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## Appendix D

# Agency Letters and Certifications

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# STATE OF ALASKA

## DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

DIVISION OF PARKS AND OUTDOOR RECREATION  
OFFICE OF HISTORY AND ARCHAEOLOGY

TONY KNOWLES, GOVERNOR

3601 C STREET, SUITE 127B  
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99503-5921  
PHONE: (907) 269-8721  
FAX: (907) 269-8908

August 17, 1998

File No.: 3130-1R COE

Subject: Shemya Radar Facility & Power Plant

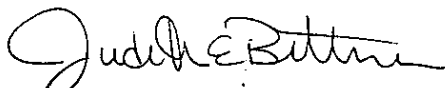
Loran Baxter  
Programs and Project Management Division  
U.S. Army Engineer District, Alaska  
P.O. Box 898  
Anchorage, AK 99506-0898

Dear Mr. Baxter;

The State Historic Preservation Officer concurs with your finding that there are no historic properties in the area of potential effect of the reference project.

Thank you for the copy of Dr. Hoffecker's archaeological survey report. We have no objections to the project moving forward as planned. Please call Tim Smith at 269-8722 if there are any questions or if we can be of further assistance.

Sincerely,



Judith E. Bittner  
State Historic Preservation Officer

JEB:tas



**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration  
National Marine Fisheries Service**

222 W. 7th Avenue, #43  
Anchorage, Alaska 99513-7577  
December 17, 1998

Ms. Julia Hudson  
SMDC-EN-V  
U.S. Army Space and Missile  
Defense Command  
PO Box 1500  
Huntsville, AL 35807-3801

Re: National Missile Defense  
(NMD) Deployment

Dear Ms. Hudson:

This letter is in response to your letter dated, November 13, 1998 and the scoping meeting in Anchorage, AK on December 10, 1998 regarding a proposal for the future deployment of the National Missile Defense (NMD) system. Site alternatives for the various facilities in Alaska include Clear AS, Eareckson AS (Shemya Island), Eielson AFB, Fort Greely, and the Yukon Maneuver Area (Fort Wainwright). A potential oceanic fiber optic cable would be located along the Aleutian Islands from Seward or Whittier to Shemya Island. The National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) believes the described activities have the potential to impact the marine, estuarine, or anadromous fishery resources of the alternative project areas. We have several recommendations for the environmental impact statement (EIS).

**Essential Fish Habitat (EFH)**

The Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (MSFCMA) (16 U.S.C. 1801 et seq. ) requires NOAA's National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) to describe and identify EFH for all Federally managed fish species and to work with state and Federal agencies to promote the protection of EFH in the review of Federal and state actions that may adversely affect EFH.

An Interim Final Rule implementing the MSFCMA'S essential fish habitat provisions was published on December 19, 1997 (Federal Register Vol. 62 No. 244 Pages 66495 - 66812). As described in Subpart J of that rule, each Regional Fishery Management Council must amend its fishery management plans (FMPs) to identify and describe EFH for all life stages of each managed species.

This process is nearing completion. The Notice of Availability of, and a request for, comments on the EFH amendments to the FMPs, for the Alaska Region of NMFS, was published in the Federal



Register Thursday, October 22, 1998 (63FR 56601). A decision by NMFS to approve, disapprove or partially approve these EFH amendments will be made by January 20, 1999. The amendments are expected to take effect on January 21, 1999. If these amendments are approved, EFH would be defined as all habitat within a general distribution for a species life stage, for all information levels and under all stock conditions. In general, EFH would include all freshwater streams accessible to anadromous fish and marine waters from intertidal habitats to the 200 mile limit of the exclusive economic zone (EEZ).

Once the EFH FMP amendments are approved, 16 U.S.C. 1855 (B) (2) of the MSFCMA requires all Federal agencies to consult with NMFS on all actions, or proposed actions, authorized, funded, or undertaken by the agency, that may adversely affect EFH. Federal agencies will be required to submit to NMFS an assessment of potential adverse impacts that may result from their activities and any conservation measures that may mitigate the identified potential adverse impacts. Sections 1855 (b) (3) and (4) direct recommendations to Federal or state agencies on actions that affect EFH. Such recommendations may include measures to avoid, minimize, mitigate, or otherwise offset adverse effects on EFH undertaken by that agency. Section 1855 (b) (4) (B) requires Federal agencies to respond in writing to such comments.

NMFS will use existing processes whenever possible to satisfy the EFH consultation requirements. EFH requirements and analysis can be included in the EIS. The EIS should thoroughly cover construction and operational impacts to the marine, estuarine and anadromous fishery resources of the selected areas. The inland sites have the potential to impact anadromous fisheries. The fiber optics cable and the site at Shemya have the potential to impact marine and estuarine resources. An EFH assessment must include (1) a description of the proposed action; (2) an analysis of the effects, including cumulative effects, of the action on EFH, the managed species, and associated species by life history stage; (3) the federal agency's views regarding the effects of the action on EFH; and (4) proposed mitigation if applicable. If appropriate, the assessment should also include: the results of an on-site inspection; the views of recognized experts on the habitat or species effects; a literature review; an analysis of alternatives to the proposed action; and any other relevant information.

