

Alaska Designs

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The Official Newsletter of the Alaska Professional Design Council

Invitation to Attend

APDC LLC Fly-In Set for February 9-10, 2016

The APDC Legislative Liaison Committee (LLC) Fly-In to Juneau will be Tuesday and Wednesday, February 9 - 10, 2016.

The Fly-In will begin in Juneau with an organizational kick-off meeting at 10am Tuesday, and end with a recap session at 5pm Wednesday to feed back to John Walsh and other attendees of meetings with legislators.

The positions proposed to be addressed this year are a) Qualifications Based Selection, b) University of Alaska Engineering Buildings, "What is Next?" c) Infrastructure (funding for deferred maintenance and repair), d) Education and Training (STEM, Technical Programs), e) Mentoring, and f) State Funded Transportation Program.

APDC LLC invites your participation in the Juneau Fly-In.

If you plan to attend, please contact the office of APDC lobbyist John Walsh in Juneau by sending an email to jmwalshco@gci.net or by phone (586-9059) of your intent to attend. To assist in making appointments, please indicate who your legislators are (house and senate). You may meet with your legislators or their staff if the legislator is not available.

An alternate contact concerning questions or plans to attend is APDC LLC Chair, Dale Nelson, email dale@denelsonak.com or cell number, 947-1855.

Send RSVP and Legislator Information to John Walsh, APDC LLC Lobbyist, Office Phone 586-9059, Email jmwalshco@gci.net. ❖



PDC & R&M Juneau Principals D. Bogren, M. Emerson, M. Story, & M. Pusich join forces. (Judy Patrick Photography)

PDC Engineers and R&M Engineering Join Forces

Juneau, AK – January 1, 2016 – This new year brings exciting news! PDC Inc. Engineers (PDC) announces it has joined forces with R&M Engineering Inc. located in Juneau (R&M Juneau). R&M Juneau is a 17-person firm that offers civil, structural, and geotechnical engineering; as well as survey, special inspections, and materials testing (soils, concrete, and asphalt pavement). Michael Story and Mark Pusich will maintain their leadership positions as Principals and all other staff will continue in their same capacity

Mike Story, Structural Principal who will continue to manage the Juneau office said, "By joining forces, R&M Juneau's clients will have the benefit of PDC's additional capabilities with mechanical, electrical, fire protection, and environmental

engineering; commissioning; sustainability; and planning/GIS. This is

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PDC Engineers & R&M Engineering Join Forces

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in addition to substantially increasing staff capacity in our traditional disciplines of civil and structural engineering, as well as land survey. PDC airport planning and design, along with their urban transportation expertise will also be an added benefit for our Southeast clients and teaming partners."

Royce Conlon, PDC's President said, "Southeast Alaska's diversity of clients, project types, and market sectors fits well with PDC's multi-discipline engineering capabilities. Our clients will benefit from R&M's experienced staff, geographic location, as well as adding R&M Juneau's capabilities in geotechnical engineering, materials testing (soils, concrete, and asphalt pavement), and special inspection services. This new location will help strengthen our existing relationships and help support the infrastructure needs of all of the communities located in Southeast Alaska."

"Additionally, PDC's transportation group has considerable airport and utilities experience to augment R&M's Southeast experience in these sectors. Our staff also brings their considerable street and highway experience for many similarly-sized communities as Juneau," Conlon added.

Story said, "Since 1969, R&M Juneau has provided its clients with comprehensive services from its office located at 6205 Glacier Highway. All of our 17 staff members are staying on in their same roles and we anticipate a seamless integration of the firms. Our office space will accommodate additional staff as the firm continues to grow."

Conlon added, "Planning and design is about serving communities, not just producing construction documents. Service is best provided when we have an in-depth knowledge of

our clients and their challenges. This kind of knowledge isn't acquired from a distance, and together the R&M Juneau and PDC integration will provide our client's with local knowledge leveraged with a full service, multi-disciplined one-stop shop. By adding additional staff capacity and services, this will be a "win-win" for both our clients and our staff."

Mark Pusich, Civil Principal in the Juneau office said, "Our two firms have a long history of teaming together and will continue to build on our solid working relationship to benefit our clients. Over the past two years alone, we have jointly completed design and construction administration services for several

notable projects."

Pusich added, "Joint project experience includes the recently constructed UAS Freshmen Dormitory; the Walter Sobolef Center (aka the Sealaska Heritage Institute Southeast Alaska Native Cultural and Visitor's Center); as well as the U.S. Forest Service's Pacific Northwest Research Station, Juneau Forestry Sciences Lab (completed as a design/build project)."

In addition to its' new Juneau office, PDC also has offices in Anchorage, Fairbanks, Palmer, and Soldotna. To learn more about this 100-percent employee-owned, award winning firm, please visit www.pdceng.com. ❖

PDC Engineers Announces Soldotna Office

Soldotna, AK – September 23, 2015 – PDC Inc. Engineers (PDC) is pleased to announce the opening of a new office in Soldotna at the corner of East Corral Street and the Kenai Spur Highway. This locally staffed branch office at 170 E Corral Street brings the backing of an 85-person, multi-discipline engineering, planning, and survey consulting firm to the Kenai Peninsula to better serve our clients.

