

Willow Area Community Historic Preservation Plan



Sponsored By:

Matanuska-Susitna Borough
Cultural Resources Division
350 East Dahlia Avenue
Palmer, Alaska 99645-6488

PREPARED BY

Pacific Northwest Resources Consultants
Eagle River, Alaska

September 2011

Adopted: January 15, 2013

CODE ORDINANCE

By: Borough Manager

Introduced: 11/01/11

Public Hearing Postponed to 02/21/12: 11/15/11

Public Hearing: 02/21/12

Postponed to 03/20/12: 02/21/12

Postponed to 06/05/12: 03/20/12

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12/18/12 Meeting Canceled: 12/04/12

Adopted: 01/15/13

**MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH
ORDINANCE SERIAL NO.12-056
(Formerly Ordinance Serial No. 11-148)**

AN ORDINANCE OF THE MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH ASSEMBLY AMENDING MSB 15.24.030, COMPREHENSIVE PLAN AND PURPOSES, BY ADOPTING THE 2011 WILLOW AREA COMMUNITY HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN INTO THE OVERALL BOROUGH WIDE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN.

BE IT ENACTED:

Section 1. Classification. Sections 1, 2 and 4 of this ordinance are non-code. Section 3 of this ordinance is of a general and permanent nature and shall become a part of the Borough Code.

Section 2. Approval of plan. The Matanuska-Susitna Borough Assembly does hereby adopt the 2011 Willow Area Community Historic Preservation Plan.

Section 3. Amendment of section. MSB 15.24.030(B) is hereby added as follows:

**(32) The Willow Area Community Historic
Preservation Plan, adopted January 15, 2013.**

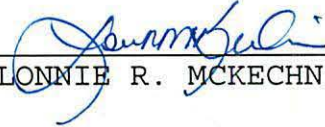
Section 4. Effective date. This ordinance shall take effect upon adoption by the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Assembly.

ADOPTED by the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Assembly this 15 day of January, 2013.



LARRY DEVLBISS, Borough Mayor

ATTEST:



LONNIE R. MCKECHNIE, CMC, Borough Clerk
(SEAL)

PASSED Unanimously: Keogh, Woods, Arvin, Colligan, Salmon,
Colver, and Halter

Willow Area Community
Historic Preservation Plan
For Areas within the
Willow Area Community Boundaries

In cooperation with:

**The Willow Historic & Wildlife Foundation
And
Residents
Of the
Willow Community**

Sponsored By:

Matanuska-Susitna Borough
Cultural Resources Division
350 East Dahlia Avenue
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**Matanuska-Susitna Borough
Project 09-086**

Revised, June 10, 2011

Prepared By:
Pacific Northwest
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Eagle River, AK 99577

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I. Introduction

A Project Background

Matanuska-Susitna Borough (MSB) has written a historic preservation plan for the Willow Area Community (WAC) for inclusion in the Comprehensive Plan. This plan was created as a response to recent development activities in the Matanuska-Susitna Borough, including but not limited to proposals for development of the proposed Knik Arm Bridge and Toll Authority (KABATA) and associated infrastructure, and construction of an Alaska Railroad spur from Point MacKenzie potentially to the Willow area. The plan addresses possible direct, indirect, and cumulative impacts to historic and prehistoric cultural resources in and immediately adjacent to the WAC area of a variety of projects that are currently underway or that are projected to take place in the near future. For the purposes of this plan, *cultural resources* encompass archaeological, traditional, and built environment resources, including but not necessarily limited to buildings, structures, objects, districts, and sites. These resources are usually at least 45 years old or older. This plan does not address paleontological (fossil) or geological resources. The project area for this historic preservation plan is shown in Figure 1.1.

Potential direct, indirect, and cumulative impacts would be not only from development carried out as part of the proposed Port MacKenzie Rail Extension and the Knik Arm Bridge projects, but also from activities associated with other projects such as new subdivisions, businesses, transportation arteries, and related infrastructure.

B A Note to Contractors Carrying Out Compliance with the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (as Amended) CFR 36 Part 800 – Section 106 for Construction Projects

The Willow Area Community Historic Preservation Plan and the associated predictive models are compiled as a basis for future planning, including planning future mitigation to address potential impacts of proposed projects. *They do not in themselves constitute mitigation, nor should they be construed as fulfilling compliance or mitigative requirements of such projects under the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) of 1966 (as Amended) CFR 36 Part 800 – Section 106.*

The inventories of cultural properties found in Chapter III represent what is presently known about the prehistoric and historic archaeological sites and historic structures in the WAC area. The inventory is far from complete because pedestrian surveys for cultural resources have been carried out on only a small portion of the land in the project area. Such surveys were not a planned part of the current project. Contractors carrying out Section 106 NHPA compliance requirements for a project should use this plan as a starting point. In nearly all

cases, it will be necessary for the contractor to define and carry out more in-depth study of the particular project Area of Potential Effect.

C Framework of Historic Preservation Laws and Statutes

A number of Federal Laws and State Statutes provide protection for historic and prehistoric cultural resources. They include:

- Antiquities Act
- National Historic Preservation Act, as Amended
- Alaska Historic Preservation Statutes
- Matanuska-Susitna Borough: Title 27
- Matanuska-Susitna Borough Area-wide Historic Preservation Ordinance.

Information about each of these is provided in the glossary under that heading, and the Statutes and Ordinances can be found in Appendix 1.

D Scope of the Project

1 Subject Matter

The subject of this project is *historic and prehistoric cultural resources and properties* important to the community in which they are located. The National Register of Historic Places defines a historic property as:

a district, site, building, structure, or object significant in American history, architecture, engineering, archaeology and culture... It may be of value to the Nation as a whole or important only to the community in which it is located (USDI NPS 1991).

Historic or prehistoric cultural resources are of several types that include any prehistoric or historic *district, site, building, structure, or object* included in or eligible for inclusion in the National Register or having local significance. The types may also include a *historic landscape*. Historic resources can also include *artifacts, records, and remains* which are related to one of the property types listed above. For more detailed definitions of these property types, please refer to the glossary.

The goal of this project is to create a comprehensive historic preservation plan for the Willow Area Community, developed through a collaborative effort among the Willow Historic and Wildlife Society and interested individuals. This is being accomplished in a series of steps that include:

- Provision for formal presentations to interested groups.
- Formation of a Focus Group, a working group that provided specific information and recommendations identifying cultural properties important to the communities, creating a community vision, and assisting in establishing protective goals and objectives for identified important cultural properties. Through the focus group, potential conservation areas could be:

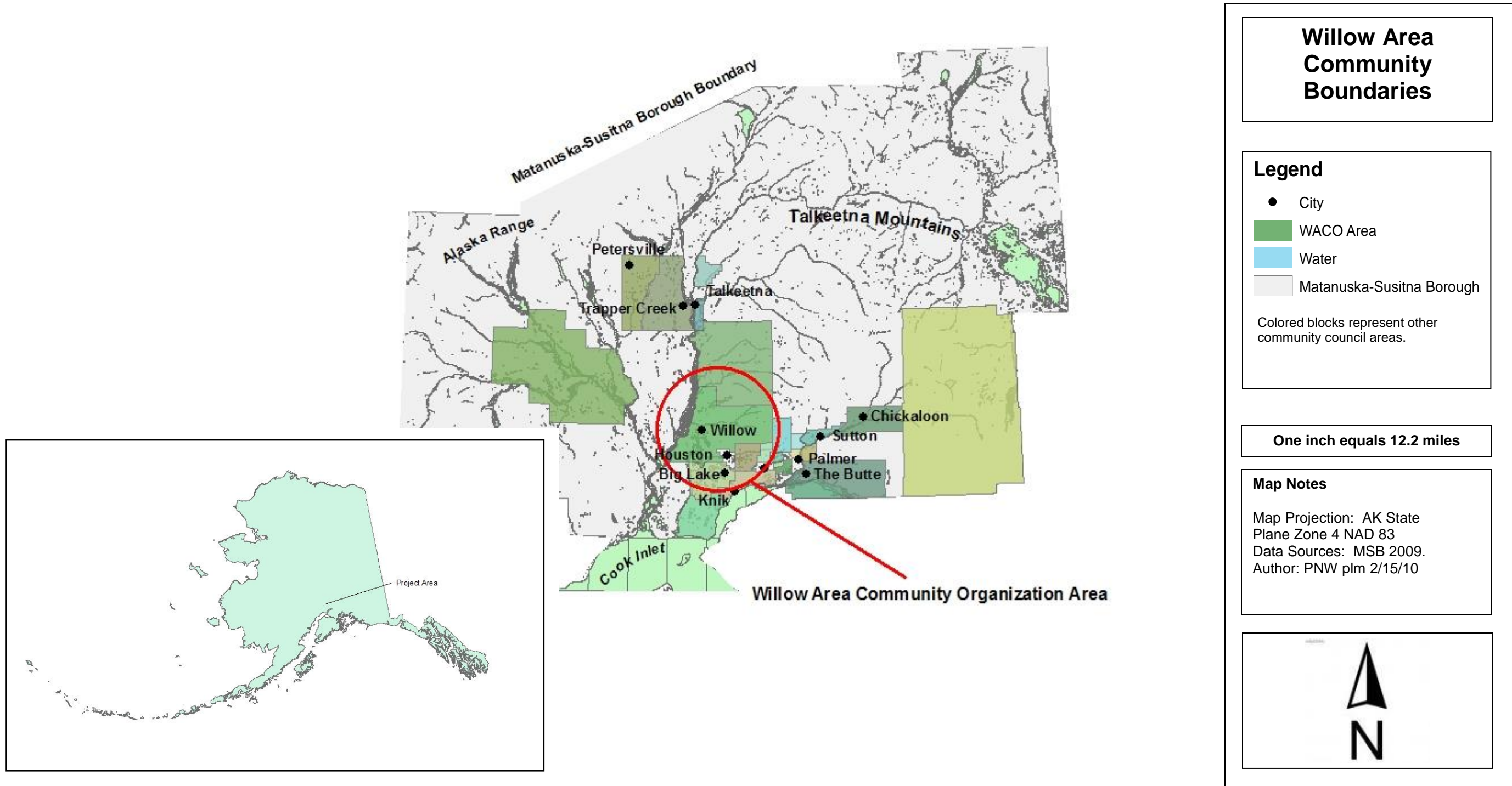


Figure 1.1. Location of the Willow Area Community

recommended to protect such properties. Additionally, potential green areas that would provide protection could be identified as well.

- Development of action items and an implementation strategy.
- Presentation of the draft historic preservation plan for review and comment
- Publication of the final plan.

2 Geographic Area Covered by the Project

The study area is located north of the shores of Cook Inlet beginning at Mile 60 on the Parks Highway on its southern boundary (Figure 1.1). The WAC area is approximately 32 miles north-south and 48 miles east-west at the widest points.

E Project Partners

Funding for the project was provided by the Matanuska-Susitna Borough and the Alaska State Historic Preservation Office to carry out a literature and archival search, public scoping, Focus Group workshops, and preparation of this plan.

F Plan Preparers

Background research, data collection, analysis, and plan preparation were carried out by Patricia McClenahan, Ph.D. of Pacific Northwest Resources Consultants under contract with the Matanuska-Susitna Borough. Fran Seager-Boss, Cultural Resources Specialist for Matanuska-Susitna Borough was the Contracting Officer's Technical Representative (COTR). She oversaw all aspects of the project and acted as lead in all of the public presentations and public noticing of all types. She reviewed and commented on the draft Power Point presentations, draft report and draft maps.

G Historic Contexts, Preservation Planning, and Creation of an Action Plan

The process of preservation planning is the foundation for cultural site conservation. Generally, properties considered historic places are fifty years of age or more. They are also considered to be significant when evaluated in relationship to the major trends of history in their community, state, or nation.

Historic contexts are the basic tools of planners, providing a meaningful way to organize information about cultural properties. Fully developed historic contexts provide a broad range of information about the property types that are covered by a specific *theme* at a particular *time* and *location*. They provide information about the locational patterns and the current condition ("historic integrity") of these property types in a well-structured format (McClenahan 1993:76).

Contexts establish the criteria used to determine the *historic significance* and *integrity* of the property types (McClenahan 1993:76). The term "significance" is

used here in the sense that it is used for the National Register of Historic Places. *Significance* may be found in four aspects of American history/prehistory recognized by the National Register Criteria:

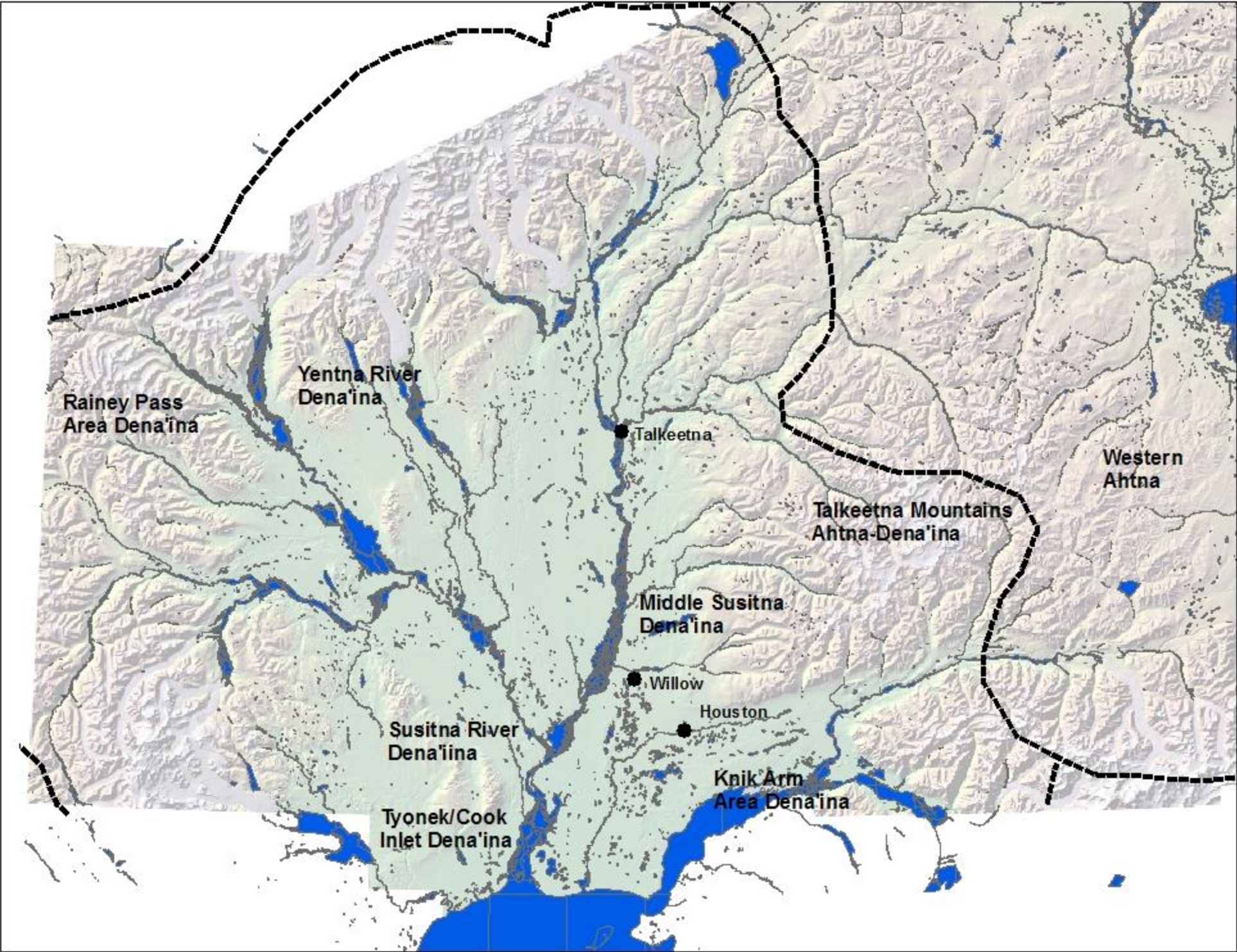
- Criterion A: Association with historic events or activities,
- Criterion B: Association with important persons,
- Criterion C: Distinctive design or physical characteristics, or
- Criterion D: Potential to provide important information about prehistory or history.

After it has been determined that a historic property is significant for the National Register for one or more of the criteria, it is then evaluated for its historic integrity. *Integrity* can be found in historic qualities including location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association (National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, 80 Stat. 915, 16 U.S.C. 470 et seq., as amended August 5, 2004). Before a property can be recommended to be eligible for the National Register, it must be determined to possess sufficient historic integrity.

Table 1.1 provides a set of historic contexts for the Willow Area Community Historic Preservation Plan study area. They were identified by reviewing the existing literature and by seeking input from the public. Figure 1.2 identifies the areas where the annual rounds of seasonal activities for historic Dena'ina and Ahtna of the region took place. Figure 1.3 identifies some important locations associated with American Period historic contexts.

Evaluation of properties can be accomplished by taking into account the regional setting. Another important aspect of evaluation is considering the property within the framework of historic contexts identified by the public and by the Focus Group. Considering historic properties within a regional context may provide enough information that predictive models of some historic site types can be accomplished (McClenahan 2004). Such an approach can be useful in predicting high, medium, and low probability of occurrence of a particular kind of cultural resource in a given area, particularly an area of potential future development.

Within the project area, while several historic and prehistoric archaeological resources have been identified, the discoveries tend to be clustered together in a few areas. No regionally-based archaeological survey and inventory has been accomplished. Because of the nature of the current inventory, not enough information has been gathered to provide a statistical basis for a formal predictive model. However, based on known sites, historic accounts, and residents' reports, there is enough information to generalize about areas that are potential locations of historic and prehistoric sites. This type of predictive model is known



Regional Map for Dena'ina - Ahtna Historic Context

Legend

- Dena'ina Territory Kari and Fall 2003
- Water
- Outside MSB Boundary

One inch equals 23 miles.

Map Notes

PNWplm 2/15/10
Map Projection: AK State Plane Zone 4 NAD 83
Data Sources: MSB

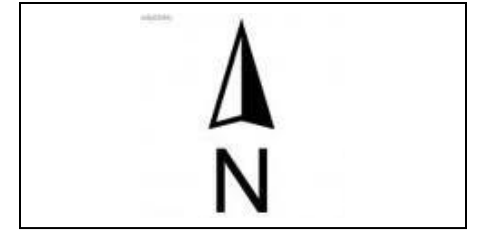


Figure 1.2. Regional Map Showing Historic Areas Relevant to the Dena'ina - Ahtna Historic Context.

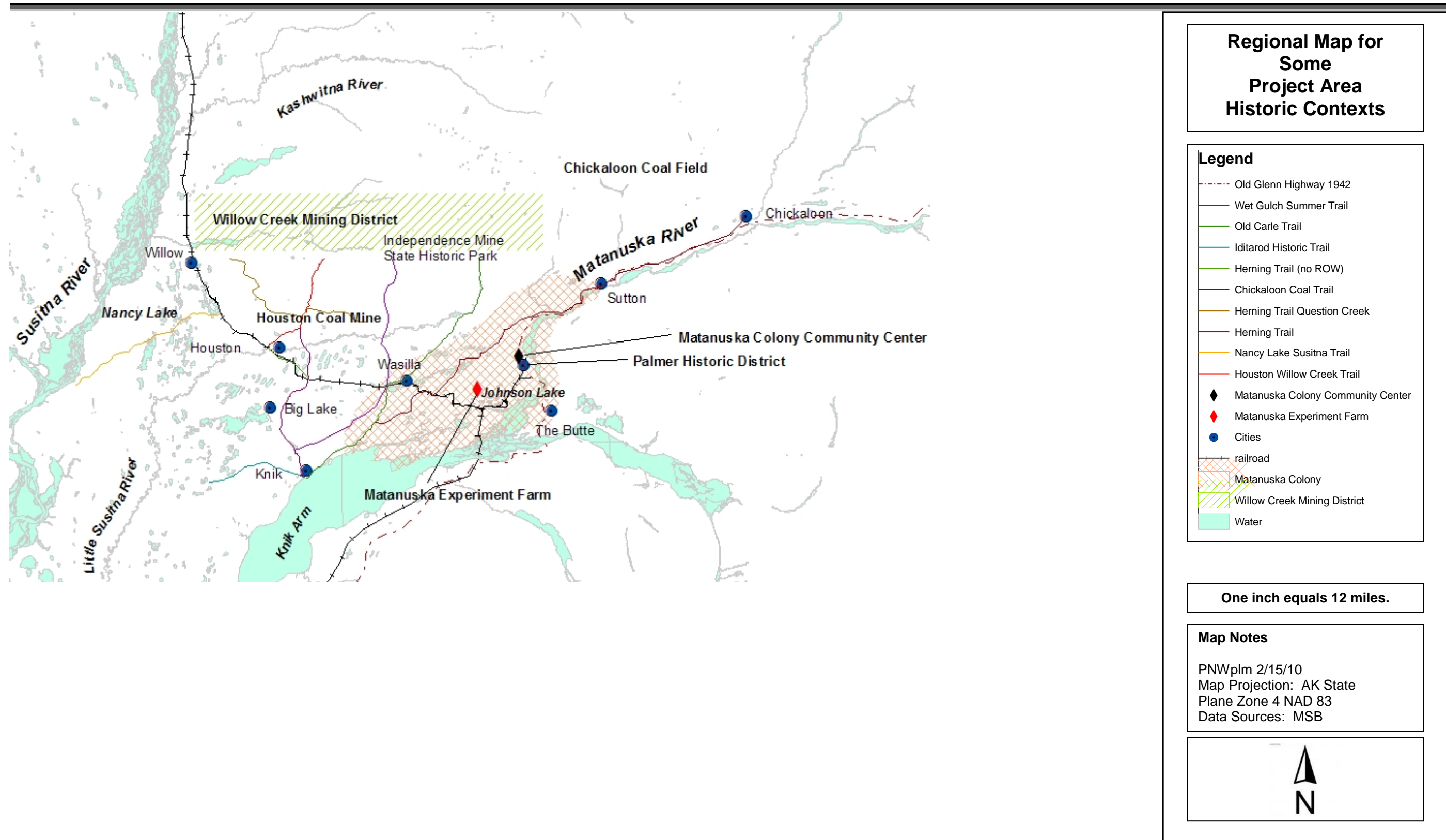


Figure 1.3. Regional Map Showing Historic Areas Relevant to Some American Period Historic Contexts.

as an informal descriptive model (McClenahan 2008:4; Sebastian and Judge 1988).

Table 1.1. Table of Historic Contexts for the Willow Area Community Historic Preservation Plan		
Theme	Place	Time
Earliest Inhabitants	Southcentral Region	From 8,000 years ago or earlier
Paleoenvironment as a backdrop for human habitation	Mat-Su Valley	From 12,000 years ago
Alutiit and their Ancestors	Mat-Su Valley	
Prehistory of the study region	Mat-Su Valley	Until ca. 1,000 years ago
Dena'ina/Ahtna Athabascans	Mat-Su Valley	
Prehistory of the study region	Project Area	Through 1600s
Ethnographic accounts	Project Area	Early 1700s
History of the study region	Project Area	From the 1600s
European Explorers		
Early Contact Period	Project Area	Until 1794
Trade and Missions	Project Area	1785-1867
American Period		From 1867
Native and EuroAmerican Subsistence Lifestyles	Project Area	From 1867
Fur trapping and trading	Project Area	From prehistoric times, 1875
Mining (gold, coal)	Project Area and beyond	Late 1800s
Homesteading, farming, agriculture	Project Area	From the 1900s
Community Development	Project Area	From the 1950s
Transportation: historic trails, roads, railroads, and air travel	Project Area	From 1899
Military: Exploration, World War II, Cold War Era, Korean War	Project Area	From 1941
Trade and Commerce	The Willow CCA	From prehistoric times

Evaluation of known historic properties in the WAC boundaries, and recognition and assignment of relative importance of newly identified properties can best be done with the active participation of the communities and the general public where the properties are located.

Once historic contexts have been identified and established, goals and priorities can be set for the resources, and management strategies can be devised for achieving these goals.

Chapter II provides an overview of the region's history, prehistory, and environment and identifies historic contexts for the region. Following the definition of cultural resources on page one and in the glossary, Chapter III identifies potential impacts to cultural resources and provides an overview and analysis of known cultural resources in the WAC area. A vision statement for cultural resources, goals, priorities, and an implementation plan are developed in Chapter IV.

H A Note about Source Material for the Plan

This plan in outline and format closely follows that of the 2008 Matanuska Susitna Borough publication, *Knik Arm Bridge and Toll Authority (KABATA) Historic Preservation Plan for Portions of the Matanuska-Susitna Borough*. The overall goal of the projects is the same, the project planning areas are proximate or are overlapping, and for that reason in many instances the wording in the current plan is the same as that in the KABATA plan.

II. Regional History, Prehistory, and Environment

A Natural History

1 Modern Environment

The study area is situated on the north side of Cook Inlet and is located approximately 40 miles from the Inlet in the Cook Inlet-Susitna Lowlands (Figure 1.1). The Project Area comprises the area within the limits of the Willow Area Community Organization (WAC) boundaries.

2 Paleoenvironment

The landscape of the region that we observe today, a broad alluvial valley surrounded by majestic mountains, was formed for the most part during the Pleistocene geological epoch of the Quaternary period. The late Pleistocene was dominated by glaciation beginning around 120,000 years ago.

The Wisconsin Glacial Stage (also known as the Wisconsinan Stage), named for rock deposits studied in the state of Wisconsin, is the best known glaciation that affected North America. It is the fourth glacial stage of the Pleistocene Epoch in North America. The glacial maximum during the Wisconsin Glacial Stage began approximately 22,000 years ago and glaciation lasted until 10,000 years ago. Prior to 10,000 years ago the Project Area was covered by glaciers. Evidence of the earlier glacial advances and recessions in the form of moraines has been eroded and largely obscured in the Matanuska and Susitna River valleys by later episodes (Figure 2.1).

Dixon and others (1985, V.1: 4-5 to 4-10; Hamilton and Thorson 1983: 38) inferred the existence of a piedmont glacier originating in the Alaska Range and Talkeetna Mountains that covered the Susitna River Valley floor 14,000 years ago. Woodward-Clyde Consultants (1982) and Dixon and others (Dixon et al. 1985) developed a chronology of glacial events for the Susitna River valley based on relative age dating of glacial sediments (Dixon et al. 1985, V.1: 4-6). After 14,000 B.P., the glaciers began to retract so that by 12,000 years ago, the main Susitna River valley and adjacent lowlands were free of ice and the valley was a tundra-steppe environment. Between 12,000 and 10,000 years ago there was a warming trend that permitted the continued deglaciation of the smaller valleys, so that by 9,000 years ago deglaciation was complete and the valley featured a shrub-tundra environment (Dixon et al. 1985, V.1: 4-7). As the latest glacier receded from the Matanuska and Susitna River valleys and Knik Arm, it left the most prominent glacially-formed geological feature dominating the southern portion of the Willow area landscape today, the Elmendorf Moraine (Figure 2.1).

At approximately 8,000 years ago, a climate change called the Hypsithermal Interval brought even warmer temperatures, and the Susitna River Valley was invaded by spruce (*Picea*). Between 8,000 years ago and the present the region has been covered by boreal forest, with a possible decline in spruce around 5,000 years ago. Beginning around 3,000 years ago and lasting until the recent past there was another climate shift called the Neoglacial Interval that brought cooler temperatures and minor oscillations of valley glaciers (Dixon et al. 1985, V.1: 4-7). Other major river drainages in the region may have undergone very similar glacial events.

The Cook Inlet-Susitna Lowland is a long narrow basin between the Kenai, Chugach, and Talkeetna Mountains to the east and the Aleutian and Alaskan Ranges to the west. The project area comprises a portion of the glacially carved Susitna River drainage. Glaciers remain poised at the headwaters, and the remnants of previous Pleistocene glaciations can be seen in the slightly to heavily modified terminal moraines that cover portions of the landscape in the project area. Most of the northern half of the Lowland is drained by the Susitna River and its tributaries (USDA SCS 1979: 3).

The basin is underlain by Tertiary period sediments, but the surface is made up primarily of Quaternary period, particularly late Pleistocene age glacial deposits. The terrain is made up of low moraines, many lakes, bogs, and broad glacial outwash plains. Level terraces up to several miles wide are located on either side of the principal rivers (USDA SCS 1979:3). Numerous drumlins paralleling Knik Arm dominate the west side.

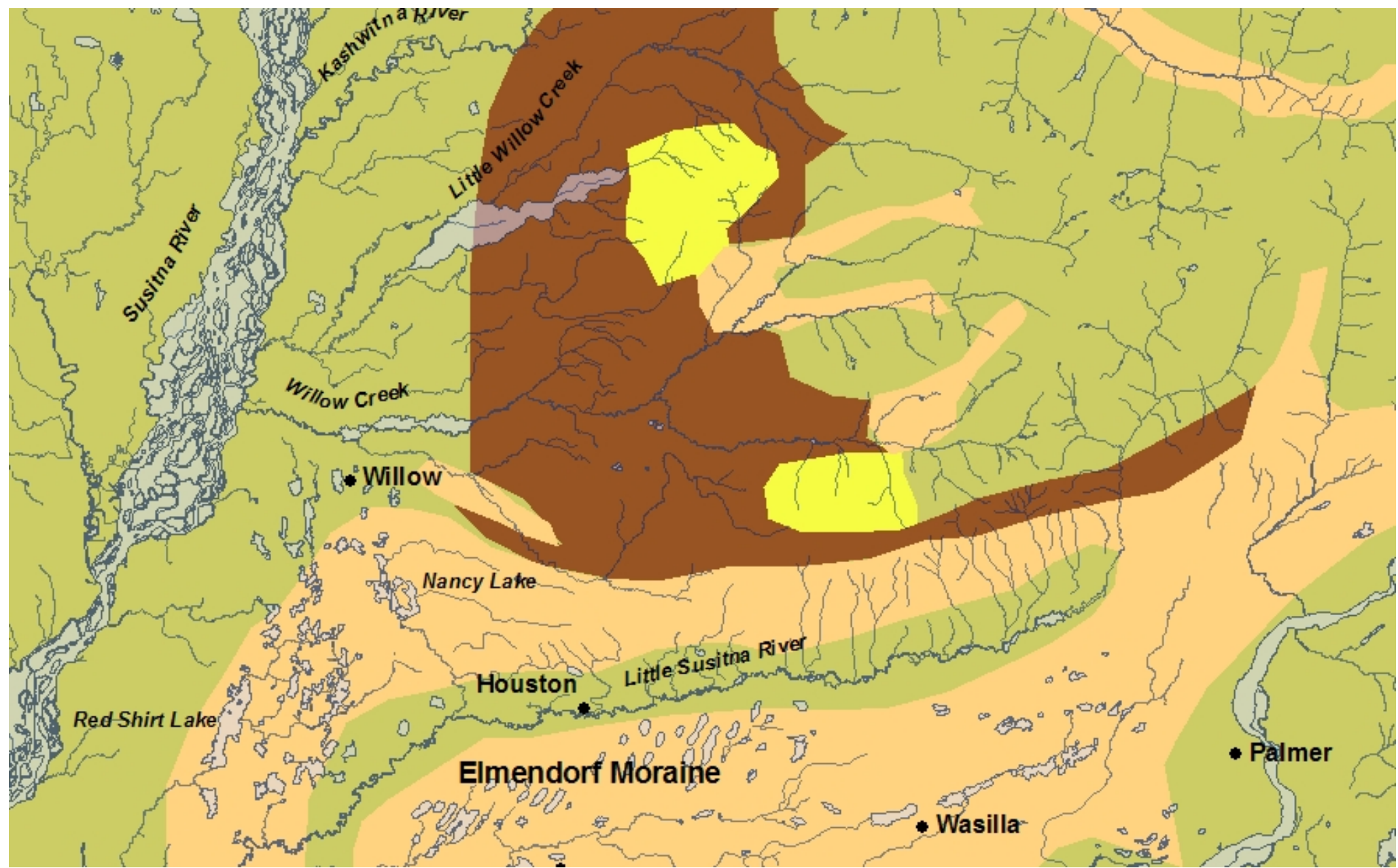
Another prominent geological feature affecting the region is the Castle Mountain fault that is located in the southeastern portion of the WAC boundaries, and runs in a southwesterly to northeasterly transect between Houston and the Hatcher Pass Road (Figure 2.2). It is an ancient fault active since the Mesozoic Era, a geologic era dated approximately 251 million years ago to 65 million years ago (Clardy 1984: 7; Haeussler 1998; Grantz 1966; Detterman et al. 1976).

B Regional Prehistory and Environment

Table 2.1 provides a brief chronology of prehistory for this region.

1 The Beringian Period in Alaska from 14,400 Years Ago to 11,000 Years Ago.

The earliest known inhabitants of Alaska lived in an area called Beringia in a tundra-steppe environment at a time in the distant past when Alaska and Siberia were joined. During this glacial period sea levels were much lower than they are today, and the inhabitants of eastern and western Beringia shared a common



**Late Pleistocene
Glacial Moraines**

Legend

- City
- Water
- Lightly Modified Moraine
- Moderately Modified Moraine
- Highly Modified Moraine
- Not a Moraine

One inch equals 12 miles

Map Notes
 Map Projection: None
 Data Source: NPS AKSO 1999
 Author: PNW plm 2/15/10

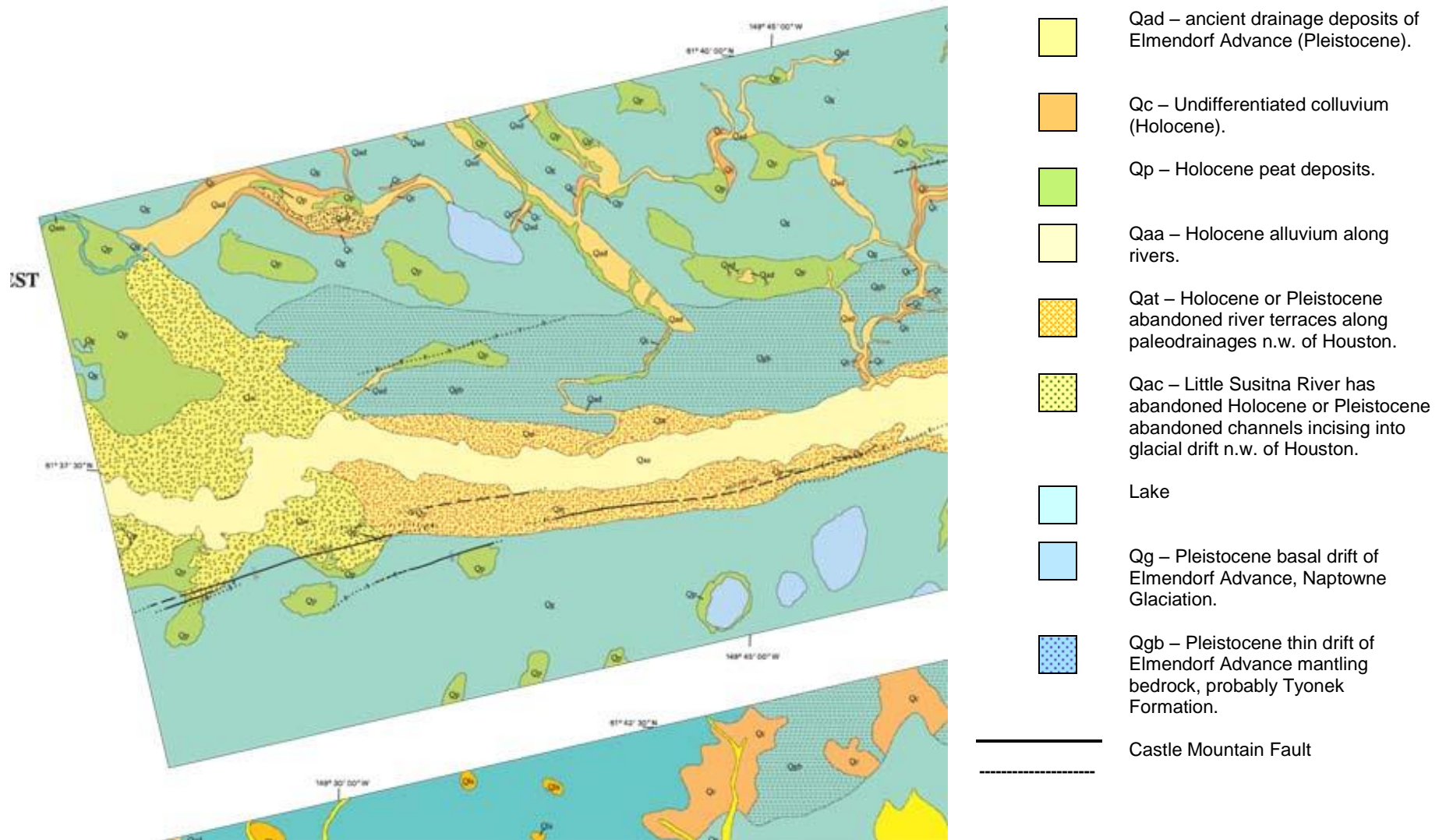


Prior to 10,000 years ago the area was covered by Late Pleistocene glaciers. Evidence of the earlier glacial advances and recessions has been eroded and partially obscured by or modified by subsequent periods of new glaciation. Today, the Elmendorf Moraine, left behind during the last glacial recession, dominates much of the Matanuska-Susitna Valley and Knik Arm.

Figure 2.1. Late Pleistocene Glacial Moraines.

**FIGURE 2.2. A PORTION OF THE SURFICIAL GEOLOGIC MAP ALONG
THE CASTLE MOUNTAIN FAULT
NORTHWEST OF HOUSTON, ALASKA**

(USGS: Peter J. Haeussler 1998)



culture. This is based on similarities observed in the archaeological remains they left behind.

The people who left these remains hunted and gathered a wide variety of large game, including wapiti, bison, and mammoth, small game, and other subsistence resources. The oldest commonly known archaeological sites in Alaska are located in the Tanana Valley. The first known location of human occupation in eastern Beringia dates between 14.4 and 13.6 thousand years ago. Traces of human presence at the Swan Point site suggest that they were using horses and mammoths for food (Wygala 2009: 2; Holmes n.d.). No Beringian Period sites have yet been located in the project area. The first population expansion into southcentral Alaska took place during the late Pleistocene as glaciers receded.

2. The American PaleoArctic Tradition from 11,000 Years Ago to 8,500 Years Ago.

As the climate warmed and the glaciers receded around 12,000 years ago, the Beringian land connection with Siberia disappeared under water. An American PaleoArctic tradition developed in Alaska. With the climate changes, some megafauna like the mammoth became extinct, and some like the bison became smaller in size. The tundra-steppe environment changed to one of shrub-tundra, and forests began to establish themselves.

The earliest archaeological resources in the region are known from this time period. The earliest known evidence of human occupation of the region is those sites excavated in the vicinity of Trapper Creek and the Susitna River in the middle Susitna River lowlands. The remains of human activities excavated at the sites date between 11,000 and 9,200 years ago (Wygala 2009: 92). However, no cultural materials that belong to this time period have been recovered in the immediate Houston area.

3. The Northern Archaic Tradition in the Project Area from 8,500 B.P. to 2,500 B.P.

Between 8,500 and 5,000 B.P. the boreal forest became fully established, Radiocarbon determinations on cultural remains from a site in the Talkeetna area provided a date of 8,000 years. It is located near what are today salmon bearing rivers. It is possible that by 8,000 B.P. conditions had warmed sufficiently that salmon runs had established themselves in this region.

