



## ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE AGENDA

June 2, 2025 at 6:00 PM

Assembly Chambers/Zoom Webinar

---

**Assembly Committee of the Whole Worksession - No Public Testimony will be taken.**

<https://juneau.zoom.us/j/95424544691> or 1-253-215-8782 Webinar ID: 954 2454 4691

**A. CALL TO ORDER**

**B. LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

We would like to acknowledge that the City and Borough of Juneau is on Tlingit land and wish to honor the indigenous people of this land. For more than ten thousand years, Alaska Native people have been and continue to be integral to the well-being of our community. We are grateful to be in this place, a part of this community, and to honor the culture, traditions, and resilience of the Tlingit people. *Gunalchéesh!*

**C. ROLL CALL**

**D. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**E. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**F. AGENDA TOPICS**

1. HESCO Barrier Installation Phase 1B/ Future Phases
2. Ordinance 2025-13HRC – Rank Choice Voting
3. Solid Waste Update
4. Advocacy on Ballot Propositions

**G. STAFF REPORTS**

**H. NEXT MEETING DATE - July 14, 2025**

**I. SUPPLEMENTAL MATERIALS**

**J. ADJOURNMENT**

ADA accommodations available upon request: Please contact the Clerk's office 36 hours prior to any meeting so arrangements can be made for closed captioning or sign language interpreter services depending on the meeting format. The Clerk's office telephone number is 586-5278, e-mail: [city.clerk@juneau.gov](mailto:city.clerk@juneau.gov).



City and Borough of Juneau  
City & Borough Manager's Office  
155 Heritage Way  
Juneau, Alaska 99801  
Telephone: 907-586-5240 | Facsimile: 907-586-5385

TO: Deputy Mayor Smith and Committee of the Whole  
FROM: Katie Koester, City Manager  
DATE: May 29, 2025  
RE: HESCO Barrier Installation Phase 1B/ Future Phases

---

At the May 12 Special Committee of the Whole staff asked for authority to spend \$500K to extend the HESCO barriers 10,000 feet on CBJ property for what we are calling Phase 1A. Phase 1A protects hundreds of millions of dollars of public infrastructure in an event that exceeds 16-feet. At 17-feet the only impact is additional water on the Safeway parking lot. In the rare case we have an event at 18-foot inundation, it protects 271 parcels from inundation, however 9 parcels on Meadow Lane would receive water because phase 1A. Phase 1A is nearing completion.

The purpose of this memo is to discuss Phase 1B, Phase 2, and mechanisms for paying for continued short-term flood mitigation.

### Phase 1B

At the May 12 COW staff presented the idea of continuing the extension of HESCO barriers this spring to Brotherhood Bridge. In an extreme event, this protects 96 additional parcels, including many commercial and multi-family properties including approximately 190 housing units due to the density of multi-family units. We have the HESCO barriers, budget and crews mobilized to do this work now. However, 1B is more expensive (\$850K) and involves installing barriers on 8 parcels on non-CBJ property that will need additional protection (both HESCO barriers and riverbank armoring). There is not time or budget for armoring before Jokulhlaup season. However, it would be possible to install HESCO barriers. We would have to return next year to armor at an additional cost of \$1.4M. The long strip of riverbank in this section is owned principally by a private entity that has no interest in armoring, though they have stated they will allow CBJ access to armor. The remaining section is owned by ADOT who is also willing to allow us access is opposed to paying for armoring.

EPW staff has reached out to the eight riverfront organizations (AHFC, SEARCH, Riverview Senior Living, Trillium Landing, McKeown & McKeown LLC, Goldbelt, and Clinton Park Condominiums). The owner of the Riverview Senior Living complex (out of California) is the only hard no. Without the mandate of a local improvement district, it would be difficult to install barriers without the consent of Riverview.

**Pros of 1B now:** It protects significant property, both commercial and residential, with almost no negative downstream impacts all the way up to 18 feet; it protects the 9 homes on Meadow Lane negatively impacted by phase 1A.

**Cons of 1B now:** Cost – CBJ would have to go back and armor, the weight of the barriers may erode the bank in an extreme event and fail, the barriers are on private property with some objections, protecting additional parcels may disincentivize property owners from participating in financing Phase 2.

### Phase 2

USACE has recently stated that per their authorizing statute, they cannot provide barriers or technical assistance for events beyond the maximum flood level experienced (16 feet). The barriers currently installed protect most of the homes at a 16-foot inundation level, with the exception of View Dr. This means that for Phase 2, CBJ may be on our own which will add to the expense.

Phase 2 as originally envisioned would install barriers along all developed sections of the river. The cost estimate for phase 2 (with assistance from USACE) is \$17M, excluding View Drive. However, there are diminishing returns. With the extension of Phase 1B we would be protecting the majority of homes affected in a 17-foot event. The 17-foot modeling shows that phases 1, 1A and 1B protect all properties with the exception of Wildmeadow (~ 10 houses), River Road (~5 houses), Meadow Ln (~5 houses), and View Drive (20 homes).



### **View Drive**

It may be that HESCOs aren't a viable solution for View Drive. As viewed from the lake, at least two properties don't have much land between the homes and the lake. The HESCOs may need to be up to three barriers wide and three or four barriers high to contain the river and the soils may not be adequate to support the weight of those barriers. We have not had time to do that engineering work, and we've been clear that we don't expect to have that time until we're through flood fighting efforts for 2025. However, USACE staff is actively engaged in a feasibility analysis for View Drive.

Flood fighting for View Drive will also be more complicated because the neighborhood is in the floodplain with two homes are in the floodway – so there is a different, and far more rigorous level of permitting necessary to maintain NFIP status. While we're not discounting HESCOs, the View Drive solution might be something else, or a combination of different programs. For example, the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) has a buyout program under the Emergency Watershed Protection (EWP) Program. CBJ has submitted a request to participate in that program on behalf of interested property owners.

Because mitigating for View Drive will have unique project variables and cost benefit analysis, I recommend considering View Drive as its own project and Local Improvement District. This allows the 20 property owners to make decisions unique to their situation rather than being lumped into the entire Phase 2 project.

### **How to Pay for Flood Fighting**

#### **Establishment of a Service Area**

A Service Area is a mechanism to provide a service that is not provided on an areawide basis to an area in the borough. CBJ has the roaded service area, for example, that includes all properties on the road system. The Assembly can levy a tax specific to the service area to finance unique services provided to only one area (CBJ Charter Article XI). The Assembly establishes a service area by ordinance. If a petition signed by 100 voters in the service area is submitted before the ordinance becomes effective, the question goes to the voters of that service area (which would be likely in this scenario).

There is a scenario where you could prompt a service area to be considered this year during the regular municipal election. If there is interest in that option, I recommend directing staff to introduce an ordinance on June 9 and refer it to the COW. Establishing a service area that includes Phase 1 this year would allow you to not certify the LID and instead rely on the service area to pay for improvements. However, there are many decisions that would need to be made beforehand,<sup>1</sup> and the Assembly is sensitive to the number of questions on the ballot. Only voters registered to vote in the affected area (which would be determined by the Assembly) would vote on the service area. The Assembly could also hold a special election at any time (at a cost of approximately \$100,000). It may be strategic to wait to establish a service area as a mechanism to help pay for the local match requirements associated with a long-term solution. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers recently signed the agreement with CBJ and held a kickoff meeting on May 22 to begin their Technical Study to identify long-term solutions.

**Local Improvement District.** You could initiate an LID for the remainder of phase 2 or initiate a second LID for portions of Phase 2. For example, if you did an LID for phase 1B, the total project cost would be \$2.35M to protect 96 parcels. If the Assembly applies the same 60/40 split as phase 1, the cost to CBJ is \$1.65M. You may want to do a different cost allocation methodology for this LID than the phase 1 LID given the unique value of several large commercial properties protected. There are sufficient funds in the existing project to cover the CBJ side of this work. Combined with the 50% loan forgiveness offered by ADEC, the Assembly would not need to come up with additional funding.

---

<sup>1</sup>

- Boundaries of the service area? For example, would you use the homes in the 18-foot inundation map.
- Project that the service area would fund. For example, all of phase 2?
- Amount the service area would be expected to fund versus amount CBJ taxpayers at large would fund?

**Other funding sources.** CBJ staff is still aggressively pursuing other grant funding sources. For example, we have around \$6M of CDBG-DR funding because of the disaster declaration to go towards housing in Juneau. We are exploring if there are ways to fund portions of phase 2 with this. Similarly, there is a Hazard Mitigation Grant Program we can apply for once our All-Hazards plan is complete with a maximum award of 15% of the damages experienced (we do not have that number from FEMA yet, but it is estimated to be around \$2M). We are also still communicating with ADEC about forgivable loans for future phases of the project; this will all depend on the amount of EPA funding available in the future for these programs.

### **Discussion**

Due to the complications of phase 1B, it is reasonable to wait and do phase 1B next construction season. Nevertheless, as the policy maker only you bear the unique burden of weighing the risk and benefits of 1B and protecting those homes and businesses if we have a catastrophic event this summer.

The sense of urgency for phase 2 will be informed by the 2025 GLOF release. If we have a larger than 16-foot release public pressure to move on phase 2 will be acute, as will the appetite to pay for it.

It is reasonable to wait and give staff direction to design a phased approach to short term mitigation, starting with Phase 1B. This may delay implementation of a larger phase 2 project to construction season of 2027 and/ or require a special election if the Assembly decides to establish a service area.

### **Recommendation**

- Discuss appetite for proceeding with phase 1B and give staff appropriate direction.
  - Option 1: proceed with phase 1B now
  - Option 2: Direct staff to further develop concepts an LID for Phase 1B aiming for construction next season.
  - Do nothing
- Discuss appetite for a service area. If there is desire to introduce a service area for the October ballot, the ordinance would need to be introduced at the next regular Assembly meeting and discussed at the July COW.

Enc:

17 Feet with HESCO 1A and 1B Modeled 5.23.25

18 Feet with HESCO 1A and 1B Modeled 5.23.25





## Flood Fighting Inundation Maps Mendenhall Valley, Juneau, AK

With HESCO Phase 1A Barrier  
17FT, Stage (NWS Gauge MNDA2)

Note: Shading indicates limits of water inundation  
and does not include water depth

Preliminary Map  
April 2025

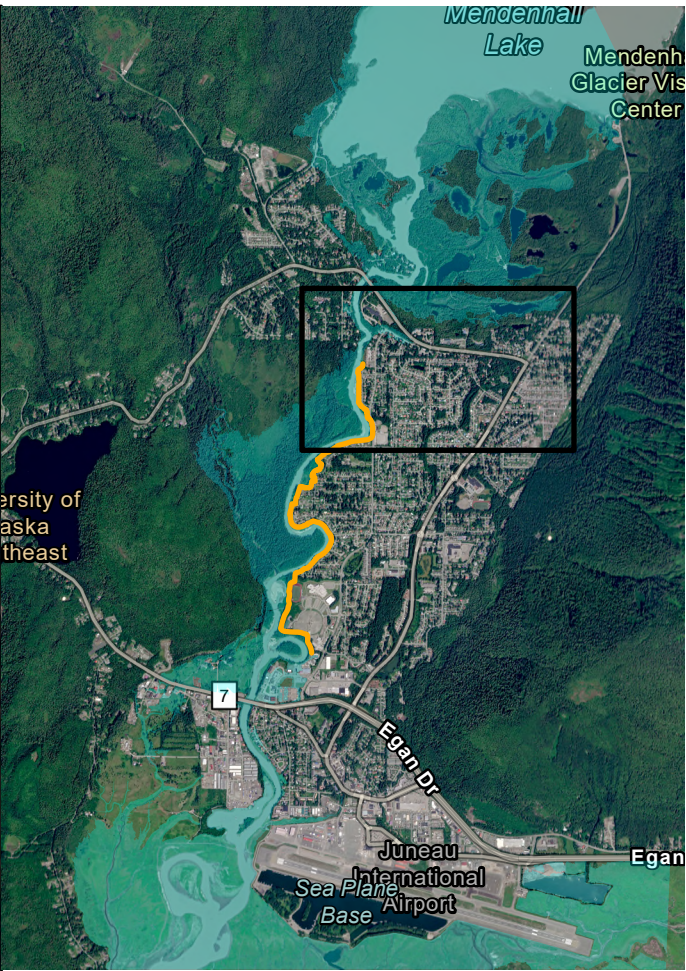
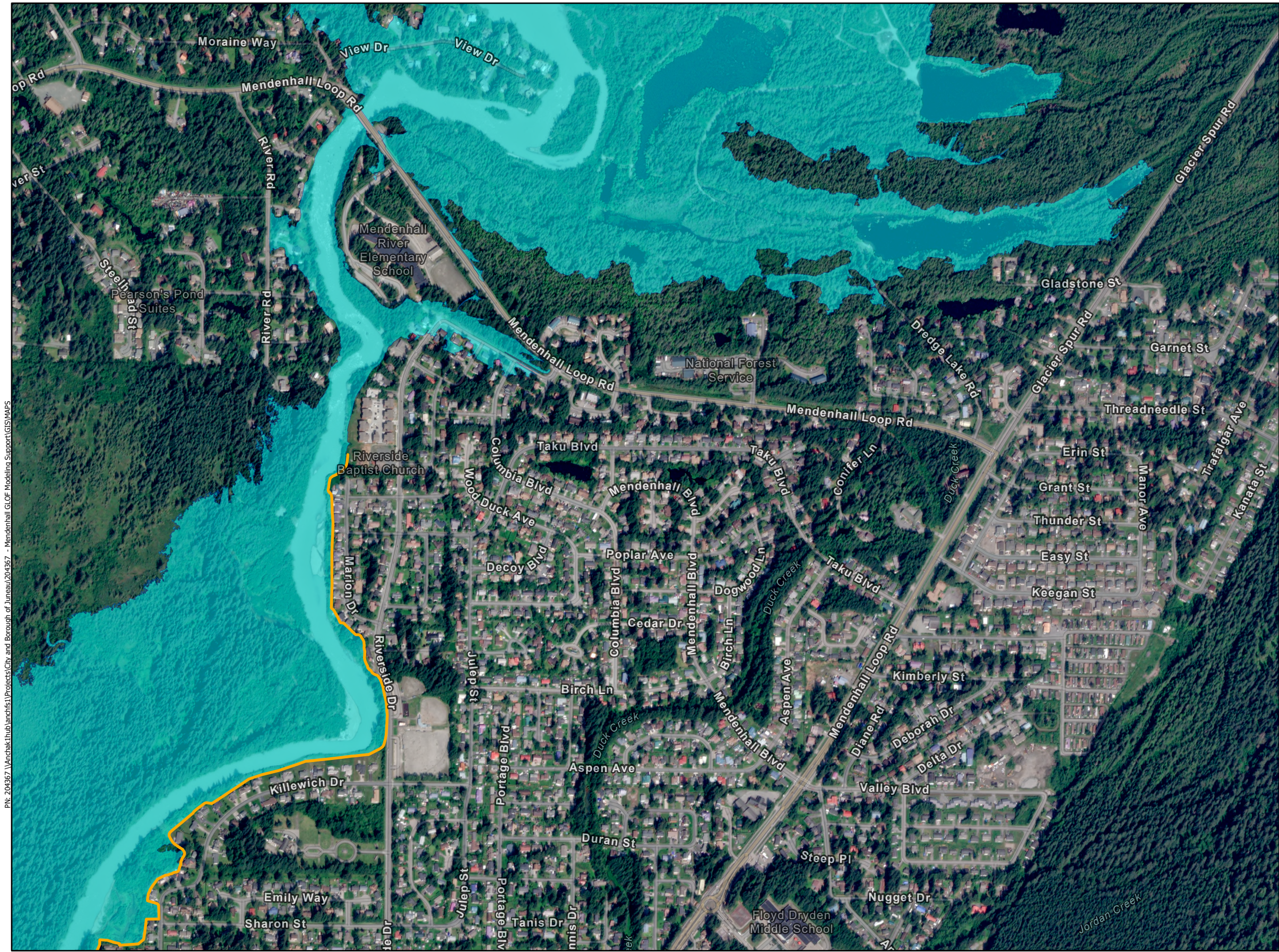


**Michael Baker**  
INTERNATIONAL



Source: State of Alaska, © OpenStreetMap, Microsoft, Esri Canada, Esri, TomTom, Garmin, SafeGraph, METI/NASA, USGS, EPA, NPS, US Census Bureau, USDA, USFWS, NRCAN, Parks Canada, State of Alaska, Esri Canada, Esri, TomTom, Garmin, SafeGraph, METI/NASA, USGS, EPA, NPS, USDA, USFWS, NRCAN, Parks Canada





# **Flood Fighting Inundation Maps** Mendenhall Valley, Juneau, AK

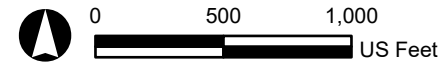
With HESCO Phase 1A Barrier  
17FT, Stage (NWS Gauge MNDA2)

Note: Shading indicates limits of water inundation  
and does not include water depth