#### **Endangered Species Act**

The National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) is responsible for administration of the Endangered Species Act (ESA) for cetaceans, sea turtles, anadromous fish, marine fish, seals, sea lions, marine plants and corals. All other species (including polar bears, walrus and sea otters) are administered by the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

There are no threatened or endangered species under NMFS jurisdiction associated with the inland sites. However, there are threatened or endangered species that may occur at the fiber optic cable site between Whittier or Seward and Shemya. These include:

Blue Whale (*Balaenoptera musculus*) - endangered  
Fin Whale (*Balaenoptera physalus*) - endangered  
Humpback Whale (*Megaptera novaeangliae*) - endangered  
Northern Right Whale (*Eubalaena glacialis*) - endangered  
Sei Whale (*Balaenoptera borealis*) - endangered  
Sperm Whale (*Physeter macrocephalus*) - endangered  
Steller (Northern) Sea Lion (*Eumetopias jubatus*) - endangered (west of 144 degrees longitude)

Locations of Steller sea lion rookeries can be found at the NMFS Alaska Region web page at <http://www.fakr.noaa.gov/>.

Additional marine mammals found in the project area under NMFS jurisdiction include the killer whale, minke whale, gray whale, Baird's beaked whale, Cuvier's beaked whale, Stejneger's beaked whale, harbor porpoise, Dall's porpoise, harbor seal, northern fur seal, spotted seal, California sea lion.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Sincerely,



Jeanne L. Hanson  
Field Office Supervisor for  
Habitat Conservation

cc: ADFG, ADEC, ADGC, EPA, USFWS - Anchorage  
Applicant



## United States Department of the Interior

Alaska Maritime National Wildlife Refuge  
2355 Kachemak Bay Drive Suite 101  
Homer, AK 99603  
Phone: 907-235-6546

May 3, 1999

Lt. Colonel John L. Ramey  
Deputy Chief of Staff, Engineer  
Environmental Division  
U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command  
Post Office Box 1500  
Huntsville, AL 35807-3801

Dear Lt. Colonel Ramey:

This is in reply to your April 23, 1999, request for comments on the NMD EIS. We suggest that paragraph four, page 3 should state that emperor geese primarily use the *northern* shore intertidal areas, *but can be found around the entire perimeter.*

I suggest that the following change to the top paragraph on page 6: *Shemya Island is part of the Alaska Maritime National Wildlife Refuge administered by the US Fish and Wildlife Service (Service). The purposes of the Alaska Maritime National Wildlife Refuge include conserving wildlife and wildlife habitat in their natural diversity, fulfilling international treaty obligations of the U. S. with respect to fish and wildlife, providing for a subsistence opportunity by local residents, providing a national and international program of scientific research on marine resources, and ensuring water quality and quantity within the refuge. The U.S. Air Force operates Eareckson AS under a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with the Service. In the MOA, the Service and the Air Force agreed that "Consistent with the existence and operation of the defense facilities, the use of the lands of Shemya Island by the Air Force shall be in accordance with the use of the said premises by the Service as a national wildlife refuge, and the Air Force shall not do nor suffer to be done by any of its employees, agents or contractors an act which may interfere with or adversely affect the wildlife values of the island." Proposed development of the NMD system on Eareckson by any agency other than the Air Force would require permitting and consultation as outlined in §1310 of ANILCA.*

We have some questions that should be addressed in the EIS. Is the radar a tower? There could be greater potential for bird strikes than if the radar was a structure similar to Cobra Dane. Most birds (glaucous-winged gulls) cruise on updrafts along the northern coastline at the top of the ridge. If the XBR scans to the north at 2 degrees off horizontal, this could

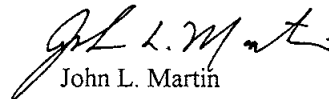
routinely place them in front of the microwave source. What IS the effect of direct, intense, micro bursts of microwave EMR? The present description is inadequate. Does the Cobra Dane emit a similar level of EMR to the proposed XBR? We have not noticed die offs of birds below Cobra Dane that I know of. If you can use information from current or past activities, that we are familiar with, to describe the effect of the XBR, we could make a better judgement on the need or type of remediation.

Another issue to be analyzed is the introduction of nonnative species to the island. As a subtopic of this, we are very interested in rodent control/eradication on the island.

Your draft does not address the need for additional sites in the Aleutians. In very early discussions the Army expressed a need for another site close to the Eareckson AS site. Since this is not addressed, I assume this is not a requirement anymore.

Thank you for the opportunity to participate in the early consultation on your draft. You have a good start. If you have any questions, please feel free to call me at (907) 235-6546.

