



# SUSITNA-WATANA HYDRO

## Meeting Notes Geomorphology Study Technical Workgroup Teleconference April 5, 2013

**LOCATION:** Teleconference Meeting

**TIME:** 9:00 am – 11:30 am (AKST)

**SUBJECT:** 2012 Geomorphology study reports/results

**Goal:** To provide an overview of the 2012 Geomorphology study results that were not presented at the March 28, 2013 TWG meeting due to time constraints.

**ATTENDEES:** Bill Fullerton, Bob Mussetter, Lyle Zevenbergen, Renee Vandermause (Tetra Tech); LeAnn Hansen, Greg Auple, Chris Holmquist-Johnson (USGS); Mike Buntjer, Bob Henszey (USFWS); Eric Rothwell (NMFS); Joe Klein (ADFG); Betsy McGregor (AEA); Becky Long (CSDA)

AEA has committed to a series of quarterly meetings for the next two years of study. These meetings are to provide an updated status of the study program. After running out of time to finish the 3/28/13 presentations, today was scheduled to cover the remaining three geomorphology studies' presentations. The following meeting notes are to capture any significant discussion/information in addition to the materials provided on the Project website (<http://www.susitna-watanahydro.org/>). The meeting agenda and materials are available under the "previous meetings" tab (link provided under the meetings tab) on the Project website. Today's presentations are under the 3/28/13 meeting header and include:

- "Synthesis of the 1980s Lower Susitna River Segment Aquatic Habitat Information",
- "Mapping of Geomorphic Features within the Middle and Lower Susitna River Segments from 1980s and 2012 aerials", and
- "Mapping of Aquatic Macrohabitat Types at Selected Sites in the Middle and Lower Susitna River Segments from 1980s and 2012 Aerials".

To receive regular updates of new materials posted on the Project website, one can be added to the List Serve emailing list. Please contact Justin Crowther at [jcrowther@aidea.org](mailto:jcrowther@aidea.org) or subscribe using the link provided on the Project website home page.

### **Mapping of Geomorphic Features within the Middle and Lower Susitna River Segments from 1980s and 2012 Aerials Presentation – Bob Mussetter**

Bob Mussetter presented the PowerPoint summarizing the 2012 Technical Memorandum (TM) for the Mapping of Geomorphic Features within the Middle and Lower Susitna River Segments from 1980s and 2012 Aerials study. This TM and respective appendices are available on the Project website under the Documents tab as a 2012 Environmental Studies document.

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- Joe Klein asked if the additional 80 Middle River transects will be established in the upcoming field season. Bill Fullerton confirmed that the data collection would occur in 2013 and clarified that approximately 40 of the transects are in the Lower River between PRM 80 and PRM 30.
- Becky Long asked how the geomorphology study is going to incorporate FERC's recommendations to the Study Plan Determination at the Three River confluence and other locations in the development of the upcoming TMs with further suggestions from the TWG meetings. Betsy McGregor clarified that the purpose of the meeting was limited to finishing the presentations of the 2012 Tech Memos that were not covered during the March 28 meeting. AEA is currently reviewing FERC's April 1, 2013 Study Plan Determination recommendations.
- The Y-axis on slides 36-38 should read ft<sup>2</sup> rather than ft<sup>3</sup>.

## **Mapping of Aquatic Macrohabitat Types at Selected Sites in the Middle and Lower Susitna River Segments from 1980s and 2012 Aerials**

- Eric Rothwell finds that it would be very useful to use the images from the aquatic macrohabitat presentation pertaining to the Tributary and Tributary mouth habitat types in order to explain the differentiation between the two classifications. Bill concurred and would make the slides available.

## **Synthesis of the 1980s Lower Susitna River Segment Aquatic Habitat Information**

Bill Fullerton presented a PowerPoint summarizing the 2012 Synthesis of the 1980s Lower Susitna River Segment Aquatic Habitat Information Study TM. This TM and associated appendices are available on the Project website under the Documents tab as a 2012 Environmental Studies document.

- Joe Klein commented that the effort provided useful overall info but cautioned not to take the conclusions too far, especially since more detailed studies are forthcoming. Bill Fullerton agreed and indicated the studies are for informing development of 2013/14 studies which evaluation and conclusions on conditions in the Lower River will be based.

## **General Discussion**

- Eric Rothwell asked that Bill Fullerton attend the 4/26/2013 IFS teleconference. Eric Rothwell finds that the geomorphology information and mapbooks are valuable for other studies. Bill Fullerton confirmed his plans to attend.