



FEMA

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

Troublesome Creek Trail Repair Project, Denali State Park, Alaska
Alaska State Department of Natural Resources
Public Assistance Project Worksheet No. 79
FEMA-1663-DR-AK

The State of Alaska Department of Natural Resources (DNR), Division of Parks and Outdoor Recreation applied through the State of Alaska Department of Military and Veterans Affairs, Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management to the Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for financial assistance under the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, as amended, to repair the Troublesome Creek Trail in Denali State Park. The DNR decided to realign and build new portions of the trail rather repair the damaged trail that occurred August 15 – 25, 2006. The event was declared a Presidential disaster (FEMA-1663-DR-AK).

The DNR would repair portions of the 24-inch wide by 8.5 mile long trail or realign/relocate about 3.5 miles of the trail. Repair activities would include: clearing debris that blocks the trail (or infringes upon the right-of-way); clearing areas of overgrown vegetation; and replacing seven (7) stream crossings. Realign/Relocate activities will focus on moving portions of the trail outside of the active floodplain and onto higher ground to avoid risk of exposure to future flood events. These activities include: route selection; site specific design; clearing and grubbing vegetation; and installing switchbacks (in steeper segments of the trail); implementing Best Management Practices to preserve the water quality of local streams for a 24-inch wide trail.

The DNR will provide environmental conservation measures and comply with Environmental and Historic Preservation regulations by 1) implementing its conservation measures and construction Best Management Practices in accordance with those outlined in the Final Environmental Assessment for this project; 2) monitor construction activities for any new or upgraded facilities and stop work and consult with the Tribes and SHPO if any cultural resources are discovered during construction; and 3) applying for and securing appropriate federal, state and local permits.

In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969 and FEMA's implementing regulations, FEMA prepared a Draft Environmental Assessment (EA) to identify and evaluate potential environmental impacts resulting from the alternatives presented in the EA and to determine whether to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) or a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI). Alternatives evaluated in the EA include: 1) Repair and/or Realign/Relocate the Troublesome Creek Trail (Preferred Alternative) and 2) No Action. Other alternatives were considered but not carried forth and are described in the EA. The Draft EA was submitted for public review and comment. FEMA did not receive any comment letters on the Draft EA.

FINDINGS

Based upon the attached final EA and in accordance with FEMA's regulations in 44 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 10 for environmental consideration, including Executive Orders (EOs) addressing floodplains (EO11988), wetlands (EO11990), and environmental justice (EO 12898), FEMA determined the proposed project will not significantly affect the quality of the natural and human environment. As a result of this FONSI, an EIS will not be prepared (44CFR Part 10.8) and the project, as described in the attached EA may proceed.

APPROVAL



6-22-09

Mark G. Eberlein
Regional Environmental Officer
FEMA Region 10

Date