Sincerely,



John L. Martin  
Refuge Manager

cc: Mike Boylan, FWS  
Ann Rappoport, FWS

# STATE OF ALASKA

## DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

HABITAT & RESTORATION DIVISION

TONY KNOWLES, GOVERNOR

1300 COLLEGE ROAD  
FAIRBANKS, ALASKA 99701-1599  
PHONE: (907) 459-7289  
FAX: (907) 456-3091

May 4, 1999

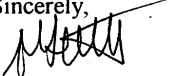
Commander  
US Army Space and Missile Defense Command  
Attn: SMDC-EN-V (David Hasley)  
P.O. Box 1500  
Huntsville, Alabama 35807-3801

Dear Mr. Hasley:

RE: National Missile Defense System – Alaska

The Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) has reviewed the April 23, 1999 list of Alaska candidate sites and supporting environmental information submitted by the US Army for its proposed National Missile Defense System. A draft Environmental Impact Statement will be prepared for this project and is scheduled for public distribution in Fall 1999. Four sites on military land were selected in Interior Alaska and one in the Aleutian Islands. Depending on the site selected, land clearing, road and facility construction, and utilities installation may be required at the selected site. We have no comments at this time on the proposed project sites. Please be advised that any road construction or placement of utility lines for this project in or under fish streams will require a Fish Habitat Permit from the ADF&G.

Sincerely,



Alvin G. Ott, Regional Supervisor  
Habitat and Restoration Division  
Department of Fish and Game

cc: Don McKay, ADF&G, Anchorage  
Dan Reed, ADF&G, Fairbanks  
Polly Wheeler, ADF&G, Fairbanks  
Charles Swanton, ADF&G, Fairbanks  
Keith Schultz, ADF&G, Fairbanks





DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
U.S. ARMY SPACE AND MISSILE DEFENSE COMMAND  
POST OFFICE BOX 1500  
HUNTSVILLE, ALABAMA 35807-3801

APR 23 1999

REPLY TO  
ATTENTION OF

Environmental Division

Mr. Allyn Sapa  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
1500 E. Capitol Avenue  
Bismarck, North Dakota 58501

Dear Mr. Sapa:

The Ballistic Missile Defense Organization (BMDO) is in the process of preparing an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to analyze potential environmental consequences from the deployment of a National Missile Defense (NMD) system. The BMDO is utilizing the U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command (USASMDC) as its EIS Executing Agency and a draft EIS is scheduled for public distribution in Fall 1999. A copy of the Draft EIS will be forwarded to your office for review at that time.

The purpose of this letter is to initiate early consultation with your office regarding proposed NMD activities at each potential deployment location in North Dakota. Information on the NMD system and each candidate site is enclosed.

If you have any questions or desire additional species or issues to be addressed, please let us know as soon as possible. Please review this information and provide comments by May 24, 1999, to Commander, U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command, Attention: SMDC-EN-V (Mr. David Hasley), P.O. Box 1500, Huntsville, AL 35807-3801, commercial (256) 955-4170 or by data facsimile (256) 955-5074.

U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Sincerely,

ECOLOGICAL SERVICES  
ND FIELD OFFICE

I concur with your finding that the project as described will have no impact on threatened or endangered species in North Dakota. IF PROJECT DESIGN CHANGES ARE MADE, PLEASE SUBMIT PLANS FOR REVIEW.

John L. Ramey  
Lieutenant Colonel, U.S. Army  
Deputy Chief of Staff,  
Engineer

5/24/99  
Date  
Enclosure

Allyn J. Sapa  
Field Supervisor



WAES/NAES/ESO/AFES

## United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

1011 E. Tudor Rd.  
Anchorage, Alaska 99503-6199



MAY 28 1999

Commander  
U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command  
Attention: Mr. David Hasley  
Ballistic Missile Defense Organization  
SMDC-EN-V, P. O. Box 1500  
Huntsville, Alabama 35807-3801

Re: National Missile Defense System

Dear Commander:

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has reviewed material dated April 23, 1999, regarding deployment of a National Missile Defense (NMD) system in Alaska. Areas under consideration include sites on Clear Air Station, Eielson Air Force Base, Fort Greely, Fort Wainwright and Eareckson Air Station, Shemya. The information is to be used in preparation of a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for the proposed NMD system.

The information contained in the document provided is generally correct, but without information on the actual plans of the development, locations and acreages to be affected, type of structures, and support infrastructure (such as roads, landing pads, etc.) and the extent of human activities associated with construction and operation of the project, it is difficult to determine the potential direct and indirect impacts the project may have on fish and wildlife resources.

In the absence of site-specific project descriptions, however, we believe that the use of previously disturbed areas and modification of existing structures will likely result in less impact to fish and wildlife resources. Communication towers and power lines could pose significant threats to large birds such as the trumpeter swan, sandhill crane, and eagles. Bright lights or strobes on towers and other tall structures are also known to attract or confuse large numbers of migrating birds under certain conditions, particularly stormy weather. Bird collisions with tall structures often result in high mortality, particularly in spring and fall.

It appears that the construction of Ground-Based Interceptor facilities, due primarily to the potential loss of wetland habitats (including aquatic and riparian habitats), may pose the greatest risks to fish and wildlife resources. We recommend the Department of the Army follow Executive Order 11990 regarding the protection of wetlands, and consider the Clean Water Act's Section 404(b)(1) Guidelines when selecting potential sites for the NMD. The 404(b)(1) Guidelines require the use of practicable alternatives (upland sites), if they exist, when siting non-water dependent projects. If wetlands cannot be avoided, the project should be designed to minimize impacts and potentially to

compensate for unavoidable wetland losses. The DEIS should address efforts to avoid, minimize, and mitigate impacts to fish and wildlife resources, including the loss of wetland habitats.

