story I understand
- 22 was that he had a son that had passed away and he
- 23 decided to bury his son on this property that we are
- 24 talking about today. I have been in contact with the
- 25 family members down there trying to get verification of

- 1 that property. It so happens to be his ancestry is
- 2 Cherokee.
- I shall leave you with that, and you all 4 have a good evening. I hope you make the right
- decision on this. The community can't have this.
- 6 If you are going to put this in and you
- push it through, there's three things that I want. I
- want that road to be completely redone from the boat
- 9 launch all the way to the bridge.
- The borough came down the other day and 10
- 11 did some shoulder work. There is no shoulder on one
- 12 side of that road half the way down. If you fall -- if
- 13 you go over that line, white line, you are down four
- 14 feet, your car is ruined, and you guys will get a bill.
- 15 I've seen a lot of foot traffic. I got
- 16 photos. I have a photo of a woman pushing three babies
- 17 in a cart down that road. I have one of two babies. I
- 18 have a group of six people. Unfortunately, rushing
- 19 here from my place, I left all that information there,
- 20 but I'll gladly dig it up and send it to any one of you
- 21 that want to look at that.
- 22 CHAIRMAN MARTIN: Thank you.
  - GARY CULLIP: My name is Gary Cullip and
- 24 I'm a resident there. I'm up on the end of Seabury
- 25 Court, and I overlook this whole area for the gravel

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Page 16

- 1 this as we speak, and as I get this information I will pass it on to the appropriate people.
- 3 And this is all I have to say. Let me
- 4 check my notes.
- 5 CHAIRMAN MARTIN: Do you have any
- 6 questions?
- 7 MR. WALL: Mr. Chairman, if I could.
- **CHAIRMAN MARTIN:** Yes. 8
- 9 MR. WALL: You mentioned that you have
- well. Did you indicate that's approved as a public
- 11 water supply system?
- MICHAEL BRANTLEY: Yes, sir. 12
- 13 MR. WALL: And when was that approved?
- MICHAEL BRANTLEY: Here I got -- finally 14
- got the approval last -- a couple weeks ago.
- MR. WALL: Okay. Because I was going to 16
- say that doesn't -- in our comment letter from DEC they 17
- didn't mention that. 18
- 19 MICHAEL BRANTLEY: Sure.
- 20 MR. WALL: So I'll do some follow up with
- 21 them. Thank you.
- 22 MICHAEL BRANTLEY: Sure, sure, that's
- 23 fine. I appreciate that.
- Something else I want to talk about this 24
- 25 possible deceased son that possibly could be buried on

1 permit.

- My biggest concerns I have -- he might
- 3 meet all of the regulations, but I think there's
- 4 circumstantial evidence that's involved here that you
- 5 really need to take a hard look. I think you really
- 6 need to table this, take it up on your August 13th
- 7 meeting.
- My biggest concerns I have is the 8
- 9 condition of the road, number one. I know the borough
- does not have the money to go rebuild that road. So if
- 11 that has to happen, you need to put a condition to the
- 12 permit to make the permittee liable for it.
- 13 And I don't know how in the world anybody
- 14 could really address the safety issues. Number one
- 15 safety as I see, is that road is the main access for
- 16 people to get from the state parks down to the beach.
- 17 So you have all kinds of foot traffic on a very, very
- 18 narrow road as is. You have up to 40 boats traveling
- 19 that road to get launched every day, and you are going
- 20 to put these dump trucks and stuff in there, it's going
- 21 to be a disaster. It really, really -- you people need
- 22 to take a hard look at it.
- 23 And like I said, it's a very different
- 24 permit that we are talking about here. This is in the
- 25 middle of a residential area, lots and lots of people

1 to be affected by this.

Now if you at all can find yourselves to 2 3 go ahead and table this, take all the rest of the 4 information that you are going to receive from all 5 these people that are here and then make a wise decision. Thank you.

7 CHAIRMAN MARTIN: Thank you. Any questions? None at this time. Next testifier, please. 8 Name and address for the record.

**WILLIAM PATRICK:** William Michael Patrick 10 11 at 34897 Fisher Court in Anchor Point.

12 I'm a coward. I ran away from the Lower 13 48 in 1990 and came up here and taught in rural Alaska 14 for a long time. I came to Anchor Point because it's a 15 beautiful place. I picked a lot on a hill. I look out my front window and I can see Mt. Iliamna. I look out 17 the side window, I see Mt. Redoubt. I go over to my neighbor's house across the street and we can even see Mt. Augustine. 19

20 Over the past six years I've had the 21 pleasure, the ecstatic pleasure of a lifetime -- talk 22 about quality of life -- to see three sets of twin calves born in my front yard. I actually got to see 24 them coming out, and I got to enjoy them running around 25 on the front lawn.

1 groundwater to pollution? Because it's in contact with

2 the atmosphere now. 3 When you allow them to dig that out and

4 put a pond in there, what about attractive nuisance?

5 Let's say a neighborhood kid falls in there. Is the

6 gradient on the pond steep enough to where he can't get

7 out? Or you've got moose walking around, they'll -- if

8 you've ever watched a moose, he'll walk right into

9 something like that. Would he end up drowning because

10 he can't get out of the hole in the ground that's

11 covered up with water so that the gravel guy didn't

12 have to reclaim it? I don't know.

Flora and fauna, very unique. You've got 13 14 a collision between freshwater systems and saltwater 15 systems. What is on the ground there? What type of 16 viruses? What types of bacteria? Are they helpful? 17 Harmful? And what happens when you make them airborne on dust particles and they blow around? I personally 19 am allergic to dust.

20 But my house sits at 110 feet elevation 21 about 150 yards from the entrance to this pit. The pit 22 is at 44 feet elevation. You can't -- you'd have to 23 put a dome over there to keep me from seeing into it. 24 But then you would also make Mt. Iliamna and Mt. 25 Redoubt disappear and that might cause a big stir in

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1 the National Geographic Society.

In the fall, sandhill cranes fly about 2 that amphitheater bowl that we have there at the mouth 3 of the Anchor River, and they are just squawking, and

4 the way sounds carry there it sounds like they are in

5 your living room. They will land on the hillside and

6 down in the very area where this pit is going to be and

they walk around. They are a majestic bird to see. 7 I can drive down by the beach and I can 8

9 see people walking on the beach, enjoying it. There is 10 much beauty there. This is a very unique area. It's

11 not down some dirt road. The farthest westerly point

12 on the American highway system is right down there, and

13 I can just see the tourist now, "Hey, I drove out as

14 far west as I can in the United States and there's a

gravel pit there." You know, "Go West, young man, go West." I guess you have to go farther west to get away

17 from the gravel pits.

I don't begrudge anybody making money, I 18 19 don't. As a school teacher, I wish I could have found a way to make a little more money, but I don't begrudge 21 business, any of that, but I do have some questions as 22 a science teacher.

You guys are talking about water tables. 23

24 When these people make gravel pits and they let them

25 fill up with that water, does that subject your

But sea breezes, land breezes. We always 3 get a sea breeze. Sometimes it's hurricane force. But 4 when that sea breeze comes in every evening, guess 5 what, it blows the dust right on my house, but not just 6 mine, I've got a neighbor just to the right of me, I've got a neighbor behind me. Mr. Cullip there lives just within 100 yards of me.

9 As you come up my private road, Deesa 10 (ph) Road -- it's not really a road, it's kind of a 11 path, but I have one, two, three more neighbors there. 12 And on the left-hand side I have another neighbor 13 there.

These people are even closer than 150 14 15 yards. But picture that, over 150 yards you have a 16 rise in elevation of, like, 66 feet.

Now I have two wells at my house. The 17 18 reason I have two wells is I drilled the first one and 19 I ran into an underground stream, an underground 20 stream. Perfect water, okay.

21 But through happenstance it gave out in 22 just a couple of years, so I had to drill another well. 23 Now that's 70 feet down. Now if you go 70 feet down

24 from my house into the aquifer that I'm in --

**CHAIRMAN MARTIN:** Could you wrap up?

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1 That's five minutes.

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3 just --

WILLIAM PATRICK: All right. Could I

WILLIAM PATRICK: -- you carry that over,

But I would suggest that you would have

**CHAIRMAN MARTIN:** Yes.

6 that puts the ground level estimate down there at four feet above the water table. That's just an estimate.

9 to drill more than one hole to determine the validity

12 filters water. That water is running down towards the

16 noise, I'm going to get the dust, I'm going to have the

visual impact. I'm going to be subjected to safety

dump truck and so are many, many other people.

21 school down there on walking field trips. And the

bridge that services that Anchor River Road is

WILLIAM PATRICK: Thanks.

condemned, it's condemned.

pulling out of my road and not getting run over by a

I've seen the kids at the elementary

**CHAIRMAN MARTIN:** Thank you.

11 area because it has many underground streams. Gravel

So, you know, scientifically if you look

10 of the water table in that area, particularly in that

ocean and towards the Anchor River.

15 at these things it's fine, but I'm going to get the

Page 22

1 a normal gravel pit and it's not in a normal area as

2 you can see by this testimony.

And I would ask that you be a little bit 3

4 lenient about people here testifying. This is very

personal, because this is their property and their

livelihoods that are going to be affected here.

7 That's all I have.

8 CHAIRMAN MARTIN: Thank you. Any

9 questions? No questions at this time. Next testifier,

11 UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Come on, stand right

12 behind me. Come on, stand here.

LINDA PATRICK: My name is Linda M. 13

14 Patrick, I live at 34897 Fisher Court. That was my

15 husband that spoke earlier.

And I too want to mention all of the 16

17 points that he mentioned, however, I'm going to stick

to just one, and that's the noise level.

19 Now there is excavating going on

20 presently at that north corner of the designated area,

21 already been dug out, consistently digging and hauling

22 gravel and trucks in and out of there right now. That

23 can sometimes start by 7:30, 7:00 in the morning -- the

24 other day it was 7:00, and it runs all day. We can

25 hear it. We can close our doors and our windows; that

Page 23

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CHAIRMAN MARTIN: Questions? Ms. Bentz? 2 We have a question, sir.

**COMMISSIONER BENTZ:** What was the depth 3 of your first well?

WILLIAM PATRICK: 20 feet. 5 6 **COMMISSIONER BENTZ:** Thanks.

CHAIRMAN MARTIN: Thank you. **TODD BAREMAN:** My name is Todd Bareman,

9 and I live on the Old Sterling in Anchor Point, and I own the tractor launch down there at the beach. 10

11 I would like to say that that road does

12 need some addressing. It's in terrible shape. That's

13 not what we are here for, but we are here to not make

14 it any worse and cut into the recreational use that's

going on down there.

This pit, if it's permitted, there will 16 be a crusher that five campgrounds are able to hear, a 17 trailer park and two RV parks. 18

How are recreational people going to get 19 along with that, much less all the residents here that 21 do have a problem with it.

22 I'd like to say we are here because

23 there's not enough regulations and that's why you are

24 changing this permit process. And I think it should be

25 tabled until you get some new regulations. This is not

1 noise still permeates our house. Where is our

2 protection? Where is our safety, our visual, our

3 hearing? I just want to know, where is our protection?

CHAIRMAN MARTIN: Any questions? None.

5 JOHN GIRTON: Hello, my name is John

Girton, and I live on Twin Peaks Loop. I'm about a

mile from this construction site, so it's really not

going to affect me much as far as what most of the

9 people here are concerned about.

10 Before I get into my concern, there is at 11 least two graves in the middle of this site. One is

12 the son of Joe and Gladys Dandona, their son is buried

13 there. And I think there's another one. I think the

14 McDonalds' have a son buried there also. I can't take

15 you right to where it is, but it's definitely right in

16 the middle of this plot.

17 I'm moved to Anchor Point 25 years ago,

18 and for one reason, the use of the beach road and the

19 beach launch because I fish. And that road is so bad

20 that somebody is going to get killed on it the way it **21** is now.

22 Three times in the last 25 years I have

23 had gravel trucks coming down Danver from a project up

24 there that hit my boat and my tow vehicle. Once it

25 took my left-hand mirror off and twice it hit the back

6 berm, there's no place to go.

a very, very serious problem.

people walking along the road.

25 going to get killed.

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1 of my trailer. There's not enough room to move over to

And believe me, the gravel drivers are

And my boat is wide, my boat is 11-foot

2 make room for these boats and the gravel pit trucks.

5 push us off. Now that they put in -- they dug out the

8 wide. And somebody said 40 boats a day. There are

11 and the motorhomes that, you know, they need room. And

There's a lot of walkers, a lot of kids,

I don't know if you've ever been down

16 drive onto the beach or back, you always have to move

9 days when there are 100, 125 boats down that road.

10 There's a lot of traffic. Plus you have the campers

12 these trucks, when they start rolling, it's going to be

15 a lot of bicyclers, and it's -- right now when you

17 over to the side of the road to make room for the

20 there. I mean, maybe you guys all live up here and

21 don't know this road and don't know the problems, but

22 you should get down and take a look at it before you

23 make a decision, because it's a very serious problem.

