

# STATE OF ALASKA

**SARAH PALIN, Governor**

## **ANILCA IMPLEMENTATION PROGRAM Office of Project Management and Permitting**

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December 31, 2008

Leslie Grey  
AAL 614, FAA Project Manager  
Angoon Airport EIS  
222 W. 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Box 14  
Anchorage, AK 99513-7587

Dear Ms. Grey:

The State of Alaska received scoping materials for the proposed Angoon Airport Environmental Impact Statement. The following comments represent the consolidated views of the State's resource agencies.

We support the overarching goal to provide the community of Angoon with a safe and reliable airport. We also recognize certain alternatives under consideration would locate the proposed airport and access road within designated Wilderness due to limited suitable, developable land elsewhere. As such, we appreciate the scoping materials address the process established under Title XI of the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (ANILCA) to consider proposed transportation and utility systems within ANILCA conservation system units, including designated Wilderness. We also appreciate the Federal Aviation Administration's continuing efforts to work with appropriate parties to assess these alternatives and address any related issues in the context of ANILCA.

The proposed project may require authorizations from various state agencies, including the Alaska departments of Fish and Game, Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation. For example, Fish Habitat Permits are required for any instream activities affecting waterbodies that may contain anadromous or resident fish. Favorite Creek (112-67-10800) is currently the only cataloged anadromous stream in the project area. However, because the *Catalog of Waters Important for Spawning, Rearing or Migration of Anadromous Fishes* may be incomplete and does not identify waters important to resident fish; all waterbodies potentially impacted by the proposed project must be sampled for fish presence. Construction activities also need to be planned to avoid sensitive life stages of fish. In addition, the project area is located within the Alaska coastal zone boundary and as such, is subject to the requirements of the Alaska Coastal Management Program.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. We look forward to continued participation in this planning process. If you have any questions or need assistance in obtaining state agency contacts for permitting or other purposes, please contact me at (907) 269-7529.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "S. Magee". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letter of the last name being a large, prominent capital 'M'.

Susan E. Magee  
ANILCA Project Coordinator

cc: Sally Gibert, ANILCA Program Coordinator