



Aesthetic Resources

Scenery and Soundscape Analysis Locations Winter 2013



Analysis Locations

Standard locations at which to measure baseline aesthetic attributes (scenery and soundscape) within the Primary Study Area, assess potential project-related effects, and describe access to landscape viewing opportunities.



Data Collection - Aesthetics

- Visual
 - 30 Analysis Locations
 - Baseline date per BLM (1986)
 - Including Light and Glare
- Soundscape
 - Up to 8 LT; Opportunistic ST
 - Larson-Davis Model 831 Sound Level Meter
 - Sound Pressure Levels with octave or 3rd octave band center frequency resolution

Analysis Goals

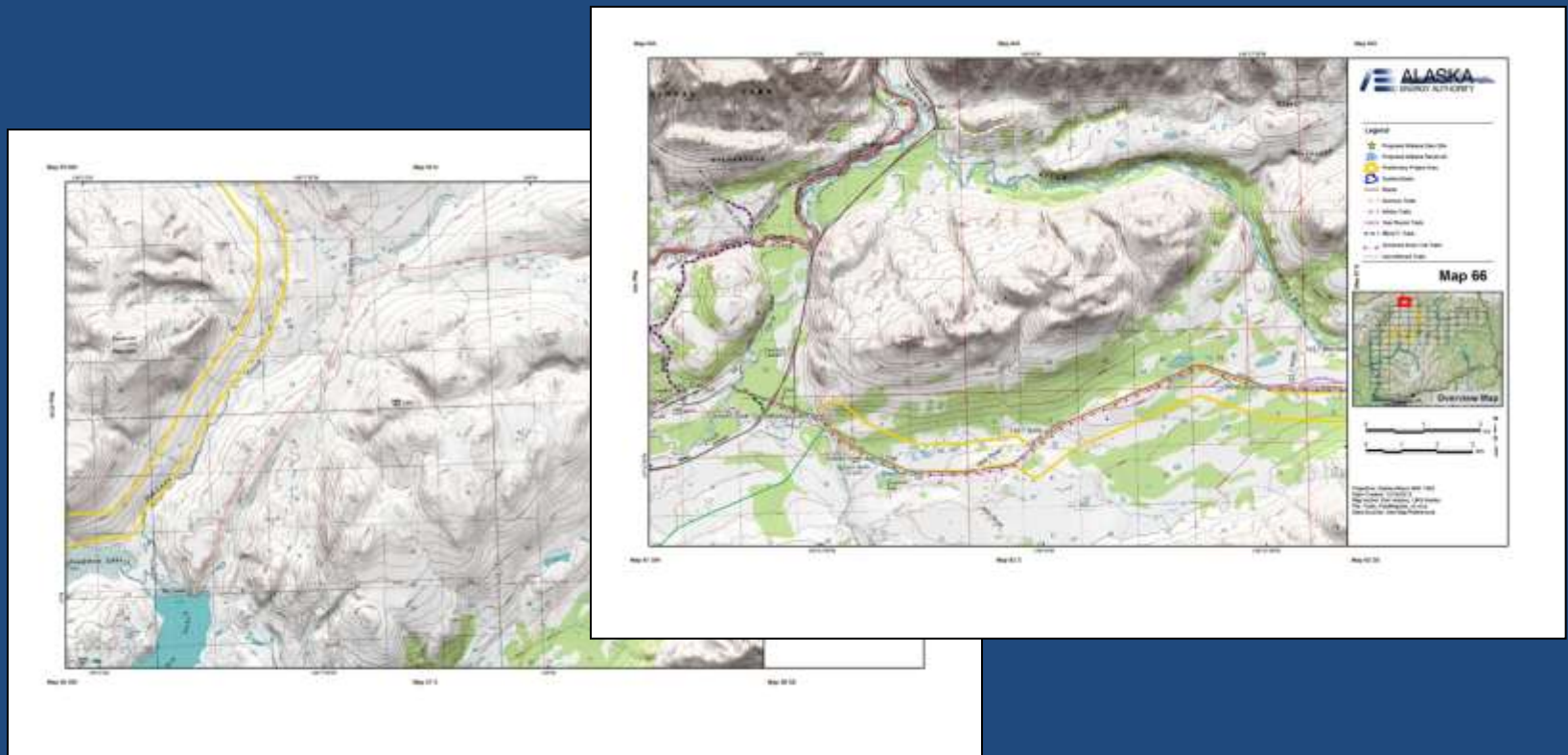
- Evaluate potential impact of transmission, access routes, facility & reservoir
- Evaluate new access-based landscape viewing opportunities
- Document potential change in appearance of downstream river attributes (i.e., leads)
- Evaluate change in mechanism of view(s) within inundation zone

Analysis Goals

- Evaluate changes in landscape features
- Evaluate changes in views of the river corridor following inundation
- Evaluate potential change in view from air
- Collect baseline soundscape data