The proposed project sites in central Alaska (Clear Air Station, Eielson Air Force Base, Fort Greely, and Fort Wainwright) are within the range of the American peregrine falcon (*Falco peregrinus anatum*), which is listed as endangered under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended. The Service is not aware of peregrine nest sites near any of these proposed project sites, but peregrine falcons may be seen migrating or hunting in any of these locations. The Aleutian Canada goose (*Branta canadensis leucopareia*), short-tailed albatross (*Phoebastria albatrus*), spectacled eider (*Somateria fischeri*), and Steller's eider (*Polysticta stelleri*) are listed species that may be observed on or near Shemya Island. Potential impacts to these species should be thoroughly assessed in the project DEIS. The Service will conduct a more thorough review of the potential impacts of this proposal to listed species once we receive detailed construction and operation plans.

Four passerine birds listed as "Species of Concern" by the State of Alaska may be found in the vicinity of the proposed NMD system sites in central Alaska. They are the olive-sided flycatcher (*Contopus borealis*), gray-cheeked thrush (*Catharus minimus*), Townsend's warbler (*Dendroica townsendii*), and blackpoll warbler (*Dendroica striata*). A species of concern listing was generated to bring attention to the needs of vulnerable species before they require more extreme and costly management actions. The Alaska Department of Fish and Game created the new category in 1993. At this time there are no legal requirements for managing these species, but attention should be given to protecting habitats (Alaska National Heritage Program website, ADF&G, 1998). The grey-cheeked thrush, olive-sided flycatcher, and blackpoll warbler use a variety of habitats, including open woodlands, forest burns, boreal bogs, muskegs, and shrub habitats (Harrison 1979, Udvardy 1988). The Townsend's warbler, however, appears to prefer mature white spruce and mixed species forests. In addition to State designation, the olive-sided flycatcher is also listed as a Federal species of concern, along with the northern goshawk (*Accipiter gentilis*), the harlequin duck (*Histrionicus histrionicus*) and a furbearer, the lynx (*Felis lynx canadensis*). Potential impacts to these species should be specifically addressed in the DEIS.

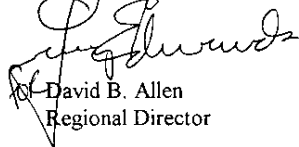
The Bald Eagle Protection Act of 1940, as amended, provides for the protection of the bald eagle and the golden eagle by prohibiting, except under certain specified conditions, the taking, possession and commerce of such birds. We have included for your use guidelines for the protection of nesting bald eagles in Alaska.

Federal legislation and executive orders that may be relevant to the proposed action include:

- ▶ The Bald Eagle protection Act of 1940
- ▶ The Clean Water Act; Section 404
- ▶ Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act
- ▶ Migratory Bird Treaty Act
- ▶ Executive Order 11990, Protection of Wetlands
- ▶ Sikes Act

Thank you for the opportunity to review and comment on the proposed National Missile Defense system deployment in Alaska. We would appreciate the opportunity to review the Draft Environmental Impact Statement when it is completed. The Service point of contact in Alaska for NEPA and project review is Mary Lynn Nation, who can be reached at (907) 786-3519.

Sincerely,



David B. Allen  
Regional Director

Enclosure

References:

Alaska Natural Heritage Program, State of Alaska (ADF&G) Endangered and Species of Concern List. 1998. Web Site  
[http://www.uaa.alaska.edu/enri/aknhp\\_web/biodiversity/zoological/spp\\_of\\_concern/species%20list/state.html](http://www.uaa.alaska.edu/enri/aknhp_web/biodiversity/zoological/spp_of_concern/species%20list/state.html).

Harrison, Hal H. 1979. *A Field Guide to Western Bird's Nests*. Houghton Mifflin Company.

Udvardy, Miklos. 1988. *The Audubon Society Field Guide To North American Birds, Western Region*. Chanticleer Press, Inc. New York.

STATE OF ALASKA

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

DIVISION OF PARKS AND OUTDOOR RECREATION  
OFFICE OF HISTORY AND ARCHAEOLOGY

TONY KNOWLES, GOVERNOR

3601 C STREET, SUITE 1278  
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99503-5921  
PHONE: (907) 269-8721  
FAX: (907) 269-8908

June 3, 1999

File No.: 3130-1R DOD Army

Subject: National Missile Defense system

LT COL John Ramey  
Department of the Army  
U.S. Army Space and Missile Command  
P.O. Box 1500  
Huntsville, AL 35807-3801

ATTN: Environmental Division (Hasley)

Dear LT COL Ramey;

We have reviewed your letter concerning Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and potential sites for the National Missile Defense system in Alaska.

Clear Air Station: We concur with your finding that there will be no effect to archaeological properties. However, it is too early to concur with your finding that there will be no effect to historic buildings and structures. It is correct that the BMEWS and WACS facilities have been determined eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places. While the proposed APE is some distance away, it is not possible to determine the effect without some knowledge of the design and layout of the NMD facility.

Eareckson Air Station, Shemya: We concur with your finding that there will be no effect to archaeological properties. However, it is too early to concur with your finding that there will be no effect to historic buildings and structures. It is correct that the Cobra Dane and WACS facilities have been determined eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places. While the proposed APE is some distance away, it is not possible to determine the effect without some knowledge of the design and layout of the NMD facility.