Preliminary Map  
April 2025

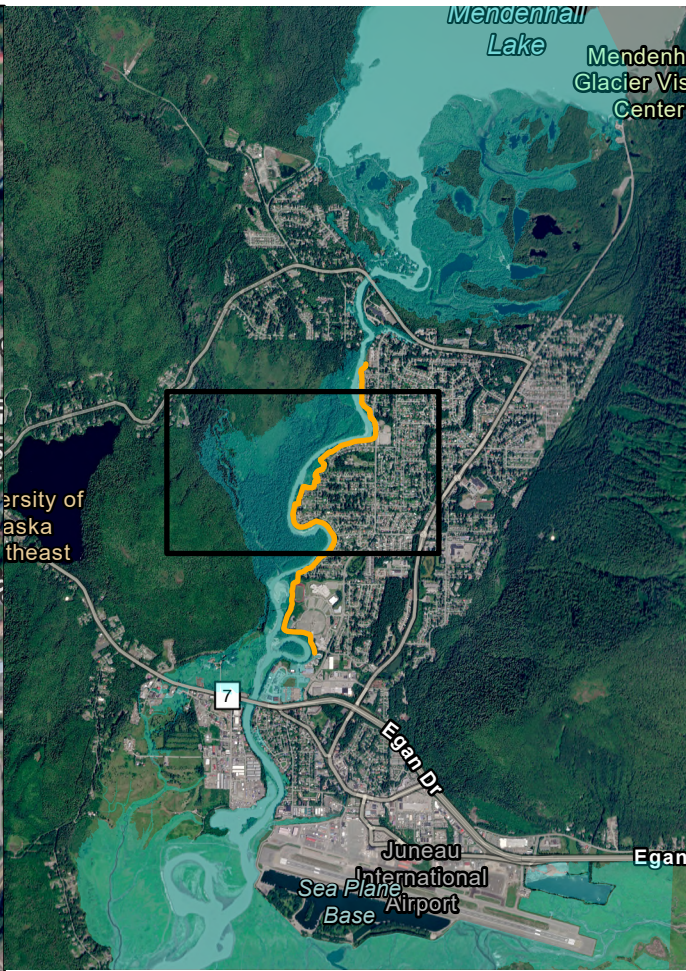
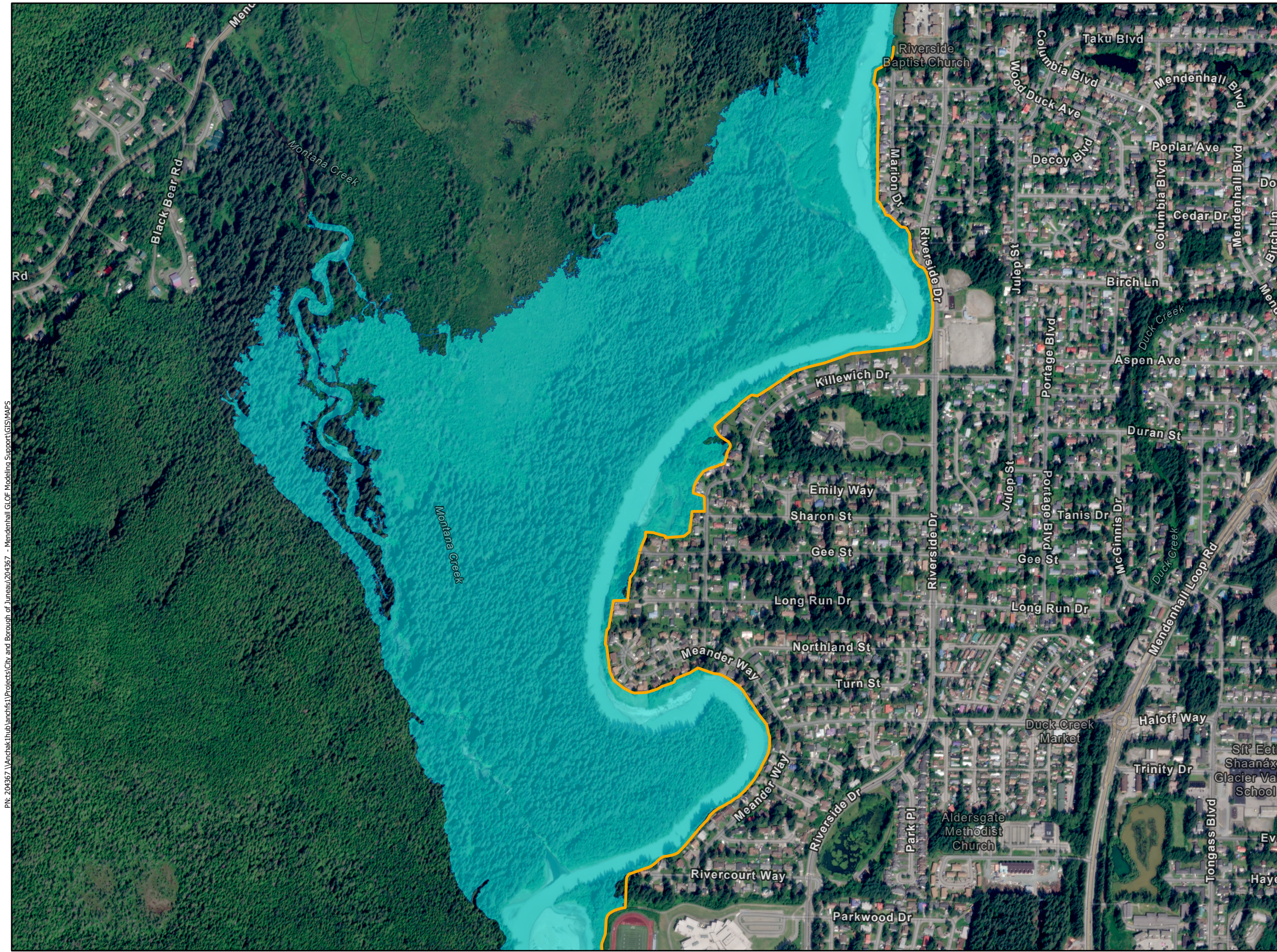


**Michael Baker**  
INTERNATIONAL



Source: State of Alaska, © OpenStreetMap, Microsoft, Esri Canada, Esri, TomTom, Garmin, SafeGraph, METI/NASA, USGS, EPA, NPS, US Census Bureau, USDA, USFWS, NRCAN, Parks Canada, State of Alaska, Esri Canada, Esri, TomTom, Garmin, SafeGraph, METI/NASA, USGS, EPA, NPS, USDA, USFWS, NRCAN, Parks Canada





# **Flood Fighting Inundation Maps** Mendenhall Valley, Juneau, AK

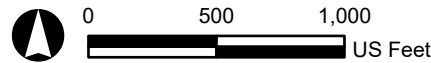
With HESCO Phase 1A Barrier  
17FT, Stage (NWS Gauge MNDA2)

Note: Shading indicates limits of water inundation  
and does not include water depth

Preliminary Map  
April 2025

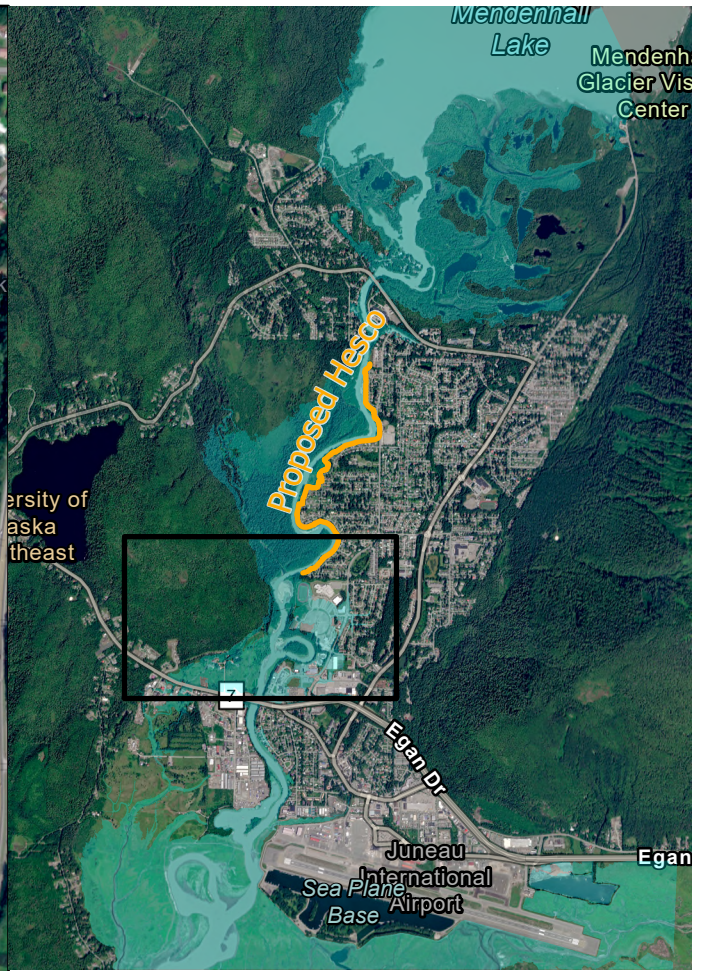
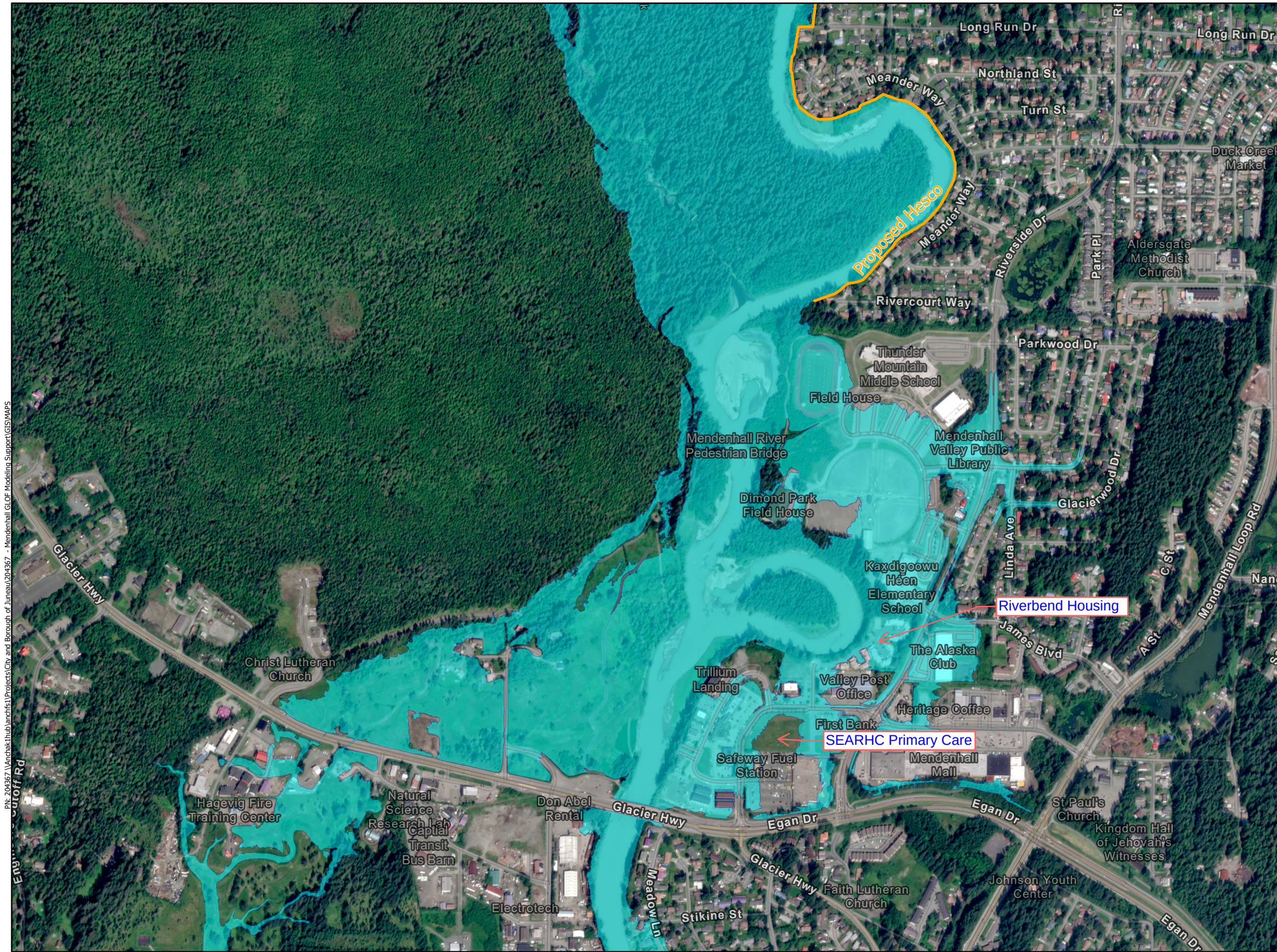


**Michael Baker**  
INTERNATIONAL



Source: State of Alaska, © OpenStreetMap, Microsoft, Esri Canada, Esri, TomTom, Garmin, SafeGraph, METI/NASA, USGS, EPA, NPS, US Census Bureau, USDA, USFWS, NRCAN, Parks Canada, State of Alaska, Esri Canada, Esri, TomTom, Garmin, SafeGraph, METI/NASA, USGS, EPA, NPS, USDA, USFWS, NRCAN, Parks Canada





## Flood Fighting Inundation Maps Mendenhall Valley, Juneau, AK

With HESCO Barrier  
17FT, Stage (NWS Gauge MNDA2)

Note: Shading indicates limits of water inundation  
and does not include water depth

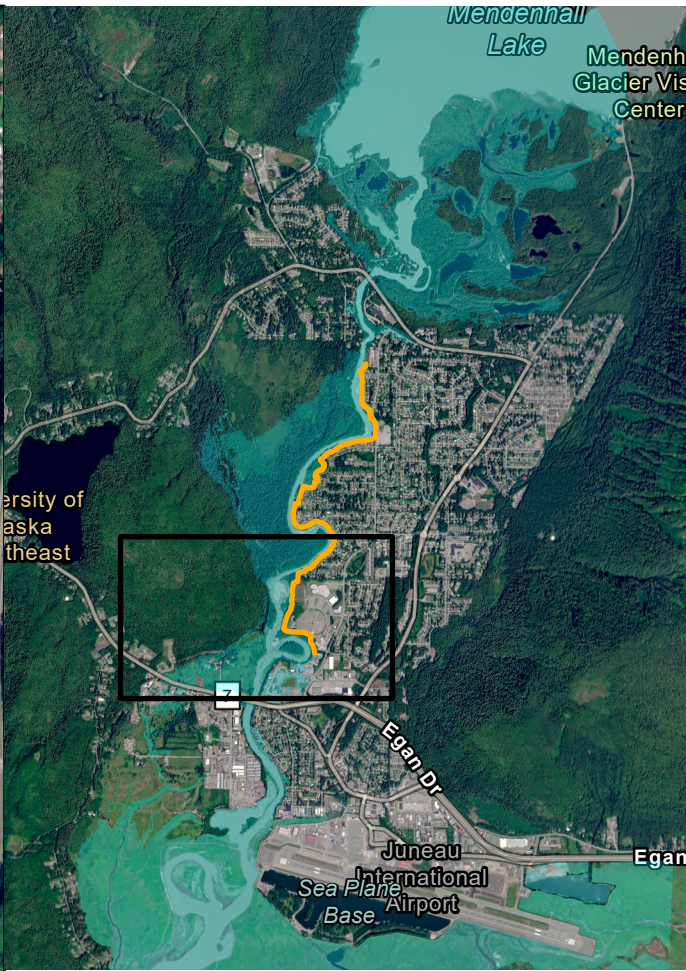
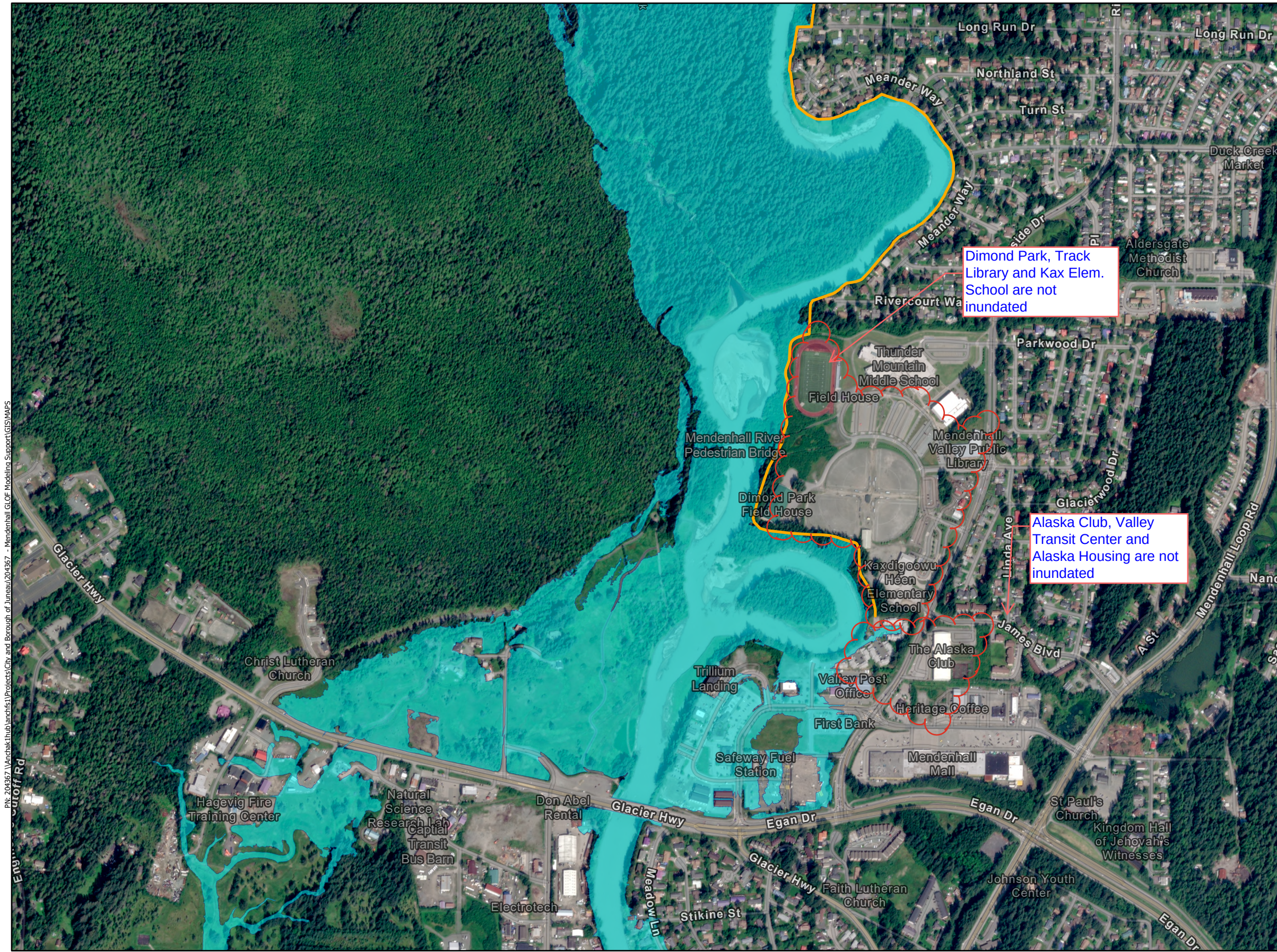
Preliminary Map  
April 2025



**Michael Baker**  
INTERNATIONAL







# **Flood Fighting Inundation Maps** Mendenhall Valley, Juneau, AK

With HESCO Phase 1A Barrier  
17FT, Stage (NWS Gauge MNDA2)

Note: Shading indicates limits of water inundation  
and does not include water depth