The Kenai Peninsula is a diverse region of the state with an economy that is poised for considerable growth. The diversity of clients, project types, and market sectors fits well with PDC's multi-discipline engineering capabilities" said Pat Cotter, PDC Associate and Lead Planner.

Matt Stone, PDC Civil Principal who will be managing the Soldotna office, said, "Our new office will help strengthen our existing relationships and help support the infrastructure needs of all of the communities on the Kenai Peninsula. We have start-



ed the office with a fantastic staff of three experienced engineers and planners, all of whom were raised on the Kenai Peninsula. The space will accommodate additional staff as the office continues to grow."

Stone added, "Planning and design is about serving communities, not just producing construction documents. Service is best provided when we have an in-depth knowledge of our clients and their challenges. This kind of knowledge isn't acquired from a distance."

Royce Conlon, PDC President,
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APDC Legislative Overview

Editor's Note The legislative overview was provided by APDC lobbyist John Walsh, J.M. Walsh Company, Inc.

General Issues

The 2nd Session of the 29th Alaska State Legislature will convene here in Juneau January 19, 2016, and is scheduled to adjourn on April 17. There is a strong likelihood that the legislature will not complete budget action before the 90th day thus requiring an extended or special session(s), as was the case in 2015. There is also a strong likelihood that Governor Walker will call the legislature into a Special Session to address fiscal term provisions necessary to advance the Alaska LNG Project (AKLNG).

2016 is an election year with all House of Representative seats up along with 10 members of the Senate (Coghill, Ellis, Huggins, Giessel, McGuire, Stedman, Olson, Stevens, Stoltze and Wielechowski). So far Senator McGuire and Representative Hawker have announced their intention not to file for re-election. Alaska Senator Murkowski and Congressman Young also face elections in 2016, along with the Office of the President.

Budget Issues

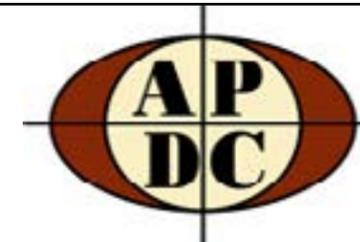
Alaska continues to face serious budget pressures due in large part to very low oil prices and flat-to-diminished oil production (oil production fell 5.6% since the spring 2015 revenue forecast). Current estimates indicate that FY2016 (current fiscal year) projected revenues will be nearly \$3.5 billion less than expenditures requiring withdrawals from the Constitutional Budget Reserve Fund (CBRF). The CBRF account is projected to have a balance of approximately \$7.5 billion at the end of FY2016 (June 30, 2016). Withdrawals of greater than \$3.5 billion would exhaust the fund by the end of FY2018; 2-years from July 1, 2016!

Governor Walker introduced his proposed FY2017 budget on December 9th. The governor is recommending continued but reasonable cuts to operating budgets (the capital budget has been winnowed down to only recommending general funds necessary to match federal or other match funds). Total spending reductions approximate \$100 million or roughly a 2% operating budget reduction. Legislative leadership immediately criticized the governor's budget recommendations calling for deeper spending reductions, perhaps on the order of \$300-\$400 million.

In addition to spending reductions, Governor Walker announced a serious of revenue raising measures as outlined below:

- Primary among them, the governor is proposing a Sovereign Wealth Fund concept whereby the state pools all its significant fund balances, including the Alaska Permanent Fund, into a single investment account. Ideally, this fund would return a greater combined investment yield than the funds being invested individually, not to mention incurring lower investment management expenses. The Permanent Fund dividend would be reconstructed from a return on Permanent Fund earnings to a Resource Dividend wherein 50% of the state's revenues from direct resource developments. The administration estimates that annual Resource Dividends could average about \$1,000/year. The Sovereign

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The monthly newsletter of the Alaska Professional Design Council does not necessarily express the opinions of the Council, the member societies, or their members.

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APDC Legislative Overview

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Wealth Fund concept is estimated to sustainably yield \$3.0 billion that could be used to address state budget needs. This would dampen pressure to make continued deep reductions to the state operating budget and allow for a smoothing effect on the overall state economy.

- Additional taxes:
 - Income tax: 6% of federal tax liability or approximately 1.5% of one's income. Tax would capture out-of-state workers who do not pay income taxes in their home states, S-Corporations and Partnership businesses operating in AK. The income tax proposal would become effective July 1, 2017. OMB estimates that income taxes at the proposed rates could result in \$200 million new revenue.
 - Excise tax on alcoholic beverages (effective July 1, 2016): beer & cider + \$1.07/gallon (double); wine + \$12.80/gallon (double); an increase in brewer tax from \$.35 to \$.70/gallon on the 1st 60,000 gallons (double).
 - Cruise passenger head tax: eliminates the state deduct for Juneau and Ketchikan municipal head taxes. Currently the state foregoes \$15/passenger for the combined municipal head taxes. Under the governor's proposal, the municipalities' tax would be above (additive) the state tax of \$34.50/passenger (i.e., \$34.50 + \$7.00 + \$8.00).
 - Fishery business tax: effective July 1, 2016, fishery business taxes would be raised as follows:
 - Salmon canned at a shore based-fisheries business would increase from 4.5% to a proposed 5.5% (+ 1.0%),
 - Salmon processed by a shore-based fisheries business (not canned salmon) would increase from current 3.0% to a proposed 4.0% (+ 1.0%),
 - Fisheries resources processed at a floating fisheries business would increase from the current 5.0% to a proposed 6.0% (+ 1.0%),
 - Developing commercial fisheries taxes would be raised by + 1.0% as well as fish processed by direct marketing fisheries businesses.
 - Fisheries landing tax (AS43.77.010) would also be raised by + 1.0% (I believe this addresses high sea fish caught outside state waters).