Another archaeological site on Trapper Creek yielded a radiocarbon date of 5,000 B.P. The people who lived at this site are believed to be the precursors of the historic Athabascan people and the modern Dena'ina and Ahtna people who live in the project area today.

4. The Kodiak Tradition, Kachemak Stage in the Project Area from 3,500 B.P. to 1,000 B.P.

Until approximately 500 years ago Cook Inlet was inhabited by people who were the ancestors of the Alutiiq people who reside on Kodiak Island, portions of the Alaska Peninsula, the Kenai Peninsula and Prince William Sound today. Archaeological assemblages of this time period are referred to as the Kachemak stage of the Kodiak tradition (DeLaguna 1934, Dumond 1987). Alutiiq speaking people occupy much of the north Pacific maritime region, which has cool summers, relatively warm winters, and generally open, unfrozen coastlines. Kachemak stage subsistence was based on a wide variety of large and small sea mammals, land mammals, anadromous and freshwater fish, and other resources. However, salmon and sea mammals were the staples of their economy (Dumond 1987).

One site in the region that yielded remains belonging to this tradition is the Fish Creek site, located on the northern shore of Knik Arm. This site was first reported by De Laguna in 1934, and was later investigated by Don E. Dumond and Albert C. Spaulding (Dumond and Mace 1968). The gravel-tempered pottery located at the site was described as being identical to that found on the Alaska Peninsula and Kodiak Island, dating to about 1,000 years ago (Dumond and Mace 1968, Reger 1980). Sites related to this cultural tradition are known as far inland as the Red Shirt Lake area.

5. Late Prehistoric and Historic Era Athabascans in the Project Area, the Dena'ina and Ahtna, from 500 B.P. to Modern Times.

Around 500 B.P. there was a shift, and the Dena'ina replaced the Alutiiq people in the Cook Inlet region. They adopted many of the lifeways and subsistence practices of the Alutiiq speakers, including hunting sea mammals on the coast. However, they maintained a broad subsistence base (Reger 1980; Seager-Boss 2003).

The annual round of seasonal subsistence activities of all the regional Dena'ina bands, inhabitants of the project area, centered on salmon fishing in the spring and summer from camps near their villages. The Dena'ina harvest all five species of salmon, which provide the basis of Dena'ina subsistence. During the summer harbor seals and beluga whales were taken historically from Cook Inlet by those living nearest the water, and were traded for by those living inland.

In the traditional seasonal round of subsistence activities, land animals were hunted throughout the year, and in the fall special trips inland were made for caribou, sheep, and bear (Skoog 1968; Townsend 1981; Kari, Fall and Pete 2003). Moose, bear, mountain goats, and Dall sheep were subsistence resources hunted near winter villages. Silver salmon were harvested in late

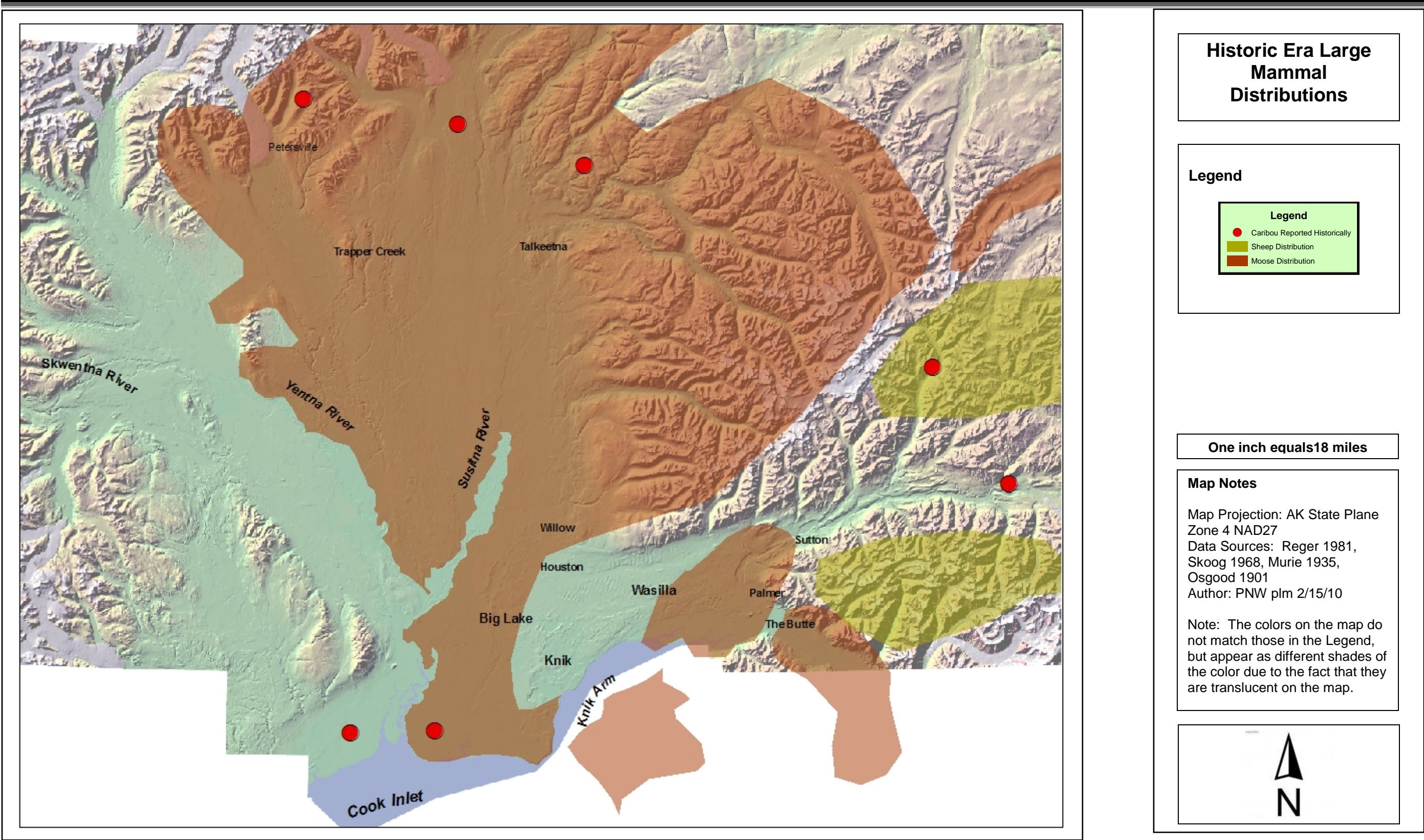
August and September during fall hunts. The meat of terrestrial mammals was also likely obtained through trade (Kari, Fall and Pete 2003: 23).

Table 2.1. Southcentral Alaska Regional Cultural Chronology			
(Adapted from De Laguna 1934, Reger 1980, Dixon et al. 1985, Dumond 1987, Holmes 1996, Wygal 2009)			
Beringian Period	14,700 B.P. -11,000 B.P.		
“East Beringian” tradition	14, 400 B.P.-12,800 B.P.	Broken Mammoth, Mead, Swan Point sites, Dry Creek, Moose Creek	Tanana Valley, Nenana Valley
American PaleoArctic tradition	11,000 B.P. – 5,000 B.P.	Long Lake Site, Trapper Creek Overlook, Screaming Hawk Site	Matanuska River Canyon, Trapper Creek,
Denali complex		Upper and Middle Susitna River drainage sites	Susitna River, Talkeetna
Chindadn complex			
Northern Archaic tradition	5,000 B.P. – 2,500 B.P.	Trapper Creek Overlook; Screaming Hawk Site	Trapper Creek
Kodiak tradition			Fish Creek on Knik Arm
Kachemak stage	3,500 B.P. – 1,000 B.P.		
Late prehistoric and historic era Sugpiaq (Alutiiq people)	1,000 B.P. through present		Kodiak Island, Alaska Peninsula, Kenai Peninsula
Late prehistoric and historic era Athabascans: Dena’ina and Ahtna	1,000 B.P. through present		Kustatan Village Site, Cook Inlet

Upland birds including ptarmigan and grouse, and migratory waterfowl, sea gulls and bird eggs were also part of the subsistence routine (Osgood 1966; Reger 1981; Townsend 1981). The region was and still is rich in a variety of subsistence resources, and a portion of it was shared by the Upper Cook Inlet Dena’ina and their neighbors to the northeast, the Ahtna (Townsend 1981) (Figures 2.3 and 2.4).

In early winter, from November to January, people usually stayed in their winter villages, visited other communities, traded, told stories, and held potlatches. Hunting partners made short trips to obtain winter game and fur bearing animals. In April, the subsistence year ended with anticipation of the arrival of waterfowl, hooligan, marine mammals, and salmon once again (Kari, Fall and Pete 2003: 23).

Interviews of Dena’ina Elders have provided insight into historic and modern subsistence practices and settlement patterns in the region. For the study area, the most prominent Dena’ina tradition bearer was Shem Pete. His generosity in sharing his cultural knowledge resulted in the important publication, *Shem Pete’s Alaska; The Territory of the Upper Cook Inlet Dena’ina* (Kari, Fall and Pete



Historic Era Large Mammal Distributions

Legend

- Caribou Reported Historically
- Sheep Distribution
- Moose Distribution

One inch equals 18 miles

Map Notes

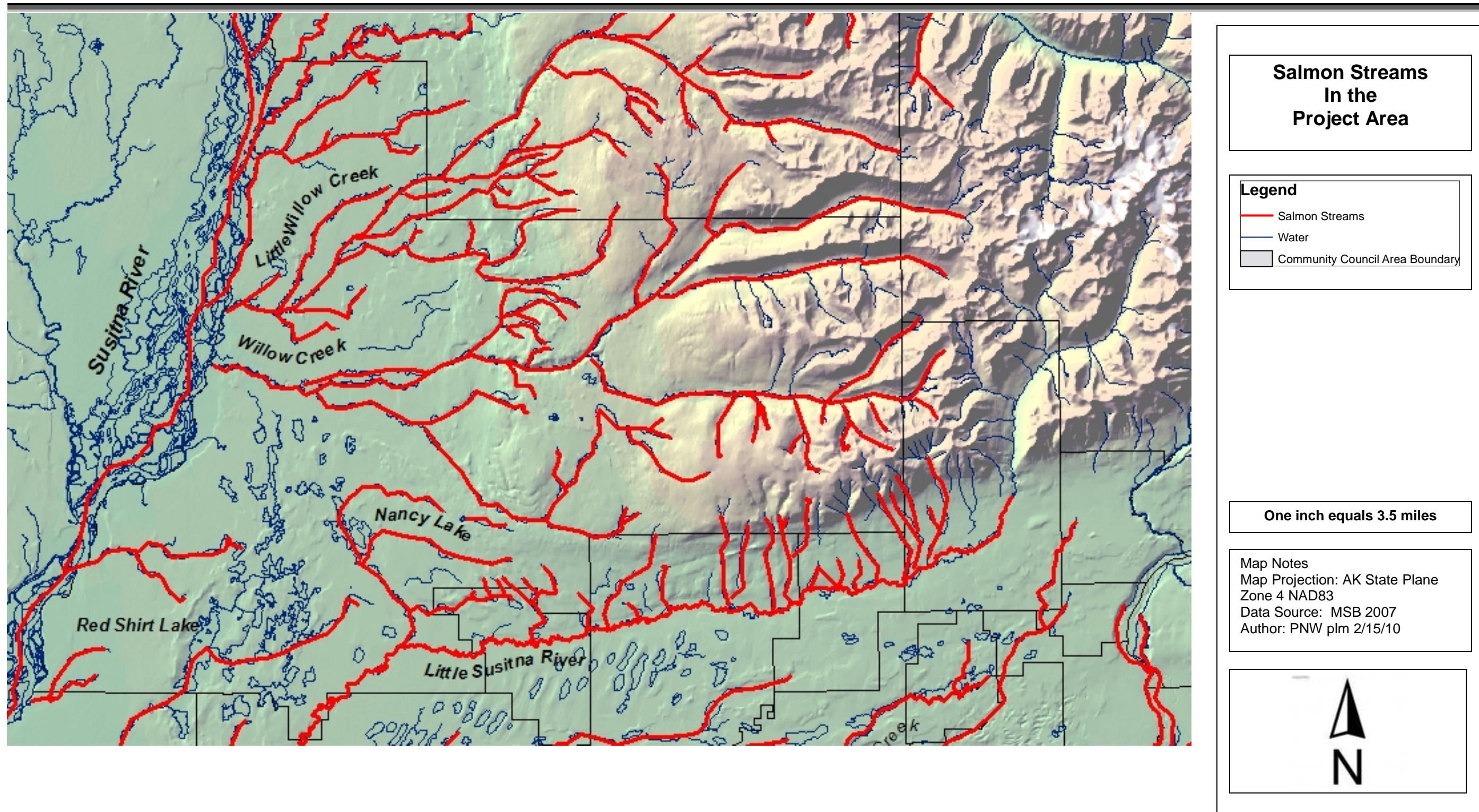
Map Projection: AK State Plane Zone 4 NAD27
 Data Sources: Reger 1981, Skoog 1968, Murie 1935, Osgood 1901
 Author: PNW plm 2/15/10

Note: The colors on the map do not match those in the Legend, but appear as different shades of the color due to the fact that they are translucent on the map.



Late historic moose concentrations and Dall sheep distributions in the general Study Area are shown as mapped by Reger, 1981. The points indicate historic locations of Nelchina herd caribou reported by Skoog (1968). Hemming (1971), citing Osgood (1901) and Murie (1935), reported that caribou were plentiful along the lower Susitna River prior to 1900. Additionally, Kari, Fall and Pete (1987, 2003) referred to a caribou fence in the upper Montana Creek watershed used by Wasilla Stephan, who was born in 1888.

Figure 2.3. Large Mammal Distributions.



Salmon have been the primary subsistence staple of the Upper Cook Inlet Dena'ina from prehistoric times. Some salmon-bearing streams in the region no longer sustain runs.

Figure 2.4. Salmon Streams in the Project Area East of the Susitna River

2003). His son, Billy Pete, and other Elders were also important contributors to the work.

Shem Pete (ca. 1898-1989) was born at Susitna Station, and spent his life in the Susitna region. During his lifetime Shem was the recognized leader of the Susitna Dena'ina people. His main area of residence was the country between Susitna Station and Nancy Lake. He and Billy had three cabins in the Nancy Lake area, as well as a number of temporary subsistence camps (Kari, Fall and Pete 2003:2-5).

For about ten years after he was born, his mother raised him at Red Shirt Lake from July until November, where subsistence fish were plentiful. His father, a chief, died when Shem was two years old (Kari, Fall and Pete 2003:2-5).

From the time Shem was eight years old until he was 11, he worked in a restaurant in Susitna Station, where he did general work for pay and for food (Kari, Fall and Pete 2003:2-5).

Shem went to school at Susitna Station, where he learned English. His mother and his brother, the last village chief, died at Susitna Station in 1918 during an epidemic (Kari, Fall and Pete 2003:2-5).

He married (Inga) in Talkeetna in 1920 and his son Billy was born. They stayed at Susitna Station for several years, then moved to Tyonek where they stayed until 1944, when they moved to Nancy Lake. During his lifetime of living a subsistence lifestyle, he was also telling stories, singing songs, and teaching the Dena'ina language and dance to the next generation. He traveled to different areas, visiting people. Particularly, when a family was in crisis, he paid them a visit (Kari, Fall and Pete 2003:2-5).

Billy Pete (1920-1995), Shem Pete's son, was also born at Susitna Station, which was his primary residence during his early years. After his mother's death when he was about five years old, he spent summers in Anchorage with his maternal grandmother, Annie. From her he learned the Dena'ina language, traditions, history and stories of the Upper Cook Inlet people (Kari, Fall and Pete 2003:6-7).

He moved to Tyonek from Susitna Station in 1934 along with most of the Susitna Station Dena'ina, where he attended school for three months. He trapped in the Susitna Station area in winter during his early teen years. He was an avid reader (Kari, Fall and Pete 2003:6-7).

He moved to Anchorage around 1935, where he worked in the Emard cannery. He was also foreman in canneries in Bristol Bay. Other employment included work for the Alaska Railroad, on the airstrip for Elmendorf Air Force Base, on the Whittier tunnel, and on boats in Seward. Around 1944, Billy and Shem moved to

Nancy Lake. Between the 1940s and 1960s Billy ran a trapline on cross country skis, trapping lynx, mink, beaver, marten and coyote around Red Shirt Lake, in the area that is the Nancy Lake Recreation Area today. He and Shem gill netted fish at the outlet of Red Shirt Lake for use over the winter. They also fished commercially for salmon from the 1940s until the mid 1970s. Other subsistence resources taken yearly at Nancy Lake included moose, beaver and black bears. In late fall they prospected for gold in the region of the Talkeetna Mountains, also hunting spruce grouse, ground squirrels, and porcupines, and fishing for trout (Kari, Fall and Pete 2003:6-7).

Billy and Shem moved back to Tyonek in 1979, where Billy subsistence fished for salmon and hooligan. Due to Shem's failing health, they moved to Anchorage in 1987. After his father's death he moved back to Tyonek (Kari, Fall and Pete 2003:6-7)

Billy was a key bilingual expert of Dena'ina culture and oral traditions, which he helped to pass to younger generations as well as to those of other cultures. He assisted in reestablishing the Tyonek Singers and Dancers (Kari, Fall and Pete 2003:6-7).

C European Explorers, Trade, and Missions

1. Early Contact with Europeans until 1794.

Captain Cook's arrival in Cook Inlet in 1778 marked the beginning of European exploration and settlement in southcentral and southwestern Alaska. Dena'inas came to Cook's ship with furs and fish to offer in trade for iron. At that time they were reported to already be in possession of a few European items, which they probably got through the existing elaborate and extensive aboriginal trading network in place prior to European contact (Cook 1784, Townsend 1981, Fitzhugh and Crowell 1988). This was followed in 1784 by the Russians establishing a colony on Kodiak Island.

In 1785 a Russian party from Kodiak explored Cook Inlet and the following year the first mainland Russian trading post was established in Dena'ina territory on the Kenai Peninsula (Bancroft 1886, Townsend 1981).

2. The Russian Era 1785 – 1867.

In their preliminary visit to Cook Inlet, the 1785 Russian expedition took 20 Alaska Native hostages. The Shelikhov-Golikov Company achieved control over the Russian posts in Cook Inlet. The inland Dena'ina resisted Russian settlement until around 1818 (Townsend 1981).

The Shelikhov-Golikov Company was in competition with the Lebedev-Lastochkin Company. This created extremely chaotic conditions among the

different Alaska Native groups of Cook Inlet. Certain Native groups were allied with one or the other of the companies, while other Native groups opposed both companies. Shifting trade and military alliances characterized the 1780s and 1790s era in Southcentral Alaska. Both of these companies ceased to exist by the mid-1790s (Hirschmann 2007, Pers. Comm.)

Gregori Shelikhov died in 1795. The Russian-American Company was created in 1799. It was an economic and administrative monopoly in Alaska under the auspices of the Russian government. Its first chief manager in Alaska was Alexander Baranov (Hirschmann 2007, Pers. Comm.).

3. European Trade and Missions 1785 – 1867.

Russian activity increased in southeast Alaska and the Bering Sea area, as well as in interior Alaska. In 1818 Russian explorer Vasili Malakov was on the Susitna River. In 1834 his son, Peter Malakov, explored the river and was the first to report the name *Sushitna*. For 50 years Russian Trappers and explorers used the Susitna and Beluga rivers. The first trading post in this area was reportedly in the Tyonek-Beluga region in the 1870s (Hirschmann 2009, Pers. Comm.; ADF&G 1988).

Settlement colonies were, in fact, Russian settlements intended to extract the greatest amount of natural resources and profit with the minimum amount of labor required. They were never intended to become large population centers with settlers from Russia. Most Russian-American Company employees were of Alaska Native descent, or of Native-Russian descent; only a small minority were ethnic Russians (Hirschmann 2007, Pers. Comm.).

The sea otter trade declined with the overhunted sea otter population. Russian activity decreased in the Kodiak – Cook Inlet region as it increased elsewhere. Cook Inlet posts were maintained during that time, however, and hunting continued (Townsend 1981).

Dena'inas became more actively involved in the fur trade with the Russians during the first half of the nineteenth century (Townsend 1981). Cook Inlet Dena'inas were acting as middle men in the fur trade to interior groups by the beginning of the nineteenth century (Davydov 1810, Townsend 1981). Between 1835 and 1845 the Russians, hoping to create a strong presence in Alaska, attempted to set up a series of settlement colonies at Ninilchik, Kachemak Bay, Kasilof, Kenai, Tyonek, Matanuska, and Knik. The latter two were apparently abandoned soon after they were established (Federova 1973, Fall 1987, Seager-Boss 2003).

With the fur trade, epidemic diseases reached the Native populations. One such epidemic was smallpox from 1836 to 1840 that reportedly took the lives of 4,000 Native people, including Dena'inas (Bancroft 1886, Townsend 1981).

Intensive establishment of missions began after the epidemic. Hieromonk Nikolai became the first priest to serve Cook Inlet at Nikolaevskiy Redoubt in 1845 (Townsend 1965, 1974, 1981). Dena'inas near the Cook Inlet mission became more involved in the Russian Orthodox Church in the 1840s; however, those in more remote interior villages of Mulchatna and Kijik remained outside this influence until after 1870 (Townsend 1981).

D The American Period from 1867 to 1960.

1. Native and EuroAmerican Subsistence Lifestyle, Fur Trapping and Trading from 1867 to 1960.

Important political and commercial events took place in 1867 at the time the United States purchased Alaska from Russia. In December 1867, Hayward Hutchinson and Abraham Hirsch, businessmen from Baltimore and San Francisco, traveled to Sitka where they accomplished the purchase of the assets of the Russian American Company (Lee 1996: 24-27).

For unknown reasons, Hirsch dropped out of the partnership before Hutchinson, Kohl and Company, the parent entity controlling the Russian American Company assets, was founded. Hutchinson, Kohl merged two competing groups of businessmen that included Hutchinson; Sloss; Lewis Gerstle, another prominent San Francisco businessman; William Kohl, an American shipbuilder, mariner, and profiteer living in Victoria; Leopold Boscowitz, a Victoria furrier; August Wassermann, a San Francisco furrier, and Gustave Niebaum, a former RAC employee and a Russian citizen born in Finland (Lee 1996: 24-27).

In October 1868, Hutchinson, Kohl, the Williams, Haven Company, and John Parrott merged to form the powerful Alaska Commercial Company (Lee 1996: 24-27). Subsequent competition among fur companies caused fur prices to rise and prices of some trade goods to lower. However, in 1897 all fur prices dropped and continued to decline for a number of years, never recovering prices of the early 1890s (Townsend 1981).

Upper Cook Inlet Dena'ina, residents of the project area, have traditionally carried out an annual round of seasonal subsistence activities that cover the Skwentna, Yentna, Chulitna, Susitna, Talkeetna, and Matanuska river drainages, as far north as Denali (Figure 1.2). This round includes a broad base of both inland and coastal resources, but its primary focus is on the annual runs of anadromous fish that include all five species of salmon. As EuroAmericans arrived in the Matanuska-Susitna region to participate in fur trapping and trading, many of them adopted features of the Dena'ina subsistence lifestyle, even as they homesteaded and carried out other activities such as mining.

Examples of historic Dena'ina lifestyles in the region in the late 19th Century and early 20th Century were given above, in the brief life histories of Shem Pete and

his son, Billy Pete. For the Dena'ina, looking at subsistence in a regional setting is important. The entire region is used during yearly seasonal subsistence activities, varying during different years based on the availability of the resources (Kari and Kari 1982; KTC 2007; Figure 1.2, Figure 2.3, Figure 2.4). Because the availability of subsistence animal resources is cyclic, and some animals might be plentiful one year but not the next, different animals might be harvested in different locations in different years. Animal movements may vary from month to month and from year to year, so hunting activities may take place in different locations at different times based on these movements (KTC 2007) (Figures 2.3 and 2.4).

At the same time, families may carry out a subsistence activity such as fishing for salmon at the same location year after year. Because subsistence is opportunistic and is based on the practice of the greatest food return for the least amount of effort, frequently several subsistence activities are carried out at one location at the same time (KTC 2007).

Emil Stancec, a Willow Creek homesteader who came to Alaska in 1948 for the hunting and fishing, is an example of the way people who arrived in the region in the early to mid-1900s lived their lives. He homesteaded in 1957, and has spent his life hunting, fishing, trapping for furs, and raising crops (Stancec 2009, Pers. Comm.). He is one of the last remaining homesteaders in the Willow region who is still living on his homestead (Appendix 5).

2. Mining and Mineral Exploration from 1896 to 1960.

During the early American period the numbers of trappers and gold seekers increased in the Upper Susitna River Valley. Gold was reported around 1896 in the Miller and Canyon Creek area of the Susitna River drainage (Potter 1959, Seager-Boss 2003). This was followed in 1897 by an influx of several hundred gold miners who landed at Tyonek and traveled the Susitna River and its tributaries, including Willow Creek, to look for claims (Seager-Boss 2003). In the late nineteenth century economic endeavors shifted from exclusively trapping, selling and buying furs to prospecting for gold, and in many cases, carrying out other economic pursuits at the same time.

As early as 1894 Natives informed prospectors of the presence of coal in the Matanuska River Valley. Coal mining became a major focal activity in the early 1900s with the identification of the Matanuska coal field in the Matanuska River Valley just north and east of Palmer. None of the early structures associated directly with the coal mining operations still exist, and early mining equipment was removed from its original locations, some of it to a local historical park. By 1911 sufficient interest in the coal fields had developed to pressure the Secretary of the Interior and Congress into supporting construction of a railroad to connect the coast with the coal fields (Seager-Boss 1991).

A catalyst was a potential U.S. Navy refueling base along the north Pacific coast. In 1912 the U.S. Navy tested Matanuska-Susitna Valley coal for use in its coal-powered steam-driven naval vessels. During the winter of 1913 and 1914, 800 tons of Matanuska coal from Watson's camp was sledded down the Matanuska River to Seward where the U.S.S. Maryland tested it and found it suitable for use in naval ships. In 1914 the Alaska Coal Leasing Act and the Alaska Railroad Act were both passed, and on August 17, 1918 the first coal train brought coal from Doherty mine on Moose Creek in the Matanuska Coal Field to Anchorage (Merritt 1986; Seager-Boss 1991).

Coal Mines in the Willow Area

Coal was discovered in Houston in a railroad cut by a grading crew in 1917. After that time a number of attempts were made to develop a mine. First approaches consisted of opening several short tunnels near track level of the Alaska Railroad in the low bluffs between Houston Station and the Little Susitna River. In 1937 a longer tunnel was opened by Evan Jones approximately ½ mile northwest of the section house. It yielded a small amount of coal (USGS 1952: 3).

By 1943 coal surface mining methods had replaced underground methods of extraction (Figure 1.3). In 1948 the Houston Coal Company began to develop a strip mine that followed two thin, flat-lying coal beds reported to have been traced under relatively shallow cover for some distance. A small tonnage of coal was produced in 1949, and the company contracted to furnish 8,000 tons of stoker coal to the Army at Fort Richardson in the fiscal year 1951. In 1951 the company reorganized, and its name was changed to the Duck Flat Coal Company (USGS 1962:4; Stuart 2009, Pers. Comm.). Between 1949 and 1952 over 65,000 tons of coal were reported to have been mined at the Houston strip mine. However, some sources believe the report to be too high (Merritt 1986; Stuart 2009, Pers. Comm.). Operations at the mine were suspended in 1952 (Territory of Alaska Department of Mines 1952:28).

Just prior to World War II, navies and merchant marines worldwide began to convert from coal driven steam to bunker oil for their ships as the critical determinant of military power. Bunker oil had largely replaced steam coal as the primary fuel (Guilmartin 1994:16-17). By 1968, coal mining in the region had shut down except for small mines for local needs (Merritt 1986) (Figure 1.3).

Other exploration for sources of coal included discoveries up Willow Creek and an area that is today near the Palmer Fishhook Road (Stuart 2009, Pers. Comm.).

Willow Creek Mining District

The Willow Creek Mining District is located northeast of the modern community of Willow, as shown in Figure 1.3. Most of the commercial companies emphasized outfitting and freighting supplies to gold claims (Seager-Boss 2003). Knik, established on the west side of Knik Arm in the late nineteenth century, served as the hub for supplies being taken up the Susitna River (Seager-Boss 2003)(Figure 1.3).

Beginning in 1896, much of the activity occurring in the Willow area centered on the search for precious metals and their extraction, and the logistic support of these activities by residents of the study area, who took part in mining or who worked to supply the miners with materials, supplies, and transportation. The Willow Creek Mining District was the center of mining activity in the WAC area. Notable mines and prospects of the District are summarized in Table 2.2. Figure 1.3 shows the location of the Willow Creek Mining District.

Oil and Gas Exploration in the WAC Area

In the middle to late 1950s exploratory drilling activity in the Houston area took place, and consisted of five petroleum exploratory wells and three coal coreholes. The wells were called the Rosetta Numbers One, Two, Three, Four and Four-A. None of them encountered more than trace amounts of oil (State of Alaska 1995; Stuart 2009, Pers. Comm.). At least one well stand from the exploration can be seen today, near the side of the highway just north of Houston's commercial district (Stuart 2009, Pers. Comm.).

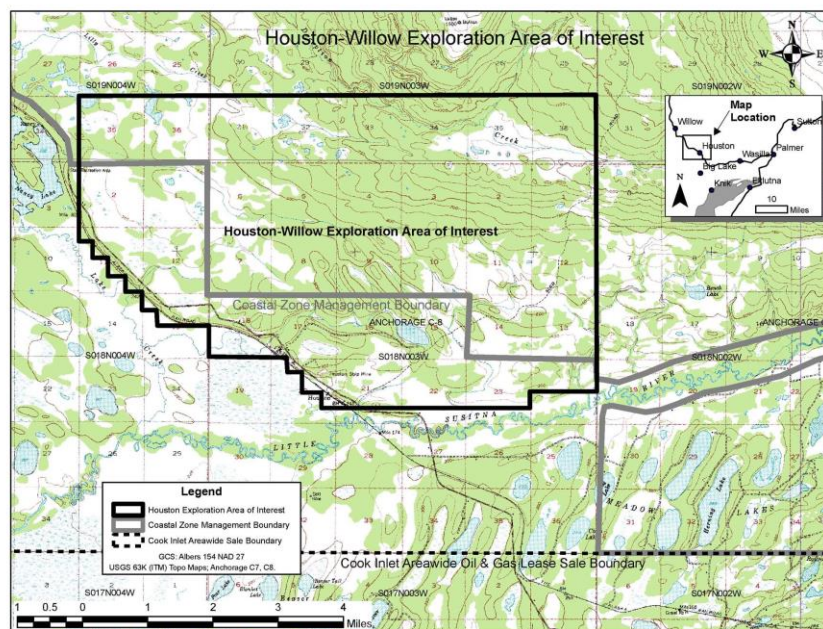


Figure 2.5. Houston-Willow Basin Gas Exploration Proposal. (DNR 2007).

Exploration licenses were issued in 2003 for areas immediately west of Willow Creek and Little Willow Creek on the East side of the Susitna River (Department of Natural Resources 2003) (Figure 2.5). In 2007, a notice of intent to evaluate a gas exploration license proposal was issued for the Houston – Willow Basin (DNR 2009). The exploration area is T18 and 19N, R3 and 4 W.

3. Homesteading, Farming and Agriculture from the 1900s to 1960.

Between 1741 and 1867 the Russians attempted to raise crops and livestock in southcentral Alaska, Kodiak Island, and the Aleutians. Cattle did well on Kodiak, and vegetable gardening was fairly successful (OHA n.d.). However, the majority of Russian efforts at agriculture were centered in far away California, at Fort Ross, eighty miles north of San Francisco. Aside from a few small individual subsistence gardens, there was no significant agriculture in Southcentral Alaska during the Russian era (Hirschmann 2007, Pers. Comm.).

In America, the Homestead Act was passed on December 2, 1861. It provided for the conveyance to private parties of 160 acres of undeveloped land. Applicants had to file an application, improve the land, and file for a deed of title. When Alaska was purchased by the United States, the Homestead Act extended to it as well.

Farms existed in the Knik area as early as 1887. The first agricultural efforts in the region were made by some roadhouse managers and by miners in order to supplement their incomes when mining failed to sustain them. Roadhouses were first built in the 1890s along trails to the gold fields. Owners and managers often raised vegetables and hay to feed travelers and horses. Later, Knik area homesteaders raised vegetables for the miners and grains for the horses (OHA n.d.). Fur farming was also quite a large industry in Matanuska-Susitna Borough and elsewhere in the state.

In 1898 Congress authorized the establishment of several agricultural experiment stations. The Matanuska farm station was established in 1915 and the Palmer Research Center opened in 1948 (Rozell 1998). This station and others experimented with crops and livestock and sought to develop techniques to make agriculture in Alaska practical (OHA n.d.). At the turn of the century the government began to promote the Matanuska and Susitna River valleys for farming. As a result there was an influx of homesteaders beginning in 1914 (Seager-Boss 2003).

The Nelchina gold rush took place in 1913. By 1917, gold mining in the Willow Creek District, mining in the Chickaloon Coal Field and construction of the Alaska Railroad were the catalysts for 400 homestead entries, 175 of which were patented. However, in 1920 agriculture declined, and that year there were a total of 364 farms and 5,736 improved acres (OHA n.d.).



Figure 2.6. Willow Homesteader Emil Stancec.

Table 2.2. Notable Historic-era Gold Mines and Prospects of the Willow Creek Mining District

Mine or Prospect	Principals	Location	Dates	Minerals	Production Facts
Willow Creek Valley Independence Mine	R.Hatcher	WCV Skyscraper Mountain, Granite Mountain	1906 1907-51	Gold Gold Molybdenite	First lode mill started in 1908. Robert Hatcher. Alaska-Pacific Consolidated Mining Company (APC) in 1938. 1,350 acres, 27 structures. 35,000 oz. of gold were recovered in 1941
Martin Mine	Robert Lee Martin	NE flank of Skyscraper Mt.	1906-31	Gold	Site of the first lode discovery in the district in 1906. 27,150 oz of gold were produced.
Lucky Shot Mine, War Baby Mine	Rapp and Till	NW valley wall of Craigie Creek, 1.8 mi. NE of confluence Craigie, Willow	Ca. 1918-1940?	Gold, Copper Lead, Zinc	Total gold production of the two mines may have been over 620,000 ounces.
Holland, Little Willie, Bronson and France Prospect		4,500 ft NW end of unnamed unimproved road parallel to Craigie Creek	Prior to 1921	Gold Copper Molybdenite	This prospect was little developed. Workings were all on the surface.
Gold Cord Mine		Headwaters E fork of Fishhook Creek	1915-49	Gold	Production yielded 16,000 ounces of gold.
Talkeetna Mine		Near headwaters of Fairangel Creek	1910-23	Gold Molybdenite	Unknown production amount.
Kelly-Willow Prospect	Milo Kelly	Near headwaters of Upper Willow Creek	1909-48	Gold	Unknown production amount.
Schroff-O'Neil Mine		2,000 ft E of the end of unimproved road paralleling Craigie Creek	1923-50	Gold Copper Lead, Zinc	Unknown production amount.
Marion Twin Mine	Jack Jeffries, Pyle, Fred Johnson	2,000 ft ENE of the end of unimproved road paralleling Craigie Creek	1929-35	Gold Copper Lead	A few tons of rich ore were mined. Property was leased to Fred Johnson and associates in 1938.
High Grade Mine	Henry Snyder H. Kloss	1,000 ft SW of the headwaters of Fishhook Creek	1920-35	Gold	Heinrich Snider and Herman Kloss. One vein netted more than \$1,200 from a one-ton ore shipment in 1930, when gold was at \$20.67 per ounce.
Black Prospect	Sidney Black with Herman Black, William Black	2,000 ft SE of the end of the unnamed, unimproved road paralleling Craigie Creek	Ca 1937	Gold?	No information
Arch Prospect		S side Archangel Creek	1915-19	Gold	No information
Eldorado		E flank of Skyscraper Mountain	1911-41	Gold	A few tons milled in 1911; ca 100 tons milled 1912.

In 1935, Palmer became the site of an agricultural experiment, the Matanuska Valley Colony. The Federal Emergency Relief Administration, created by President Roosevelt, established the colony to relocate families during the 1935 Depression. That year, about 204 families, mostly from Michigan, Wisconsin and Minnesota, joined the colony. Although the farm failure rate was high, many descendants still live in the Matanuska and Susitna River valleys (ADCA 2007).

Colonists formed the Matanuska Valley Farmer's Co-operative and began selling under the Matanuska Maid trademark in 1936 (OHA n.d.). Matanuska Maid continued to do business until 2007.

By 1940, the Matanuska River Valley was a stable agricultural community. Most of the growth in the 1940s and 1950s took place in the southern valley, where in the 1940s most farmers produced milk (over 40% of farm production) and potatoes (over 30%). Dairy and vegetable farming provided goods for local markets from 118 tracts of cultivated land. In 1940 Fort Richardson army base was constructed, opening a new market for valley farmers (OHA n.d.). Within ten years, farm production in Alaska had doubled, with milk accounting for 49% of farm production and potatoes accounting for 25%. In Alaska, the number of dairy farms increased from nine in 1940 to more than 38 in 1959. In the northern Susitna River Valley, homesteading was most active in the 1950s and 1960s.

Homesteaders in the northern valley faced many hardships, including being located in remote areas far from population centers and material goods. Supplies and equipment at first had to be hauled over marshy ground by wagon in summer or over frozen trails by sled in winter to the Willow homesteads. Opening of the railroad in the Willow area in 1917 was a boon to homesteaders and miners, but whatever was received or shipped out by rail still had to be first transported to or from the railway on foot, by horse-drawn cart, or by sled in winter. One of the greatest hardships for homesteaders was the climate, with short intense growing seasons and such extreme variability in the weather from summer to summer that in some years there were no viable crops to be harvested. Homesteaders had to sustain themselves over long, bitterly cold winters, then contend with soil that stays frozen as late as mid-June some years. In the fall, the soil freezes again by October 15. Rain in late summer could ruin hay harvests. Crops adapted to cold weather had to be selected.

Clearing land for planting was another challenge. Areas being developed as homesteads were covered by boreal forest. Most soils in Alaska are not well-developed and are generally unsuited for agriculture, and this fact limited the areas that could be used for crops.

Not everyone who homesteaded was primarily interested in farming. Many homesteaders cleared enough acreage and planted sufficient crops to meet the requirements the government placed on them in order to receive their patents, while they were engaged in other pursuits. Emil Stancec and his brother, who owned a small

bulldozer, assisted other homesteaders who knew or cared little about farming to clear the land and to plant oats, peas and hay. When the crops were ready they could be sold locally to people who had horses and cows (Stancec 2009, Pers. Comm.; Appendix 5).

In the area that is today the WAC area, 184 homesteads and 17 homesites were patented between 1918 and 1973 (BLM 2009) (Figures 2.6, 2.7, 2.8, 2.9, Table 2.3, Appendix 2, and Appendix 3). Many other homestead applications were never patented. Additionally, not everyone who lived in the Willow area applied for homesteads. Therefore, the list of names in Table 2.3 is incomplete with respect to who the historic residents of the WAC area were during each of the time periods.

William Hathaway was the first homesteader in the Willow area, homesteading in 1918. The earliest homesteads were situated in Township 19N Range 4 W Seward Meridian, in the area that is today the central part of Willow (Figure 2.9).