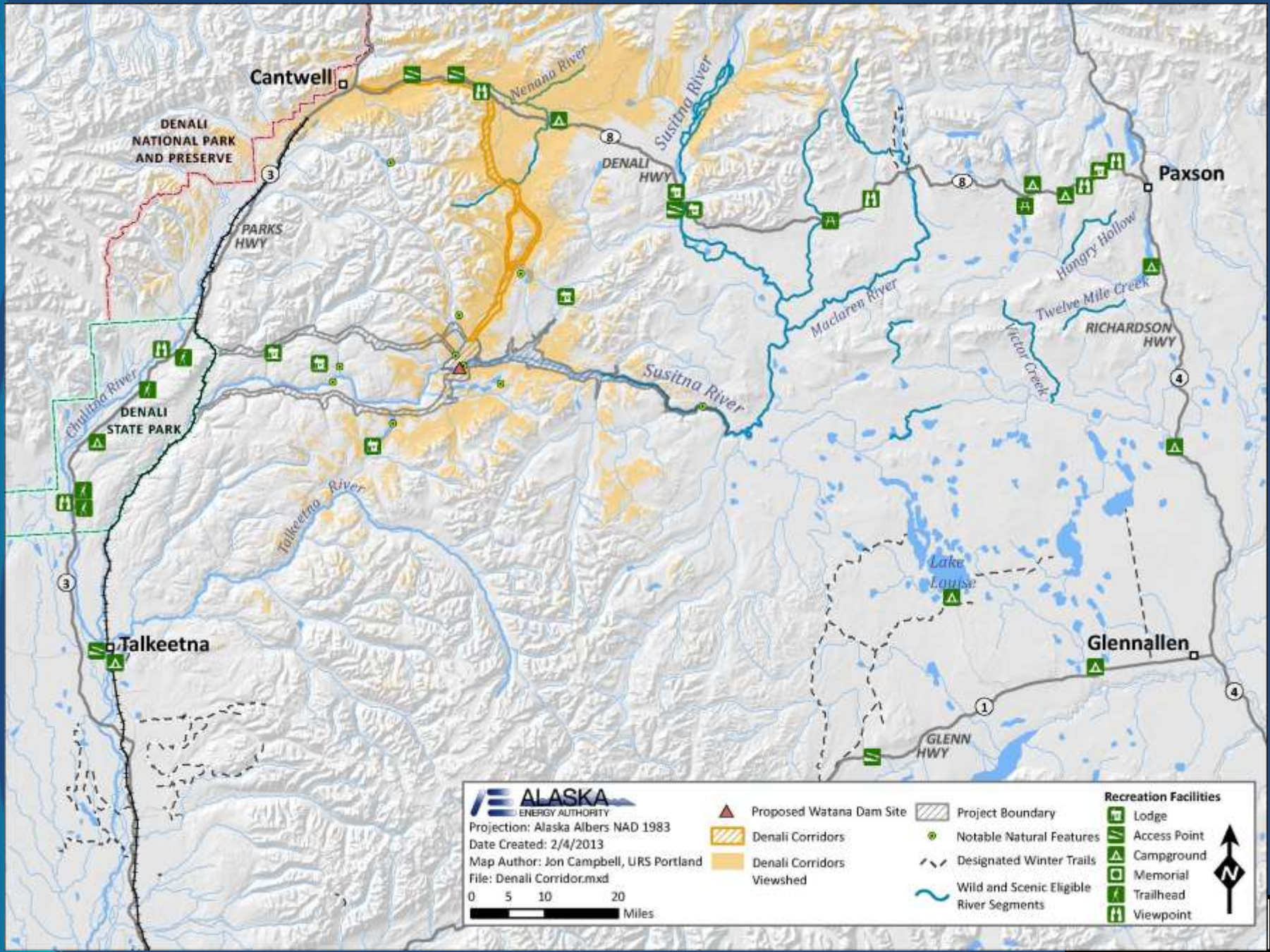
Analysis Locations

- Consider pre-and post Project conditions
- Consider potential new viewing opportunities



Study Area: Viewshed-Based

- Denali Corridor (DC)
 - Chulitna Corridor (CC)
 - Gold Creek Corridor (GCC)
 - Reservoir
 - Facility
- * Viewshed models do not indicate visibility!



Projection: Alaska Albers NAD 1983
 Date Created: 2/4/2013
 Map Author: Jon Campbell, URS Portland
 File: Denali Corridor.mxd



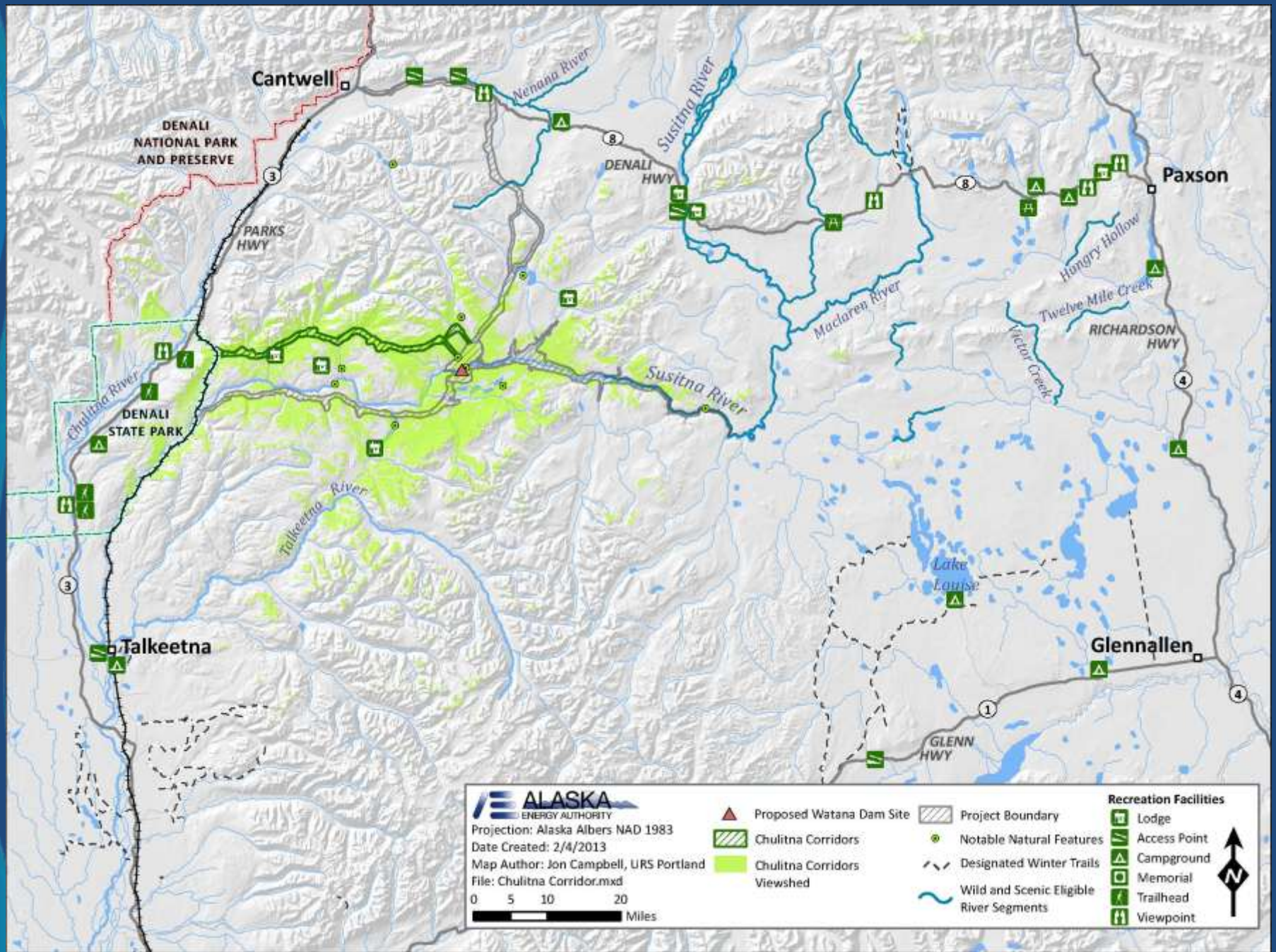
- Proposed Watana Dam Site
- Denali Corridors
- Denali Corridors Viewshed

