

SERGIUS AND WHITESTONE NARROWS, ALASKA

Sergius and Whitestone Narrows are situated in the network of channels which comprise the passageway for shipping between Seattle and other points in Alaska. Sergius Narrows is located about 27 miles northeast of Sitka; whereas, Whitestone Narrows is about 15 miles north of Sitka.

Both Sergius Narrows and Whitestone Narrows form narrow, rocky constrictions in the shipping lanes. Both are so arranged that it is necessary for vessels to execute precise and abrupt changes in course in areas having swift tidal currents.

The proposed project would involve widening the existing 24-foot-deep channel through Whitestone Narrows from 200 feet to 300 feet, and construction of a 24-foot-deep and 450-foot-wide channel through Sergius Narrows. Total estimated Federal cost of this project is \$3,030,000. The benefit-to-cost ratio is 3.3 to 1 and would provide an estimated benefit of \$411,000 annually.

Both the Kake Harbor and King Cove projects have been cleared by the Bureau of the Budget. The Sergius and Whitestone Narrows project is awaiting clearance from the Bureau of the Budget. All concerned State and Federal agencies have made favorable recommendations for authorizations of these three Alaskan navigation projects.

Mr. Chairman, I urge that these Alaskan navigation projects be favorably recommended for inclusion in the 1968 omnibus river and harbor and flood control bill.

Mr. McCARTHY. Do you want to move on to King Cove Harbor, Alaska?

KING COVE HARBOR, ALASKA

Colonel PICK. Mr. Chairman and members of the committee, King Cove is located near the southwesterly tip of the Alaska Peninsula. The nearest ports of importance are Dutch Harbor, about 175 miles to the southwest, and Kodiak, about 450 miles to the northeast.

The 1964 population of King Cove was approximately 500. The village exists primarily because of the fishing resources of the area. Harvesting and processing of salmon and king crab provide the major source of income. The village also serves as a trading and supply center for transient fishing craft and other smaller communities in the area.

The Aleutian chain is one of the most prominent storm producing areas in the world and the King Cove area is frequently subjected to high winds and heavy wave action. The fishing boats operating in the King Cove area lack adequate sheltered anchorage, consequently during bad weather they are battered against the docks and each other resulting in considerable loss. There is no existing Federal project in the area.

The Chief of Engineers recommends construction of a protected 15-foot-deep anchorage basin of approximately 11 acres with an entrance channel 15 feet deep and 125 feet wide at an estimated Federal cost of \$522,000. Local interests have indicated willingness to provide the required local cooperation. The benefit-cost ratio is 4.5.

The comments of the State of Alaska and Federal agencies are favorable. The Bureau of the Budget has no objection to submission of the report to Congress.

Since the Federal cost for this project is less than \$10 million, the views set forth by the Secretary of the Army in his letter of January 6, 1967, submitting to you a draft bill to amend section 201 of the Flood Control Act of 1965, would apply.

Mr. Chairman, this completes my statement.

Mr. McCARTHY. Do you want to move ahead, Colonel?