Agricultural prosperity in Alaska peaked in the early 1960s, after which it sharply declined. The number of farms in Alaska decreased from 420 to 320. Farmers in the Matanuska River Valley accounted for 70% of all commercial agricultural production. Homesteading ended in the 1960s in the southern valley, and in the 1970s in the Northern Susitna Valley. The Department of the Interior closed all remaining unreserved public lands to entry (OHA n.d.). The WAC area was one of the last areas to be closed.

Willow homesteaders who received patents are listed in Table 2.3 with the dates of homestead application, by ten-year periods. This list is restricted to homestead patents within the boundaries of the Willow Area Community. 49% of homestead applications were filed in the 1960s, 44% were filed in the 1950s, 6% were filed from 1910 through 1949, and only two homesteads were applied for in the 1970s (BLM 2009).

Title 43, Part 2560 enacted March 3, 1927 made provision for conveyance of smaller plots of land referred to as homesites and headquarters sites that were not to exceed 5 acres, were to be occupied five months of the year, at a cost of \$2.50 per acre.

More detailed tables of homestead and homesite applications with locations can be found in Appendix 2 and Appendix 3.

Homesteading in the contiguous 48 states ended with passage of the Federal Land Policy Management Act (P.L. 94-597) in 1976. However, the same law allowed homesteading in Alaska to continue until 1986.

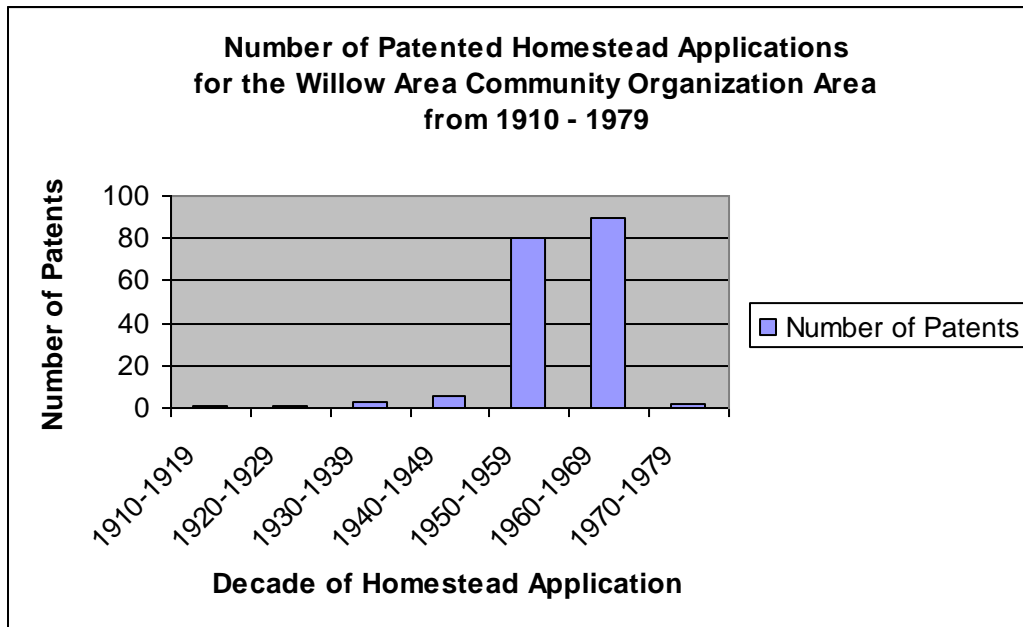


Figure 2.7. Chart of Historic Homestead Applications within the Boundaries of the Willow Area Community Boundaries (BLM 2009).

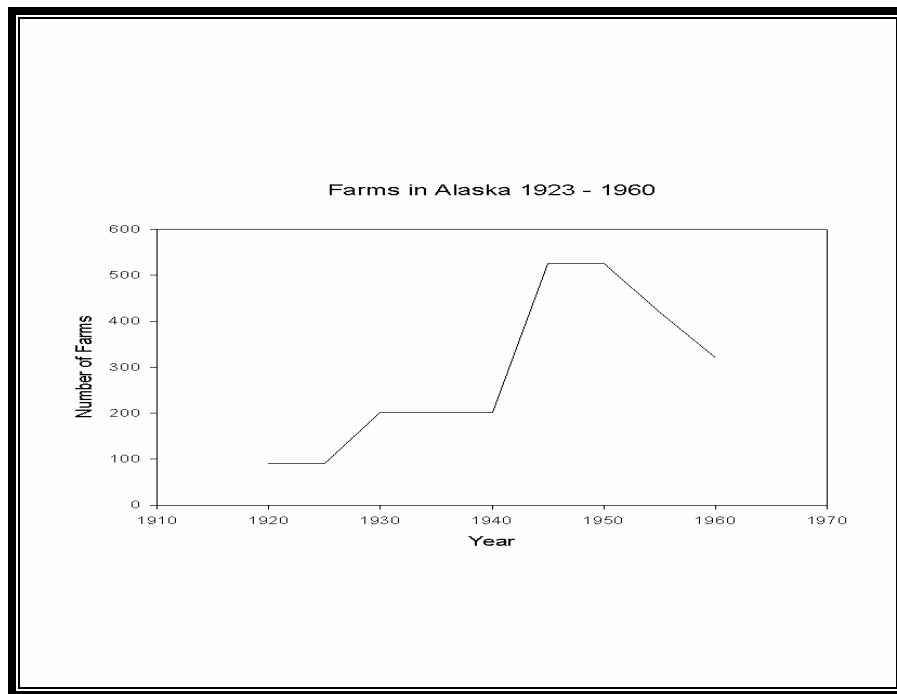


Figure 2.8. Trends of Farms in Alaska 1923 – 1960.

**Table 2. 3. Homestead-Homesite
Eras and Homesteaders**

1910-1919

Hathaway William D

1920-1929

Thomas John

1930-1939

Stowe Samuel

Everett Fred

1940-1949

McKinley Roscoe G

Danielson Phillip

Self Robert James

Hale John Heald

Blazek Joseph Lawrence

McGregor John

1950-1959

Anderson Ray Angus

Tomlinson Will Hodge Jr

Rice Richard G

Shepard Edward R

Driskell Clifford H

Walker Jack V

Johnson Ralph L

Douglas Robert A

Erikson Olof Irving

Roan Dolph Roosevelt

Stancec Emil John

Field William K

Richey Forrest M

Friday William W

Hillier Frank Olea

Sides Maxweldon

Kelly Robert J

Harkey Hubert Earl

Yacovac Richard P

Morrell Dee August

Sides Edith L

Mitford Hazel Ardath

Hazel Leaman C

Tuer Robert Charles

Stinson Glenn Walter

Johnson Raymond

Lemaster Kelmar Keller

Conley Clyde R

Hubble Donald J.

Jaquith Norman S

Buowens Edward J

Clovin Orlando R

Joehnck Glen Dale

Riedel Robert D

Rhodes James M

Sellens Walter Samuel

Cameron Ben E

Smith Floyd J

Morris Dean L

Cronin Arthur

Roan Clarence C

Richey Ted

White Ray C

Martin Edward D

Kos Frank

Chapman Travis F

Kruse Walter Joe P

Caldwell Wayne Daniel

Nelson Harold A

Cole, Jack E. Yukon Jack Mining

Penland W Richard

Haag Leo A

Brock Russell C

Baird Robert W

Mercer Sam A

Merrill Robert L

Mead Henry C

Hadden George A

Carl Jack

Woodward Jack E

Elliott Harold R

Powell Warren V

Reid Joseph H.

Foster Herbert D

Weaver Floyd D

Gioidano Daniel

Hankin Donald E

Spain Joseph A Ser

Spain Joseph A Jr

Brooks Alba S

Neff Garland M

Herndon, William w

Dolan William H

Sorenson Delmar A

Bugbee Lester L

Richey Jay Steers Vincent

Edwardson Haakon

Nelson John Victor

1960-1969

Wetherington Milton A

Adams Bruce Duncan

1960-1969, Continued

Nelson James Newman
Palmer Lawrence Henry
Button John F
Jones Henry K
Richardson Alden L
Hill Jerry A
Browne Clark
Hausserman Charles F
Edwards Willis R
Gibbs Thomas H Jr
Robinson Raymond
Block Alex
Jones William C
Sellens Walter Samuel
Ely George L III
Lindblom Dawson L
Branham Fred Jr
Harkey Hubert Earl
Henson Ruby Gean
McKee Gerald E
Fowler Valton L
Allen Jack
Delaney Odie R
Hibbler Wilburn
Ringler Dwaine
Barton Elvin C
Bunker Dean B
Shumate Billy Dale
Jorday Thomas E Jr
Chaney William F
Getzlaff Gladiolus Cuddy
Pelkey John R
Young Orville Lee

Kahn Willis E
Daniels Fred
Pierce Max B
Downing D Harry
Dahl John C
Richey Jay
Spradlin William George
Barrington Lester H
Rhea Vincent T
Evans Melvin F
Kasper Thomas F
Krueger Wayne K
Heimbuch Floyd E
Cornell Richard Earl
Johnson Steven F
Morrell Dee August
Wiegner Gustav O
Day William B
Murdock Burl
Giles Morton A
Bunker Terry L
Stevens Myron A
Best Edgar J
Kackman Lyle Ray
Richardson James G
Twitty Norman A
Sisson Robert J
Coleman Arledge G
Getts Kenneth A
Graham Thomas L
Brock Charles P
Carman Brooks L
Vance Wayne F

Burrow Wilbert E
Sebwenna Rosa E
Owens Marie M
Gieseke Orville H
Burgholzer Edward J
Molnar George R
McLaughlin Larkin B
McCharles James A
Covington Tommy W
Starnes Curtis B
Murphy William Lewis
Stolen Ernest V
Allison Lyndall Ernest
Pettis Wilford Dee
Briggs John C
Jones William J
Preston Kenneth Vincent
Pease Francis L
Beaudet Ellsworth W
Stevens Myron A
Frey Calvin C
Walker Foster E
Towne Shirley W
Menzel Robert D
Reekie Arthur C
Yates George T
1970-1979
Rollins Clifton C
Drake William A
Moss Noah Frank Jr
Carlson Carl G

4. Transportation and Communication: Trails, Roads, Railroads, and Air Travel from the Early 1900s to 1960; Telegraph and U.S. Mail Service

Historic-era Roads and Trails

In 1898 there were three U.S. Army geological expeditions, commanded by Captain Edwin F. Glenn. Lieutenant Joseph C. Castner's exploration of the Matanuska River Valley was the only successful expedition of the three. Many trails in the area existed well prior to that time, established by the Dena'ina and Ahtna. The expeditions used existing human and animal trails, and in some cases broke new trail (Seager-Boss 1991). In 1905, Congress created the Alaska Road Commission (ARC). Brigadier General Wilds P. Richardson was the head of the Commission. The Board of Road Commissioners for Alaska took over responsibility for construction of passable roads and bridges, and their maintenance and repair. In addition to roads and trails, the ARC was responsible for air fields and ferries. The ARC took over responsibility for general repairs as well as some construction (Naske 1986).

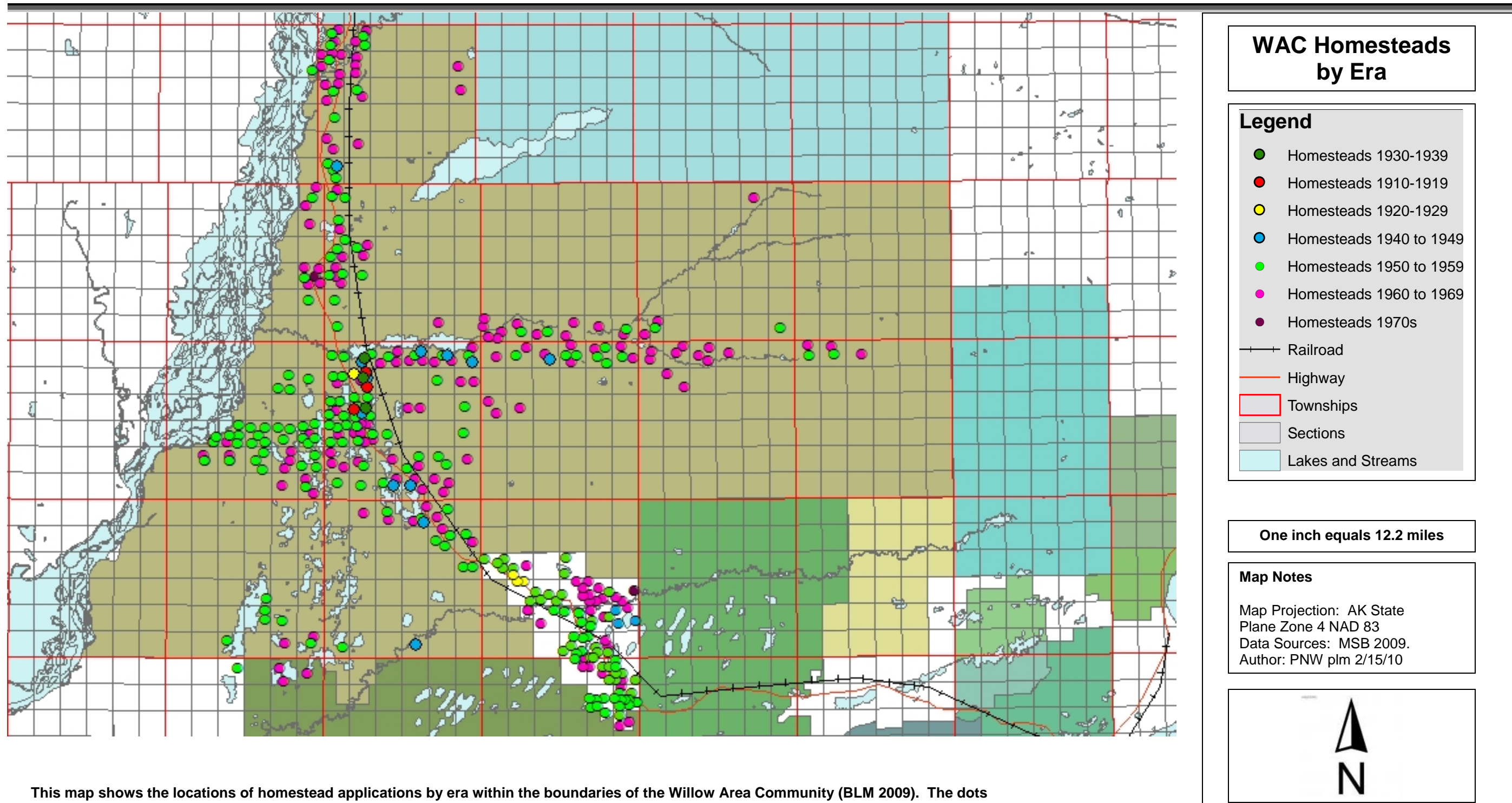
Problems encountered by the ARC included the constantly changing locations of the need for roads as mining camps, and then settlements developed. Physical challenges for the ARC included small, widely separated settlements, a fiorded 34,000-mile long coastline, wet tundra, and thousands of large and small lakes, streams and rivers. Early road builders often used aboriginal trail systems. The locations of mines and prospects and the needs of the U.S. Army determined many of the road locations (Naske 1986). Early requirements for roads included:

- a well-used summer and winter trail system
- government and military communication and transport
- access to freight connections for miners and homesteaders (Naske 1986).

Most travel in summer was by water and by portages, then later by air. River transportation remained the important means of travel and freighting well into the 20th Century, after which it was surpassed by airplanes.

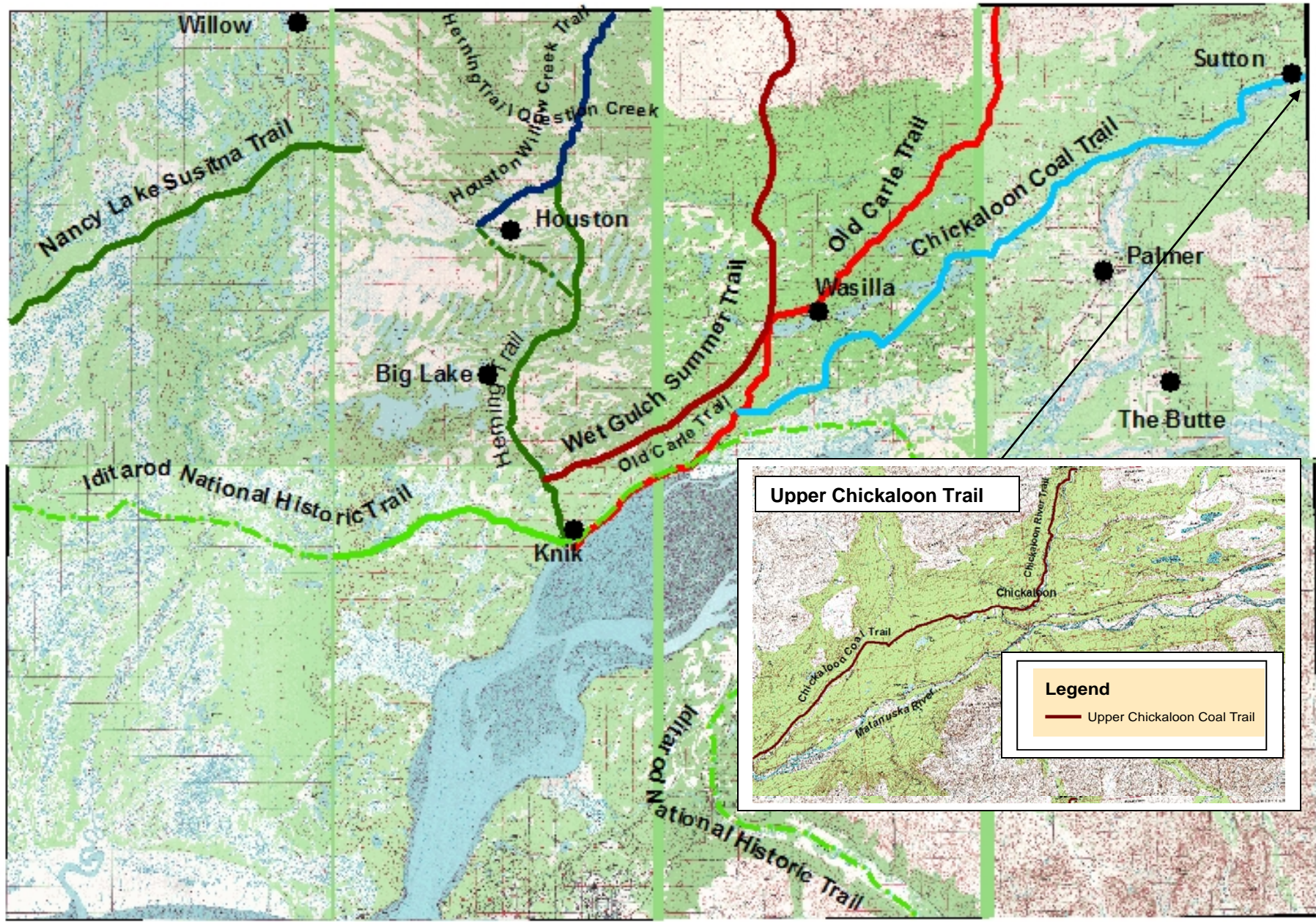
In 1906, the year of the mining district's first staked lode gold claim, supplies were landed by boat and were carried from the busy port town of Knik by horse-drawn wagons to be hauled over the narrow trails that radiated from Knik into the mining district. Those in existence by 1908 that went from Knik to the Houston area and from Houston to the mining district included the Houston Willow Creek Trail and the Herning Trail (DNR 2007) (Figure 2.10).

In 1956 the responsibilities of the ARC were assumed by the Bureau of Public Roads. When the ARC began work in 1905, there were fewer than 12 miles of



This map shows the locations of homestead applications by era within the boundaries of the Willow Area Community (BLM 2009). The dots on the map do not accurately indicate location beyond the Section level. See Appendix 3 and 4 for precise locations of homesteads and homesites.

Figure 2.9. Willow Area Community Homesteads and Homesites by Era.



**Some Historic Trails
in the
Matanuska-Susitna Valley**

Legend

- City
- Herning Trail (no ROW)
- Iditarod Trail
- Chickaloon Coal Trail
- Wet Gulch Summer Trail
- Old Carle Trail (New Government Trail)
- Nancy Lake Susitna Trail
- Iditarod Historic Trail
- Houston Willow Creek Trail
- Herning Trail (Knik to Willow Creek Trail)

One Inch equals 4 Miles

Map Notes
 Map Projection: AK State Plane Zone 4
 NAD83
 Data Source: MSB 2007; Kohen 1982; State of Alaska 2009

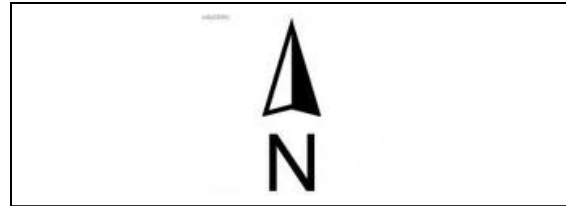


Figure 2.10. Some Historic Trails in the Matanuska-Susitna River Valley.

officially recognized wagon roads in Alaska. By 1956 there was a network of 10,000 miles of roads in the State (Naske 1986).

Early Communication

Between 1900 and 1904, the U.S. Army Signal Corps built the Washington-Alaska Military Cable and Telegraph System (WAMCATS). Telegraph lines were strung across 1,497 miles of wilderness and 2,128 miles of submarine cable was laid (U.S. Air Force 2009). The purpose of the system was to link together the wildly scattered, isolated military forts in Alaska.

Development of the Railroad

The Alaska Railroad, established by Congress in 1914, is one of only three railroads built by the U.S. Government and the only one that was operated by the Federal government. Until that time Knik had been the local hub of activity. It was the port where machinery, equipment and supplies were unloaded, and it was the central location from which primary trails diverged for freight delivery by horse-drawn wagons. However, a railroad stop in Knik was not part of the railroad's plan, and in 1915 the railroad bypassed Knik in favor of a more easterly route. Wasilla townsite and Pittman were established in 1917 on the newly-constructed Alaska Railroad. Pittman railroad station served Big Lake; to which materials were transported over 11 miles of rough trail (ADCCED 2007). The location of the Alaska Railroad can be seen in Figure 1.3.

Two railroad stations and one section house were located in the Willow area (Table 3.4). The Nancy Railroad Station (ANC-00087) was formerly located at mile 180.7 of the Alaska Railroad. The Willow Railroad Station (TYO-00025) and the associated railroad section were organized in 1917. The Kashwitna railroad section (TYO-00028) was also organized in 1917. The original Iron Creek Railroad Bridge at mile 187.7 (TYO-00096), a 75' long 5-span timber trestle was built in 1917. The Willow Creek Railroad Bridge (TYO-00026) at mile 187.1 was prefabricated and installed in 1927 during construction of this section of the railroad. A sixth span was added in the 1940s (OHA 2009). A new section house was constructed in Willow in 1923, and in 1931 a depot was moved to Willow from Birchwood Station (OHA 2009). Equipment and supplies for the mines in the Willow Creek Mining District, for the local homesteaders and other residents of the area were unloaded here. The Little Willow Creek Railroad Bridge (TYO-00027) was installed in 1926 (OHA 2009).

Development of Roads in the Region

During the 1917 construction field season, the ARC carried out several projects on the 34-mile long Route 35 that was by then being called the Knik-Willow Creek Road. General repairs were made to the route, a small amount of corduroy was laid, and culvert timber was cut. One mile of new road was

constructed. A standard 60-foot pony truss bridge of native spruce was constructed over the Little Susitna River, replacing an old stringer bridge. The ARC carried out extensive improvement from Wasilla, for the Willow Creek Mining District (Naske 1980:55). During the same year, Route 35A, the two mile Archangel extension, was planned to connect Mile 32 of the Willow Creek Road with Archangel Creek Valley (Naske 1980:55).

By 1927, two additional routes or spur roads, 35AA and 35AB, extended up archangel and Fairangel Creeks. Route 35 B had a name change to the Palmer-Fishhook Road, connecting Palmer with the Wasilla-Fishhook Road 11 ½ miles from Wasilla. The work served not only the mining district, but also some Matanuska-Susitna Valley farms and homesteads (ARC 1927 II:65r2).

In the 1930s, McKinley Park Road was being constructed, and a 14-foot span bridge was installed on Route 35D (ARC 1930 II).

The U.S. Postal Service

Mail service arrived in Alaska as early as the early 1890s. The North American Commercial Company, owner of the 77 foot long propeller steam launch *Elsie*, was awarded a mail contract in 1892 to deliver the mail from Sitka to Cook Inlet, and then on to Unalaska monthly from April 1 to October 31 (ExploreNorth 2009). The mail was then delivered via rivers and overland to a variety of destinations. In the study area, horse-drawn carts and small steamboats were used in the summertime, and dogsleds were used in the winter. A series of shelter cabins were built for the use of those delivering the mail (ARC 1929; Department of the Interior 1930). The Alaska Railroad carried mail to regular stops, where it was picked up and delivered by other means to various localities (Heaven 2009, Pers. Comm.). As aviation came into its own in Alaska, the mail was delivered by air. Mail delivery that had taken 17 days in winter by dogsled in 1929 was delivered by air in two hours (ARC 1929:31).

As roads were built and expanded into new areas, the automobile and truck also became more frequently used for commercial and personal uses. In 1953 and 1954 gravel roads and powerlines extended north of Wasilla (Heaven 2009, Pers. Comm.).

LeRoi Heaven, the nephew of homesteader Arthur Heaven, delivered the mail in the study area by automobile between 1963 and 1972 on a contracted route. Mail came by truck; previously it had come by rail. Marlene Cottle had the contract to haul mail from the railroad (Heaven 2009, Pers. Comm.; Appendix 4).

On Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays LeRoi's mail route went from Wasilla to Big Lake, the Willow Post Office and boxes in between, Pittman-Schrock, Wasilla-Fishhook, part of Lakeview, Reed Lake Road, and back to Wasilla. He also delivered mail for Fairview Loop and Knik-Goose Bay as far as the Nike site,

a 300-mile trip six days a week. He drove all of it. What was to become the Parks Highway at that time was called the Big Lake Road.

On Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays he delivered mail to Big Lake, Houston, Willow, north to Sunshine and Talkeetna, as far as the Big Susitna Bridge, where the road stopped. Then he went back to Willow, Pittman-Schrock, Wasilla-Fishhook Road, and Fairview Loop Road, the end of the route on those days. In 1953, there were only 75 people in Wasilla.

LeRoi's was a contracted position called a Star Route, then a Rural Route. It later became an HC, a Highway Contract. The homesteaders really appreciated the mail. When the bridge was completed, the mail route went all the way to Trapper Creek and Peters Creek. People met him there with sled dogs, snow machines and private planes that landed on the highway (Heaven 2009, Pers. Comm.).

Development of Air Travel and Air Facilities

A portion of the territorial road funds went to developing airfields in Alaska. By 1931 there were airfields at Willow Creek, Cache Creek, and Susitna Station. By 1932 there were approximately 70 airfields in Alaska (Naske 1986: 146). By 1930, construction and maintenance of roads, bridges, trails, ferries, aviation fields and shelter cabins were supported by appropriations by the Territorial Legislature, handled under the direction of the Territorial Board of Road Commissioners (Department of the Interior 1930: 36). The Territorial Governor's report indicated that in 1930 up to 24 commercial planes were in service, that there were up to 20 airfields located in the Third Division (that included Anchorage, Seward, Valdez, Cache Creek and Willow Creek Mining Districts, Moose Creek Coal Mining District, Curry, and Wasilla), and that hydroplane ports had begun to be installed (Department of the Interior 1930:36).

In the 1930s navigational aids were introduced, and there were a number of well-equipped landing fields. By 1935 the Alaska Airways Weather Service had established 35 weather observers throughout Alaska. The expansion of air service in Alaska required the Bureau of Air Commerce to assign a supervising aeronautical inspector, headquartered in Anchorage, to cover the Territory of Alaska (Department of the Interior 1935:29-32).

By 1937 aviation was quickly becoming the principal method of transportation in Alaska. Given the difficulties of ground travel over rough, uneven terrain dotted with wetlands, lakes, small streams and rivers, in life-threateningly low temperatures in winter, a plane could safely and quickly accomplish necessary transport. By 1937 there were 40 aircraft operators and 101 aircraft. That year the Alaska Legislature enacted a law creating the Alaska Aeronautics and Communications Commission (Department of the Interior 1937:33).

A Civil Aeronautics Authority was established, and in 1939 two meteorological stations were installed in Anchorage and Fairbanks to support air transportation. The Army Air Corps was planning one or more army air bases in Alaska and in 1942 two aviation facilities were approved for Sitka and Kodiak (Department of the Interior 1939:40-41).

5. Military: Exploration, World War I, World War II, the Cold War Era, and the Korean War from 1867 to 1960*

Shortly after the United States acquired Alaska a number of military expeditions were launched to determine the nature and the extent of the resources of the new territory. From the 1867 occupation of Alaska until 1920, the U.S. Army administered the territory, carried out exploration, and sponsored a variety of projects such as the development of transportation and communications.

World War I heightened the need for a West Coast coal source for the Navy's Pacific fleet. Funds were poured into the Chickaloon Anthracite Coal Mines and a railroad to accommodate a western fuel source.

Construction of the U.S. Army base at Fort Richardson began near the onset of World War II in 1940. The project brought employment to Native and non-Native residents of Cook Inlet beginning in 1941, but development of the military base ended Dena'ina uses for subsistence or habitation within the bases (Fall et al. 2003). New construction took place at the Willow Airstrip, one of several airstrips identified by the military for use as a satellite station in the event of war. Troops manned the station, and revetments were constructed to protect the airplanes and fuel supply in the event of strafing. The closure of a number of areas to subsistence no doubt had an effect on all Upper Cook Inlet Dena'ina.

In the 1950s, the U.S. Army carried out Cold War exercises in areas to the east of Houston and Willow. The Army held maneuvers in the area between 1955 and 1959. At that time the Houston Willow trail was developed all the way up to Willow. The army had a radar station above what is today Newman's Hilltop Services. Army personnel manning the station had a camp on one of the airstrip revetments until the late 1950s (Stancec 2009, Pers. Comm.).

During the yearly Army maneuvers, the troops made many bulldozer trails and brought with them men, equipment, and trucks. A profusion of trails and roads were bulldozed north of Willow Creek north to Talkeetna. They stripped out roads two blades wide, which was 20 to 30 feet wide. Many of the roads and trails used today follow the old Army trails. There remain many pieces of military equipment and supplies in the area (Stancec 2009, Pers. Comm.).

**The Cold War Era lasted until the early 1990s; however, at the time of this writing the historic period considered in this plan is from 1941 to 1960.*

6. Trade and Commerce: The Susitna River Valley as a Gateway from Prehistoric Times to 1960

A widespread trade network was well established in Alaska from prehistoric times. European and Asian trade goods reached the North American west coast and Alaska well prior to European or Asian contact in the southwest region of Alaska. Established trade routes existed between North East Asia and Northwest Alaska, between East Asia and the Aleutians, between interior Alaska and the Canadian west, and between the northwest coast and Alaska (Townsend 1965; Jochelson 1933; Hooper 1884; Nelson 1899; Fitzhugh and Crowell 1988).

The historic Dena'ina were an active part of this network. Locally, Knik was a trade center for exchange of goods with Tyonek and Iliamna to the southwest, with the Ahtna to the east, and along the Matanuska River Valley inland. The type of trade was generally an exchange of goods, such as colored porcupine quills, copper, and parka squirrel (Arctic ground squirrel, *Arctomys paaryii*) skins.

When the Russians arrived, they were interested in a much higher volume of commerce. This commerce involved both valuable furs that were to be found in Southwest Alaska and subsistence resources to support the Russians during their fur hunting pursuits. Russian parties were made up of traders, hunters, and others in their retinue. They brought with them an economy that differed from the subsistence economy of the historic inhabitants of the region. The Russians' extractive activities were on a scale never experienced by the Alaska Natives, who had been in trade and commerce for a long time, but within the framework of their subsistence economies, at a much lower volume. The Russian activities targeted the existing cash economy back home in Russia, even though barter predominated locally in Southwest Alaska between them and the Native people. While the Russians did use money in their Alaskan colonies, it was mostly at New Archangel, present-day Sitka. The small, isolated trading posts in Southcentral Alaska operated mostly on a barter economy (Hirschmann 2007, Pers. Comm.).

The theme of trade and commerce weaves its way through all of the historic contexts, and it is probable that Knik Arm and the Matanuska and Susitna River valleys have seen a relatively small but steady flow of people for many millennia. The region has earned its reference as a "Gateway."

7. Community Development

The first commercial activity in the Willow area was in 1896, associated with activities related to the exploration for gold. 1906 saw the district's first staked lode gold claim. Access to the Willow area from Knik, the port of entry for people, supplies, and equipment, was by a series of trails, including the Herning Trail and the Houston Willow Creek Trail. Houston, just south of Willow, became a hub for shipments passing through to the southern mines in the district and

mineral shipments being sent from the mines via the port of Knik. In the case of the mines in the northern Willow Creek District, Willow became a destination point. In addition to miners, during construction of the railroad surveyors, construction crews, homesteaders and other settlers came to Willow. This continued after the railroad and the Willow Station were constructed between 1917 and 1920, although the port of entry shifted away from Knik to Anchorage and Wasilla. In the 1940s, mining in the Talkeetna Mountains had slacked off and activity in Willow declined; however, by 1954 Willow Creek was Alaska's largest gold mining district, with total production reported to have been close to 18 million dollars (ADEC 2009). Shelter cabins to accommodate freighters and mail carriers were located at Nancy Lake, Willow and other points north. This route was the forerunner of the Parks Highway (DCED 2009).

Michael B. (“Russian Mike”) Ardaw was born in Siberia on January 10, 1892 and emigrated from Russia in 1920 during the Bolshevik Revolution, via India, Tibet and China. He arrived in the United States in 1920 and in 1943 he bought land in the Nancy Lake area from homesteader J.E. Wilson. A cabin on his homestead was the old roadhouse on the Talkeetna trail to Willow, which served as a rest stop for travelers. After Mike's purchase of the property, travelers continued to stop there, and Mike would meet the train with a cart to assist them to his place (Anchorage Times 1978:42; Stancec 2009, Pers. Comm.). Mike lived frugally off the land and ran a trapline at the lake (Anchorage Times 1978:42; Stancec 2009, Pers. Comm.). He was a kind and generous man, well-liked by all who met him (Stancec 2009, Pers. Comm.). His estate became a trust for scholarships at the University of Alaska. His property has become part of the Nancy Lake Recreation Area (Appendix 6).

The greater Willow area continued to grow with the influx of homesteaders in the 1950s and 1960s. The Alaska Road Commission assisted in developing roads and trails, and in 1953 and 1954 gravel roads and powerlines extended north of Wasilla. Mail delivery became consistent (L. Heaven 2009, Pers. Comm.). The Trail's End Lodge was built in 1947, and in 1948 it became a post office (ExploreNorth 2009).

8. The Modern Period: Community Development of Willow from 1960 to the Present

The Willow community was positively affected by completion of the George Parks Highway in 1972. In 1976, Alaska voters selected Willow for their new State capital site. Willow residents Doyle Holmes, John Hale, Betty Douglas and Rosalie White worked hard to make the Capital move a reality. Members of the Willow Area Civic Organization, sponsoring the annual Willow Carnival, were active boosters. However, while the preliminary planning and studies for the move were completed, funding to enable it was defeated in the November 1982 election and the capital remains in Juneau (Holmes 2009, Pers. Comm.).

Today, Willow serves as a bedroom community for commuters to the Wasilla-Palmer area and to Anchorage, as a location of recreational homes and cabins, and as a provider of hospitality services for visitors seeking winter and summer recreation, sports hunting and fishing adventures, and scenic tours.

III. Overview and Analysis of Cultural Resources and Potential Impacts of Proposed Development Projects

A Impacts to Cultural Resources from Natural Causes

1 Historic Natural Disasters

The Willow Area Community (WAC) area is located in a tectonically and volcanically active region, along the Pacific Ring of Fire. Tephra from regional volcanic activity and earth movement from earthquake activity could affect or have affected the region’s prehistoric and historic archaeological record and historic structures. However, for the area there is no record of such impacts.

Willow Creek, which runs through the WAC area and perpendicular to the Parks Highway, has a history of flooding. Figures 3.1 and 3.2 provide information about the number and severity of flood events recorded since 1940. Such events can affect historic and prehistoric archaeological properties and historic structures by inundation, erosion and sediment deposition. Currently there is no record of such impacts to any cultural property within the WAC boundaries. However, at least one stream bank erosion control project is being carried out on the south bank of the creek, just west of the Willow Creek Bridge.

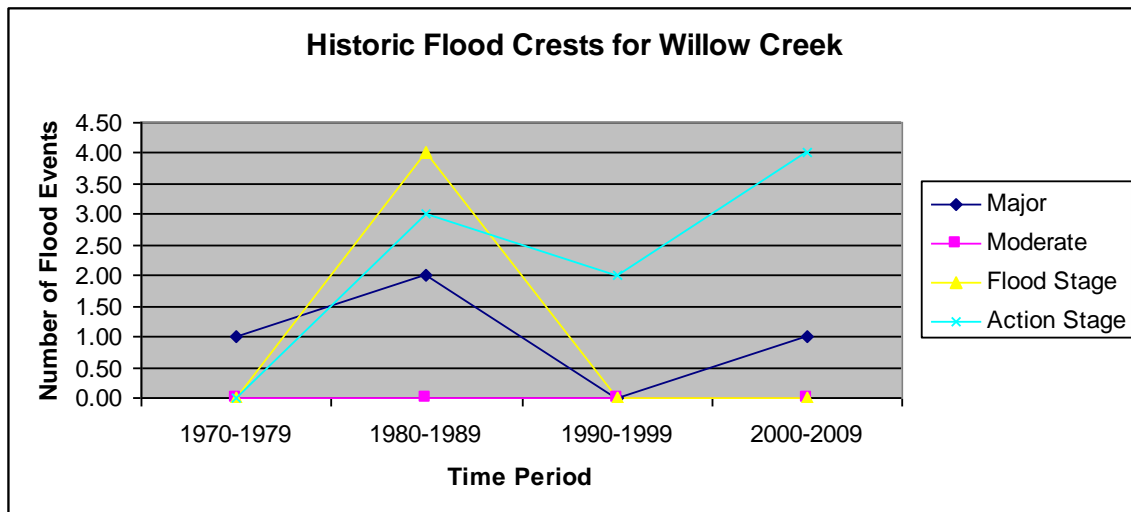


Figure 3.1. Historic Flood Crests by Time Period, Number and Severity of Events for Willow Creek.