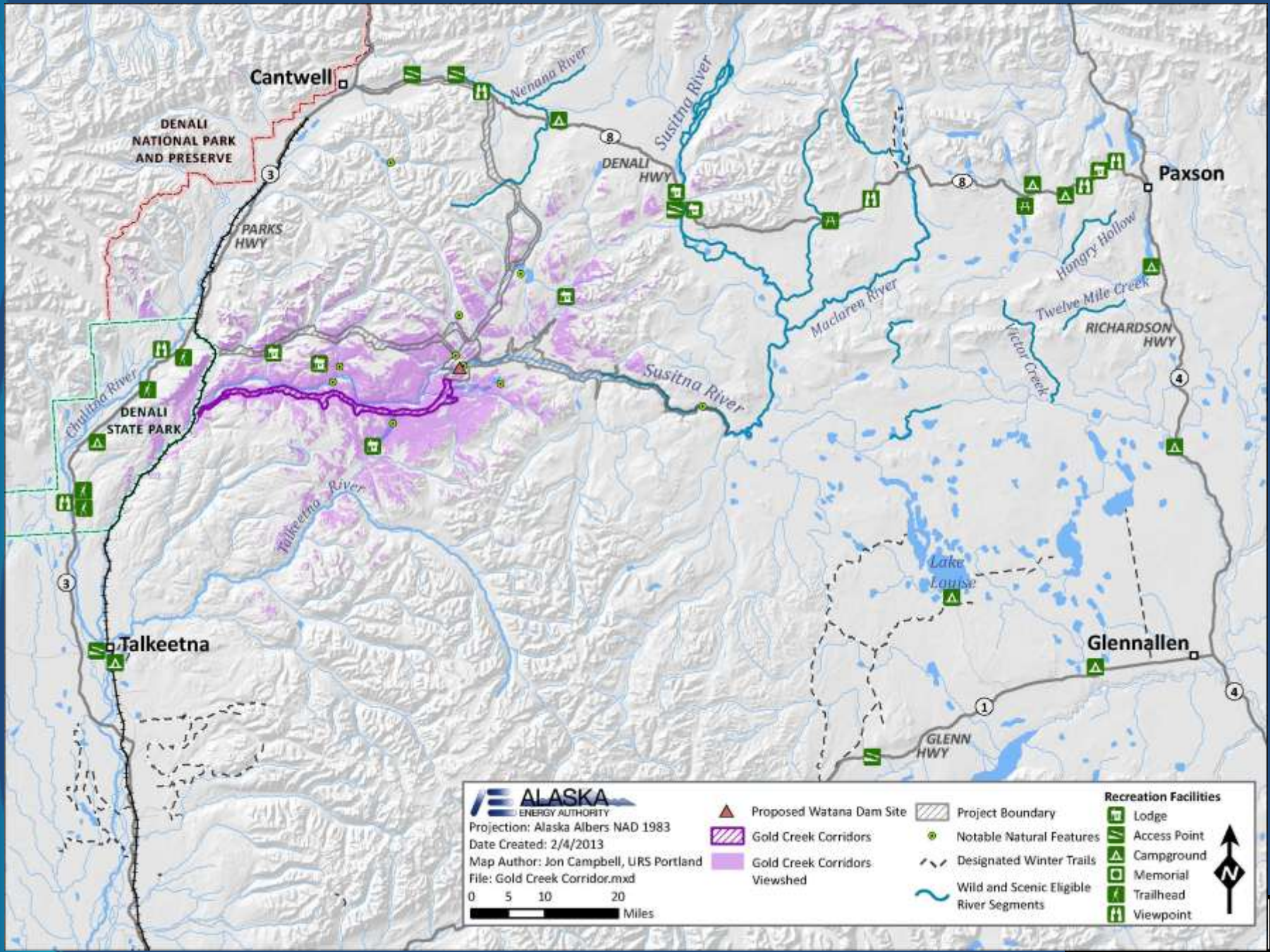
- Project Boundary
- Notable Natural Features
- Designated Winter Trails
- Wild and Scenic Eligible River Segments

Recreation Facilities

- Lodge
- Access Point
- Campground
- Memorial
- Trailhead
- Viewpoint







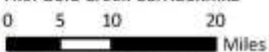
ALASKA
ENERGY AUTHORITY

Projection: Alaska Albers NAD 1983

Date Created: 2/4/2013

Map Author: Jon Campbell, URS Portland

File: Gold Creek Corridor.mxd



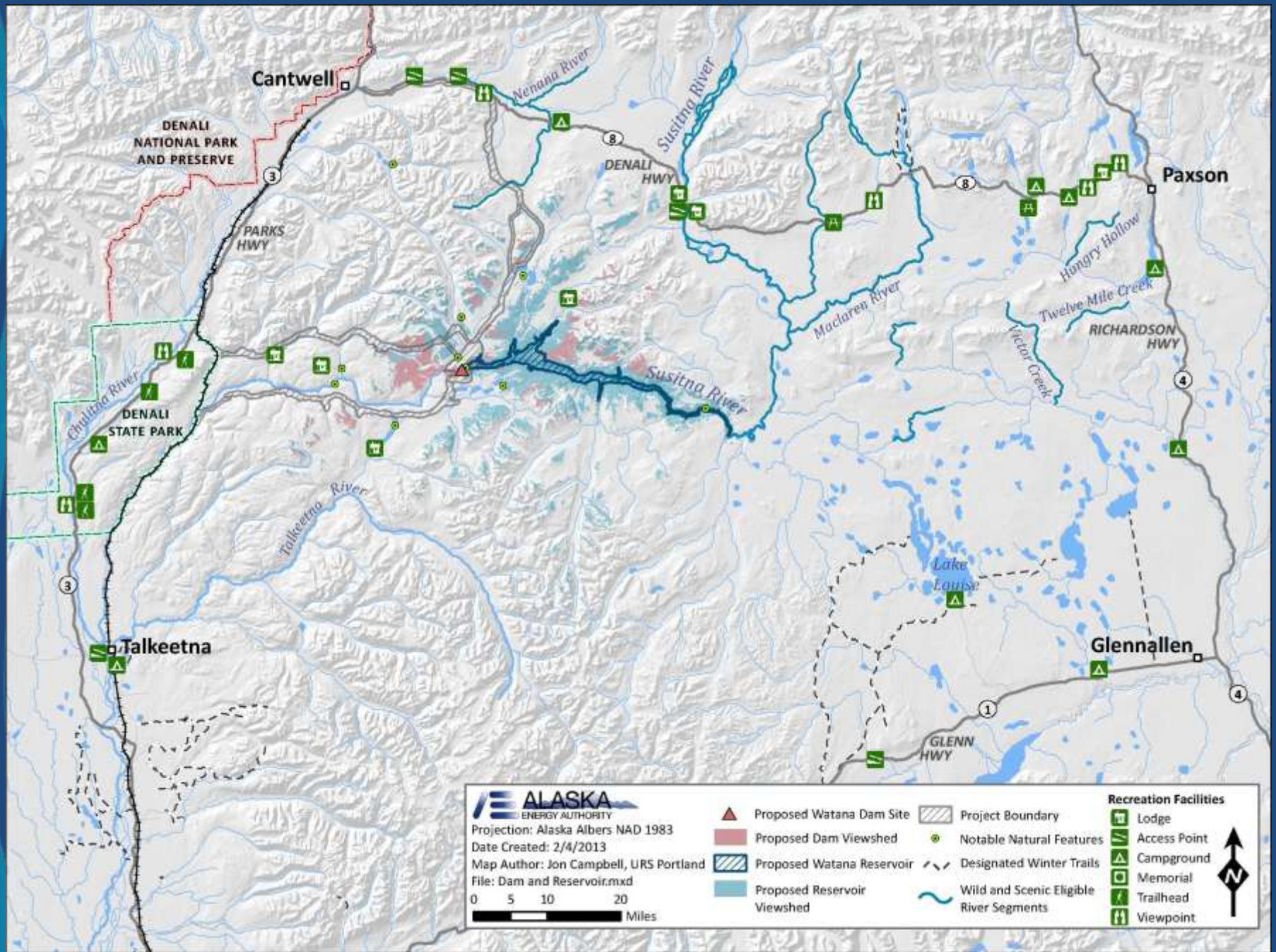
- Proposed Watana Dam Site
- Gold Creek Corridors
- Gold Creek Corridors Viewshed


- Project Boundary
- Notable Natural Features
- Designated Winter Trails
- Wild and Scenic Eligible River Segments

