

CHAPTER 6

CONSULTATION AND COORDINATION

The FAA has taken steps to inform the public, special interest organizations, and local, state and federal agencies about the proposed actions and alternatives for Juneau International Airport. FAA has solicited feedback from these interested parties to help shape the goals and scope of this project. The following sections summarize the efforts taken to consult and coordinate with all interested persons, agencies, and organizations.

6.1 PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

The initial notice announcing the FAA's intent to conduct an EIS was published in the Federal Register on August 11, 2000. This notice advised readers that announcements of scoping meetings for this EIS would be published in the Juneau Empire and the Federal Register at a later date.

FAA formally published another notice of intent to conduct an EIS for the Airport on June 1, 2001. This notification in the Federal Register coincided with a 60-day public comment period to solicit input concerning the EIS. A website was established for the project to post relevant information about the project and EIS progress, post notice of public meetings, and provide a convenient method for persons to submit comment concerning the scope of EIS activities (see www.jnu-eis.org). Early in the scoping period FAA advertised initiation of the EIS through ads in the local newspaper, public service announcements, and direct mailing to more than 330 residents, agencies, and special interest groups. Local information repositories were established at the Mendenhall Public Library and Juneau Public Library.

Near the end of the initial public comment period FAA determined that the scope of the EIS should be expanded to assess impacts associated with the Airport's revised wildlife hazard management program. A supplemental Notice of Intent was published in the Federal Register on August 20, 2001. Advertisements and announcements were placed, and a public mailing was distributed. The public comment period was extended through September 30, 2001.

Two public scoping meetings were held, June 20 and September 18, 2001, to inform people about the purpose of and need for the actions, and to solicit comments and questions. A number of smaller, informal meetings were also held during development of the EIS where FAA and representatives from the EIS consulting team met with special interest groups, planning organizations, and the public to discuss specific issues and concerns. A workshop was held on November 15, 2001 to present information about FAA's wildlife hazard management programs and policies, and to discuss some of JNU's specific plans for the Airport.

The Draft EIS was released to the public on April 29, 2005, initiating a comment period that lasted until June 30, 2005. The FAA's Notice of Availability appeared in the Federal Register on April 13, 2005. The FAA held public hearings on the Draft EIS in Juneau on June 1 and 2, 2005, including opportunities for the public to discuss the draft document with the EIS preparation team. The FAA also held meetings at this time with public officials and cooperating and consulting agencies.

The Final EIS was scheduled for release to the public at the end of April 2007, initiating a 45-day comment period ending in early June 2007. The FAA's Notice of Availability for the Final EIS is scheduled to appear in the Federal Register coincident with the release of the FEIS. The FAA planned to hold a public meeting in Juneau shortly after the release of the FEIS to provide an overview of changes made in response to comments on the DEIS.

6.2 CONSULTATION

The FAA directed a consultation program during preparation of this EIS that primarily involved JNU, as the Sponsor, and local, state and federal agencies with specific expertise and/or regulatory authority for the actions being considered. This section summarizes those consultation efforts to date. Project consultation will continue throughout the EIS and will not be complete until after FAA has issued a Record of Decision.

6.2.1 JUNEAU INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

The Juneau International Airport, representing City and Borough of Juneau, is the Sponsor for most of the actions proposed and studied in this EIS. The FAA has maintained communication with JNU throughout development of the EIS. Beginning with an EIS kickoff meeting on May 1, 2001, FAA held numerous meetings and conference calls with JNU and other parties, typically including representatives from the EIS Consulting Team but also CBJ staff and state and federal agencies, on all aspects of the EIS and analysis. Of particular import has been the effort expended to articulate the Airport's proposed actions to a level of detail sufficient for environmental impact analysis. FAA is confident based on coordination with JNU that the proposed actions described in this EIS represent the Airport's preferred alternatives as documented in the written consultation record.

