

**Attachment 8e
2014 Cultural Resources Field
Survey Summary**

2014 CULTURAL RESOURCES FIELD SURVEY SUMMARY

HDR Alaska, Inc.

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1. INTRODUCTION

The Alaska Gasline Development Corporation (AGDC) contracted with HDR in April 2014 to identify and complete cultural resource survey along a 200 foot wide corridor traveling the main-line Alaska Stand Alone Pipeline (ASAP) alignment and Fairbanks Lateral alignment. To identify areas for survey, HDR completed a review of relevant reports, relying heavily on the 2013 and 2014 Data Gap Analysis previously prepared for the ASAP project (AGDC 2014), as well as the Alaska LNG project Reports prepared by NLURA for ExxonMobil between 2012-2014, and information contained in the Alaska Heritage Resources Survey (AHRIS) database. In combination with review of relevant cultural resources data and with the assistance of geospatial data analysts, HDR also reviewed extensive datasets including wetlands, anadromous fish streams, topography, satellite imagery, soils and geology, and land use/land ownership of the alignment and adjacent areas, to determine focused areas for survey (see Appendix A for the mapbook).

2. SURVEY METHODS

Once survey areas were identified, HDR prepared a research design and field protocol for the 2014 survey program. Two levels of survey were included in the research design: Level II (reconnaissance) and Level III (pedestrian intensive). Reconnaissance survey generally consisted of helicopter overflights or windshield survey via automobile. During reconnaissance survey, the helicopter traveled low and slow enough to visually inspect survey area terrain for indications of cultural resources, such as historic cabin remains, or high probability landforms. Automobile assisted reconnaissance (or "windshield" type survey) was completed when the visual inspection of the study area from the roadside was possible, providing a basis for identification of higher potential areas for pedestrian survey (including areas with historic built environment resources). Pedestrian spot checks were incorporated into reconnaissance survey as appropriate and, whenever possible, survey crew members conducted informal interviews of local residents, business owners, pilots, bear guards and others to gather background information on potential historic and archaeological sites in the survey areas.

Level III pedestrian intensive survey consisted of systematic parallel pedestrian transects, spaced at no greater than 15 meter intervals and discretionary excavation of sub-surface tests in areas of greatest potential. Because another survey effort was being conducted near many of the AGDC/HDR survey areas, if an area appeared to have been tested recently by another field effort, subsurface testing was not conducted and the previous tests were noted for additional research during reporting. Additionally, for previously identified AHRS sites with buried deposits, no testing was conducted unless AHRS documentation was outdated and in need of updating. At the request of the BLM, no sub-surface testing was conducted in the area of existing AHRS sites on BLM land. The goals of subsurface testing were to delineate site boundaries and gather information sufficient to characterize the general nature and approximate age of sites. Tests were excavated using hand tools (i.e. shovel and/or trowel) and will measured no larger than 50cm x 50cm, and dug down to sterile soil or to a 1m depth, whichever came first. Excavated material was screened through ¼ inch mesh and backfilled upon completion of test.

3. SURVEY RESULTS

HDR conducted surveys from late May to late September, 2014. Field surveys were conducted on State lands (not including Alaska Railroad Corporation lands, Mental Health Trust lands, or University lands) under Archaeological Field Permit no. 2014-16, acquired June 10, 2014. Field surveys were conducted on Bureau of Land Management (BLM) lands under ARPA permit no. AA-093879, acquired July 10, 2014 and fieldwork authorizations from the Central Yukon and Anchorage field offices.

HDR completed survey of a total of 457 miles of the alignment corridor. Of this total, 381 miles of alignment were surveyed at the reconnaissance level (Level II), and 77 miles were surveyed at the pedestrian intensive level (Level III). Shovel tests conducted were all negative, and no cultural materials were collected for curation during the 2014 AGDC cultural resources survey.