Recreation Facilities

- Lodge
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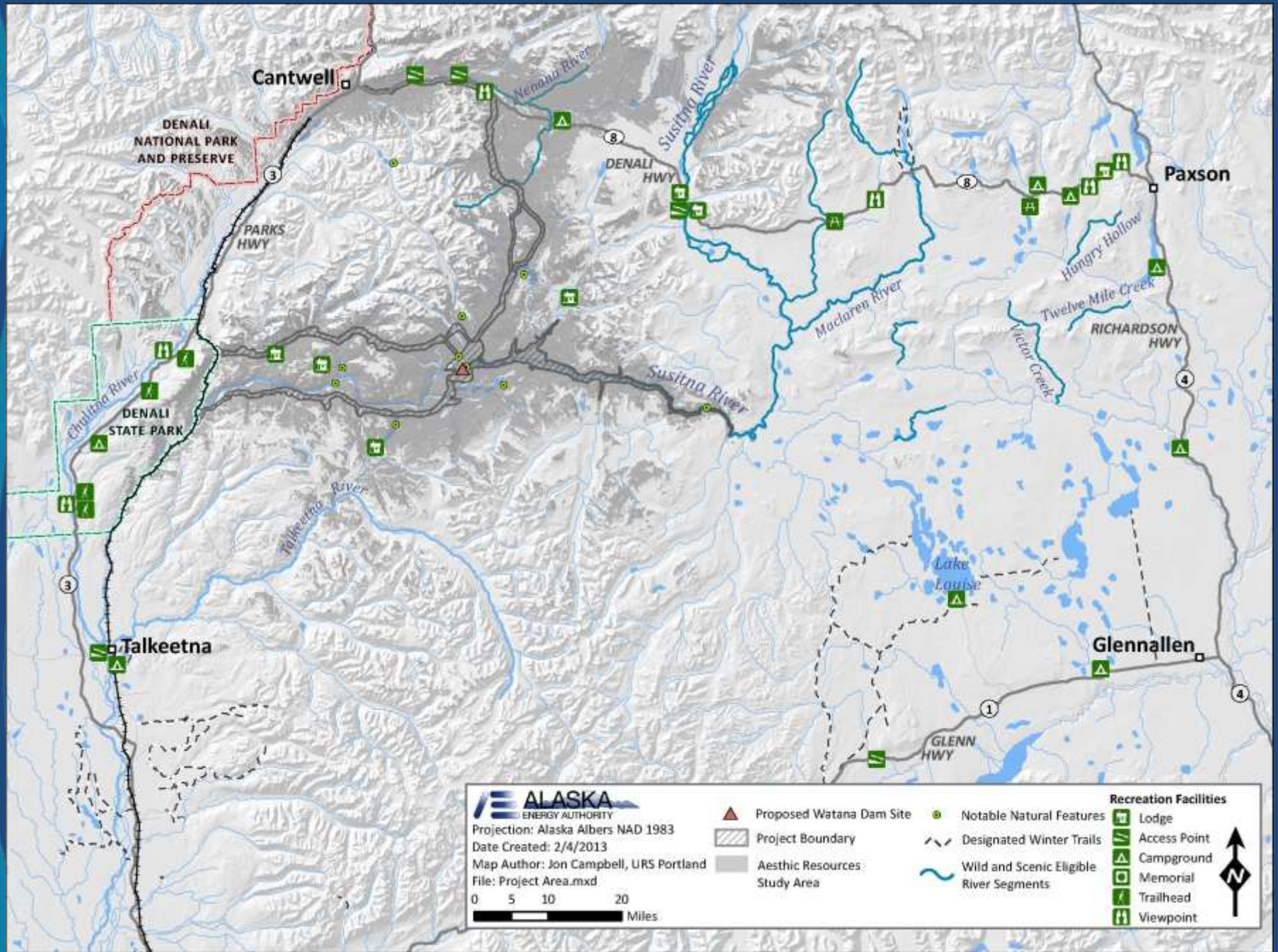





ALASKA
 ENERGY AUTHORITY
 Projection: Alaska Albers NAD 1983
 Date Created: 2/4/2013
 Map Author: Jon Campbell, URS Portland
 File: Dam and Reservoir.mxd
 0 5 10 20 Miles

- | | | | | | |
|---|-----------------------------|---|---|---|--------------|
|  | Proposed Watana Dam Site |  | Project Boundary |  | Lodge |
|  | Proposed Dam Viewshed |  | Notable Natural Features |  | Access Point |
|  | Proposed Watana Reservoir |  | Designated Winter Trails |  | Campground |
|  | Proposed Reservoir Viewshed |  | Wild and Scenic Eligible River Segments |  | Memorial |
| | | | |  | Trailhead |
| | | | | | Viewpoint |



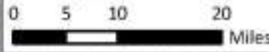


ALASKA ENERGY AUTHORITY
 Projection: Alaska Albers NAD 1983
 Date Created: 2/4/2013
 Map Author: Jon Campbell, URS Portland
 File: Project Area.mxd

- Proposed Watana Dam Site
- Project Boundary
- Aesthetic Resources Study Area

- Notable Natural Features
- Designated Winter Trails
- Wild and Scenic Eligible River Segments

- Recreation Facilities**
- Lodge
 - Access Point
 - Campground
 - Memorial
 - Trailhead
 - Viewpoint



Selection Criteria

Project Nexus

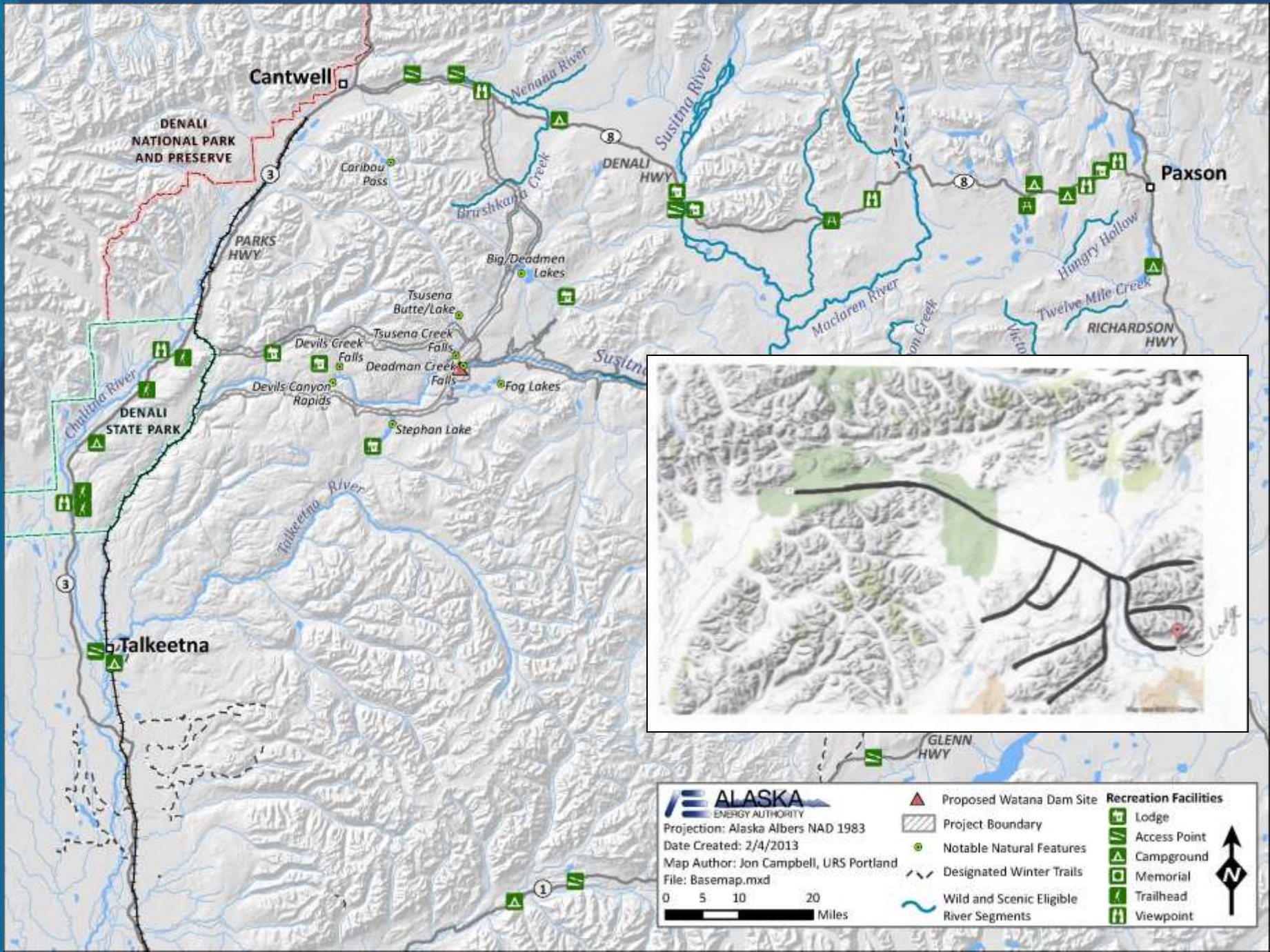
- Receptors (sound & sight)
- Management standards
- Landscape character