24 The road is in very, very bad shape and somebody is

4 not going to get out of way of the boats, they just

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1 there's nothing else in Anchor Point to do. That is,

2 like, 95 percent of our commerce in Anchor Point. It's

3 a very serious thing you are going to do to Anchor

4 Point if you allow this gravel pit to go in.

Todd was going to expound it a lot more

6 on what it would do to his business, but I guess he's

just more of a gentleman than I am. But I'll tell you,

8 it will be devastating if -- to that whole community if

9 we lose that beach launch. That is the only thing

10 anybody -- that's the only thing Anchor Point has. We

11 don't even have a restaurant anymore. We have a beach

12 launch, and you take that away from us, you are going

13 to hurt a lot of people.

CHAIRMAN MARTIN: Thank you. 14

15 JOHN GIRTON: I guess that's all.

CHAIRMAN MARTIN: Any questions? No 16 17 questions at this time. Thank you for your testimony.

JOHN GIRTON: Safety is my whole thing. 18

19 I don't know anything about that pit. I'm not going to

20 live by it and I'm not going to smell it, I'm not going

to get the dust from it, it's the safety of that road.

Thank you. 22

23 CHAIRMAN MARTIN: Thank you.

HANS BILBEN: We have some handouts to 24

25 hand out to -- for the Commission.

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Page 29

If you do approve it, which God, I hope 2 you don't, you put in one of these restrictions. One 3 of the restrictions should be no Jake brakes, because 4 those trucks go down that hill on the Old Seward 5 Highway down the left hand appearing to the beach, and 6 they run those Jake brakes, and it is horrible where I 7 live.

I only live 150, 200 feet off the Old 8 9 Sterling Highway, but it's a big problem when they do 10 that. And they all do it, and there's no -- there's no enforcement. I mean, you guys can tell them not to do 12 it, but nobody is going to enforce it.

Just like -- I've had a couple of gravel 13 14 pit operators tell me -- they just laughed. They said, "Well, once we get the permit we do anything we want. We come to this, we get our permit, and they tell us 17 what we can do and what we can't do, but we do it anyway once we have it." 18

And that really concerns mem especially 19 20 with some of the people involved in this project. So I really hope you do not approve this. 21

22 It's like -- it's just like signing a death warrant to 23 Anchor Point if you do, because if that tractor and

24 launch cannot continue to operate because of the road

25 conditions and the lack of boats going down to launch,

CHAIRMAN MARTIN: Patty will take care of 1 2 it for you.

3 HANS BILBEN: My name is Hans Bilben. I

4 live at 35039 Danver Street where we built our home.

5 and we've resided there for the past 15 years.

6 I'm going to read a little statement here 7 that kind of sums up why Jeanne and I, as well as most

people in Anchor Point, live where we do. 8

9 The statement says, "The natural beauty,

10 the authenticity of the people, the adventure and the

peaceful life come together to make Alaska a place to

12 realize dreams.emm

Funny thing about that statement, it's 13 14 the first paragraph from the Coastal Realty website.

15 That's the company that's owned by the same people who

want to destroy the lifestyle that they claim to

17 promote in their website. They want to develop a mine

18 in the very heart of Anchor Point.

There's an unlimited number of 19

20 well-qualified reasons not to have a gravel pit in this

21 location, while greed is truly the only driving force

22 for its creation. We realize that the Planning

23 Commission is bound by the Borough Code of

24 Ordinances -- pardon me -- okay.

We realize that the Planning Commission

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1 is bound by the Borough Code of Ordinances in their

- 2 decision making process, and unfortunately these codes
- 3 are severely lacking and vague in some areas. The six
- 4 standards that the applicant must satisfy are pretty
- 5 skimpy, but that's what you guys have to live by for
- 6 now.
- 7 In the case of this application, there's
- 8 no possible way that the applicant can meet those
- 9 standards due to the topography of the area surrounding
- 10 this proposed mine. No amount of berming or vegetated
- 11 buffer will meet the standards pertaining to minimizing
- 12 noise or visual impact on other properties and not
- 13 other homes, as Emmitt would like to say, as required
- 14 by the code because of the steep rise in elevation to
- 15 the north, the east, and the south of the proposed
- 16 mine.
- 17 Our property is 500 feet south of the
- proposed area and 75 feet above the existing floor. 18
- 19 From our property we have clear view and earshot of a
- 20 large percentage of the proposed site. If you look at
- 21 page 2 and 3 on that handout, it shows some not so good
- 22 pictures of what we look at out of our window. But you
- 23 can see where the proposed area would be down below us.
- 24 There is a lot of people that are much more impacted
- 25 than we are.

- 1 edge of Danver Street in the picture, okay. The road
- 2 he's standing on or the cleared area that he's standing
- 3 on is the access road to the pit, which would be to the
- 4 processing plant, which would be right in front of his
- 5 house.
- 6 Rick walked in 50 feet on Emmitt's
- property, and he trespassed probably. He is standing
- 8 there, he's almost six feet tall he claims, and he's
- 9 got a ten-foot two-by-six or something in his hand.
- 10 The trees behind him will all be lost to excavation,
- 11 they will be part of the pit. So what do you think
- 12 about the visual impact, the noise impact, and the dust
- 13 impact on Rick Oliver's house? Okay.
- 14 One thing -- we just got here a few
- 15 minutes ago, Emmitt handed out a little handout and he
- 16 says, "In only three hours we did this. Only five
- 17 homes have been -- they have a limited view now." How
- 18 many homes do we have to destroy or decimate before we
- 19 say no to a gravel pit? Only five homes?
  - And the truth of the matter is it doesn't
- 21 matter if it's 50 homes, it doesn't have anything to do
- 22 with homes, it has to do with properties. People that
- 23 own property up there are going to lose value, they are
- 24 impacted by the visual and the noise part of that
- 25 thing, and there's no way he can get around it because

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20

- Recently myself and a friend walked 2 through and talked with neighbors and actually looked
- 3 at the view from the area. On the first page of my
- 4 handout -- and you can see that one that has a bunch of
- 5 little red dots all over it -- okay, that crosshatched
- 6 area is the mine, proposed mine area.
- 7 The red dots, when we walked through the
- 8 neighborhood and talked with neighbors and looked at
- 9 them -- and we didn't really just look at homes,
- 10 because the code doesn't say you can't impact homes, it
- 11 says you can't impact other properties.
  - We counted -- on the red dots you can see
- 13 on this thing, we counted 22 homes and talked to those
- 14 people in most of those places, and they were impacted,
- and they will have visual and noise impact because no
- amount of berming can cover that up. You'd have to
- build a 100-foot berm down there to block that view. 17
- Let's see. And in talking about this 18
- 19 berm thing again and the vegetated buffer, the picture
- 20 that we handed out to you -- and again, I'm a little
- 21 premature on that, but this one right here, this is my 22 neighbor Rick Oliver, he lives on Danver Street, he's
- 23 going to speak here in a few minutes, but you can see
- 24 the vegetated berm is that one tree to his left.
  - Now Rick lives on Danver, you can see the

- 1 of the topography of that area. It's like being in an
- amphitheater when you go there.
- 3 The property, the proposed mine is in the
- 4 heart of a residential recreational gem, and we call it
- 5 Anchor Point. This property could, if properly
- developed, could be a very desirable addition to the
- 7 community.
- CHAIRMAN MARTIN: That's five minutes. 8
- 9 HANS BILBEN: Okay.
- CHAIRMAN MARTIN: Can you wrap up? 10
- HANS BILBEN: I need about one more 11
- 12 second.
- **CHAIRMAN MARTIN:** Yep. 13
- HANS BILBEN: It's the function of our 14
- 15 elected and appointed officials to represent and hold
- up these ordinances and not merely to rubber stamp this
- 17 thing. This pit is at the wrong place and it has no
- 18 business even getting this far in the process.
- **CHAIRMAN MARTIN:** Any questions? None at 19 20 this time. Thank you. Yep, name and address for the
- 21 record. 22 PETE KINNEEN: Name is Pete Kinneen, and
- 23 I live at 34969 Danver just behind Echo overlooking
- 24 this proposed mine. 25 And I'm here with a slightly different

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1 take. I'm an Irishman and I'm as passionate as anyone

- 2 else is, however I'm going to put that aside, save you
- 3 from my passion, and strike strictly to the reasons
- 4 that you cannot approve this tonight.

It does not meet the conditions. And 5

- 6 the -- you know, the valid concerns about the safety of
- 7 the road, et cetera, et cetera are not within your
- 8 toolbox to use to make the decision. So just going on
- 9 the ordinances and the exact interpretation of them, I
- 10 don't think any of the conditions can be met.
- In fact, if this were to be -- first of 11
- 12 all, this is not a permit of right. You do not have a
- 13 right to do it, you must come and ask permission, and
- 14 there's conditions.
- 15 And I'm going to suggest, because of the
- 16 uniqueness of this, if this were to be passed, there is
- 17 no other operation in the Kenai Peninsula Borough --
- you might as well just rip up the ordinance and say.
- "Pshh, you can do anything you want." 19
- 20 But the way it stands right now in Title
- 21 21.29.050(A)(2)(a)(iie) says specifically, "Buffer
- 22 requirements shall be made in consideration of and in
- accordance with existing use of neighboring property at
- 24 the time of approval of the permit."
- 25 "Shall" is a mandatory word, it is not

1 foot home, and everything behind it is part of this

- 2 proposed mine.
- 3 And there is -- I don't know, you can put
- 4 up six-foot or 12-foot fence, you can make the buffer
- 5 50 feet wide, 100 feet wide, 150 feet wide, it doesn't
- 6 matter. And so this is a unique situation all the way 7 around.
- The stated intent, which is your guide, 8
- 9 is found in Title 21.29.040 and (A) clearly says
- 10 "intent". What is the intent? Is the intent just to
- 11 shovel out to anybody who comes in here and asks for a
- 12 gravel mine anywhere at any time? That's not what the
- 13 intent says. The intent says protect against six
- 14 different conditions, including dust, noise, and visual
- 15 impact.
- So with all due respect, because of the 16
- 17 uniqueness of this area, if there's ever been a gravel
- 18 mine application that should be denied, this is it.
- 19 And I don't understand, I really do not understand how
- 20 a permit could be issued for this under these
- 21 ordinances and any interpretation of it.
- So at my invitation, Bruce Wall came to 22
- 23 the house -- and again, all these photos were taken
- 24 from my living room or the deck -- and he and I stood
- 25 there and I said, "Here you go." And basically the

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- 1 permissive. You must do this, you must keep this in
- 2 mind. The road and kids getting running over and all
- 3 that is real, but it's not what you are to use in your
- 4 decision, but "shall," that you will consider all of 5 us.
- 6 And the uniqueness of this is that if you
- 7 were in a helicopter flying up the coastline, you would
- 8 see tall bluffs for a mile after mile almost all the
- 9 way in from Homer and far north.
- The exception is there's a little 10
- 11 amphitheater or bathtub that inundates right in here.
- 12 and that was caused by the outflow of the Anchor River.
- 13 And it's a small flat area surrounded by a bathtub, and
- 14 the noise comes in primarily from the water.
- 15 The atmospheric conditions of the body of
- 16 water right there play havoc with the sound. I mean,
- 17 sometimes you can hear any little thing and other times
- 18 you don't hear. But the noise cannot be minimized,
- 19 there's virtually nothing you can do. You can have all
- 20 the buffers you want.
- 21 And in the photos that I've included here
- 22 for your perusal, they were taken from my living room
- 23 inside the house and they look out over the tops of the
- 24 fully matured trees and they look out over -- you will
- 25 see just a corner of a blue roof, it's a 20-something

- 1 entire floor of this bathtub or amphitheater, except
- 2 for the estuary of Anchor River itself, virtually
- 3 everything else is in this proposed mine. And I said,
- "Bruce, look, show me what you could do. I mean, we
- 5 are open for ideas, all of us."
- 6 And incidentally, there's a lot more than
- five houses. I mean, that's just probably an 7
- 8 indication of the people who are proposing this. You
- 9 know, Hans found over 20 houses that are impacted by
- 10 this, I found more. So there's a lot of people 11 impacted.
- 12 And so anyway, I'm standing there with
- 13 Bruce and I said, "Here it is. I can see the entire
- 14 mine from left to right. And how can you protect us
- 15 per your ordinance -- 'you shall' -- and this is the 16 intent?"
- 17 And I think he was kidding around. He
- 18 just kind of jumped over here and said, "Well, you
- 19 know, I can't see it now." That was a tree that was
- 20 there in front of the house.
- And incidentally because of the 21
- 22 atmospheric conditions right up to Echo Road does have
- 23 original, vibrant, verdant, green, mature spruce trees.
- 24 Past that and coming up the hill it doesn't, because
- 25 the ecosystem that comes in behind us is the uplands

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1 boreal forest, and that's just been decimated by the 2 beetle kill.

CHAIRMAN MARTIN: It's been five minutes. 3

4 Could you --

PETE KINNEEN: All right, I'll wind it up 5

6 here in just a second. I appreciate it, sir. 7 I'm open to questions. But again, all

8 you need is one condition not being met. And as I

9 challenged Bruce Wall -- very nice guy, gentleman, I

10 like him -- I said, "How can you follow the intent?