Eielson Air Force Base: We concur with your finding that there will be no effect to archaeological properties. At this time, 6 buildings and the WACS facility have been determined eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places. We will be pleased to consult on effects to these and any other historic

buildings and structures when plans for the NMD system are more advanced.

Fort Greely, East Training Area: We do not concur with any of your findings for Fort Greely. I am not willing to accept a "no effect" finding for the 600 acre parcel based on a report we haven't seen. The parcel has not been surveyed at a level of intensity appropriate for major development. The National Register eligibility of the buildings and structures at Fort Greely have not been satisfactorily determined at this time.

Fort Wainwright, Yukon Training Area: We do not concur with your finding that there will be no effect to archaeological properties. The parcel has been surveyed at a reconnaissance level at best and contains some relatively high potential areas. Intensive survey is recommended if this area is chosen for the NMD system location. We will be pleased to consult on effects to any historic buildings and structures when plans for the NMD system are more advanced.

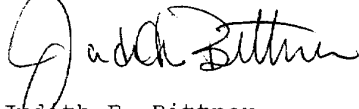
Your findings concerning paleontological potential are immaterial since Section 106 does not apply to fossils.

All of the findings relative to buildings are flawed because they are based only on direct, physical effects such as demolition. Other sorts of effects are certainly possible as defined in 36 CFR 800.9(a) and (b).

Finally, please be certain that we are in no way opposed to construction of the NDB facility in Alaska. This attempt at Section 106 compliance is largely premature.

Please contact Tim Smith at (907) 269-8722 if there are any questions or if we can be of further assistance.

Sincerely,



Judith E. Bittner  
State Historic Preservation Officer

JEB:tas



**North Dakota  
State Historical Board**

**Appointed Members:**

Beverly Kraus Horne  
*Devils Lake – President*  
Lydia S. Sage-Chase  
*Halliday – Vice President*  
John E. Von Rueden  
*Bismarck – Secretary*  
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*Williston*  
A. Ruric Todd, III  
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Candyce J. Wood  
*Pembina*

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Marshall W. Moore  
*Director  
Department of Transportation*  
Douglas Prchal  
*Director  
Parks and Recreation Department*

Samuel J. Wegner  
*Superintendent*

*Accredited by the  
American Association  
of Museums*

**IN RESPONSE PLEASE REFERENCE: #92-351**

June 17, 1999

John L. Ramey, Lt. Col.  
Deputy Chief of Staff, Engineer  
US Army Space and Strategic Defense Command  
PO Box 1500  
Huntsville, AL 35807-3801

RE: DEIS for Stanley R Mickelson Safeguard Complex PAR Building

Dear Lt.Col. Ramey:

Thank you for your 4-23-99 letter concerning the DEIS for the above referenced project. We concur that the demolition of PAR building would adversely affect a historic property eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places. The 36 CFR 800 regulations require such effects to be either avoided or mitigated.

The HABS/HAER recordation constituted a significant pre-mitigation effort, and we have considered it to be adequate mitigation for many undertakings, and will no doubt continue to do so. However, the PAR building is the most significant remaining component of the SRMSC. The HABS/HAER recordation alone would not adequately mitigate such an extreme loss. We recommend that some significant interpretation, on-site and off, would be appropriate.

We understood that the Remote Launch Site #3 would not only be preserved, but that there would be some quality interpretation done there. This has not yet occurred. Without such interpretation, there is little benefit to the people who were most affected by the ABM complex. During a visit to the PAR site, the base commander also expressed a desire to develop some on-site interpretation. There seems to be strong support for doing some quality interpretation.

There is growing support for developing a national Cold War era heritage corridor. The SRMSC would be an essential component of the corridor. Adequate interpretation at RLS #3 would fit into that effort very well, and would further the public's appreciation for our rich military heritage. Such interpretation can take various forms such as signage, short-range radio broadcast drivers can tune into, a



Lt.Col. Ramey  
June 17, 1999  
Page 2

display housed within the security building for occasional on-site tours--these are just a few types of mitigation that may be effective and meaningful for public education and appreciation.

Please note that these types of mitigation do not need to be cost prohibitive. The research is essentially completed and documented in the HABS/HAER report.

Development of quality interpretation for the SRMSC also presents an opportunity for the Strategic Defense Command and Air Force to cooperate with local and regional interest groups. The contacts we have made indicate that there is strong local interest in seeing a quality interpretation developed for the SRMSC. We have kept your on-site environmental coordinator, Dr. Greenwood, informed in regard to these matters.

Thank you for allowing us this opportunity to comment on this undertaking. The North Dakota SHPO and the people of North Dakota would greatly appreciate your support in this matter. If you have any questions or comments regarding this response, please contact Michael E. Simonson, Project Review Coordinator at (701) 328-3576.