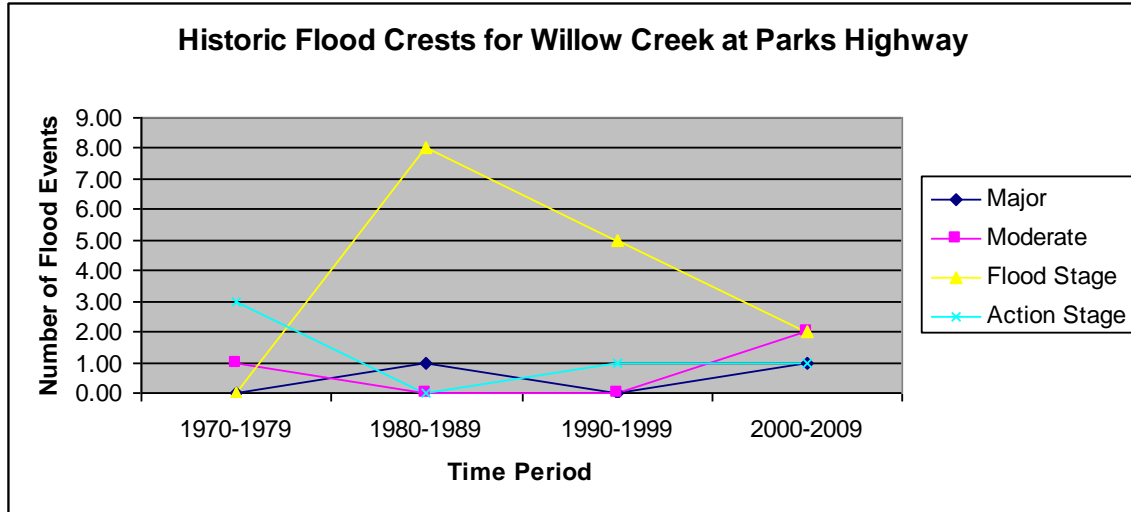
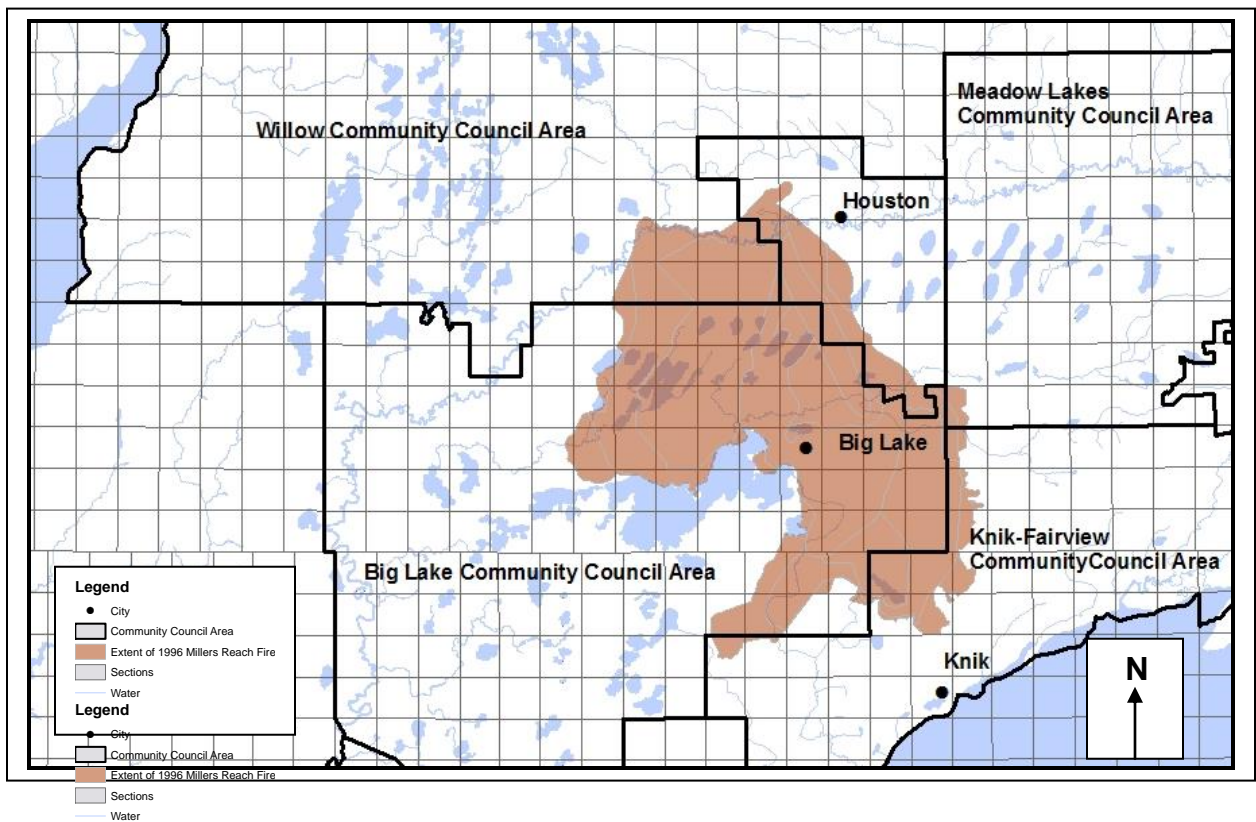


Figure 3.2. Historic Flood Crests by Time Period, Number and Severity of Events for Willow Creek at the Parks Highway.

The Miller's Reach Fire, started by fireworks on June 2, 1996, quickly consumed 37,366 acres of timber and destroyed 443 structures. There is no inventory of



Note: Willow is recognized as serving like a community council by the Borough but is only an organization that uses the boundaries of the United States Postal Service for Willow.

how many historic structures or archaeological sites were affected by the fire, which covered an area north and east of Big Lake and included the southwestern-most portion of the WAC area. Figure 3.3. shows the area that was affected. The areas within the WAC boundaries that the fire burned appear not to have been historic homesteads. No survey of this area for historic structures had been accomplished, but it is possible that some may have been lost.

2 Potential for Future Impacts from Natural Disasters

Based on the NOAA National Weather Service's hydrologic records, there have been a number of major flood events on Willow Creek since recording began in the 1970s (Figures 3.1 and 3.2). Any future trends are unclear, but flood events pose a potential threat to historic buildings and to archaeological sites of any age.

Currently there is a trend of strong El Nino weather patterns in Alaska that are accompanied by above normal temperature and precipitation along the coast, and above normal temperature and below normal precipitation in the interior, particularly through the winter. The warm, dry conditions increase summer fire potential (Hess et al. 2001). Weather conditions combined with any areas of dead spruce trees from bark beetle infestation could create conditions for future wild fires in the large forested areas within the WAC boundaries.

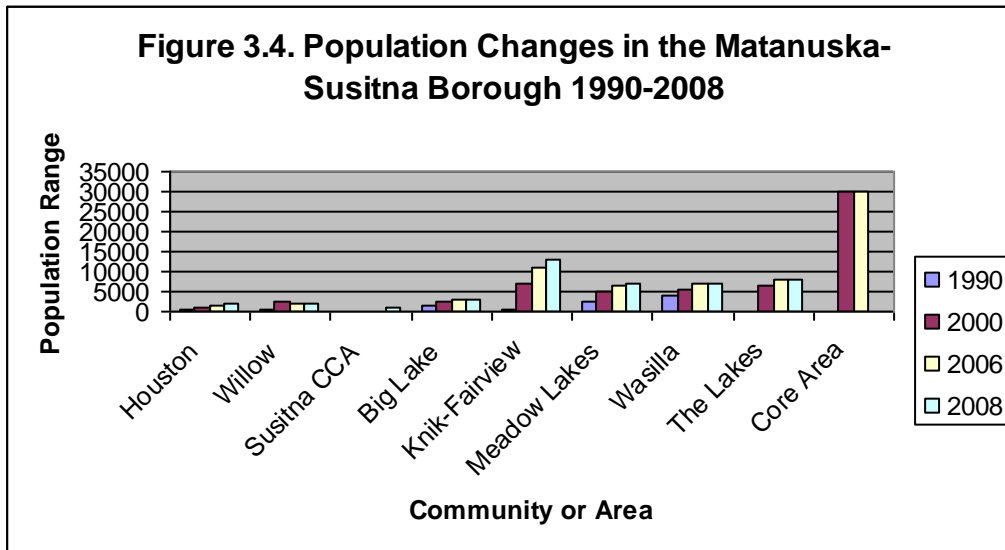
B Potential Direct, Indirect and Cumulative Impacts of Proposed Development Projects

1 Growth in the Project Area

The Matanuska-Susitna Borough has seen phenomenal growth during the past two decades (Table 3.1, Figure 3.4). In the State of Alaska Department of Commerce Community and Economic Development 2008 Certified Populations table, Matanuska-Susitna Borough was third in overall population at 82,515, after the Fairbanks-North Star Borough and Anchorage Municipality. It has more than doubled in population since 1990. The following table of population figures for 1990, 2000, 2006 and 2008 taken from the Matanuska-Susitna Borough, the Federally Designated Census Places and the Alaska Department of Community and Regional Affairs will further demonstrate the point. The figures in Table 3.1 are certified unless otherwise indicated in the table.

Table 3.1 Population Figures for the Willow Area Community and Selected Communities in the Matanuska-Susitna Borough 1990 - 2008				
Community	1990 Population	2000 Population	2006 Population	2008 Population
Houston	697	1,202	1,537	1,755
Willow	285	1,658	1,973	2,142 est.
Susitna CCA ("Y")	----	----	----	1,074 est.
Big Lake	1,477	2,635	3,082	3,191 est.
Knik* Knik-Fairview	*272	7,049	11,238	12,989 est.
Meadow Lakes	2,374	4,819	6,492	7,016 est.
Point MacKenzie		111	232	279 est.
Wasilla	4,028	5,469	6,775	7,176
North and South Lakes		6,706	7,901	8,249 est.
Core Area		30,000 est.	30,000 est.	----
Matanuska-Susitna Borough	39,683	60,000 est.	77,174	82,515

(Sources: MSB 2003; ADCRA 2009; FDCP 2007)



(Sources: MSB 2003; ADCRA 2009)

2 Foreseeable Future Actions

A number of foreseeable future actions are deemed likely to occur in the Matanuska-Susitna Borough between now and 2030 (KABATA 2006). These are future actions that could affect land use and ownership within the WAC area:

- continuing expansion of new subdivisions (Figures 3.5, 3.6, 3.7, 3.8, 3.9, and 3.10)
- planning development of the Port Mackenzie Rail Extension in 2009-2012. Possible Alternatives include areas in Houston and Willow (Figure 3.11)
- removing agriculture-only codes, covenants, and restrictions on land
- developing Port MacKenzie
- implementing planning and zoning in the Point MacKenzie area outside of the Port MacKenzie Special Use District
- building the West Matanuska-Susitna Access Project as part of the Little Susitna River bridge and road plan.
- constructing a road corridor from Port MacKenzie to Willow
- commencing scheduled crossings of Knik Arm by the Cook Inlet Ferry
- utilizing the Glenn Highway for commuter rail/mass transit
- building and upgrading of roads throughout Matanuska-Susitna Borough as part of the Matanuska-Susitna Long Range Transportation Plan
- developing the Hatcher Pass ski resort
- extracting resources (gravel and natural gas)(Figure 2.6 and Figure 3.12)
- developing power plants
- exploring for natural gas
- expanding the Port of Anchorage
- increasing the number of calls by cruise ships at the Port of Anchorage
- relocating the Alaska State Capital Legislative Office Building to the Matanuska-Susitna Borough.
- increasing the number of airparks for small aircraft and floatplanes in the Matanuska-Susitna Borough
- adding to military personnel at Bases (increased demand for housing and services)
- developing residential areas around lakes in Matanuska-Susitna Borough
- harvesting timber in Matanuska-Susitna Borough (Figure 3.13 and 3.14)
- opening the Point MacKenzie Goose Creek Correctional Center

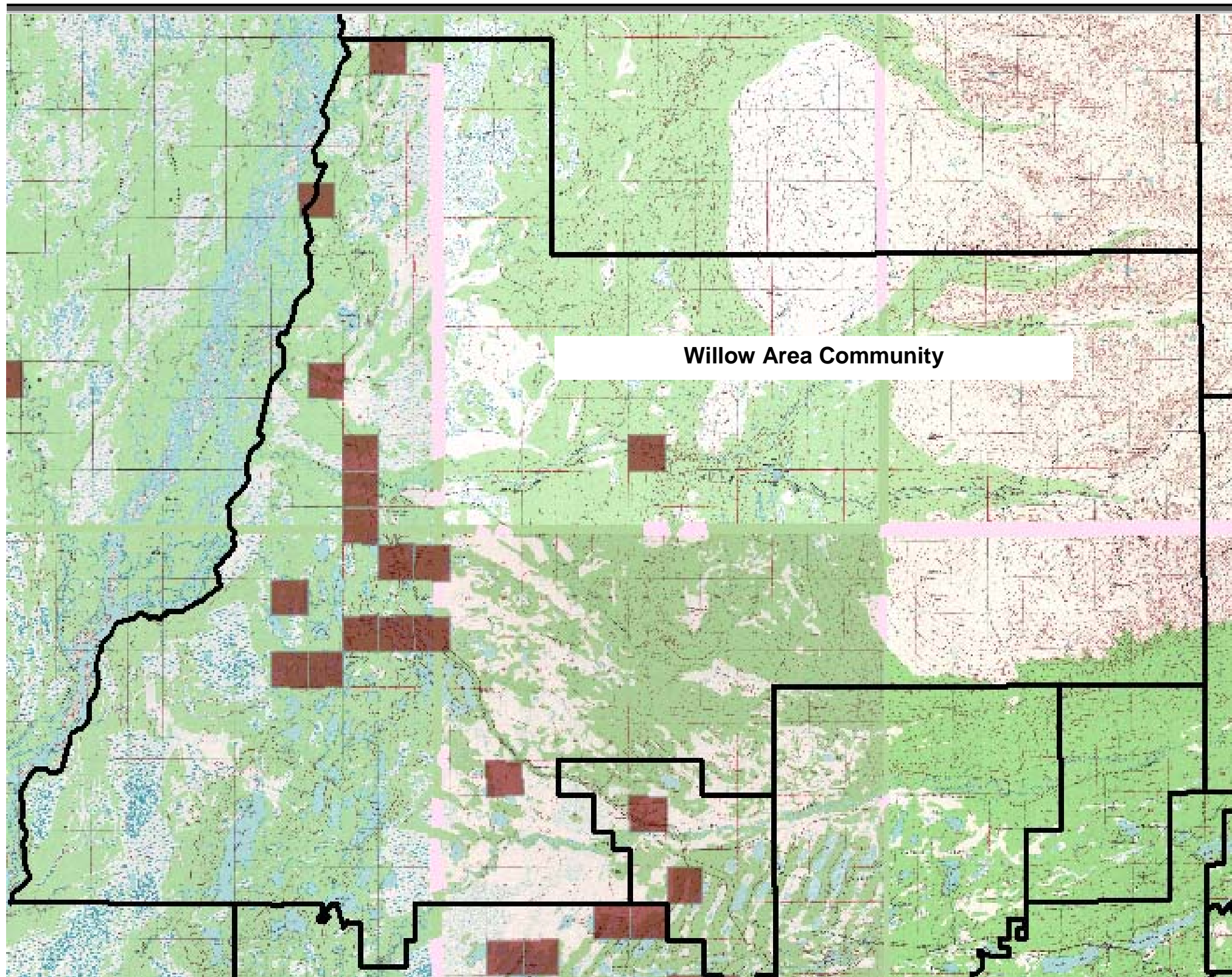
(Adapted from the KABATA Knik Arm Crossing Cumulative Effects Technical Report 2006)

Direct and indirect impacts that could result from the listed Foreseeable Future Actions and could contribute to cumulative effects include but may not be limited to:

- impacts to known and as-yet unidentified historic and prehistoric cultural resources
- loss of agricultural land
- population density shift
- uncontrolled growth/sprawl

Table 3.2. Acreage of Platting Actions for the Willow Area Community 2004-2008						
Townships 17 - 21 North, Ranges 1 – 6 West, Seward Meridian (Matanuska-Susitna Borough 2009)						
Range Township	6 West Acres	5 West Acres	4 West Acres	3 West Acres	2 West Acres	1 West Acres
Township 17 N						
2004	0	0	34.61	231.49	0	0
2005	0	0	258.63	309.87	0	0
2006	0	0	131.55	522.92	0	0
2007	0	0	32.84	30.52	0	0
2008	0	0	4.59	91.44	0	0
Township 18N						
2004	0	0	6.41	281.16	0	0
2005	0	4.97	0	9.54	0	0
2006	0	0	0	63.98	0	0
2007	0	0	0	0	0	0
2008	0	0	642.23	0	0	0
Township 19N						
2004	0	203.34	103.28	0	0	0
2005	0	843.21	703.92	0	26.70	0
2006	0	63.04	364.68	0	0	0
2007	0	119.66	595.08	0	260.00	0
2008	0	0	503.88	79.96	0	0
Township 20 N						
2004	4.93	54.40	57.13	47.6	0	0
2005	0	0	0	0	0	0
2006	0	100.00	0	0	0	0
2007	0	0	0	0	0	0
2008	0	0	0	0	0	0
Township 21N						
2004	0	00.92	42.55	0	0	0
2005	0	0	0	0	0	0
2006	0	0	0	0	0	0
2007	0	0	0	0	0	0
2008	0	0	84.00	0	0	0
Total Acreage	4.93	1389.54	3565.38	1668.48	286.70	0

- environmental degradation
- increased single-family residential development in Southwest Matanuska-Susitna Borough, and decreased redevelopment and higher-density development in the Anchorage Bowl



Willow Area Community - Platting Actions 2004

Legend

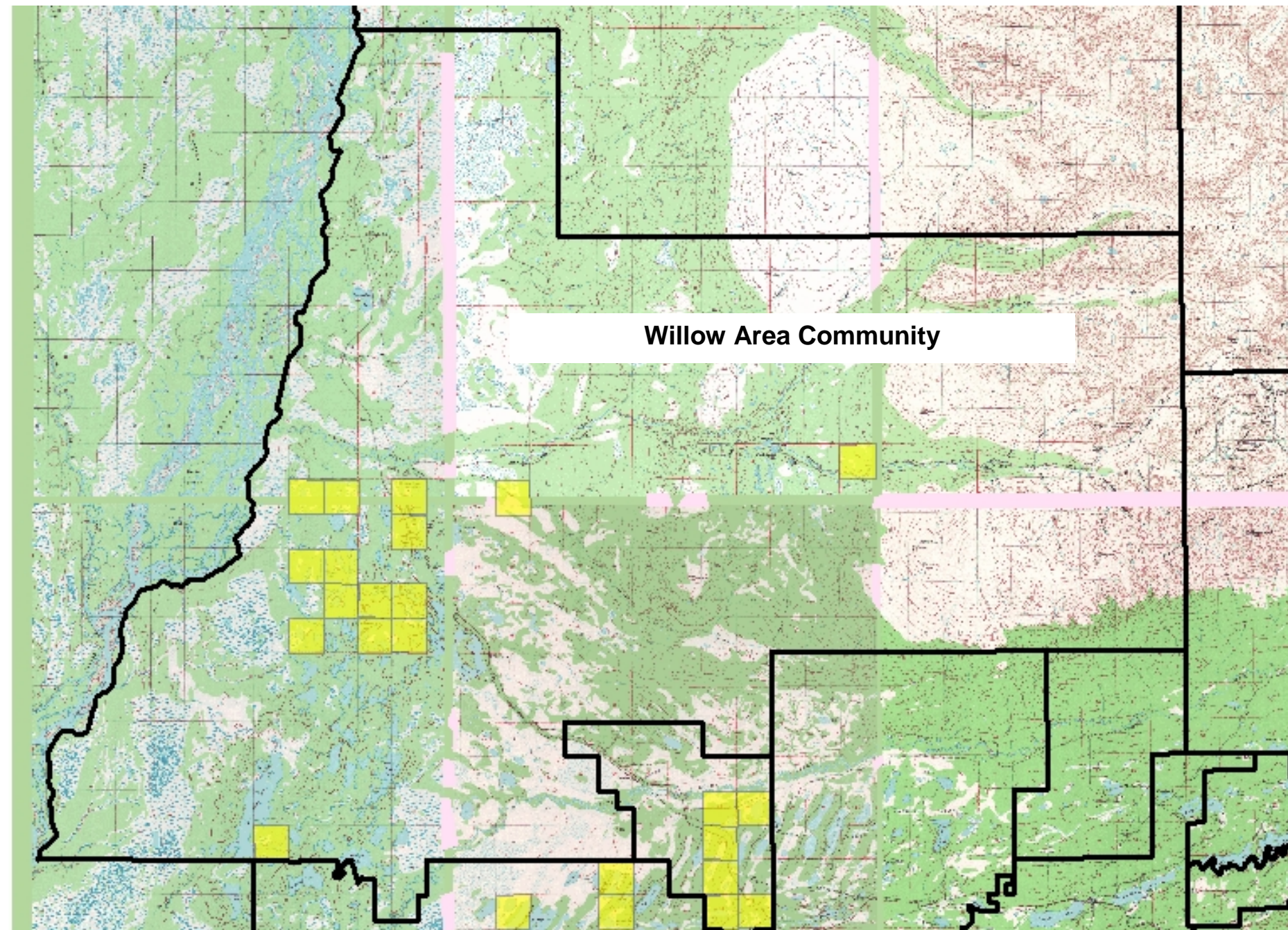
- City and Community Council Area Boundary
- 2004 MSB Platting Actions

One inch equals 2 miles.

Map Notes

PNWplm 2/15/10
Map Projection: AK State Plane Zone 4 NAD 83
Data Sources: MSB

Figure 3.5. Platting Actions in the Willow Area Community in 2004.



Willow Area Community - Vicinity Platting Actions 2005

Legend

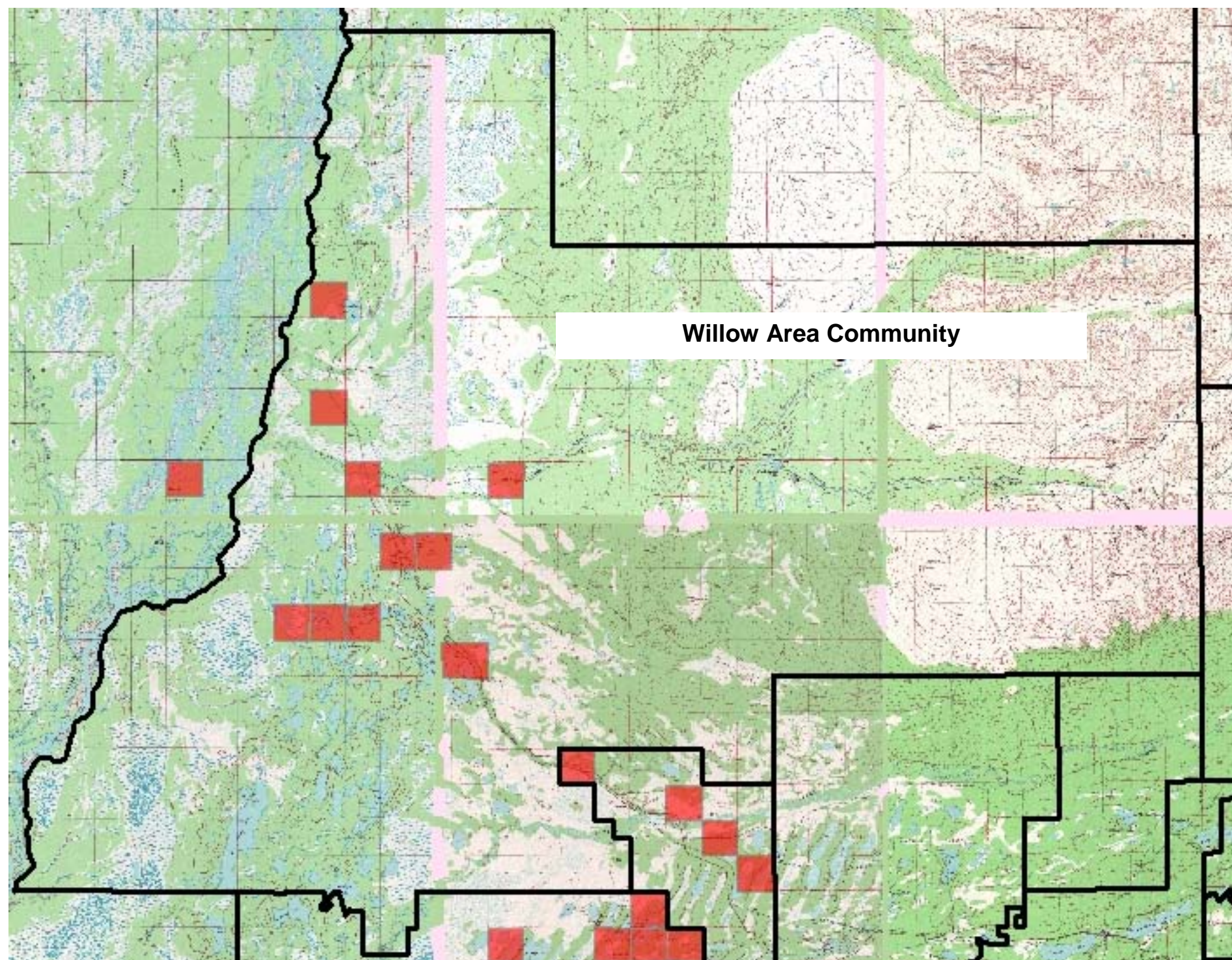
- 2005 MSB Platting Actions
- City and Community Council Area Boundary

One inch equals 2 miles.

Map Notes

PNWplm 2/15/10
Map Projection: AK State Plane Zone 4 NAD 83
Data Sources: MSB

Figure 3.6. Platting Actions in the Willow Area Community in 2005.



Willow Area Community - Platting Actions 2006

Legend

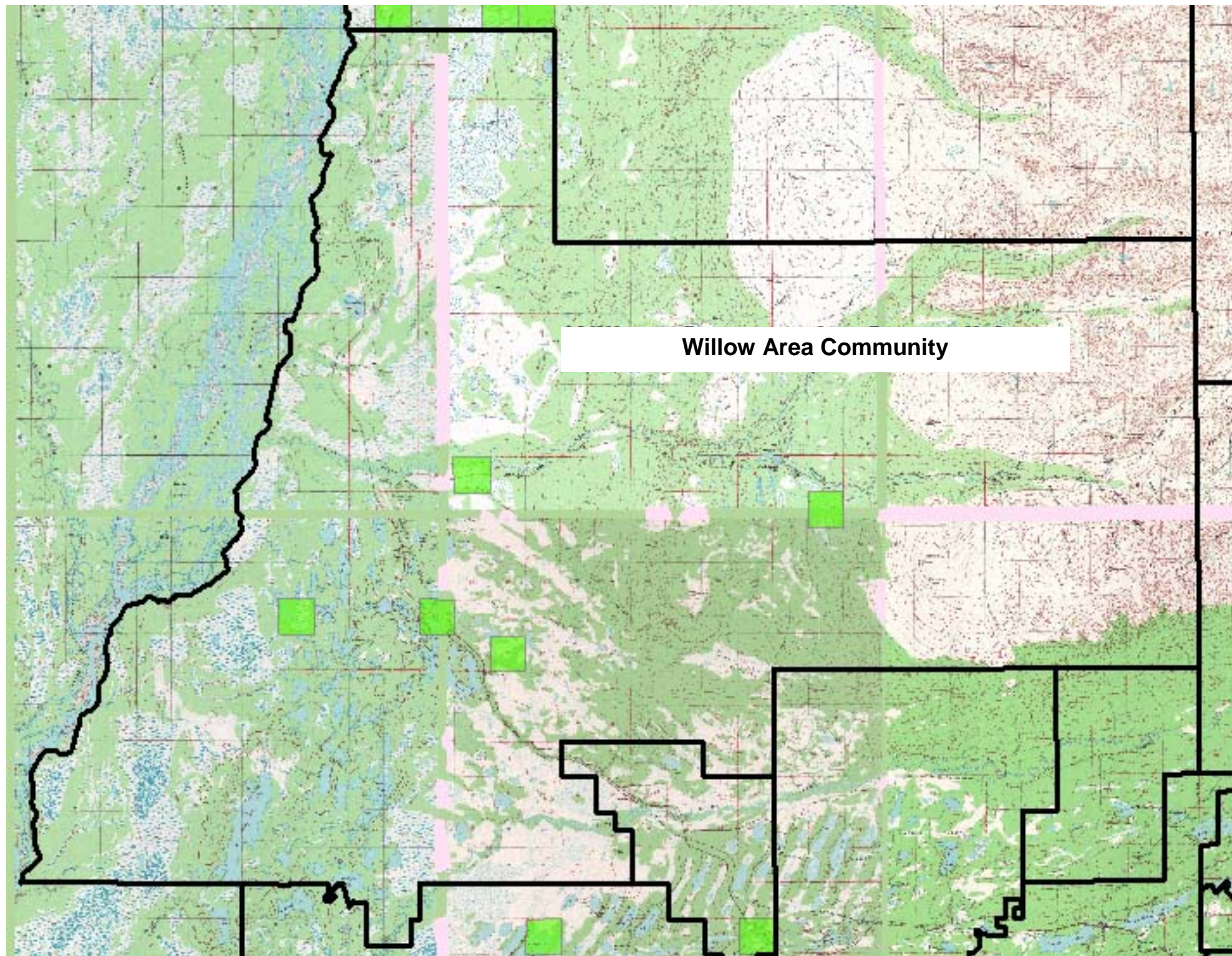
- City and Community Council Area Boundary
- 2006 MSB Platting Actions

One inch equals 2 miles.

Map Notes

PNWplm 12/1/09
Map Projection: AK State Plane Zone 4 NAD 83
Data Sources: MSB

Figure 3.7. Platting Actions in the Willow Area Community in 2006.



Willow Area Community - Platting Actions 2007

Legend

- City and Community Council Area Boundary
- 2007 MSB Platting Actions

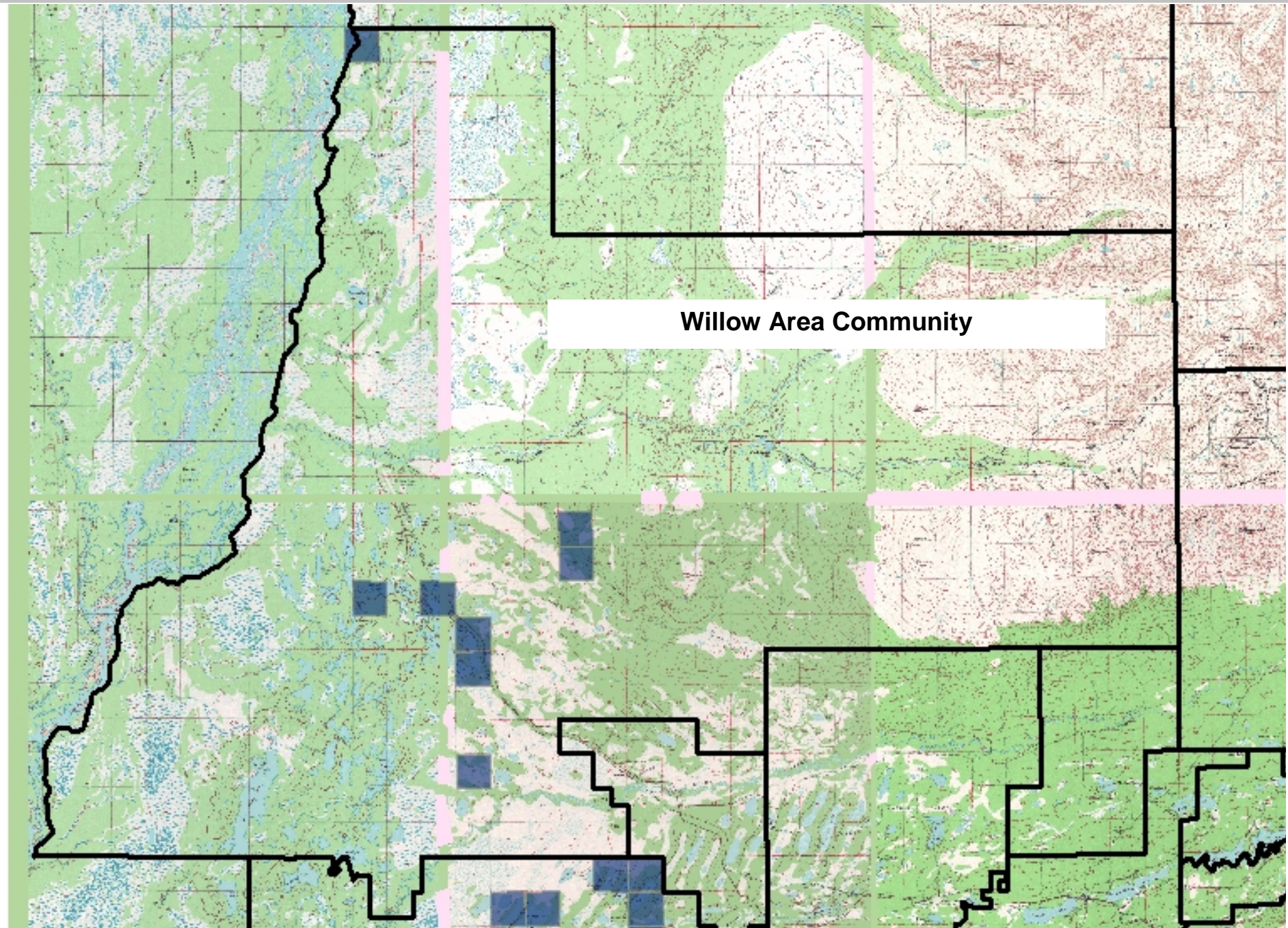
One inch equals 2 miles.

Map Notes

PNWplm 2/15/10
Map Projection: AK State Plane Zone 4 NAD 83
Data Sources: MSB

A north arrow pointing upwards, with the letter 'N' centered below the arrowhead.

Figure 3.8. Platting Actions in the Willow Area Community in 2007.



Willow Area Community - Platting Actions 2008

Legend

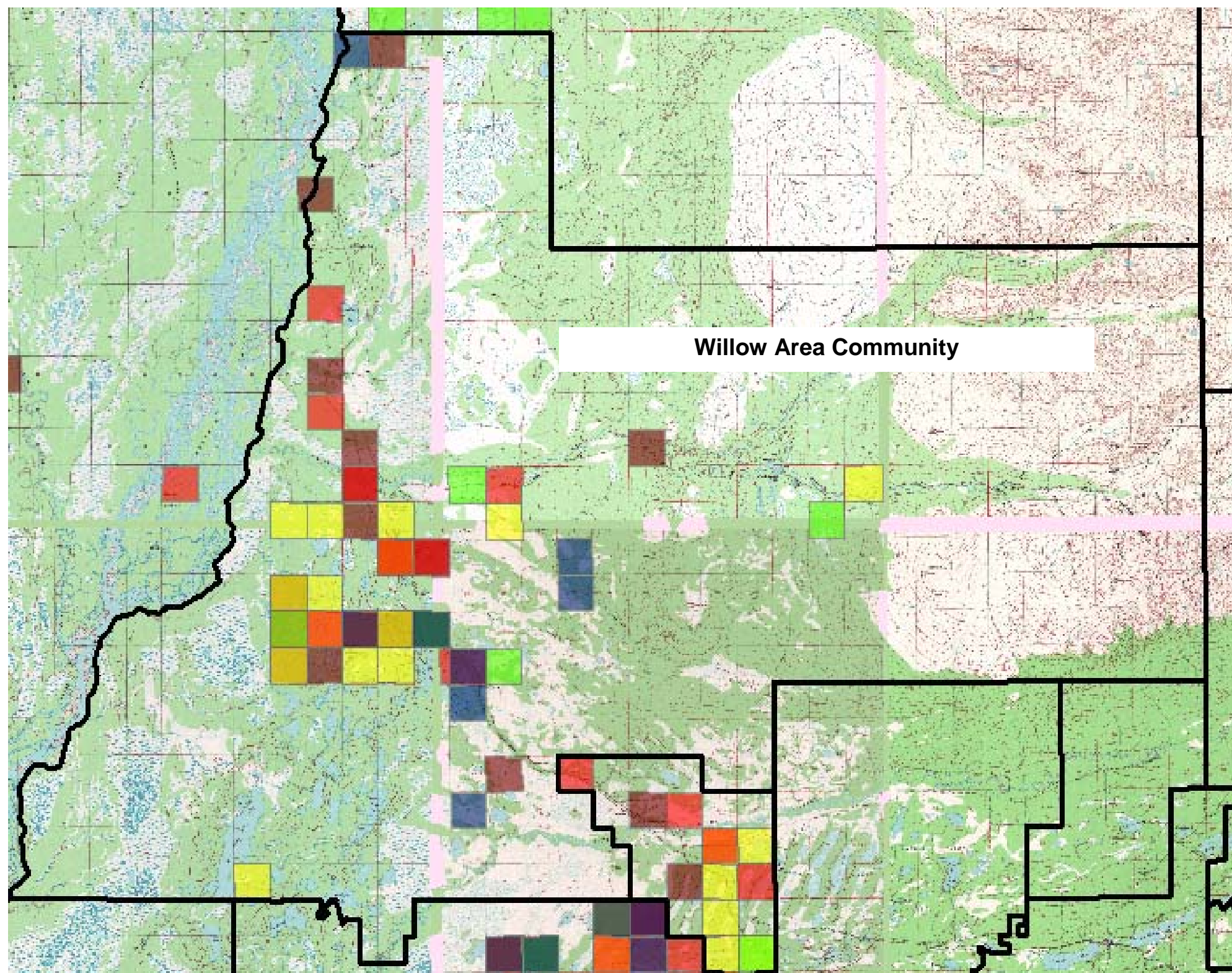
- City and Community Council Area Boundary
- 2008 MSB Platting Actions

One inch equals 2 miles.

Map Notes

PNWplm 2/15/10
Map Projection: AK State Plane Zone 4 NAD 83
Data Sources: MSB

Figure 3.9. Platting Actions in the Willow Area Community in 2008.



**Willow Area
Community -
Vicinity
Platting Actions
2004-2008**

Legend

- City and Community Council Area Boundary
- 2008 MSB Platting Actions
- 2007 MSB Platting Actions
- 2006 MSB Platting Actions
- 2005 MSB Platting Actions
- 2004 MSB Platting Actions

One inch equals 2 miles.