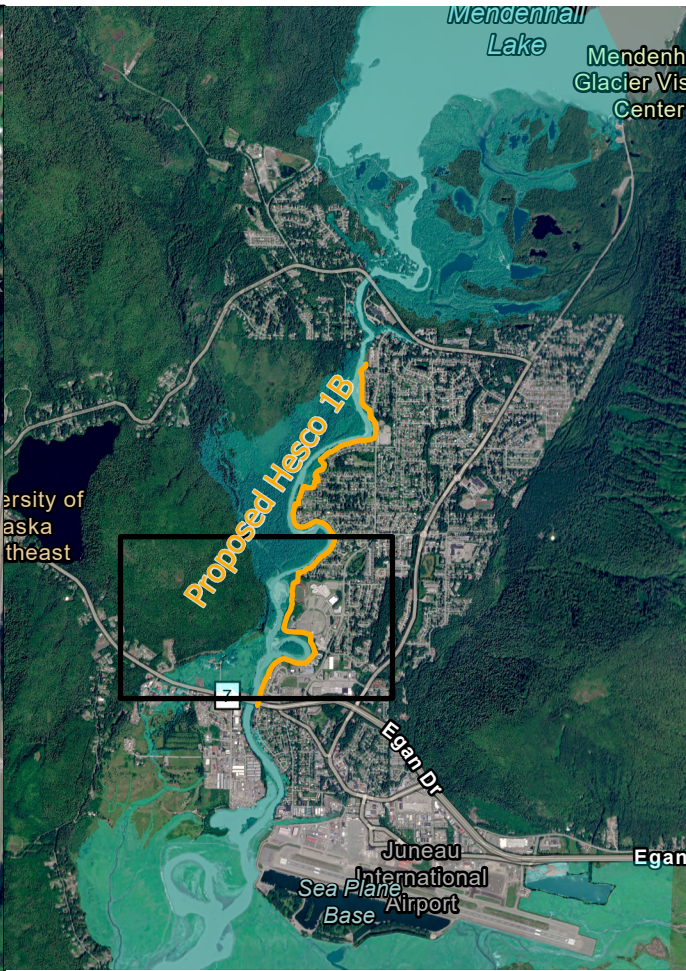
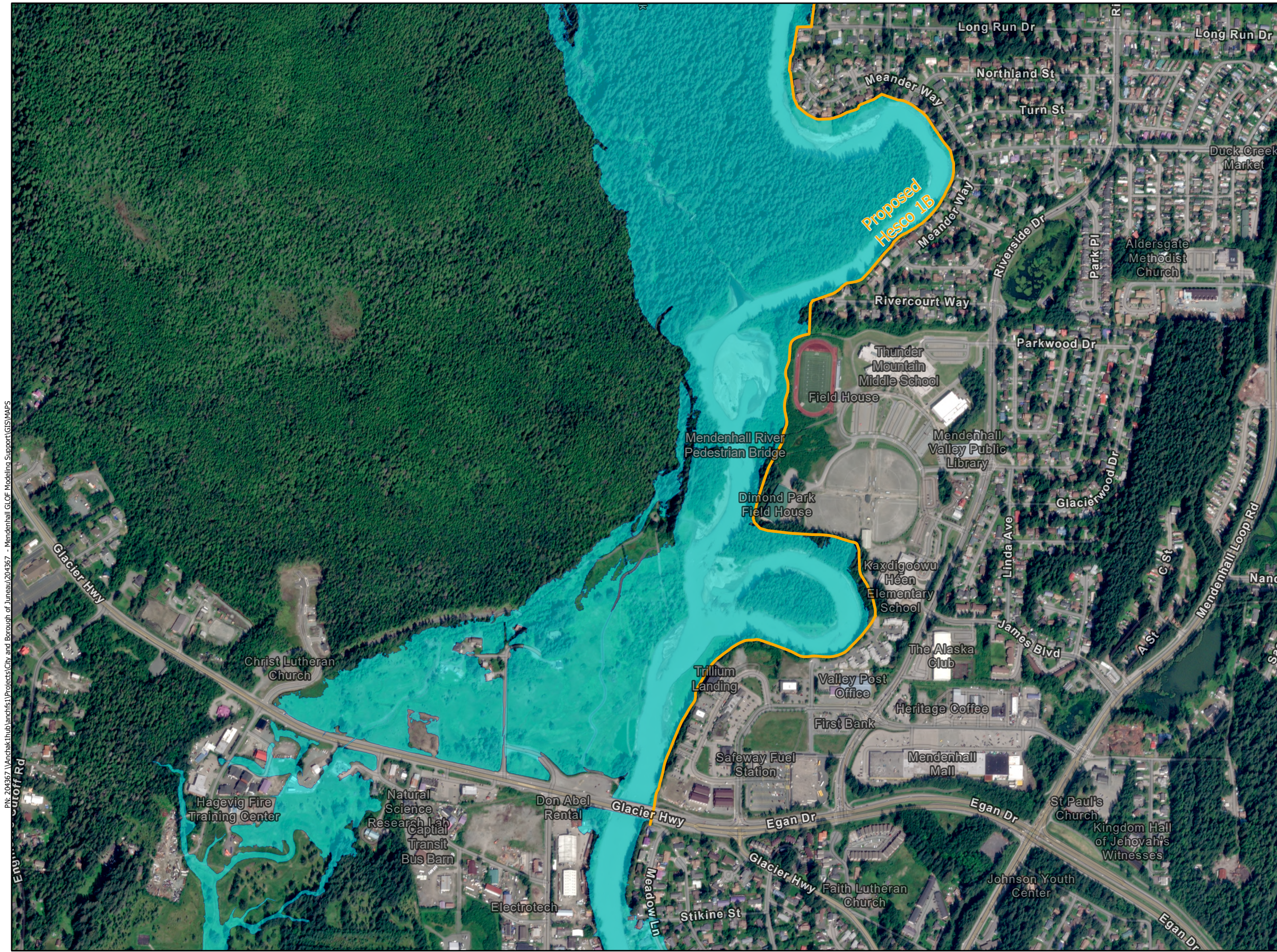
Preliminary Map  
April 2025



**Michael Baker**  
INTERNATIONAL







## Flood Fighting Inundation Maps Mendenhall Valley, Juneau, AK

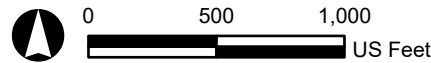
With HESCO Barrier 1B  
17FT, Stage (NWS Gauge MNDA2)

Note: Shading indicates limits of water inundation  
and does not include water depth

May 2025

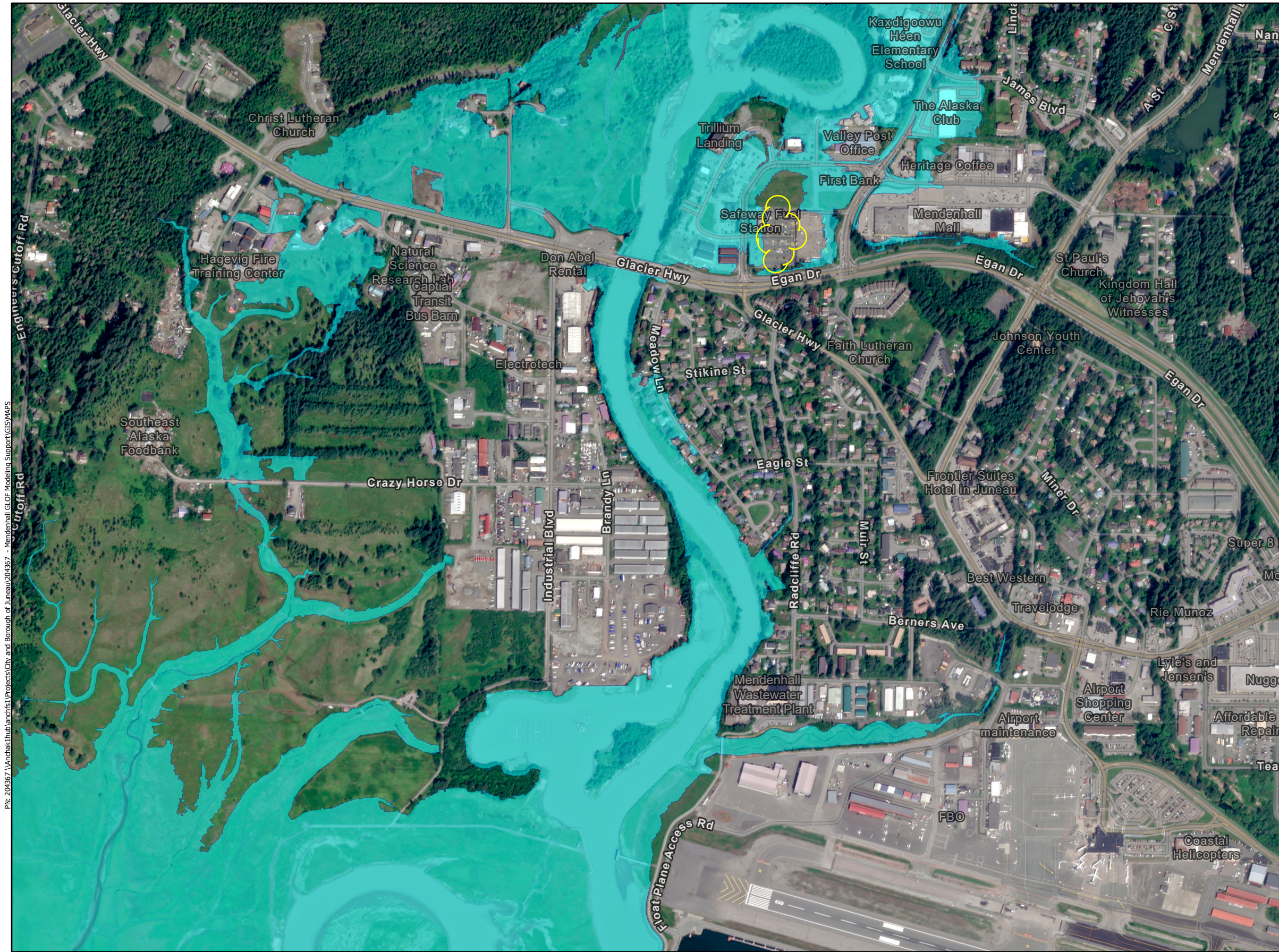


**Michael Baker**  
INTERNATIONAL



Source: State of Alaska, © OpenStreetMap, Microsoft, Esri Canada, Esri, TomTom, Garmin, SafeGraph, METI/NASA, USGS, EPA, NPS, US Census Bureau, USDA, USFWS, NRCAN, Parks Canada, State of Alaska, Esri Canada, Esri, TomTom, Garmin, SafeGraph, METI/NASA, USGS, EPA, NPS, USDA, USFWS, NRCAN, Parks Canada





# **Flood Fighting Inundation Maps** Mendenhall Valley, Juneau, AK

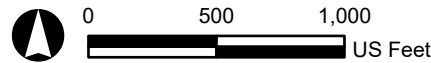
With HESCO Barrier  
17FT, Stage (NWS Gauge MNDA2)

Note: Shading indicates limits of water inundation  
and does not include water depth

Preliminary Map  
April 2025

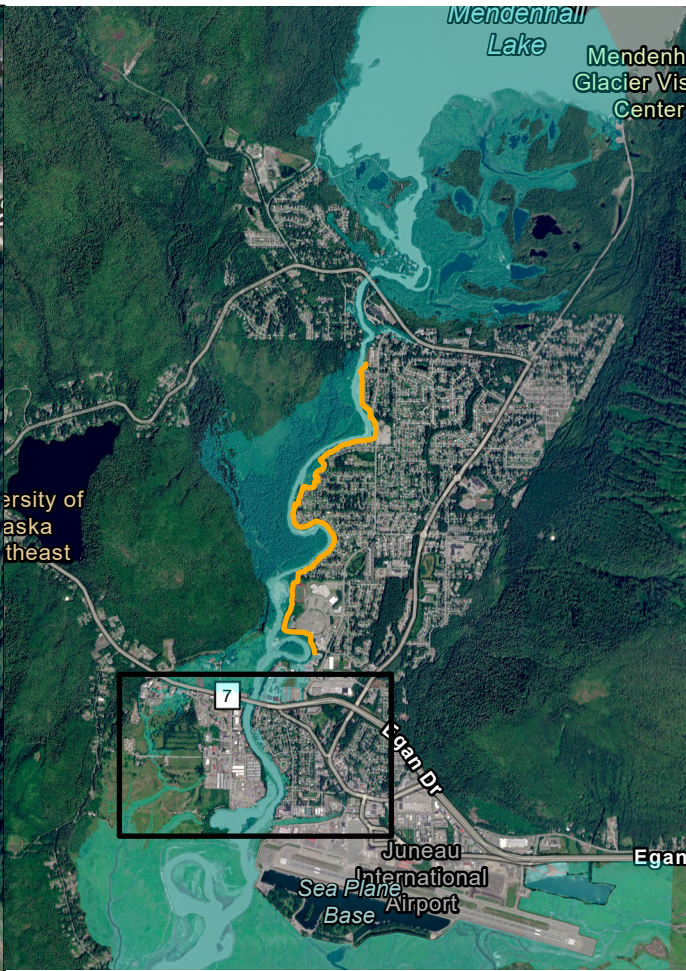
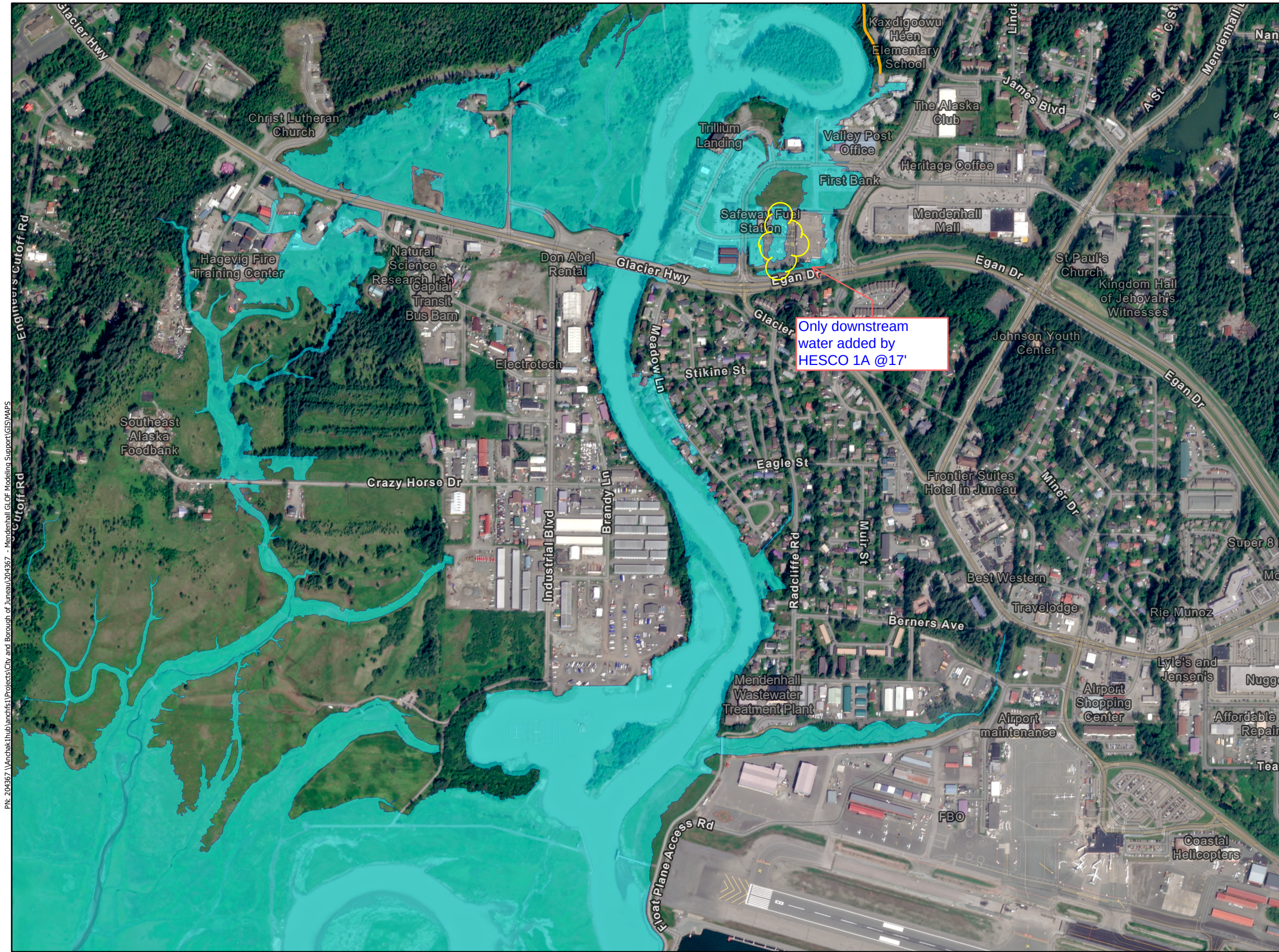


**Michael Baker**  
INTERNATIONAL



Source: State of Alaska, © OpenStreetMap, Microsoft, Esri Canada, Esri, TomTom, Garmin, SafeGraph, METI/NASA, USGS, EPA, NPS, US Census Bureau, USDA, USFWS, NRCAN, Parks Canada, State of Alaska, Esri Canada, Esri, TomTom, Garmin, SafeGraph, METI/NASA, USGS, EPA, NPS, USDA, USFWS, NRCAN, Parks Canada



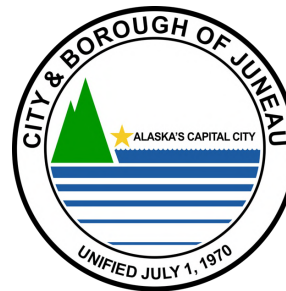


## Flood Fighting Inundation Maps Mendenhall Valley, Juneau, AK

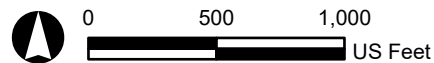
With HESCO Phase 1A Barrier  
17FT, Stage (NWS Gauge MNDA2)

Note: Shading indicates limits of water inundation  
and does not include water depth