Please show us how you can do it." 11

12 And you just saw a picture from Hans, of 13 the guy right down on Danver, and I'm like way up

14 there, and Hans looks over my house.

So I guess we are open to ideas, but a 15

16 50-foot buffer along the road, parallel height isn't

17 going to do anything at all. What it is is we're

looking down on a box.

And the bad thing is normally on a flat 19 20 plane when you are going down the road, you put up the

21 fence, you know, about the height of eye level and that

22 works. This doesn't work.

CHAIRMAN MARTIN: Thank you. Are there

24 any questions? None at this time. Thanks for your

25 testimony.

1 more significant and additional information regarding

2 that water standards to be presented.

3 No. 3 addresses the minimization of dust

4 offsite areas. Due to the proposed placement of the

proposed -- of the processing equipment, any onshore

breeze will bring dust to my home directly across the

7 street.

8 No. 4 addresses the noise disturbance to

9 other properties. According -- excuse me. According

10 to the radii shown on the application, the processing

11 equipment is roughly set 300 feet from my front door.

12 I'm close to six feet -- well, kind of

13 close, used to be closer. I'm holding in this picture,

14 of which you guys now have a copy, is a ten-foot board

15 just to show you how a six-foot board would -- so you

16 could see how a six-foot berm will minimize the visual

17 impact, which is not at all.

Mrs. Trimble approached a neighbor of

19 mine after the informal meeting last Wednesday and 20 stated that she and her husband had walked the property

21 and said they could see only six houses. This does not

22 include other properties as addressed by the code that

23 could at some point be developed. This begs the

24 question as to just how many homes does the project

25 have to decimate in order to convince this body that it

1 should not happen?

For the record, let it be known that my

3 family and I, along with the dozens of other families

4 residing in this area, vehemently oppose the granting

5 of this permit.

6 Enough said. Thank you.

7 CHAIRMAN MARTIN: Thank you. Any

questions? Next testifier, please. 8

9 **JEANNE BILBEN:** My name is Jeanne Bilben.

10 I'm the wife of Hans Bilben that just spoke. And I

won't take very long, I just have a few things to say.

With the papers that I've handed out is 12

13 just regarding some of the information that we

14 discovered.

15 We love this beautiful recreation area.

16 Some of us have bought and built homes here. We own

17 land here just as the permit owner owns lands, but we

18 are not digging a gravel pit in his front or back yard.

We are not against a gravel pit, but we 19

20 do not want them in our neighborhoods. You would think

21 we have just as many rights as a gravel pit. We pay

22 our taxes too.

23 This is called gravel pit -- this

24 so-called gravel pit will be disturbing the peace of

25 our beautiful area. We know once this permit is issued

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PETE KINNEEN: Okay. Great. 1

**CHAIRMAN MARTIN:** Next testifier, please. 2

3 RICK OLIVER: Good evening. My name is

4 Rick Oliver. My address is 34880 Danver Street. Our

5 home is somewhat above and directly opposite the 6 proposed Danver Street -- I'm sorry, site on Danver

7 Street. The activity allowed by this application will

8 totally decimate the property value of our home as well

9 as the quality of life that we now enjoy.

We are most definitely not alone in this 10

11 regard. Obviously the standards set for the sand, 12 gravel, or material sites are said to protect -- again,

13 I'm saying the same thing everybody else has said --

14 against aquifer disturbance, road damage, visible

damage to adjacent properties, dust, noise and visual impact. 16

17 I can state unequivocally that the

18 proposed setbacks, berms, vegetation buffers, et

19 cetera, will not and cannot protect our homes from

20 this -- from these disturbances.

21 No. 1 of said standards addresses a

22 lowering of water sources serving other properties.

23 The existence of substantial lake just below my

24 property indicates that a major mining operation cannot 25 help but affect my water source. I'm told there's some

Min-U-Script®

- 1 it goes with the land, no matter who owns it, making it
- 2 even more valuable to the owner and making our property
- 3 values go down.
- 4 Not only is this a recreational area,
- 5 it's also a historic area. We have been in contact
- 6 with the State Historic Preservation Office and there
- 7 are documents like the ones that you have that there is
- 8 a highly potential historic archeological site and
- 9 that's the documents I have of historic graves,
- 10 possible cache pits, et cetera.
- So I'm asking to stop this permit and 11
- 12 keep this area away from mining and gravel. The state
- 13 recreational area in Anchor Point is where people come
- 14 to see the beauty and the history of this part of the
- 15 world. Do you really want a gravel pit in this place
- 16 for them to see?
- 17 Please keep gravel pits away from our
- 18 neighborhoods, historical lands, and recreational
- areas. That's all. Thank you. That's all we ask.
- 20 Thank you.
- 21 CHAIRMAN MARTIN: Thank you. Any
- 22 questions?
- 23 **JEANNE BILBEN:** Any questions?
- CHAIRMAN MARTIN: None at this time. 24
- 25 Thank you.

6

- 1 you right now, whatever happens, I will write a letter
- 2 on this, because this is -- you know, this is what I
- 3 did, and I don't like picking up kids.
- 4 But even the gentleman who is trying do
- 5 this, I believe it was his daughter and grandson, they
- 6 were walking down there, and we were coming out with a
- boat trying to go down to Homer and there was another
- 8 car coming the other way, and we had to stop, and she
- 9 had to push the kid off the side of the road. All
- 10 right. So I was there.
- 11 And I can tell you, usually when I face
- 12 12 people it's called a jury and I don't like that, so
- 13 I don't normally get up and do anything like this, but
- 14 this is really a serious problem. Okay.
- 15 Aside from the bridge is condemned, so we
- 16 really kind of left a bunch of people off. Well, they
- 17 have to turn right and go out seven or eight miles to
- get back out to Seward Highway (sic). 18
- **UNKNOWN SPEAKER:** Sterling. 19
- 20 JIM REID: The Old Seward (sic) --
- 21 **UNKNOWN SPEAKER:** Sterling, Sterling.
- JIM REID: Sterling, I mean. 22
- 23 That's like a snake. So we should have
- 24 included all of those people who live down that road
- 25 that want to get to look at them 5,000 trucks. That

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old, I can't do this. 2

**JEANNE BILBEN:** I dropped it again. I'm

And my issue is the safety factor. Okay.

- 3 JIM REID: Hi. My name is Jim Reid. I'm
- 4 a retired paramedic, fire lieutenant, metro Dade, Miami
- 5 Dade, and my address is 73820 Seaward Avenue.
- This is what I did for 30 years, and I can tell you 7
- 8 that that road that they are talking about, both roads,
- 9 when they come down off of that hill down Danver, if
- 10 you are coming down there in the winter time and a dump
- 11 truck -- and that gravel truck pulls out, you are not
- 12 stopping. Everybody in the neighborhood has complained
- 13 about it. I mean, there's just nothing you can do. It
- 14 gets iced over and you are going. That part.
- 15 The other part is there's kids, and
- 16 that's what I deal with, okay. And you've got four
- 17 parks there or five parks, but you got three of them
- 18 that them trucks have to pass with every load. And you
- 19 are talking five -- you're not talking a couple hundred
- 20 trucks a year, you're talking 5,000 trucks is what they
- 21 are talking about.
- 22 With the amount of aggregate they want to
- 23 take out of there, you are talking five -- ten yards a
- 24 truck, just figure it real quick, it's 5,000 trucks.
- 25 We're not -- this is not a little thing. And I'll tell

- 1 road is dangerous anyway. They run off that road for
- 2 whatever reason.
- 3 Okay, folks, thank you.
  - MS. REID: I want to say -- my name is
- 5 Susan Reid and I'm at 73820 -- where am I -- Seaward
- 6 Avenue.

4

17

- 7 We stand here with all of our friends and
- 8 our neighbors and our community to let you know that we
- 9 are really opposed to this and we object to the
- 10 applicant for all the reasons everybody has stated,
- 11 from bridge repair that's not going to hold their
- 12 weight, from the property value of us going down. I
- 13 assume if our property value does go down you would be
- 14 very happy to lower our taxes, I'm assuming that you do 15 that.
- JIM REID: Yeah, I'm sure. 16
  - SUSAN REID: I'm assuming if you let him
- 18 have this -- if you let him have this permit you are
- 19 going to widen that road. Because right now it's not
- 20 wide enough, like Mr. Cullip said, for all of this
- 21 traffic. That's probably going to cost you a million
- 22 and a half to fix the road.
- 23 JIM REID: Well, right now all the dumps
- 24 trucks that are empty go right out across that bridge.
- 25 Well they just lowered from -- to 11 tons, which is

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1

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1 22,000 pounds. And an empty dump truck weighs how 2 much -- he should know that right off hand -- about

3 26-, 28,000 empty. So right off the bat they are not

4 abiding by the law right now.

SUSAN REID: It's a highly, highly 5

6 congested --

7

**JIM REID:** That bridge is very dangerous.

SUSAN REID: -- residential area. 8

9 CHAIRMAN MARTIN: Yeah, one at a time.

10 We are almost done.

SUSAN REID: Okay. It's a highly 11

12 residential -- it's a highly residential area, and all

13 of us as the residents just want you to understand

we're not taking this -- we're taking it very harshly

15 here. We don't want you to do it, we don't want you to

pass the permit.

17 I know he has a right to try to make 18 money off of his land, that's why he bought it, but

years ago we all bought in this beautiful neck of the

woods because it was quiet, not a lot of noise. I'm

21 hearing beeping backup noises right now. I don't care

22 how much white noise stuff you put on these trucks, you

are still going to have this.

Thank you for listening to us and I hope 24

25 we aren't too emotional about it.

**EILEEN SHERIDAN:** There's no place to

2 sign. Next page?

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Just carve your name in 3

the wood there.

**UNKNOWN SPEAKER:** Better save room for 5

6 the rest of us.

7 **EILEEN SHERIDAN:** Right here, if you will

8 take that page, yeah.

9 While she's changing that, I'm Eileen

10 Sheridan, I am around a 50-year resident of Alaska.

We've lived in -- we've lived in Juneau, Sitka,

beautiful places. 12

13 **CHAIRMAN MARTIN:** And your current

14 address?

**EILEEN SHERIDAN:** We've lived in Palmer. 15

16 We now live in 34860 Seabury Court, Anchor Point.

17 We're above this area. We're secondary families, we

live right near these people right here.

We understand the noise, because if 19

20 you've ever been out there when the wind is going 125

21 miles-an-hour, you can feel it whooshing up that river.

22 You talked about the cliffs and it coming up, and

definitely there's no way berms or vegetation like that

24 is going to take away those noises.

25 When they had that oil/gas people out

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1 there in the Bay making their sonogram things all 2 summer long, that was distracting. This gravel pit

3 will be distracting too.

We put our retirement into this home.

5 It's going to go down in value. There's no way -- even

6 Emmitt has said at the meeting the other night that,

7 yeah, a gravel pit would make the value of your

8 property go down. We had hoped that our kids could

9 enjoy this later in life also. We've worked hard to do

10 what we are doing, and so we understand him wanting to

11 do something too, but not a gravel pit that we have to

12 live with.

13 And the dust, I had terrible allergies up

14 in the Valley. We moved down here, because every time

15 we brought our boat down or our trailer down, my

16 allergies were halfway better living right there by

17 ocean instead of up in the hay fields. And even though

18 it was beautiful up there, we retired down here.

So for -- if you are looking at how it's 19

going to be a noise area, minimizing the dust, we

21 already get dust from our dirt roads that are up there.

22 Right now our Seabury Court road is just

23 mainly a trail, a road trail. We have to go up to

24 Seaward or down Deesa -- they said it's Deesa Avenue

25 now onto a dirt road.

CHAIRMAN MARTIN: Thank you. Next 2 testified, please.

3 DON HORTON: Hi. My name is Don Horton,

4 and I live on 34910 Echo Street, directly across the

street from this proposed gravel pit.

6 We bought this property 15 years ago for 7 recreational purposes and maybe some day to build a

8 house on it when I retire. A month ago I retired and I 9 get -- a month later I get a letter stating that I'm

going to have -- look at a gravel pit directly across.

11 My only view is this field. I look across this field

12 and I see Mt. Redoubt.

So if you build a 12-foot berm, six-foot 13

14 berm, eight-foot berm, I'm going to look at berm, a gravel pit, and then Mt. Redoubt, so that -- it's going

16 to virtually ruin my property. I would never build on

17 it now, it's -- not even with a consideration of this going in, never could I build on it. I could never

even give the property away. 19

20 I have three sons and a daughter that 21 hopefully someday this -- and a grandson now --

22 hopefully that someday this will be his property.

Well, I'd hate to see you guys ruin my

24 little slice of heaven. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN MARTIN: Thank you.

23

1 The trucks speed down that road and 2 there's no other way, you know, except to go and pick 3 up dust, so you get the extra dust from a gravel pit.

4 We lived next to one when we were -- while we were

5 building this home and I was very glad to get up on my

6 peaceful house to look at Mt. Iliamna and out at Mt.

Redoubt. 7

And I realize that if he gets these 8 9 permits that he has the right to sell and have maybe even a bigger gravel pit put in there.