Map Notes
PNWplm 2/15/10
Map Projection: AK State
Plane Zone 4 NAD 83
Data Sources: MSB

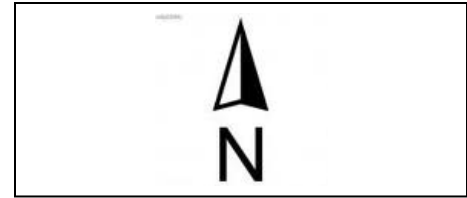
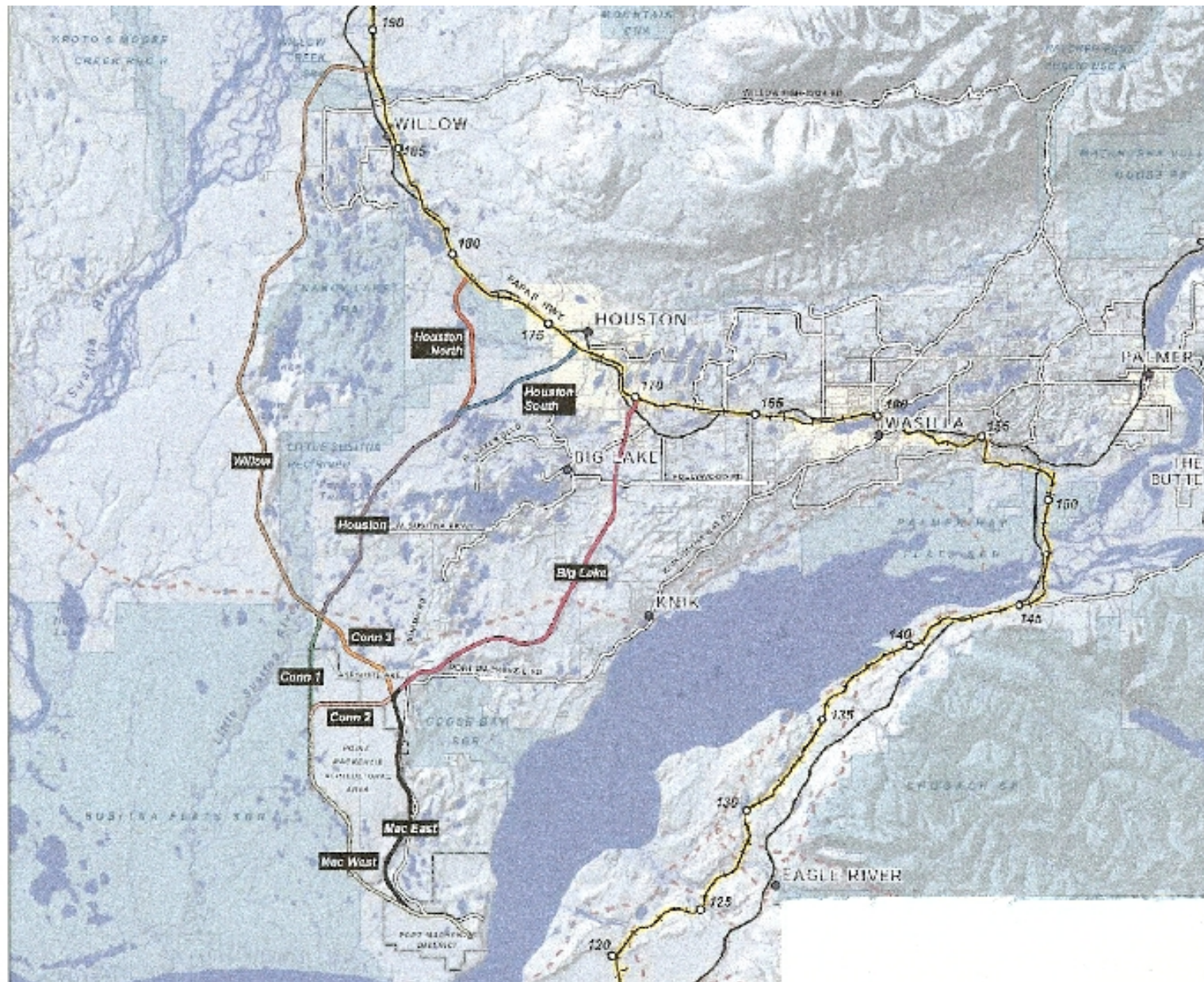
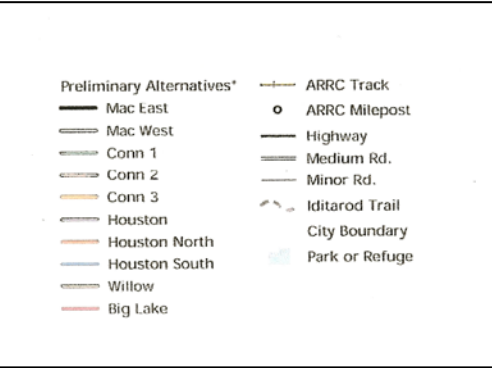


Figure 3.10. Willow Area Community. - Sections in Which Platting Actions That Took Place between 2004 and 2008.



Port MacKenzie Rail Extension Proposed Alternative Routes



One inch equals 6 miles.

Map Notes
 PNWplm 2/15/10
 Map Projection: AK State Plane Zone 4 NAD 83
 Data Source: Alaska Railroad Corporation, Matanuska-Susitna Borough



Figure 3.11. Port MacKenzie Rail Extension Alternatives.

- land use conversions (i.e. agricultural to residential or industrial)
 - Right-of-Way demand for utilities
 - displacement as a result of Right-of-Way acquisition
 - disruption of port activities
 - land use shift, where development is shifted away from public uses and supporting infrastructure to residential and commercial uses
 - compliance/consistency issues with existing land use plans and policies
- (Adapted from the KABATA Knik Arm Crossing Cumulative Effects Technical Report 2006)

3 Summary of Potential Impacts of Future Actions

No direct impacts to historic properties from the development of the Knik Arm Bridge at the bridge landing site in Point MacKenzie are anticipated. However, indirect impacts from bridge and infrastructure development are anticipated. Whether the Knik Arm Bridge is built or not, other influences have already put many changes in the Matanuska and Susitna River Valleys in motion. The influx of people since 1990 has required new housing for them. Between 2004 and 2006 a number of new subdivisions were developed in the region. Real estate activity slowed in 2007 and 2008, but is expected to improve in the near future. Table 3.2 shows the platting actions that took place between 2004 and 2008, and the amount of acreage involved in the actions for each Township, Range, and Section in the WAC area. Figures 3.5 through 3.9 show the Sections in which platting actions took place in the WAC region for each year between 2004 and 2008. Figure 3.10 shows the platting actions cumulatively for those years (Figures 3.5, 3.6, 3.7, 3.8, 3.9, 3.10) (Matanuska-Susitna Borough 2009).

Some direct and indirect impacts to historic properties from the development of the Port MacKenzie Rail Extension can be expected based on what is known about the historic use of the project area by the Dena'ina Athabascans in their annual round of seasonal subsistence activities and on identification of archaeological sites during reconnaissance survey of portions of the proposed alternative routes within the WAC boundaries (Figure 3.8) (Kari, Fall and Pete 1987; 2003; AHRS 2009; Braund and Associates 2010, Pers. Comm.).

In 2003, 75% of Matanuska-Susitna Borough commuters worked in the Anchorage municipality (MSB 2003). Rising gasoline prices and the time commitment that commuting requires make the crossing from Point MacKenzie to downtown Anchorage convenient for some commuters, particularly those living in the Knik-Fairview area. A new ferry facility is being developed at Point MacKenzie to ease the commute. In conjunction with this and the KABATA project, a rail spur is planned from Point MacKenzie potentially to Big Lake, Houston or Willow. Concurrently with developments at Point MacKenzie, new road upgrades and development are planned (Figure 3.11).

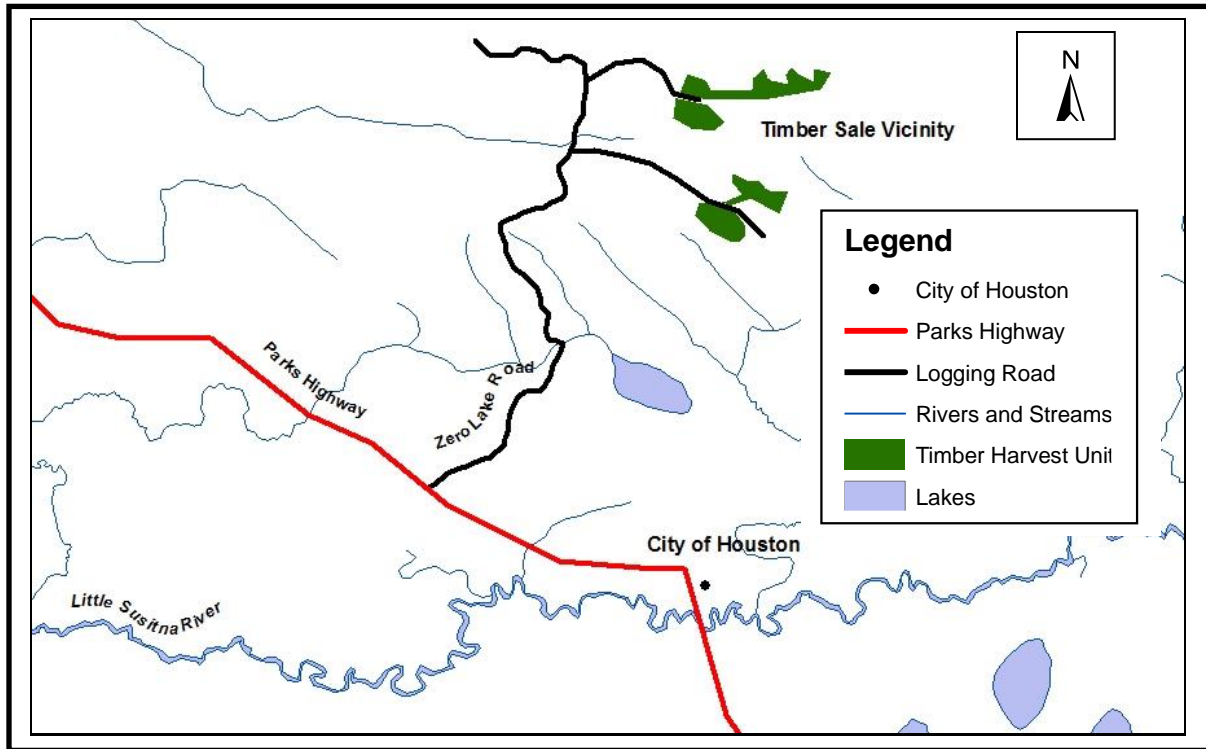


Figure 3.13. Houston 2009 Timber Sale – Vicinity Map (Alaska Division of Forestry 2009).

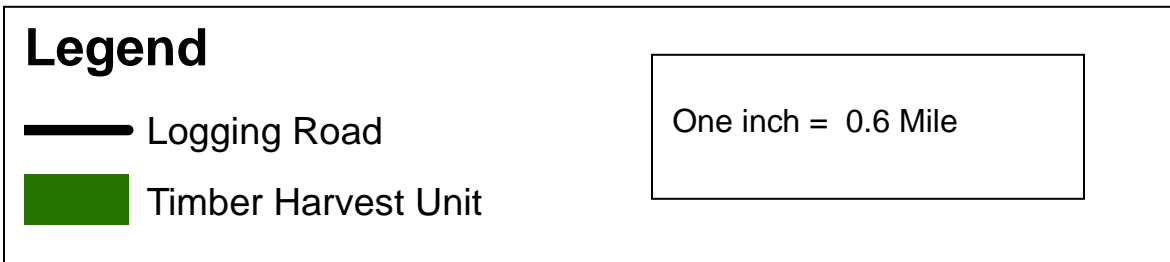
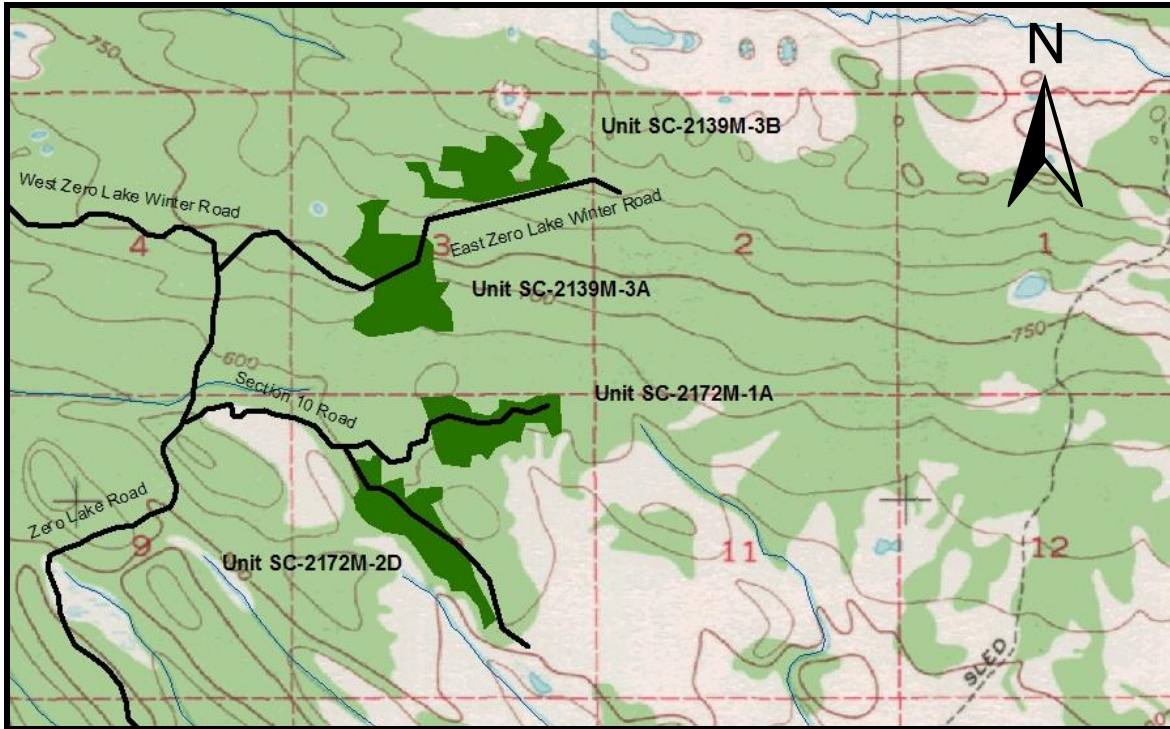


Figure 3.14. Houston 2009 Timber Units (Alaska Division of Forestry 2009).

The 2009 timber sales areas lie within the boundaries of the WAC area, and so direct or indirect impacts to cultural resources are a possibility, should cultural resources be present (Figures 3.13 and 3.14). Figures 3.13 and 3.14 should be considered merely as an approximation of the timber units. More accurate maps in .pdf can be located at the Alaska Division of Forestry web site.

C Overview and Analysis of Cultural Resources in the Project Area

1 Overview of Prior Research in the Area

Archaeological research in the project area prior to 1978 took place along the Parks Highway corridor. A survey of Alaska State Park waysides was carried out by R.G. Dixon and W.F. Johnson in 1971. During that survey a single stone flake was located near the entrance to Nancy Lake wayside. The location, designated

TYO-006 was archaeologically tested but yielded no additional cultural traces (Reger 1978:4). In 1978 Reger conducted archaeological field survey and sought ethnographic reports to identify sites in the Willow-Wasilla area. He confirmed 29 historic and prehistoric sites in the area (Reger 1983:5-8). Cultural resources surveys conducted by the Matanuska-Susitna Borough include Cole and others (Cole et. al 1985, 1986, 1987) and Seager-Boss (1988, 1989, 1990, 1995).

James Fall completed a Ph.D. Dissertation, *Patterns of Upper Inlet Tanaina Leadership, 1741-1918* in 1981. It contains a wealth of information about the region and the history of the people (Fall 1981).

A survey of homesteads in the Matanuska-Susitna Valley from 1898 to 1940 was accomplished in two parts in 1992 and 1993 (Seager-Boss 1992, 1993).

An archaeological survey and inventory of the Talkeetna, Middle-Susitna region was undertaken by Fran Seager-Boss in 1996. A number of archaeological sites and historic structures were identified and recorded (Seager-Boss 1996).

An invaluable ethnographic resource for the study area is *Shem Pete's Alaska*, a sourcebook for important ethnogeographic information (Kari, Fall and Pete 1987; 2003).

Fifteen aboriginal sites and three EuroAmerican sites were located during a 2006 survey of the Middle Susitna River in 2006 by the Matanuska-Susitna Borough (Seager-Boss 2006).

Reconnaissance survey of the proposed alternatives for the Alaska Railroad Port Mackenzie Spur was carried out in 2008 by Braund and Associates. A trail, a cabin, and number of large and small pits were identified within the WAC boundaries. The pits were not tested but are likely late prehistoric or historic-era Dena'ina housepits and storage pits (OHA 2009; Braund and Associates 2010, Pers. Comm.).

2 An introduction to modeling areas that are likely to contain historic and/or prehistoric cultural resources: resource sensitivity maps.

The Upper Cook Inlet Dena'ina and their ancestors moved about the region on a seasonal basis, to permanent winter villages and to temporary spring, summer, and fall hunting, gathering and fishing camps. Prehistoric and historic site locations of habitation sites, subsistence activity or procurement sites, and temporary campsites in the region are those where the people carried out their annual round of seasonal subsistence activities on the land and in the water. Locations with a high probability of having archaeological sites are:

- lakes, rivers, river mouths, and streams with outlets on the Pacific Ocean

- lake shores; lake outlets; river confluences, especially those that join clear water and milky or muddy water
- river and stream banks; and river mouths were used for short-term hunting/fishing sites or for permanent village sites. These water bodies would be a source of fresh water for humans and land animals; they would contain anadromous fish seasonally and freshwater fish year-round. Areas near the shores of lakes and ponds would also be the potential locations of fuel and small mammals such as beaver.
- areas near the margins of swampy lowlands, where seasonally migrating waterfowl in large numbers and small mammals can be found.
- spawning sites in clear water tributaries.
- prominences having potential for hunting lookouts and campsites.
- mountain passes that are natural funnels for people and animals seeking least-cost paths for moving from one side of a mountain to the other.
- locations having the appropriate types of stone materials used for making stone tools (stone quarries)
- locations where a variety of subsistence resources can be found in or near one spot. The Matanuska and Susitna River valleys and uplands is a region of many ecosystems. Edge environments, those transitional zones between ecosystems, are such locations. Areas near tree line at higher elevations are reported to have been used for wintering over. They provide access to wood for fuel and construction of winter houses, and proximity to caribou.
- locations reported in the ethnographic literature and in oral tradition. (Reger 1978:14; Kari, Fall and Pete 1987; 2003).

A map modeling some of the locations of sensitivity for historic and prehistoric cultural resources is included for the WAC area (Figure 3.10).

3 Cultural Resources Identified in the Willow Area Community Region and their Significance.

Twenty-nine prehistoric and historic archaeological sites identified in the Alaska Heritage Resources Survey (AHRs) database lie within the boundaries of the WAC area. An additional 28 ethnographically reported locations are noted in Shem Pete's Alaska (Kari, Fall and Pete 1987; 2003). A number of prehistoric and historic trails are located within the boundaries. Three historic trails have been documented but do not have AHRs numbers (Figure 2.5). Thirty-six historic structures recorded in the AHRs database are located within the WAC region. Additionally, 184 homestead and 17 homesite applications were patented between 1918 and 1973 in the area. Most if not all of the homesteads are private land today, and no historic building or archaeological survey of them has been accomplished. They are summarized in Chapter 2, and detailed in 2 and 3. An additional four historic structures are noted here, but they have no AHRs numbers.

Table 3.3. Prehistoric and Historic Archaeological Sites and Ethnographically Reported Sites Within the Willow Area Community Boundaries

AHRS No.	Site Name	TRS (SM)	Description	Historic Contexts
TYO-00176	Pit	17N5WS5		Dena'ina Lifeways
TYO-00177	Pit	17N5WS5		Dena'ina Lifeways
TYO-00178	Pit	18N5WS32		Dena'ina Lifeways
TYO-00179	House Pit, Pit	18N5WS32		Dena'ina Lifeways
TYO-00003	Red Shirt Village	20N5WS34		Dena'ina Lifeways
TYO-00061	Willow Creek	20N5WS34		Dena'ina Lifeways
TYO-00180	Pit	19N5WS22		Dena'ina Lifeways
TYO-00181	House Pit	19N5WS10		Dena'ina Lifeways
TYO-00182	Pit	19N5WS10		Dena'ina Lifeways
TYO-00183	Pit	20N5WS34		Dena'ina Lifeways
TYO-00185	House Pit, Pit	19N5WS2		Dena'ina Lifeways
TYO-00060		19N5WS2		
TYO-00014		20N5WS35		
TYO-00187	Pit	19N5WS2		Dena'ina Lifeways
TYO-00188	Pit	20N5WS35		Dena'ina Lifeways
TYO-00189	Pit	20N5WS35		Dena'ina Lifeways
TYO-00087	Cache Pits	21N5WS25		Dena'ina Lifeways
TYO-00090	Depressions	21N5WS24		Dena'ina Lifeways
TYO-00089	Cache Pits	21N5WS25		Dena'ina Lifeways
TYO-00088	Cache Pits	21N5WS25		Dena'ina Lifeways
TYO-00091	Cache Pits	21N5WS24		Dena'ina Lifeways
TYO-00024	Kashwitna Village	21N4WS18		Dena'ina Lifeways
TYO-00092	Pits	21N4WS19		Dena'ina Lifeways
TYO-00041		19N4WS6		
TYO-00162		19N4WS28	Prehistoric	Dena'ina Lifeways
TYO-00006		19N4WS28		
ANC-00119	Tudli Bena	18N4WS3		Dena'ina Lifeways
ANC-02870	Cache Pits	18N4WS3		Dena'ina Lifeways
ANC-00245		18N4WS26		
Ethnographically Reported Sites	28 Sites		Kari, Fall and Pete 2003	Dena'ina-Ahtna Lifeways

Table 3.4. Historic Structures and Historic Trails Within the Boundaries of the Willow Area Community

AHRS No.	Site Name	TRS (SM)	Description	Historic Contexts
TYO-00037	Billy Pete's Trapping Cabin	19N5WS22		Dena'ina Lifeways
TYO-00184	Trail	19N5WS2		Transportation
TYO-00093	Trapper Cabin	21N5WS36	Ruins	Trapping
TYO-00110	Little Willow Creek Bridge	20N5WS24		Transportation
TYO-00111	Kashwitna River Bridge	21N4WS7		Transportation
TYO-00028	Kashwitna Railroad Section	21N4WS31		Transportation
TYO-00027	Little Willow Creek Railroad Bridge	20N4WS19		Transportation
TYO-00038	William Davis Homesite	20N4WS19	Johnson homestead	
TYO-00096	Iron Creek Railroad Bridge	19N4WS5		Transportation
TYO-00026	Willow Creek Railroad Bridge	19N4WS5		Transportation
TYO-00025	Willow Railroad Station	19N4WS8		Transportation
ANC-00087	Nancy Railroad Station	19N4WS34		Transportation
ANC-00470	Nancy Roadhouse	19N4WS34		Transportation and Commerce
ANC-02777	Nancy Lake Overpass Railroad Bridge	18N4WS3		Transportation
ANC-01242	Twelve Mile Lake Homestead Cabin	20N3WS36		Homesteading
ANC-00490	Willow Creek Bridge	19N2WS6		Transportation
ANC-01241	Log Cabin	19N2WS5		
ANC-01215	Henry DeJohn's Winter Cabin	19N2WS4		
ANC-01213	Gil Carlson Homestead	19N1WS6		Homesteading
ANC-01389	KB-29P Crash Site	19N1WS29		Transportation
ANC-01219	Log Cabin Ruins	19N1WS4		
ANC-01218	Warehouse Ruins	19N1WS4		Commerce
ANC-01217	Wolfe's Cabin	19N1WS4		
ANC-01216	Historic Trash Dump	19N1WS4		
ANC-02015	Willow Creek Bridge	19N1WS3	Grubstake Road	Transportation
ANC-00771	Oscar Voggel Cabin	20N1WS27		
ANC-01212	Historic Mining Dump	19N1WS3		Mining
ANC-01211	Kellyville Historic Mining Camp Ruins	19N1WS3		Mining
ANC-00719	Grubstake Gulch Mine	19N1WS10		Mining
ANC-01329	Lucky Shot Portal 3	20N1WS34		Mining
ANC-01328	Lucky Shot Portals 1 and 2	20N1WS35		Mining
ANC-01327	War Baby Cyanide Plant	19N1WS2		Mining
ANC-00574	Lucky Shot Mill and Camp	20N1WS35		Mining
ANC-02571	Caretaker's House for Lucky Shot Mill and Camp	20N1WS35		Mining
ANC-00573	War Baby Mine	20N1WS35		Mining
ANC-01325	Tent Frame Ruin	19N1ES6?		
Other Trails	Herning Trail – Question Creek and Spur			Transportation
Historic Homesteads	184 Historic Homesteads		Appendix 2	Homesteading
Historic Homesites	17 Historic Homesites		Appendix 3	Homesteading
-----	Shem Pete's Cabin in Willow	19N4WS8		Dena'ina Lifeways
-----	Willow Post Office	19N4WS8		Communication
TYO-00201	Willow Airport	19N4WS5,6,7,8		Transportation
-----	Former Army Radar Site	19N4WS17		Transportation
-----	Historic Log Structure Visitors Ctr.	19N4WS8		Life in Willow

4 Historic properties on the National Register of Historic Places

Some of the properties in Table 3.4 belong to the historic Willow Creek Mining District. The Willow Area Community region has been insufficiently surveyed to be able to identify patterns and associations of cultural resources beyond the general recognition of the historic contexts to which they belong. Those that are known reflect the historic contexts for a rich variety of themes. These include Alaska Native prehistory; Native and EuroAmerican history and subsistence lifestyles; homesteading and farming; fur farming; early commerce; mining; military activities; travel; and transportation, and development of the community of Willow (Table 1.1).

5 Identified Historic Properties That May Be Significant for the National Register of Historic Places but Have Not Yet Been Nominated

a The Willow Airport (TYO-00201)



Figure 3.15. The Willow Airport (TYO-00201) Today (View North).

The Willow Airport is listed in the 1927 Alaska Territorial Governor's report as one of eight air fields in Alaska's Third Division (ARC 1927:20). A 1938 National Resources Committee report lists the Willow Creek Airfield, an unlighted gravel airstrip with dimensions of 240 feet by 1,200 feet. According to the report, the fields had been constructed from Territorial funds that had been requested from the legislature from a portion of the Territorial road appropriations (NRC 1938:178; DOI 1925: 32).

Prior to World War II, the military was carrying out an assessment for emergency airfields in Alaska. A satellite airfield to Elmendorf Field to be used as part of an aircraft dispersal system was planned and authorized for Willow in 1942. This field and others like it were to have 5,000-foot runways, taxiways, revetments and a 24,000 barrel gasoline storage system (Eleventh Air Force 2008). It is probable, but not confirmed in the literature, that the military made improvements to the existing air field rather than constructing an entirely new one. Three homesteads were purchased for use as the airport, Sam Stowe's (homesteaded in 1930), John Thomas's (homesteaded in 1922), and Fred Everett's (homesteaded in 1938 (F. Richey 2009, Pers. Comm.).

At the time of its construction in the 1940s, the airfield had a series of gravel revetments, parking areas for airplanes, with large dirt or gravel berms on three sides that would protect the airplanes in the event of strafing (being attacked from low-flying aircraft using aircraft mounted automatic weapons). There were also military barracks and an Officers' Club, and Quonset huts with cement floors (F. Richey 2009, Pers. Comm.). In 1949, the auxiliary fields including Willow Air Field, were declared surplus and were transferred to the Department of the Interior (U.S. Air Force 2008; Thomblison, Hist, AAC, 1949: 85).

The outbreak of the Korean War resulted in a dramatic increase in military spending. There was renewed interest in Willow Air Field. The Alaskan Air Command expanded a temporary interim or Lash-Up radar system to include Kotzebue, Bethel, Willow and Farewell (U.S. Air Force 2008: 57). The Willow Air Field was used frequently for military practice operations during the 1950s (D. Gunlogson 2009, Pers. Comm.). The Alaskan Air Command (AAC) requested in 1950 that the U.S. Air Force Headquarters revise Public Land Order Number 36 which was to transfer an area of military land near Willow to the public domain. The request was to retain this area in order to support an air defense radar site and the dispersal field that the Army had established in Willow during World War II (U.S. Air Force 2008; Parsons, Hist, AAC, July-December 1950:68).

In 1951 AAC received a recommended plan for augmenting the ten permanent radar stations with ten additional stations, one of which was at Willow (U.S. Air Force 2008; Sturm, n.d.:29-30). By 1951, Willow, ("Area I Station C4") had received a TPS-1C outer warning ground control intercept "Lash-Up" radar system. However, in 1952 a portion of the station reportedly was destroyed by fire and the site was abandoned by the military (U.S. Air Force 2008, Holmes 2009, Pers. Comm.). By the end of 1952 all temporary "Lash-Up" radar stations had been closed and replaced by permanent "F" stations (U.S. Air Force 2008).

The tentative 1955 plan for Willow to receive the Bendix IM-70 Talos surface to air missile sometime between 1959 and 1960 never materialized. The Willow Air Field was one of those locations identified to be used for basing SAC medium bombers.

The Alaskan Air Command disposed of the Willow Air Force Auxiliary Field in 1957 (U.S. Air Force 2008). It is presumed that at this time or shortly afterward the military removed its installations from the airport. Richey reported that after the Quonset huts were removed, the concrete floor slabs remained for a long time (F. Richey 2009, Pers. Comm.). These slabs are no longer in evidence on the west side of the airport, nor are the revetments. A portion of one revetment may remain, surrounding the gas station on two sides (Figures 3.16 and 3.17).



Figure 3.16. Willow Airport today. The area behind the gas station may be the remains of a World War II era revetment.



Figure 3.17. Willow Airport Today, Immediately South of Figure 3.16.

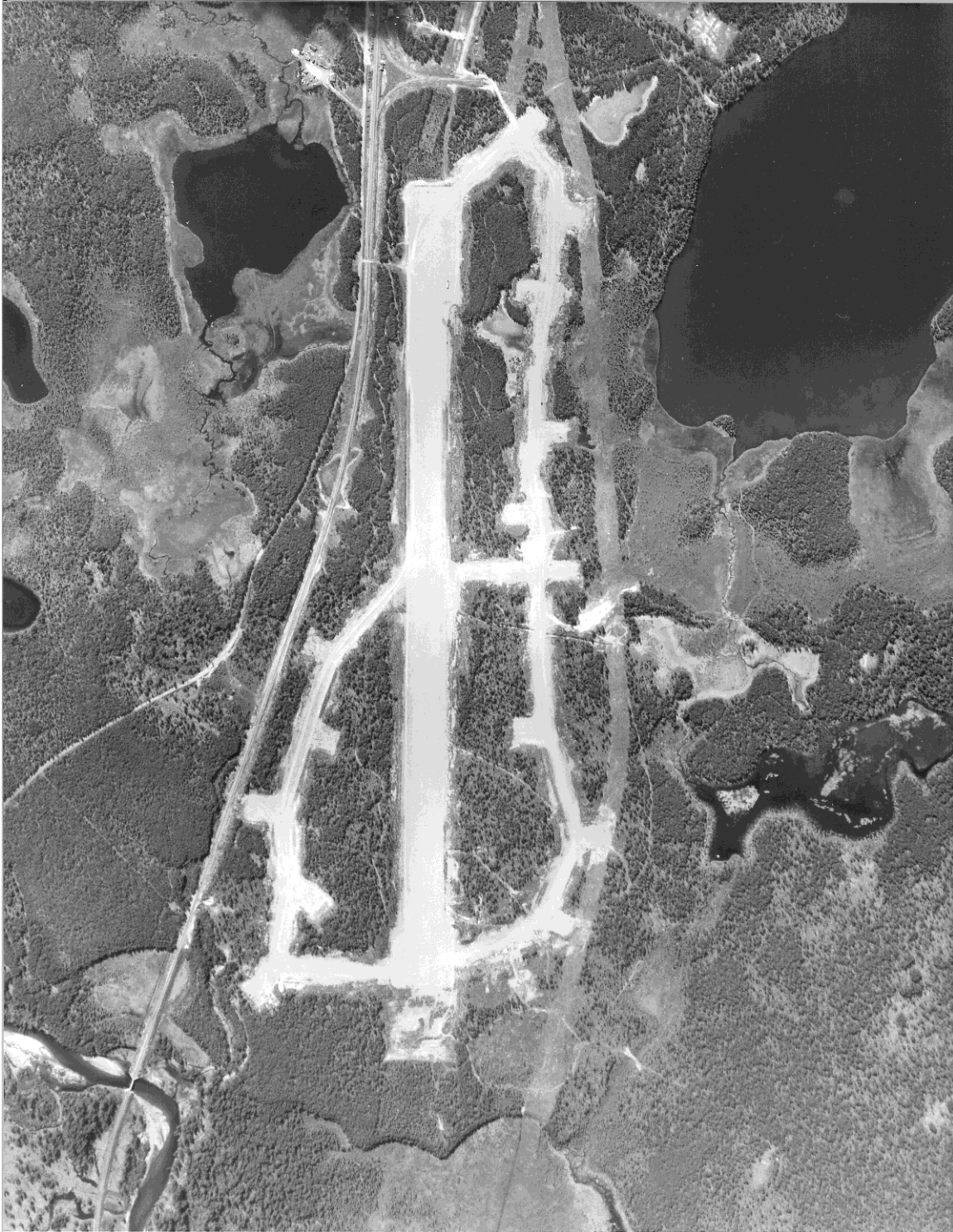


Figure 3.18. 1960 photo of the Willow Airport (Source: AeroMetric).



Figure 3.19. 1985 Photograph of the Willow Airport (Source: AeroMetric).



Figure 3.20. 2008 Photograph of the Willow Airport (Source: AeroMetric).

Period of Historic Significance:

There are three distinct historic periods for the Willow Airport that correspond to the historic contexts.

1925-1939	Mining
1940-1957	Military Air Commands; U.S. Army and Alaskan Air Command
1958-Present	Development of the Willow community

Significance

1925-1939	The Willow Airstrip supported the mining industry by delivering mail and supplies in only a fraction of the time it would take to haul it overland.
1940-1959	The Willow Airstrip was part of a nationwide military readiness program; it was an integral part of the web of support stations that Elmendorf Air Force Base and Fort Richardson relied on as satellites in the event of emergency.
1960-Present	The Willow Airport serves the community of Willow, and the planes of both private owners and commercial users.

Historic Integrity

The Willow Airport has not been completely surveyed, and so it is not known whether anything remains of the original 1925 gravel airstrip. The buildings, Quonset huts, and most of the revetments are believed to have been removed by the construction that took place in World War II.

More recently, re-construction of a portion of the Willow-Hatcher Pass Road took one end of the airport complex and a portion of the end of the runway. A number of buildings were removed at that time, including Forrest Richey's father's hangar. It was also reported that the runway was shortened at one end by the storage of sand for road sanding (F. Richey 2009; Pers. Comm.).

An effort by DOT&PF is currently underway to study current and future land use conflicts for the Willow Airport. One of these conflicts is the projected future expansion of the Parks Highway to a four-lane, controlled access facility (A. Kemplen 2009, Pers. Comm.).

6 Potentially Historic Properties That Have Been Identified but About Which Little Is Known

a The Nancy Lake-Susitna Trail (Figure 2.10)

Location and Physical Description

That portion of the Nancy Lake-Susitna Trail that lies within the WAC area boundaries is located in:

Township 18N Range 4W Sections 3 and 4 (Seward Meridian - Anchorage C8)
Township 18N Range 4W Sections 4, 5, 6, 7 (Tyonek C-1)
Township 18N Range 5W Sections 12, 13, 14, 15, 20, 21, 22, 29, 30
Township 18N Range 6W Sections 35, 36

The Alaska Road Commission took on the responsibility for maintaining and upgrading the trail between 1922 and 1954. The Nancy-Susitna Lake trail was 22 miles long. The winter trail is described as starting out from Nancy Station and crossing Nancy Lake. Due to late freeze up of the lake, a land trail was cut, leaving the railroad about $\frac{3}{4}$ mile below Nancy and connecting with the old trail $1\frac{1}{4}$ miles out, crossing the outlet of Nancy Lake (Crooked Creek) at mile 1.25 (DNR 2009). Land ownership is mixed public and private.

b Houston-Willow Creek Trail (Figure 2.10)

A portion of the historic Houston – Willow Creek Trail is located within the WAC boundaries at:

Township 18N Range 3W Sections 12, 13, 14 (Seward Meridian – Anchorage C8)
Township 19N Range 2W Sections 2, 3, 10 (Anchorage D-7)
Township 19N Range 2W Sections 3, 8, 9, 10 (Anchorage D8)

The trail runs from the City of Houston, Milepost 57.5 of the Parks Highway, southwestward approximately 0.5 miles, crossing the Parks Highway. It then heads northeastward, crossing Deception Creek and continuing on to Willow Creek. The trail is an historic route which was used by miners for transporting winter freight from the Alaska Railroad to the Bullion and Lucky Shot mines in the Willow Creek Mining District. The trail is noted in the 1923 Alaska Road Commission Annual Reports. According to one ARC report, the trail was originally cut by a Mr. Landers (ARC 1925; DNR 2009). The current condition of the trail, including to cumulative impacts to it, are not known.

c Herning Trail – Question Creek (Figure 2.10).

Portions of the Herning Trail – Question Creek are within the boundaries of the WACO area. They are:

T18N R3W Sections 1,2,3,4 (Seward Meridian Anchorage C-8)
T19NR3W Sections 7,18,19,29,30,32,33
T19NR3W Section 12
T19NR3W Section 7 (Anchorage D-8)
T19NR4W Sections 1,2,12
T20NR4W Sections 1, 11, 12, 14, 15, 22, 26, 27, 35
T21NR4W Sections 1, 12, 13

The Herning Trail-Question Creek Trail runs northward from the Little Susitna River along the base of Bald Mountain Ridge, following Deception Creek and

crossing Willow Creek and the Kashwitna River. The trail then passed to the east side of Caswell Lake, crossing Sheep Creek, Goose Creek, Montana Creek and the Talkeetna Cutoff, and terminating at Question Creek (DNR 2009).

This trail was an early wagon and sled route into the Talkeetna area. It is shown on maps as early as 1915, and continued to be plotted on maps in the 1940s. The trail crosses both public and private lands.

d Log Building Visitors' Center



Figure 3.21. Log Building at 69.7 Parks Highway.

This log building was constructed in 1962. It was formerly located at the current site of the Willow Community Center, and it was moved to this adjacent location sometime between 1987 and 1991 when the Community Center was built (Holmes 2009, Pers. Comm.). Sponsors in the community hope to re-open it as a Visitors' Center. It houses a number of natural history specimens.

e Willow Trading Post – Willow Station Road (Figure 3.22)

The Willow Trading Post, owned by Bob and Betty Douglas, incorporates a pre-1942 wooden structure that was moved to the property, reportedly from one of the mines around 1942. It has reportedly been modified at least once since then.



Figure 3.22. Willow Creek Trading Post. Bar, liquor Store, rooms, cabins, restaurant, washeteria and gift shop. Located on Willow Station Road.

f First Willow Post Office – Slim and Zoe Hazel’s Home



Figure 3.23. Historic Willow Post Office.

This building was built on the east side of the railroad tracks in what was the original commercial center of Willow by early Willow homesteaders Slim and Zoe Hazel in the 1950s. Zoe was the first Willow Postmaster, and rented the building to the U.S. Postal Service for a post office from the 1950s until construction of the new post office in 1998 (Figures 3.23, 3.24)(Newman 2009, Pers. Comm.).