6.2.2 INTERAGENCY CONSULTATION

The FAA held an initial interagency meeting with representatives from a number of different local, state, and federal agencies on May 3, 2001 to inform them of the preliminary scope of the project and solicit scoping input. An interagency scoping meeting for the project was held on June 19, 2001 to specifically discuss purpose and need for the actions, methods of impact analysis, critical environmental concerns such as EFH, identify data sources potentially useful to the EIS as well as data gaps, and discuss possible mitigation opportunities. Other meetings were held with the cooperating agencies periodically during the course of the EIS to discuss specific issues of

concern to JNU, FAA, and the agencies, including: wildlife hazard management, compensatory mitigation, functional assessment criteria for wetlands, comments to technical documentation, FAA guidance on such matters as runway safety area standards, and so forth.

During EIS Scoping the FAA requested that four agencies, including NMFS, the Corps, USFWS, and ADF&G, participate in the EIS as cooperating agencies. Section 1.6.2 describes the rationale for cooperating agency involvement and provides a summary of each agency's expertise and regulatory authority. On November 20, 2001 a Memorandum of Agreement was established between FAA and NMFS, USFWS, and ADF&G describing the roles and responsibilities of each agency in the EIS. FAA entered into a similar Letter of Agreement with the Corps on December 18, 2001.

The cooperating agencies have played an important role in the formulation of this EIS. Each has participated in the approximately 22 interagency meetings held since the EIS began. In addition, the cooperating agencies reviewed and commented on draft documents prior to public release. Interagency comment and deliberation influenced the development of technical documents describing Purpose and Need, Alternatives, Water Resources, and Biological Resources. In addition, the cooperating agencies were instrumental in helping to establish the functional assessment criteria used to delineate wetland functions and values for the project and landscape areas.

Other agencies were involved in development of the EIS. The EPA participated in many meetings of the cooperating agencies, and was also provided the opportunity to review technical documents. The National Weather Service assessed possible sites for relocation of the ASOS and provided design criteria for the new facility. ADNR's Offices of Habitat Management and Permitting, and Project Management and Permitting each provided input on mitigation opportunities and other aspects of the EIS and permit development; their roles increased since the reorganization of some state agencies responsibilities in 2003. The State Historic Preservation Office offered assistance and consultation concerning potentially significant historical, archaeological, and other cultural resources. Federally-recognized Native American tribes were also contacted regarding potential traditional cultural resource concerns in areas associated with the proposed airport projects. USDA's Wildlife Services reviewed documentation concerning wildlife hazards and provided critical feedback on related matters for the EIS, such as efficacy of wildlife hazard risk analysis for the Airport and potential alternatives for hazard control.

Some of the agencies also provided consultation and jurisdictional determinations on specific issues consistent with their regulatory responsibilities. For example, the Corps reviewed and ultimately approved the jurisdictional waters delineation conducted for the EIS (SWCA 2002; Corps 2002b). SHPO approved the Area of Potential Effects used to conduct the cultural resources inventory, and later concurred with FAA's finding that no sites in the APE are eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Properties (DNR 2003). FAA consulted with NMFS concerning the potential for the Airport projects to affect endangered species, marine mammals, and essential fish habitat. NMFS identified the threatened and endangered species of potential concern, the marine mammals most frequently observed near the project area, and provided guidance concerning EFH and the likely adverse affect the proposed actions would have on EFH resources (NMFS 2002). In addition, NMFS reviewed the draft Essential Fish Habitat Assessment and Biological Assessment for the project, and will provide jurisdictional determinations to FAA concerning potential affects.

Appendix H to this EIS includes a limited set of documentation from agencies documenting regulatory decisions and findings. There is substantial additional correspondence from agencies that was influential to many technical and procedural aspects of the EIS that will be incorporated into the project Administrative Record. The following table lists agencies and organizations that were contacted during development of the EIS.