Lowering of water sources, we noticed 11 12 that there was only one test hole shown and was wondering if there's any consideration of loss of vegetation and resulting water rises from this. There seems to be, looking at the maps, 15

16 some wetlands in there. We watch as we go down Danver 17 to the right just across from that property the ducks

that come in, they have their babies, the moose have

their babies down there. If you get that noise in from

the gravel pit, those moose mothers, they get so

21 disturbed. They could be leaving their babies too.

CHAIRMAN MARTIN: That's five minutes. 22

23 **EILEEN SHERIDAN:** Thank you.

**CHAIRMAN MARTIN:** Any questions? None at 24

25 this time. Thank you for your testimony.

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1 Estimates. If you are going to fix that

2 road to where it will handle these dump trucks -- and

3 some of the trucks I see going up the North Fork weigh

4 well in excess of 100,000 pounds. They are a tractor

pulling two side dump trailers that haul 20 yards of

6 rock a piece, and that's about 60,000 worth of rock per

7 trailer plus the truck and the trailers.

Guesstimates to fix that road to bring it 8 9 up to par is in excess of \$2 million, because you get

10 to rip it all up and rebuild it all, plus you've got to

11 go in a do right-of-way work and achieve right-of-way

12 to make the road wide enough.

13 Over the lifespan of this pit, if the 14 road isn't totally fixed in the beginning, you could 15 spend \$6 million in maintenance maintaining that road

16 for 15 years, and that's if the pit stops at 15. I

17 don't know if the Kenai Borough has that kind of money

18 laying around that they would want to put into that

19 when all they are going to get is some mineral

20 separation fees, which is not going to amount to very

21 much money.

So to me, I'm lucky enough to be far 22

23 enough away from that that the dust and the noise, it

24 will be minimal. The truck noise will be there. But

25 by and large, the cost to the borough to maintain that

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1 road or to rebuild that road, it's -- it would not be a

2 business I would go into, because you would spend 2- or

\$3 million and you'd get back almost nothing.

That's all I have to say. Thank you. 4

5 CHAIRMAN MARTIN: Thank you.

6 UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Don't forget the

7 bridge.

GERALD BLAIR: Well, I think the bridge 8 9 is going to be built anyway. I don't know that the

gravel pit will have much to do with that.

11 CHAIRMAN MARTIN: All right. Thank you.

12 Next testifier, please.

BOB SHAVELSON: Thank you. Again, my 13

14 name is Bob Shavelson, I'm the Director of Advocacy for 15 Cook Inletkeeper. And I'm hearing a lot of concerns

16 from property owners around here, and it brings to mind

17 the whole notion of private property, which is

18 obviously vital to our economic system.

But one of the central tenets of property 19 20 rights is that you can do what you want on your own

21 property, but you can't harm folks around you, okay, 22 and that includes private property and that includes

23 public property, and that's the issue that I'm here to

24 talk about tonight is the public property and, again,

25 the ground and the surface water resources.

**EILEEN SHERIDAN: Pardon?** 

CHAIRMAN MARTIN: Thank you. There's no

3 questions. EILEEN SHERIDAN: Yes. I hope that you

1

2

5 will reconsider and maybe think about looking at the 6 new resolutions you're thinking about. 7

**UNKNOWN SPEAKER:** There's two more spots 8 there.

9 **GERALD BLAIR:** Good evening. My name is 10 Gerald Blair, I live at 73600 Twin Peaks Loop.

11 Most of what I might have said this evening has already been said, probably far more 12

eloquently than I would have, by prior speakers. 13 But there is one issue that has not been 14

covered, and that is not just the safety of that road,

but the cost of that road. What I've been able to

determine is that that road started life as a Cat trail 18 that went from the Sterling Highway out to the beach,

19 and that it was never engineered or properly built so

20 it has no base. 21

It doesn't have even enough right-of-way 22 to be any wider than it is in spots, and that is barely

23 wide enough. Two trucks could lose their mirrors if 24 they are not careful because there's no way to get off

25 the road, particularly with a loaded truck.

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And when I look at the staff report and

2 the findings of fact, Finding of Fact 8C says, "You

3 shall keep two feet above the seasonal high water

6 application says that the test hole was drilled and

5 that I raised the last time, but nothing in the

9 staff know what that level is? You cannot.

in the estuary of the Anchor River.

4 mark." And again, I'm going to come back to the issue

7 monitored to ascertain the seasonal high water mark.

11 the permit if you want to abide by the ordinance. And

shouldn't be gambling with the resources that we have

And I'll also go back and refer to the

16 scientist from the National Estuarine Research Reserve,

and they provided you with a groundwater flow that

partially flows to the Anchor River, and that water

plays a vital role in the life stage of various salmon.

And when I first thought about an

23 think, well, salmon goes down and it goes through the

24 estuary, and then comes back and it goes through the

22 estuary, you know, I think I'm like a lot of people, I

shows that this parcel -- excuse me -- at least

12 I'd say if you do, then it's just guess work, and we

8 So how can you, as the Planning Commission, how can the

And so I would say that you can't approve

1

10

15

17

20

21

25 estuary again.

careful here.

8

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1 state law, that's our habitat protection law. We have

- 2 one law in the state that protects habitat protection.
- 3 It's one sentence long and it was adopted at statehood.
- 4 There's an effort now to revise that in a ballot
- measure that's causing a lot of controversy.
- 6 But a lot of people feel that there's
- 7 this whole alphabet soup of laws and rules out there;
- they don't protect our habitat. This is one of the
- 9 ways that you can.

10 And it reminds me of a book that some of 11 you might have read, it's called the King of Fish by a 12 professor named David Montgomery at the University of Seattle, and he talks about the demise of salmon from

14 Europe to New England to the Pacific Northwest.

And the thing that you take from it is 15 16 that it wasn't just neglect that led to the loss of

17 these salmon runs across the world, it was knowing

18 neglect, okay. We knew what we were doing was wrong

19 and we did it anyway, and that's how I feel about these permits that just continue to get rubber stamped

21 through this process.

And I'm coming to the end of my time, but 22

23 I'll just say I think a lot of you feel like your hands

24 are tied. There's this ordinance and it puts you in a

25 straight jacket and you can't do anything, but you have

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1 enormous discretion. You have discretion that's given

2 to you by the borough. And if you look, and I provided

3 this in my written comments, but under Kenai Peninsula

4 Borough's 2.40.050 you have broad discretion to

5 investigate and make recommendations, including to the 6 assembly.

7 And so I sense that this is going to be

8 deferred to your August 13th meeting. I would

9 encourage you to ask the questions that need to

10 answered to do this right, because the mouth of the

11 Anchor River is a special place, it's why you have this

12 room packed tonight, and I think this body needs to

13 represent the public interest.

The private interest is always adequately 14 15 represented, the public interest needs to be

represented, and I feel like that's the job of the

17 Planning Commission.

Thank you very much. 18

CHAIRMAN MARTIN: Thank you. Any 19 20 questions? Next.

ELDON OVERSON: I'd like to apologize, I 21

22 didn't make enough copies of my picture, but that is 23 the view from my property from which I built a cabin 24 this winter.

25 I have a statement that I would like to

It's a lot more complicated than that,

2 and we're just beginning to scratch the surface on this 3 complexity.

As I mentioned before, you know, our 5 ecology of these salmon systems is kind of like a 6 fabric, and when you start to pull at the threads of that fabric it will unravel. So we've got to be really

9 One of the things that really concerns 10 me, and when I looked at the ordinance it says you have 11 to comply with all these other environmental laws and rules. And there's something that I call the myth of rigorous permitting. 13

And the myth of rigorous permitting is 14 15 that there's this whole alphabet soup of local, state, and federal laws and rules, and if you dot all the i's 17 and cross all the t's, then, viola, you are going to 18 have salmon habitat protection.

But I've been doing this for 25 years. 19 20 and I can tell you that that's not the case. You know, 21 we've got a 50-foot buffer on our salmon streams in the 22 Kenai Peninsula Borough. We know that Mayor Pierce is 23 now looking actively to revoke some or all of those 24 protections.

We have what's called Title 16 in our

1 read, and then I have a few questions if that's all 2 right with the Committee. Is that acceptable?

**CHAIRMAN MARTIN:** Yes. 3

4 **ELDON OVERSON:** Okay. I would like to

5 thank you guys for hearing my thoughts on the proposed

- Beachcomber gravel pit that is being submitted by
- 7 Emmitt and Mary Trimble in our community.

I will thank you even more after this 8

9 meeting if you reject the proposed land use permit that will decimate my neighbors' and my view for the next 15

11 to 20 years.

12 I was at work on the Slope when I got the 13 e-mail for this planning meeting, and I flew today and drove down from Anchorage just for today, and I have to drive up and fly back up to work tomorrow. I say this to show the importance that this proposed gravel pit 17 means to me and how much I do not wish it to go

forward. I feel that this is a very bad proposal and deserved more of my time and effort. 19

20 I bought my lot on the corner of Danver 21 and Seaward about eight years ago, and it's the spot

22 that I would eventually build my dream home. I

23 started, like I stated, to build a cabin on the lot to

24 use for summertime camping this winter, and that

25 picture is of me standing on my loft from that cabin.

1 the enjoyment, the view, and the property values of the

- 2 same people that they sold the property to.
- I find it very disrespectful that they 3

4 did not consider anybody but themselves and do not wish

- to accurately describe what they want to use the
- 6 property for. I have heard from many of the neighbors
- 7 from the meeting that they attended that they said that
- 8 they only wanted to go down ten feet. The permit
- 9 states that they want to go down 18, and then apply
- further in the future for going down even farther. So

11 I would like to hear him address those.

12 And also on the permit that it says that

13 this land was not intended for future subdivision.

14 which he also claims that that's why he's only going

15 down ten feet was to later subdivide the property,

16 which will also make all the septics in that area lower

17 to the water table.

18

The questions I have, I'll skip to those.

19 I would like to ask how could the borough

20 simultaneously tax me for my view while also approving

21 a big eyesore right in the middle of it? I know that

22 in Homer they've started to assess views on top of

23 property. So I was just wondering, will there be a

24 waiver granted for all of us that are being impacted by

25 this gravel pit, and if so, what's the loss revenue to

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1 The red area that is marked is where the proposed 2 gravel pit will be. I'm approximately 65 feet above

3 the gravel pit, so I will be looking directly into it.

The view of Iliamna, the ocean, and the

5 river was the main reason for me purchasing my 6 property. And as the permit states, that -- the

7 six-foot high berm in the plan will offer little to no

8 relief from the visual impact of the gravel pit. This

9 is true for my lot, my neighbors', and many others.

I don't feel that they have offered any 10 11 mitigating factors to lowering our value of the

surrounding properties to increase his. 12

Noise is also another factor that will 13 14 keep me from using my property in the future as I

15 intended. The machinery that will be working in the

16 daytime hours will make me basically not want to be

17 there. There is no buffer between me and the gravel

pit, so I will have to hear the constant droning of the

processing of the sand and gravel for the next 15-plus

years. This was a very tranquil neighborhood and I

enjoyed hanging out there during the summer months. 21

22 In closing, I find it very disingenuous

23 and unethical that Emmitt and Mary Trimble have

24 profited from selling many of the lots in our

25 neighborhood, and now single handedly want to undermine

1 the borough? Does anybody want to speak to that?

CHAIRMAN MARTIN: This is your night to 2

3 speak.

**ELDON OVERSON:** All right. 4

CHAIRMAN MARTIN: If you could wrap it 5

6 up, you've had five minutes.

7 **ELDON OVERSON:** I thought if I requested

longer, I could have longer. 8

9 CHAIRMAN MARTIN: How much more are

10 you --

11 **ELDON OVERSON:** I just have a few other

12 things.

17

**CHAIRMAN MARTIN: Okay.** 13

ELDON OVERSON: I won't -- I won't 14

mention the campgrounds, but it's already been

addressed, I think, better than I would have. 16

And then also there is some incorrect and

18 wrong statements on the permit concerning that there

19 were no wells within 100 feet of the property boundary.

20 There is -- I do believe the We Tie Fly has a well

21 within 100 feet, so that is inaccurate on the permit.

22 So I don't know how they can claim that there's no

23 wells within 100 feet of the property when there is.

And also -- I think that's all I had.

25 Thank you for your time.

CHAIRMAN MARTIN: Thank you. Any

2 questions?

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Mr. Chairman. 3

4 **CHAIRMAN MARTIN:** Yes.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: I apologize, I didn't 5

get your name.

7 **ELDON OVERSON:** Eldon Overson, and my

address is 73976 Seaward Avenue. 8

9 CHAIRMAN MARTIN: I'd like a show of 10 hands of how many more we have left to testify. I'm going to declare a five-minute recess. 11

12 (Recess - 10:07 p.m. - 10:15 p.m.)

CHAIRMAN MARTIN: All right, we are ready 13

14 to go.

1

PHIL BRNA: My name is Phil Brna. I live 15

16 at 5601 E. 98th Avenue in Anchorage, but I've spent a

good part of spring, summers, and falls in Anchor Point

for the last 41 years. I own a cabin on the Anchor

River inside the state park, and I also have a piece of

20 property that's surrounded by the proposed gravel pit.