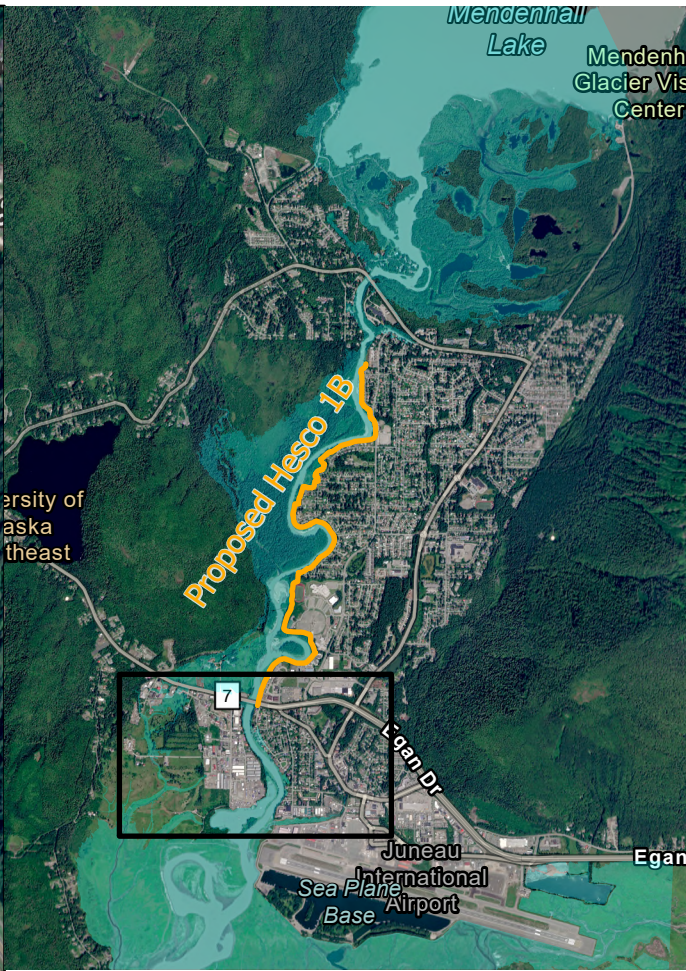
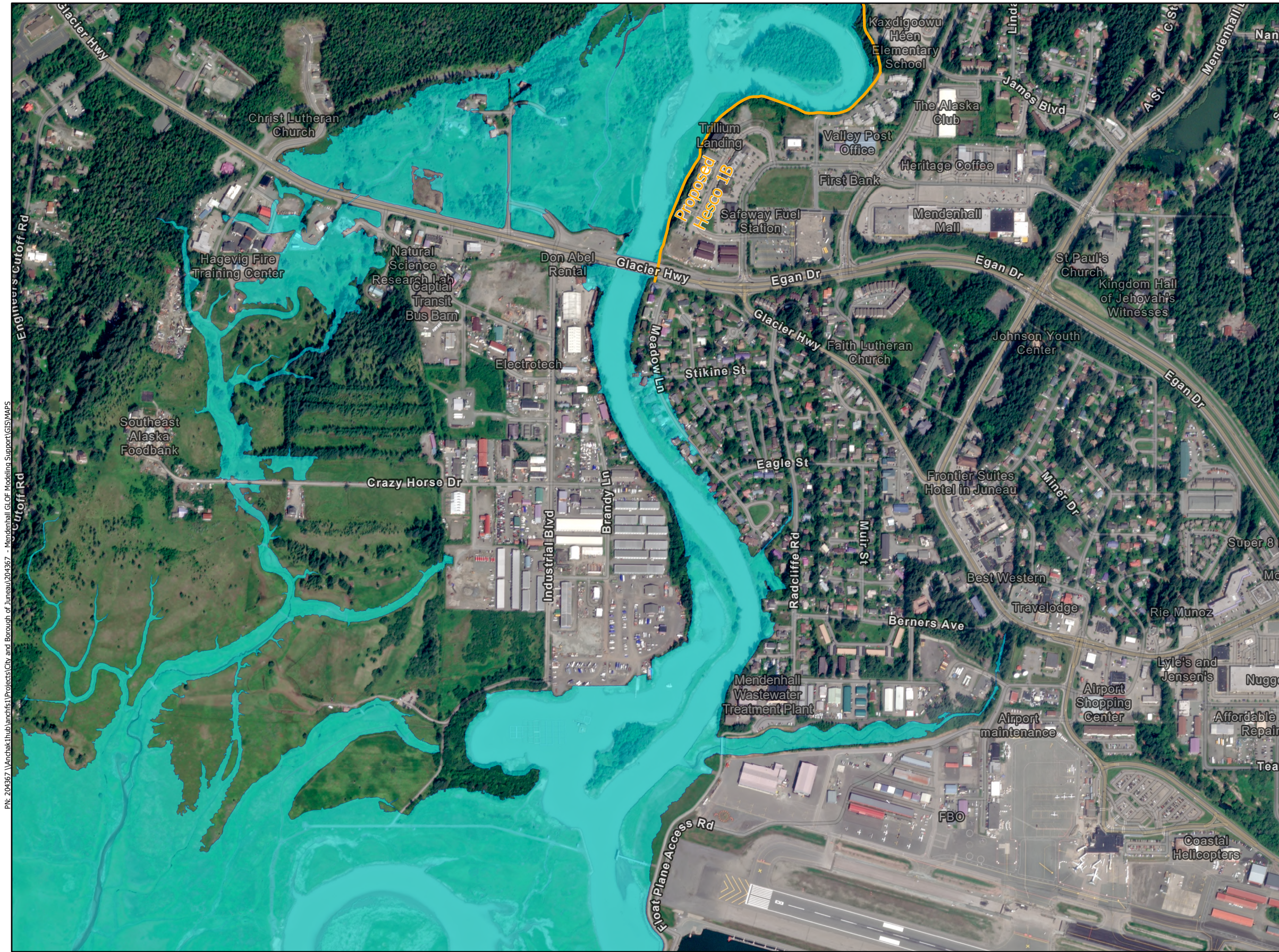
Preliminary Map  
April 2025



**Michael Baker**  
INTERNATIONAL







# **Flood Fighting Inundation Maps** Mendenhall Valley, Juneau, AK

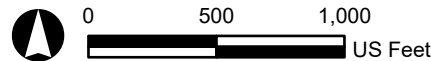
With HESCO Barrier 1B  
17FT, Stage (NWS Gauge MNDA2)

Note: Shading indicates limits of water inundation  
and does not include water depth

May 2025



**Michael Baker**  
INTERNATIONAL



Source: State of Alaska, © OpenStreetMap, Microsoft, Esri Canada, Esri, TomTom, Garmin, SafeGraph, METI/NASA, USGS, EPA, NPS, US Census Bureau, USDA, USFWS, NRCAN, Parks Canada, State of Alaska, Esri Canada, Esri, TomTom, Garmin, SafeGraph, METI/NASA, USGS, EPA, NPS, USDA, USFWS, NRCAN, Parks Canada



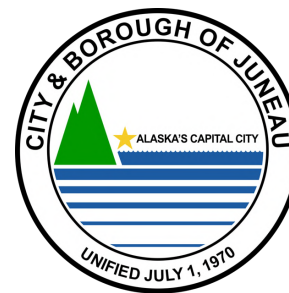


## Flood Fighting Inundation Maps Mendenhall Valley, Juneau, AK

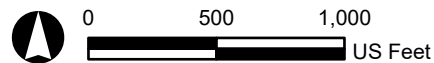
With HESCO Phase 1A Barrier  
18FT, Stage (NWS Gauge MNDA2)

Note: Shading indicates limits of water inundation  
and does not include water depth

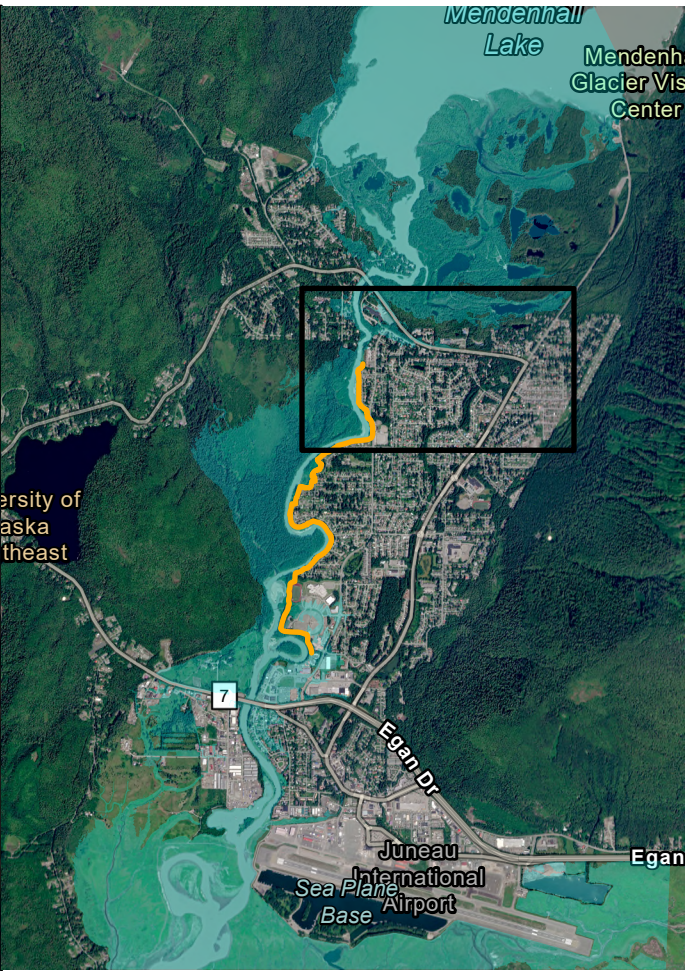
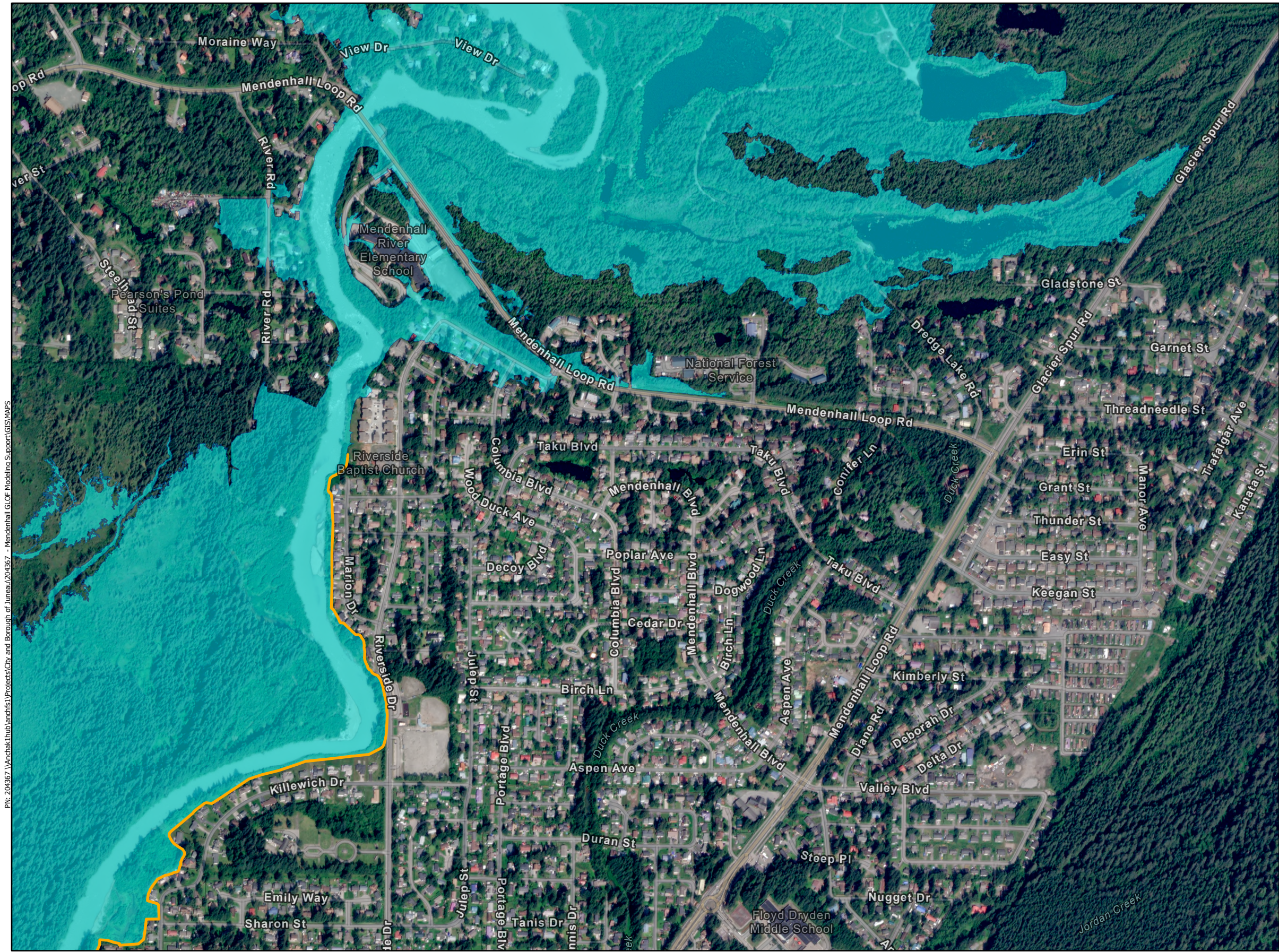
Preliminary Map  
April 2025



**Michael Baker**  
INTERNATIONAL







**Flood Fighting Inundation Maps**  
Mendenhall Valley, Juneau, AK

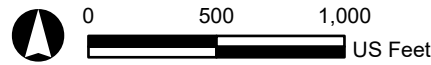
With HESCO Phase 1A Barrier  
18FT, Stage (NWS Gauge MNDA2)

Note: Shading indicates limits of water inundation  
and does not include water depth

Preliminary Map  
April 2025

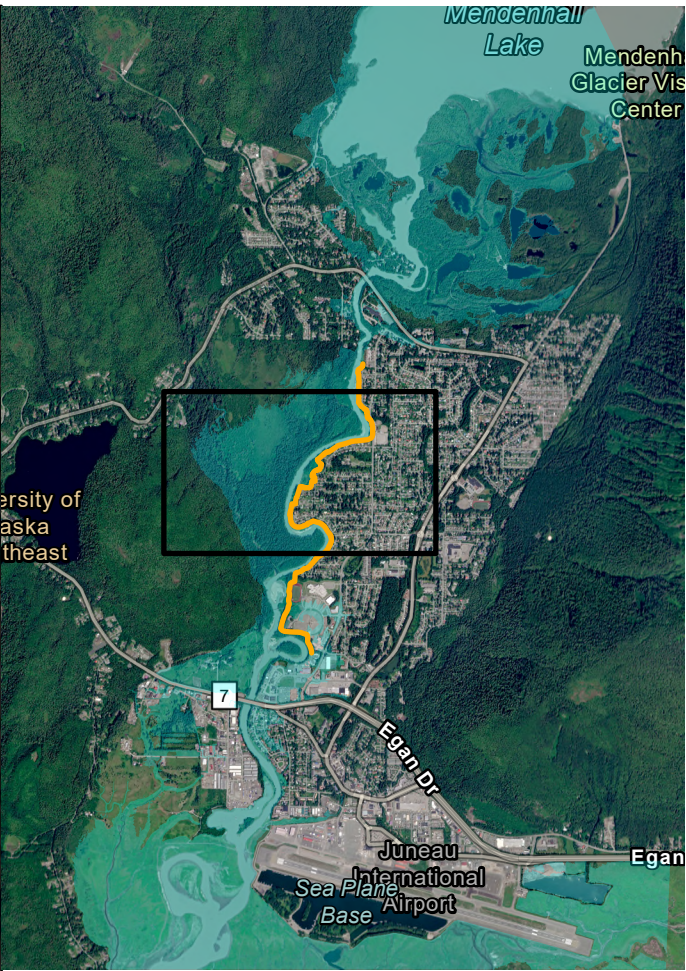
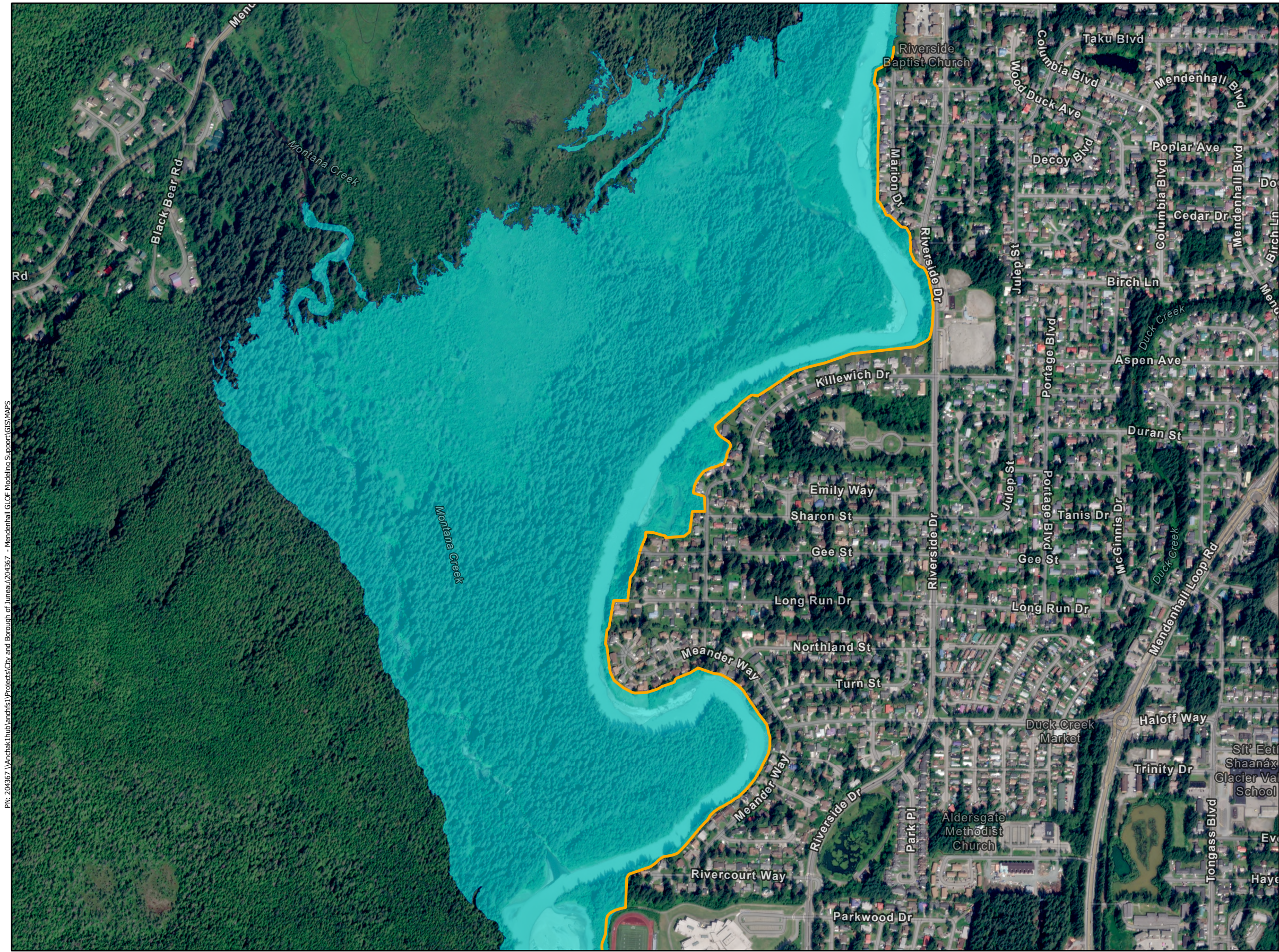