Receptors (Winter)

- Recreators (commercial / noncommercial)
 - Snowmachiners
 - Skiers
 - Snowshoers
 - Event participants
 - Hunters
- Lodge operators
- Flightseeing passengers
- Subsistence Hunters
- Residents
- Rail passengers





Cantwell

DENALI NATIONAL PARK AND PRESERVE

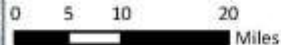
DENALI STATE PARK

Talkeetna

Paxson



Projection: Alaska Albers NAD 1983
 Date Created: 2/4/2013
 Map Author: Jon Campbell, URS Portland
 File: Basemap.mxd



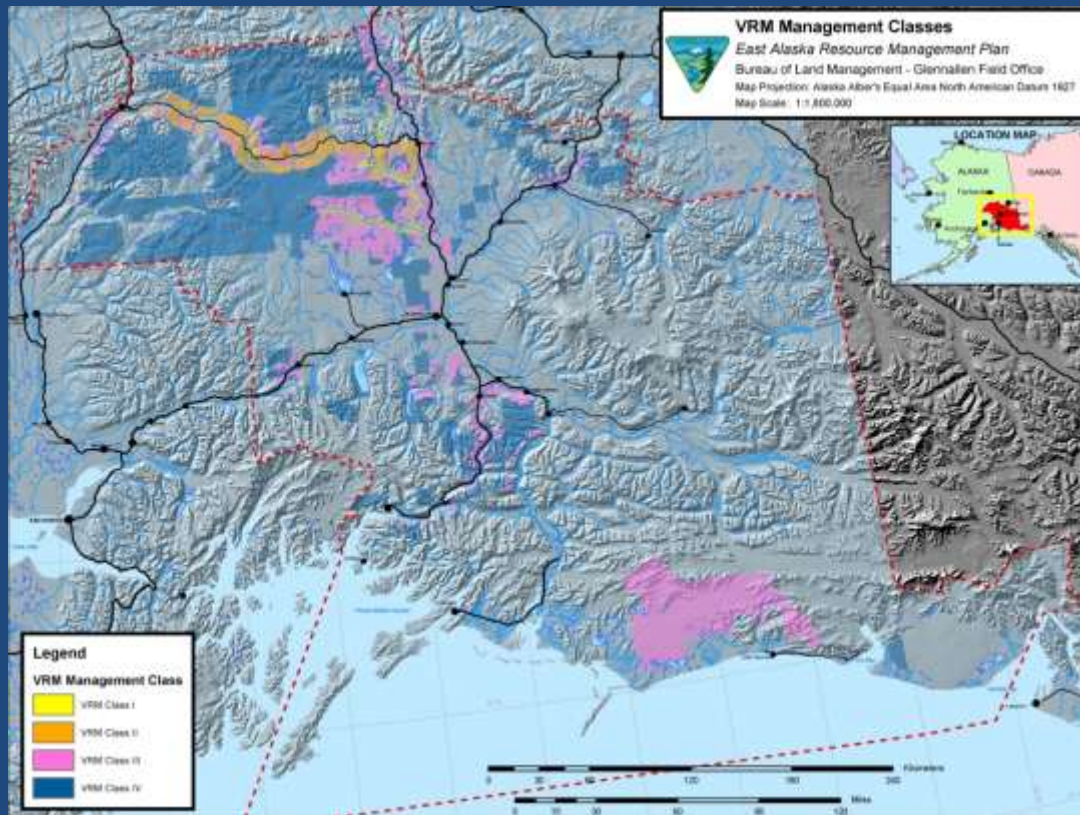
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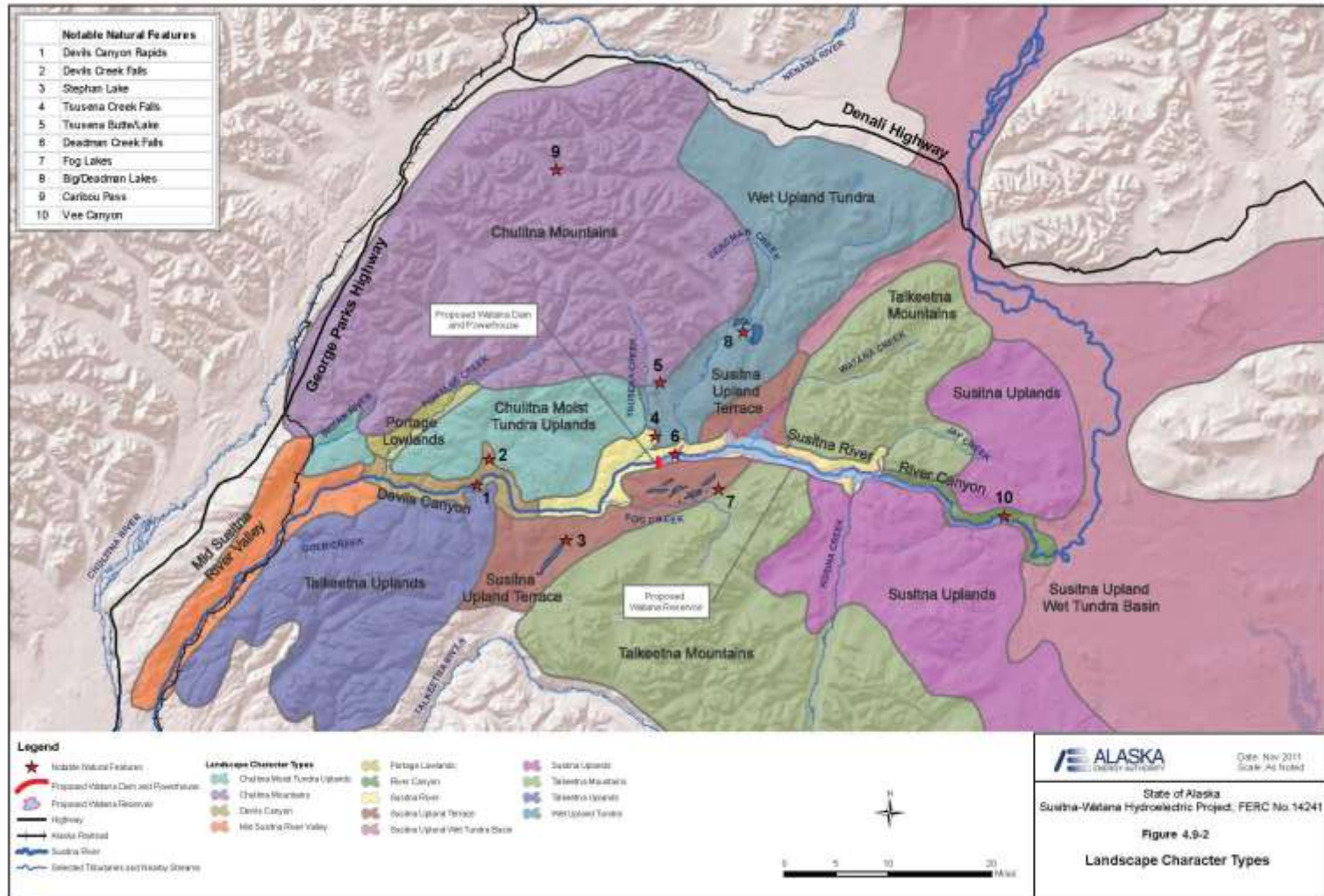


