

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

BETWEEN

CHUGACH NATIONAL FOREST  
3301 C STREET  
ANCHORAGE, AK 99503

AND

HOMER SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT  
PO BOX 400  
HOMER, AK 99603

AND

KENAI FJORDS NATIONAL PARK  
PO BOX 1727  
SEWARD, AK 99664

AND

KENAITZE INDIAN TRIBE IRA  
PO BOX 988  
KENAI, AK 99611-0988

AND

KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH  
144 N. BINKLEY ST  
SOLDOTNA, ALASKA 99669

AND

NINILCHIK TRADITIONAL COUNCIL  
PO BOX 39070  
NINILCHIK, AK 99639

AND

PORT GRAHAM VILLAGE COUNCIL  
PO BOX 5510  
PORT GRAHAM, AK 99603

AND

SELDOVIA VILLAGE TRIBE  
PO DRAWER L  
SELDOVIA, AK 99663

AND

U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
THE RIVER CENTER  
514 FUNNY RIVER ROAD  
SOLDOTNA, AK 99669

AND

U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE  
REGION 7  
KENAI NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE  
1011 EAST TUDOR ROAD  
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99503-6199

AND

KENAI WATERSHED FORUM  
PO BOX 2937  
SOLDOTNA, AK 99669

I. INTRODUCTION:

Multiple governments and multiple agencies within these governments collect and compile a wide variety of data for a wide variety of reasons. Much of this data and the mapping products generated from the data is designed to help us anticipate our future needs as change occurs. Some of the elements of change are natural (fire, beetles, etc.) and some are due to changes in economics, population and demographics. Due to the fragmented geography of the various entities that compile this data, we are not getting the best and broadest overview that we could.

It has been demonstrated in other parts of the country that putting the various data sets together can be beneficial in helping to forecast future needs, and in some cases finding ways to more efficiently generate additional revenue. The ALCES (Alaska Landscape Cumulative Effects Simulator) model is one such model that has been useful in helping local and regional planners better anticipate future needs. On the Kenai Peninsula, future needs that are discussed on a regular basis include: transportation, oil and gas infrastructure, wildlife management, fisheries resources, impacts from the spruce bark beetles, gravel availability, residential housing needs and many others.

II. PURPOSE:

The purpose of this MOU is to establish a framework of cooperation between the agencies on a landscape cumulative effects model to be developed. The ALCES model has proven helpful in compiling the various data sets in a seamless manner that allow a wide variety of interests to run potential scenarios to see how various changes might affect economic and natural resources on a regional scale.

III. AGREEMENT:

This Memorandum of Understanding between the above-listed parties, hereinafter referred to as partners, reflects the general agreement to participate in the development of a cumulative effects model –

- Partners agree that there are benefits to compiling existing spatial data and combining such data with potential likely scenarios into a model for assessing the cumulative effects of current and projected land use practices on ecological, social and economic attributes of the Kenai Peninsula,
- The Kenai Watershed Forum will hire and retain a GIS specialist/ Project Coordinator throughout the project to work with partners and input appropriate data as agreed upon through working expert groups,
- At each partners discretion, partners agree to provide access to relevant public data to the Project Coordinator and to participate in expert working groups,
- Upon completion, each partner will receive a licensed copy of the modeling software and will have the opportunity to attend a users workshop to learn how to run modified scenarios,

To acknowledge this agreement does not:

- A. Limit agencies, local governments, tribes or organizations in the collection or use of data for purposes other than that of the cooperative effort;
- B. Obligate any party in the expenditure of funds, contributions to or providing staff support;
- C. Intend to conflict with federal, state, or local laws or regulations, with an understanding if there are conflicts, this agreement will be amended at the first opportunity to bring it into conformance with applicable laws or regulations; and
- D. Intend to enlarge or diminish the responsibilities or statutory authority of any of the signatories or any other party over the management or use of the model

IV. AGREEMENT TERM:

This MOU becomes effective and will remain in effect for three years from the date of signature, at which time all parties will reevaluate the need and desire to enter into any subsequent understanding. Once all parties have signed and returned this MOU, each party will receive a copy the signatory pages.

