"BUILDING AND PRESERVING ALASKA'S FUTURE"

COMPENSATORY MITIGATION Alaska Miners Association

US Army Corps

of Engineers

David Hobbie, Regional Regulatory Division Chief

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers – Alaska District November 7, 2018

"The views, opinions and findings contained in this report are those of the authors(s) and should not be construed as an official Department of the Army position, policy or decision, unless so designated by other official documentation."

So, how much mitigation should we require?



ALASKA

No offsets, no problem as Army Corps OKs wetland projects

Ariel Wittenberg, E&E News reporter Published: Tuesday, May 29, 2018

The Army Corps of Engineers is greenlighting development in thousands of acres of Alaskan wetlands without requiring companies to offset resource damage, according to an E&E News analysis of five years of Clean Water Act permits.





2

What is the right mitigation ratio?





3

Bright line or no bright line?





4

Roles and Responsibilities

• U. S. Army Corps of Engineers

- Makes final determination of:
 - Appropriate amount and type of compensatory mitigation
 - Compliance with Corps regulations, e.g. public interest review
 - Compliance with 404(b)(1) analyses
- Approves compensatory mitigation plans
- Chairs Interagency Review Teams (IRTs) and oversees third-party compensatory mitigation
- EPA, FWS, NOAA
 - Comments on public notices
 - Participates on IRTs





http://www.poa.usace.army.mil/Missions/Regulatory/Mitigation-Section-Homepage/

2018 Mitigation Thought Process

Alaska District Compensatory Mitigation Thought Process

Record in Spinster, 1918

The Department of the Army, Corps of Engineers (Corps) Regulatory Program is responsible for identifying the requirement for compensatory mitigation on a case by case basis during permit review. The Corps implementing regulations and subsequent guidance to the field up to and including the 2008 Mitigation Rule require flexibility in determining requirements for compensatory mitigation.

Download 2018 Mitigation Thought Process





6

US Army Corps of Engineers.



QUESTIONS?

David Hobbie, Regional Regulatory Division Chief Alaska District U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

"Building and Preserving Alaska's Future"