**Michael Baker**  
INTERNATIONAL



Source: State of Alaska, © OpenStreetMap, Microsoft, Esri Canada, Esri, TomTom, Garmin, SafeGraph, METI/NASA, USGS, EPA, NPS, US Census Bureau, USDA, USFWS, NRCAN, Parks Canada, State of Alaska, Esri Canada, Esri, TomTom, Garmin, SafeGraph, METI/NASA, USGS, EPA, NPS, USDA, USFWS, NRCAN, Parks Canada





# **Flood Fighting Inundation Maps** Mendenhall Valley, Juneau, AK

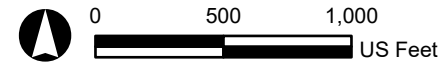
With HESCO Phase 1A Barrier  
18FT, Stage (NWS Gauge MNDA2)

Note: Shading indicates limits of water inundation  
and does not include water depth

Preliminary Map  
April 2025

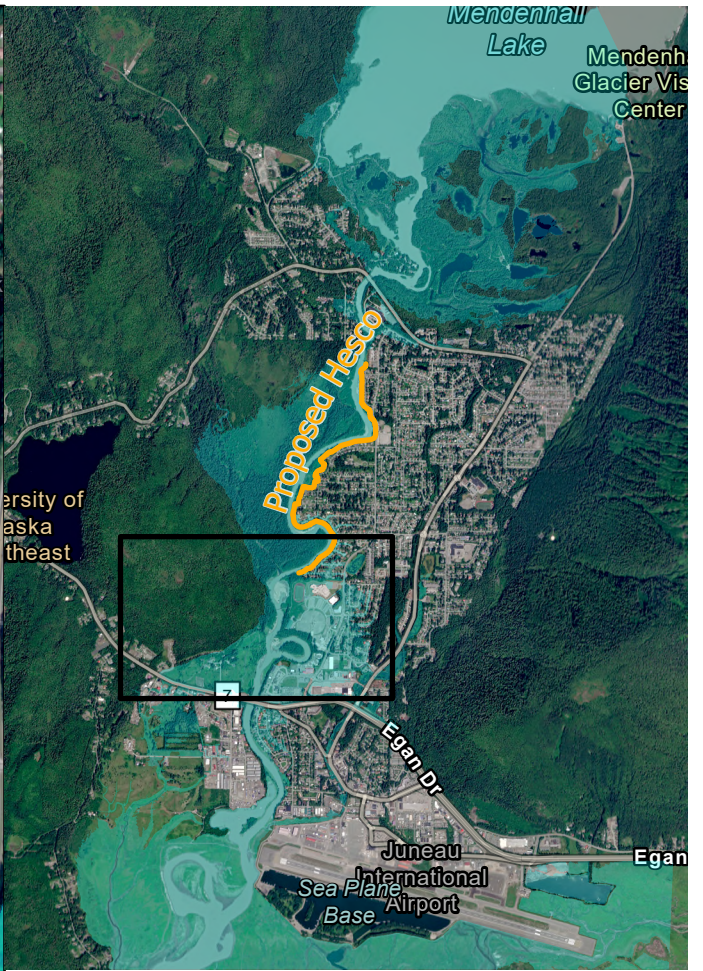
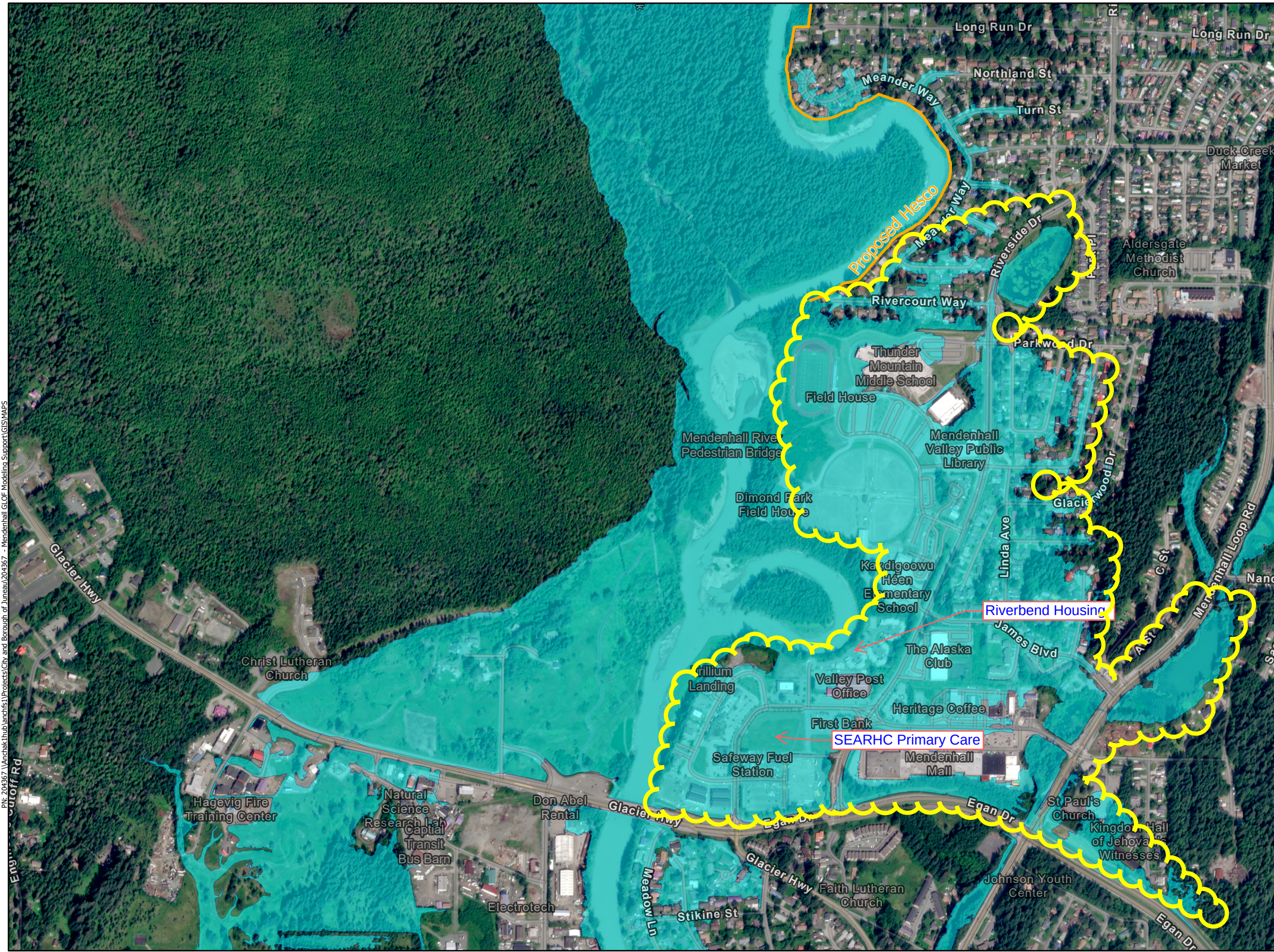


**Michael Baker**  
INTERNATIONAL



Source: State of Alaska, © OpenStreetMap, Microsoft, Esri Canada, Esri, TomTom, Garmin, SafeGraph, METI/NASA, USGS, EPA, NPS, US Census Bureau, USDA, USFWS, NRCAN, Parks Canada, State of Alaska, Esri Canada, Esri, TomTom, Garmin, SafeGraph, METI/NASA, USGS, EPA, NPS, USDA, USFWS, NRCAN, Parks Canada





## Flood Fighting Inundation Maps Mendenhall Valley, Juneau, AK

With HESCO Barrier  
18FT, Stage (NWS Gauge MNDA2)

Note: Shading indicates limits of water inundation  
and does not include water depth

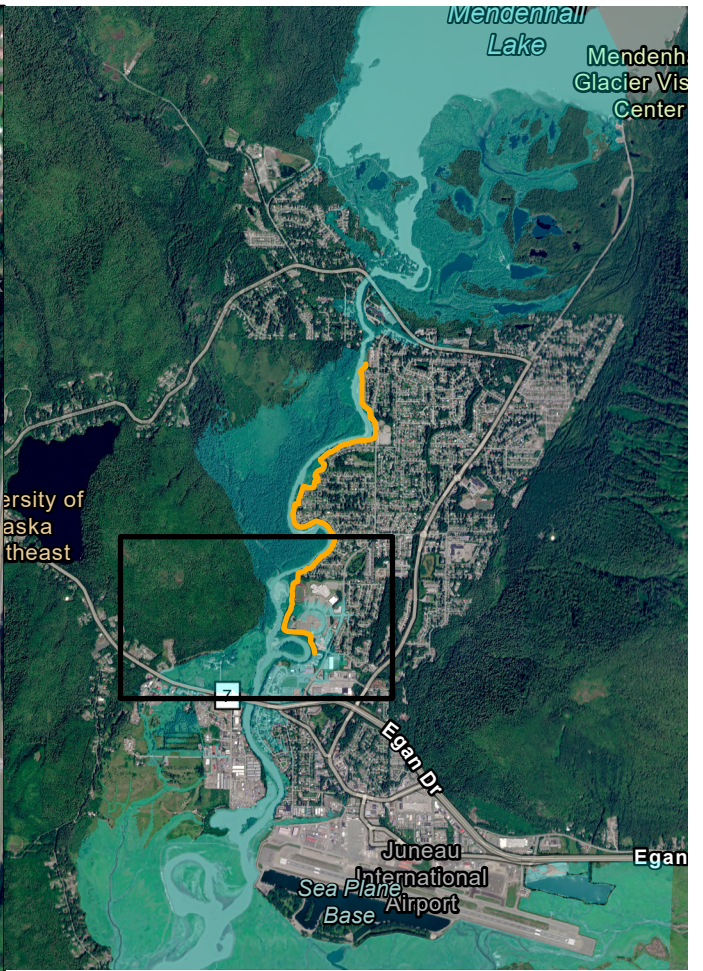
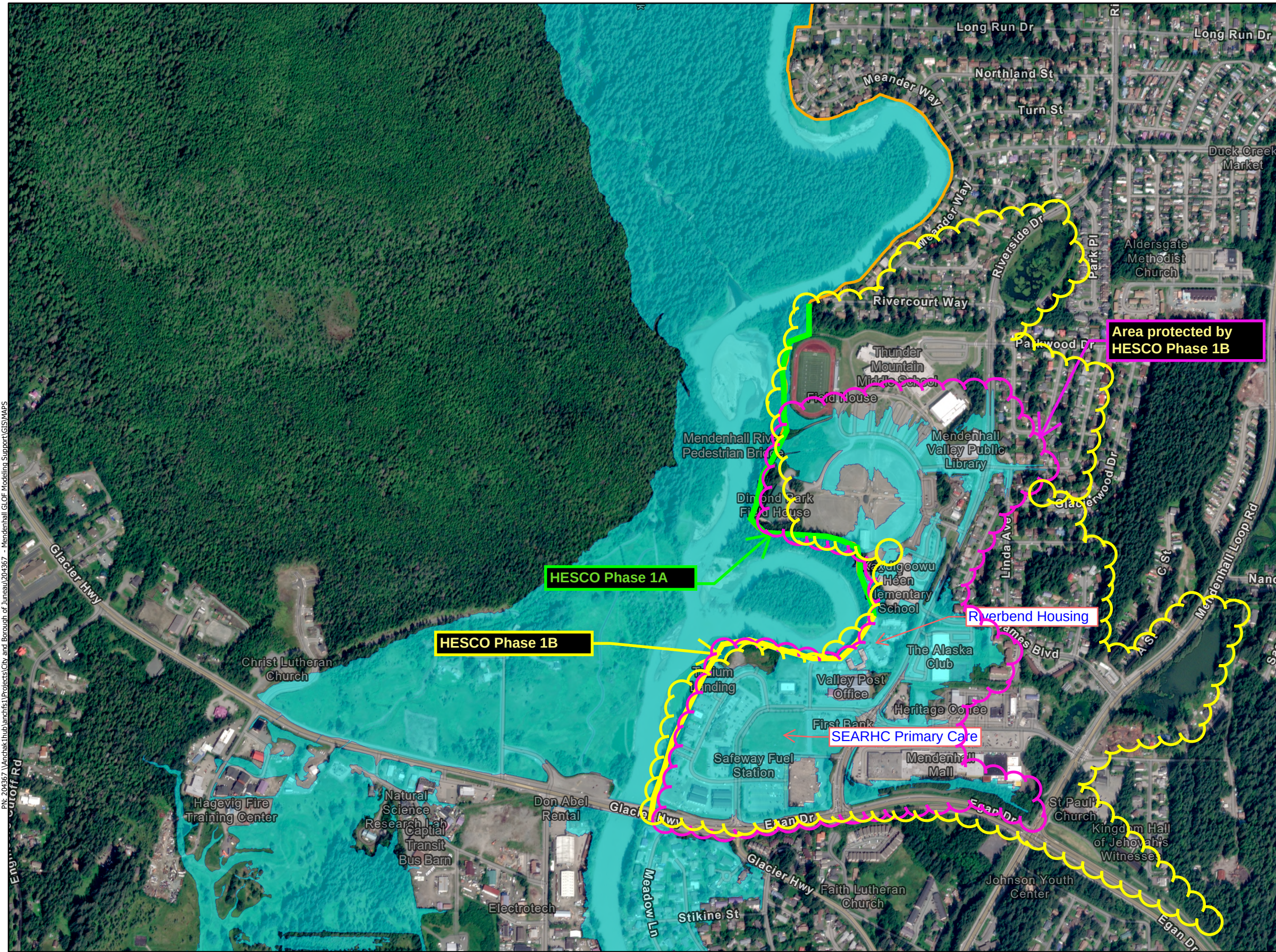
Preliminary Map  
April 2025



**Michael Baker**  
INTERNATIONAL







## Flood Fighting Inundation Maps Mendenhall Valley, Juneau, AK

With HESCO Phase 1A Barrier  
18FT, Stage (NWS Gauge MNDA2)

Note: Shading indicates limits of water inundation  
and does not include water depth

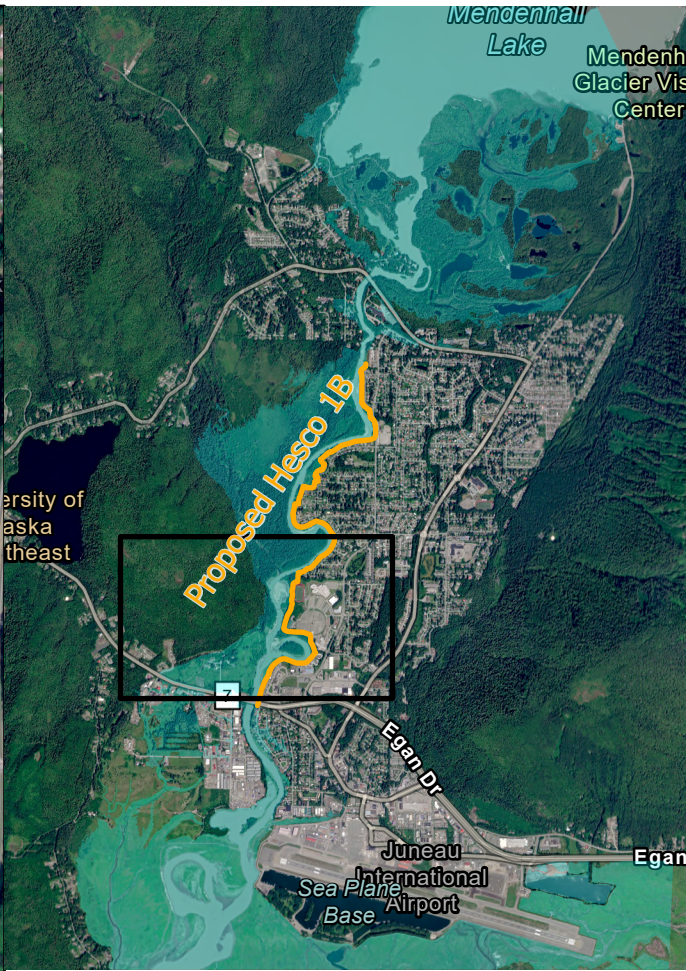
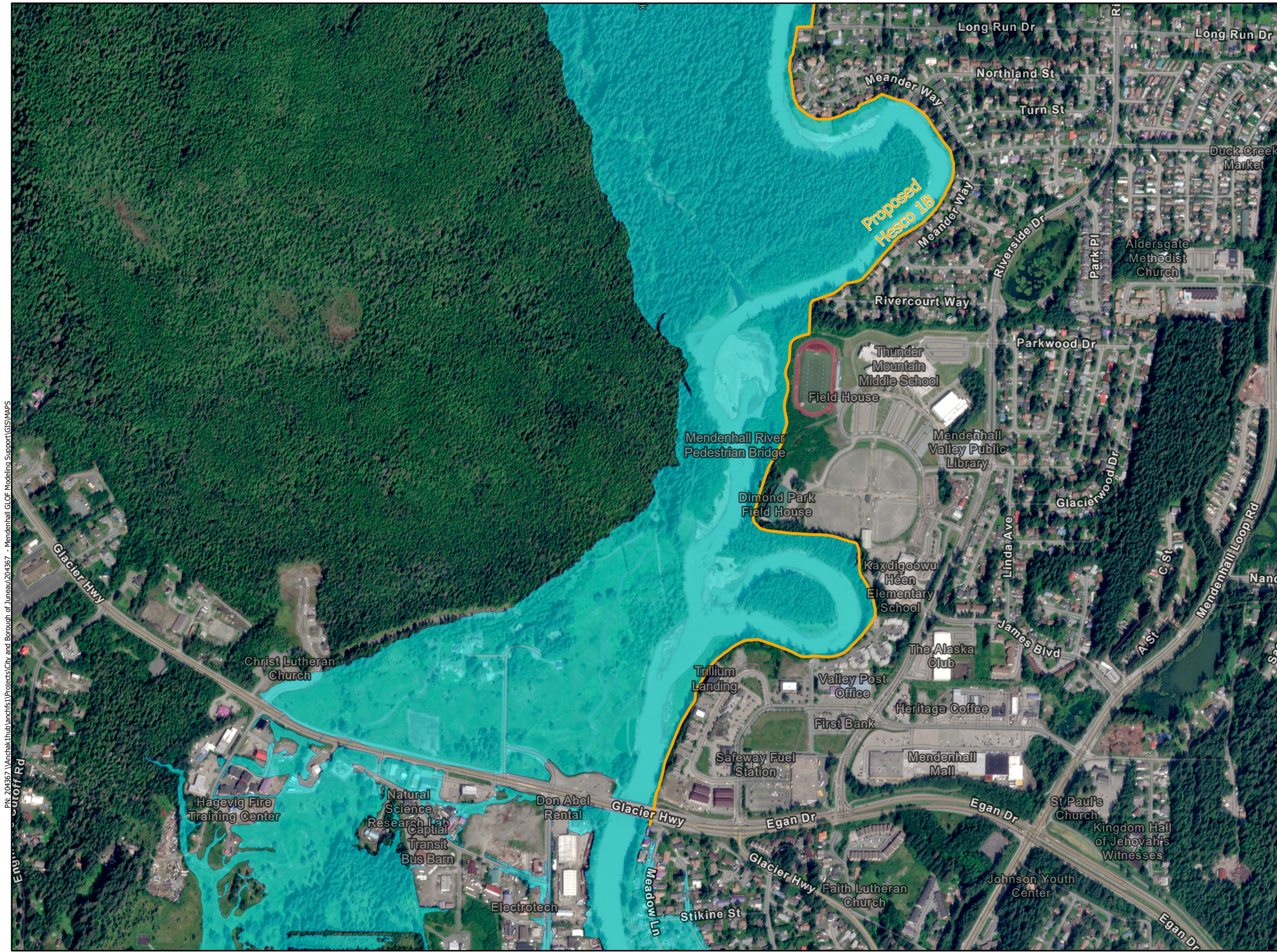
Preliminary Map  
April 2025



