March 5, 2009

Response to Councils Request for Sound Monitoring Information

Council Requestes the following information:

1. *The years the areas were monitored*
2. *Projected placement of 2009 sound stations*
3. *Time of day and duration for sound monitoring by area*
4. *Greater detail in data to allow for sound events to be traced back to their source*

   For example: Can the data help to determine if it's a high flying aircraft going from FBX to Anchorage or if it's an event caused by a more localized aircraft that can be addressed by the group.

Response from Park Scientist Jared Withers:

1 & 2. See the attached map of Denali's station locations, with sample year indicated. 2009 stations will also include 1 or 2 additional stations to be placed at locations of interest specifically to inform park management decisions. The park is compiling a list of these possible locations for 2009, and will take input from the Council concerning these placements at the April 7th meeting.

3. As per Denali's sound monitoring protocol, all locations are monitored 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, for at least 1 month during the Summer season (May – September). No bias is given to data collected at different times of the day or night. Repeat measurements are made during the same month as previous samples if at all possible.

4. When the sound data are analyzed, jet, propeller, and helicopters are identified independently. Near 100% of the jet aircraft are high altitude passenger or military flights and are most likely outside the scope of this group. Propeller and helicopter overflights are speculated to be mostly air touring, air taxi, or park operations activity, though there is currently no way to definitively tie a recorded overflight to a specific aviation use using the parks acoustic data.

DENA Natural Sound Monitoring

Sound Station Locations