It is my understanding that the fish tax hikes would not affect the shared tax provisions between the state and local taxing jurisdictions.

- Mining license tax: proposed to be increased from current 7% of net income over \$100,000 to 9% (+ 2.0%), effective July 1, 2016.
- Motor Fuel tax: motor fuel tax would be increased (effective July 1, 2016) from current \$.08/gallon to a proposed \$.16/gallon (double); aviation fuel tax from current \$.047/gallon to proposed \$.10/gallon; watercraft motor fuel tax from current \$.05/gallon to proposed \$.10/gallon (double) and non-gasoline aviation fuel from current \$.032/gallon to proposed \$.10/gallon.
- Tobacco excise tax: Effective July 1, 2016, taxes on tobacco products would essentially double from current 62 mils to proposed 112 mils (applied to first wholesale pricing). The proposed legislation would also apply to electronic cigarettes and electronic smoking devices unless exempted by federal law.

Note: all revenue raising measures outlined above, including the Sovereign Wealth Fund concept, require legislation to be enacted before becoming effective. While not addressing all of the governor's revenue recommendations, legislative leadership has spoken against implementing an income tax but recently they have signaled that a statewide sales tax (perhaps 3%) may be worthy of consideration. ❖

APDC Member Societies

Alaska Society of Professional Engineers (ASPE)
 Alaska Society of Professional Land Surveyors (ASPLS)
 American Institute of Architects Alaska Chapter (AIA)
 American Society of Civil Engineers Alaska Section (ASCE)
 American Society of Landscape Architects Alaska Chapter (ASLA)
 American Council of Engineering Companies of Alaska (ACEC)
 American Society of Interior Designers Alaska Chapter (ASID)
 Structural Engineers Association of Alaska (SEAAK)

R&M Consultants: 'Best to Work For'



PDC's new Soldotna office will help strengthen the firm's existing relationships and help support the infrastructure needs of all of the communities on the Kenai Peninsula.

PDC Announces Soldotna Office

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said "PDC's local Soldotna staff is just the tip of the iceberg for the firm's capabilities to serve the Kenai Peninsula. The office will be supported by PDC's multi-disciplined staff of mechanical, electrical, structural, and civil engineers, as well as planners, GIS specialists, fire protection and environmental engineers, commissioning agents, sustainability specialists, and land surveyors."

"PDC is currently providing engineering services for the Seward Airport Improvements and the City of Soldotna Streets Management Plan and recently completed the City of Soldotna Safe Routes to School Plan. We are excited about the increased opportunity to provide quality engineering services through our new Soldotna office."

In addition to its' new Soldotna office, PDC also has offices in Anchorage, Fairbanks, and Palmer. To learn more about this 100-percent employee-owned, award winning firm, please visit www.pdceng.com.

Caption: PDC's new Soldotna office will help strengthen the firm's existing relationships and help support the infrastructure needs of all of the communities on the Kenai Peninsula. ❖

R&M CONSULTANTS, INC. (R&M) was ranked #31 nationally in ZweigWhite's 2015 Best Civil Engineering Firms to Work For list, representing the firm's sixth year on this list.

"One of the things that makes R&M stand out is we all have a stake in the company's success. We are very team-driven and operate in a way that puts collective goals ahead of personal gains," said Len Story, R&M's Chief Operating Office. "In the past 13 years we have grown from less than 50 to more than 140 employees. We continue to succeed because we are an adaptable team that can rise to any challenge and we do great work. Everyone at R&M is smart, energetic and fun to work with and I love the fact we are an all Alaskan-owned company competing head-to-head with national and global firms."

ZweigWhite is the nation's leader in enhancing business performance for architecture, engineering and environmental consulting firms. Each year they evaluate engineering firms throughout the United States and Canada and put out a list recognizing the top civil engineering, structural engineering, architecture, multidiscipline and environmental firms. Firms are ranked based on workplace practices, employee benefits, employee retention rates and more through a survey distributed to and filled out by employees. Firms selected create an environment where their people feel valued, can make a difference and can clearly see their contribution to the overall mission and success of the firm.

Based on the survey results, R&M's employees feel the firm is client-focused, team oriented, supportive of professional goals and focused on integrity. One respondent wrote, "R&M is a consulting and engineering firm that takes care

of its employees, making sure they are trained professionally for their best performance in the field. They work well with everyone's schedules and strive to make the company a tight-knit community rather than a workplace, while still enforcing professional ethics."