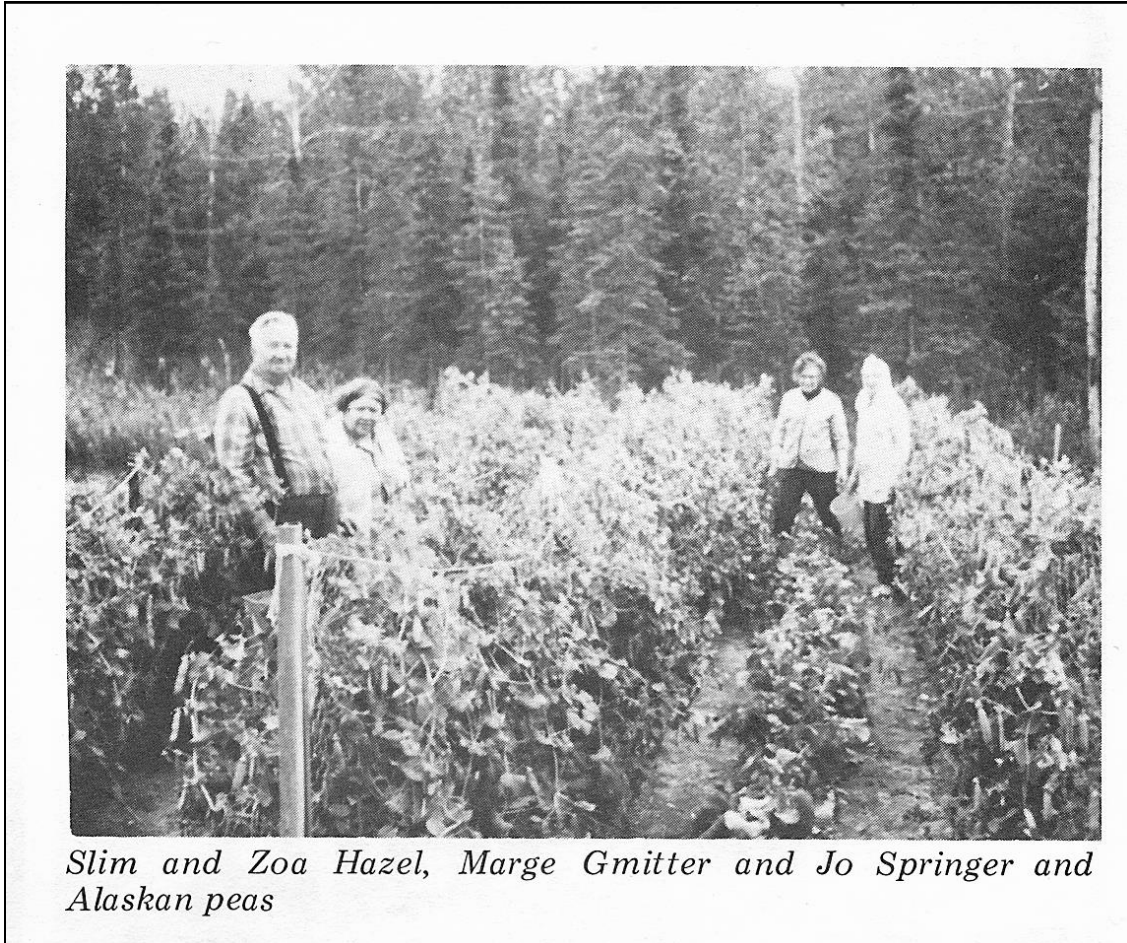


Figure 3.24. Early Homesteaders (Picture Courtesy of the Willow Historical Society).

g Shem Pete's Cabin

Friends helped Shem Pete move his cabin from its original location near Nancy Lake to its current site in Willow. This cabin was moved to the area of the first Willow townsite, east side of the railroad tracks, prior to Shem Pete's death in 1989 (Figure 3.25).



Figure 3.25. Shem Pete's Cabin.

h Historic Homesteads (Figure 2.9)

The historic homesteads identified here have not been recently surveyed to determine if any of them are now on public land, or to identify historic structures that may be located on the property.

7 Modern Properties in their Context

As time passes, structures built after 1960 that we view as belonging to the modern era will become historic, in that they will be 50 years old. Large construction projects can take 15 or more years to complete. During that time, cultural resources compliance reports and historic preservation plans can become obsolete, as modern buildings and sites within the area of potential effect, not previously evaluated, become significant for the National Register of Historic Places based on their age. This section identifies some of Willow's existing commercial properties.

The Nancy Lake Marina has been in business since at least the 1970s. An advertisement for the Marina can be found in the 1977 State Willow Carnival Guide (Willow Area Civic Organization 1977). It appears on the 1985 aerial photograph of the area, but not on the one taken in 1960 (Figure 3.18, 3.19, 3.20, 3.26). Today, the privately owned Nancy Lake Seaplane Base is accessed through the Nancy Lake Marina.



Figure 3.26. Willow Air – Mile 70.0 Parks Highway.

Steve and Sharon Wells have had a weekend cabin on Rainbow Lake since 1978. Their Alaska Rainbow Lake Lodge is a log cabin overlooking the lake (Figure 3.27).



Figure 3.27. Alaska Rainbow Lake Lodge, Easy Street, Willow, at Mile 69 Parks Highway.

Previous owners of the Willow Hardware at Mile 69 Parks Highway, Jack and Mary Carl, advertised in the 1977 Willow Review (Figure 3.28). The hardware store is now owned by their daughter Debbie Holmes and son-in-law Doyle Holmes. The building had been in the location since 1962 or possibly earlier and it became the hardware store in 1977. It has been expanded four times (Holmes 2009, Pers. Comm.).



Figure 3.28. Willow True Value Hardware – Mile 69 Parks Highway.



Figure 3.29. Willow Post Office – Mile 69.5 Parks Highway

The new Willow Post Office was constructed and occupied in 1998 (Figure 3.29). Previously, the U.S. Postal Service rented from Zoe Hazel, the first Willow Postmaster, from the 1950s until 1998 (J. Newman 2009, Pers. Comm.).



Figure 3.30. Willow Creek Grocery and Willow Creek Service – Mile 69 Parks Highway



Figure 3.31. J.A. Spain and Sons – 17558 West Parks Highway.

The buildings in this complex all belong to Doyle Holmes (Figures 3.28, 3.30, and 3.31). The Willow Creek Service building was moved from its location at the original Willow townsite near the railroad tracks and the former post office around 1961. The buildings are roughly contemporary. Willow Creek Grocery was two separate buildings that had been moved to the property from their original location near the railroad tracks in the 1960s and then modified into one building (Holmes 2009, Pers. Comm.; Houston 2009, Pers. Comm.). The grocery has a classic false front, typical of the early 20th Century Commercial Style popular throughout the American west. Primary character-defining features for the single story commercial structure include a parapet (false front) and awnings or covered porch.



Figure 3.32. Ice Cream Shop – Mile 69 Parks Highway.

Nothing is known about the ice cream shop adjacent to (north of) the Holmes complex of buildings, including the date of its construction (Figure 3.32). The blue bus seen in the picture is reported to have been located in Valdeze before being moved to Willow. (Comment by).

Newman’s Hilltop Service, owned by Gene Newman is in its 31st year of operation (Figure 3.33). Newman is the original owner, and he had the buildings constructed (G. Newman 2009, Pers.Comm.).

The new Willow Creek Clinic was part of a 2009 expansion by the Sunshine Clinic Organization (Figure 3.36) (Sunshine Clinic Organization 2009).



Figure 3.33. Newman's Hilltop Service - Mile 68.8 Parks Highway.



Figure 3.34. Willow United Methodist Church – 67.5 Parks Highway.

The United Methodist Church was built in 1961 (Figure 3.35). Homesteader Mrs. Gioidano originally opened her home to Methodist services until the church was constructed. Modifications to the church since 1961 include addition of a

furnace room, a front porch, and more recently a pitched roof approximately 15 years ago (Merrill 2009, Pers.Comm.).



Figure 3.35. Willow United Methodist Church – Currently used as the Food Bank.



Figure 3.36. Private home in front of Willow Clinic Expansion 2009 which is out of sight to the left– Mile 67 Parks Highway.



Figure 3.37. Hatcher Pass Polaris – Mile 66 Parks Highway.

Hatcher Pass Polaris, owned by Matt and Nikki Marletto, was originally opened in 1993 in the current building in another location (Figure 3.37). The building was moved to its current location in 1996 and the business continues its operations today (M. Marletto 2009, Pers. Comm.).



Figure 3.38. White's Crossing Laundromat – Mile 66 Parks Highway.

White's Crossing has been in its current location since at least 1977 (Figure

3.38). The owners at that time, Jim and Kathy Clark, advertised in the 1977 Willow Review.



Figure 3.39. Heart of Willow Center – Mile 69.5 Parks Highway.

Heart of Willow Center was newly constructed six years ago (Figure 3.39)(M.Veit 2009, Pers. Comm.). The offices of Melvin Veit CPA are located in the old library building that had been condemned, and then was renovated for these offices in 1999 (Figure 3.40) (M. Veit 2009, Pers. Comm.).



Figure 3.40. Melvin D. Veit CPA - Mile 69.6 Parks Highway.



Figure 3.41. Willow Fire Station and Safety Office – Mile 69.9 Parks Highway

The Willow Fire Station and Safety Office, formerly housed in a metal building, was constructed by Dale Sandstrom's firm in 1980 or 1981 (Figure 3.41)(Sandstrom 2009, Pers. Comm.).



Figure 3.42. Willow School – Mile 69.6 Parks Highway



Figure 3.43. Willow School – Mile 69.6 Parks Highway.

The first Willow school was located in one, then two Quonset huts by 1959. It was originally located on the east side of the railroad tracks near many of the other early buildings at the original town center. The school was moved to its current location, where a stick frame building was constructed in 1961. Except for a surge in enrollment in the 1980s, peak enrollment for the school took place in 1960 and 1961 (Figures 3.42 and 3.43) (Merrill 2009, Pers. Comm.).



Figure 3.44. Willow Community Center and Library – Mile 69.7 Parks Highway.

The Willow Community Center was constructed around 1982 or 1983, and the library was added around 1990 (Figure 3.44)(Holmes 2009, Pers. Comm.).

The Townsite Food Mart was built around 1995 (Figure 3.45).

The Pioneer Lodge, Motel and Campground have been in their current locations for a long time. The lodge, the brown building on the right in Figure 3.46, burned in 2009. It was one of Alaska's oldest original log lodges.

The Willow Creek Resort, owned by Farley and Theresa Dean, has been in business since 1967. The lodge originally was two outbuildings, consisting of restrooms and a boat house. They were combined in 1995 or 1996 to construct the existing lodge (Figure 3.47) (F. Dean 2009, Pers. Comm.).

The small blue building on the east side of the highway at Mile 71.5 Parks Highway was previously a business. Affected by the flood of 1986, the enterprise never recovered (Figure 3.48) (F. Dean 2009, Pers. Comm.).



Figure 3.45. Townsite Food Mart - Mile 69.5 Parks Highway.



Figure 3.46. Pioneer Lodge Motel Campground – 71.4 Parks Highway. Lodge on right burned. It was one of Alaska's oldest original log lodges.



Figure 3.47. Willow Creek Resort - Mile 71.5 Parks Highway.



Figure 3.48. Small Building, East Side of Parks Highway - Mile 71.5 Parks Highway.



Figure 3.49. Saint Christopher Catholic Church – Mile 67 Parks Highway.

Originally Saint Christopher Catholic Church was housed in a double-wide trailer. According to Father Luz, the existing church was constructed at this location about seven years ago (Figure 3.49) (Luz 2009, Pers. Comm.).



Figure 3.50. First Baptist Church in Willow – Mile 69 Parks Highway.

Currently there is no information about the history of the First Baptist Church in Willow, Pastor Worthy officiating (Figure 3.50).

Another church for which there is no photograph is the New Life Christian Center, known formerly as the Willow Chapel. It is led by Pastor K.B. Thompkins. This log church was constructed by Dale Sandstrom's company in the 1970s or earlier. It is located at 31616 Parks Highway (Thompkins 2009, Pers. Comm.; Sandstrom 2009, Pers. Comm.).

8 Areas of Sensitivity for Cultural Resources

Figures 3.51, 3.52, and 3.53 are the cultural sensitivity maps for the WACO area. Some locations are threatened by proposed construction of a rail spur from Point MacKenzie to Willow, and by subdivision development.

D Summary of the Public Participation Process

1 Public Notices and Public Announcements

Staff for the Cultural Resources Division had received interest from the Willow Historical Society and the Susitna Community Council in preparing a Historic Preservation Plan for their individual areas. Staff contacted the City of Houston to inquire whether they were also interested in preparing one for their City with an affirmative reply. Notice of a public hearing in front of MSB Assembly was posted in the *Frontiersman* beginning November 6, 2007 for November 13th 2007 to comment on a Resolution authorizing the borough manager to submit a grant

application for the purpose of creating historic preservation plans for the three areas. Another public notice was posted September 9, 2008 to accept and appropriate funds on September 16, 2008 by the Assembly for preparation of the Preservation Plans (IM 08-172; ORD 08-142; RESO 08-116.). The Willow Area Community Preservation Plan began with the public notice in the *Frontiersman* beginning March 6, 2009 and *Anchorage Daily News* beginning on March 8, 2009 of Matanuska-Susitna Borough's intent to contract the project. The contract was signed on April 9, 2009 and the project formally began on that date. A Power Point presentation was given to the Willow Community Council at The Willow Community Center on May 4, 2009. Subsequently an informal presentation was given to the Willow Historical Society at Pioneer Lodge in Willow Creek on July 1, 2009.

The draft plan will be mailed to the individual Councils in addition to posting a Public notice announcing the availability of publications in *The Frontiersman*.

2 Public Scoping, Presentations, and Meetings

Public scoping began by providing a flyer to the Knik Tribal Council and by mailing consultation letters to the Montana Creek Native Association and the Gold Creek Native Association. These letters informed them of Matanuska-Susitna Borough's intent to prepare the Historic Preservation Plan addressing potential direct and indirect impacts from proposed development in their area. In the letter Matanuska-Susitna Borough offered to provide a briefing on the Historic Preservation Plan and to receive public comments. Consultation took place with the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Historical Society and with members of the Dorothy Page Museum during the scoping period. The following groups requested and were provided with presentations or handouts.

The purpose of these presentations was to inform the public about development of the Plan, to elicit public comments and recommendations, and to invite interested members of the public to participate in a Focus Group, where specific tasks would be assigned to assist in developing the Plan. A number of comments and recommendations provided at these meetings subsequently were incorporated into the developing draft Plan.

Table 3.5. Dates and Locations of Public Scoping Meetings		
Group	Location	Date
Houston Planning Commission	City Council Chambers	May 18, 2009
Houston City Council	City Council Chambers	May 21, 2009
Willow Area Community	Willow Community Center	May 4, 2009
Susitna Community Council	Susitna High School Library	May 7, 2009
Willow Historical Society	Pioneer Lodge	July 1, 2009
MSB Historical Preservation Commission	At Knik Tribal Council;	May 15, 2009
	At Dorothy Page Museum	July 10, 2009

Focus Groups for the City of Houston and Willow Area Community were developed, and two meetings were held. Comments and recommendations provided by the Focus Groups were incorporated into the draft Plan as it was being prepared.

Table 3.6. Dates and Locations of Focus Group Meetings

Meeting	Location	Date
Focus Group Meeting #1	Houston City Council Chambers	June 3, 2009
Focus Group Meeting #2	Pioneer Lodge, Willow	July 1, 2009

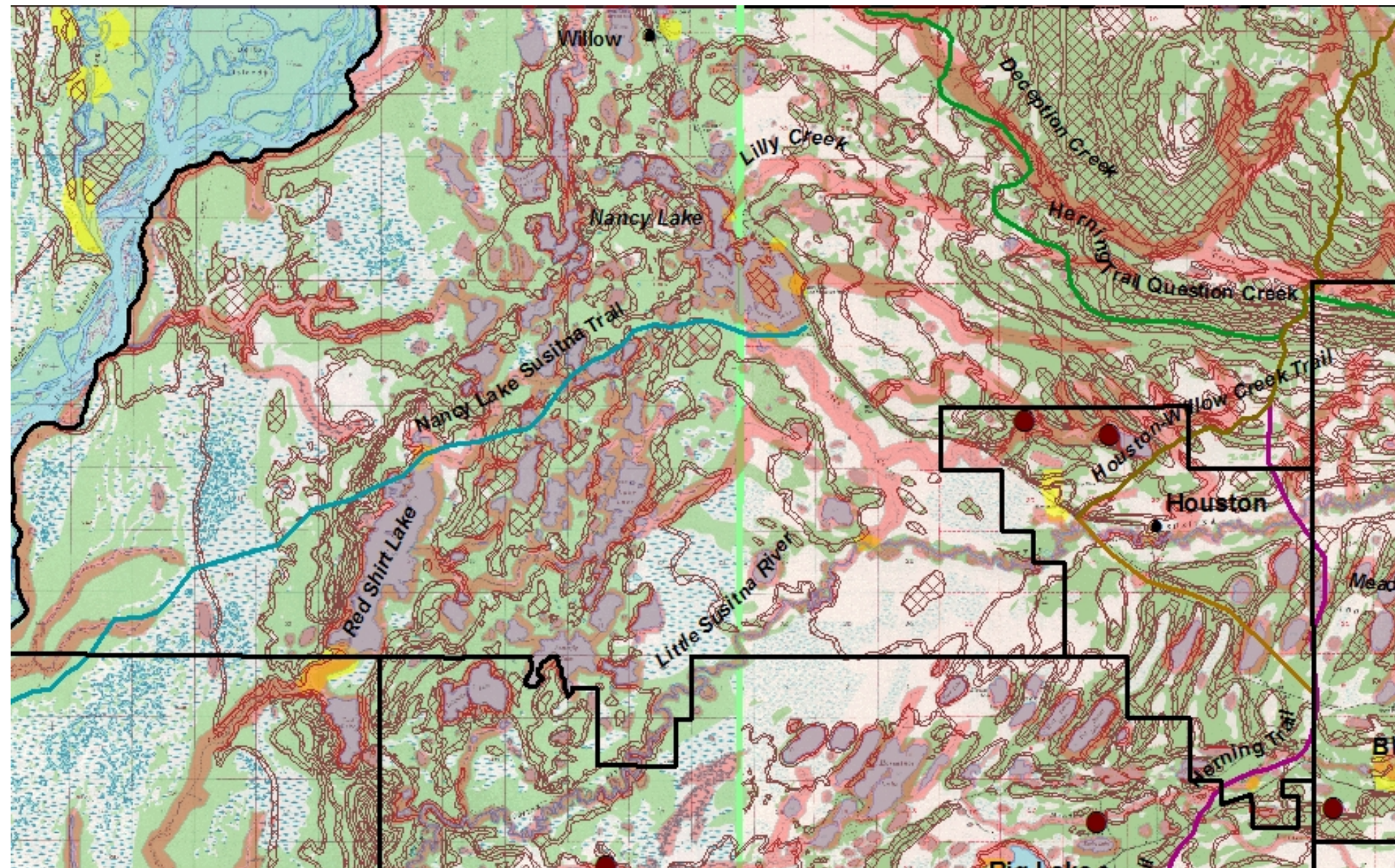
In addition to the Focus Groups, four members of the public, currently residing in Wasilla, Willow Creek, Knik and/or Montana Creek, consented to be interviewed. The goals of the interviews were to record something of their life histories in the City of Houston, and the Willow Area Community and Susitna Community Council Areas. Another objective was to identify the names, historic locations and occupations of other local pioneers.

Table 3.7. Interviews With Community Members

Interviewee	Location	Date
LeRoi Heaven	His home in MSB	July 6, 2009
Emil Stancec	His homestead in Willow	July 8, 2009
Herbert Theodore	Knik Tribal Council Conference Room	July 23, 2009
Lillian Theodore	Knik Tribal Council Conference Room	July 23, 2009

3 Presentation of the Draft Historic Preservation Plan

The draft Historic Preservation Plan will be made available for public review and comment in the winter of 2009 for one month at the individual City and Community Councils in the Planning Area, at libraries in the Planning Area, and at the Matanuska-Susitna Borough.



Cultural Resources Sensitivity Map for the Willow Area Community - Southwest Quad

Legend

- Community Council Boundary
- Community
- Ethnographically Reported Sites
- Nancy Lake Susitna Trail
- Houston Willow Creek Trail
- Herring Trail Question Creek
- Lakes, Rivers and Streams
- Cultural Resources Sensitivity Area, Water
- Cultural Resources Sensitivity Area, Ridges
- City Boundary
- Cultural Resources Present

One inch equals 1.2 miles

Map Notes

Map Projection: AK State Plane Zone 4 NAD 83
 Data Sources: MSB 2009; Kari, Fall and Pete 2003; AHRs; Reger 1983.
 Author: PNW plm 2/15/10

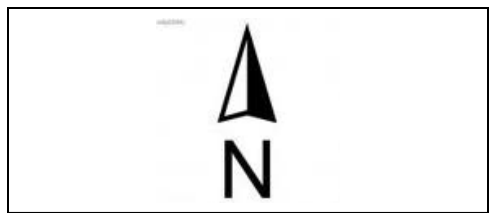
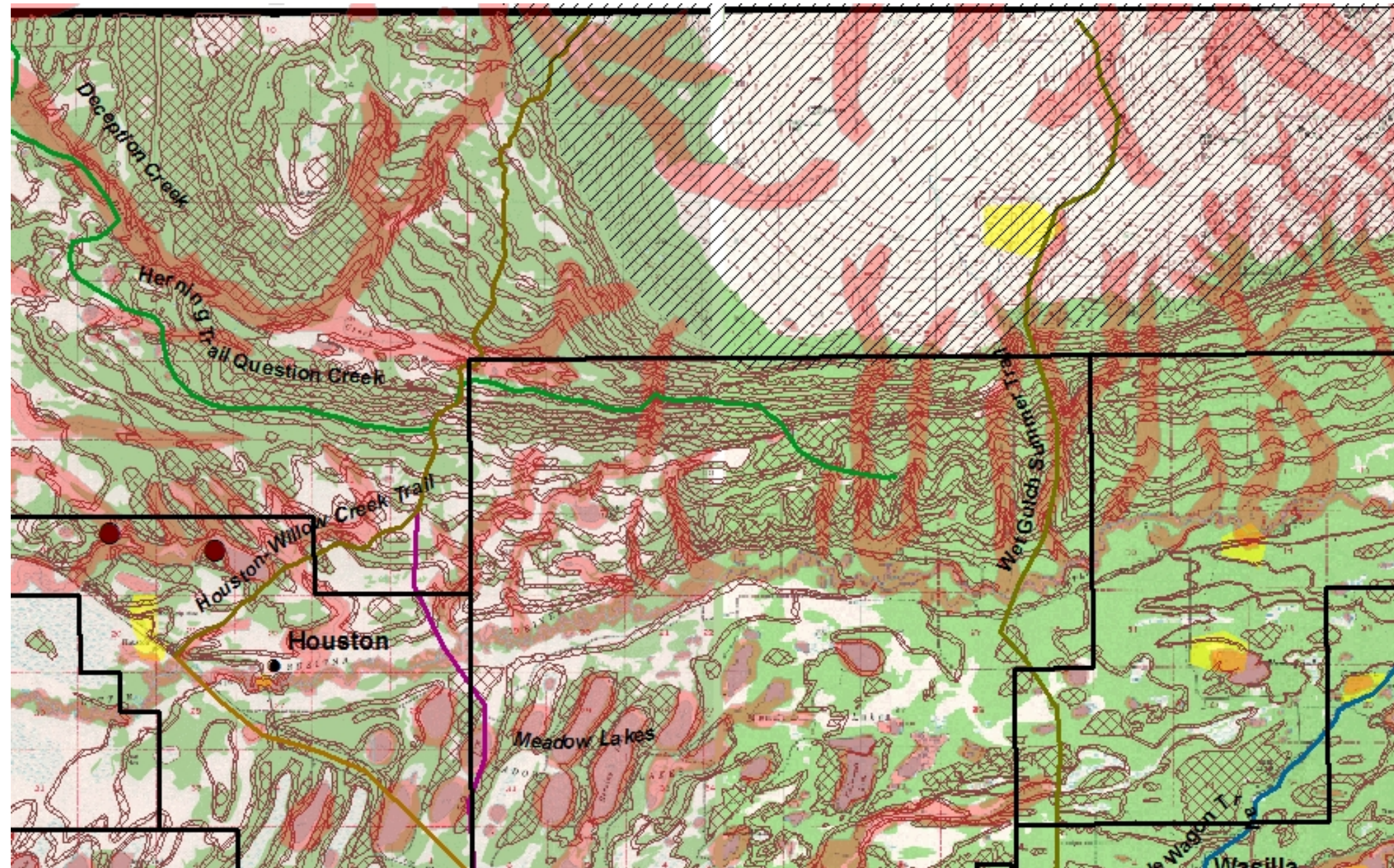


Figure 3.51. Cultural Resources Sensitivity Map for the Southwest WAC Vicinity.



Cultural Resources Sensitivity Map for the Willow Area Community - Southeast Quad

Legend

- Cultural Resources Sensitivity Area Mining
- Community Council Boundary
- Community
- Ethnographically Reported Sites
- Wet Gulch Summer Trail
- Old Carle Trail
- Nancy Lake Susitna Trail
- Houston Willow Creek Trail
- Herning Trail
- Herning Trail (no ROW)
- Herning Trail Question Creek
- Cultural Resources Sensitivity Area, Water
- Cultural Resources Sensitivity Area, Ridges
- Cultural Resources Present

One inch equals 1.2 miles

Map Notes
 Map Projection: AK State Plane Zone 4 NAD 83
 Data Sources: MSB 2009; Kari, Fall and Pete 2003; AHRs; Reger 1983.
 Author: PNW plm 2/15/10

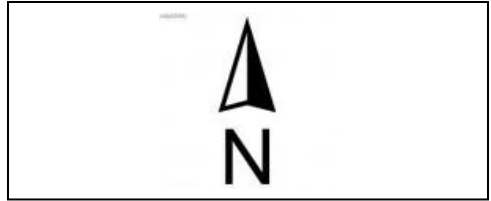
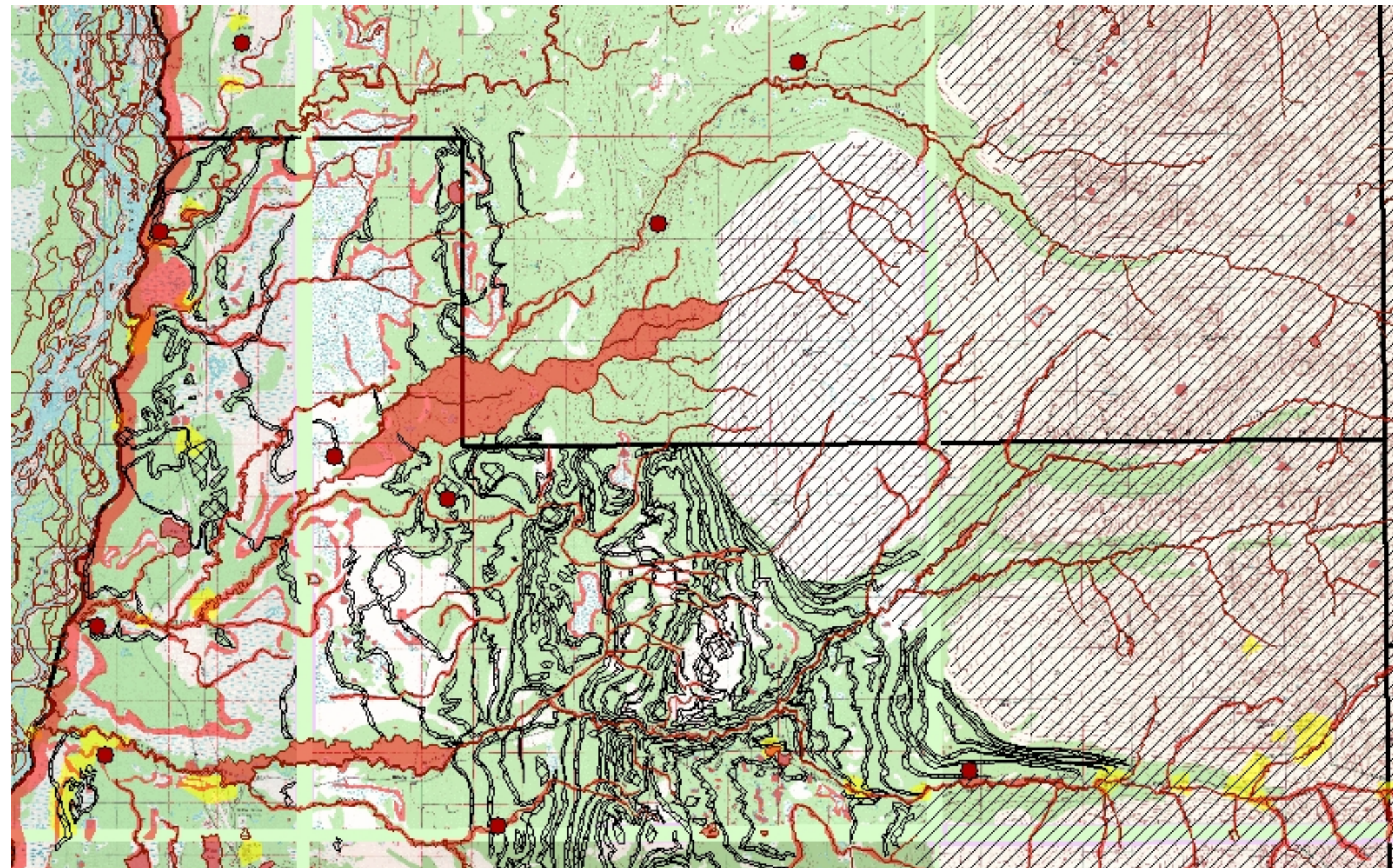


Figure 3.52. Cultural Resources Sensitivity Map for the Southeast WAC Vicinity.



Cultural Resources Sensitivity Map for the Willow Area Community - North Half

- Legend**
- Cultural Resources Sensitivity Area Mining
 - Community Council Boundary
 - Community
 - Ethnographically Reported Sites
 - Wet Gulch Summer Trail
 - Old Carle Trail
 - Nancy Lake Susitna Trail
 - Houston Willow Creek Trail
 - Herring Trail
 - Herring Trail (no ROW)
 - Herring Trail Question Creek
 - Cultural Resources Sensitivity Area, Water
 - Cultural Resources Sensitivity Area, Ridges
 - Cultural Resources Present

One inch equals 1.2 miles

Map Notes

Map Projection: AK State Plane Zone 4 NAD 83
Data Sources: MSB 2009; Kari, Fall and Pete 2003; AHRs; Reger 1983.
Author: PNW plm 2/15/10

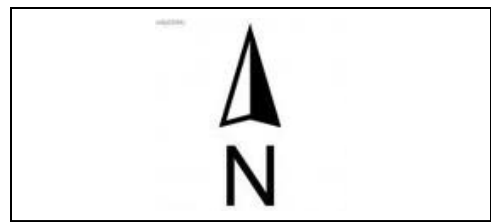


Figure 3.53. Cultural Resources Sensitivity Map for the North Half, WAC Vicinity.

EM[a` ;Hh[e` ESW Wfi 9aSd ATW[h]S` VDMA_ _ Wsf[a` e/bSYW+*
Ž#`*fii ~~SeWWWXa_~~ fZW [^ai 3dS5a_ g` [fk: [efadUBdWsf[a` BS`
fZdgYZ3eeW T`kSu[a` a` <S` gSk# 1\$` #%/z



Figure 4.1. Proposed Boundary of the Matanuska-Susitna Borough National Heritage Area.

Glossary of Terms

ADCA – Alaska Division of Community Advocacy, in the Department of Community and Economic Development.

ADCED – Alaska Department of Community and Economic Development

ADCCED – Alaska Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development

AHRS – The Alaska Heritage Resources Survey is an inventory of cultural resource information for the State of Alaska, maintained by the State Office of History and Archaeology.

Alaska Statutes - The Alaska Historic Preservation Act (AHPA)(Alaska Statutes, 41.35.010) mandates the State to “preserve and protect the historic, prehistoric and archaeological resources in Alaska from desecration and destruction so that the scientific, historic and cultural heritage embodied in these resources may pass undiminished to future generations.” The Office of History and Archaeology advises on the management of cultural resources on State land. OHA is to consult with all state agencies on cultural resources, helping to coordinate management of land for the protection of the resources, and helping them comply with state and federal Cultural Resource Management (CRM) laws and regulations. OHA administers the Alaska State Historic Preservation Program (ASHPP), issues archaeological permits, maintains an inventory of cultural resource information, and conducts survey and data recovery projects. OHA also has a federal mandate to consult on cultural resources as the designated State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO). Under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) SHPO consultation is required for any undertaking which uses federal funds or permits. Appendix 2 contains details.

Antiquities Act - Enacted in 1906, the first legislation in the United States to preserve American antiquities, including the designation and protection of national monuments on federally-administered land.

Archaeological District – A significant concentration, linkage, or continuity of sites important in history or prehistory.

Archaeological Resources Protection Act (ARPA) of 1979 As Amended – This Act became law on October 31, 1979 (P.L. 96-95; 16 U.S.C. 470aa-mm), and has been amended four times. The purpose of this Act is to secure, for the present and future benefit of the American people, the protection of archaeological resources and sites which are on public lands and Indian lands, and to foster increased cooperation and exchange of information between governmental authorities, the professional archaeological community, and private

individuals having collections of archaeological resources and data which were obtained before October 31, 1979.

Area of Potential Effect – the area(s) within which an undertaking (i.e., a construction project) may directly or indirectly cause detrimental alterations in the character of historic properties.

Association – Link of a historic property with a historic event, activity, or person.

Building - A house, barn, church, hotel, or other construction created to shelter any form of human activity. May also be used to refer to a historically and functionally related unit, such as a courthouse and jail.

Certified Local Government – A local government officially certified to carry out some of the purposes of the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended.

Criteria – General standards by which the significance of a historic property is judged.

Cultural resources – Cultural resources encompass archaeological, traditional, and built environment resources, including but not necessarily limited to buildings, structures, objects districts, and sites. These resources are generally 45 years old or older. Qualified cultural resources professionals, consulting with their peers, Native Americans, subject matter experts, or review authorities as necessary, conduct studies of those cultural resources that could have potential to possess significance and that could be affected by transportation and other projects. Also, see Historic resources.

District - has a significant concentration, linkage, or continuity of sites, buildings, structures, or objects united historically or aesthetically by plan or by physical development.

Evaluation – Process by which the significance and integrity of a historic property are judged and eligibility for National Register listing is determined.

FCDP – Federal Census Designated Places, a list of locations where the census is taken, provided by the U.S. Census Bureau.

Headquarters Site – See Homesite.

Historic context - Decisions about the identification, evaluation, registration and treatment of historic properties are most reliably made when the relationship of individual properties to other similar properties is understood. Information about historic properties representing aspects of history, architecture, archaeology, engineering and culture must be collected and organized to define these relationships. This organizational framework is called a “historic context.” It

organizes information based on a cultural theme and its geographic and chronological (time) limits. The development of historic contexts is the foundation for decisions about identification, evaluation, registration, and treatment of historic properties.

Historic Landscape or Cultural landscape - is defined as the human-modified environment, including fields, houses, churches, highways, planted forests, and mines, as well as weeds and pollution.

A cultural landscape is a geographic area, including both cultural and natural resources and the wildlife or domestic animals therein, associated with an historic event, activity, or person or exhibiting other cultural or aesthetic values.

Here are examples of four general types of cultural landscapes, not mutually exclusive: historic sites, historic designed landscapes, historic vernacular landscapes, and ethnographic landscapes.

“The cultural landscape is fashioned from a natural landscape by a cultural group. Culture is the agent, the natural are the medium, the cultural landscape is the result. Under the influence of a given culture, itself changing through time, the landscape undergoes development, passing through phases and probably reaching ultimately the end of its cycle of development. With the introduction of a different, alien culture, a rejuvenation of the cultural landscape sets in, or a new landscape is superimposed on remnants of the old one” (Sauer’s, 1925).

Historic or prehistoric resources - The National Historic Preservation Act definition of a historic resource is “any prehistoric or historic district, site, building, structure, or object included in or eligible for inclusion in the National Register...; ...includes artifacts, records, and remains which are related to such a district, site, building, structure, or object.

Historic property - The National Register defines a historic property as “a district, site, building, structure, or object significant in American history, architecture, engineering, archaeology and culture. ...It may be of value to the Nation as a whole or important only to the community in which it is located.”

Homesite – A homesite is a specific instance of conveyance of Federally-administered public land to a private party under Title 43 Part 2560 of the Code of Federal Regulations (C.F.R.) enacted March 3, 1927. It differed from a homestead in that it was not to exceed five acres, it must be occupied five months of the year, and the cost was \$2.50 an acre. Headquarters sites were covered under the same regulation.

Homestead – While many pioneers may have referred to their cabins in the Alaska wilderness as “homesteads,” the term applies to a specific set of land conveyances from the Federal government to private parties under the Homestead Act of December 2, 1861. Conveyances were for up to 160 acres of undeveloped land, ruled by a specific set of requirements. Applicants had to file

an application, improve the land within five years, and file for a deed of title. When Alaska was purchased by the United States, the Homestead Act extended to it as well. Homesteading ended in the contiguous 48 states with the passage of the Federal Land Policy Management Act of 1976 (P.L. 94-570). However, the law allowed for continued homesteading in Alaska until 1986.

Integrity – Authenticity of a property’s historic identity, evidenced by the survival of physical characteristics that existed during the property’s historic or prehistoric period.

KABATA – Knik Arm Bridge and Toll Authority, the name of the project to build a bridge from downtown Anchorage to Point MacKenzie.

MSB – Matanuska-Susitna Borough

National Historic Preservation Act, as Amended – 1966 legislation establishing the National Register of Historic Places and extending the national historic preservation programs to properties of state and local significance.

National Register of Historic Places – The official Federal list of districts, sites, buildings, structures, and objects significant in American history, architecture, archaeology, engineering, and culture. National Register properties have significance to the prehistory or history of their community, state, or the nation. The register is administered by the National Park Service. Nominations for listing historic properties come from State Historic Preservation Officers (SHPOs), and for properties administered by the Federal Government, by Federal Preservation Officers.

NOAA – National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

Object – Constructions primarily artistic in nature or relatively small in scale and simply constructed associated with a specific setting, environment, or landscape.

Preservation Planning - Preservation planning is a process that organizes preservation activities (identification, evaluation, registration and treatment of historic properties) in a logical sequence.

Resource – Any building, structure, site, or object that is part of or constitutes a historic property.

Secretary of the Interior’s Standards and Guidelines –

- Standard I. Preservation Planning Establishes Historic Contexts
- Standard II. Preservation Planning Uses Historic Contexts To Develop Goals and Priorities for the Identification, Evaluation, Registration and Treatment of Historic Properties

- **Standard III. The Results of Preservation Planning Are Made Available for Integration Into Broader Planning Processes**

The Guidelines for Preservation Planning link the Standards for Preservation Planning with more specific guidance and technical information. They describe one approach to meeting the Standards for Preservation Planning.

Significance - Importance of a historic property as defined by the National Register criteria in one or more areas.

State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) - The official designated by the Governor to administer the State's historic preservation program and the duties described in 36 CFR Part 61 including nominating properties to the National Register. The Alaska State Historic Preservation Officer is Judith Bittner.

Site - A site is the location of a significant event, a prehistoric or historic occupation or activity, or a building or structure, whether standing, ruined, or vanished, where the location itself has historical, cultural, or archaeological value regardless of the value of any existing structure.

Structure - Functional constructions made usually for purposes other than creating shelter.

Theme – a means of organizing or grouping properties into coherent patterns based on elements such as environment, transportation networks, technology, or political developments that have influenced the settlement and development of an area in one or more periods of history or prehistory. A theme may be represented by various types of properties. A specific property may be significant within more than one theme.

A theme may be defined by an event or series of events, or a developmental force; by association with the life of a significant person; by one building type, period, or method of construction; or by information on a particular topic.

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Appendix 1

Statutes, Administrative Code, and Ordinances

[Alaska Statutes.](#)

[Title 41.](#) Public Resources

[Chapter 35.](#) Historic Preservation

Section 10. Declaration of Policy.

AS 41.35.010. Declaration of Policy.

It is the policy of the state to preserve and protect the historic, prehistoric, and archeological resources of Alaska from loss, desecration, and destruction so that the scientific, historic, and cultural heritage embodied in these resources may pass undiminished to future generations. To this end, the legislature finds and declares that the historic, prehistoric, and archeological resources of the state are properly the subject of concerted and coordinated efforts exercised on behalf of the general welfare of the public in order that these resources may be located, preserved, studied, exhibited, and evaluated.

Last modified 9/3/2005

AS 41.35.070. Preservation of Historic, Prehistoric, and Archeological Resources Threatened By Public Construction.

