

Civil Works Review Board (CWRB)  
Project Summary

Project Reviewed: Port Lions, AK

Date of CWRB: 26 January 2006

CWRB Members: MG Johnson (DCG); MG Riley (DCW); Tom Waters (Planning CoP); Don Basham (Engineering and Construction CoP); and Jerry Barnes (LRD RIT Leader).

Key Participants:

HQUSACE: CWRB Members, Lloyd Pike (POD RIT Leader), Office of Water Project Review (Robyn Colosimo, Jay Warren, Steve Cone, Robert McIntyre), Policy and Policy Compliance Division (Raleigh Leef), Office of Counsel (Kristen Hite) & POD RIT (Gil Kim, Kim Smith).

POD (VTC): Col Scrocco, Linda Hihara-Endo, Gene Ban

POA: Col Gallagher, Pat Fitzgerald, Brian Harper

POA (VTC): Steve Boardman, Carl Borash, Alan Jeffries, Lizette Boyer

OASA(CW): Doug Lamont

OMB: Dick Feezle

Sponsor (VTC): Ruth Carter (Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities)  
Mayor of Community of Port Lions (VTC): Marvin Bartleson, Sr.

OWPR Recommendation: Approval of the report for release for State and Agency review.

CWRB Decision Made: Approval of release of the report for State and Agency review and filing in the Federal Register.

Vote: Unanimous.

Key Issues/Questions Raised by the CWRB (in no particular order):

1. The district was asked why the existing breakwater was placed in the location it is now and why it did not protect the harbor as originally designed. It was explained that the study that formulated and designed the existing breakwater was performed in the in the 1970s and that there is currently more information on the effects of waves generated from the southwest than was available when the original project was studied, designed, and constructed.
2. OASA(CW) asked what modifications are being made to the existing breakwater. The district explained that only an extension of the length is required. Results of modeling indicated that no additional height or change in cross-section is required.
3. The district was asked to elaborate on the types of environmental concerns identified and how it was determined that impacts were minimized. The types of environmental concerns were identified as maintaining adequate water circulation and the potential

for increased ice accumulation within Settler Cove. Modeling was used to formulate the project so that it would minimize impacts on circulation and ice accumulation.

4. District was asked to describe the types of modeling used and if they had a high degree of confidence in the results of the modeling. In addition, since the prior project did not work if the district was confident that the proposed project would function as designed. The district responded that they used the results of modeling originally performed by WES/ERDC and performed additional modeling of circulation and waves and that they had a high degree of confidence that the modeling used accounted for all waves impacting the project, especially those generated from the southwest. They also stated they were confident that the proposed project would function as designed.
5. The district was asked to explain how they convinced the Mayor that the modeling was accurate. The district stated that they traveled to the Community of Port Lions and discussed rationale with community one on one. The Mayor indicated that the info provided by the district was convincing.
6. District was asked if there was any problems with accretion in the harbor and was any dredging of the Federal channel required. The district responded that this was a naturally self cleaning harbor and that no dredging was required.

Other Issues of Note:

1. Mayor Marvin Bartleson described the safety issues (loss of lighting, etc.) and added expenses (extra time and extra fuel costs) that local operators could incur if recommended plan not implemented. He estimates that in approximately two years all of the remaining floats/docks will be damaged and not usable.
2. Ruth Carter, Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities, indicated that there is strong support for the project and the non-Federal funding has been requested in the State budget.
3. Tom Waters asked when did the Corps begin requirement to use Centers of Expertise for performance of ITR. The response was that guidance addressing this requirement was issued in May 05 and based on this guidance this project was "grandfathered". Tom Waters indicated that every attempt should be made to use Centers of Expertise to perform ITRs even if the current guidance may grandfather the project.
4. Gerald Barnes indicated that use of micromodeling technology would be ideal for these types of projects versus use of larger mathematical models.
5. MG Johnson asked if we need a way to compute value of donated labor. The general response was that we do not have a standard operating procedures for calculating donated labor. Development of this procedure should be considered in the future.
6. After a discussion of some benefits that had been underestimated and an overestimation of O&M costs, Don Basham commented that the report should reflect the best BCR possible since the project will have to compete in the budget process. The general response was that OWPR had made the comments and it was the district's choice to make those changes. The district stated they would consider these comments and determine the extent of changes to make to the report.

Attachments: Powerpoint handouts (including District Engineer, Division Engineer, and Office of Water Project Review briefs); Project Summary; DE Transmittal Letter; Draft Chief of Engineers Report.