**Michael Baker**  
INTERNATIONAL







# **Flood Fighting Inundation Maps** Mendenhall Valley, Juneau, AK

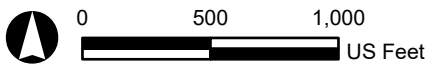
With HESCO Barrier 1B  
18FT, Stage (NWS Gauge MNDA2)

Note: Shading indicates limits of water inundation  
and does not include water depth

May 2025

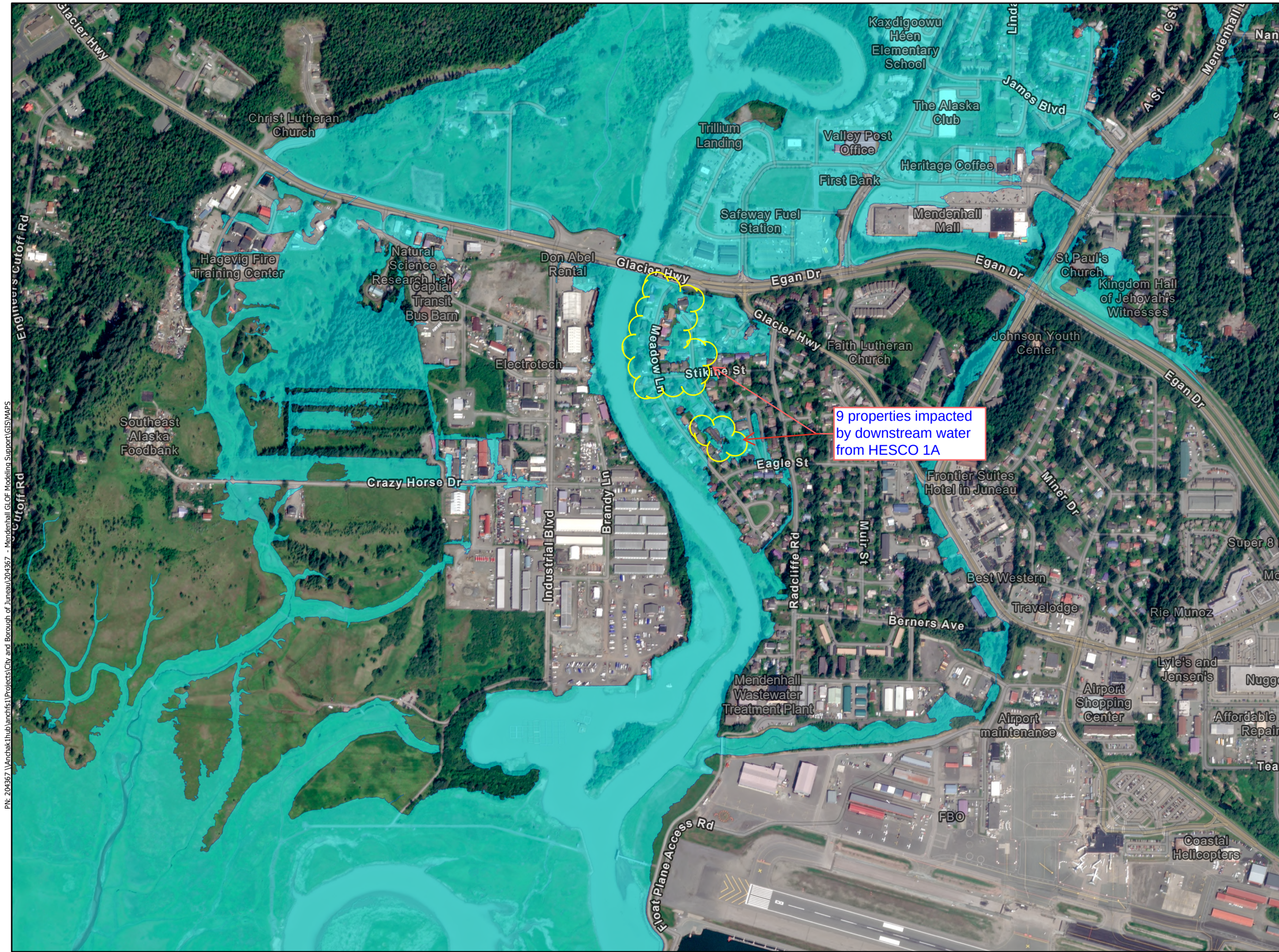


**Michael Baker**  
INTERNATIONAL



Source: State of Alaska, © OpenStreetMap, Microsoft, Esri Canada, Esri, TomTom, Garmin, SafeGraph, METI/NASA, USGS, EPA, NPS, US Census Bureau, USDA, USFWS, NRCAN, Parks Canada, State of Alaska, Esri Canada, Esri, TomTom, Garmin, SafeGraph, METI/NASA, USGS, EPA, NPS, USDA, USFWS, NRCAN, Parks Canada





# **Flood Fighting Inundation Maps** Mendenhall Valley, Juneau, AK

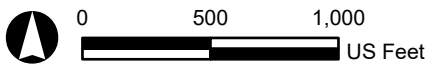
With HESCO Barrier  
18FT, Stage (NWS Gauge MNDA2)

Note: Shading indicates limits of water inundation  
and does not include water depth

Preliminary Map  
April 2025

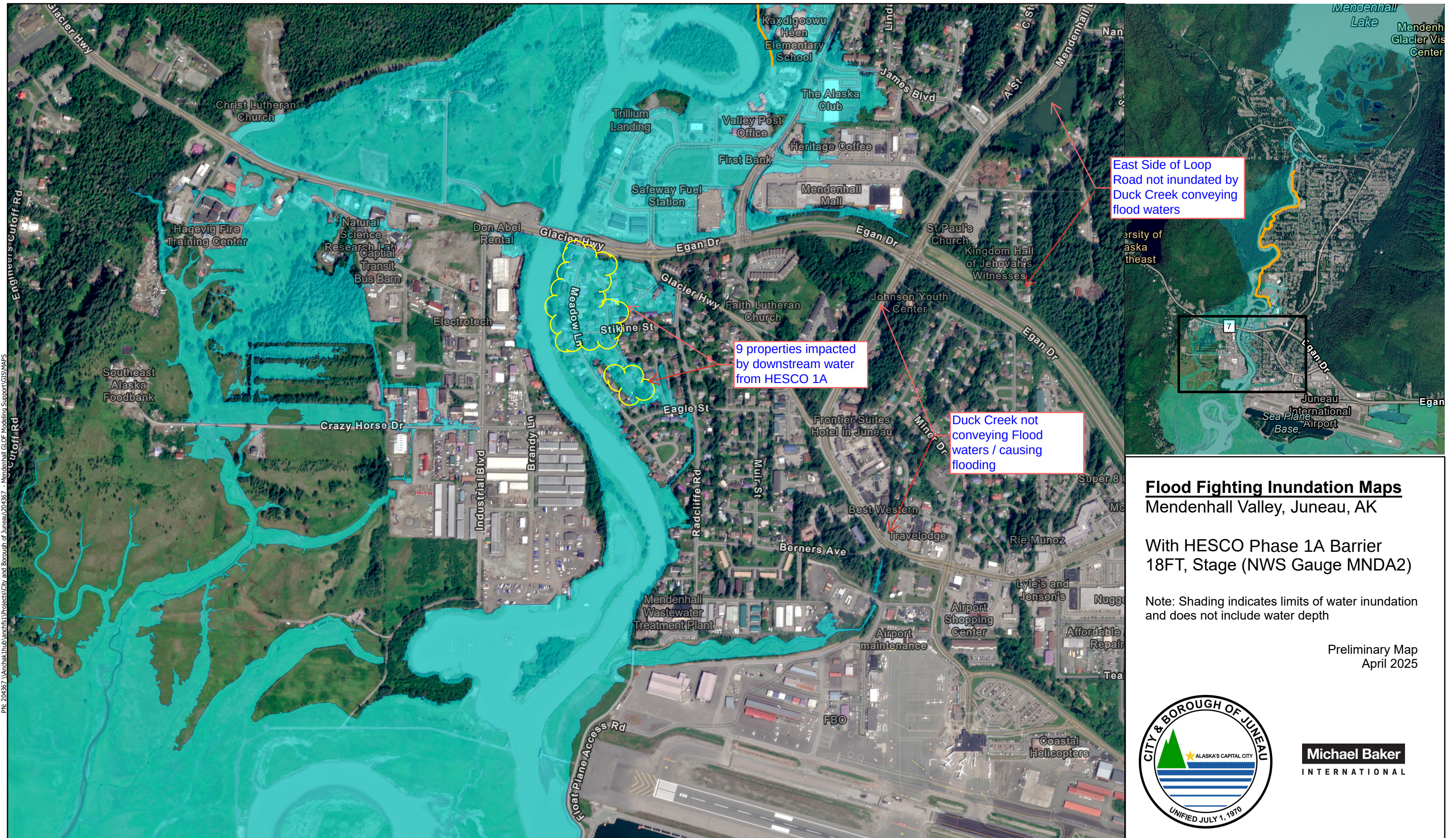


**Michael Baker**  
INTERNATIONAL

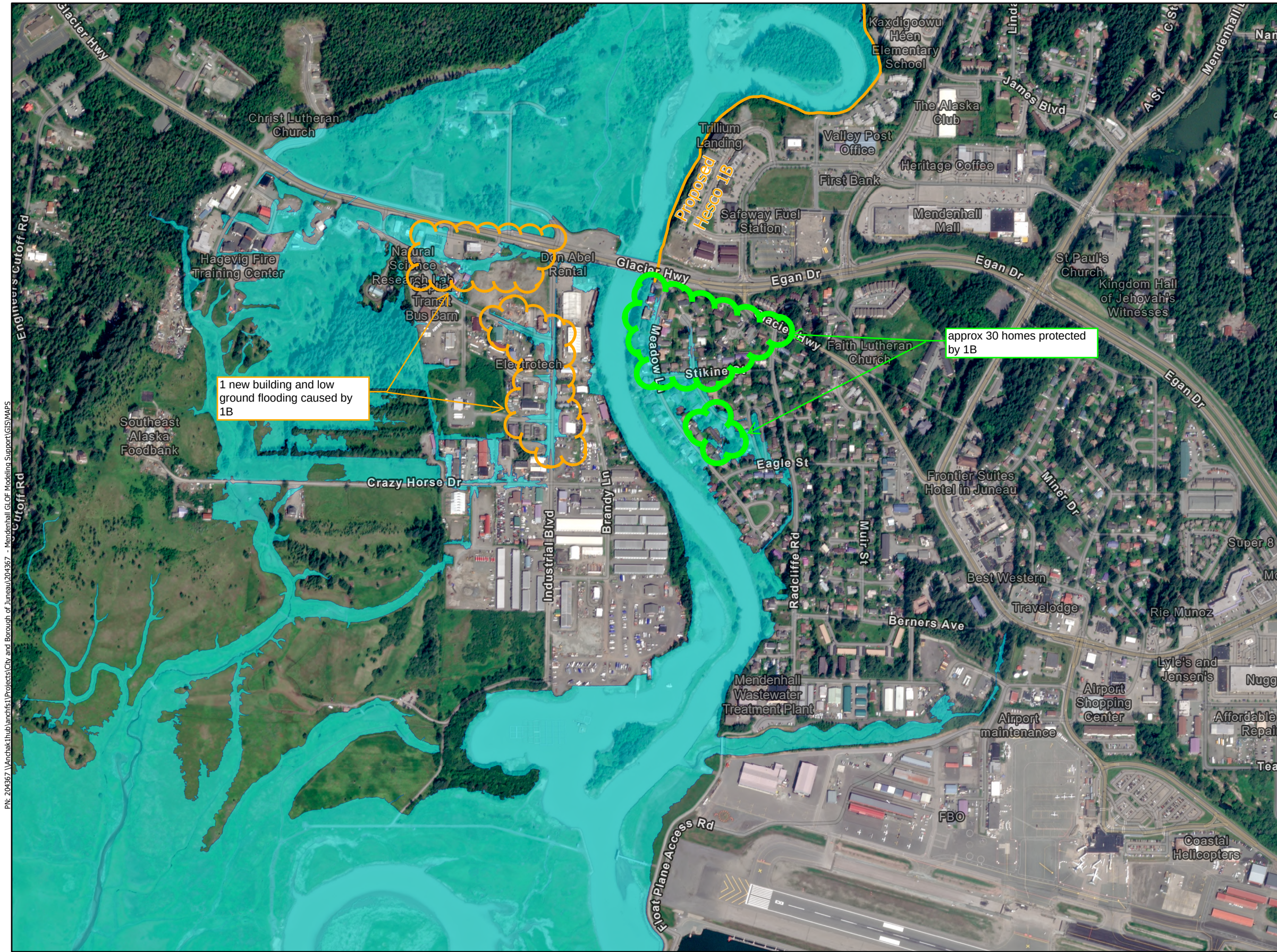


Source: State of Alaska, © OpenStreetMap, Microsoft, Esri Canada, Esri, TomTom, Garmin, SafeGraph, METI/NASA, USGS, EPA, NPS, US Census Bureau, USDA, USFWS, NRCAN, Parks Canada, State of Alaska, Esri Canada, Esri, TomTom, Garmin, SafeGraph, METI/NASA, USGS, EPA, NPS, USDA, USFWS, NRCAN, Parks Canada









## Flood Fighting Inundation Maps Mendenhall Valley, Juneau, AK

With HESCO Barrier 1B  
18FT, Stage (NWS Gauge MNDA2)

Note: Shading indicates limits of water inundation  
and does not include water depth

May 2025



**Michael Baker**  
INTERNATIONAL







City and Borough of Juneau  
City & Borough Manager's Office  
155 Heritage Way  
Juneau, Alaska 99801  
Telephone: 907-586-5240 | Facsimile: 907-586-5385

TO: Deputy Mayor Smith and CBJ Borough Assembly  
FROM: Katie Koester, City Manager  
DATE: May 29, 2025  
RE: Rank Choice Voting as it Applies to Juneau School Board Elections

---

The purpose of this memo is to organize Assembly discussion on proposed Ordinance 2025-13vHRC "An Ordinance Amending the Election Procedures Code to Include General Procedures for Ballot Count, Relating to Ranked Choice Voting."

Assemblymember Adkison has proposed Ordinance 2025-13vHRC to implement rank choice voting (RCV) for CBJ Assembly races. This was discussed at the [February 3](#) and [March 3](#) HRC meetings and forwarded to the COW for further discussion. At the HRC there was debate on whether to proceed with RCV for all CBJ elections (Assembly and School Board) or just Assembly races. There was concern that to apply RCV to the School Board races, there would have to be designated seats. Since then, our voting machine contractor, Dominion, has confirmed that CBJ can implement RCV for both races, using the cascading style of RCV, without the School Board changing their practices. There is a helpful video that can be found [here](#) that explains how RCV works in multi seat races.

#### **What About Multimember Races (Board of Education)**

The sponsor met with the Mayor, President of the Board of Education, and Superintendent Hauser and requested the Board of Education's comments on the proposed changes to elections. The Board of Education is meeting on Friday May 30<sup>th</sup> to discuss and provide their input to the body.

The draft version of Ordinance 2025-13 in your packet today has one change from the version forwarded from HRC; it clarifies how multi-member races will be counted. This makes it possible for RCV to be implemented without making candidates choose designated seats (Board of Education).

#### **Election Results Timing**

Election staff's current practice is to release election results on Election night and provide periodic updates until the election is certified two weeks later. While the results are not official until every vote is counted, the updated total on the Friday after the election has been highly predictive of the final results. Under RCV, staff would be able to provide periodic updates to *first choice* vote numbers, like the State of Alaska. By the Friday after the election the public would likely know the eventual winners for: ballot propositions, races with only two candidates, and races with three or more candidates if one candidate has more than 50% of the vote share. Staff cannot begin the rank choice process until after the Canvass Review Board meets – that means that close races and races for multimember seats would not be known until two weeks after the election.

#### **Cost**

There is a onetime \$14,000 cost for implementation with an annual cost of \$10,000 for software licensing fees. The Assembly may want to appropriate additional funds in year one for voter education.

#### **Implementation Timing**

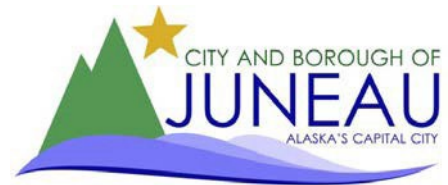
There is no way to implement RCV by the October 2025 election. However, the Clerk's Office has asked that any changes pass by late January to allow sufficient time for the new software model.

Enc:  
2.3.2025 Memo on Ranked Choice Voting  
Ordinance 2025-13vHRC with staff amendment  
Sample Ballots



# MEMORANDUM

**DATE:** 2/3/2025  
**TO:** HRC  
**FROM:** Law Department  
**SUBJECT:** Ranked Choice Voting



155 Heritage Way  
One Sealaska Plaza  
Suite 202  
Juneau, AK 99801  
Phone: (907) 586-5242

The Law Department was asked to draft legislation to move the City and Borough of Juneau (CBJ) to a ranked choice voting system (RCV).

In 2020, Alaskan voters approved an initiative which moved all state elections to a ranked choice voting system. In 2024, Alaskans rejected an initiative to repeal ranked choice voting. As of today's date, two new state initiatives to repeal ranked choice voting have been filed with the State Division of Elections. Should these initiatives gain the necessary signatures, voters will be asked again whether they would like to repeal ranked choice voting in the 2026 state election. No matter what happens at the state level, CBJ may set its election process for local races.