(a) The department shall locate, identify, and preserve in suitable records information regarding historic, prehistoric, and archeological sites, locations, and remains. The information shall be submitted to the heads of the executive departments of the state.

(b) Before public construction or public improvement of any nature is undertaken by the state, or by a governmental agency of the state or by a private person under contract with or licensed by the state or governmental agency of the state, the department may survey the affected area to determine if the area contains historic, prehistoric, or archeological values.

(c) If the department determines that historic, prehistoric, or archeological sites, locations, or remains will be adversely affected by the public construction or improvement, the proposed public construction or improvement may not be commenced until the department has performed the necessary investigation, recording, and salvage of the site, location, or remains. All investigation, recording, and salvage work shall be performed as expeditiously as possible so that no state construction project will be unduly impaired, impeded, or delayed.

(d) If in the course of performing public construction or improvements, historic, prehistoric, or archeological sites, locations, remains, or objects are discovered, the department shall be notified and its concurrence shall be requested in continuing the construction or improvement. Upon receipt of this notice, the department shall survey the area to determine whether the area contains historic, prehistoric, or archeological data which should be preserved in the public interest. The survey shall be conducted as expeditiously as possible. If, as a result of the survey, it is determined that (1) this data exists in the area, (2) the data has exceptional historic, prehistoric, or archeological

significance, and should be collected and preserved in the public interest, and (3) it is feasible to collect and preserve the data, the department shall perform the necessary work to collect and preserve the data. This work shall be performed as expeditiously as possible.

(e) If the concurrence of the department required under (b) and (c) of this section is not obtained after 90 days from the filing of a request for its concurrence to proceed with the project, the agency or person performing the construction or improvement may apply to the governor for permission to proceed without that concurrence, and the governor may take the action the governor considers best in overruling or sustaining the department.

(f) The costs of investigation, recording, and salvage of the site shall be reimbursed by the agency sponsoring the construction project.

(g) Notwithstanding (a) - (f) of this section, all actions to stop any project shall first be approved in writing by the commissioner.

AS 41.35.080. Permits.

The commissioner may issue a permit for the investigation, excavation, gathering, or removal from the natural state, of any historic, prehistoric, or archeological resources of the state. A permit may be issued only to persons or organizations qualified to make the investigations, excavations, gatherings, or removals and only if the results of these authorized activities will be made available to the general public through institutions and museums interested in disseminating knowledge on the subjects involved. If the historic, prehistoric, or archeological resource involved is one which is, or is located on a site which is, sacred, holy, or of religious significance to a cultural group, the consent of that cultural group must be obtained before a permit may be issued under this section.

AS 41.35.090. Notice Required of Private Persons.

Before any construction, alteration, or improvement of any nature is undertaken on a privately owned, officially designated state monument or historic site by any person, the person shall give the department three months notice of intention to construct on, alter, or improve it. Before the expiration of the three-month notification period, the department shall either begin eminent domain proceedings under AS [41.35.060](#)(b) or undertake or permit the recording and salvaging of any historic, prehistoric, or archeological information considered necessary.

AS 41.35.100. Excavation and Removal of Historic, Prehistoric, or Archeological Remains On Private Land.

Before any historic, prehistoric, or archeological remains are excavated or removed from private land by the department, the written approval of the owner shall first be secured. When the value of the private land is diminished by the excavation or removal, the owner of the land shall be compensated for the loss at a monetary sum mutually agreed on by the department and the owner or at a monetary sum set by the court.

Subdivisions, Title 27

rehearing by the platting board. The final plat shall comply with the code and conform substantially to the preliminary plat.
(Ord. 06-147(AM), § 3 (part), 2006)

27.15.050 PRELIMINARY PLAT SUBMITTAL.

(A) An application for preliminary plat approval shall be submitted with plat copies as needed, with the following data and appropriate fees:

(1) topographic maps of the proposed subdivision of three or more lots. Maps shall adequately display surrounding development within a minimum of 100 feet of the proposed subdivision boundaries, or greater upon a determination of necessity by the platting officer, shall be of a scale not less than one inch equals 100 feet, and shall include the following information:

(a) the location of all property lines, utilizing the preliminary plat as base map;

(b) minimum contour standards: contour intervals of five feet if the ground slope is less than 10 percent, and 10 feet if the ground slope is greater than 10 percent; contour lines at intervals of two feet for any portion of the proposed subdivision within the floodplain of any stream, and at intervals of five feet outside floodplain areas if the slope is less than 10 percent, and intervals of 10 feet if the slope is greater than 10 percent;

(c) preliminary horizontal location of streets, community water supply, community sewage disposal systems, water body and wetland crossings, and other public improvement details, to indicate conformance with borough and state standards;

(d) location of water bodies, proposed or existing watercourses, identified wetlands and probable wetland areas, erosion hazard areas, drainage courses, including the location of flood hazard areas, water body and wetland crossings, and the location and nature of known areas susceptible to landslide, mud and earth flow, talus development, soil creep, solifluction or rock glaciation, avalanche chutes, and run-outs;

(e) within designated special flood hazard areas, the base flood elevation shall be determined in accordance with MSB 17.29;

(f) the location of existing facilities and structures within the proposed

subdivision, such as roadways, buildings, sewage systems, wells, utility poles or overhead lines, excavations, bridges and culverts relative to existing and proposed property lines; and

(g) the topographic map shall be stamped by a registered land surveyor verifying current conditions;

(2) a site plan showing proposed drainage control systems for on-site storm water management, as outlined in the Subdivision Construction Manual;

(3) Matanuska-Susitna Borough Cultural Resources Division staff will conduct a review of the proposed subdivision to determine if there are known archaeological sites in the vicinity and provide comments to the applicant prior to the pre-application meeting:

(a) all subdivisions must comply with the Alaska Historic Preservation Act, A.S. 41.35.010 through 41.35.240; and

(b) before any construction, alteration, or improvement of any nature is undertaken on a privately owned, official designated state monument or historic site by any person, the person shall give the Matanuska-Susitna Borough and the Alaska Department of Natural Resources Office of History and Archaeology three months' notice of intention to construct on, alter, or improve it;

(4) supporting written information:

(a) the subdivider shall submit supporting written information including all soils and engineering data as required by this title; and

(b) applications proposing community water supply systems, community sewage disposal systems, or both shall be required to submit a conceptual design. Prior to final plat approval, State of Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation review and approval will be required for community water supply systems and community sewage disposal systems;

(5) any additional information required by code if requested in writing by the platting or planning official; and

(6) all submitted drawings shall be folded to a size of eight and one-half inches by 11 inches or smaller with title block showing.

(B) *Water and wastewater.* All tests required under this subsection must be conducted by a qualified engineer or a qualified hydrologist using established engineering practices, and must bear the

APPROVED

Introduced by: Borough Manager

Prepared by: Borough Attorney

MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH

ORDINANCE SERIAL NO. 82-14

AN ORDINANCE OF THE ASSEMBLY OF THE MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH ESTABLISHING
AN HISTORICAL PRESERVATION COMMISSION FOR THE MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH.

BE IT ENACTED:

Section 1. Classification. This ordinance is of a general and permanent nature and shall become a part of the Borough Code.

Section 2. A new Chapter 2.80 is added to the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Code or Ordinances, to read as follows:

2.80.010. Commission Established. There is established an Historical Preservation Commission for the Matanuska-Susitna Borough.

2.80.020. Functions. The Commission shall:

A. Advise the Assembly in the identification of buildings, sites and landmarks and writings and objects within the Borough that are of historic, cultural or geographic importance;

B. Develop and maintain an inventory of landmarks, historical buildings and sites and writings and objects within the Borough;

C. Advise the Planning Commission on planning in connection with historic preservation.

D. Advise the Borough and private property owners on restoration and maintenance of historical buildings, sites and landmarks and writings and objects.

E. Coordinate, assist and aid in the planning of historical preservation and restoration projects in the Borough.

F. Recommend to the Assembly buildings, sites and landmarks and writings and objects of historical, cultural or geographic significance in the Borough for designation as historical landmarks by the U. S. or State governments.

IM No. 98-179

Ordinance 82-14 amended

and seek approval from City Councils within cities.

G. Recommend to the Assembly historical preservation and restoration programs and site improvements to be implemented by or supported by the Borough.

2.80.030. Commission composition. The Commission shall consist of seven citizens of the Borough who have demonstrated an interest in the historical and cultural foundations of the Borough and the State.

Section 3. Effective Date. This ordinance becomes effective upon its passage and approval.

Introduction: March 10, 1982

First Reading: March 10, 1982

Public Hearing: April 6, 1982

ADOPTED by the Assembly of the Matanuska-Susitna Borough,
Alaska, this 6th day of April, 1982.


Ronald L. Larson
Borough Mayor

ATTEST:


Evelyn Thompson
Borough Clerk

(SEAL)

IM No. 98-179

AMENDED

MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH

RESOLUTION SERIAL NO. 84-154

A RESOLUTION OF THE ASSEMBLY OF THE MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH TO PUT A PROPOSITION ON THE BALLOT WHETHER THE BOROUGH SHOULD ACQUIRE THE POWER TO PRESERVE, MAINTAIN AND PROTECT HISTORIC SITES, BUILDINGS AND MONUMENTS.

WHEREAS, the Matanuska-Susitna Borough has always supported and maintained museums and historical sites in the Matanuska-Susitna Borough; and

WHEREAS, there are many historic buildings and sites within the Borough which are part of the history of the Borough, the State of Alaska and its residents; and

WHEREAS, the Assembly finds that the Matanuska-Susitna Borough has the ability to exercise historic preservation powers, that the exercise of such powers is in the interest of the general public to provide a means to preserve the architectural and cultural heritage of the Borough, in addition to providing the recreational opportunities now provided by the Borough through its existing powers;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the following question shall be placed on the ballot at the next regular election, to read as follows:

"Shall the Matanuska-Susitna Borough exercise the areawide power to preserve, maintain and protect historic sites, buildings and monuments?"

PASSED AND APPROVED by the Assembly of the Matanuska-Susitna Borough, this 6th day of November, 1984.


Edna Armstrong-DeVries, Borough Mayor

ATTEST:


Chris Seagraves, Borough Clerk

REVIEWED AND APPROVED:

Gary Thurlow, Borough Manager

(SEAL)

IM No. 98-179

1 CODE ORDINANCE

Presented by: Manager
Introduced:
Drafted by: M.G.

3 MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH

4 Ordinance Serial No. 87-007

5 AN ORDINANCE OF THE ASSEMBLY OF THE MATANUSKA-SUSITNA
6 BOROUGH ADDING THE AREAWIDE POWER OF HISTORIC PRESERVATION
7 TO THE BOROUGH CODE AS APPROVED BY THE VOTERS.

8 BE IT ENACTED:

9 * Section 1. Classification. This ordinance is of a
10 general and permanent nature and shall become a part of the
11 Borough Code.

12 * Section 2. Amendment of Chapter. MSB 1.10 is
13 amended by adding a new section 160 reading:

14 1.10.160 Historic Preservation.

15 // The Borough may exercise the areawide power to
16 preserve, maintain and protect historic sites, buildings and
17 monuments situated within the Borough as approved by the
18 voters pursuant to Resolution Serial No. 84-154.

19 * Section 3. Effective date. This ordinance becomes
20 effective upon its adoption.

21 Introduction: 1-20-07

22 First reading: 1-20-07

23 Public hearing: 2-3-07

24 PASSED AND APPROVED by the Assembly of the
25 Matanuska-Susitna Borough this 5th day of February,
26 1987.

27 Dorothy A. Jones
Dorothy A. Jones, Mayor

Appendix 2

Table of WAC Region Patented Homesteads

TABLE OF WILLOW COMMUNITY COUNCIL AREA HOMESTEADS								
Name	T	R	S	Aliquot	App Date	Patent Date	# Acres	Case Number
Hubble Donald J.	18N	4W	12	S2SW	1/19/59	3/5/64	80.00	AKA 047157
			13	N2NW			80.00	
Best Edgar J.	18N	4W	12	N2SW	2/8/62	6/2/64	80.00	AKA 056563
Buowens Edward J.	18N	4W	11	E2SE	2/16/59	12/19/63	80.00	AKA 047461
			11	SENE			40.00	
Nelson Harold A.	18N	4W	11	N2NW	6/22/59	2/17/65	80.00	AKA 049375
			11	NWNE			40.00	
			11	SENW			40.00	
Clovin Orlando R	18N	4W	11	NWSE	2/16/59	3/5/64	40.00	AKA 047460
			11	SWNE			40.00	
Browne Clark	18N	4W	4	NWSWNW	3/22/60	2/17/65	10.00	AKA 047460
			4	W2NWNW			20.00	
			5				129.38	
Vance Wayne F	18N	4W	3		10/1/63	5/17/66	2.69	AKA 060238
			3				3.58	
			3	NESESW			10.00	
			3	S2SE			80.00	
			3	S2SESW			20.00	
			3	S2SWNWSE			5.00	
			3	SENEWSE			2.50	
			3	SEWSE			10.00	
			3	SEWSESW			2.50	
Walker Jack V	18N	4W	3	E2SWNESW Lot 16	9/5/56	12/17/57	3.33	AKA 033095
			3	W2SENESW Lot 15			2.13	
			3	W2SWNESW Lot 17			2.11	
McKinley Roscoe G	18N	4W	3	NENE Lot 1	11/13/45	3/17/49	40.00	AKA 010788
			3	NWNE Lot 2			18.96	
			3	S2NE Lot 6			44.36	
			34	Lot 8			19.28	
Pelkey John R	18N	4W	2	E2NWSW	10/3/60	1/22/64	20.00	AKA 053309
			2	NESWSW			10.00	
			2	NWNWSW			10.00	
			2	S2SWSW			20.00	
			2	SWNW			40.00	
			3	NESE			40.00	

Carl Jack	18N	4W	13	NE	7/27/59	3/23/64	160.00	AKA 049764
Penland W Richard	18N	5W	22	Lot 35	6/26/59	5/23/67	4.99	AKA 049453
Dolan William H	18N	5W	26		10/6/59	3/26/64	94.00	AKA 050329
			27				66.00	
Shepard Edward R	18N	5W	27		5/16/55	10/2/58	0.64	AKA 030228
Anderson Ray Angus	17N	5W	4		4/9/52	2/24/59	14.39	AKA 020668
	18N	5W	33				50.00	
Adams Bruce Duncan	17N	5W	2	Lot 4	2/4/60	9/16/65	86.00	AKA 051185
	18N	5W	35	Lot 4			73.44	
Pierce Max B	17N	5W	1	Lot 5	01/23/61	1/24/67	83.00	AKA 056044
	17N	5W	2	Lot 5			30.00	
	18N	5W	36	Lot 5			46.76	
Conley Clyde R	17N	5W	1	Lot 7	1/8/59	9/8/65	120.00	AKA 047022
	18N	5W	36	Lot 7			5.65	
Lemaster Kelmar Keller	18N	4W	31	Lot 6	1/6/59	2/18/66	28.00	AKA 047016
		5W	36	Lot 6			51.99	
Neff Garland M	19N	5W	12	Lot 1	9/30/59	3/1/67	31.13	AKA 050291
	19N	5W	12				40.00	
	19N	5W	13	Lot 2			32.57	
	19N	5W	13				20.00	
Hillier Frank Olea	19N	4W	18	Lot 6	9/2/58	6/14/63	32.37	AKA 045473
	19N	4W	19	Lot 1			27.10	
	19N	4W	19				40.00	
	19N	4W	19	W2NWNE			20.00	
	19N	5W	13	Lot 10			6.89	
Rhodes James M	19N	5W	13	Lot 3	3/16/59	9/6/63	22.61	AKA 047791
	19N	5W	13	Lot 4			31.80	
	19N	5W	13	Lot 5			25.77	
	19N	5W	13	Lot 6			36.78	
	19N	5W	13	Lot 7			41.52	
Yacovac Richard P	19N	5W	13	Lot 9	9/16/58	4/24/63	31.19	AKA 045777
	19N	5W	13	E2E2SESW			10.00	
	19N	5W	24	Lot 1			32.62	
	19N	5W	24	Lot 2			4.45	
Gieseke Orville H	19N	5W	20		6/10/64	5/17/66	47.26	AKA 061479
	19N	5W	21				80.00	
	19N	5W	28				16.00	
	19N	5W	29				16.00	

Powell Warren V	19N	5W	23	Lot 1	7/31/59	3/5/64	39.35	AKA 049815
	19N	5W	23	Lot 2			29.08	
	19N	5W	23	Lot 3			14.75	
	19N	5W	23	E2E2E2SWNE			5.00	
	19N	5W	23	E2E2SEWNNE			2.50	
	19N	5W	24	Lot 5			39.97	
	19N	5W	24	Lot 6			27.77	
Cole Jack E Yukon Jack Mining Exploration	19N	5W	23	Lot 10	6/24/59	4/10/63	2.16	AKA 049403
	19N	5W	24	Lot 14			26.46	
	19N	5W	24	Lot 15			31.68	
	19N	5W	24	W2E2SW			40.00	
	19N	5W	25	Lot 10			4.41	
	19N	5W	26	Lot 1			2.47	
Bugbee Lester L	19N	5W	23	Lot 6	10/13/59	5/11/64	19.56	AKA 050363
	19N	5W	23	Lot 7			35.91	
	19N	5W	23	N2SW			80.00	
Kos Frank	19N	5W	24	Lot 10	5/19/59	6/26/63	29.19	AKA 048923
	19N	5W	24	Lot 13			36.32	
Sides Maxweldon	19N	4W	19	Lot 2	9/2/58	5/31/63	32.00	AKA 045074
	19N	4W	19	SENW			40.00	
	19N	4W	19	SWNE			40.00	
	19N	5W	24	Lot 11			10.59	
Harkey Hubert Earl	19N	4W	19	Lot 3	9/11/58	12/19/63	33.16	AKA 045701
	19N	4W	19	NESW			40.00	
	19N	4W	19	Lot 12			12.07	
Edwards Willis R	19N	5W	24	Lot 16	4/27/60	9/4/64	37.07	AKA 051855
	19N	5W	24	Lot 4			12.26	
	19N	5W	24	Lot 7			24.65	
	19N	5W	24	E2E2SW			40.00	
	19N	5W	25	Lot 7			6.13	
Young Orville Lee	19N	5W	25	Lot 11	10/7/60	3/1/66	26.70	AKA 053327
	19N	5W	25	Lot 8			7.19	
	19N	5W	25	Lot 9			13.81	
	19N	5W	26	Lot 2			15.95	
	19N	5W	26	Lot 9			19.90	
Jordan Thomas E Jr	19N	5W	25	Lot 12	8/30/60	6/11/64	16.43	AKA 053172
	19N	5W	25	Lot 20			16.80	
	19N	5W	25	Lot 21			38.48	

Sorenson Delmar A	19N	5W	25	Lot 14	10/6/59	12/11/63	2.24	AKA 050327
	19N	5W	25	Lot 15			33.45	
	19N	5W	25	Lot 16			32.71	
	19N	5W	25	Lot 18			11.71	
	19N	5W	25	Lot 2			12.85	
	19N	5W	25	Lot 5			28.51	
	19N	5W	25	N2NESE			20.00	
Herndon, William W	19N	5W	25	Lot 22	9/30/59	6/26/63	35.73	AKA 050268
	19N	5W	25	Lot 23			35.78	
	19N	5W	36	Lot 4			33.49	
	19N	5W	36	Lot 11			13.08	
	19N	5W	36	Lot 2			9.07	
Shumate Billy Dale	19N	5W	26	Lot 12	8/25/60	9/25/63	20.42	AKA 052913
	19N	5W	26	Lot 13			39.60	
	19N	5W	26	Lot 14			20.71	
	19N	5W	26	Lot 15			7.35	
	19N	5W	26	SWSW			40.00	
Button John F	19N	5W	26	Lot 5	2/24/60	5/31/63	6.51	AKA 051313
	19N	5W	26	Lot 6			10.36	
	19N	5W	26	Lot 8			15.99	
	19N	5W	26	E2NENW			20.00	
Johnson Steven F	19N	5W	35	Lot 1	6/22/61	4/14/66	34.27	AKA 054933
	19N	5W	35	Lot 2			20.97	
	19N	5W	35	Lot 6			39.09	
	19N	5W	35	Lot 7			36.77	
Nelson James Newman	19N	5W	36	Lot 14	2/15/60	9/17/65	39.60	AKA 051253
	19N	5W	36	Lot 3			8.82	
	19N	5W	36	Lot 7			19.99	
	19N	5W	36	Lot 8			4.14	
	19N	5W	36	Lot 9			4.51	
	19N	5W	36	E2NENW			20.00	
Palmer Lawrence Henry	19N	5W	36	Lot 15	2/16/60	6/3/64	21.20	AKA 051262
	19N	5W	36	Lot 16			12.57	
	19N	5W	36	Lot 19			26.59	
	19N	5W	36	Lot 21			5.50	
	19N	5W	36	Lot 5			18.42	
	19N	5W	36	Lot 6			8.15	
McGregor John	19N	4W	1	Lot 1	9/12/49	2/5/54	39.99	AKA 014613

	19N	4W	1	Lot 2			39.97	
	19N	4W	1	S2NE			80.00	
Friday William W	19N	4W	1	N2SW	8/18/58	5/22/62	80.00	AKA 044933
	19N	4W	1	S2NW			80.00	
Rollins Clifton C	19N	4W	1	S2SW	6/17/71	12/5/75	80.00	AKAA 006340
Getts Kenneth A	19N	4W	2	Lot 1	5/27/62	2/17/66	39.91	AKA 059130
	19N	4W	2	Lot 2			39.87	
	19N	4W	2	Lot 3			39.85	
	19N	4W	2	Lot 4			39.81	
Bunker Terry L	19N	4W	2	NWSESE	1/10/62	11/21/67	10.00	AKA 057232
	19N	4W	2	S2SESE			20.00	
	19N	4W	2	SWSE			40.00	
	19N	4W	2	W2NESESE			5.00	
Jones William C	19N	4W	4	Lot 3	6/7/60	6/4/64	39.95	AKA 052155
	19N	4W	4	Lot 4			39.90	
	19N	4W	4	S2NW			80.00	
Molnar George R	19N	4W	4	N2NWNWNESE	1/10/65	94/69	1.25	AKA 062365
	19N	4W	4	NENESE			10.00	
	19N	4W	4	NWSE			40.00	
	19N	4W	4	S2N2NWNENESE			2.50	
	19N	4W	4	S2NESE			20.00	
	19N	4W	4	S2NWNENESE			5.00	
	19N	4W	4	S2SE			80.00	
Stove Samuel	19N	4W	5	SW	5/3/30	5/16/36	160.00	AKA 007499
Richey Ted	19N	4W	7	Lot 1	4/28/59	2/19/65	31.66	AKA 048683
	19N	4W	7	E2NW			80.00	
	19N	4W	7	NESW			40.00	
Richey Jay	19N	4W	7	Lot 3	2/27/61	11/2/62	00.00?	AKA 053903
Richey Forest M	19N	4W	7	Lot 4	2/3/58	12/5/62	38.78	AKA 041585
	19N	4W	7	Lot 7			36.02	
	19N	4W	7	W2NE			80.00	
Stolen Ernest V	19N	4W	8	N2NE	4/29/66	8/17/71	80.00	AKA 067628
Thomas John	19N	4W	8	NW	6/21/22	8/7/29	160.00	AKA 005473
Everett Fred	19N	4W	8	SESW	4/2/38	1/19/43	40.00	AKA 009161
	19N	4W	8	SWSE			40.00	
	19N	4W	17	SESW			40.00	
	19N	4W	17	NWNE			40.00	
Briggs John Cherry	19N	4W	12	E2NWSW	7/4/60	10/24/68	20.00	AKA 046783

	19N	4W	12	E2W2NWSW			10.00	
	19N	4W	12	NESW			40.00	
	19N	4W	12	NWSE			40.00	
	19N	4W	12	W2W2NESE			10.00	
Carman Brooks L	19N	4W	17	N2SW	6/7/63	12/6/67	80.00	AKA 059288
Kruse Walter Joe P	19N	4W	17	NENESE	6/15/59	11/12/63	10.00	AKA 049309
	19N	4W	17	S2NESE			20.00	
	19N	4W	17	SENWNESE			2.50	
	19N	4W	17	SESE			40.00	
	19N	4W	17	W2NWNESE			5.00	
Caldwell Wayne Daniel	19N	4W	17	S2SW	3/9/59	5/24/62	80.00	AKA 047736
Weaver Floyd D	19N	4W	18	E2SE	8/19/59	6/7/62	80.00	AKA 049994
White Ray C	19N	4W	27	W2NW	4/28/59	4/20/62	80.00	AKA 048691
	19N	4W	28	E2NE			80.00	
Cronin Arthur	19N	4W	27	W2SW	4/27/59	12/10/63	80.00	AKA 048675
	19N	4W	28	E2SE			80.00	
Giles Morton A	19N	4W	29	N2NENE	12/6/61	1/13/66	20.00	AKA 056301
McCharles James A	19N	4W	30	Lot 5	9/30/65	9/22/70	33.92	AKA 063664
	19N	4W	30	Lot 6			19.41	
Wiegner Gustav O	19N	4W	33	NENE	10/16/61	4/29/65	40.00	AKA 056002
	19N	4W	33	NENWNE			10.00	
	19N	4W	34	N2NW			80.00	
	19N	4W	34	N2SENW			20.00	
	19N	4W	34	NWSWNE			10.00	
Twitty Norman A	19N	4W	35	Lot 1	4/6/62	4/14/66	39.74	AKA 056902
	19N	4W	35	E2SW			80.00	
	19N	4W	35	SENW			40.00	
Kackman Lyle Ray	19N	4W	35	NE	2/21/62	6/17/69	160.00	AKA 056595
Blazek Joseph Lawrence	19N	4W	2	NESE	8/12/49	5/9/52	40.00	AKA 014530
	19N	4W	2	S2NE			80.00	
Tomlinson Will Hodge Jr	19N	4W	2	NESW	12/31/52	11/5/58	40.00	AKA 023069
	19N	4W	2	NWSE			40.00	
	19N	4W	2	SENW			40.00	
Riedel Robert D	19N	4W	2	NWSW	2/25/59	11/13/63	40.00	AKA 047591
	19N	4W	2	SWNW			40.00	
	19N	4W	3	NESE			40.00	
	19N	4W	3	SENE			40.00	
Burrow Wilbert E	19N	4W	3	Lot 1	2/12/64	12/3/68	39.81	AKA 060863

	19N	4W	3	Lot 2			39.83	
	19N	4W	3	Lot 3			39.85	
Burner Robert L	19N	4W	3	Lot 4	2/9/60	7/3/63	39.87	AKA 051207
	19N	4W	3	SWNW			40.00	
	19N	4W	3	W2SW			80.00	
Mercer Sam A	19N	4W	4	Lot 1	7/13/59	5/22/62	39.89	AKA 049625
	19N	4W	4	Lot 2			39.93	
	19N	4W	4	N2NESWSENE			1.25	
	19N	4W	4	N2SENE			20.00	
	19N	4W	4	SESENE			10.00	
	19N	4W	4	SWNE			40.00	
	19N	4W	4	W2SWSENE			5.00	
Henson Ruby Gean	19N	4W	4	SW	7/20/60	8/6/63	160.00	AKA 052668
Stancec Emil John	19N	4W	5	SENE	7/29/57	1/6/61	40.00	AKA 035705
Stinson Glenn Walter	19N	4W	6	Lot 1	11/6/58	7/27/61	40.00	AKA 046451
	19N	4W	6	Lot 2			40.00	
	19N	4W	6	S2NE			80.00	
Johnson Raymond	19N	4W	6	Lot 7	11/6/58	1/17/64	31.57	AKA 046450
	19N	4W	6	E2SW			80.00	
Richey Jay	19N	4W	7	Lot 3	11/18/59	11/2/62	17.50	AKA 050586
Hathaway William D	19N	4W	8	E2SE	3/22/1918	3/2/26	80.00	AKJ 003896
	19N	4W	8	NWSE			40.00	
	19N	4W	17	NENE			40.00	
Briggs John C	19N	4W	12	E2NESE	7/15/68	10/7/81	20.00	AKAA 003028
	19N	4W	12	E2W2NESE			10.00	
	19N	4W	12	W2W2NWSW			10.00	
Gioidano Daniel	19N	4W	12	NW	9/1/59	9/26/63	160.00	AKA 050082
Stevens Myron A	19N	4W	15	Lot 1	1/22/62	10/17/62	32.29	AKA 056519
	19N	4W	15	Lot 2			34.30	
	19N	4W	15	Lot 3			39.93	
Douglas Robert A	19N	4W	17	Lot 1	3/7/57	5/19/61	33.20	AKA 033890
	19N	4W	17	Lot 2			35.50	
Jaquith Norman S	19N	4W	17	SENW	1/27/59	4/14/59	40.00	AKA 047267
Caldwell Wayne Daniel	19N	4W	17	W2SE	6/15/59	5/24/62	80.00	AKA 049302
Erikson Olof Irving	19N	4W	18	Lot 1	7/8/57	4/12/61	42.41	AKA 034742
	19N	4W	18	Lot 4			28.75	
	19N	4W	18	NWSE			40.00	
	19N	4W	18	SWNE			40.00	

Pettis Wilford Dee	19N	4W	18	E2W2	7/9/68	8/10/73	160.00	AKAA 003020
Hillier Frank Olea	19N	4W	18	SWSE	3/9/59	6/14/63	40.00	AKA 047734
Haag Leo A	19N	4W	19	Lot 4	6/26/59	5/31/63	33.38	AKA 049455
	19N	4W	19	SESW			40.00	
	19N	4W	30	Lot 2			33.57	
	19N	4W	30	NENW			40.00	
	19N	5W	24	Lot 17			7.13	
	19N	5W	25	Lot 1			2.49	
	19N	5W	25	Lot 17			.058	
Sides Edith L	19N	4W	19	E2E2	9/29/58	12/5/63	160.00	AKA 045911
Harkey Hubert Earl	19N	4W	19	SWSE	7/12/60	12/19/63	40.00	AKA 052607
Heimbuch Floyd E	19N	4W	20	Lot 1	5/26/61	11/18/63	39.57	AKA 054722
	19N	4W	20	S2SE			80.00	
	19N	4W	20	SESW			40.00	
Sellens Walter Samuel	19N	4W	20	E2NW	3/27/59	1/17/64	80.00	AKA 048033
Morrell Dee August	19N	4W	20	NESW	10/13/61	7/14/69	40.00	AKA 055999
Kahn Willis E	19N	4W	20	NWNE	11/29/60	1/20/64	40.00	AKA 053526
Morrell Dee August	19N	4W	20	NWSE	9/23/58	5/4/64	40.00	AKA 045838
Brooks Alba S	19N	4W	20	NWSW	9/23/59	5/11/64	40.00	AKA 050239
Sellens Walter Samuel	19N	4W	20	SENW	6/13/60	1/17/64	00.00	AKA 052225
Dahl John C	19N	4W	20	SWNE	2/9/61	2/5/64	40.00	AKA 053809
Robinson Raymond	19N	4W	20	SWNW	5/4/60	11/13/63	40.00	AKA 051901
Driskell Clifford H	19N	4W	21	Lot 2	5/17/56	12/20/61	22.74	AKA 032425
Terry Christopher	19N	4W	21	Lot 3			22.60	
Olsen Richard E	19N	4W	21	SWSW			40.00	
	19N	4W	28	Lot 14			5.71	
	19N	4W	28	Lot 15			4.26	
	19N	4W	28	Lot 16			4.64	
	19N	4W	28	Lot 17			3.56	
	19N	4W	28	Lot 18			2.34	
	19N	4W	28	NWNWNW			10.00	
	19N	4W	28	SWNW			40.00	
	19N	4W	28	W2SWNWNW			5.00	
Block Alex	19N	4W	27	E2SW	5/26/60	2/4/64	80.00	AKA 052077
Downing D Harry	19N	4W	28	Lot 12	2/1/61	8/6/63	4.56	AKA 053770
	19N	4W	28	Lot 13			1.56	
	19N	4W	28	NWNENW			10.00	
Hill Jerry A	19N	4W	30	Lot 1	1/18/60	5/24/62	31.16	AKA 051033

	19N	4W	30	W2NE			80.00	
Hill Jerry A	19N	4W	30	Lot 4	3/17/60	5/24/62	24.97	AKA 053670
	19N	4W	30	SWNE			00.00	
Tuer Robert Charles	19N	4W	31	Lot 1	10/6/58	1/31/64	24.04	AKA 046000
	19N	4W	31	Lot 2			17.84	
	19N	4W	31	E2SW			80.00	
	19N	4W	31	SENE			40.00	
Steers Vincent	19N	4W	32	Lot 2	12/8/59	10/14/63	33.19	AKA 050723
	19N	4W	32	SESE			40.00	
Hale John Heald	18N	4W	3	Lot 3	5/3/48	8/24/50	24.92	AKA 012201
	18N	4W	3	Lot 4			39.16	
	18N	4W	3	Lot 5			36.48	
	19N	4W	33	Lot 12			19.84	
	19N	4W	34	Lot 7			43.03	
White Herbert A	19N	4W	34	E2SE	2/2/60	3/30/62	80.00	AKA 051163
	19N	4W	35	W2SW			80.00	
Kasper Thomas F	19N	1W	4	Lot 2	5/11/61	11/21/72	15.00	AKA 055313
	19N	1W	5	Lot 2			144.01	
Merrill Robert L	19N	1W	5	Lot 1	7/14/59	12/20/72	98.00	AKA 049636
	19N	1W	6				53.52	
Branham Fred Jr	19N	2W	5	S2SESE	7/10/60	5/4/72	40.00	AKA 052586
	19N	2W	8	E2NE			80.00	
	19N	2W	8	NESE			40.00	
Rhea Vincent T	19N	2W	4	Lot 2	4/17/61	5/8/72	40.02	AKA 054207
	19N	2W	4	E2W2SE			40.00	
	19N	2W	4	SESE			40.00	
	19N	2W	4	SWNE			40.00	
Lindblom Dawson L	19N	2W	5	S2SESW	7/7/60	5/4/72	20.00	AKA 052585
	19N	2W	8	N2NWSE			20.00	
	19N	2W	8	NENW			40.00	
	19N	2W	8	W2NE			80.00	
Getzlaff Gladiolus Cuddy	19N	2W	6	Lot 10	9/9/60	6/2/72	22.88	AKA 053213
	19N	2W	6	Lot 8			15.98	
	19N	2W	6	Lot 9			25.42	
	19N	2W	6	NESW			40.00	
	19N	2W	6	S2SENE			20.00	
Barrington Lester H	19N	2W	3	Lot 2	4/2/61	11/21/72	40.00	AKA 054118
Cornell Richard Earl	19N	2W	4	E2SW	6/21/61	5/16/72	80.00	AKA 054928

	19N	2W	4	W2W2SE			40.00	
Ely George L III	19N	2W	4	NESE	7/1/60	5/12/72	40.00	AKA 052598
Krueger Wayne K	19N	2W	6	Lot 3	5/15/61	4/13/72	33.17	AKA 054825
	20N	2W	31	Lot 5			31.83	
Chaney William F	20N	2W	2		8/30/60	3/19/73	40.00	AKA 053180
Burgholzer Edward J	20N	2W	31	NESW	10/1/64	4/13/72	37.65	AKA 062124
	20N	2W	31	NWSE			40.00	
	20N	2W	31	SENW			40.00	
	20N	2W	31	SWNE			40.00	
Rice Richard G	20N	2W	999		9/18/53	3/16/62	10.00	AKA 025524
	20N	2W	31	W2SW			50.00	
	20N	3W	36	E2SE			35.00	
Hankin Donald E	19N	3W	1	Lot 1	9/10/59	6/28/67	32.54	AKA 050210
	19N	3W	1	Lot 2			40.20	
	19N	3W	1	N2S2NE			40.00	
	20N	3W	36	Lot 3			39.70	
Spain Joseph A Sr	19N	3W	2	Lot 10	9/14/59	10/12/67	10.00	AKA 050165
	19N	3W	2	W2SWNW			20.00	
	19N	3W	2	W2W2SW			40.00	
	19N	3W	3	Lot 12E			10.00	
	19N	3W	3	E2NESE			20.00	
	19N	3W	3	E2SENE			20.00	
	19N	3W	3	SESE			40.00	
Spain Joseph A Jr	19N	3W	3	Lot 11	9/14/59	6/18/69	20.00	AKA 050167
	19N	3W	3	Lot 12W			10.00	
	19N	3W	3	Lot 2			10.07	
	19N	3W	3	Lot 3			10.06	
	19N	3W	3	Lot 4			10.06	
	19N	3W	3	E2NWSE			20.00	
	19N	3W	3	SWNE			40.00	
	19N	3W	3	W2NESE			20.00	
	19N	3W	3	W2SENE			20.00	
Fowler Valton L	19N	3W	2	Lot 8	7/24/60	9/8/69	10.07	AKA 052895
	19N	3W	3	Lot 1			10.07	
	20N	3W	34	S2NESE			20.00	
	20N	3W	34	SESE			40.00	
	20N	3W	35	S2NWSW			20.00	
	20N	3W	35	SWSW			40.00	

Murdock Burl	19N	3W	3	Lot 6	12/4/61	1/17/67	10.06	AKA 056283
	19N	3W	3	Lot 7			10.05	
	19N	3W	3	E2SWNW			20.00	
	19N	3W	3	E2W2SW			40.00	
	19N	3W	3	SEENW			10.00	
	19N	3W	3	SENWNW			10.00	
	19N	3W	3	W2E2SW			40.00	
	19N	3W	3	W2SEW			20.00	
Hibbler Wilburn	19N	3W	4	Lot 2	8/10/60	3/3/67	10.04	AKA 052804
	19N	3W	4	Lot 3			10.04	
	19N	3W	4	Lot 4			10.04	
	19N	3W	4	Lot 5			10.04	
	19N	3W	4	Lot 9			20.00	
	20N	3W	33	SESW			40.00	
	20N	3W	33	SWSE			40.00	
Reid Joseph H	19N	3W	5	Lot 3	8/10/59	1/6/67	40.05	AKA 049937
	19N	3W	5	Lot 4			40.04	
	19N	3W	5	S2NW			80.00	
Jones Henry K	19N	3W	5	N2SW	3/8/60	11/17/66	80.00	AKA 051352
	19N	3W	5	SWSW			40.00	
	19N	3W	6	NESE			40.00	
Barton Elvin C	19N	3W	18	Lot 1	8/17/60	2/17/66	80.00	AKA 053194
Bunker Dean B	19N	3W	18	Lot 2	8/17/60	4/27/66	56.00	AKA 053195
	19N	3W	19	Lot 2			24.00	
Richardson Alden L	19N	3W	1	Lot 3	3/8/60	6/28/67	40.19	AKA 053482
	19N	3W	1	Lot 4			10.09	
	19N	3W	1	Lot 5			10.09	
	19N	3W	1	Lot 6			20.00	
	19N	3W	1	N2S2NW			40.00	
	20N	3W	36	S2S2SW			40.00	
Mead Henry C	19N	3W	2	Lot 11	7/17/59	6/20/67	9.20	AKA 049673
	19N	3W	2	Lot 12			6.80	
	19N	3W	2	Lot 13			10.00	
	19N	3W	2	Lot 14			20.00	
	19N	3W	2	Lot 3			10.08	
	19N	3W	2	Lot 4			10.08	
	19N	3W	2	Lot 5			10.08	
	19N	3W	2	Lot 6			5.04	

