



September 2023 Meeting Announcement

Parks Highway MP 46.2 Bridge Crossing

The Alaska Department of Transportation installed a new bridge crossing the Alaska Railroad tracks at MP 46.2 along the Parks Highway. As part of the project, the contractor required several construction-related tasks to aid with the new bridge. The first task was the stability evaluation of the new Mechanically Stabilized Embankments (MSE) for the bridge abutments. The stability evaluation was complicated because traditional seismic earth pressure theory was insufficient due to the project's combination of seismic loading, geometry, and soil properties, requiring alternate methods to compute wall thrusts. The second task was designing a soldier pile retaining wall to support a temporary excavation of organics below the proposed bridge abutment. The temporary excavation required consideration for future plans to replace the existing bridge abutment adjacent to the new bridge. A design that permitted future MSE paneling to be installed on a portion of the temporary excavation soldier pile was developed.

Steven M. Halcomb, PE, GE, [BC.GE](#)

Geotechnical Group Manager

Hailing from a military family, Steven grew up in Germany, Turkey, and throughout the United States. His family ultimately settled in Anchorage, where he attended high school and most of college. Steven joined the engineering world over 15 years ago and has worked for several Anchorage firms while continuing his education. He works primarily as a licensed and board-certified geotechnical engineer supporting civil, structural, marine, and construction engineering projects. He holds a Bachelor's and Master's in Civil Engineering,

a Master's in Arctic Engineering, and a Graduate Certificate in Earthquake Engineering. Steven balances his free time between the Alaska life, playing with his kids or Newfoundland, and discovering new topics to learn when not in the office. His recent find is Philosophy. He is a member of ASCE and the Geo-Institute.



When: Tuesday, 19 September 2023 from 12 to 1 PM

Where: Moose Lodge – 4211 Arctic Blvd, Anchorage, AK, 99503

Cost: \$20 per person – cash | check | credit card

Lunch: Sandwiches & Salads

[Register Below](#)