Founded in Alaska in 1969, R&M offers civil, structural, geotechnical and waterfront engineering; surveying and mapping; GIS services; geology; hydrology; environmental services; transportation and land use planning; public involvement; right of way and lands consulting services; construction administration; materials testing; and special inspection. R&M has offices in Anchorage, Fairbanks and Ketchikan. ❖

Alaskan Attends ASCE State Advocacy Training

By Tor S. Anderzen, P.E.

In this time of uncertain state budget it is important that Civil Engineers be in frequent contact with their legislators and offer their support and knowledge to protect the safety and welfare of Alaskans. We know that every interest group will be asking their legislator to save their program when others are cut. We need to act as counterweights to ensure that the adverse effects of cuts are minimized. As the second half of Legislative Session begins after the holidays, make sure to contact your legislators and visit with them about the importance of our infrastructure for our state's economy.

In November, I attended a one-day training for State Advocacy Captains in ASCE's Washington, D.C., office. The training was led by Ken Rosenfield and Nedra Davis, in the State Government Relations Committee, and ASCE State Government

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ASCE State Advocacy Captains gather during November 2015 training.

Alaskan Attends ASCE State Advocacy Training

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Relations Committee Staff Aaron Castelo and Maria Matthews.

In this second batch of captains were about 10 other members from around the country, bringing the total number of captains up to 22.

Captains will serve as a liaison between the Section/Branch and ASCE Government Relations Staff in promoting ASCE's priority issues to elected officials, key policy makers and state licensing boards. They will also serve as State leaders at the Fly-in in D.C. in March.

Since most ASCE sections do not have full-time staff or lobbyist, it is often difficult for members to find their way to the many resources that ASCE has that can help them in making connections with legislators and key policy makers. During the training the state captains learned of the many resources that are available for us members both in form of written resource material, grants, and knowledgeable staff support.

I want to encourage anyone interested in learning more about how to reach out to legislators and policy makers to subscribe to your legislators' newsletters, and take the time to introduce yourself to your legisla-

tor when they are at your location. They want to hear from their constituents, offer to help them if they need the input or background knowledge of an engineer, you may not always know the answer, but it is available within your network of engineers.

Consider becoming an [ASCE Key Contact](#) to get updates on the current policy process at the state and federal levels.

If you have any questions, visit with your Branch officers or contact [Tor Anderzen, P.E.](#) ❖

Watch for Details

ASID Alaska Chapter Plans CEU Opportunity in March

ASID Alaska Chapter has a CEU opportunity coming up on March 10:

ASID Alaska Design Matters will feature Susan Szenasy, editor-in-chief with Metropolis magazine, on *Design Ethics*.

The program will begin at 2pm Thursday, March, 10, at the BP Energy Center. Watch the chapter website for more details: www.asid-alaska.org. ❖

ASCE Anchorage Branch YMF to Host 2016 Western Region YMC

The Anchorage Branch YMF is excited to be given the opportunity to host the 2016 Western Region Younger Member Council (WRYMC), a first in ASCE Alaska Section history.

The Younger Member Council is part of a three part conference which consists of workshops for Section and Branch leaders, Younger Member leaders, and student leaders. These workshops are designed to provide attendees with information regarding the latest happenings within the ASCE, leadership training seminars, professional development seminars, networking events, along with tours of local outstanding engineering projects. The ASCE Western Regions consist of all ASCE members from AK, AZ, CA, HI, ID, MT, NV, OR, UT, and WA. Typically between 300-400 engineers attend every year.

The conference in Anchorage will be the culmination of several years' worth of planning and fundraising. In 2010 the Anchorage YMF was approached by the ASCE Committee on Younger Members (CYM) to host the conference in Anchorage in 2012, however, at the time the group did not have a large enough volunteer base to be able to host a conference of this size. After three years of steady growth, and motivation from Anchorage YMF leadership, the group decided to put a committee together in 2013 to explore the feasibility of putting on the conference in Anchorage. After seeking approval from the ASCE Anchorage Branch, Alaska Section, and Region Governor, the Anchorage YMF decided to make a bid for the conference at the 2014 WRYMC in Phoenix, AZ. During the WRYMC business meeting in 2014 the Salt Lake City YMF had also put in a bid for the 2016

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Early Registration Ends January 22

Geospatial Professionals Mark 50th Annual Conference

The geospatial community celebrates an important milestone in February when the 50th Annual Alaska Surveying & Mapping Conference (ASMC) convenes at the Hilton Anchorage Hotel the week of February 15 – 19, 2016. Register on or before January 22, 2016, to obtain the best rates for registration and event tickets: www.aksmc.org.

The 50th Annual conference features special retrospective and historical content as well as updates on national developments and the latest technology. Short courses will be presented throughout the week, and the GeoJam offers a series of shorter sessions for 3 days, generally two concurrent tracks. Speakers and panelists represent leaders from the public and private sectors, and include national officers of sponsor organizations.

Highlights include a keynote luncheon at noon Tuesday, February 16, and an awards reception Thurs-

day evening, February 18.

The keynote speech, "Storytelling with Maps: A Rich Past, a Golden Future," will be presented by Allen Carroll, program manager for storytelling at Esri and former chief cartographer at National Geographic. He will reflect on the transition from analog to digital mapping, discuss his current work creating apps that enable place-based storytelling, and speculate on the future of personal and collective mapping.

