



THE STATE  
of **ALASKA**  
GOVERNOR MIKE DUNLEAVY

## Department of Transportation and Public Facilities

SOUTHCOAST REGION  
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Preconstruction

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In Reply Refer To:  
SKG-HNH-PSG Roadways & Culverts – DEC 20 SE PR Geotechnical Investigation  
Project No. SFHWY00447  
Finding of No Historic Properties Affected

ATTENTION: This finding contains no DOEs

April 27, 2026

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To whom it may concern:

The Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities (DOT&PF) has assumed the responsibilities of the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) under 23 U.S.C. 327, and is proposing to make repairs to drainage infrastructure damaged by the 2020 winter storm event at numerous locations as described in the project description below. The environmental review, consultation, and other actions required by applicable Federal environmental laws for this project are being, or have been, carried out by DOT&PF pursuant to 23 U.S.C. 327 and a Memorandum of Understanding dated April 13, 2023, and executed by FHWA and DOT&PF.

Consultation for this project is being conducted in accordance with the 2017 *First Amended Programmatic Agreement... for the Federal-Aid Highway Program in Alaska* (PA). The DOT&PF, acting as a Federal agency, finds that no historic properties would be affected by the proposed project pursuant to 36 CFR 800.4(d)(1), implementing regulations of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act. This submission provides documentation in support of this finding, as required at 36 CFR 800.11(d).

The proposed project activities as described below meet FHWA criteria for proceeding directly-to-findings for compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act. Accordingly, this letter is to provide notice and seek comments on a finding of no historic properties affected by the proposed actions.

### Project Description

*"Keep Alaska Moving through service and infrastructure."*

The project proposes to conduct the following repairs at facilities listed below that were damaged during the 2020 Storm within the areas of Hoonah, Petersburg, and Skagway.

#### Hoonah Front Street

Work at this site includes:

- Drainage structure repairs
- Roadway excavation/resurfacing
- Roadside hardware repair/replacement
- Rockfall mitigation
- Incidental utility work

#### Petersburg:

##### *Mitkof Highway MP 2.57*

- Drainage structure repair
- Roadway excavation/resurfacing
- Ditch lining
- Incidental utility work

##### *Mitkof Highway MP 15.46*

- Drainage structure repair/replacement
- Riprap culvert aprons
- Roadway excavation/resurfacing
- Incidental utility work

#### Skagway Klondike Highway MP 4.085

Work at this site includes:

- Drainage structure repairs
- Embankment repair/stabilization
- Riprap culvert aprons

#### **Area of Potential Effect**

The area of potential effect (APE) for this project extends to the right-of-way (ROW) boundary and encompasses the proposed physical disturbance footprint of construction at each respective location. The attached figures illustrate the individual APEs which also include areas for contractor staging.

#### **Historic Properties Identification**

A query of the Alaska Heritage Resources Survey revealed that the APE for the Klondike Highway MP 4.085 location lies within the Skagway & White Pass National Historic Landmark (NHL) (SKG-00013). No other AHRs resources were identified to be present within this, or the other project locations', APE.

The Skagway and White Pass NHL (SKG-00013) is a historic district that follows the White Pass transportation corridor from Skagway Bay to the boundary of Alaska and British Columbia at the White Pass summit. Its boundaries include the old Skagway townsite, Skagway Historic District, and much of the Skagway River Valley.

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The Secretary of the Interior designated the district an NHL in 1962. It is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) under Criterion A for its association with the Klondike Gold Rush, with a period of significance of 1897-1910.

Close to town the NHL spans 23 residential blocks within the town of Skagway, the Skagway Historic District (SKG-00214), and portions of the Klondike National Historic Park (SKG-00086). As it moves up the river valley the NHL encompasses four of the main travel routes up the White Pass: the Trail of 1897 (Dead Horse Trail)/White Pass Trail (SKG-00094), the Brackett Wagon Road (SKG-00131), the Skagway River and the White Pass and Yukon Railway (SKG-00106). The White Pass Trail (SKG-00094) stretches 40 miles from Skagway to Lakes Bennett and Tutshi.

A portion of the project area is along the Klondike Highway, a separate travel corridor in the Skagway River Valley (constructed in 1978) which is not a contributing property of the NHL. This project site is located in the Porcupine Hill area between highway mileposts 5 and 6; at a distance of about 800 feet from the White Pass Trail (SKG-00094) and Porcupine Hill (SKG-00095) sites. The Skagway and White Pass NHL (SKG-00013) is the only historic property overlapping the APE, and no sites contributing to the NHL are present within the APE.

### **Finding of Effect**

The activities for this project will have no impact outside the existing roadway embankment and are limited to the repair of existing facilities and will result in minimal changes from existing conditions. The Klondike Highway is not a contributing feature of the Skagway & White Pass NHL (SKG-00013), therefore DOT&PF determined a finding of No Historic Properties Affected because these activities would have no effect on the NHL.

### **Consultation**

The following parties are being consulted regarding these findings:

- Chilkoot Indian Association
- Chilkat Indian Village
- Hoonah Indian Association
- Huna Totem Corporation
- Petersburg Indian Association
- Central Council Tlingit and Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska
- Sealaska Corporation
- Sealaska Heritage Institute
- National Park Service
- National Forest Service
- State Historic Preservation Office
- City of Skagway
- City of Hoonah
- Petersburg Borough

Please direct your concurrence or comments to me at the address above, by telephone at #####

Sincerely,



Benjamin Storey  
Southcoast Regional Environmental Manager, and PQI Archaeology

Enclosures:  
APE Figures

Electronic cc w/ enclosures:  
Joel Osburn, P.E., DOT&PF Southcoast Region, Project Manager  
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Holly McKinney, DOT&PF Statewide, Acting Cultural Resource Manager

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