APPENDIX V

REVEGETATION AND EROSION CONTROL PROCEDURES

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Revegetation/Landscaping Procedures Applicable to Hatcher Pass Road.

The short growing season, the unstable glacial till materials, and the value of the scenic resource necessitate revegetation practices. In addition to improving the view, modern revegetation practices reduce maintenance and provide soil and slope stability and food and cover for wildlife.

Selection of herbaceous materials should be determined based on the plants having long, tenacious roots for soil stability, fostering natural seed encroachment and being native to the area. Adaptive species may be selected if they are quick growing to provide soil stability and will succumb to the invasion of natural revegetation. Seed mixtures should change with soil and slope conditions.

Native Alaska wildflower seeds may be incorporated into areas of high visibility. Wildflower seeding should be minimal in areas where similar species exist on adjacent slopes that will naturally revegetate the right-of-way.

Landscaping materials may be acquired from the project site prior to construction. Shrubs such as willow or alder may be planted on slopes needing immediate stability to prevent slumps or landslides caused from groundwater upwelling. To create a smoother transition into the existing vegetation, small trees may be transplanted at the top of cut slopes or at the bottom of fills.

Erosion Control Procedures Applicable to Hatcher Pass Road.

Erosion control practices will promote accelerated recovery and reduced maintenance. Temporary containment or the diversion of clear water that traverses the construction areas will significantly minimize erosion hazards during construction. Groundwater and rain water should be collected from the construction site and strategically located in settling ponds hidden from view. On completion of construction, a decision should be made as to whether to keep the pond or not. If it is not to be kept, it should be drained, recontoured, and revegetated to blend with the natural terrain.

Other methods to control erosion hazards include the following. Rock gabions, wire cages filled with round rock or gravel and underlined by polyvinyl chloride, may be placed at culvert outlets where water velocity and concentration prevent reestablishment of grass or in streams where banks are being undercut by current. Silt collects between gravel and allows seed establishment.

The erosion hazard on slopes where groundwater springs are located can be controlled with buried perforated pipe that is permeable only by water. This reduces soil saturation, prevents sloughing, and promotes the establishment of vegetation.

Retaining walls, where necessary, should follow the same criteria as that for rock cuts. They should be of material and color similar to the surrounding terrain. They should also be benched and revegetated as appropriate.