The awards reception will feature a presentation by the UAA Geomatics Students Association, and will honor members of the Surveying & Mapping Hall of Fame as well as welcome new inductee(s) to the Hall of Fame. This year's inductees will be announced in January.

Tickets to the keynote luncheon and awards reception are available on the registration website, where attendees can purchase extra tickets for guests or guests can register for

the event only to purchase a ticket. Tickets will be available on site if space is available.

The GeoJam sessions will kick off Wednesday morning with a plenary session from 8:30 to 10 a.m. on The USGS National Geospatial Program & Alaska, presented by Michael Tischler. The National Geospatial Program (NGP) within the USGS provides the digital geospatial foundation for the nation. The NGP oversees the 3D Elevation Program (3DEP), an initiative to accelerate the rate of 3D elevation data collection. Tischler will provide a review of the National Geospatial Program that includes activities in Alaska and nationwide, examples of how the data collected in Alaska is being used, NGP coordination across the state, and future directions of the program.

The ASMC hosts outlined a new approach to sponsorship for this anniversary, offering a variety of conference benefits from which to choose at each sponsorship level. Booth space in the exhibit hall is among the options, or booths can be purchased separately. Details are available online at www.aksmc.org.

The conference is coordinating with the National Park Service to provide a special display in the exhibit hall: A quilt (roughly 10x11 feet) that depicts the land cover of Denali National Park. Machine quilting outlines the park's boundary, highlights drainages and topographic lines, and depicts animal tracks. The display combines art and science, and will complement a short course panel presentation on the history of mapping and determining the height of Mt. Denali.

Member organizations of the ASMC are the Alaska Region of the American Society for Photogram-

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ASCE Anchorage Branch Young Members to Host 2016 Western Region Young Members Forum

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WRYMC, but the vote was swayed in favor of Anchorage due to the amount of pre-planning and coordination it had done with the Branch and Section.

The Anchorage WRYMC planning committee has been busy over the last year putting together the best program possible for the conference, which will be held January 22nd-23rd at the Hilton in downtown. Along with the workshops hosted by the ASCE Leadership Training Committee, WRYMC will host several events that will give visitors from outside of Alaska the chance to experience the Alaskan scenery and culture in the winter time. The events will feature Alaska

wildlife and wilderness, Alaskan craft beer and food, the complex and extreme conditions for engineering in the polar north, Alaska Native culture, and some Alaskan powder skiing and boarding.

The conference is made possible thanks to the dedicated volunteer time by Anchorage WRYMC planning and fundraising committee and the generous sponsors and vendors. The planning committee consists of 22 engineers from 15 different firms across Anchorage.

If you have any questions regarding 2016 WRYMC or would like to become a sponsor, please contact David Gamez at David.Gamez@ch2m.com. ❖

Tanana River Bridge Finalist for National ASCE Award

SPRINGFIELD, Ill. — The Tanana River Bridge in Salcha, Alaska, has been selected as a finalist for the American Society of Civil Engineers' (ASCE) Outstanding Civil Engineering Achievement (OCEA) award. Hanson Professional Services Inc. designed the 3,300-foot-long bridge.

The bridge is one of six projects ASCE selected as OCEA finalists. According to ASCE, the award "honors the project that best illustrates superior civil engineering skills and represents a significant contribution to civil engineering progress and society. Honoring an overall project rather than an individual, the award celebrates the contributions of many engineers."

The bridge is the first phase of the Alaska Railroad Corp.'s Northern Rail Extension, a project that will create an 80-mile railway between North Pole, Alaska, and Delta Junction, Alaska. The extension will provide a safer, all-weather transportation option and give the military improved, year-round access to a one-million-acre training range south of the Tanana River. Hanson has been providing design engineering services since 2006 for the four-phase extension project, including hydraulic and structural engineering services and addressing geotechnical, hydraulic and seismic issues for the bridge.

At 3,300 feet, the bridge is the state's longest and is designed to serve roadway and railroad traffic with a single bimodal deck. The 20-span bridge was built for \$187 million — \$1 million under budget — and on time, with a three-year construction process. The designers had to account for wind, water pressure, scouring, sheet ice, ice jams and severe flooding in an area with a broad flood plain. The bridge crosses the glacier-fed, braided Tanana River at a remote site in an area with active



The Tanana River Bridge in Salcha is a finalist for the American Society of Civil Engineers' Outstanding Civil Engineering Achievement (OCEA) award.

and potentially active seismic faults and temperatures that range from occasional highs near 90 degrees to lows near 70 below zero. During construction, piles for the bridge were driven and concrete was placed at 20 below zero in the winter. Ice flows and damming during ice breakup in the spring required the construction causeway and temporary bridging to be removed and replaced.

The winning project will be announced March 17 during the Outstanding Project and Leaders Awards Gala in Arlington, Va. For more information about this year's finalists, visit <http://blogs.asce.org/2016-ocea-finalists-demonstrate-excellence-in-form-and-function>.

