

## UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

National Marine Fisheries Service P.O. Box 21668 Juneau, Alaska 99802-1668

February 18, 2005

Colonel Timothy J. Gallagher U.S. Army Corps of Engineers P.O. Box 898 Anchorage, Alaska 99506-0898

Re: Campbell Creek POA-2003-1081-4

Attn: Maureen McCrea

Dear Col. Gallagher:

NOAA's National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) has reviewed the above referenced, proposed project by the Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities (ADOT &PF) and the Anchorage Water and Wastewater Utility (AWWU). The project includes construction of a road extension between 64<sup>th</sup> and 48<sup>th</sup> Avenues, bridges over the North and South Forks of Campbell Creek and the Dowling Tributary of South Fork of Campbell Creek, trail crossings, intersection improvements, signals and lighting, bus stops, drainage facilities, and separated pathways.

The North and South Forks of Campbell Creek and the Dowling Road Tributary of the South Fork of Campbell Creek are listed as anadromous streams (Alaska Department of Fish and Game Anadromous Stream Catalog) and have been designated as Essential Fish Habitat (EFH). Collectively, these streams provide for the migration, spawning, rearing, and/or over-wintering of Chinook salmon, sockeye salmon, and coho salmon. In addition, the streams and associated wetlands within the project area represent some of the best remaining anadromous fish habitat in the Municipality of Anchorage.

The proposed project had the potential to cause adverse effects to EFH and anadromous fishery resources. However, due to early coordination between ADOT&PF, AWWU, and NMFS in the scoping phase of this project, NMFS conservation recommendations were incorporated into project design. This process greatly reduced potential impacts to EFH and NMFS trust resources. We applied this collaborative work by the applicants, and we have no further comments on the project. Brian Lance (907) 271-1301 and Larry Peltz (907) 271-1332 are the NMFS contacts for this project.

Sincerely,

Vames W. Balsiger

Administrator, Alaska Region

cc: OHMP, OPMP, DEC, EPA, USFWS - Anchorage

