



ANGOON AIRPORT

Environmental Impact Statement



A Message from the FAA

Hello! It's been a few months since our last newsletter and we've been hard at work finalizing the Draft EIS and responding to agency comments.

We're currently working with the State of Alaska and DOT&PF on ANILCA and Section 4(f)



resources. When that is resolved, we'll be able to release the Draft EIS to everyone for review and comment.

I want to personally thank all of the agencies, stakeholders, and members of the public who have offered their thoughts about the project and have provided information about the natural and cultural resources in the study area over the past several years. Your input has been invaluable in getting us to this point, and your involvement shows how much you all care about Angoon, this project, and the resources that are a very important part of your daily lives. I look forward to the opportunity to speak with you all again when we visit later this year for public meetings on the Draft EIS.

In the meantime, as always, my contact information is provided on the last page of this newsletter. Please feel free to contact me with any questions, concerns, or comments.

Best wishes,

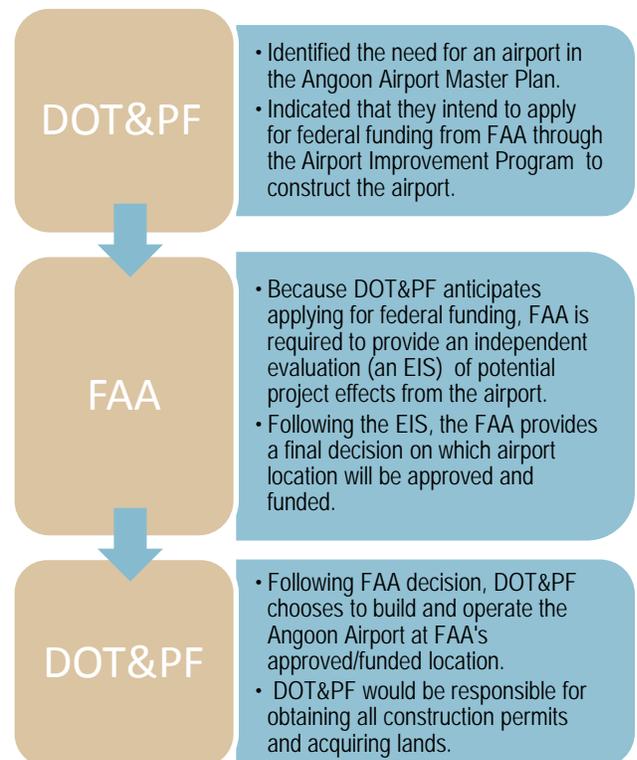
*Leslie Grey
FAA Alaskan Region Airports Division
Angoon Airport EIS Project Manager*

The Angoon Airport Decision Process

Over the past few months I've received emails asking how the decision-making process works for airport projects and who will make the final decision for the Angoon Airport. It is FAA's responsibility to make the final decision on the location for the proposed Angoon Airport because the FAA is the agency with the authority over airports and airways in the United States. FAA's alternative selection will be provided in the Final EIS and Record of Decision.

Once FAA has made this decision, it will be up to the DOT&PF (as the owner and operator of the airport) to design, construct, and operate the airport at the selected location.

FAA has identified a preferred alternative (see the Q&A section on the following page for more information on this topic). FAA and DOT&PF are currently coordinating on the fact that DOT&PF's proposed action is not FAA's preferred alternative. As we get more information, we'll be sure to keep the public and agencies informed.



Your Questions, Our Answers

Since our last newsletter, we've also received other questions on the Angoon Airport EIS project. These questions and our answers are shared below.

Q: Has FAA made a final decision regarding the airport location?

A: No, FAA's identification of a preferred alternative at this point in the process is not the final decision. The Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) and FAA guidance encourage us to identify the preferred alternative as soon as we have the justification to do so and to communicate to the public that we believe this alternative is preferable. However, we are fully evaluating and disclosing the impacts for all alternatives equally in the Draft EIS. The Draft EIS is expected to be out for public review and comment this summer. A final decision will not be made until all comments have been reviewed and considered by FAA.

Q: Are there any aviation differences between the alternatives?

A: There are some small aviation differences between the three locations based on instrument approach capability, minimums for visibility, and year-round availability. However, the FAA went through an extensive alternatives development process to ensure that any analyzed alternative would improve the availability and reliability of aviation service to and from Angoon. All three locations would double the current availability of air travel in and out of Angoon and all three locations meet or exceed FAA standards for the type of aircraft that would be using the proposed airport.

Stay Involved with the Project!

As always, you can submit comments via email to comments@angoonairporteis.com, or you can contact Leslie Grey, the FAA project manager, via her contact information below. We will be in touch with the community at important milestones in the project as well as at other times just to check in. We are also on Facebook and post short updates as often as possible. Join the conversation! www.facebook.com/AngoonAirportEIS



Do you have any community information, events, stories, or news that you'd like to share? If so, send it our way and we'll publish it in the next newsletter.

How to Contact Us

If you have any questions about the proposed project or the EIS, please contact Leslie Grey.



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