



KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH

Coastal Management Program

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**JOHN J. WILLIAMS
BOROUGH MAYOR**

October 23, 2006

Ms. Nicole Allison, Project Review Coordinator
Alaska Department of Natural Resources
Office of Project Management and Permitting
550 West 7th Avenue, Suite 705
Anchorage, Alaska 99501

Subject: Porcupine Creek Restoration # 0610-01-AA

Dear Ms. Allison:

Kenai Peninsula Borough Coastal Management Program (KPBCZMP) staff reviewed the subject project to determine conformance with enforceable policies. The review included evaluation of information in response to a request for additional information and a site visit. The project is located in Township 4N, Range 2W, Section 32, Seward Meridian near the community of Cooper Landing.

Project Description and Scope

The applicant, Chugach Electric Association (CEA), seeks to reconstruct the Porcupine Creek bed from the existing perched culvert to the mouth of the creek at Kenai Lake. The restoration will involve the reconstruction of the creek channel to eliminate the culvert's perched condition through the creation of a series of step pools. The channel will be constructed with Class III material. A 2-foot high, 16-foot wide, 40-foot long berm will be constructed on one side of the creek at its outlet to prevent floodwaters from contact with an existing CEA building.

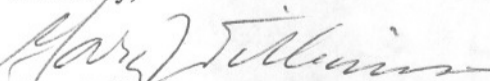
Finding

The applicant reviewed three alternatives to remedy the perched culvert including 1) channel restoration 2) removal and replacement, 3) removal and reinstallation. The applicant selected alternative one as being the most cost effective in accomplishing the objective. Step pool construction in this instance is consistent with Kenai Peninsula Borough Enforceable Policy 7.3, Maintenance and Enhancement of Fisheries inasmuch as the project will not adversely impact important fish habitat.

As part of the channel restoration, the creek bed will be raised some 2-feet and may result in flooding a nearby structure owned by the applicant. The creation of a berm rising 2-feet above the creek shoreline on a 1:2 slope constructed with unclassified material, compacted to 90%, covered with soil and revegetated in a manner that will protect the integrity of the berm, is consistent with Kenai Peninsula Borough Enforceable Policy 3.3, Erosion.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Sincerely,



Gary Williams

Coastal District Coordinator