Hanson is a national, employee-owned consulting firm providing engineering, planning and allied services. ❖

Langen Joins R&M Engineering as Survey Manager

Jason Langen, PLS, has joined the R&M team as the Land Survey Manager. Mr. Langen is a graduate of Huntington College and has more than 13 years of experience as a Professional Land Surveyor. He has worked on various projects throughout Alaska and his background includes construction surveying, bathymetric surveying, cadastral surveying, boundary surveys, topographic surveys, GPS surveys, project management, quantity calculations, and QA/QC procedure development just to name a few. In his new role at R&M, Jason will be responsible for the general oversight and development of the R&M Survey Department. ❖



Geospatial Community Celebrates 50th Annual Conference in February

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metry & Remote Sensing (ASPRS), the Alaska Chapter of the Urban & Regional Information Systems Association (URISA), the Alaska Section of AAGS, and the Alaska Society of Professional Land Surveyors (ASPLS). The Alaska Arc Users Group (AAUG) and UAA Geomatics Student Association (GSA) have co-hosted the conference for many years.

The University of Alaska Fairbanks also contributes to conferences in Anchorage and has been a co-host when Fairbanks is the conference venue. ❖

CRW Engineering Announces New Hires

Anchorage, Alaska, November 25, 2015— CRW Engineering Group, LLC, is thrilled to announce that Calli Rabe has joined their IT Department; Corey Rogers, EIT, their Electrical Engineering Department; and Ben Hron, PLS, and Bryant Burgin, LSIT, their growing Land Surveying team.

Calli brings with her over five years of technical experience in computer systems and services to both government agencies and private industry. A lifelong Alaskan, she graduated University of Alaska Anchorage with a degree in Literature, then worked as a technical specialist for DNR and in the television industry before joining CRW.



Corey has lived in Alaska for over 30 years and has a Bachelor's degree in Electrical Engineering and Applied Mathematics from the University of Alaska Fairbanks. He brings 16 years of electrical engineering experience with him to CRW.



Ben graduated for the Milwaukee Area Technical College and has 13 years of Land Surveying experience. Ben has lived in Alaska for 10 years.



Bryant holds a BS in Geomatics Surveying from UAA, and brings with him five years of surveying experience around the state of Alaska.



CRW Engineering Group, LLC, is a full service Engineering

and Land Surveying firm founded in 1981 with the goals of serving our clients with dedication and responsiveness and helping make Alaska communities better places to live. With over 60 staff and 34 years of experience in urban, suburban, and rural projects, CRW offers expertise

in a wide variety of professional services, including surveying, civil, mechanical, electrical, and structural engineering. CRW is based in Anchorage, has a branch office in Palmer, and is one of the largest solely Alaskan engineering firms in the state. ❖

PDC, Inc. Announces Promotions

Anchorage/Fairbanks, Alaska — September 23, 2015: PDC Inc. Engineers is pleased to announce several promotions and new additions to its leadership group. Matt Stone, PE, has advanced to become a Principal of the firm. He is the youngest person to achieve this status which is the pinnacle within PDC's leadership structure. Stone joined PDC in 2002 and has 17 years of civil engineering and management experience. He has managed the civil department since 2012 and in 2015 he took responsibility for PDC's business development endeavors. Stone is also active within the industry.



He is on the Advisory Board of the University of Alaska Fairbanks Civil and Environmental Engineering Department as well as on the Board of Anchorage Tomorrow. Stone was instrumental in establishing the Fairbanks chapter of Institute of Transportation Engineers (ITE) in 2014, and is the President-Elect of the Alaska Section of the American Council of Engineering Companies (ACEC). Stone was recognized in 2013 as one of the top 15 professionals, 40-years-old or younger, working in the civil engineering industry in the United States.

Craig Knight, PLS, was selected as an Associate and is the newest addition to PDC's leadership team. He is based out of the firm's Fairbanks office but provides services statewide. Knight has over 23 years of experience in surveying, engineering, GIS, and he possesses a high degree of technical competence with AutoCad, ArcGIS, and RTK GPS. Prior to joining PDC, Knight owned and operated a 30-person multi-office firm that provided GIS, CAD, and professional surveying services. He is active in the industry serving as a member of the Alaska Society of Professional Land Surveyors, AutoDesk Users Group International, and the National Society of Professional Surveyors.



These leadership advancements recognizes both Stone and Knight's ability to move forward PDC's vision and providing outstanding service to our clients and teaming partners.

PDC is a full-service engineering, planning, and survey firm dedicated to cold region design. To learn more about this 100-percent employee-owned, award winning firm, visit www.pdceng.com. ❖

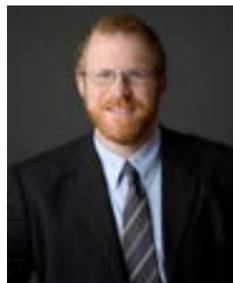
R&M Consultants: Fell Earns CPG

R&M CONSULTANTS, INC. (R&M) is pleased to announce Christopher Fell, LG, CPG has earned his Certified Professional Geologist (CPG) certification.

The CPG certification is administered by the American Institute of Professional Geologists, an association dedicated to promoting geology as a profession. This certification recognizes geologists with the relevant education, training and eight or more years of experience in the study of the earth, and who are engaged in the investigation and evaluation of earth materials and fluids and geologic processes.