21 In the last 41 years I spent 21 years

22 with the Alaska Department of Fish & Game as a habitat

23 biologist, and 14 years with U.S. Fish & Wildlife

24 Service. I'm retired from both. I have lots of

25 experience with large development projects like Pebble

1 recreational areas in Alaska. It's really unthinkable.

2 As far as the noise, when the property

3 was being cleared and when the other little gravel pit

4 across the street was being built, from my cabin I

5 could hear every truck backing up, I could hear every

6 truck going down the -- down the road, I could hear

Todd's tractors backing up. You can hear everything in

8 that valley, and it's not going to be any better with a

9 gravel pit.

15

10 There's also archeological sites on my

11 property, there's old cache pits, and probably at least

12 one house pit. I walked the gravel pit property a long

13 time ago, and there's a bunch of house pits and cache

14 pits on that property as well.

There's also an old wagon road that goes

16 off the end of Beachcomber that was built in the 1920s,

17 I believe, to get to an old homestead, and it goes

18 across my property and it goes through the -- through

19 the gravel pit.

20 I've submitted written comments, I guess

21 I have enough time to read them, but I won't. If you

22 promise to read them, I won't read them.

So I hope the Kenai Borough Planning

24 Commission, or whatever you are, I'm not even sure,

25 denies the proposal for this project because it's not

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1 Mine, Donlin Mine, Chulitna Mine to name a few. I was 2 the Fish & Wildlife Service biologist on all of those.

3 I just want to make an aside here that

4 the science related to groundwater here and the other

5 gravel permit is a total joke. I have worked with some

6 of the best groundwater hydrologists in the country and

7 in Canada, and it is pretty stunning how you are making 8 decisions based on groundwater with no groundwater data

9 other than one test hole that's dug who knows where.

Anyway, as former governor Jay Hammond 10 11 once said -- former governor Jay Hammond once said

12 this is about Pebble Mine. "The only worse place for a

13 mine would be in my back yard."

14 Well, this proposed gravel pit is in my

15 back yard. In fact, it surrounds my one-acre property

16 on three sides. I'm the last lot on Beachcomber. I

17 bought the property to build a small house when I fully

18 retired, which I did two years ago, and this proposal

19 will pretty much destroy my plans to do that, my wife

20 and I, and it will destroy my property value. I'm not

21 going to go on and on because most things have been

22 said.

23 In 2018, I think it is ludicrous to think

24 that someone could develop a gravel pit in the middle

25 of a residential area and one of the most heavily used

1 good for Anchor Point, it's not good for the people

2 that live there, it's not good for the people that come

3 there to recreate.

There are people from all over the world. 4

5 I was fishing the Anchor River today, and I probably

talked to 20 people from all over the world, and this

is kind of not a good thing. Thank you. 7

CHAIRMAN MARTIN: Thank you. 8

9 PHIL BRNA: Questions?

CHAIRMAN MARTIN: Do you have any 10

11 questions? Not at this time.

**LYNN WHITMORE:** My name is Lynn Whitmore.

13 I live at 34680 Beachcomber Street. And the proposed

14 project is literally in my back yard and is adjacent to

15 my property.

12

When I first -- when the applicant first 16

17 bought the property he told me he was going to

18 subdivide it and put homes back there. And I

19 considered moving since I had that nice piece of the

20 world to myself for a long time with just one neighbor.

And when he told us it was going to be a 21

22 gravel pit, then I went to the staff, and the staff

23 said this pretty much flies through if he can meet

24 those six conditions.

And so everybody I talked to said, "Well,

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- 1 Lynn, it's just going to fly through." And it's a
- 2 frustrating thing to watch all these people speak
- 3 knowing that it's just going to fly through. So why
- 4 are you having this hearing? What is the purpose?
- 5 What do you gain out of that if he meets
- 6 those conditions and it flies through? So maybe that
- 7 wouldn't be the best way to approach this thing is tell
- 8 everybody it's just going to fly through. And I've
- 9 heard from the neighbors that they were told the same

10 thina.

- So if there is a chance to consider their
- 12 feelings and what they are going to listen to and what
- 13 I'm going to hear and listen to and we can reduce or
- 14 stop that, that would be a great benefit to me. And I
- 15 feel like you guys have had enough time with everybody
- L6 talking here, so I'll keep it short. Thank you.
- 17 **CHAIRMAN MARTIN:** Thank you.
- 18 **JAMES GORMAN:** Good evening. My name is
- 19 James Gorman, I live at 73608 Twin Peaks Loop, Anchor
- 20 Point. I look right down on the beach road. The
- 21 things these people say, I see them every day.
- I was a history major in college, maybe
- 23 you will appreciate this letter. This comes from the
- 24 Alaska State Historical Preservation Office:
- 25 In receipt of your request for

- 1 requiring licensing and permitting from the state to
- 2 comply with the Alaska Historic Preservation Act, AS
- 3 41.35.070. This also includes required reporting of
- 4 historic and archeological sites on lands covered under
- 5 contract with or licensed by the state or government
- 6 agency of the state. This would include any material
- resources used under contract with the state.
- 8 And secondly, the National Historic
- 9 Preservation Act: If there is federal involvement,
- 10 financial assistance, permit, license, or approval with
- 11 the project, it is the statutory obligation of the lead
- 11 the project, it is the statutory obligation of the load
- 12 federal agency to comply with Section 106, 36 CFR-800
- 13 of the National Historic Preservation Act which
- 14 requires the federal agency to take into account the
- 15 effects that their undertaking may have on historic
- 16 properties.
- Were either of those laws to apply, our
- 18 office would be likely to request that an
- 19 archaeological survey is conducted to verify the site
- 20 locations and assess the potential effects of the
- 21 project pursuant to the applicable historic
- 22 preservation law.
- 23 In addition, there are state laws
- 24 requiring the discovery and/or intentional disturbance
- 25 of human remains. This pertains to all lands in

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- 1 information regarding known historical sites in the
- 2 area of a proposed gravel mine, upon review of the
- 3 Alaska Heritage Resource Survey database there are two
- 4 reported cultural resource sites in the area of the
- 5 proposed mine.
- 6 One I've referenced as SEL-00280.
- 7 prehistoric site reported to consist of two house pits.
- 8 Location is represented as a large polygon on the
- 9 site -- you can see that -- exact location of features
- 10 is unknown, but current projected boundaries are within
- 11 the proposed mining area.
- Second one is SEL-00281, historic graves
- 13 and possible cache pits reported to consist of five
- 14 graves that at one time had grave markers.
- 15 Depressions, tentatively described as cache pits, were
- 16 reported north of the graves. Location is represented
- 17 as a large polygon. Exact location of features is
- 18 unknown, but current projected boundaries are within
- 19 the proposed mining area.
- 20 In Alaska, there are two historical
- 21 perseveration laws that may apply unless the project is
- 22 entirely private in nature.
- 23 The first one is the Alaska Historic
- 24 Preservation Act: State law requires all public
- 25 construction or improvement activities conducted by or

- 1 Alaska, including private. I have attached our handout
- 2 regarding human remains.
- Due to the lack of clear informationregarding the site locations, our office strongly
- 5 encourages the use of a qualified cultural resource
- 6 professional to verify the site.
- 7 Questions? I'll leave you a copy of this
- 8 if you'd like.

10

- 9 CHAIRMAN MARTIN: Any questions?
  - UNKNOWN SPEAKER: We got it.
- 11 **JAMES GORMAN:** You've got a copy.
- 12 **CHAIRMAN MARTIN:** Thank you.
- 13 JAMES GORMAN: Oh, and one more thing.
- 14 According to the recently retired chief ranger of the
- 15 park system, the park owns both sides of the beach road
- 16 and they will not permit a widening of that road.
- 17 Thank you.
  - CHAIRMAN MARTIN: Next testifier.
- 19 XOCHITL LOPEZ-AYALA: Hello, my name is
- 20 Xochitl Lopez Ayala. I currently reside in Homer, but
- 21 my family owns the property directly across from this
- 22 proposed gravel mine at 34910 Echo.
- 23 It is on the corner of Danver and Echo.
- 24 so right literally standing at the edge of our property
- 25 we will look up to a berm. We will actually submit a

3

7

11

17

18

2 will look like here if this goes through.

10 what we are all so passionate about.

That's why we go there.

22 recognize that.

1 picture for you so you can see what our proposed view

I did want to bring up to you all that --

4 I want you to see that everyone here drove from Anchor

5 Point or Homer or Anchorage, and we want you to make

8 be shelved, is drive down to Anchor Point, drive down

9 to that road, look at this site, because you will see

12 all this negative talk about this, it's actually been

13 really great in terms of the community. I've gotten to

all really kind of grouped together and found one

14 know people that I didn't get to know before, and we've

And this mine, which is should be

19 described as a mine, not a pit, a mine, is not good for

20 us, it's not good for Anchor Point. And you just have

24 it's getting late. So, you know, thank you for staying

25 here. But there's tons of people who want to talk and

21 a lot of passion in this room and we want you to

common thing that we all love and that's Anchor Point.

And I know you guys are glossing over,

that same commitment that we are here to commit to you.

And, you know, since this is proposed to

And I want you all to know that although

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1 know, thank you all, everybody, for coming here, even

2 Emmitt and his family. You know, it's hard -- it's

3 hard on all of us, a lot of tears, a lot of anger, and

4 it really means a lot to us. So thank you.

5 CHAIRMAN MARTIN: Thank you.

6 BRUCE WALL: Mr. Chairman. Ma'am, could

7 I get you to do me a favor and put your name and your

address on the sign-up sheet? 8

9 XOCHITL LOPEZ-AYALA: Oh, sure.

BRUCE WALL: Thank you. 10

CHAIRMAN MARTIN: Who is next? 11

12 JOSH ELMALEH: Hi. My name is Josh

13 Elmaleh, I own the property 34885 Seabury Court. My

14 wife and I looked over many properties over the last

15 couple of years, and we purchased our place a year ago,

16 overlooking several -- probably half a dozen to a dozen

17 houses that were beautiful houses, beautiful land, but

18 they were really close, within earshot of a gravel pit.

19 And we strongly oppose it.

20 My first king salmon I caught in the

21 Anchor River probably half a dozen years ago, and I

22 want that same thing for my four-month-old son, I want

23 that same thing for my six-year-old daughter. I want

24 them to be able to enjoy the things that I got to

25 enjoy. It is a piece of heaven. And I'm terrified to

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Page 72

1 want you to hear their testimony, so please read over

2 our information that we are trying to send you and

3 understand that, you know, it's -- do what's right for

4 the public, not necessarily a private owner, because

5 it's affecting all of us.

6 And I also wanted you to realize that --7 don't you think it's kind of odd that there's a lot of

8 gravel pits and mine proposals going up now that

9 this -- now that this ordinance has been pushed back a

10 year? I mean, you approved two earlier today, and now

11 a third. Like, how many more are you going to see?

12 Obviously, that's a lot of red flags that

13 you should see that if people are doing this, obviously

14 they are trying to skirt something or get past

15 something, and really look into why they are trying to

16 do this. Are they trying to sell to a corporation up

in Anchorage? Are they trying to sell to an

18 out-of-state investor?

You know, why -- why don't we just keep 19 20 what we love, and why we moved down here, why we moved

21 to the Peninsula.

22 My husband and I just relocated here from

23 Juneau, and now I get to look at a fricken mine and a

24 berm. So, yeah, I'm kind of disappointed in that. 25

So, you know, thank you all. And, you

1 talk up here, so I'm done.

**CHAIRMAN MARTIN:** Any questions? Thank

3 you. Who is next? I think we've heard from you --

**UNKNOWN SPEAKER:** Am I permitted to talk 4

5 for another minute?

9

12

6 CHAIRMAN MARTIN: No, we are going to run

out of time. Everybody -- we need everybody to be as 7

quick -- as punctual as possible.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: All right. I just

wanted you to know that sound travels up and the wind 10

blows it the other way.

LAUREN ISENHOUR: Hello. My name is

13 Lauren Isenhour, I own -- I live at 34737 Beachcomber

14 Street, which is three acres that borders this

property. Mary and Emmitt are my parents. 15

I understand everyone's concerns and I 16

17 respect everyone's opinion in here. This is my back

yard too, so I definitely understand the concern.

And I understand the scope of what the 19

20 permit allows is a lot, and I certainly understand and

21 respect everyone's concerns.

My husband and I live there for all the

23 same reasons that everyone else in this room has chosen

24 to live in Anchor Point. We recreate, we walk on that

25 road, we go to the beach, we do all those things too

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1 and love it there.

2 I was born there and grew up in Anchor 3 Point. My parents have been in Anchor Point for 40 4 years and have made a living in real estate by 5 developing and improving land. And they have -- I'm 6 sure everyone in the room will scoff at it, but they 7 have a great reputation of improving land.

**UNKNOWN SPEAKER:** (Indiscernible). 8 9 LARUEN ISENHOUR: I feel I'm respectful 10 to others' opinions, so I'd appreciate the same.