A total of twenty eight previously undocumented cultural resource sites were identified as a result of the survey. Six of these sites are Athabaskan prehistoric or protohistoric sites containing cache pits including several sites with possible house pits. All of the six sites were situated near streams and creeks with anadromous fish runs. Five sites consisted of culturally modified trees (CMTs), usually modified by having bark stripped or girdled from low to mid trunk. Two historic trapping sites were found; both consisting of marten, ermine, or other small weasel traps rigged to trees. A collapsed historic log building was found, and the remaining sites are characterized by historic earthwork for purposes unknown. These features included road ways and trails, dozer trenching with push piles, berms, and pits. Often 55 gallon drums, cans, and other historic debris were found in the vicinity of these features. At one site, an abandoned 1950s or 1960s pickup truck was found next to a dirt road feature.

Table 1. List of Sites Identified and Recorded During Survey

AHRS NUMBER	FIELD NUMBER	DESCRIPTION	DATE IDENTIFIED
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AHRS NUMBER	FIELD NUMBER	DESCRIPTION	DATE IDENTIFIED
FAI-02296	AGDC-06302014-01	A log cabin located in a black spruce muskeg forest	6/30/2014
FAI-02297	AGDC-07022014-01	A historic road running approximately east west that connects to Old Murphy Dome Road	7/2/2014
FAI-02298	AGDC-06292014-01	A historic site consisting of pits, ditches, and mounds (likely mining related),.	6/29/2014
FAI-02299	AGDC-07112014-1	A historic site consisting of a trench, a metal drum, iron rebar, and galvanized steel wire located near Rock Creek	7/11/2014
FAI-02300	AGDC-071114-02	A historic site consisting of earthwork, four 55 gallon drums, and two steel food cans.	7/11/2014
HEA-00599	AGDC-070914-1	A historic dirt and gravel road	7/9/2014
LIV-00746	AGDC-081214-2	Culturally modified birch trees	8/12/2014
LIV-00747	AGDC-081214-4	Culturally modified birch trees	8/12/2014
PSM-00595	AGDC-080214-2	Historic ditch.	8/2/2014
SAG-00106	AGDC062614-01	Cache pits distributed along a terrace edge	6/26/2014
TAL-00186	AGDC-061314-01	Cache pit	6/13/2014
TAL-00187	AGDC-061414-01	16 cache pits along the north bank of Byer's Creek	6/14/2014
TAL-00188	AGDC-061313-02	Cache pits and three small trench features along both banks of a small unnamed creek	6/13/2014
TAL-00191	AGDC-082314-1	A historic dozer trench with push pile	8/23/2014
TAL-00192	AGDC-082314-2	A historic trapping site	8/23/2014
TAL-00193	AGDC-082314-4	A historic site consisting of two dirt roads or trails, and a 1950s or 1960s era pickup truck with a wood plank bed and Alaska license plate 7139AR	8/23/2014
TAL-00194	AGDC-082614-1	A historic dozer trench with push pile	8/26/2014
TAL-00195	AGDC-082814-1	A historic trapping site	8/28/2014
TAL-00196	AGDC-082814-2	A historic site consisting of a large dozer trench with an associated berm and push pile, and a 55 gallon drum.	8/28/2014
WIS-00432	AGDC-080314-2	A historic site consisting of ditches and cut trees	8/3/2014
WIS-00433	AGDC-080314-4	A historic camp site and related debris, with a nearby heavy equipment trackline	8/3/2014
Not Yet Assigned	AGDC-090814-1	Culturally modified birch trees	9/8/2014
Not Yet Assigned	AGDC-090814-2	Culturally modified birch trees	9/8/2014
Not Yet Assigned	AGDC-091014-2	A large cache pit or possible house pit feature eroding out of the north bank of Fish Creek and three small cache pits farther removed into the forest	9/10/2014
Not Yet Assigned	AGDC-091214-2	Two possible house pits and four cache pits situate on top of a terrace overlooking the north bank of Willow Creek	9/12/2014
Not Yet Assigned	AGDC-091214-4	Ten culturally modified birch trees	9/12/2014

Appendix A

Mapbook of 2014 Survey Areas and Survey Conducted Previously for the ASAP Project