

HARZA-EBASCO

Susitna Joint Venture
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Letter from APA to USFWS 8/13/84

Pergrine Falcon Nesting Survey



IN REPLY REFER TO:
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United States Department of the Interior

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FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
1011 E. TUDOR RD.
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99503
(907) 276-3800

AUG 17 1984

ALASKA POWER AUTHORITY

AUG 13 1984

Jon S. Ferguson, Project Manager
Alaska Power Authority
334 W. 5th Avenue
Anchorage, Alaska 99501

Dear Mr. Ferguson:

This letter acknowledges receipt of your July 24, 1984, analysis of historic peregrine falcon nesting habitat along the proposed Susitna Hydroelectric Project Transmission Line. Your analysis summarized the results of a June 11, 1984, peregrine nesting survey along the Tanana River (Fairbanks to Nenana) as well as the meeting that followed on June 26, 1984.

We concur with your findings that the only historic peregrine falcon nest site within 2 miles of the proposed transmission line occurs at the location described as Nenana Bluff 2 (FWS #T-19.614.0 KM). This nest site, which has not been known to be active since the early 1960's, lies approximately 1.4 miles from the proposed power line. As this nesting location lies greater than a mile from the proposed activity, only those restrictions commonly recommended for application within 2 miles of nest sites (but greater than 1 mile) would apply. Activities which may be restricted include the use of explosives, rock quarrying or any activity which would generate noise levels loud enough to discourage prospecting peregrines from reoccupying the site or disturb birds attempting to nest there. These restrictions would not apply during the non-nesting season, August 31 - April 15, or during years when a survey confirmed that the site was unoccupied.

We greatly appreciate the thorough analysis you provided, and we are in agreement with your understanding of the recommended restrictions regarding transmission line construction, operation and maintenance. Please advise us if we can be of any further assistance.

Sincerely,

Dennis Money
Chief, Endangered Species

cc: Corin, WAES

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