They have made a living for 40 years 11 12 improving land and selling it and caring for the land, and they are very meticulous in how they care for 14 things. And everyone here can see that because they 15 look out at this beautiful property that my parents --16 they bought it and then they invested \$60,000 into 17 improving it by clearing all the stumps, burning the 18 burn piles, and they mow it and care for this property. 19 because that's how they care for land. And they've 20 done it for a long time.

21 They have other subdivisions that they've 22 developed in Anchor Point that are on solid gravel, and they chose not to develop that to a gravel pit. They 24 are land developers, not pit developers. And as 25 someone mentioned, they don't have equipment, they

1 parents' ability to develop land in such a strategic

2 and thoughtful way that there is a way with the

3 regulations that the borough sets to excavate some

4 gravel and reclaim it.

And unlike some other pit developers, and 6 like Mr. Walt who came and presented earlier, who

that's what they do and they have equipment and they

8 are -- immediately when they get the permit they are

9 going to go and use the permit and use the gravel.

My parents' primary interest in that 10

11 property is the property, and other land developers it

12 wouldn't. Their primary interest in a pit -- or a

13 property with that much financial gain in it would be

14 the resource below the property, but my parents'

15 primary interest there is the property itself.

16 I understand they are requesting for a 17 permit with a large scope and that it could be a gravel

pit. I live right there too. My parents would like to

19 build a house down on the property.

20 And again, everyone in this room will 21 scoff at it, but as real estate professionals, it's in

22 their best interest, and they fought for a long time to

help maintain property and home values in Anchor Point,

24 and they have roots in the community.

25 And not just because I live there,

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1 don't have a plan for operating procedures as people 2 have been asking detailed information about that, and

3 they don't have that. And I understand the scope of

4 the permit and the concerns.

12 and now homes are on that.

5 There is obviously a benefit to gravel, 6 and everyone in that community has benefitted by the 7 road development in that subdivision. All the 8 subdivisions back in there, all their driveways and 9 their foundations have all been built with gravel, and 10 the majority of it from a previous pit right there off 11 Danver that's been reclaimed and subdivided and sold

And there is a way, a balance. There is 13 14 a need for gravel, and in Anchor Point, above others, gravel is a main cornerstone to the infrastructure of 16 Anchor Point and the families that are employed by road 17 construction, by building residential construction, by 18 equipment operating. There's a lot of families that 19 are not represented here who are -- I respect and 20 understand everyone's concerns here, and they do 21 represent a portion of Anchor Point for sure, but there

24 that's why there are the regulations, too. 25 We do need some gravel. I respect my

22 is another portion of Anchor Point that is fine with

23 pit development and understands the balance of it, and

1 they've lived there and invested interest maintaining a 2 quality of life in Anchor Point. Their first home in

3 the area in the '70s was on Beach Access Road when it

4 was a dirt trail, and they operated a tackle shop right

5 there.

6 They've had an invested interest in this area for many decades, and they've managed to develop 7 land and provide a living for them and their family in

9 this small area and done so with great care for

property and for land. And something they've instilled 10

11 in myself and my sister is care for the land.

And I can -- I can understand the 12

13 concerns in this room about the scope of the permit and

14 what could potentially happen there.

15 CHAIRMAN MARTIN: Can you -- can you 16 summarize?

17 LAUREN ISENHOUR: Oh, sure.

CHAIRMAN MARTIN: Kind of wrap up. 18

**LAUREN ISENHOUR:** I was just, I guess, 19

20 looking at the time, not the amount left.

21 Yes. I just wanted to, I guess, say I

22 understand the concerns. It's my area too. And I have

23 a lot of respect for my parents and how they care for 24 the land.

25 Some previous speakers, Lynn Whitmore has

- 1 been a good friend of my parents for a long time, and 2 also Phil, who has the property next door, neither
- 3 chose to mention that my parents voluntarily built a
- 4 14-foot berm along their property at their own cost,
- 5 they believe at \$10,000 worth of cost, voluntarily
- 6 built a large berm there to try to protect them when
- 7 they weren't required to do so. They are the type of
- people to do those things. Thank you. 8
- 9 CHAIRMAN MARTIN: Thank you. Any
- 10 questions? Next. Oh, we had one -- we had a question.
- 11 I'm sorry, we did -- there was a question after all.
- 12 **COMMISSIONER CARLUCCIO:** So my question
- 13 is are you saying that your parents don't have any
- 14 plans to develop this right now, that they just want to
- 15 get this gravel pit on the books?
- LAUREN ISENHOUR: I can't really say. I 16
- 17 can speculate at what I think their plans are. And I
- can say their primary plan for the property is to own
- 19 it, and what they want above all else is to own the
- 20 property in its entirety.
- 21 They have plans to subdivide it, a plat,
- 22 a plan, but that doesn't mean they will enact that
- 23 plan. And they would like the permit to potentially do
- 24 a gravel pit. This is my opinion of theirs, so
- 25 please --

1

COMMISSIONER CARLUCCIO: Okay. Okay.

That's all right. Thank you. 2

- 3 LAUREN ISENHOUR: Okay.
- **COMMISSIONER FIKES:** I have a question. 4
- 5 CHAIRMAN MARTIN: Yes.
- 6 **COMMISSIONER FIKES:** You say you are near
- the location of the actual mining itself. What kind of 7
- 8 impact on your personal water well? How close is your
- 9 well to the site?
- LAUREN ISENHOUR: I don't know. You 10
- 11 could look on the map. I guess it probably shows in
- 12 the development where my well is in relation. I
- 13 couldn't tell you, I'm sorry.
- **CHAIRMAN MARTIN:** Any other questions? 14
- All right. Thanks. Next, please. Is anyone else in
- 16 the audience wishing to testify?
- GINA DEBARDELABEN: This is my third 17
- 18 time. My name is Gina DeBardelaben, I'm with McLane
- Consulting. I'm a principal engineer with McLane, and
- I was hired by the property owner -- my firm was hired
- 21 by the property owner to survey the property and
- 22 prepare the permit and exhibits and application.
- 23 Just a few points really quick. We've
- 24 been through a lot. You've had a plethora of public
- 25 comments and a packet to read.

- 1 A few things that have kind of come up I
- 2 just kind of want to point to is that Anchor River Road
- 3 is state owned and maintained, not borough owned. So
- 4 requirement -- you know, DOT enforces, requires the
- 5 gross vehicle weight measure on the bridge, which is
- 6 actually on Old Sterling, speed, proper use of lane,
- shoulders, the health and use of the road, and it
- 8 really doesn't apply to the borough CLUP permitting
- 9 process.

20

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Some other things that have come up 10

- 11 tonight were questions about wells being within --
- 12 within -- one well being within 100 feet of -- yes,
- 13 within the property, but not within the extraction
- 14 area, the proposed extraction area. So there's fine
- 15 points about the permit that always need to be read
- 16 that sometimes isn't interpreted well during public
- 17 meetings. And so I hope that you -- that as you always
- do your due diligence, read the fine points, and read
- 19 the -- read the notes in the permit.
  - Gravel extraction for a material site is
- 21 always based on -- is usually based on a prospective
- 22 sales as is -- it is with this site. This site isn't
- 23 being permitted for a DOT project like we see sometimes
- 24 or a commercial development. So the amount of material
- 25 to be utilized is just a prospective. That's why it

1 says, you know, less than 50,000 cubic yards.

2 That number is one that we kind of always

- 3 choose based on the area. And DNR permitting changes
- 4 with greater than and less than 50,000 yards. The
- reality of 50,000 cubic yards coming out of this
- 6 material site in a year is -- is not very realistic.
- 7 You know, a large gravel sale in a rural
- 8 area like this would be 10,000 yards or maybe 25,000
- yards. And, you know, that would equate to -- it's a
- 10 lot still. It would equate to less than 1,500 yards --
- 11 1,500 trucks, not 5,000 trucks.
  - You know, if you are going to sell -- if
- 13 you are going to sell a large amount of material you
- 14 are not going to run it in a 10-yard end dump. You are
- 15 going to be running a side dump or a belly dump, which
- 16 is 17 yards, it separates out your weight on your axle
- 17 load and such.

12

- So other test hole information, there was 18
- 19 one test hole at the time of application. There has
- 20 been additional since then. And as with -- as I
- 21 continue to point out at material site hearings is that
- 22 as a developer or an operator enters a pit, they
- 23 continually test hole for groundwater and for different
- 24 materials that meet specification for whatever they are
- 25 trying to sell, whatever they are trying to make.

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Page 82 Page 84 1 All roads have a specification that the 1 CHAIRMAN MARTIN: Mr. Ruffner. 2 material has to meet, and maybe, you know, 200 feet 2 **COMMISSIONER RUFFNER:** Thank you, Mr. 3 over here it meets it, but over here it doesn't, so Chairman. 3 4 they are going to test hole, they are going to move 4 Mr. Trimble, so we heard at the beginning 5 around and will constantly be checking, you know, the staff report that their recommendation was, given groundwater if it varies. 6 the volume of information that's come in recently, some of it is kind of technical and science in nature, their The whole requirement is that you stay 8 two feet above it, so that's -- you know, it's not that recommendation was to postpone this or put it off at 9 it's at 20 feet, it's two feet above. 9 least until the August meeting. I think I just have just a couple of So, you know, I hoping that you are in 10 10 11 other little notes here. Yes, the owner has in their 11 concurrence with that so that -- I mean, it's a 12 permit that they plan on installing monitor wells for 12 complicated thing that we want to chew on a little bit. potentially -- potentially a different permit, but, you 13 So I just kind of wanted to ask what your thought on 14 know, that's again, that's prospective. They do want 14 that were. 15 to put -- putting in monitor wells on a material site 15 **EMMITT TRIMBLE:** I have no problem with is a great benefit to the owner and also to the 16 that at all. UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Mr. Trimble, I have a 17 borough. 17 It gives you some comprehensive data on a question. 18 18 quarterly basis or a monthly basis of where the CHAIRMAN MARTIN: This is -- we have 19 groundwater is at. So they do -- they are proposing 20 certain steps that we do. No, sir, we're not in that that they might do that in the future even though this part of the meeting. permit isn't to enter the groundwater table. COMMISSIONER RUFFNER: So I'll follow up, 22 22

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25

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```
1 this time?
 2
           CHAIRMAN MARTIN: Any questions? None at
 3 this time.
           GINA DEBARDELABEN: Okay. Thanks.
 4
           UNKNOWN SPEAKER: I have a question.
 5
 6
           CHAIRMAN MARTIN: Who is the next
 7
   testifier?
           UNKNOWN SPEAKER: I have a question.
 8
 9
           CHAIRMAN MARTIN: You've had your chance.
   You've had your five minutes. We are trying to get --
   make sure everybody gets at least five minutes.
           UNKNOWN SPEAKER: I heard something I
12
13 don't like. Don't I get a right to ask a question?
14 No? Yeah, that (indiscernible).
           EMMITT TRIMBLE: I'm Emmitt Trimble,
15
16 managing member of the Beachcomber, LLC and the
17
   principal applicant.
           Just as I did in Anchor Point voluntarily
18
```

19 last Wednesday opening myself for some questions and

22 could be clarified tonight, but most of them were not

23 pertinent any way to what you will be deliberating on,

24 so I'm not going to try to counter those things. But

There were a number of things here that

anything that you would like clarified.

25 if you have questions for me, I'm here.

There's other concerns regarding site

Do you guys have any questions for me at

24 buffers and such, we've heard lots of those.

25