Sincerely,



Samuel J. Wegner,  
Superintendent of the State Historical Society &  
State Historic Preservation Officer

cc: US Senator Byron Dorgan  
US Senator Kent Conrad  
US Representative Earl Pomeroy  
ND Senator Harvey Sand, Langdon ND  
Dr. Greenwood, Cavalier AFS

JUN 29 1999 09:23AM USFWS BKA ANCHORAGE

P. 2/4



IN REPLY REFER TO:

WAES

## United States Department of the Interior

### FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Ecological Services Anchorage  
605 West 4th Avenue, Room 62  
Anchorage, Alaska 99501-2249

June 28, 1999

Lieutenant Colonel John L. Ramey  
Department of the Army  
U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command  
P.O. Box 1500  
Huntsville, AL 35807-3801

Re: Effects of fiber optic cable installation activities on Alaska's Threatened and Endangered Species

Dear Lt. Col. Ramey:

This is in reply to your letter of May 25, 1999, in which you request comments on the information contained in your letter pertaining threatened and endangered species that may be affected by the proposed fiber optic cable installation associated with the National Missile Defense system. We understand that a copy of the draft EIS will be forwarded to this office upon its completion during Fall, 1999. We appreciate the effort that you have put forth in initiating early consultation. We have suggested some changes to your information on listed species, and request some additional information about the project itself.

#### **Short-Tailed Albatross (*Phoebastria albatrus*)**

The scientific name for the short-tailed albatross was recently changed from *Diomedea albatrus* to *Phoebastria albatrus*.

The short-tailed albatross numbers approximately 1000 individuals in 1999, up from "over 600 in 1993" as listed in your document. It is not casual or accidental in waters around Kodiak. Although sightings of this bird are rare throughout most of its range by virtue of its low population numbers, we have several documented sightings near Kodiak Island, and continue to receive reports of them near the island. Kodiak Island is near the central portion of this species documented range along Alaska's southern coastline.

#### **Spectacled Eider (*Somateria fischeri*)**

While the spectacled eider winters in the northern Bering Sea south of St. Lawrence Island, as stated in your document, it does not stage exclusively in this location during Spring and Fall. Rather, the birds molt and stage at a number of locations, including areas in the Bering, Beaufort, and Chukchi seas. Staging also occurs in waters off of eastern St. Lawrence Island and just off of

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P. 3/4

the Island's southern shore. Other undocumented staging areas are suspected by some to exist. This species does not winter in coastal areas of south central Alaska or British Columbia. We believe that the rare occurrences of this species in such locations can be considered accidental, as you have considered them for the waters around Kodiak Island.

**Steller's Eider (*Polysticta stelleri*)**

Only the North American Breeding population of the Steller's eider is considered by the U.S. Government as threatened. The document you have provided to us states that individual or small flocks of Steller's eiders occur in waters through which the proposed cable may pass. We are unable to verify this statement until we see the actual proposed route of the cable. Avoiding the use of subjective terms such as "small flocks" will make future critiquing easier. Is a small flock 6 or 250 birds?

Depending on the timing of cable-laying and the exact points at which cables come ashore, flocks of hundreds of Steller's eiders could potentially be impacted by this proposed operation. In addition, Steller's eiders could be attracted to the lights of ships laying cable at night. Such collisions could adversely affect the listed population of this species.

**Harlequin Duck (*Histrionicus histrionicus*)**

The harlequin duck is not a "Category 2" species. The "Category 2" designation was done away with several years ago. In addition, there may be some confusion over eastern and western populations of harlequin ducks. While harlequin ducks in the eastern North America were recently petitioned for listing (and subsequently found to not warrant protection under the Endangered Species Act), harlequin ducks in Alaska (western portion of North America) have not been petitioned for listing. The species has, however, been the subject of recent research, especially in Prince William Sound, where populations were impacted by the Exxon Valdez oil spill.

**Additional Information Requested**

We need some additional information before we are able to concur with your finding that the current proposed project should have "no significant short-term or long-term impacts on critical habitat or jeopardize the continued existence of the short-tailed albatross, Aleutian Canada goose, spectacled eider, Steller's eider, or harlequin duck".

- 1) Where, exactly, are the proposed landfalls for the fiber optic cable, and what is the best estimate of the cable's route offshore?
- 2) What materials will be released into the water column during the proposed activities, where will they be released, when, and in what volumes?
- 3) Can you provide us with any information on recovery time for mollusc populations disturbed during cable burial operations?
- 4) What is the proposed timetable for this project?

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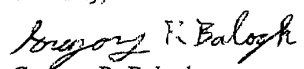
P. 4/4

- 5) When and where will ships associated with this proposed project be operating during twilight or darkness?
- 6) While we note that you have determined that this project will not jeopardize the continued existence of any listed species or result in adverse modification of critical habitat (a finding with which we concur), have you determined whether this project will *adversely affect* any listed species?