V. SPECIAL PROVISIONS:

A. The principal contacts for this MOU are:

1. Chugach National Forest  
Joe Meade  
Forest Supervisor  
3301 C Street  
Anchorage, AK 99503  
(907) 743-9500  
(907) 743-9476 (fax)
2. Homer Soil and Water Conservation District  
Chris Rainwater  
Chairman  
P.O. Box 400  
Homer, AK 99603  
(907) 235-8177
3. Kenai Fjords National Park  
Anne Castellina  
Superintendent  
P.O. Box 1727  
Seward, AK 99664  
(907) 224-7500
4. Kenaitze Indian Tribe  
Brenda Trefon  
Program Director  
P.O. Box 998  
Kenai, AK 99611-0988  
(907) 283-3633 ext.241  
(907) 283-3052 (fax)
5. Kenai Peninsula Borough  
Max Best  
Planning Director  
144 N. Binkley St.  
Soldotna, AK 99669

(907) 262-4441  
(907) 262-1892 (fax)

6. Ninilchik Traditional Council  
Bruce Oskoloff  
Environmental Director  
P.O. Box 39070  
Ninilchik, AK 99639  
(907) 567-3313  
(907) 567-3308 (fax)
7. Port Graham Village Council  
Violet Yeaton  
Environmental Coordinator  
P.O. Box 5568  
Port Graham, AK 99603  
(907) 284-2227  
(907) 284-2222 (fax)
8. Seldovia Village Tribe  
Micheal Opheim  
P.O. Drawer L  
Seldovia, AK 99663  
(907) 234-7898  
(907) 234-7637 (fax)
9. U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
Phil North  
Aquatic Ecologist  
The River Center  
514 Funny River Road  
Soldotna, AK 99669  
(907) 260-4872  
(907) 260-5992 (fax)
10. U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Region 7  
Kenai National Wildlife Refuge  
Robin West  
Refuge Manager  
2139 Ski Hill Road  
P.O. Box 2139  
Soldotna, AK 99669  
(907) 260-2815  
(907) 262-3599 (fax)

11. Kenai Watershed Forum  
Robert Ruffner  
Executive Director  
PO Box 2937  
Soldotna, AK 99669  
(907) 260- 5449  
(907) 260- 5412 (fax)

In Witness Whereof, the parties have caused this Memorandum of Understanding to be executed as of the date of last signature below:

CHUGACH NATIONAL FOREST

BY: Richard E. Navy  
for JOE MEADE  
TITLE: FOREST SUPERVISOR  
DATE: 3-9-05

HOMER SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

BY: [Signature]  
TITLE: Chairman  
DATE: 12/09/04

KENAI FJORDS NATIONAL PARK

BY: [Signature]  
TITLE: SUPERINTENDENT  
DATE: 5/11/05

KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH

BY: Dale Bagley  
TITLE: Mayor  
DATE: Dale J Bagley

KENAITZE INDIAN TRIBE

BY: *Aleta M. Rogge*  
TITLE: *Executive Director*  
DATE: *01/06/05*

NINILCHIK TRADITIONAL COUNCIL

BY: *Richard A. Jensen*  
TITLE: *President*  
DATE: *02/04/05*

PORT GRAHAM VILLAGE COUNCIL

BY: *Pat Nann*  
TITLE: *chief*  
DATE: *10-14-04*

SELDOVIA VILLAGE TRIBE

BY: *Crystal Koller*  
TITLE: *CEO*  
DATE: *3-15-05*

Signature continuation page for ALCES model MOU

U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

BY: Marcia J. Coates

TITLE: DIRECTOR, ALASKA OPERATIONS

DATE: 9/2/04

U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE, REGION 7  
KENAI NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE

BY: John J. West

TITLE: Refuge Manager

DATE: 12/21/04

KENAI WATERSHED FORUM

BY: Paul

TITLE: Executive Director

DATE: 7/28/04