"I pursued certification for myself and to lend credibility to my support of geology related projects," said Chris. "It took eight years to obtain my CPG and I encourage anyone that wants to pursue geology as a profession to obtain the certification."

Chris is a Senior Geologist in R&M's Earth Sciences Department. He has 11 years of experience performing environmental and geotechnical projects for private and public clients. Chris has extensive field experience conducting environmental and geotechnical investigations, environmental site characterization and remediation, CERLCA investigations and developing GIS model cataloging excavation, sampling and analytical data to assist in remedial projects. His involvement on projects throughout Alaska and the Pacific Northwest provide him with considerable experience confronting the widely variable challenges associated with project execution on and off the road system. Chris's



experience also includes managing technical portions of projects, developing cost estimates and material site investigations. He is currently the project and field lead for projects investigating the environmental impacts of subsurface contamination in several small Southeast Alaska communities, is performing field inspection and reporting on the status of unstable slopes along the Dalton Highway, and providing geologic/GIS quality control and assurance for terrain unit mapping in Southcentral and Northern Alaska.

Chris has a B.S. in Geology from the University of Wisconsin Eau Claire. He spends a lot of time outdoors while his two kids run around the back yard and help tend the garden as him and his wife attempt to eliminate as much of their yard as possible. Chris enjoys ice climbing, off-trail backpacking and woodworking in his spare time.

Founded in Alaska in 1969, R&M offers civil, structural, geotechnical and waterfront engineering; surveying and mapping; GIS services; geology; hydrology; environmental services; transportation and land use planning; public involvement; right of way and lands consulting services; construction administration; materials testing; and special inspection. R&M has offices in Anchorage, Fairbanks and Ketchikan. ❖



R&M Engineering's Pollard Earns Alaska PE

Bran Pollard, Civil Engineer at R&M Engineering, Inc., has earned his Professional Engineers (P.E.) license in the state of Alaska by meeting the comity requirements as established by the state's professional licensing board.

Mr. Pollard joined the R&M team in August 2014, and has more than 13 years of experience working on public and private civil engineering projects. Bran is a graduate of San Diego State University and holds a Bachelor's of Applied Science in Civil Engineering and has been a licensed P.E. in the state of California since 2010.

R&M Engineering, of Juneau, is an engineering consulting firm providing Civil, Structural and Geotechnical Engineering Services, Land Surveying, and materials testing (soils, concrete, and asphalt pavement) throughout Southeast Alaska. ❖



Alaska Designs Welcomes News from Members

Alaska Designs is a place for APDC Member Organizations and Sustaining Members to share information with the greater Alaska design community.

APDC welcome news of interest to people beyond your organizational or corporate boundaries.

Submit by the 20th of the month for the next month's newsletter *if possible*, and expect confirmation of receipt. Coordinate with the editor for later delivery if necessary.

Submit articles to the editor at sterlingtouch@gci.net. ❖

AECOM Personnell Announcements

Lymari Ortiz

ANCHORAGE, Alaska (July 27, 2015) — Lymari Ortiz has joined AECOM's Anchorage, Alaska, office as a contracts and procurement lead for the Alaska LNG Project.

Ortiz has over 20 years of experience and specialized qualifications in project management, auditing, and supply management. She is a versatile professional with diverse skills in purchasing, as well as vendor, client and executive relationships and collaboration, analysis, and management. Most recently, she performed contract compliance audits for a major oil company in Alaska.

In this role, she will be responsible for working on the Alaska LNG Project, responsible for ensuring compliance with the Alaska LNG subcontracting and procurement plan.

Erik Dahl

ANCHORAGE, Alaska (July 28, 2015) — Erik Dahl has joined AECOM's Anchorage office as a senior environmental engineer.

Dahl has over six years of worldwide experience in environmental fieldwork management, field sample collection, laboratory and field analytical testing, air emissions modeling, report writing, data qualification, remediation system design and construction and risk assessments. His primary area of expertise includes soil and groundwater remediation at remote federal sites.

In this role at AECOM, he will be responsible for developing remedial alternatives in remedial investigations/feasibility studies documents, overseeing environmen-



tal fieldwork at remote sites, and performing risk assessments. He will also support proposal development and ensure that client satisfaction is maintained.

Nathaniel Webb

ANCHORAGE, Alaska (July 28, 2015) — Nathaniel Webb has joined AECOM's Anchorage, Alaska, office as a senior chemist.

Webb has over 17 years of experience with remedial investigations and actions throughout Alaska and the Pacific region. His efforts have aided in the successful closure of many polychlorinated, biphenyl and petroleum contaminated sites.

In this role, he will be responsible for developing a chemistry program to support federal, oil & gas, and mining clients.



Corinne Cogger

ANCHORAGE, Alaska (July 30, 2015) — Corinne Cogger has joined AECOM's Anchorage office as an environmental scientist.

Her responsibilities at AECOM include contributing to project documents, fieldwork support and coordination, as well as the collection, analysis and documentation of field data. Cogger has approximately two years of experience in contaminated sites field work and document production.

During her career, Cogger has held the position of field lead for groundwater sampling and supply well sampling, for which she coordinated site logistics and field person-



nel. She also has experience with the coordination of a military munitions response program.