Thank you for your cooperation in meeting our joint responsibilities under section 7 of the Endangered Species Act. If you have any questions or concerns about this consultation or the consultation process in general, please feel free to contact me at:

Phone: 907/271-2778  
Fax: 907/271-2786  
E-mail: greg\_balogh@fws.gov

Sincerely,

  
Gregory R. Balogh  
Endangered Species Biologist

LAA\_S7REPS7\_1999\MISSILE.S7

# STATE OF ALASKA

## DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

DIVISION OF PARKS AND OUTDOOR RECREATION  
OFFICE OF HISTORY AND ARCHAEOLOGY

TONY KNOWLES, GOVERNOR

3801 C STREET, SUITE 1278  
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99503-5921  
PHONE: (907) 269-8721  
FAX: (907) 269-8808

August 9, 1999

File No.: 3130-1R DOD Army

Subject: National Missile Defense system

LT COL John Ramey  
Department of the Army  
U.S. Army Space and Missile Command  
P.O. Box 1500  
Huntsville, AL 35807-3801

ATTN: Environmental Division (Hasley)

Dear LT COL Ramey;

We have reviewed your letter concerning Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and potential visual impacts to historic properties that may be caused by the National Missile Defense system in Alaska.


The State Historic Preservation Officer concurs with your finding that the visual character of any historic properties in the areas of potential effect will not be adversely affected.

Please contact Tim Smith at (907) 269-8722 if there are any questions or if we can be of further assistance.

Sincerely,

  
Judith E. Bittner  
State Historic Preservation Officer

JEB:tas

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State  
Historical  
Society of  
North Dakota

Since 1895

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State Historical Board**

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**IN RESPONSE PLEASE REFERENCE: #92-351**

August 18, 1999

John L. Ramey, LC USA  
Dep. Chief of Staff, Engineering  
US Army Space & Strategic Defense Command  
PO Box 1500  
Huntsville, AL 35807-3801

RE: National Missile Defense System


Dear Mr. Ramey:

Thank you for your 7-2-99 letter (received 7-13-99) concerning the above referenced concept proposal. Similar to the SRMSC, the Grand Forks missile wing was also determined eligible for the National Register. The launch sites and control facilities are eligible, as are various on-base facilities (a comprehensive list of the contributing historic features of the base has not been developed). The closure of the GFAFB missile wing is an adverse effect to historic properties. We are working with the Air Force to finalize the mitigation for the adverse effects. The mitigation they undertake may constitute adequate mitigation for adverse effects caused by a NMD system, especially to off-base facilities.

In addition to the PAR building, other SRMSC facilities are also eligible for the National Register. However, your office has completed HABS/HAER recordation of the complex. It was our intention at the time the recordation was undertaken that it would serve as mitigation for most of the future activities that would constitute adverse effects. We have honored that understanding as we have reviewed numerous projects that have arisen at the SRMSC, and will continue to do so. Thus, short of the actual demolition or significant alteration of the PAR and MSR buildings and their immediate mission critical structures, we recommend that other adverse effects be considered to be 'premitigated'.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter. If you have any questions or comments regarding this response, please write, or call me at (701) 328-3576.

Sincerely,

  
Michael E. Simonson  
Project Review Coordinator

North Dakota Heritage Center • 612 East Boulevard Avenue, Bismarck, ND 58505-0830 • Phone: 701-328-2666 • Fax: 701-328-3710  
Email: [histsoc@state.nd.us](mailto:histsoc@state.nd.us) • Web site: <http://www.state.nd.us/hist> • TTY: 1-800-366-6888

# STATE OF ALASKA

## DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

DIVISION OF PARKS AND OUTDOOR RECREATION  
OFFICE OF HISTORY AND ARCHAEOLOGY

TONY KNOWLES, GOVERNOR

3601 C STREET, SUITE 1278  
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99503-5921  
PHONE: (907) 269-8721  
FAX: (907) 269-8908

November 1, 1999

FILE: 3130-IR DoD/U.S. Army

SUBJECT: National Missile Defense Program Activities in Alaska

SMDC-EN-V (Mr. David Hasley)  
U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command  
P.O. Box 1500  
Huntsville, AL 35807-3801

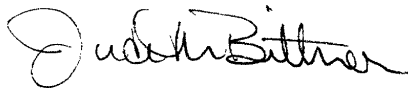
Dear Mr. Hasley:

My staff has reviewed the draft "Cultural Resource Survey at Fort Greely and Yukon Training Area (Fort Wainwright), Alaska" prepared for the U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command. I am not able to concur on the finding of No Historic Properties Affected in the surveyed areas based on the information presented. The report identifies a number of "log structures" found in the Yukon Training Area. Information provided on these structures is inadequate to determine their age, function, appearance or history. No photographs of these structures are included in the report. The final draft of this report should provide this information.

The last paragraph of the Abstract (page ii) is an incorrect statement. Whether the National Missile Defense Program has effectively met its inventory responsibilities regarding the identification and evaluation of historic properties is determined in consultation between the lead federal agency and the State Historic Preservation Officer, not by the contractor. The address that is provided for the State Historic Preservation Officer on page 62 is incorrect. The correct address is Office of History and Archaeology, 3601 C Street, Suite 1278, Anchorage, AK 99503-5921.

If you have questions, please contact Russ Sackett at 907-269-8726.

