



# ANGOON AIRPORT

## ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT



### Angoon Airport Environmental Impact Statement Project Update: August 12, 2009

Since our last update, the Angoon Airport Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) Team has begun the next major phase of the project: expanding our understanding of project area resources and issues. As part of this process, we've taken several new, exciting steps that'd we like to share with you!

#### *Our fieldwork activities are almost done!*

- Our field crews are currently wrapping up resource data collection in Angoon. Fieldwork to date has consisted of:
  - ✓ Eagle, goshawk, and black oystercatcher nest surveys
  - ✓ Wetlands, wildlife, and vegetation studies
  - ✓ Cultural resource surveys
  - ✓ Geomorphology studies
  - ✓ Fisheries and stream (hydrology) surveys
  - ✓ Geotechnical studies
  - ✓ Visual resource studies
- Staff from National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) and the U.S. Forest Service (USFS) joined the cultural resource survey crew during their fieldwork in July in order to become more familiar with the resources in the project area. During our visit, we also conducted interviews with tribal elders and others in Angoon to assist in the identification of cultural resources that could be affected by any of the alternatives.
- Field crews have been taking photographs and video footage of their activities in the Angoon area. These multimedia files have been posted on the project website, [www.angoonairporteis.com](http://www.angoonairporteis.com), and will be augmented later in the calendar year with additional audio and text descriptions.
- The EIS Team continues to gather wind data from the three wind monitors installed in early 2008, including conducting additional noise monitoring this month.
- We will be posting fieldwork summaries on the project website this fall. We will send out an email announcement when the summaries are available.

#### *We've continued to engage agencies and public stakeholder groups.*

- The EIS Team visited Juneau and Angoon in early July to provide project updates to agencies, non-governmental organizations, the residents of Angoon, and other interested stakeholders. The Team met with USFS, NMFS, and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers; Southeast Alaska Conservation Council (SEACC) and Friends of Admiralty Island (FOA); and Kootznoowoo, Inc.; and provided legislative updates for Senator Kookesh and Representative Thomas.
- The Team also met with Angoon Mayor Albert Howard and Angoon Community Association (ACA) President Wally Frank, Sr. and interested ACA council members to provide a project update and to review tribal consultation processes and protocols. This outreach to the ACA is part of FAA's commitment to high quality government-to-government consultation with tribal entities throughout the EIS process.
- During our visit to Angoon, the EIS Team—accompanied by Admiralty Island Monument District Ranger Marti Marshall—held two public open house meetings to provide project updates and answer questions from Angoon residents.
- In addition to receiving great comments at our agency and stakeholder meetings and the open houses, the EIS Team conducted audio interviews with interested Angoon residents, stakeholder groups, and agency staff on their view of the project. We'll be posting these on our project website in the upcoming months.



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- We recently sent out a project newsletter to all stakeholders on our mailing list, to provide updates and share a personal message from our FAA project manager, Leslie Grey. Please let us know if you did not receive this, or if you know of someone who would like to be on our mailing list!

### *We're in the news!*

- Leslie Grey was interviewed by Alaska NPR radio as part of our media blitz prior to the fieldwork season. You can hear her interview on the Angoon Airport EIS project by going to our website at [www.angoonairporteis.com](http://www.angoonairporteis.com).
- In May, the *Juneau Empire* published a news story about our upcoming fieldwork activities.

### *Our scoping meetings and final scoping report are complete.*

- The EIS Team completed scoping meetings in October of 2008 and has summarized all comments as part of a final scoping report.
- A summary of scoping comments is available on-line, at our project website. The website also includes a summary of our subsistence findings from interviews with local Angoon residents.

### *We want your comments and questions.*

- We will be scheduling a webinar and/or meetings in Juneau and Angoon this fall or early winter to share the preliminary results of our fieldwork with all interested parties.
- You can also go to our project website today and sign up for email updates. The website has been updated and redesigned for improved ease of use. The website also contains a scoping meeting survey designed to gather feedback on the meetings we held last year.

**For more information on the Angoon Airport EIS**, visit [www.angoonairporteis.com](http://www.angoonairporteis.com). If you have questions regarding this project update or the project's progress, you may also contact FAA Project Manager Leslie Grey at (907) 271-5453 or [Leslie.Grey@faa.gov](mailto:Leslie.Grey@faa.gov).