



SUSITNA-WATANA  
HYDROELECTRIC PROJECT

# River Recreation Flow and Access Study

Study Status & Plans for 2014/2015



# River Recreation Flow and Access Study Status Update



- Progress to date
- Variances
- Next steps



151°W

150°W

149°W

148°W

147°W

146°W

63°30'N

63°N

62°30'N

62°N

N.63°

N.62°30'

N.62°N

-  Recreation Reach 1 Denali Highway to Fog Creek; 114 miles
-  Recreation Reach 2 Fog Creek to Portage Creek - 28 miles
-  Recreation Reach 3 Portage Creek to Parks Highway; 66 miles

CLEARWATER MTNS

TALKEETNA MOUNTAINS

Denali Hwy Bridge  
Project River Mile 291.6

Portage Creek  
Project River Mile 152.3

Proposed Watana Dam Site  
Project River Mile 187.2

DENALI NATIONAL PARK

DENALI STATE PARK

Devils Canyon - Project  
River Mile 152.8 to 163.8

Fog Creek  
Project River Mile 179.3

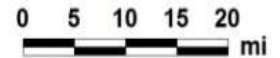
Petersville

Talkeetna

Parks Highway Bridge  
Project River Mile 88.9



Data Sources: See Map References



Projection: Alaska Albers NAD 1983  
Date Created: 8/29/2013  
Map Author: ERM, Inc - Alex Kirk  
File: SuWa\_12-1\_RecReaches3.mxd

Skwentna

Trapper Creek

Sherman

Gold Creek

Chulitna

Denali Hwy

Susitna River

Talkeetna River

Portage Creek

Parks Hwy

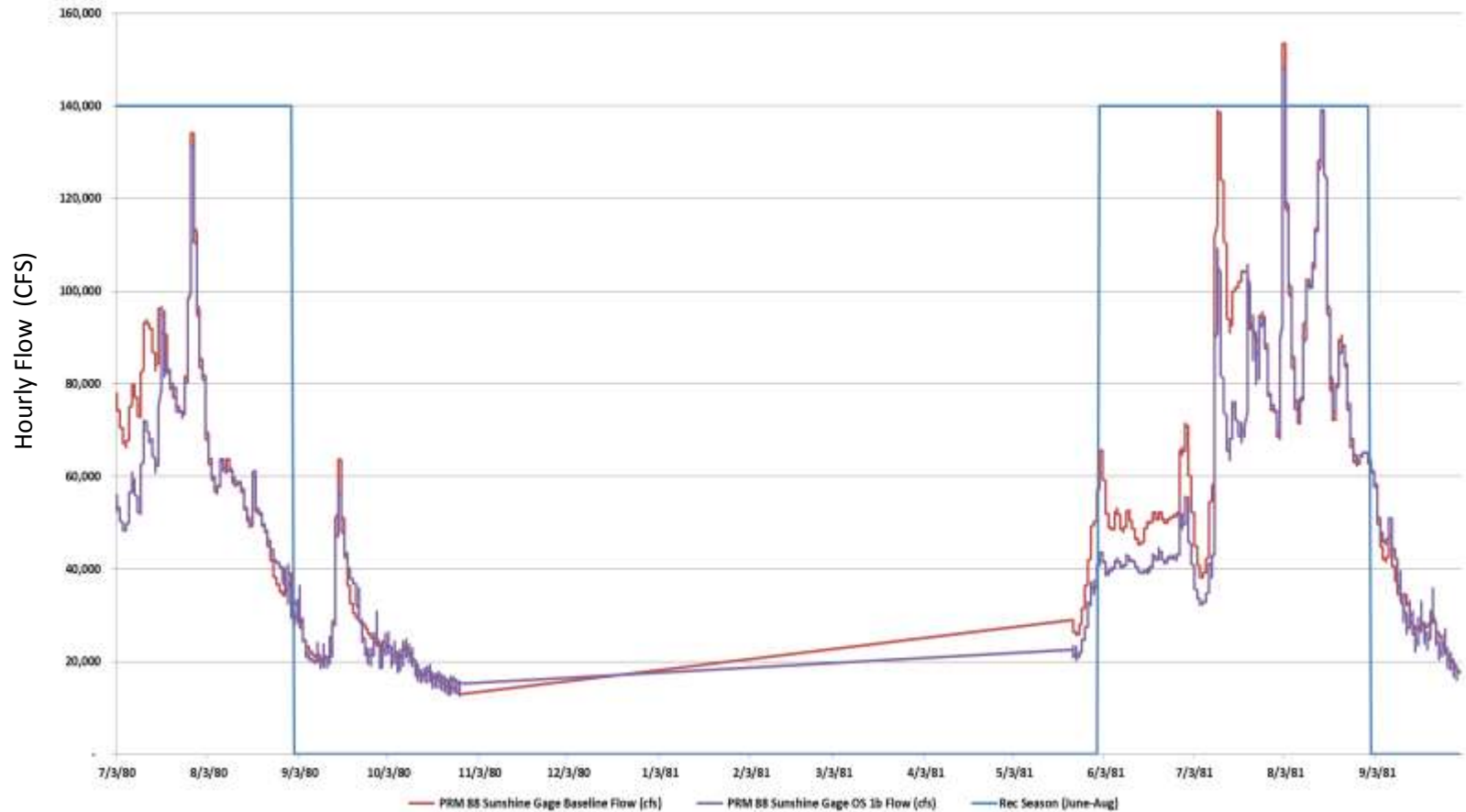
# Progress to Date

- Analysis of 2013 internet survey and executive interview data
- Field verification of river recreation opportunities & activities in the three Susitna River project reaches and tributaries
- Coordination with ice processes, fish resources, hydrology, and geomorphology study efforts
- Analysis of the Open Water HEC-RAS Flow Routing Model to determine downstream extent of the study area



