

STATE OF ALASKA

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

DIVISION OF PARKS AND OUTDOOR RECREATION

OFFICE OF HISTORY AND ARCHAEOLOGY

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3120-6 DNR/RD-RSA (RS2477 & Navigable Waters: Coldfoot-Chandalar Trails History)

January 21, 2007

John F. Bennett, Chief
Right-of-Way Section
Alaska Department of Transportation & Public Facilities
2301 Peger Road
Fairbanks, Alaska 99709-5399

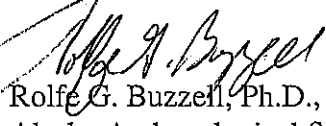
Dear Mr. ~~Bennett~~ ^{John}:

Enclosed is a CD-Rom with a digital copy in PDF format of the report entitled *History of the Caro-Coldfoot Trail (RST 262) and the Coldfoot-Chandalar Trail (RST 9)*. The report is Office of History and Archaeology Report Number 117. It was prepared under a Reimbursable Services Agreement between this office and the Public Access and Assertion Defense Section of the Division of Mining, Land and Water. You can print as many copies of the report as you want from the CD-ROM disk.

The report is an in depth history of mining and trail use in the Coldfoot-Caro-Chandalar areas from the 1890s to the present. The study was conducted in support of litigation between the State of Alaska and the U.S. Department of Interior, Bureau of Land Management over Right-of-Ways on historic trails and roads originating from Section RS 2477 of the 1867 Mining Act (43U.S.C Section 932, repealed with saving clause). The parties to this litigation reached a settlement, which was agreed to by U.S. District Court Judge Ralph R. Beistline on January 9, 2007, in which the State of Alaska has received a public right-of-way 60 feet wide along the common routes of the Coldfoot to Caro Trail (RST 262) and the Coldfoot to Chandalar Lake Trail (RST 9).

Thank you for allowing me to do research in your office files and for generously sharing the time of members of your staff during my research last summer. The information I obtained from your files made a very valuable contribution to our knowledge about the Coldfoot-Chandalar area. If you have any questions, please contact me at (907) 269-8716.

Sincerely,


Rolfe G. Buzzell, Ph.D., Historian
Alaska Archaeological Survey

Enclosure