Management Standards

- Visual Resource Management (VRM)
- Recreation Opportunity Spectrum (ROS)
- Wild & Scenic River – Section 7



Landscape Character



Analysis Location Categories

Observation Points (OPs)

- Represent specific locations or viewpoints.
- Viewer experience stationary and/or from a single vantage point
- Views may be directional or not



Analysis Location Categories

Observation Areas (OAs):

- Represent large geographic areas
- Views could be experienced from variety of locations
- Views are typically transient / experienced by viewers moving through the area (i.e., dispersed recreation).
- The likelihood of viewers standing in the same spot during repeated visits is low.
- Variability of views experienced will depend landscape characteristics.



Analysis Location Categories

Observation Corridors (OCs):

- Represent linear viewing experiences
- scenic attributes experienced as a continuum.
- May be focal and/or transient
- Also called “linear KOPs”

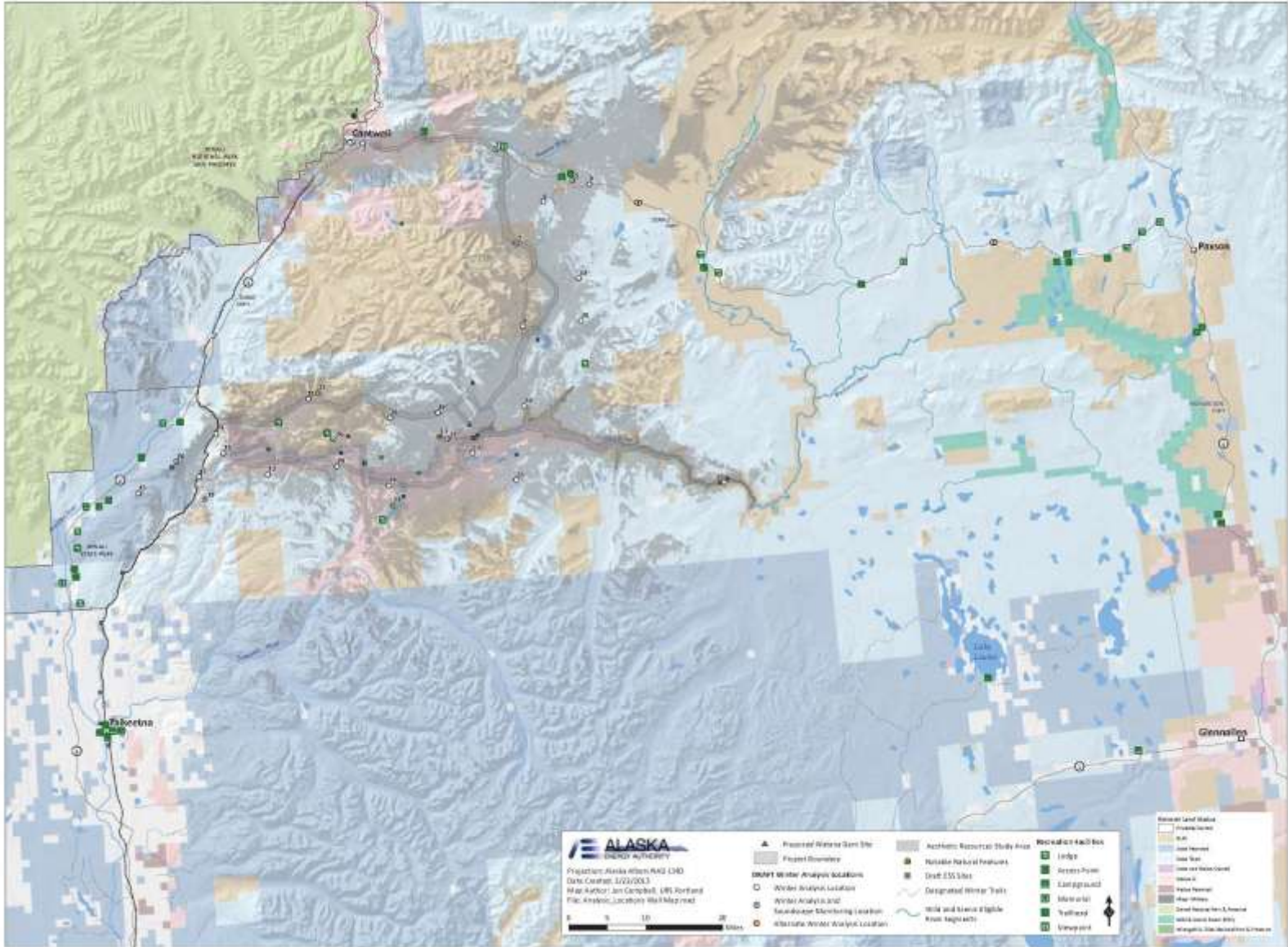


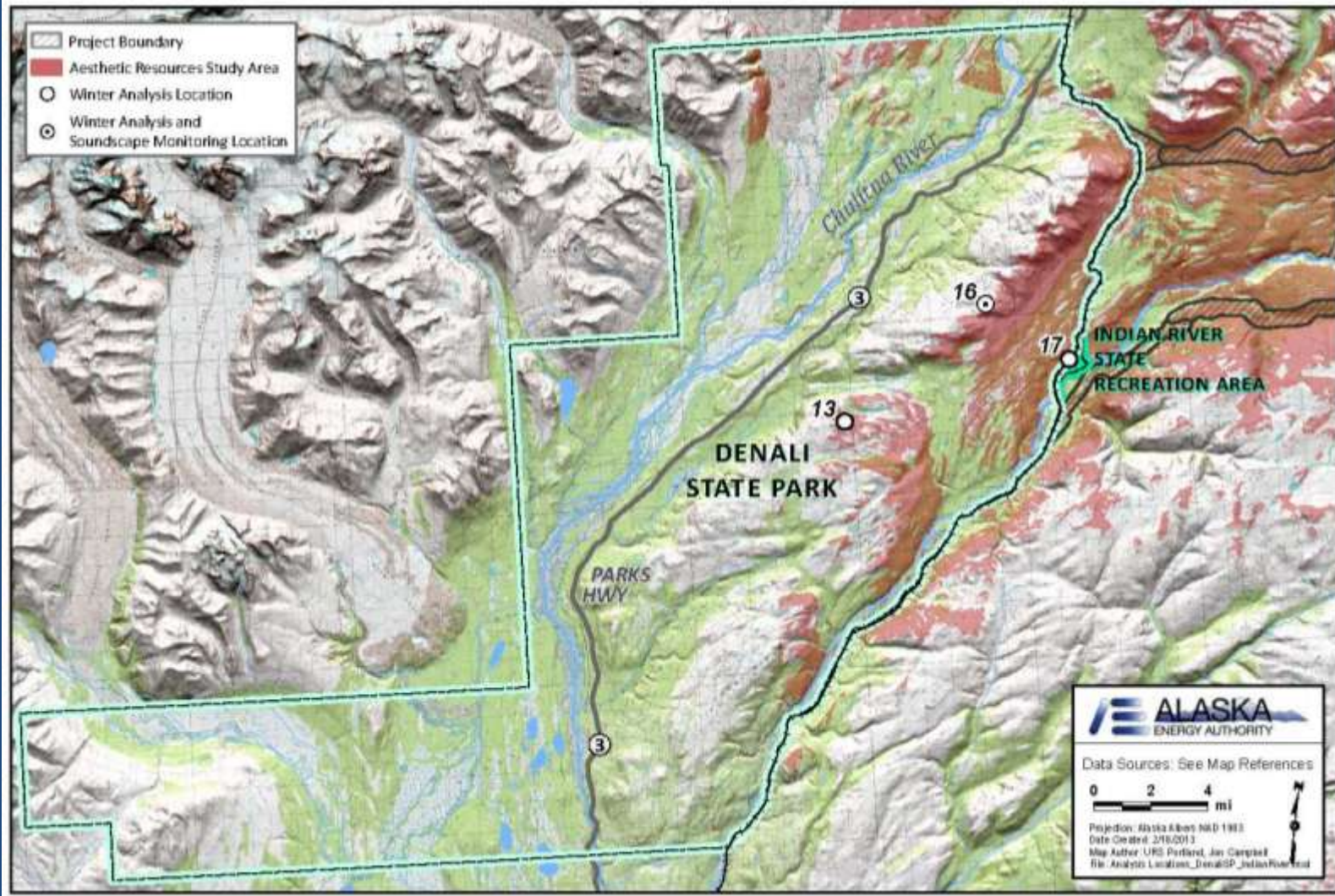
Analysis Location Categories

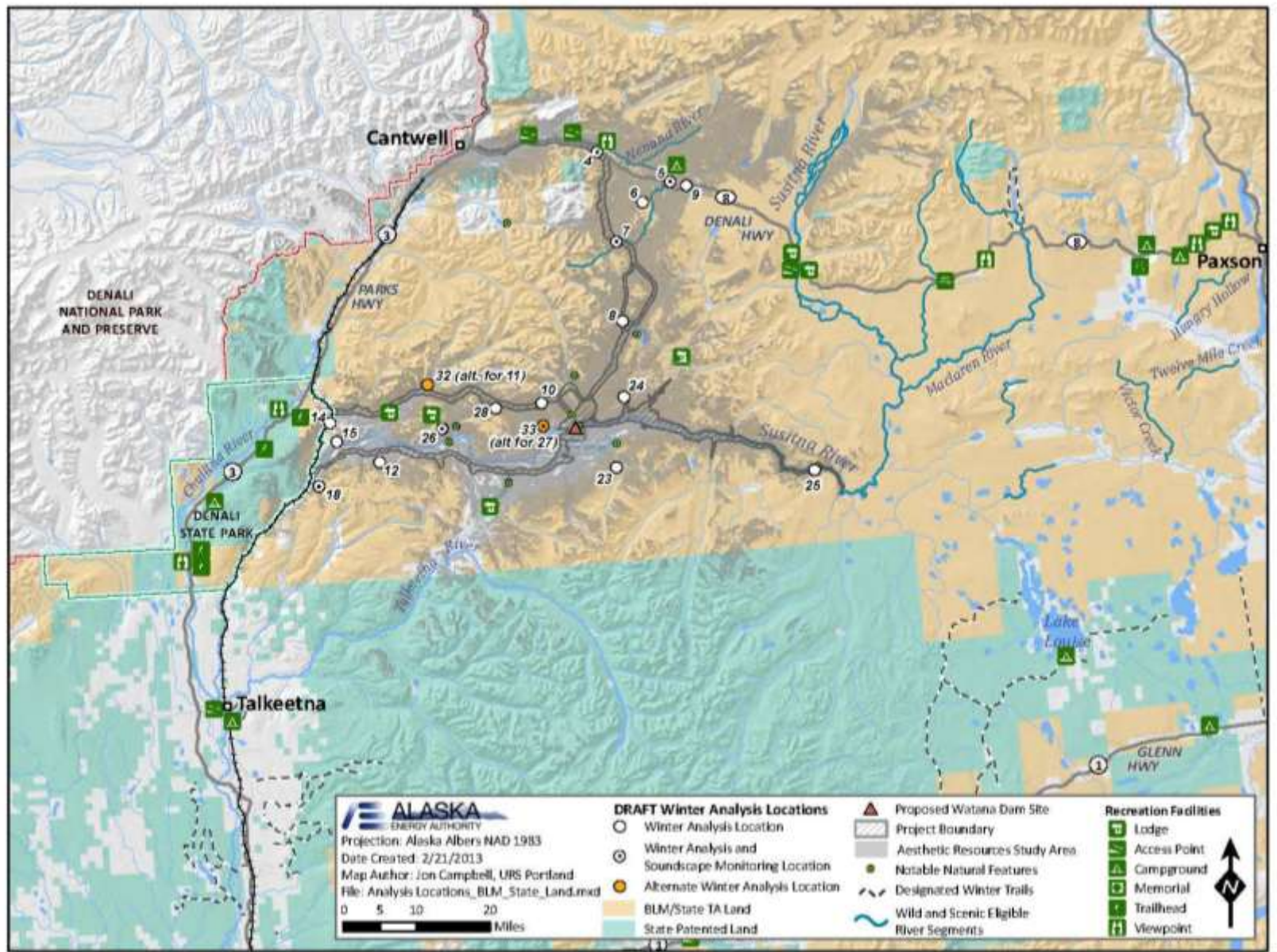
Landscape Character Points (LCPs):