Prior to her position at AECOM, Cogger also wrote and edited a range of deliverable documents, including site assessments, work plans and site characterization reports. Along with writing and formatting documents, Cogger's contributions to deliverables regularly involved creating and editing geographic information system figures. Cogger has assisted in the update of a client's health, safety and environment program by performing a worksite analysis, conducting a chemical inventory, implementing an online safety data sheet database, and working towards a stronger "safety culture."

She has a Bachelor of Arts degree in geography from Humboldt State University.

Delta Fettes

ANCHORAGE, Alaska (Oct. 07, 2015) — Delta Fettes has joined AECOM's Anchorage office as a project management specialist to support financial and contractual project requirements.

Fettes has 16 years of experience in project accounting and coordination. She is a versatile professional with diverse skills in maintaining vendor, client and executive relationships, as well as in collaboration, analysis and management. Most recently, she performed project accounting and coordination for an Alaska native corporation in Alaska.

In this role, she will be responsible for supporting environmental, engineering, planning and permitting projects in Alaska. ❖



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Alaska Professional Design Council Calendar

Monday, January 4, 2016

ASPE Fairbanks, Noon, WestMark Hotel (1st Mon)

Thursday, January 7, 2016

ASPE Anchorage Directors, 7 a.m., McDonald's, 800 W Northern Lights Blvd. (1st Thurs)

APDC, Noon, BBFM and via teleconference (1st Thurs)

Tuesday, January 12, 2016

ACEC Board, 4:00 p.m., Shannon & Wilson, Anchorage (2nd Tues)

Wednesday, January 13, 2016

ASCE Juneau Branch and ASPE Juneau Chapter jointly hold membership meetings at Noon at the AEL&P 2nd Floor Conference Room from September through May (2nd Wed)

ASLA Alaska Board, 12:10 p.m. in the URS 3rd floor conference room (2nd Wed)

Thursday, January 14, 2016

ASPE Anchorage, Noon, BP Energy Center (2nd Thurs)

Tuesday, January 19, 2016

ASCE Anchorage, Noon, Moose Lodge on Arctic Blvd. (3rd Tues)

Wednesday, January 20, 2016

ASCE Mat-Su Branch, Noon at the Mat-Su College (Mile 2 Trunk Road) in Room FSM 206 (3rd Wed)

ASCE Fairbanks, Noon, WestMark (3rd Wed)

Deadline for the February issue of *Alaska Designs* (20th of each month, or Monday)

Tuesday, January 26, 2016

ASPLS Fairbanks, Noon, WestMark Hotel (4th Tues)

ASPLS Anchorage, Confirm time, date and location @ aspls.anc@gmail.com (usually 3rd Tues with even months at Noon and odd months at 6pm)

Wednesday, January 27, 2016

ASPLS Valley, Noon, Windbreak, Wasilla (last Wed)

Thursday, February 4, 2016

ASPE Anchorage Directors, 7 a.m., McDonald's, 800 W Northern Lights Blvd. (1st Thurs)

APDC, Noon, Atwood Building 6th Floor, Anchorage (1st Thurs)



Monday, February 1, 2016

ASPE Fairbanks, Noon, WestMark Hotel (1st Mon)

Tuesday, February 9, 2016

ACEC Board, 4:00 p.m., Shannon & Wilson, Anchorage (2nd Tues)

Wednesday, February 10, 2016

ASCE Juneau Branch and ASPE Juneau Chapter jointly hold membership meetings at Noon at the AEL&P 2nd Floor Conference Room from September through May (2nd Wed)

ASLA Alaska Board, 12:10 p.m. in the URS 3rd floor conference room (2nd Wed)

Thursday, February 11, 2016

ASPE Anchorage, Noon, BP Energy Center (2nd Thurs)

Tuesday, February 16, 2016

ASCE Anchorage, Noon, Moose Lodge on Arctic Blvd. (3rd Tues)

ASPLS Anchorage, Confirm time, date and location @ aspls.anc@gmail.com (usually 3rd Tues with even months at Noon and odd months at 6pm)

Wednesday, February 17, 2016

ASCE Fairbanks, Noon, WestMark (3rd Wed)

ASCE Mat-Su Branch, Noon at the Mat-Su College (Mile 2 Trunk Road) in Room FSM 206 (3rd Wed)

Monday, February 22, 2016

Deadline for the March issue of *Alaska Designs* (20th of each month, or Monday)

Tuesday, February 23, 2016

ASPLS Fairbanks, Noon, WestMark Hotel (4th Tues)

Wednesday, February 24, 2016

ASPLS Valley, Noon, Windbreak, Wasilla (last Wed)

Send calendar notices / updates by the 20th of each month to Vicky Sterling, sterlingtouch@gci.net.



When and Where



Always check locally to confirm meeting times and locations. Some organizations suspend or reschedule meetings in summer months. The newsletter publication calendar generally does not allow time to include holiday and last-minute schedule changes.

Alaska Designs Welcomes Articles

Alaska Designs welcomes articles and letters on subjects of interest to design professionals. The deadline is the 20th of each month for the following month's issue. Items may be edited for length or content and will be published as space is available.

Submit items to the editor, Vicky Sterling, at sterlingtouch@gci.net, or contact by phone at 644-9940 if any questions.