Sincerely,



Judith E. Bittner  
State Historic Preservation Officer

JEB/rhs



**DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE  
BALLISTIC MISSILE DEFENSE ORGANIZATION  
NATIONAL MISSILE DEFENSE JOINT PROGRAM OFFICE**  
SUITE 809, 1725 JEFFERSON DAVIS HIGHWAY  
ARLINGTON, VA 22202-4102

JNDA

APR 17 2000

Judith E. Bittner  
State Historic Preservation Officer  
Office of History and Archaeology  
3601 C Street, Suite 1278  
Anchorage, Alaska 99503-5921

Dear Ms. Bittner:

The National Missile Defense (NMD) Joint Program Office (JPO) provided your office a copy of the *Final Cultural Resource Survey at Fort Greely and the Yukon Training Area (Fort Wainwright), Alaska* for review in January of this year. J. McMehann of the Office of History and Archaeology received this report along with our submittal letter on January 18, 2000 according to our tracking records.

Because of the absence of any historic properties, we requested your concurrence with our determination that there will be "no historic properties affected" at either the Fort Greely or Yukon Training Area (Fort Wainwright) sites proposed for the Ground Based Interceptor (GBI). Attached is the letter we provided to your office requesting this concurrence. Since no response has been received we assume that your office concurs with our findings and the NMD Program is not required to take any further steps in the Section 106 process regarding the proposed GBI sites at Fort Greely or the Yukon Training Area.

If you have any questions, please contact Mr. David Hasley, U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command, at (256) 955-4170. Please provide any correspondence to SMDC-EN-V (Mr. David Hasley), U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command, P.O. Box 1500, Huntsville, AL 35807-3801.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Donna L. Brock".

DONNA L. BROCK  
Deputy Director  
System Deployment &  
Site Activation

Attachment:  
As stated





**DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE  
BALLISTIC MISSILE DEFENSE ORGANIZATION  
NATIONAL MISSILE DEFENSE JOINT PROGRAM OFFICE**  
SUITE 809, 1725 JEFFERSON DAVIS HIGHWAY  
ARLINGTON, VA 22202-4102

JAN 18 2000

JNA

Judith E. Bittner  
State Historic Preservation Officer  
Office of History and Archaeology  
3601 C Street, Suite 1278  
Anchorage, Alaska 99503-5921

Dear Ms. Bittner:

Thank you for reviewing the National Missile Defense Deployment Draft Cultural Resource Survey at Fort Greely and Yukon Training Area (Fort Wainwright), Alaska. As stated in your letter (File No.:3130-1R DOD Army, November 1, 1999), the Alaska State Historic Preservation Officer was not able to concur on our findings of "no historic properties affected" based on the information presented in the draft survey report.

Your office noted that a number of "log cabins" were found in the Yukon Training Area and that the information provided including the lack of photographs was inadequate to determine their age, function, appearance or history. We have revised the survey report to include the requested information regarding these structures. For ease of review, the changes to the report have been underlined.

Because of the absence of any historic properties, we request your concurrence with our determination that there will be "no historic properties affected" at either the Fort Greely or Yukon Training Area (Fort Wainwright) proposed Ground Based Interceptor (GBI) sites. Enclosed is the final cultural resources survey report detailing the results of the survey at both locations.

If you have any questions, please contact Mr. David Hasley, U.S Army Space and Missile Defense Command, at (256) 955-4170.

Please provide your concurrence response letter to  
SMDC-EN-V (Mr. David Hasley), U.S. Army Space and Missile  
Defense Command, P.O. Box 1500, Huntsville, AL 35807-3801.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "LSDavis".

LAUREN S. DAVIS, JR.  
LTC, IN  
Director, System Deployment  
and Site Activation Directorate

Enclosure:  
As stated



**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**  
**National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration**  
*National Marine Fisheries Service*  
P.O. Box 21668  
Juneau, Alaska 99802-1668

May 9, 2000

Commander  
U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command  
P.O. Box 1500  
Huntsville, AL 35807-3801

Attention: SMDC-EN-V, David Hasley

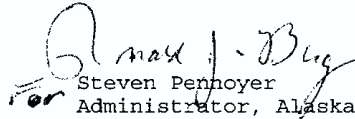
Dear Sir:

This letter is being sent in response to your April 3, 2000 assessment of the potential impacts to marine mammals in the vicinity of Shemya Island (Eareckson AS) from the construction and operation activities at the proposed National Missile Defense (NMD) system.

The National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) is primarily concerned with noise impacts on Steller sea lions from rock quarry blasting during construction. Steller sea lions located west of 144° west longitude are listed as endangered under the Endangered Species Act. A Steller sea lion haulout is located about 8,400 feet from the rock quarry. We anticipate that because most other construction activities would occur in interior parts of the island and operation of the radar would be well above marine mammal habitat, no impacts will result from these activities.

NMFS has reviewed the March 24, 2000, report titled "National Missile Defense Program Minimizing Blasting Effects on the Environment through Blast Design at the Seal Rock Quarry Shemya Island, Alaska," prepared by SubTerra, Incorporated. Based upon the information provided in this report, we agree with your determination that blasting, construction and operation of the project would have "no effect" on Steller sea lions near the project area. If project design, construction, or operation change from the initial proposal, or new information becomes available, please inform NMFS so we can reassess potential impacts. Thank you for the opportunity to comment. Please contact Daniel J. Vos of my staff at 907-271-5006 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

  
Steven Pennoyer  
Administrator, Alaska Region

cc: USFWS, EPA, ADGC, ADFG, ADEC - Anchorage