	19N	3W	2	Lot 7			9.69	
Roan Dolph Roosevelt	19N	3W	2	E2NWSW	7/26/57	10/26/66	20.00	AKA 035197
	19N	3W	2	E2SWNW			20.00	
	19N	3W	2	NESW			40.00	
	19N	3W	2	SEnw			40.00	
	19N	3W	2	W2NWSE			20.00	
	19N	3W	2	W2SWNE			20.00	
Danielson Phillip	19N	3W	3	SW	4/29/46	5/1/49	160.00	AKA 010925
Wetherington Milton A	20N	3W	31	N2NESE	1/5/60	6/30/67	20.00	AKA 050956
	20N	3W	31	SENE			40.00	
	20N	3W	31	SWNESE			10.00	
	20N	3W	31	W2SENESE			5.00	
	20N	3W	32	N2NENWSW			5.00	
	20N	3W	32	N2NESW			20.00	
	20N	3W	32	N2S2N2SW			20.00	
	20N	3W	32	NWNWSW			10.00	
	20N	3W	32	2S2S2NW			20.00	
Foster Herbert D	20N	3W	32	N2N2SE	8/13/59	3/1/67	40.00	AKA 049938
	20N	3W	32	S2NENE			20.00	
	20N	3W	32	S2SWNE			20.00	
	20N	3W	32	SENE			40.00	
Woodward Jack E	20N	3W	33	NESW	7/27/59	3/28/67	40.00	AKA 049743
	20N	3W	33	NWSE			40.00	
	20N	3W	33	S2SWNW			20.00	
	20N	3W	33	SEnw			40.00	
	20N	3W	33	W2NESE			20.00	
Allen Jack	20N	3W	34	E2SW	7/31/60	2/7/67	80.00	AKA 052753
	20N	3W	34	W2SE			80.00	
Smith Floyd J	21N	4W	5	Lot 3	4/13/59	11/12/63	39.73	AKA 048436
	21N	4W	5	S2NW			80.00	
	21N	4W	6	SENE			40.00	
Day William B	21N	4W	6	Lot 1	4/17/62	6/12/64	39.91	AKA 056991
	21N	4W	6	Lot 2			39.94	
Coleman Arledge G	21N	4W	7	NESW	9/22/62	3/28/66	40.00	AKA 058287
	21N	4W	7	SEnw			40.00	
McLaughlin Larkin B	21N	4W	7	S2NE	2/16/65	12/21/67	80.00	AKA 062132
	21N	4W	8	S2NW			80.00	
Brock Charles P	21N	4W	30	Lot 3	10/20/62	1/3/72	39.37	AKA 063826

	21N	4W	30	Lot 4			39.53	
	21N	4W	30	SESW			40.00	
Brock Russell C	21N	4W	31	Lot 2	6/29/59	4/29/62	39.75	AKA 049486
	21N	4W	31	SESW			40.00	
Brock Russell C	21N	4W	31	E2SW	7/8/59	5/18/73	80.00	AKAA 000419
Self Robert James	21N	4W	31	SE	12/2/47	3/10/50	160.00	AKA 011800
Day William B	21N	4W	5	Lot 4	10/16/61	6/12/64	39.84	AKA 056004
Morris Dean L	21N	4W	5	NWSW	4/17/59	4/5/65	40.00	AKA 048510
	21N	4W	6	Lot 5			40.57	
	21N	4W	6	N2SE			80.00	
Evans Melvin F	21N	4W	5	SWSW	4/24/61	5/6/11/64	40.00	AKA 054234
	21N	4W	6	S2SE			80.00	
	21N	4W	6	SESW			40.00	
Martin Edward D	21N	4W	7	Lot 1	4/28/59	4/20/62	27.96	AKA 048695
	21N	4W	7	Lot 2			37.93	
	21N	4W	7	Lot 3			38.03	
	21N	4W	7	NENW			40.00	
	21N	5W	12	Lot 1			11.71	
Murphy William Lewis	21N	4W	7	E2SE	2/17/66	6/23/69	80.00	AKA 064478
	21N	4W	8	W2SW			80.00	
Spradlin William George	21N	4W	7	N2NE	3/20/61	6/3/64	80.00	AKA 054005
	21N	4W	8	N2NW			80.00	
Coleman Arledge G	21N	4W	7	W2SE	4/17/62	3/28/66	80.00	AKA 056997
Elliott Harold R	21N	4W	17	SWSW	7/27/59	8/10/64	40.00	AKA 049748
	21N	4W	18	SESE			40.00	
	21N	4W	19	E2NE			80.00	
Sisson Robert J	21N	4W	17	W2NW	4/13/62	1/13/65	80.00	AKA 056961
	21N	4W	18	N2NE			80.00	
Richardson James G	21N	4W	18	NENW	2/27/62	4/6/67	40.00	AKA 056627
Covington Tommy W	21N	4W	30	Lot 2	10/27/65	8/18/70	39.23	AKA 063827
Brock Charles P	21N	4W	31	Lot 1	6/16/61	5/8/64	39.65	AKA 054911
Owens Marie M.	20N	4W	6	Lot 5	6/1/64	1/12/68	28.64	AKA 061330
	20N	5W	1	S2NE			80.00	
	20N	5W	1	SESW			40.00	
Chapman Travis F	20N	4W	6	Lot 6	6/10/59	8/1/62	28.66	AKA 049256
	20N	4W	6	Lot 7			28.69	
	20N	4W	6	E2SW			80.00	
Hadden George A	20N	4W	18	E2SESE	7/21/59	8/8/61	20.00	AKA 049700

	20N	4W	18	N2SWSESE			5.00	
Johnson Ralph L	20N	4W	19	E2NW	10/10/56	4/12/61	80.00	AKA 033235
	20N	4W	19	E2SEWNNE			5.00	
	20N	4W	19	NENWNE			10.00	
	20N	4W	19	S2NE			40.00	
	20N	4W	19	W2NWNE			20.00	
Mitford Hazel Ardath	20N	4W	31	Lot 1	10/3/58	4/16/63	30.67	AKA 045984
	20N	4W	31	E2NW			40.00	
	20N	4W	31	NWNE			40.00	
Allison Lyndall Ernest	20N	4W	35	S2SE	10/10/66	12/16/71	80.00	AKAA 000345
Joehnck Glen Dale	20N	4W	6	Lot 4	2/16/59	3/21/67	29.30	AKA 047456
	20N	5W	1	Lot 1			40.98	
	20N	5W	1	Lot 2			41.05	
	20N	5W	1	Lot 3			41.11	
Field William K	20N	4W	7	Lot 10	1/6/58	6/16/67	43.87	AKA 041025
	20N	4W	7	Lot 2			27.06	
	20N	4W	7	Lot 6			45.31	
	20N	4W	18	NWNE			40.00	
Kelly Robert J	20N	4W	17	SW	9/2/58	10/14/63	160.00	AKA 045478
Baird Robert W	20N	4W	19	E2NESE	7/10/59	4/16/63	20.00	AKA 049609
	20N	4W	19	E2SENE			20.00	
	20N	4W	19	NWSENE			10.00	
	20N	4W	20	NWSW			40.00	
	20N	4W	20	SWNW			40.00	
Hazel Leaman C	20N	4W	30	Lot 3	10/3/58	4/19/63	30.47	AKA 045985
	20N	4W	30	Lot 4			30.54	
	20N	4W	30	SESW			40.00	
	20N	4W	30	SWSE			40.00	
Ringler Dwaine	20N	5W	1	Lot 7	8/15/60	5/13/64	36.96	AKA 052825
	20N	5W	1	S2SE			80.00	

	20N	5W	1	SESW			40.00	
Gibbs Thomas H Jr	20N	5W	12	Lot 1	4/29/60	3/1/66	37.88	AKA 051867
	20N	5W	12	NENE			40.00	
Starnes Curtis B	20N	5W	24	E2SESW	2/2/66	4/22/68	20.00	AKA 064353
Cameron Ben E	20N	5W	24	N2NE	4/8/59	10/4/62	80.00	AKA 048344
	20N	5W	24	NWSE			40.00	
	20N	5W	24	SWNE			40.00	
Drake William A	20N	5W	24	N2NW	6/12/73	5/4/81	80.00	AKAA 008415
	20N	5W	24	SENW			40.00	
Hausserman Charles F	20N	5W	24	S2SE	3/22/60	7/25/62	80.00	AKA 051494
	20N	5W	25	N2NE			80.00	
Daniels Fred	20N	5W	24	SWNW	12/19/60	1/5/68	40.00	AKA 053596
Graham Thomas L	20N	5W	24	SWSW	6/13/62	5/2/69	40.00	AKA 057400
	20N	5W	24	W2NWSW			20.00	
	20N	5W	24	W2SESW			20.00	
McKee Gerald E	20N	5W	25	E2SW	7/22/60	1/23/64	80.00	AKA 052676
	20N	5W	25	S2SE			80.00	

Roan Clarence C	20N	5W	25	N2SE	4/27/59	2/12/63	80.00	AKA 048664
	20N	5W	25	S2NE			80.00	
Delaney Odie R	20N	5W	25	NW	8/9/60	5/26/66	160.00	AKA 052792
Sebwenna Rosa E	21N	4W	18	Lot 1	3/26/64	1/19/68	38.24	AKA 061199
	21N	5W	12	Lot 2			30.98	
	21N	5W	12	Lot 3			49.19	
	21N	5W	13	Lot 1			50.42	

Appendix 3

Table of WAC Area Patented Homesites

Table of Homesites for the WACO Area									
Name	T	R	S	Aliquot	App Date	Patent Date	# Acres	Case Number	Map Reference
Jones William J	18N	4W	2	S2SWSESW	7/7/59	1/11/67	5.00	AKA 049557	
Preston Kenneth Vincent	18N	4W	4	Lot 1	8/28/50	10/22/64	5.44	AKA 016865	
Moss Noah Frank Jr	18N	4W	13	N2S2NESENW	3/22/62	7/17/70	2.50	AKA 056789	
	18N	4W	13	S2N2NESENW			2.50		
Carlson Carl G	19N	1W	6	Lot 3	8/8/60	11/21/72	4.33	AKA 052785	
Pease Francis L	19N	3W	1	Lot 11	2/9/60	1/17/67	4.87	AKA 051204	
Edwardson Haakon	19N	4W	3	N2SESWSENW	8/2/46	12/5/56	1.25	AKA 011065	
	19N	4W	3	NESWSENW			2.50		
	19N	4W	3	S2SENWSENW			1.25		
Beudet Ellsworth W	19N	4W	11	N2NENENE	8/18/58	7/3/63	5.00	AKA 044936	
Stevens Myron A	19N	4W	15	Lot 5	2/2/62	1/31/64	7.30	AKA 056572	
Frey Calvin C	19N	5W	25	Lot 6	6/7/60	5/8/64	5.73	AKA 052157	
Walker Foster E	20N	3W	31	NESENWSE	5/13/60	12/1/67	2.50	AKA 052094	
	20N	3W	31	SENENWSE			2.50		
Towne Shirley W	20N	3W	31	S2SWSW Lot 6		3/8/67	4.69	AKA 051247	
Walker Foster E	20N	3W	31	NESENWSE	5/13/60	12/1/67	2.50	AKA 052094	
	20N	3W	31	SENENWSE			2.50		
Menzel Robert D	20N	3W	31	W2NWSESW	8/18/61	3/3/67	5.00	AKA 055394	
Burns Richard	20N	4W	7	Lot 12	6/26/63	2/5/71	6.42	AKA 059370	
Nelson John Victor	20N	4W	18	N2NWNENE	7/18/51	8/13/57	5.00	AKA 018466	
Reekie Arthur C	20N	4W	19	S2NWNENE	5/18/62	1/26/68	5.00	AKA 057227	
Yates George T	20N	4W	19	S2SWNENE	4/7/60	9/15/61	5.00	AKA 051860	

Appendix 4
Interview with LeRoi Heaven

INTERVIEW WITH LEROI HEAVEN

Monday, July 6, 2009 2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Interview took place at the home of LeRoi F. and Margaret Heaven

Interviewers: Fran Seager-Boss and Pat McClenahan

LeRoi delivered the mail in Houston and other areas in the region, and so he is familiar with many of the names on the BLM homesteader list.

His uncle, Art Heaven, moved in the late 1940s (1948-49) to Monroe Oregon to work for the Great Northern Railroad, to live near his wife's relatives.

The homesteader Lankford (Lloyd E. and Kelly) had sheep.

Kennerson (Howard W.) had the H&H Restaurant on the highway just past the Talkeetna junction.

Freese (Leonard R) was a professor in Anchorage.

LeRoi mentioned that there is a record of the 59ers from Michigan.

LeRoi's dad came from Anchorage in 1924. He worked with his brother, Art from 1924 until 1928. LeRoi's dad's brother, Art, was already in the Territory. He must have come in the early 1920s. He went into mink farming right away, as far as LeRoi knows. He doesn't know where Art got the mink. Art was a section foreman for Chulitna before, during, and after World War II.

LeRoi's dad and his uncle sold their properties to Evan Jones Coal Company for a strip mine. His dad and Art went to work for the Alaska Railroad in 1928, and his dad retired from the railroad in 1952 and they moved to the Valley in 1953.

Transportation in the Houston - Willow area was the railroad. From Wasilla to Willow there was a winter trail. In the early 1950s, a road went through to Big Lake junction. Oscar and Beda Anderson lived on Fish Creek at Big Lake in 1945 - 1946. LeRoi's family flew out from Lake Spenard to Big Lake to stay with them for two to three weeks. They used to travel by swamp buggy (a military 4 wheel drive vehicle) from Big Lake to the railroad on a trail from Anderson's homestead to Pittman to take the train home. Anderson, Borman, and the old man who had the homestead where Big Lake Lodge is were the only three families that lived on Big Lake then.

Mrs. Anderson and a son by a previous marriage, Mr. Borman, owned Long Island.

In the 1950s and 1960s they started coming out the Palmer Wasilla Highway. There was a road from the Soper homestead at the end of what is now Davis

Road (named Davis Road in the 1970s) to Fairview School, and then you could go east to Matanuska or west to Wasilla. The road was built to Matanuska. (Fran: it hooked into Trunk Road). Fairview Loop to Edlund was built, east to Hayfield, to Knik-Goose Bay, then Fairview Loop. (Fran: a farmers' to market loop). The Dinkles and Hansons built the Hanson Trail, a shortcut to Wasilla. LeRoi used to take it going to high school. It used to be a corduroy road, went across the railroad tracks, to Wasilla.

Cleve McDonald, a pilot for Alaska Airlines, owns the Mile 2 Airstrip. It was Larry Vandersloot who graded it and made it legal.

LeRoi had the Houston mail route from 1963 until 1972. On Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays he went from Wasilla to Big Lake, the Willow Post Office and boxes in between, Pittman-Schrock, Wasilla-Fishhook, part of Lakeview, Reed Lake Road, and back to Wasilla. He also delivered mail for Fairview Loop and Knik-Goose Bay as far as the Nike site, a 300-mile trip six days a week. He drove all of it. What was to become the Parks Highway at that time was called the Big Lake Road.

On Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays he delivered mail to Big Lake, Willow, north to Sunshine, Talkeetna, as far as the Big Susitna Bridge, where the road stopped. Then he went back to Willow, Pittman-Schrock, Wasilla-Fishhook Road, and Fairview Loop Road, the end of the route on those days. In 1953, there were only 75 people in Wasilla.

LeRoi's was a contracted position called a Star Route, then a Rural Route. It later became an HC, a Highway Contract. The homesteaders really appreciated the mail.

When the Big Su bridge was completed, the mail route went all the way to Trapper Creek and Peters Creek. People met him there with sled dogs and private planes that landed on the highway. They also came on snow machine. Then, LeRoi knew people and so he could pick them up. One time in Sunshine he had to assist a lady in removing her ring from a finger that she had injured.

His weirdest delivery was a hive of bees to Rosevear at sunny Knik. The coldest was almost 60 below at Kennerson's H&H grocery. H&H was built to feed the men working on building the Parks Highway.

LeRoi reviewed the names of homesteaders we had gotten from the BLM records for the City of Houston, Willow Community Council Area, and Susitna Community Council Area, and he told us about the ones he recognized from his days as a postman.

Sheep Creek Lodge. Robert Collopy worked on the railroad, and Grace Collopy ran the lodge that they owned.

Robert Coleman was a preacher at Kashwitna.
Kelly Lankford, Rose Palmquist's daughter, had sheep.

The Batchelors (George Ray and Wilbur Lee) lived at Houston. They were homesteaders.

Basil Bryant, who owned Houston Lodge, was a homesteader.

Clinton Duley was a homesteader. Rose Palmquist was married to him before.

Jasper Heath, a homesteader, was a preacher, and had a whole bunch of kids.

John Linnebur lived across from the Heaven homestead. He was married to a Bouwens girl from Palmer.

Thomas Nichols homesteaded up King Arthur Road.

Rose Palmquist homesteaded near the railroad, near the Duley homestead.

Margaret and Delbert Lee Smith live near the Big Lake junction.

Robert Vroman lived near the Big Lake junction. His wife is Natalie. He was one of the first assembly.

Homesteader Edward Wasey's wife is Jenny.

Helen White, White's Crossing. She helped start the Willow Carnival.

LeRoi knew Martha Wood and Howard Yates.

A road is named after Ralph Blankenship.

LeRoi recognized homesteaders Charles Chaney and Donel Chisum.

Robert Coleman is at Kashwitna; Robert Collopy was at Sheep Creek.

Dr. Freese (Leonard R.) was at the Methodist University.

Joel Heck was a school teacher in Willow, then Talkeetna, but LeRoi was not sure.

Perla Lafleur lived by Montana Creek.

LeRoi recognized the name Ralph Long, and thinks they were at Montana Creek.

Walter Spurlin was near Montana Creek. Later it became Sunshine.

Richard Yancey was up there somewhere in the Susitna area.

Willow Homesteaders

The Brocks (Charles and Russell) were north of Willow.

Dean and Terry Bunker are still in Willow. They brought in the first school buses and still have them. The son runs them.

Wilburt, Martha and Sherry Burrow live in Willow.

Jack Carl was associated with Willow Hardware.

Arledge Coleman was in Kashwitna; Tommy Covington was also there.

There are a lot of names on the Willow list that LeRoi doesn't recognize.

Some homesteaders were located up the mine road.

Gladiolus Getzlaff had a place on Paradise Lake.

Leaman and Zoe Hazel. Zoe was postmistress. Their homestead was just north of Willow. Leaman and his brother, Ardis, homesteaded next door to each other.

Forest Richie homesteaded in Willow, as well as Jay and Ted. It was a big family.

LeRoi has heard of Burl Murdock and Harold and James Nelson.

Walter Sellers was in Willow.

The Spains lived up Hatcher Pass Road (Willow Fishhook Road).

Chris Terry was a familiar name to LeRoi.

Milton Wetherington was a teacher in Willow, Wasilla and Big Lake. His picture is in the 1976 publication. The picture is from 1959.

Daniel Gioidano and his wife were well known. They also had Houston Lodge for awhile. He knew the Wallaces the best. Louise is still around. She's in her 80s.

Pat Gellen. There is a history on tape, 1970s.

LeRoi's uncle's place may have burned down. In 1969 the mink pens were still there. There are pictures of the place in the 1976 publication, also pictures of the Willow Post Office.

Mail came by truck; previously it had come by rail. Marlene Cottle had the contract to haul mail from the railroad.

The trail that took off from the Carle Wagon Trail went west to Evan Jones Strip Mine in Houston. It's now the Houston Dump. The Houston transfer Station is there now.

When the highway went through, the character of the area changed.

June Robinette had a homestead up Lucas Road. She was in vaudeville before coming to Alaska.

LeRoi's dad trapped up Eagle River canyon before they built Elmendorf. His dad was in World War I. His mom, Daisy, was a teacher in 1924, and they met in 1930. His dad was a miner and a trapper, and his mom and dad married in 1931.

Appendix 5

Interview with Emil Stancec

**Interview with Emil Stancec, Willow, at his homestead.
Interviewed by Pat McClenahan
July 8, 2009**

Emil is one of the last remaining original homesteaders in the Willow Community Council Area.

Emil's parents came from Yugoslavia to Pennsylvania as children. His mother came to the U.S. in 1906, was sent back to Europe for several years for school, then she came back in two or three years. His dad came to the U.S. in 1913 at the age of 15. He was sent over so he wouldn't be inducted into the military. He didn't speak English. They sent him to live with people who did speak English in Titusville, Pennsylvania. He was a water boy on the railroad. When Emil's parents married, they moved to Ohio.

Emil was born in McKeys Rocks, Pennsylvania, and grew up in Ohio on a farm. They moved to Ohio when he was two or three years old. During World War II he was inducted at the end of the war, and he spent 16 months in the service. He went to the Philippines, where he was in Baguio for one month, then in Manila. He was an engineer, and he drove a grader from Baguio to Manila, about 180 miles. He worked on the airstrip and roads in Manila for most of his stay there.

After the service, he read stories in popular sports magazines about Alaska. Russell Anabel, a popular Alaska writer who lived at Goose Creek, wrote stories about hunting and fishing. Emil came to Alaska at the end of May, 1948. He worked around Anchorage landscaping and pouring sidewalks for about three weeks. He applied to work for the Alaska Railroad in response to an advertisement, and requested that he be work stationed in Willow for the fishing. He's been in Willow ever since.

He worked for the railroad for about six and a half years from 1948 until about mid-1954. He quit in the summer, and he hunted and fished for a couple of years. With talk of statehood and the potential for less land being available with renewed interest in Alaska and new people coming in, he decided to homestead in Willow in 1957. About two months after he submitted his application he was able to move onto the property. Much of the land hadn't been formally surveyed, but often was paced for measure. That resulted in a number of overlapping claims, especially up the road from Emil's place, with the "59ers" homesteads.

The "59ers" arrived from Minnesota, Indiana and Michigan, some of them filing for homesteads on the road Emil's property is on. They came up to Alaska in caravans. Most of them stayed and homesteaded, in Willow or farther north. This was almost the end of the road at that time, so they had to come over the pass. They all came over in July and August when the pass was open.

Emil did field clearing and built a cabin. The clearing has since reforested itself. He trapped in winter, fished in the summer, and hunted in the fall. He trapped mink, marten, fox, coyotes, and beaver. He also took wolves. He planted oats and peas as a crop in order to prove up on his homestead. The crops grew so well that moose in the field couldn't be seen except for the movement of the vegetation. He harvested his crop and fed the hay to a friend's cow. The crop kept the cow all winter.

Emil's land is an old river bottom. With deep topsoil over well-draining gravel, it is fertile land. He and his brother, Frank Kos, used to have a big vegetable garden with cabbage, cauliflower, carrots, peas, lettuce, radishes, and potatoes. There is a lot of iron in the water on his place. He hauls water for drinking from a neighbor's place. His well is hand-dug and he is using surface water. When the water table gets high, he sometimes gets water in his basement.

He and his brother, Frank, had a small bulldozer, and they cleared the land for other homesteaders for four or five years, and Frank helped them plant oats, peas, and hay, the crops they needed to prove up their homesteads. Frank homesteaded on Long Lake.

Emil recognized the names of a lot of the other homesteaders on the list from the BLM records. His brother used to plant for a lot of them. The Giordannos homesteaded up the road from Emil. They had nine or ten children, and everybody called her Mom. Danny was her husband. She used to draw and paint. She pushed for establishment of the school.

The Bunkers were next door. They and Bill Friday all had kids. There are very few Willow residents on their original homesteads from that time period in Willow. Sonny Spain (Joe Spain, Junior) is still living on his original homestead. He was about 20 or 21 when he homesteaded. There were three or four other children, living about ten or eleven miles up the road Emil lives on. Another homesteader, Forest Richey, is still in Willow. He homesteaded on Willow Lake and had two or three children. The Fridays passed away. Bill Friday's daughter moved to Anchorage, and his son Randy lives in Willow, but not on his father's homestead. One issue with living in Willow was the difficulty in getting employment.

There were plans to move the state capitol to Willow Creek, and a lot of work was done on the planning, including the possibility of building a dam on Willow Creek. They drilled water wells to check the quality of the water in several places.

The Willow Creek airstrip was constructed in 1942. There may have been a railroad construction camp around Nancy Lake, but there were none around the Willow – Willow Creek area. Federal engineers rather than Army personnel were involved in construction of the railroad. Hand hewn ties, flattened on two sides,

were used in the construction. Construction of the railroad employed a lot of people.

Construction and opening of the Parks Highway brought a lot of people up to the Willow area, especially on weekends, for fishing. People started to look for land in the Willow area. Before the highway was built, people used the railroad, or used the pass road in the summertime.

The Army held maneuvers in the area in the 1950s (1955 – 1959). At that time the Houston Willow trail was developed all the way up to Willow. The army had a radar station above what is today Newman's Hilltop Services. Army personnel manning the station had a camp on one of the airstrip revetments until the late 1950s.

During the yearly Army maneuvers, they made many bulldozer trails and came with men, equipment, and trucks. A profusion of trails and roads were bulldozed north of Willow Creek north to Talkeetna. Many of the roads and trails used today follow the old Army trails. Emil has followed many of the old trails, and found that they left a lot of junk, including barrels full of gasoline, oil, and other things. Emil used the trails for trapping after the Army no longer used them, and has seen as many as 200 discarded barrels (many with oil and gasoline in them) that are probably still there. At that time it was all Federal land, but it probably belongs to the State or the Borough now.

The Army had a lot of equipment with them, and they stripped out roads two blades wide, which was 20 to 30 feet wide. They usually stayed on top of the frozen ground, but they punched through to muskeg in a couple of places and mired their vehicles.

Emil has a hunting cabin on Watana Lake. A friend of his has an airplane. He flew in and stayed at a trespass cabin on the lake. The government told him that he'd have to move the cabin or it would be burned down, so he was able to buy five acres of private land at the north end of the lake, and he and Emil moved the cabin and made improvements to it. They still fly up to go caribou hunting, to pick blueberries, and to fish for grayling.

Emil named a number of people who lived in the area but who were not homesteaders in the 1940s.

Note: Although Emil brought out a map that had a list of people's names on it, he had not yet plotted the locations of their places. He told me something about each one, though.

Hank Edwardson had a piece of land and lived up the road from him.

John McGregor had 40 acres.

Rodney Russell had a house where the Willow Trading Post is now. He trapped and had a couple of cabins he rented.

Homer Benson was a lineman for the Railroad.

Fred Everett had a 1930s homestead. The land was broken up and sold off.

Johnson had a house across from the depot. He would come up on weekends to fish.

Zoa Nichols married Hazel and became the postmaster.

Harvey Curren was a trapper and a commercial fisherman. He arrived around 1930. They trapped together.

George Sagan worked at the Willow Creek Mines. He cut mine props and trapped.

Hank Edwardson also cut mine props. He had horses, and he skidded logs with them.

Joe Blazek homesteaded in 1947. He drove a Model A from Iowa. After several years he moved to Anchorage.

John McGregor was a trapper who worked for the mines part time. He had a bad leg. He drove sled dogs to trap, and he had special accommodations on his sled because of his bad leg. He and Stevens trapped together, but he lived across the road from Stevens.

Henry DeJohn was a miner and a part time trapper. He had claims on Craigie Creek, and he had a cabin there. He built it into the hillside. After DeJohn was gone, Emil trapped out of that cabin one winter and found it to be warm and comfortable.

Nick Oskollkoff lived on the post office road, about halfway up the road. He was the only Native living in the immediate area. He was married and had a child. He worked on the railroad.

Mike Ardow was a Russian who had a large cabin on Nancy Lake. He had one or two cabins that he rented out. He met the train with a wheelbarrow to carry visitors' belongings in. Emil thinks he came in the 1930s. He had a lot of visitors, and was nice and friendly. Emil met him when he worked on the Railroad. He stopped in at Mike's place in the winter, and Mike fed him cooked lynx that he had trapped.

APPENDIX 6

Obituary and Articles for

Willow Resident Michael B. Ardaw

42 The Anchorage Times, Friday, May 12, 1978

Russian Mike Will Be At Lake

By BARBARA WOLD
Times Staff Writer

One of the first homesteaders at Nancy Lake, Michael B. Ardaw, also known as "Russian Mike," who owned and operated the Nancy Lake Marina, will be buried Saturday at Nancy Lake.

Ardaw died April 30 at the Anchorage Pioneers' Home.

A graveside service is planned for 10 a.m. Saturday at his Nancy Lake homestead, where he will be buried next to his friend, Herbert "Happy Jack" Smith, on a knoll overlooking the lake.

A potluck picnic will follow at the Nancy Lake Marina.

"Happy Jack" moved to the homestead around 1968, living in a trailer on the homestead until his death in 1972.

Those who knew Arbaw, also known as "the White Russian," describe him as very open and generous, a rugged individual, and one of the most colorful persons around.

The life history of Russian Mike prior to his Alaskan days is sketchy and varies from one friend to the next.

"The whole story of Mike is not going to be factual," Arliss Sturgulewski said, "because different people knew a little bit of Mike and he confided different parts of a very complete and colorful past to different people."

Mrs. Sturgulewski said she first met Russian Mike in 1959 when she and her family started going to Nancy Lake.

"He was a super person, someone very special and unique. There won't be another Mike," she said.

"I think Mike undoubtedly will be special to a whole generation of kids," Mrs. Sturgulewski said.

"He thought each of the kids were special and I think young people responded to that," she said.

Every spring it was a ritual to watch the ice go out at Nancy Lake with Mike which Mrs. Sturgulewski fondly remembers.

"The ice goes out rather late at Nancy Lake and we used to sit on the shore and watch while Mike and the kids took long poles and pushed the ice to get rid of it," she said.

And every year, Mrs. Sturgulewski said, the ice would take out Mike's docks, which "were precar-

ious at their best."

"He had a huge wooden mallet and he would be pounding his new docks and every year they would go," she said.

And, there were the annual Fourth of July picnics when everyone had gathered for bear spareribs until the bears moved on due to the increased population at the lake.

The picnic remained an annual affair, and after the bears left "it turned into a potluck affair and we used pork spareribs," she said.

According to records in the possession of another friend, Amos Johnson, Michael Arbaw was born on Jan. 10, 1892, in Siberia, Russia.

In 1914 he was volunteer on the Russian western front, served in the Self Defense Civilian Organization from 1917 to 1918, and served as an engineering officer in the Czarist Russian Army prior to the 1918 Russian Revolution.

During the Bolshevik Revolution in 1920 he fled Russia to India through Tibet.

Traveling on a steamer from China, he arrived in the United States in 1920 and was employed with the University of California recreating historic events for the National Parks Service.

Twenty years later, he came to Seward in 1940 under a one-year contract with the Army to do construction work.

He traveled to Anchorage by rail where he was assigned as a carpenter with one of the Army units building Fort Richardson.

Shortly after arriving in Anchorage, Ardaw performed his solo flight for his pilots license on Aug. 12, 1941, at Merrill Field.

In 1943 he bought his homestead at Nancy Lake from J. E. Wilson. The cabin on his homestead was the old roadhouse on the Talkeetna trail to Willow, which served as a rest stop for travelers.

Travelers, young and old, continued to stop and "Mike would meet the train in his Russian boots," said John Hale, former manager of the Alaska State Fair.

"He was a small man and was extremely energetic. He would put their things in a wheelbarrow and take it to the lake.

"He had a bunch of boats and old motors which he would loan," Hale

said, "and he did everything for nothing."

Everyone who went through there knew Mike and everyone who knew him loved him," Hale said.

Another friend, Amos Johnson, who met Mike in 1963 while looking for lake property at Nancy Lake, said "Mike was quite experienced at living off the land and ran a trap line at the lake."

"He was a friend of many and corresponded with people who kept their friendship with him over the years and he received cards from people all over the world sending Christmas greetings.

"That shows how well-liked he was," Johnson said.

Hale said young children and college students would visit Mike during summer vacation. "He would take care of them, feed them and correspond with them.

"Twenty years later they would write to him from all over the world," he said.

Hale said Ardaw told him he took the name Michael B. Ardaw from a telephone book in San Francisco right after he escaped from Russia.

Another longtime friend, Bill Waldron, who operates the Nancy Lake Marina, said the fear of being arrested was continuous. "right before the last couple of years he was worried about someone trying to hunt him down.

"As I understand it," Waldron said, "he was the only one in his family that was able to get out of Russia as far as he could tell."

Hale said Mike made no secret of his dislike of modern conveniences and that "he lived on his homestead using a lantern and cooking all his food on an old wooden stove."

"A friend once gave him an electric hotplate which he would use only in emergencies," he said.

Hale said Russian Mike was a protector of the environment. "He wouldn't let me cut down any trees for firewood," he said. "I had to dig fallen trees out from under the snow."

Hale said Ardaw seldom left his homestead but when he did a favorite place to visit was Kelly's Massage Parlor in Anchorage.

"He always liked to go to Kelly's for a steam bath," Hale said, and he even built a steam bath powered by

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e In Memories Of His Friends

a windbelt at his cabin.

His friends all had favorite stories about Mike and two of those stories were about his two pets, a moose and a black bear.

While out in the woods one day, Ardaw found a yearling moose which was suffering from a broken leg. Each day he worked with the moose, which he named "Willie," drawing the animal closer to his cabin.

Having won the confidence of Willie, Mike was able to set the broken leg.

However, Willie met an unfortunate end two years later when a friend who came to visit one day and shot the moose, unaware that it was Mike's pet.

The black bear, which actually ate and slept with Mike in his cabin, also met an unfortunate end.

One day while Mike was salmon fishing, he looked in the direction of his cabin and saw a cloud of white fluff coming from the entrance.

Arriving at the cabin he discovered the bear had shredded several old Army sleeping bags outdoors which he had torn up, making a bed outdoors to laze in the sun.

Losing his temper, Ardaw got his rifle and shot the bear dead.

Disaster struck in 1974 when a fire burned Mike's cabin to the ground, destroying almost all of his belongings, including numerous items he had brought from Russia and Manchuria.

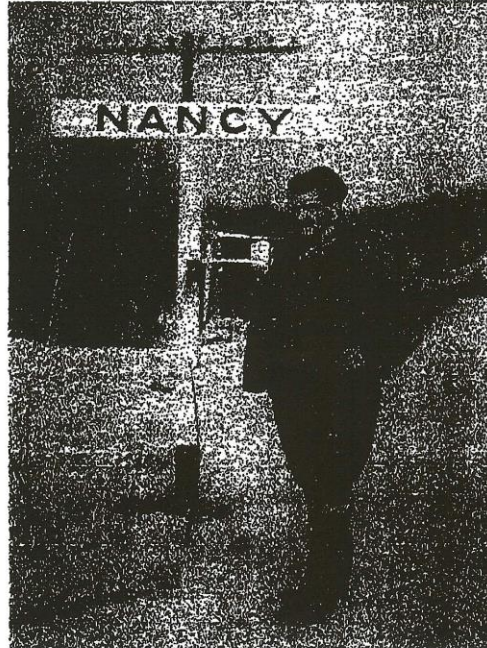
Following the fire, an Anchorage friend, Craig Taylor, who owned a summer place at Nancy Lake, provided a mobile home for Mike to live in.

Craig was the president of Craig Taylor Equipment Co. in Anchorage until he retired to California about a year ago.

Ardaw was honored in 1970 when the Willow Center Organization created the Mike Ardaw Award to be awarded annually to a member of the community who had done the most to aid others.

And, another honor, the designation of "Ardaw Lake," is currently underway by park rangers in the Nancy Lake area to rename one of the Milo Lakes in memory of Mike Ardaw, Waldron said.

In 1974 just before his cabin burned, Ardaw placed his 100-acre homestead in a trust fund which he



MICHAEL B. 'RUSSIAN MIKE' ARDAW
Nancy Lakes Best Loved Resident Now Rests

established to provide a place for people to enjoy the marina, boating, fishing and camping, Johnson said. Proceeds earned from the marina are to be used to provide scholarships for students at the University of Alaska.

A trust committee, composed of 10 members, was formed to advise him on his the disposition of his property and those members are responsible to see that the trust is carried out.

Honorary pallbearers will be Arthur Waldron, Craig Taylor, Ralph Nelson, Arliss Sturgulowski, Amos Johnson, Chuck Stiegele, Lew

Turner, Errol Simmons, Bob Dalton, Herb White, Bob Tuer, Jack Laub, Don Rust, Robert Hancey, John Gonzales, and John Johnson.

Pallbearers will be Bob Caprio, Carl Bonomo, James Clinton, Dr. Clinton Lillibridge, Bill Waldron, Chuck Stover, Gordon Barner, and Bob Lex.

Local arrangements were by the Witzleben Funeral Home.

Memorials may be directed to the Mike Ardaw Charitable Trust at the Alaska National Bank of the North, in care of Tom Duff, trust officer, 3301 C St., Anchorage.

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Mike Ardaw

*File of
Mike Ardaw
Character
Trust
Committee
Shannon
M. ...*

Mr. Ardaw was an immigrant who escaped from Russia through China in the 1920's. Eventually, after a highly adventurous, interesting, and creative life he arrived in Alaska, finally settling on Nancy Lake. Little of his early history is known except that he was from Siberian Russia and that his name had been changed to avoid being found. He was concerned that if located he would be liquidated! This experience transformed into a rare form of patriotism for his adopted nation. He developed a fierce love of; freedom, independence from government control, private ownership, private business; all tempered with a strong sense of obligation to neighbors, education and the environment. All values we associate with the American dream. The point is, this man, while a victim of a revolution that he survived, and based on that early experience his goals evolved; remarkably, they became precisely the goals that we as a nation and state promote, as well as individually appreciate. In the process of doing this he became an "unforgettable Character" to several generations of Alaskans.

He did not wish any agency of the government to receive title to his property. (He was aware of the dark side of collectivism.) This is the reason that his property was not deeded to the University, and has since been sold to private parties. Mr. Ardaw plainly wished his estate to be used for scholarships at the University of Alaska. This is why his estate is a trust, so it can maximize funds for scholarships.

He hoped his property including the Nancy lake marina would continue in his operational mode. To this time, they have. That mode was to conduct the marina as a service that promoted family use of the lake. This included a campground, cabins, dock, boats and fueling facility. To this, he added all nature of aid to users. The operation was of marginal financial viability, and it was marginal in terms of creature comfort. It was unique, only because of Mr. Ardaw's personality and his gift of love to his fellow man. He was not especially interested in maximizing monetary profit, and, in him, this did not seem to be a shortcoming.

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ARLISS STURGULEWSKI

FACSIMILE TRANSMITTAL SHEET

TO: <u>Roe Sturgulewski</u>	FROM: <u>A. Sturgulewski</u>
COMPANY: <u>R.S. & Alaska</u>	DATE: <u>9/1/08</u>
FAX NUMBER: <u>276-5609</u>	TOTAL NO. OF PAGES INCLUDING COVER: <u>4</u>
PHONE NUMBER:	SENDER'S REFERENCE NUMBER: <u>561-5286</u>
RE: <u>Milk Anden</u>	YOUR REFERENCE NUMBER:

URGENT FOR REVIEW PLEASE COMMENT PLEASE REPLY PLEASE RECYCLE

NOTES/COMMENTS: 1/12/08
 Here are a couple of things that might be useful. Ken Atkinson has written a good short about his Nancy Lake years dated 7/30/04 along with many comments about Mike. I have a call in to Ken to ask if it can be made available more broadly. If ok, I will send it at 11A. Also Mike established a scholarship in a. of mid July 2007 of up to \$50,000. Scholarship helps ~~fund~~ fund ~~young~~ young ~~people~~ people deal with some market problems. I can send information if

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You want want to benefit kids from area in certain fields
 Arliss

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