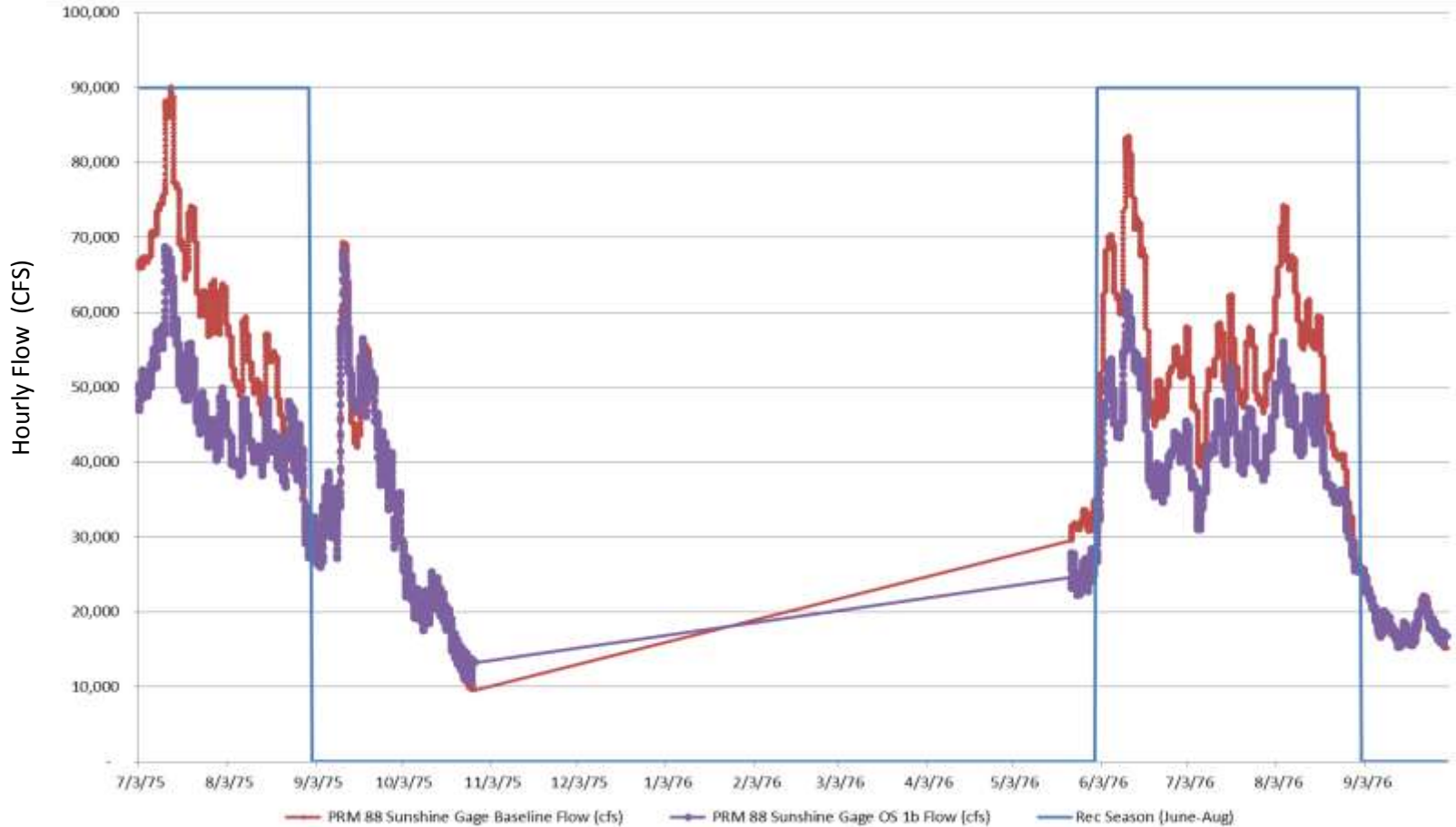
# HEC-RAS Open-water Flow Routing Model –V2 (DRAFT)

Susitna River at Sunshine Gage (PRM 88)  
Wet Year (1981)



# HEC-RAS Open-water Flow Routing Model –V2 (DRAFT)

Susitna River at Sunshine Gage (PRM 88)  
Dry Year (1976)



# Variations

- No first year study variations in methods for the river recreation surveys
- No first year study variance in methods for the river ice-dependent recreation surveys
- Data gaps will be addressed in the second study year
- Focus group sessions planned for Winter of 2015



# Plans for 2014/2015

- Completion of the 1-year river recreation survey
- Completion of the 1-year executive interview effort
- Analysis of 2013 & 2014 internet survey and executive interview data
- Continued interdisciplinary coordination
- River Recreation Focus Group Meeting(s) in Anchorage (Winter 2015)