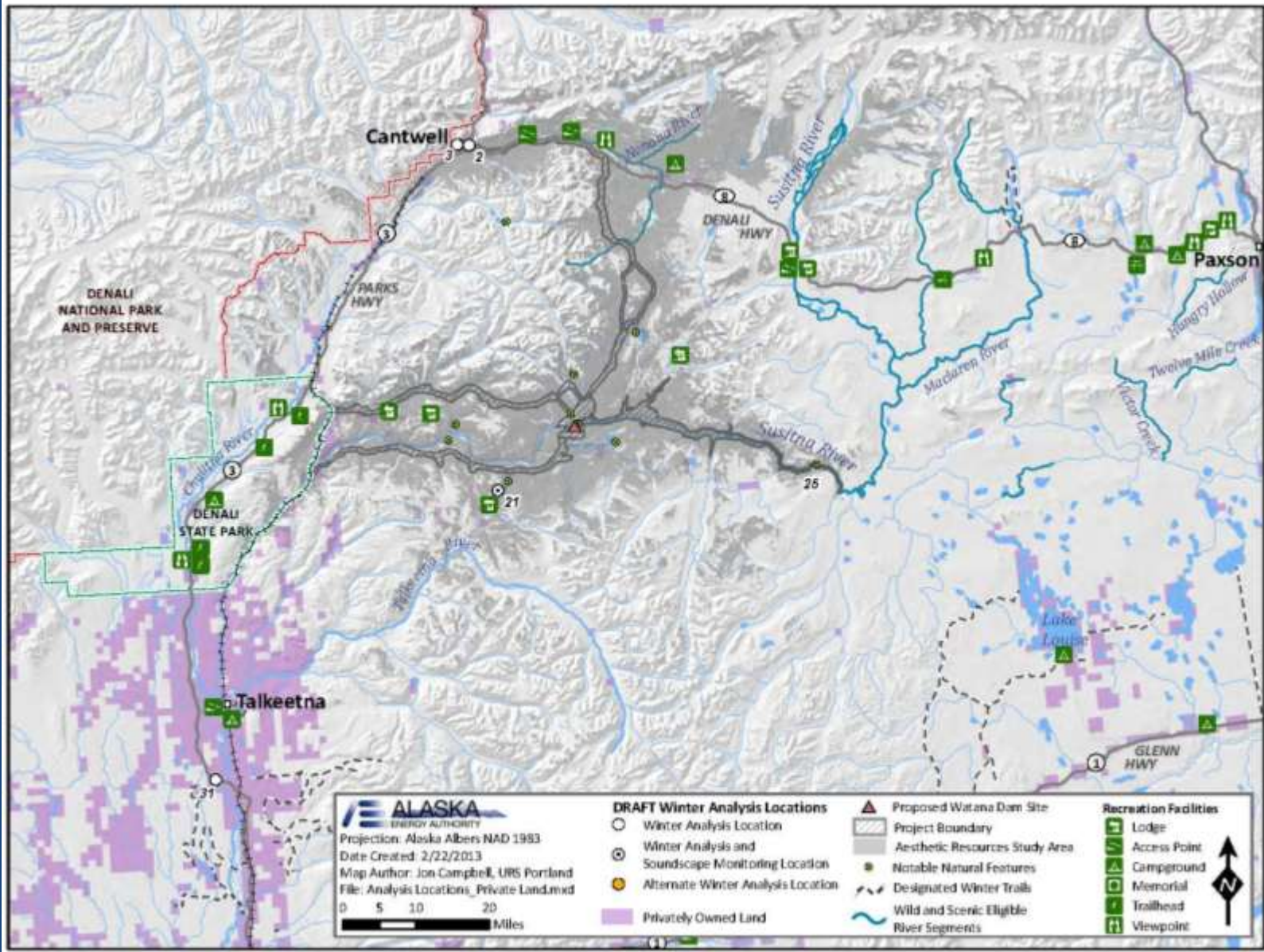
- Standardized locations in which to evaluate changes in scenery attributes (i.e., may correspond to ice processes transects)
- Not tied to a particular viewer experience
- Provide information regarding the change in the visual resource of the area

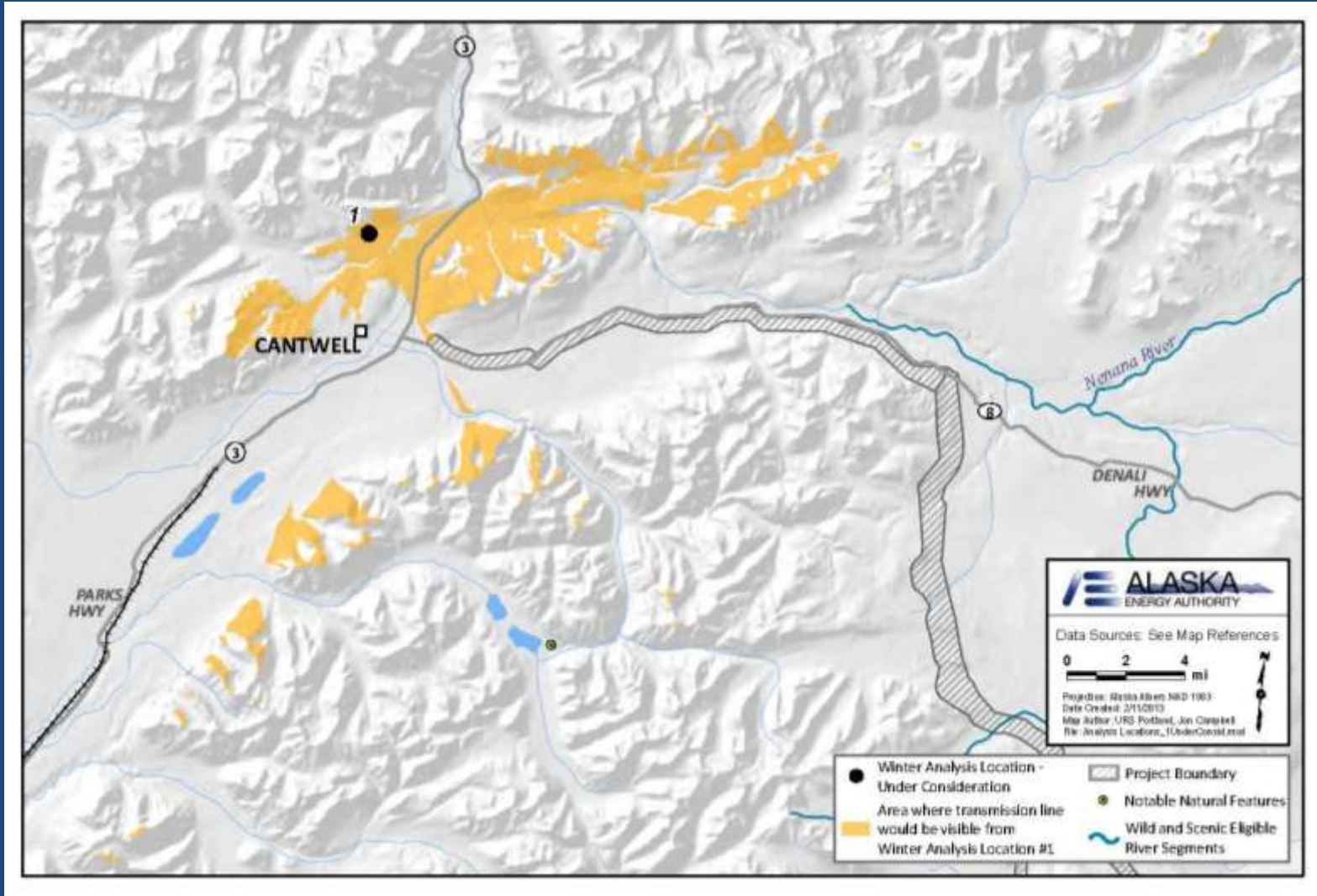












Implementation

- Access
- Timing
 - Refueling Needs
 - Sun Angle
 - viewshed
- Safety
 - Winter Gear
 - Survival Equipment
- Contingencies
 - Weather
 - Equipment