Table 6-1. Agencies and Organizations Contacted

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| U.S. Army Corps of Engineers National Marine Fisheries Service Alaska Department of Fish and Game U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Alaska Airlines Tongass National Forest U.S.D.A, Wildlife Services Alaska Department of Transportation City and Borough of Juneau staff Wings of Alaska Coastal Helicopters | Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation Alaska Department of Natural Resources Alaska State Historic Preservation Office Duck Creek Advisory Group Mendenhall Watershed Partnership Mendenhall Wetlands Citizen Advisory Group CBJ Wetland Advisory Board Juneau International Airport staff Juneau Airport Board Evergreen Airlines TEMSCO Helicopters |
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6.3 DRAFT EIS DISTRIBUTION LIST

The Draft EIS was distributed to more than 70 individuals and a number of governmental organizations and special interests. The following tables represent most of the EIS distribution. These same parties also received copies of the Final EIS.

Table 6-2. Distribution of EIS to Governmental Entities

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|--|---|
| <p>Federal Government</p> Federal Aviation Administration U.S. Environmental Protection Agency National Marine Fisheries Service U.S. Army Corps of Engineers U.S.D.A. Wildlife Services U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service <p>Congressional</p> Representative Don Young Senator Ted Stevens Senator Lisa Murkowski | <p>State Government</p> Alaska Department of Fish and Game Alaska State Historic Preservation Office Alaska Department of Natural Resources Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation <p>Tribal Officials</p> Sealaska Heritage Foundation Tlingit and Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska <p>Special Interest Organizations</p> Mendenhall Watershed Partnership Duck Creek Advisory Group |
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Table 6-2. Distribution of EIS to Governmental Entities

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| State Representative Bruce Weyhrauch | Mendenhall Wetlands Citizen Advisory Group |
| State Representative Beth Kerttula | Southeast Alaska Land Trust |
| State Senator Kim Elton | Libraries |
| City and Borough of Juneau | Mendenhall Public Library |
| Mayor Bruce Botelho | Juneau Public Library |
| CBJ Engineering Department | |
| Juneau International Airport Staff | |
| Juneau International Airport Board | |
| CBJ Wetland Advisory Board | |

Table 6-3. Distribution of EIS to Individuals

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|-----------------------|----------------------|------------------|
| Bill Abadie | Robert Haight | Jennifer Moore |
| Carl L. Allen | Dennis P. Harris | Margo Nash |
| Kristi Allen | Mary Claire Harris | Cathy Needham |
| John Anderson | Deborah Hart | Marie Olson |
| Jeff Barnard | David Hawes | Michael Orelove |
| April Bowlby | Clayton Hawkes | Anthony Reiger |
| McKie Campbell | Joe Heueisen | Dave Ringle |
| Pete Carlson | Fred Honsinger | Mark Rorick |
| Debera Cokeley | Dixie Hood | Scott Russell |
| Janice Criswell | Andy Hughes | Ralph Sanford |
| Patricia DeLaBruere | Vickie Hutton Carney | Richard Sill |
| William P. Dunn | Mary Irvine | Barbara Shepherd |
| Bob Engelbrecht | Bob Jacobsen | Perry Shipman |
| Gordon Evans | Jeannie Johnson | Ross Soboleff |
| Dick Farnell | Doug Jones | Paul Suchanek |
| Laurie Ferguson Craig | Patricia Judson | Amy Sumner |
| Carl Ferlauto | John Kinney | Eric Taylor |
| Dave Fremming | K. Koski | Andy Thomas |

Table 6-3. Distribution of EIS to Individuals

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|------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Michelle Gale | Butch Laughlin | Steve Turner |
| Joe Geldhof | David Lendrum | Pat Tynan |
| Ellen Godwin | Val Lind | George Utermohle |
| Richard Gordon | Lorraine Marshall | Chip Verrelli |
| Donald Greenberg | Bob Mattson | Thomas C Williams |
| Andrew Grossman | Diane Mayer | Reuben Yost |
| Win Gruening | Deanna McPhail | Steve Zimmerman |
| Allyson Guentzel | Ted Merrell | |