```
3 recommendation is for us to postpone this, and even the
 4 applicant himself said he's willing to put this off for
 5 a month, so that's going to give you a chance to ask
   those questions that you have of staff or of us, you
 7
   know. I just wanted to put that out there for you.
            CHAIRMAN MARTIN: Thank you, that was
 8
 9 really helpful.
            EMMITT TRIMBLE: I will offer that, you
10
11 know, I sent some pictures to Mr. Wall over the
12 weekend, and I did say in about three hours we put up a
13 pretty extensive berm, just mostly as a demonstration
14 as to what could be done blocking those homes.
15
            There's about five homes that have any
16 way to see into any of the property, and, you know, I
17 could not see any of -- from the pit itself, not the
18 floor of the pit, but the top level of excavation, I
19 couldn't see any of those homes. That can be
20 replicated moving back.
21
            I don't -- I'm not in the gravel
22 business, but it is part of the asset value of this
23 property, and it's incumbent upon me to protect my
24 family and our investment to maximize that possible
25 value.
```

because there's a couple of people that still have

guess what I would say is that, given that the staff's

COMMISSIONER RUFFNER: I get that. And I

**EMMITT TRIMBLE:** Sure.

24 stuff they want to want to say.

- Now, what I would like to do really is my
- 2 own business, my family's business as to what we would
- 3 like to do. I have a subdivision plan, but I have no
- 4 intention of submitting it for preliminary approval,
- 5 it's just I want to know that I've done my homework
- 6 ahead of time.
- 7 And it's the same way, we've taken a --
- 8 we took a few loads of gravel out of that pit of less
- 9 than an acre to take to -- down to the boat launch to
- 10 put the ramp in. We took some more down to expand a
- 11 parking lot, and that's the kind of thing that's
- 12 happening. But I do intend to pursue this for the
- 13 entire property that we permitted -- or we're applying 14 for.
- 15 **CHAIRMAN MARTIN:** Any questions for the
- 16 applicant? Ms. Carluccio.
- 17 COMMISSIONER CARLUCCIO: Yes, thank you
- 18 for testifying. I think it was your daughter who spoke
- 19 before --
- 20 **EMMITT TRIMBLE:** Yes, ma'am. Quite proud
- 21 of her.
- 22 COMMISSIONER CARLUCCIO: -- that I asked
- 23 what -- so you right now have no intentions to develop
- 24 this as a gravel pit? You just want to get it on the
- 25 books?

- 1 and I've owned property there since then, there was a
- 2 small half-acre pit that Ralph Miller had. And Buzz
- 3 Kyllonen bought from him, developed all the
- 4 surrounding -- paid for the Silver King Village, all of
- 5 the subdivisions from that gravel pit, and it's now a
- 6 lake and it's very nice. We have it listed for sale.
- 7 **COMMISSIONER CARLUCCIO:** Okay. Thank
- 8 you.
- 9 **EMMITT TRIMBLE:** Thank you.
- 10 **CHAIRMAN MARTIN:** Any other questions for
- 11 the applicant? Mr. Venuti.
- 12 **COMMISSIONER VENUTI:** Thanks for coming,
- 13 Mr. Trimble.
- 14 **EMMITT TRIMBLE:** Yes, sir.
- 15 **COMMISSIONER VENUTI:** So you heard
- 16 concern from the people who testified --
- 17 **EMMITT TRIMBLE:** Sure.
- 18 COMMISSIONER VENUTI -- about the hazards
- 19 of trucks on the road, on the haul road, and also there
- 20 was a mention of the condition of the bridge that goes
- 21 over the Anchor River.
- 22 I would presume that any haul road out of
- 23 your pit, if this comes to be a pit, would go over that
- 24 bridge. Is that going to --
- 25 **EMMITT TRIMBLE:** Well, that's not

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- EMMITT TRIMBLE: I've already starteddeveloping a small pit that was within the one-acre
- 3 confines. So I want to go through this procedure,
- 4 submit myself to the process, live up to the permit if
- 5 and when I get it, and I would be able to do whatever
- 6 the permit allowed at that time.
- 7 My plan is pretty small scale. It's for
- 8 local projects. All of those homes, all of these
- 9 people have those properties because Buzz Kyllonen took
- 10 a small, like less than two-acre pit that built all of
- 11 those roads and built all of those driveways and
- 12 provided the gravel for almost all of those people up
- 13 there or those properties wouldn't be there now to be
- 14 concerned. And it's now one of the nicest looking
- 15 properties in the area. It's directly across the road
- 16 from mine.
- 17 COMMISSIONER CARLUCCIO: So I'm sorry, it
- 18 doesn't really pertain. I was going to ask you if that
- 19 property was originally yours and you subdivided it,
- 20 but that doesn't --
- 21 **EMMITT TRIMBLE:** Which one?
- 22 COMMISSIONER CARLUCCIO: That really
- 23 doesn't pertain to what we're talking about, so...
- **EMMITT TRIMBLE:** No, the other property,
- 25 that was -- that was in 1975 when I first came there.

- 1 possible now. It's been condemned, so that's why
- 2 people are having to drive from the North Fork Road all
- 3 the way to Eight Mile and back down the Old Sterling to
- 4 go down and bring gravel down to the beach. You can't
- 5 go across the bridge now. But they are going to
  - 6 rebuild that within a year or two here.
- 7 COMMISSIONER VENUTI: Okay. That was a
- 8 concern.
- 9 **EMMITT TRIMBLE:** Yeah, and there are
- 10 trucks -- there are gravel trucks going up and down
- 11 Danver all the time right now. And, you know, I have
- 12 no complaint about those big boats going up and down
- 13 that road.
- 14 Buzz Kyllonen and I got that road paved
- 15 through a maintenance budget with DOT for \$150,000
- 16 because we gave them permission to go through our
- 17 properties where there's not a right-of-way to this
- 18 day.

22

24

- So those people that are worried about
- 20 that road, we would have loved to have had them there

**COMMISSIONER VENUTI:** Thank you very

- 21 by our side helping us back then.
- 23 much.

EMMITT TRIMBLE: You bet.

25 **CHAIRMAN MARTIN:** Anyone else?

Min-U-Script®

1 road that goes to the beach. The bridge is condemned,

2 the Old Sterling Highway is a hazard, and if you take

3 just a 10-yard, 12-yard dump truck by itself and drive

4 it up and down that road with its Jake brakes, that

quiet goes away.

6 There is all these RV parks. Buzz

Kyllonen's RV Park was where we fell in love with the 7

8 area. We'd come here year after year, and it's right

9 across where one of the entrances to this Beachcomber

10 Road is. We'd take a rubber boat out and catch a

11 halibut, and then we'd drive all the way down to

12 Southeast Washington and plan for next year to go back

up here. That will all change if they dig a big hole.

And I'm kind of like some of these other 15 people. You know, I don't begrudge anybody wanting to

16 make a living, but this has no place where it is at. I

17 mean, you know, people raise hell about Pebble Mine.

18 Well, it's a long ways away. It's, you know, it's --

19 maybe -- maybe it does -- it could trash a lot streams

20 and salmon runs and things like that, but I don't see

21 it so it isn't personal to me.

But if I have to drive when I go to the 22

23 post office, and I got to come up Danver and I got to

24 hear backup alarms or white noise, I'm not going to

25 enjoy the place like I used to.

EMMITT TRIMBLE: Thank you.

CHAIRMAN MARTIN: Not at this time. 2

3 Thank you.

1

15

16

4 Is there anyone else in the audience

wishing to testify? Please. 5 6 **DON HORTON:** Hi. My name is Don Horton,

7 my family owns property at 34910 Echo. Like my father 8 said, it is directly across the street from that

9 proposed gravel pit.

I just had a couple of quick questions 10 11 for, I guess, you guys. If a permit is issued for this 12 property, is it attached to the property or is it

13 attached to the owners of the property? Like, if it is sold, does the permit stay with it?

**CHAIRMAN MARTIN:** With the property. DON HORTON: With the property, okay,

17 that's what I thought.

The Trimbles, they spoke on -- the last 18 19 guy that spoke, he just spoke that he wants to maximize

20 the property value of his property that he owns by

21 applying for this permit while it is at the expense of

22 everyone's property around it, I want everyone to 23 realize that. I don't think that's right.

24 That's mainly what I wanted to ask.

25 Thank you for your time.

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14

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CHAIRMAN MARTIN: Next. Did we get your 1 2 name and address?

3 DON HORTON: No pen.

**CHAIRMAN MARTIN:** Is there anyone else? 4

5 Please.

6 RICHARD CARLTON: I am a retired lineman.

7 I fell in love with the Anchor Point River area in 1996 8 and started coming up here pretty regularly. The wife

9 and I purchased a piece of ground in 2007, it's 73500

10 Seabury Road. We go up Danver to Seaward and then take

11 a right and go to our house.

It's kind of an emotional thing for me, 12

13 because I fell in love with the place and the lack of

14 noise. You know, these people talk about machinery and

15 things like that.

I had 40 years with backup alarms and 16 17 backhoes, you know, and noise. And I go up there and I can sit on my patio and look out at Iliamna and drink

19 my coffee and I'm in heaven. It's a wonderful thing.

20 I've got wonderful neighbors that all

21 give a shit about one another. And if they need 22 something, they help each other. And if they are

23 making too much noise, they say something and you quiet

24 down. It's a great, great life.

I don't know why it matters who owns the

And so I really think the road safety and

these things, even though maybe the borough doesn't

3 have any jurisdiction over the road because it's a

4 state road or the Old Sterling Highway, I really think

5 you guys should be able to have some input on this

6 project and do the right thing. Thank you.

7 CHAIRMAN MARTIN: Thank you. Any

8 questions?

9 THE CLERK: Mr. Chairman.

**CHAIRMAN MARTIN:** Yes. 10

11 THE CLERK: Could he state his name?

CHAIRMAN MARTIN: Did you state your name

13 and address?

12

RICHARD CARLTON: Yes, I did. 14

CHAIRMAN MARTIN: In the record, in the 15 microphone? It helps if she gets it recorded as well. 16

THE CLERK: Could you please state your 17

18 name. I didn't catch it.

RICHARD CARLTON: Yes. It is Richard 19

20 Carlton, 73500 Seabury Road. I did -- we did send a

letter in, too. 21 22 CHAIRMAN MARTIN: Okay. Thank you. Mr.

23 Ruffner.

COMMISSIONER RUFFNER: Mr. Chairman, at

25 this time I would like to vote to suspend the rules so

1 that we can extend any public comment beyond our normal2 closing time at 11.

3 COMMISSIONER CARLUCCIO: Second.

4 **CHAIRMAN MARTIN:** Is there any opposition 5 to the motion? Seeing none, the motion to extend the 6 rules passes.

7 And I will ask another time for the next8 testifier.

9 STEVE HABER: My name is Steve Haber.

10 Sorry, it's late. I just want to tell you all I was

11 at -- on the beach road this morning, and everyone who

12 knows it mentioned it before, someone is going to die 13 if this project goes through.

14 I unfortunately had a high school

15 incident with my son's school many years ago, and we

16 couldn't get a traffic light put in at a very famous

17 school in the desert, and three kids got killed, you

18 know, several weeks later. And then, of course, the

19 whole town went crazy and put the light in. That's

20 what's going to happen here.

And you may be under such tremendous

22 pressure from the way you do it that you are going to

23 approve this. This won't work with this road, beach

24 road. Everything that everybody else has said about

25 the views and stuff doesn't compare to the bike

rmal 1 as it was mentioned, the noise goes uphill, and there's

2 numerous homes. Maybe there's only five that could be

3 seen from one particular point, but there are dozens up

4 this hill that the noise will carry right up there, as

5 well as the dust. And the dust can be carried by the

6 wind or if it is -- if the wind is still, it just hangs

7 in the air.

Now at the mine where I work, the whole

9 ground for a large area, in the wintertime especially

10 so you can see it, fresh snow will only stay fresh for

11 a day or two and it's got a dark color, crusty, dirty

12 look for a big area around the mine. So this is one of

13 my biggest concerns at this point is the noise and the

14 dust. Thank you.

15

CHAIRMAN MARTIN: Thank you. Anyone

16 else? This will be the last call for public comment

17 this evening. Hearing and seeing no further requests,

18 we close public comment and bring it back to the

19 Commission for a motion. Mr. Ruffner.

20 **COMMISSIONER RUFFNER:** Thank you, Mr.

21 Chairman. Move to postpone action on this item until

22 next meeting and hold public comment open.

23 COMMISSIONER BENTZ: Second.

24 CHAIRMAN MARTIN: Discussion. Ms.

25 Ecklund.

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1 companies going up and down. The boat trailers are2 going 60 miles an hour themselves -- I mean, the boats

3 that are going to get put in the water. They are not

4 obeying the laws either.

5 I was trying to hitch from one campground

6 to the other this morning, and it was crazy. There was7 two kids being pulled in a deal and being wheeled up

8 there. Someone is going to die. You remember I said

9 this tonight, every one of you. You are sitting here,

10 you can prevent it.

And I don't mean to think you are bad

12 people. Someone is going to die on that road and then 13 you are all going to change your mind. Thank you.

14 CHAIRMAN MARTIN: Anyone else?

15 **DAVID GREGORY:** Okay. My name is David

L6 Gregory. I live on 73850 Seaward, which is just up

17 Danver around the corner from this proposed pit.

We are calling it a pit, a gravel

19 extraction area, which is actually a mine as it was20 mentioned earlier.

I work at a mine, and there's a place for mines, but the mine I work at is way out in a remote

23 area.

And I've sent an e-mail several days ago,

25 and noise and dust is one of my big concerns. And then

COMMISSIONER ECKLUND: I really would

2 like to take action on this tonight. We've heard the

3 public. I would -- you know, if we did bring it back

4 on August 13th, I would hope that they would all be

5 back again and we'd hear it again.

6 I did have opportunity to look through a

7 bit of the material prior to the meeting, but I believe

8 what I've heard tonight and I think it would be just

9 verified in these documents. And I think I would like

10 to take action on this conditional use permit tonight

11 rather than postpone it until August 13th.

CHAIRMAN MARTIN: Mr. Whitney.

13 COMMISSIONER WHITNEY: I concur with

14 that. I had an opportunity to read through everything,

.5 and I just as soon do it tonight and get it over with.

16 CHAIRMAN MARTIN: Roll call, please.

17 THE CLERK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

18 This was a motion to postpone action until the next

19 meeting or to continue the public hearing. Carluccio?

20 **COMMISSIONER CARLUCCIO:** No.

21 THE CLERK: Ecklund?

22 COMMISSIONER ECKLUND: No.

23 THE CLERK: Fikes?

24 COMMISSIONER FIKES: No.

THE CLERK: Martin?

25

Page 98 Page 100 1 **CHAIRMAN MARTIN:** Yes. 1 MR. WALL: Right. If you -- the motion, 2 THE CLERK: Morgan? 2 it sounded like it was to approve as recommended in the **COMMISSIONER MORGAN: No.** 3 staff report, which includes the approval -- I mean, 3 4 THE CLERK: Ruffner? the denial of the waiver. 5 **COMMISSIONER RUFFNER:** Yes. 5 COMMISSIONER ECKLUND: Okay. Okay. THE CLERK: Venuti? 6 6 Thank you. 7 **COMMISSIONER VENUTI:** Yes. 7 CHAIRMAN MARTIN: Further discussion? Go 8 THE CLERK: Whitney? 8 ahead, Mr. Ruffner. 9 **COMMISSIONER WHITNEY: No.** 9 **COMMISSIONER RUFFNER:** Thank you, Mr. THE CLERK: Bentz? 10 Chairman. 10 **COMMISSIONER BENTZ:** Yes. So I was kind of hoping to put this off 11 11 12 THE CLERK: Four yes, five no. 12 because I had a couple of legal questions that I would CHAIRMAN MARTIN: So the motion to 13 have wanted to ask. I don't think we have time to go 13 14 through kind of a memo that I was thinking about asking 14 postpone fails. 15 Ms. Ecklund. 15 for. COMMISSIONER ECKLUND: To put this on the So I will try to summarize what I know 16 16 17 floor, I would like to make a motion to approve the 17 about where we stand legally with looking at this and conditional use permit for a material extraction site why I had to give this little talk a number of times in in the Anchor Point area. 19 an uncomfortable way, is that, you know, the borough 19 COMMISSIONER CARLUCCIO: Second. 20 20 bssembly has given us the rules by which we are allowed CHAIRMAN MARTIN: Discussion. Ms. 21 21 as Planning Commission members to work under. 22 Ecklund. And so they've kind of put the side 22 **COMMISSIONER ECKLUND:** I believe that we 23 boards up there that says what we can and can't 24 have sufficient findings to deny this permit based on 24 approve. And the six criteria that staff has laid out 25 the public opinion or the public testimony and the 25 shows that, in their opinion, that it meets those Page 99 Page 101 1 borough code as it is written now and the facts that 1 conditions. 2 were written in the staff report. So what I would want to hear from my 3 I do have a question for staff, for Mr. 3 fellow commissioners, is of those six criteria, which 4 Wall at this time, to know if we can even address this 4 ones you -- if you are going to vote against this, you 5 know, which ones you don't think we're meeting in the 5 because they requested a waiver for the processing 6 portion of the pit, and you recommend denying that discussion so that I can at least understand where you 7 waiver, which would then not allow them enough area for would be deviating from what's been presented to us in 8 a processing as submitted tonight. Would that require 8 the staff report. 9 a new submission of their application? 9 CHAIRMAN MARTIN: Ms. Ecklund. MR. WALL: The permit would be for the 10 COMMISSIONER ECKLUND: Yes. With the 10

8 a processing as submitted tonight. Would that require
9 a new submission of their application?
10 MR. WALL: The permit would be for the
11 extraction, they could certainly extract. To process
12 the material, it would still leave them a narrow area
13 within the proposed area, within the material site to
14 do some processing.
15 But the material extraction would be
16 approved, but they wouldn't be able to process outside
17 of that narrow area that would be -- and I'd have to

put my scale to it, but it would pretty narrow if we
 narrow it down to the 300 foot from the property lines.
 COMMISSIONER ECKLUND: Yeah, I think it
 would be 50-feet wide or so, so it would be a pretty
 narrow area.

So then the motion -- the motion was to approve this. Do we have to address that waiver or do we just take your recommendation?

11 findings that I've drafted, the first one addresses 12 current Ordinance 21.29.040(A)(4). That states that 13 the noise -- let me find it on page 101 -- that states 14 "...minimizes the noise disturbance to other 15 properties." And from the testimony I've heard tonight 16 17 and the documents that have been submitted, I don't 18 think that the berms or the vegetation buffers will do 19 justice to minimize the noise disturbance to other 20 properties. We've been handed out maps with properties 21 identified, so I think that's one finding. 22 Another finding right along with that is 23 21.29.050(A)(5), and I don't think that the visual 24 effects will be reduced sufficiently with buffers, 25 berms. I don't think they could build them high enough

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....

1 for that.

13

The application was submitted without the seasonal high water determination. I don't think that

4 was sufficiently delineated in the application.

5 And I don't know if this is a finding or

6 not, but I think we need to determine if that well that

7 was mentioned several times tonight is within 100 feet

8 of the pit as designated in the application.

9 **CHAIRMAN MARTIN:** It comes down to did 10 you state your case?

11 **COMMISSIONER ECKLUND:** So I guess that 12 would be -- that's my case.

**CHAIRMAN MARTIN:** That's your findings.

14 COMMISSIONER ECKLUND: And then the vote

15 would determine if we stated it. And if we fail this

16 motion to approve it, then there's followup procedures

17 that could be taken by the applicant, as I understand,

18 is that correct, through the chair to staff?

MR. WALL: So your question was is if it 20 is denied, what the applicant's recourse is?

21 COMMISSIONER ECKLUND: Yes, if you could

22 explain that for us.

MR. WALL: Yes. There is a 15-day appeal

24 period once the decision is made, once the notice of

25 decision is issued, and that appeal would go to the

So one testifier talked about the broad

2 authorities that have been given to the Planning

3 Commission very early on in borough code at 240.050,

4 which authorizes the Planning Commission to kind of

5 consider all the factors in everything that we do and

6 make a good determination, so that's very high in our

7 code.

Then later on in 21.25 it lays out the

9 procedures for when we would authorize a conditional

lo land use permit, and there are several steps in there.

And then later in the code is 21.29,

12 which is the code specifically for gravel pits. Now my

13 understanding of -- or interpretations of how we've

14 gotten to this point in the past has been that 21.29

15 really lays out what you can do with buffers and what

16 you can't do with -- what limitations you could put on

17 a pit operator, and those are handed down to us from

8 the bssembly.

Previously I think I've heard that the

20 21.29 says it's the most recent set of code is that

21 that's the ones that are supposed to govern our

22 decisions. And then looking further up the code where

23 we have broader latitude has not been afforded to us in

24 the past.

So that's been my understanding, and if

1 there's any clarification or corrections to that, I

2 mean, I would like to hear that from counsel.

3 **MS. MONTAGUE:** That was a good summary,

4 Mr. Ruffner. The one thing I would add is it's not

5 just a matter of the ordinance that is adopted later in

6 time, but also the ordinance that is most specific to

7 what you are reviewing.

8 And in this case, the KPB 21.29 is the

9 ordinance that very specifically addresses material

10 sites. So that has more weight than a very general

11 purpose clause, for example, that just says that the

12 Planning Commission can review the public health,

13 safety, and welfare. The very specific criteria in

14 21.29 is how the assembly has chosen to protect the

15 public health, safety, and welfare.

16 CHAIRMAN MARTIN: Ms. Carluccio.

17 COMMISSIONER CARLUCCIO: If 21.29 says

18 that a 50-foot berm or 50 feet of vegetation is one of

19 the criteria and a ten-foot berm, but yet the pit is

20 lower than all of the surrounding area, and the 50 foot

21 doesn't do anything, don't we have some authority to

22 say that this is the letter of the law, but it is not

23 the intent of the law, because the intent of the law is

24 to protect the surrounding land owners?

MS. MONTAGUE: The intent of the law is

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1 hearing officer. And that would be -- anybody that

2 testifies tonight or has written -- submitted written

3 comment would have the ability to appeal.

4 COMMISSIONER ECKLUND: Just to follow up.

5 So anyone that testified and any comments, the hearing

6 officer would get a transcript of the comments tonight

7 as well for their review?

8 MR. WALL: That is correct. The

**9** transcript is provided to the hearing officer.

10 COMMISSIONER ECKLUND: Okay. Thank you.

11 CHAIRMAN MARTIN: Mr. Ruffner. 12 COMMISSIONER RUFFNER: So I

COMMISSIONER RUFFNER: So I thank my

13 fellow commissioner for kind of laying out what will be 14 the findings, I think, attached if it goes that way.

So I'll just summarize. And I think this would be good if it were to be appealed just to have

17 this on the record as my understanding of kind of how18 we get to where we feel like, as commissioners, our

19 hands are tied. And, I mean, I think we heard it from

20 the public that you've heard that our hands are tied in 21 a number of cases.

So as best I can, I can lay out what my understanding of the legal -- legal standing that we

24 have is here, and we have an attorney here that can

25 correct me if I run astray here.

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1	to protect the surrounding land owners in the way the	1	THE CLERK: Ruffner?
2		2	COMMISSIONER RUFFNER: Yes.
3		3	THE CLERK: Venuti?
4	topography that what gets us into this corner right	4	COMMISSIONER VENUTI: Yes.
5		5	THE CLERK: Whitney?
6	ramifications of a crater.	6	COMMISSIONER WHITNEY: No.
7	COMMISSIONER CARLUCCIO: That's true, but	7	THE CLERK: Bentz?
8	I would not be able to support this at the time at	8	COMMISSIONER BENTZ: No.
9	this time anyhow.	9	UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Three yes, six no.
10	CHAIRMAN MARTIN: Ms. Bentz.	10	CHAIRMAN MARTIN: The motion fails.
11	COMMISSIONER BENTZ: Yeah, I would just	11	I'd like to I would like to thank
12	like to follow up on that with just an observation that	12	everyone for the effort and sacrifice it took to come
13	in our staff report it says that the proposed	13	to this hearing. And I want to encourage you to
14	extraction meets the material site standards from 21.29	14	continue to stay connected as a community and make the
15	minimizing noise disturbance from other properties, but	15	most of your community, and thanks for coming.
16	I don't agree with that. I don't think these	16	Yeah, we are still going. Down while the
17	conditions will minimize noise disturbance to other	17	gang is working on the findings. Okay.
18	properties and the conditions won't minimize visual	18	<b>COMMISSIONER ECKLUND:</b> Do you want me to
19	impacts either.	19	read them into the record?
20		20	CHAIRMAN MARTIN: Yes, ma'am.
21		21	COMMISSIONER ECKLUND: Okay. I move that
22	1 1	22	we attach the following findings to the denial of
23	of the unique topography.		the
24		24	CHAIRMAN MARTIN: We can hear. We can
25	Ruffner.	25	hear.
	Page 107		Page 109
1	COMMISSIONER RUFFNER: I just want to say	1	COMMISSIONER ECKLUND: conditional use
2	one more thing. I think we've done a good job of	2	permit for the Anchor Point material extraction site,

