

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

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

October 27, 2006

Colonel Kevin J. Wilson District Engineer U.S. Army Corps of Engineers P.O. Box 898 Anchorage, Alaska 99506-0898

Re: POA-2006-585-D Duck Creek, Juneau

Attn: Garth Zimbelman

Dear Colonel Wilson:

The National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) has reviewed the above referenced Nationwide Permit Pre-Construction Notification concerning maintenance activities in Essential Fish Habitat. The proposed activity would replace 5 deteriorating steel culverts with a single, large fish-friendly culvert in Duck Creek in Juneau. The new culvert will improve stream flow and fish passage. NMFS recognizes the importance of improving fish habitat and passage in Duck Creek and fully supports this project as described in the notification.

If you have any questions regarding our comments for this project, please contact John Hudson (907-586-7639).

Sincerely,

Robert D. Mecum

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Acting Administrator, Alaska Region

cc: Applicant

EPA Juneau, Chris Meade* ADNR, Carl Schrader* USFWS, Juneau*

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