Data from the Division of Elections show that Juneau voters overwhelmingly supported ranked choice voting. While at the state level Ballot Measure 2 (repeal RCV) showed a final margin of 49.88% yes to 50.12% no, separated by just 743 votes, at the local level the numbers were quite different.<sup>1</sup> For District 3 (Juneau only) the margin was 39.0% yes to 61.0% no, and for District 4 it was 25.7% yes to 74.3% no.<sup>2</sup>

Currently CBJ uses two types of voting systems. The first, for single winner races, is referred to as "first past the post." The second, for races with multiple winners (for example, races which state "vote for no more than 2"), is referred to as "block voting." CBJ Charter sets out that the city will have both regular and special elections, and that election processes will be set out via ordinance (Charter Article 6). CBJ Code Title 29 sets forth the process of elections.

The attached ordinance matches State law with slight adjustments for CBJ code. We have also included three sample ballots. The first is a ballot from 2021, the second is a ballot using RCV for all races, the third is a ballot that uses a combination of RCV and block voting.

Several decision points need to be made:

- (1) Do you want to shift to ranked choice voting?
- (2) If so, do you:
  - a. Want to use RCV voting for single member races and block voting for multimember races? or
  - b. Do you want to move to RCV in all races?

Things to keep in mind when making these decisions are:

- There is a benefit to having all races handled in a consistent manner; and
- Block voting has historically been where we see confusion by voters and rejected votes; but
- Moving to single member races for all races represents a change for school board and early-term assembly vacancy races.

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.juneauempire.com/news/recount-of-ranked-choice-repeal-upholds-voters-rejection-and-increases-margin-by-six-votes/>

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.elections.alaska.gov/results/24GENR/map/>



1  
2 **CLERK'S OFFICE RECOMMENDED AMENDMENTS 29.07.155(c)**

3 Presented by: The Manager  
4 Presented: 02/03/2025  
5 Drafted by: Law Department

6 **ORDINANCE OF THE CITY AND BOROUGH OF JUNEAU, ALASKA**

7 **Serial No. 2025-13**

8 **An Ordinance Amending the Election Procedures Code to Include**  
9 **General Procedures for Ballot Count, Relating to Ranked Choice Voting.**

10 BE IT ENACTED BY THE ASSEMBLY OF THE CITY AND BOROUGH OF JUNEAU, ALASKA:

11 **Section 1. Classification.** This ordinance is of a general and permanent nature and  
12 shall become a part of the City and Borough of Juneau Municipal Code.

13 **Section 2. Amendment of Chapter.** Chapter 29.07, Election Procedures, is  
14 amended by adding a new section to read:

15 **Chapter 29.07 ELECTION PROCEDURES**

16 \*\*\*

17 **29.07.155 General procedures for ballot count, ranked choice voting.**

18 (a) All regular or special elections shall be conducted by ranked-choice voting.

19 (b) When counting ballots, for single member races, the Election Official or designees shall  
20 initially tabulate each validly cast ballot as one vote for the highest-ranked continuing  
21 candidate on that ballot or as an inactive ballot. If a candidate is highest-ranked on more than  
22 one-half of the active ballots, that candidate is elected and the tabulation is complete.

23 Otherwise, tabulation proceeds in sequential rounds as follows:  
24  
25



1  
2       (1) If two or fewer continuing candidates remain, the candidate with the greatest  
3       number of votes is elected and the tabulation is complete; otherwise, the  
4       tabulation continues under (2) of this subsection;

5       (2) Votes cast for the defeated candidate shall cease counting for the defeated  
6       candidate and shall be added to the totals of each ballot's next-highest-ranked  
7       continuing candidate or considered an inactive ballot under (g)(2) of this section,  
8       and a new round begins under (1) of this subsection.

9  
10     (c) For multi-member races, when counting ballots, the Election Official or designees shall  
11     initially tabulate each validly cast ballot as one vote for the highest-ranked continuing  
12     candidate on that ballot or as an inactive ballot, tabulating until a candidate receives more  
13     than one-half of the active ballots. That candidate is elected to the first seat. The highest-  
14     ranked candidate is then removed from the results and tabulation is repeated to find the  
15     highest-ranked candidate, who is placed in the next seat. This process continues until all seats  
16     are full. Seniority under CBJ 11.15.015, for multi-member races, will be designated in the same  
17     order that the seats were awarded.

18  
19     (d) When counting ballots,

20       (1) A ballot containing an overvote shall be considered an inactive ballot once the  
21       overvote is encountered at the highest ranking for a continuing candidate;

22       (2) If a ballot skips a ranking, then the next ranking shall be counted. If the next  
23       ranking is another skipped ranking, the ballot shall be considered an inactive  
24       ballot once the second skipped ranking is encountered; and

25       (3) In the event of a tie between the final two continuing candidates, the procedures  
      prescribed in Charter Section 6.6 shall apply to determine the winner of the



1  
2 election; in the event of a tie between two candidates with the fewest votes, the  
3 tie shall be resolved by lot to determine which candidate is defeated.

4 (e) The Election Official or designees may not count an inactive ballot for any candidate.

5 (f) In this section,

6 (1) “Continuing candidate” means a candidate who has not been defeated;

7 (2) “Inactive ballot” means a ballot that is no longer tabulated, either in whole or in  
8 part, because it does not rank any continuing candidate, contains an overvote at  
9 the highest continuing ranking, or contains two or more sequential skipped  
10 rankings before its highest continuing ranking;

11 (3) “Overvote” means an instance where a voter has assigned the same ranking to  
12 more than one candidate;

13 (4) “Ranking” or “ranked” means the number assigned by a voter to a candidate to  
14 express the voter's choice for that candidate; a ranking of “1” is the highest  
15 ranking, followed by “2,” and then “3,” and so on;

16 (5) “Round” means an instance of the sequence of voting tabulation in an election;

17 (6) “Skipped ranking” means a blank ranking on a ballot on which a voter has  
18 ranked another candidate at a subsequent ranking.

19  
20  
21 \*\*\*

22 **Section 3. Effective Date.** This ordinance shall be effective January 1, 2026.

23 Adopted this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2025.

24 \_\_\_\_\_  
25 Beth A. Weldon, Mayor

Attest:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Elizabeth J. McEwen, Municipal Clerk



CITY AND BOROUGH OF JUNEAU  
DEMO BALLOT  
DEMO ELECTION  
OCTOBER 1, 2024

03-300 Auke Bay

Instructions

To vote, completely fill in the oval next to your choice like this: 

Ranked Contest Instructions:

- Do not use red ink or a pencil to mark your ballot.
- Rank as many or few candidates as you like.
- Completely fill in no more than one oval for each candidate or column.
- For your 1st choice, fill in the oval in the first choice column.
- For your 2nd choice, fill in the oval in the 2nd choice column.
- For your 3rd choice, fill in the oval in the 3rd choice column, and so on.
- If you make a mistake, you can ask for a new ballot.

| Mayor    |                         |                         |                         |
|----------|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
|          | 1st<br>Choice           | 2nd<br>Choice           | 3rd<br>Choice           |
| John Doe | <input type="radio"/> 1 | <input type="radio"/> 2 | <input type="radio"/> 3 |
| Jane Doe | <input type="radio"/> 1 | <input type="radio"/> 2 | <input type="radio"/> 3 |
| Write-in | <input type="radio"/> 1 | <input type="radio"/> 2 | <input type="radio"/> 3 |

| Assembly District 1 |                         |                         |                         |                         |
|---------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
|                     | 1st<br>Choice           | 2nd<br>Choice           | 3rd<br>Choice           | 4th<br>Choice           |
| D1 Candidate A      | <input type="radio"/> 1 | <input type="radio"/> 2 | <input type="radio"/> 3 | <input type="radio"/> 4 |
| D1 Candidate B      | <input type="radio"/> 1 | <input type="radio"/> 2 | <input type="radio"/> 3 | <input type="radio"/> 4 |
| D1 Candidate C      | <input type="radio"/> 1 | <input type="radio"/> 2 | <input type="radio"/> 3 | <input type="radio"/> 4 |
| Write-in            | <input type="radio"/> 1 | <input type="radio"/> 2 | <input type="radio"/> 3 | <input type="radio"/> 4 |

| Assembly District 2 |                         |                         |                         |                         |
|---------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
|                     | 1st<br>Choice           | 2nd<br>Choice           | 3rd<br>Choice           | 4th<br>Choice           |
| D2 Candidate X      | <input type="radio"/> 1 | <input type="radio"/> 2 | <input type="radio"/> 3 | <input type="radio"/> 4 |
| D2 Candidate Y      | <input type="radio"/> 1 | <input type="radio"/> 2 | <input type="radio"/> 3 | <input type="radio"/> 4 |
| D2 Candidate Z      | <input type="radio"/> 1 | <input type="radio"/> 2 | <input type="radio"/> 3 | <input type="radio"/> 4 |
| Write-in            | <input type="radio"/> 1 | <input type="radio"/> 2 | <input type="radio"/> 3 | <input type="radio"/> 4 |

| Board of Education |                         |                         |                         |                         |                         |                         |                         |                         |                         |
|--------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
|                    | 1st<br>Choice           | 2nd<br>Choice           | 3rd<br>Choice           | 4th<br>Choice           | 5th<br>Choice           | 6th<br>Choice           | 7th<br>Choice           | 8th<br>Choice           | 9th<br>Choice           |
| Choice Alpha       | <input type="radio"/> 1 | <input type="radio"/> 2 | <input type="radio"/> 3 | <input type="radio"/> 4 | <input type="radio"/> 5 | <input type="radio"/> 6 | <input type="radio"/> 7 | <input type="radio"/> 8 | <input type="radio"/> 9 |
| Choice Bravo       | <input type="radio"/> 1 | <input type="radio"/> 2 | <input type="radio"/> 3 | <input type="radio"/> 4 | <input type="radio"/> 5 | <input type="radio"/> 6 | <input type="radio"/> 7 | <input type="radio"/> 8 | <input type="radio"/> 9 |
| Choice Charlie     | <input type="radio"/> 1 | <input type="radio"/> 2 | <input type="radio"/> 3 | <input type="radio"/> 4 | <input type="radio"/> 5 | <input type="radio"/> 6 | <input type="radio"/> 7 | <input type="radio"/> 8 | <input type="radio"/> 9 |
| Choice Delta       | <input type="radio"/> 1 | <input type="radio"/> 2 | <input type="radio"/> 3 | <input type="radio"/> 4 | <input type="radio"/> 5 | <input type="radio"/> 6 | <input type="radio"/> 7 | <input type="radio"/> 8 | <input type="radio"/> 9 |
| Choice Echo        | <input type="radio"/> 1 | <input type="radio"/> 2 | <input type="radio"/> 3 | <input type="radio"/> 4 | <input type="radio"/> 5 | <input type="radio"/> 6 | <input type="radio"/> 7 | <input type="radio"/> 8 | <input type="radio"/> 9 |
| Choice Foxtrot     | <input type="radio"/> 1 | <input type="radio"/> 2 | <input type="radio"/> 3 | <input type="radio"/> 4 | <input type="radio"/> 5 | <input type="radio"/> 6 | <input type="radio"/> 7 | <input type="radio"/> 8 | <input type="radio"/> 9 |
| Write-in           | <input type="radio"/> 1 | <input type="radio"/> 2 | <input type="radio"/> 3 | <input type="radio"/> 4 | <input type="radio"/> 5 | <input type="radio"/> 6 | <input type="radio"/> 7 | <input type="radio"/> 8 | <input type="radio"/> 9 |
| Write-in           | <input type="radio"/> 1 | <input type="radio"/> 2 | <input type="radio"/> 3 | <input type="radio"/> 4 | <input type="radio"/> 5 | <input type="radio"/> 6 | <input type="radio"/> 7 | <input type="radio"/> 8 | <input type="radio"/> 9 |
| Write-in           | <input type="radio"/> 1 | <input type="radio"/> 2 | <input type="radio"/> 3 | <input type="radio"/> 4 | <input type="radio"/> 5 | <input type="radio"/> 6 | <input type="radio"/> 7 | <input type="radio"/> 8 | <input type="radio"/> 9 |





CITY AND BOROUGH OF JUNEAU  
OFFICIAL BALLOT  
REGULAR MUNICIPAL ELECTION  
OCTOBER 5, 2021

Instructions:

To vote, completely fill in the oval next to your choice like this: 

Use a blue or black ink pen to mark your ballot. NO RED INK. To vote for a person whose name is not printed on the ballot, fill in the oval and print the person's name on the blank line provided for a write-in candidate. If you make a mistake voting, draw a line through the oval and candidate or issue you voted, write "NO" next to it and then continue voting by filling in the oval next to your choice.

| MAYOR<br>VOTE FOR NOT MORE THAN <u>ONE</u>                                                                                                             | SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER<br>VOTE FOR NOT MORE THAN <u>THREE</u>                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <input type="radio"/> Beth Weldon<br><input type="radio"/> Write-in                                                                                    | <input type="radio"/> Ibn Bailey<br><input type="radio"/> Thom Buzard<br><input type="radio"/> Elizabeth (Ebett) Siddon<br><input type="radio"/> Wiljordon V. Sangster<br><input type="radio"/> Aaron Spratt<br><input type="radio"/> Amber Frommherz<br><input type="radio"/> Write-in |
| <b>DISTRICT 1 ASSEMBLY</b><br>VOTE FOR NOT MORE THAN <u>ONE</u>                                                                                        | <input type="radio"/> Write-in                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| <input type="radio"/> Barbara Blake<br><input type="radio"/> Paul R. Kelly<br><input type="radio"/> Troy Wuyts-Smith<br><input type="radio"/> Write-in | <input type="radio"/> Write-in                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| <b>DISTRICT 2 ASSEMBLY</b><br>VOTE FOR NOT MORE THAN <u>ONE</u>                                                                                        | <b><u>PROPOSITION NO. 1</u></b><br><br>Go to Backside of Ballot for Proposition No. 1                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| <input type="radio"/> Michelle Bonnet Hale<br><input type="radio"/> Kelly Fishler<br><input type="radio"/> Write-in                                    |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |

**SAMPLE**

VOTE BOTH SIDES OF BALLOT





Elizabeth J. McEwen  
Municipal Clerk

CITY AND BOROUGH OF JUNEAU  
OFFICIAL BALLOT  
REGULAR MUNICIPAL ELECTION  
OCTOBER 5, 2021

**PROPOSITION NO. 1**

**Explanation**

Juneau currently has a permanent 1% sales tax, a temporary 1% sales tax, and a temporary 3% sales tax. The temporary 1% sales tax is automatically repealed on September 30, 2023. The temporary 3% sales tax is automatically repealed on July 1, 2022. The total of all CBJ sales taxes is currently 5%.

This ballot proposition would continue the current 3% temporary sales tax rate for an additional five years, until June 30, 2027. Accordingly, if this proposition is approved, the total sales tax rate would remain at 5%. This proposition would also continue the Assembly's intended allocation of the temporary 3% sales tax revenues as follows:

**Current Temporary Sales Tax  
(repealed July 1, 2022)**

- 1% police, fire, street maintenance, snow removal, EMT/ambulance service, parks and recreation, libraries, and other general purposes;
- 1% roads, drainage, retaining walls, sidewalks, stairs, and other capital improvements; and
- 1% allocated annually by the assembly for capital improvements, general government services (including the Better Capital City account and youth activities) and Budget Reserve.

**Total**  
3% Temporary sales tax until June 30, 2022

**New Proposed Temporary Sales  
Tax (July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2027)**

- 1% police, fire, street maintenance, snow removal, EMT/ambulance service, parks and recreation, libraries, and other general purposes;
- 1% roads, drainage, retaining walls, sidewalks, stairs, and other capital improvements; and
- 1% allocated annually by the assembly among capital improvements, an emergency budget reserve, and other general public services.

**Total**  
3% Proposed temporary sales tax starting July 1, 2022, and ending June 30, 2027

**PROPOSITION NO. 1**

**Authorization to Renew a Temporary 3% Areawide Sales Tax Effective July 1, 2022, Intended to Be Used for Certain Purposes as Set Forth Below.**

**Shall the City and Borough of Juneau, Alaska, levy and collect a temporary 3% areawide sales tax on the price of all taxable sales of goods and delivered in the City and Borough, effective July 1, 2022, for a period of five years only, in addition to the 1% permanent areawide sales tax and the 1% temporary areawide sales tax?**

It is the intent of the Assembly to use the temporary 3% areawide sales tax as follows:

- 1% police, fire, street maintenance, snow removal, EMT/ambulance service, parks and recreation, libraries, and other general purposes;
- 1% roads, drainage, retaining walls, sidewalks, stairs, and other capital improvement projects; and
- 1% allocated annually by the assembly among capital improvements, an emergency budget reserve, and other general public services.

**Total 3% Temporary Sales Tax**

☐ YES Extend 3% sales tax five years?

☐ NO Extend 3% sales tax five years?

**S A M P L E**

**VOTE BOTH SIDES OF BALLOT**



# JUNEAU'S SOLID WASTE

## Denise Koch

Director of Engineering and Public Works  
City & Borough of Juneau

[Denise.Koch@juneau.gov](mailto:Denise.Koch@juneau.gov)

## Dianna Robinson

Environmental Project Specialist  
City & Borough of Juneau

[Dianna.Robinson@juneau.gov](mailto:Dianna.Robinson@juneau.gov)





# PUBLIC VS. PRIVATE OWNERSHIP BY COMMUNITY

| PUBLICLY OWNED DISPOSAL AND/OR HAULING                                                                                                                       |                                                                                                                                                             | 100% PRIVATELY OWNED                 |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Anchorage<br>Yakutat<br>Homer<br>Seward<br>Ketchikan<br>Sitka<br>Kodiak<br>Skagway<br>Wrangell<br>Petersburg<br>Fairbanks<br>Bethel<br>Angoon<br>North Slope | Valdez<br>Cordova<br>Cold Bay<br>King Cobe<br>Nome<br>Denali<br>Hoonah<br>Kotzebue<br>Bristol Bay<br>Palmer/MatSu<br>Pelican<br>Thorne Bay<br>Angoon<br>... | Haines<br>Glenallen<br><u>JUNEAU</u> |



**FLOW CONTROL IN ALASKA**

**LANDFILLS ARE NOT REGULATED AS UTILITIES**



# FLOW CONTROL CONTINUED

**CBJ can gain control of Juneau's waste stream in one of two ways:**

- **Owning the waste hauling utility certificate**
- **Owning/controlling the solid waste disposal facility**

**Juneau's solid waste issues stem from disposal needs, not waste hauling.**





# HOW WOULD CONTROL BENEFIT THE COMMUNITY?

**The public would have input in operational decision-making.**

**For example:**

- **Hours of operation**
- **Disposal rates**
- **Program creation and development (e.g., refrigerator, pressure-treated lumber, tire, and asbestos waste management)**

**Currently, Waste Management (privately owned),  
does not need public input on these issues**



# SOLID WASTE PLANNING

## WE NEED TO TALK ABOUT OUR TRASH

If you live in Juneau, you've seen the landfill. Built in the 1960's, the Capitol Disposal Landfill (formally the Channel Landfill) has been a growing presence in Juneau ever since. It's difficult to know when the landfill will close, but the best estimate is in 10-15 years.