```
3 laying out the record of why -- why we're going to vote
                                                            3 that the Borough Code 21.29.040(A)(4), we find that the
 4 the way we are or not. And likely, you know, if it
                                                            4 noise will not be sufficiently reduced with any buffer
 5 doesn't be approved it would likely be appealed, and so
                                                            5 or berm that could be added.
 6 the Board of Adjustment will have a good record from us
                                                            6
                                                                       Borough Code 21.29.040(A)(5), that the
 7 about why -- why we thought that it might not meet
                                                            7
                                                              visual impact to the neighboring properties will not be
 8 those criteria of being able to screen or vegetation.
                                                              reduced sufficiently.
 9 So at least it's all there for the process.
                                                            9
                                                                       MR. WALL: Mr. Chairman, can I go close
           CHAIRMAN MARTIN: Yes, thank you. Roll
                                                           10 the door real quick?
10
11 call, please.
                                                                       CHAIRMAN MARTIN: Yes. Mr. Wall
           THE CLERK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The
                                                           12 interrupted to close the door, because --
12
13 motion was to approve the conditional land use permit
                                                                       COMMISSIONER ECKLUND: Okay.
                                                           13
                                                                       CHAIRMAN MARTIN: -- they weren't -- they
14 application for a material extraction on a parcel in
                                                           14
15 Anchor Point.
                                                           15 weren't clueing in.
                                                                       COMMISSIONER ECKLUND: Do you think
16
           Carluccio?
                                                           16
           COMMISSIONER CARLUCCIO: No.
17
                                                           17 you've got those?
           THE CLERK: Ecklund?
                                                                       CHAIRMAN MARTIN: The recording?
18
                                                           18
19
           COMMISSIONER ECKLUND: No.
                                                                       COMMISSIONER ECKLUND: Thank you. All
                                                           19
20
           THE CLERK: Fikes?
                                                           20 right.
           COMMISSIONER FIKES: No.
                                                                       COMMISSIONER CARLUCCIO: Second.
                                                           21
21
22
           THE CLERK: Martin?
                                                           22
                                                                       CHAIRMAN MARTIN: Discussion on the
23
           COMMISSIONER MARTIN: Yes.
                                                           23 motion. Any opposition of adding these findings?
                                                           24 Seeing no opposition, the motion passes unanimously.
24
           THE CLERK: Morgan?
           COMMISSIONER MORGAN: No.
                                                           25 11:23:14
25
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 1 (End of requested portion)
 2 11:24:07
         (Meeting ajourned at 11:24:07 p.m.)
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                                                    Page 111
 1
                          CERTIFICATE
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