What will the community do with its trash after the landfill closes?

## JUNEAU SOLID WASTE IOI

### WASTE HAULING



## NEWS & EVENTS

- [DOE National Renewable Energy Lab \(NREL\) Report: Resource and Energy Recovery Opportunities from Waste in Juneau Alaska](#)
- [March 2025 – Final Draft of the Juneau Feasibility and Capital Costs Technical Memorandum](#)
- [March 17th – Presentation to PWFC on the Solid Waste Disposal Facility Feasibility and Capital Costs Technical Memorandum](#)
- [January 27th Solid Waste Presentation to the Public Works and Facilities Committee](#)
- [2024 Waste Characterization Study – Final Report](#)
- [Guidance for Alaska Waste's Curbside Recycling Program](#)

[SOLID WASTE PLANNING EMAIL SIGNUP](#)

SCAN ME





# Solid Waste Disposal Facility Feasibility and Capital Costs Technical Memorandum

*Fall 2024 – Winter 2025*





# CBJ Solid Waste Study

- Objective: Conduct a high-level evaluation of the capital costs and logistical feasibility in relation to three solid waste management scenarios.
- Methodology: Review of publicly available information and subject matter expert input, collaboration with CBJ.



# Key Study Assumptions

## 1. Locations:

- Transfer processing facility at lower Lemon Creek property
- Siting study needed for landfill and WTE facility

## 2. Facility capacity calculations for 50- and 100-year waste stream projections

## 3. Diversion rates:

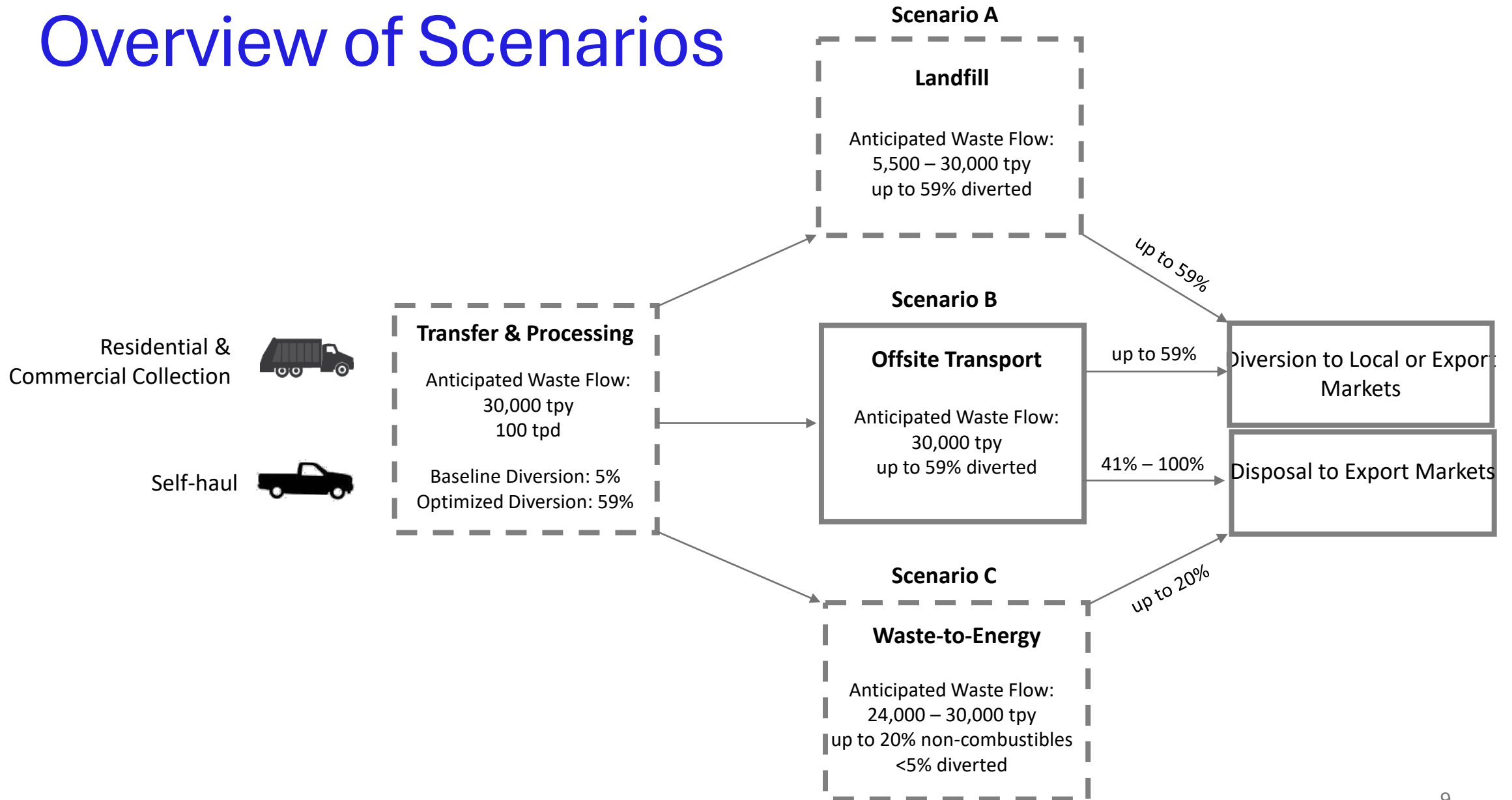
- Current/baseline = 5%
- Optimized conditions (CBJ Waste Characterization Study) = 59%

## 4. Existing facilities for barge loading are adequate for transport

## 5. Financial viability impacted by many factors outside the scope of this study (construction schedule, number of bidders, ownership model, etc.)



# Overview of Scenarios





# Transfer Processing Facility Capital Costs

| Name                                                   | Estimate Stage              | Estimate Year | Facility Size (SF) | Adjusted Cost per SF* |
|--------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------|--------------------|-----------------------|
| Central Transfer and Recycling Station, WA             | Class 3 planning estimate   | 2023          | 63,000             | \$800                 |
| North Area Recovery Station, CA                        | Engineer's estimate         | 2023          | 51,000             | \$920                 |
| Municipality of Anchorage Central Transfer Station, AK | Construction estimate       | 2024          | 133,000            | \$1,000               |
| Great Falls Transfer Station, MT                       | Class 4 planning estimate   | 2023          | 11,000             | \$1,040               |
| New Transfer Station in Portland Region, OR            | Order-of-magnitude estimate | 2023          | 13,000             | \$1,550               |

*\*Costs adjusted to Q1 of 2025 and escalated for higher costs in Juneau*

**Transfer processing facility, prepares MSW for local disposal:**

\$9 million to \$20 million (2025\$)

**Transfer processing facility, prepares MSW for offsite transport:**

\$14 million to \$40 million (2025\$)



# Landfill Capital Costs

| Name                                                   | Estimate Stage            | Estimate Year | Landfill Footprint (Acres) | Adjusted Cost per Acre* |
|--------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------|---------------|----------------------------|-------------------------|
| Anchorage Landfill Expansion, AK**                     | Construction bid          | 2020          | 15                         | \$477,500               |
| Western Placer Waste Management Authority Landfill, CA | Class 4 planning estimate | 2018          | 253                        | \$1,654,000             |
| Kodiak Landfill, AK**                                  | Payment Records           | 2013 to 2016  | 10                         | \$3,232,000             |

\* Costs adjusted to Q1 of 2025 and escalated for higher costs in Juneau

\*\*Expansion of existing landfill

## Additional Notes:

1. Capital estimates vary based on landfill geometry and design parameters. Conservative estimates were used in calculations.
2. Landfill capital costs would be applied in phases, while capital costs for other facilities are upfront.
3. Costs to construct landfill cells only; operating and maintenance facilities not included.

**50-year landfill, 50- to 100-acre total site area:**

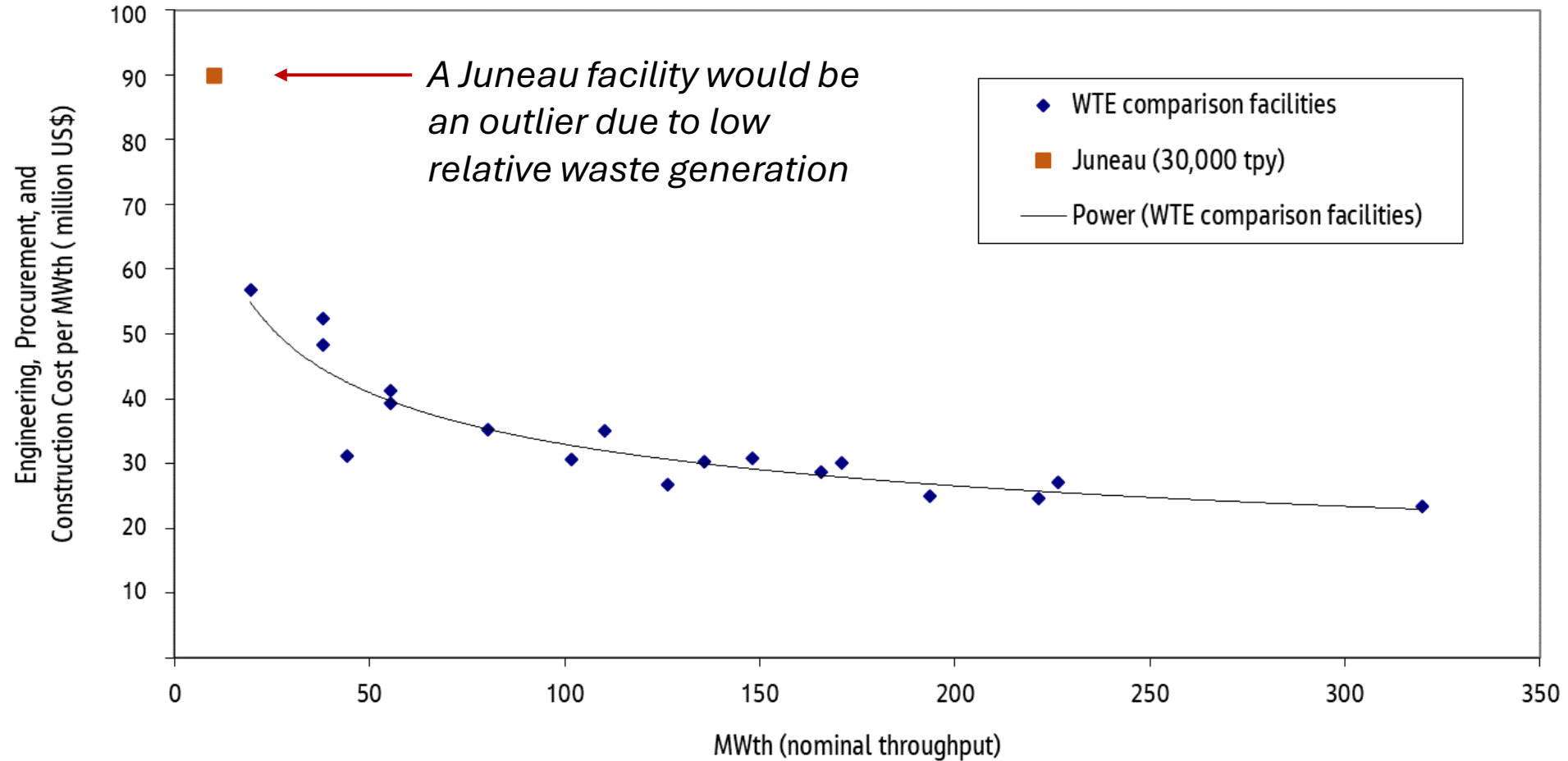
\$50 million to \$162 million (2025\$)

**100-year landfill, 100- to 200-acre total site area:**

\$99 million to \$323 million (2025\$)



# Waste-to-Energy Capital Costs





# Preliminary Scenario Rankings

| SCENARIO                                                                                                                                                 | FEASIBILITY RANKING | CAPITAL COST RANGE <sup>[a]</sup>                                                                                 | PROS                                                                                                                                                                                                  | CONS                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>B. Construct a transfer processing facility</b> with waste and recyclables <b>sent south by barge</b> for recycling and disposal.                     | 1                   | <b>Total = \$14 million – \$40 million</b><br><i>offsite shipping costs negotiated in transportation contract</i> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•No capital costs to construct a new solid waste management facility.</li> <li>•Minimal regulatory requirements without a landfill or WTE facility.</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Offsite transportation costs, impacts, and availability of markets to accept material are outside of CBJ control; exposure to financial risks.</li> <li>•Operating costs are transferred into higher fees from the hauler and operator.</li> </ul>                                                                                                               |
| <b>A. Construct a new landfill and transfer processing facility</b> with recyclables sent south by barge for diversion.                                  | 2                   | <b>Total = \$59 million – \$182 million</b>                                                                       | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•High level of control over operating costs, rates, and solid waste flow.</li> </ul>                                                                           | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Construction of a new landfill is expensive.</li> <li>•Siting and permitting likely to take an extensive amount of time.</li> <li>•Operating costs would be sustained by the CBJ unless the CBJ enters into an operating agreement with a private company.</li> <li>•Leachate treatment and stormwater management could be a significant cost factor.</li> </ul> |
| <b>C. Construct a WTE facility and transfer processing facility</b> for MSW with noncombustibles, recyclables, and ash sent south by barge for disposal. | 3                   | <b>Total = \$99 million – \$110 million</b>                                                                       | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•High level of control over operating costs, rates, and solid waste flow.</li> <li>•Minimizes solid waste volume and land use impacts.</li> </ul>              | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Diversion would likely be minimized to optimize efficiency of energy recovery.</li> <li>•No potential for revenue from net metering.</li> <li>•Does not improve the renewable energy profile for the CBJ.</li> <li>•WTE requires a high level of expertise and is more expensive to construct and operate than the other scenarios.</li> </ul>                   |

<sup>[a]</sup> Capital costs are not applied over the same time period across all scenarios. For example, the landfill capital would be applied over a 50-year period, while the transfer station and WTE may require significant replacement capital over the same 50-year period. Assessment of these factors would be completed with a more comprehensive economic analysis.



# Recommended Next Steps

1

Decide whether CBJ wants to have control in the solid waste management system by owning a solid waste disposal facility.

2

If control is desired, proceed to develop a transfer processing facility that can be used regardless of the scenario selected with design considerations for future expansion

3

Engage with shipping partners and evaluate the capacity of the current shipping facility and the waste hauler's needs for the transfer station.

4

Perform a high-level operating cost estimation for Scenarios A & B (building a new landfill or expanding the transfer station to accommodate shipping waste south for disposal).





Challenging today.  
Reinventing tomorrow.

## Thank you!

- Terra Miller-Cassman – [terra.millercassman@jacobs.com](mailto:terra.millercassman@jacobs.com)
- Lyndsey Lopez – [lyndsey.lopez@jacobs.com](mailto:lyndsey.lopez@jacobs.com)



# WHAT DOES CBJ WANT?

## **ACTION REQUESTED:**

Staff recommend the use of up to \$100,000 from the Zero Waste CIP #D12-103 for a high-level solid waste facility operational cost study?

## **GUIDANCE REQUESTED:**

Does the Assembly want EPW to include a transfer station in the Zero Waste Campus site planning process?





City and Borough of Juneau  
City & Borough Manager's Office  
155 Heritage Way  
Juneau, Alaska 99801  
Telephone: 907-586-5240 | Facsimile: 907-586-5385

TO: Deputy Mayor Smith and Committee of the Whole  
FROM: Katie Koester, City Manager  
DATE: May 29, 2025  
RE: Advocacy on Ballot Measures

---

Alaska Statute requires municipalities to register with APOC and appropriate funds if engaging in activities that could influence the outcome of an election.<sup>1</sup> There are several ballot propositions that could be on the October ballot, including one initiated by the Assembly to exempt sales tax on food and utilities and implement a seasonal sales tax.<sup>2</sup>

**What would voter education look like without an appropriation/ filing with APOC**

Staff would be very careful to only provide basic facts and do little to proactively disseminate information. For example, we would have an FAQ on our website and respond to media and constituent inquiries but would not speak at events. Assemblymembers are free to advocate in their capacity as individuals.

**What would we do with an appropriation and authority to advocate?**

Staff would hire a marketing firm to run a campaign. The New City Hall campaign taught us that it can be detrimental for staff close to an issue be the face of it. We would hire a consultant on a short-term contract under \$50,000 to provide radio and print advertising, social media ads, and direct mail to voters. There will be some staff interaction behind the scenes, and a CBJ website, which would be charged to the appropriation and appropriately documented with APOC.

**Timing**

Ballots are mailed mid-September, which means many voters are deciding well in advance of election day. To develop a robust, albeit short, media campaign, we would need an appropriation introduced at the next regular meeting. Attorney Wright determined that because it is temporary in nature, a resolution authorizing the manager to advocate and provide public information is appropriate. This means that with passage of the appropriating ordinance and authorizing resolution on July 28, staff could immediately register with APOC and begin work on the campaign.<sup>3</sup> The earliest we will know if the propositions initiated by the public have enough signatures to make it on the ballot is June 9.

**Recommendation:** Discuss appetite for advocating and providing the public information that may influence the outcome of a future ballot proposition. If supportive, direct staff to introduce an ordinance at the June 9 regular meeting with corresponding resolution on July 28.

---

<sup>1</sup> The Alaska Public Offices Commission disclosure and filing requirements, AS 15.13.145(c)(2) permits the CBJ to provide the public with nonpartisan information about a ballot proposition, however, AS 15.13.145(b) prohibits the CBJ from using funds to influence the outcome of an election concerning a ballot proposition unless the CBJ specially appropriates the funds for that purpose by ordinance.

<sup>2</sup> The current proposal by Steininger/Smith/Hughs-Skandijs exempts sales tax on all utilities and food and implements a winter tax rate of 3.5% and summer sales tax rate of 7.5%. This ordinance will be introduced at the 6.9 regular meeting and referred to the 7.14 COW for further discussion.

<sup>3</sup> June 9- Ordinance appropriating funds is introduced

July 28 – Ordinance appropriating funds and Resolution authorizing activity is passed. (this would be the same date an Ordinance putting the Steininger /Smith/Hughes- Skandijs proposal would be approved to be placed on the ballot)

Week of July 29- Staff registers with APOC, develops a scope of work, and negotiates a sole-source contract

August 4-15 – Consultant develops initial materials

August 15- September 31 – Direct media campaign immediately preceding the election

October 7 – Regular Municipal Election