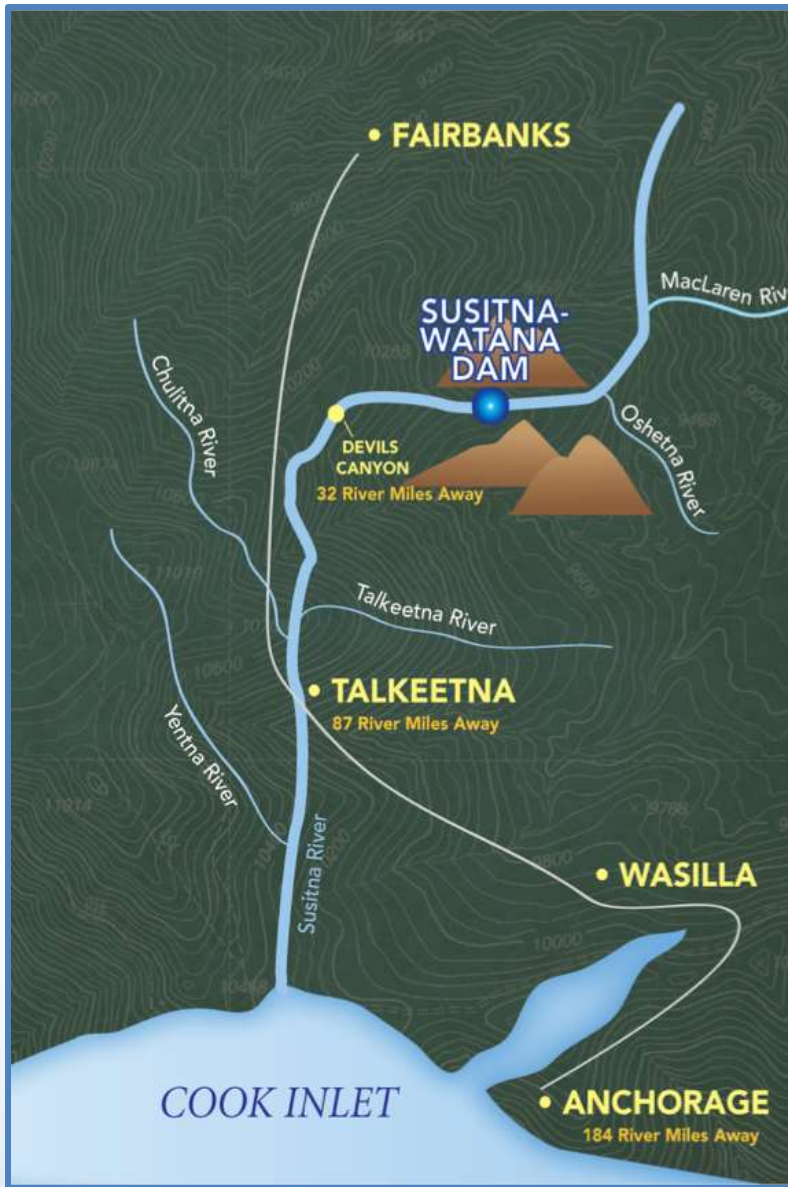


# Technical WorkGroup Meeting Q3 2013 TWG

## *Recreation Resources*

*September 11<sup>th</sup>*

Prepared by URS



# 12.5 Recreation Resources Presentation Overview

- *Executive Interviews Update*
- *Trails Mapping Update*
- *Recreation Inventory Update*
  - *Facilities, Access Points, Dispersed Recreation*
- Recreation supply, demand and use baseline
- Recreation survey data collection
- *Variances from FSP*
- *Next Steps*

# 12.5 Recreation Resources

## *FSP Study Objectives*

### **2013**

- Identify and document **recreation resources and facilities**
- Identify the types and levels of **current recreational uses**

### **2014**

- Identify future **reasonably foreseeable future uses**
- Evaluate the **potential impacts** of Project construction and operation on recreation resources, needs, and uses
- Develop data to inform AEA's future development of a **Recreation Management Plan** for the Project.

# 12.5 Recreation Resources

## *Executive Interview Update*

- *To date, 72 interviews conducted (phone/in person)*
- *Analysis to ensure broad coverage*
  - *Organization type*
    - *agency, organization, business, native group, private individuals*
  - *Geographical distribution*
  - *Recreational activity type*
  - *Seasonal use*
  - *Common recommendations*
- *Data management*



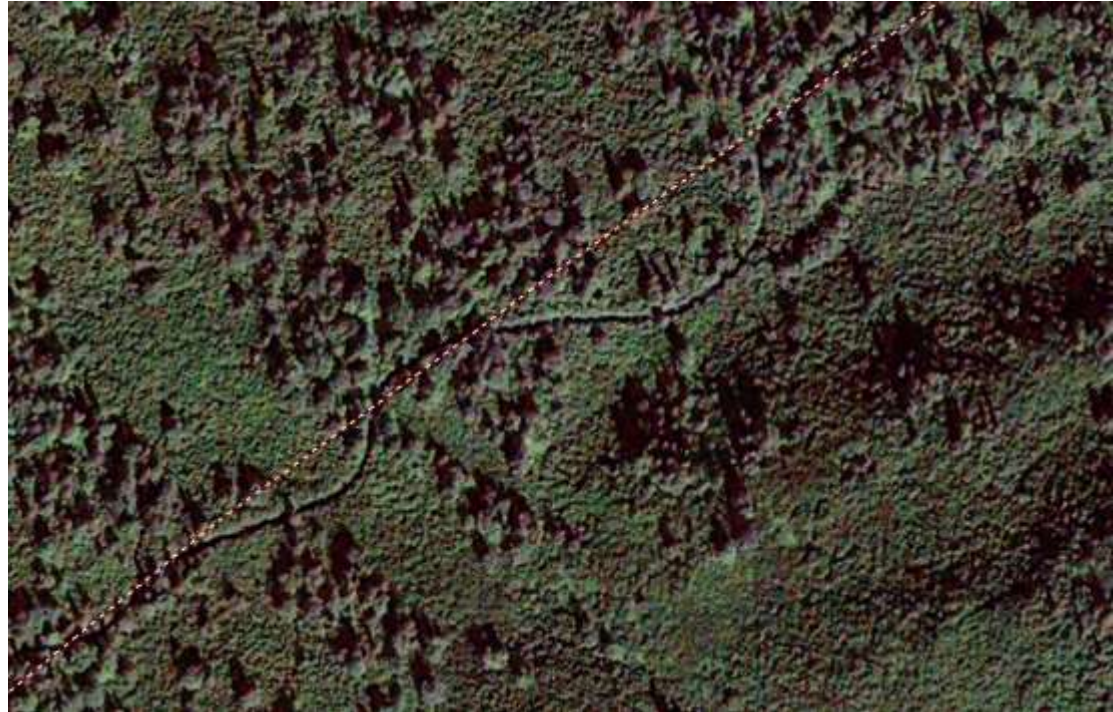
# 12.5 Recreation Resources

5

## *Trails Mapping Update*

### **High resolution imagery**

- Identification and mapping of trails (Q4 2013)
- Accuracy of 1:24,000 or greater
- Acquisition of imagery currently underway



# 12.5 Recreation Resources

- *Trails Classification System (applied 2014)*
  - Based on USFS & NPS Off Road Vehicle Trail Inventory methods
  - Applied to known and newly mapped trails with Project nexus



# 12.5 Recreation Resources

## Summer Recreation Inventory

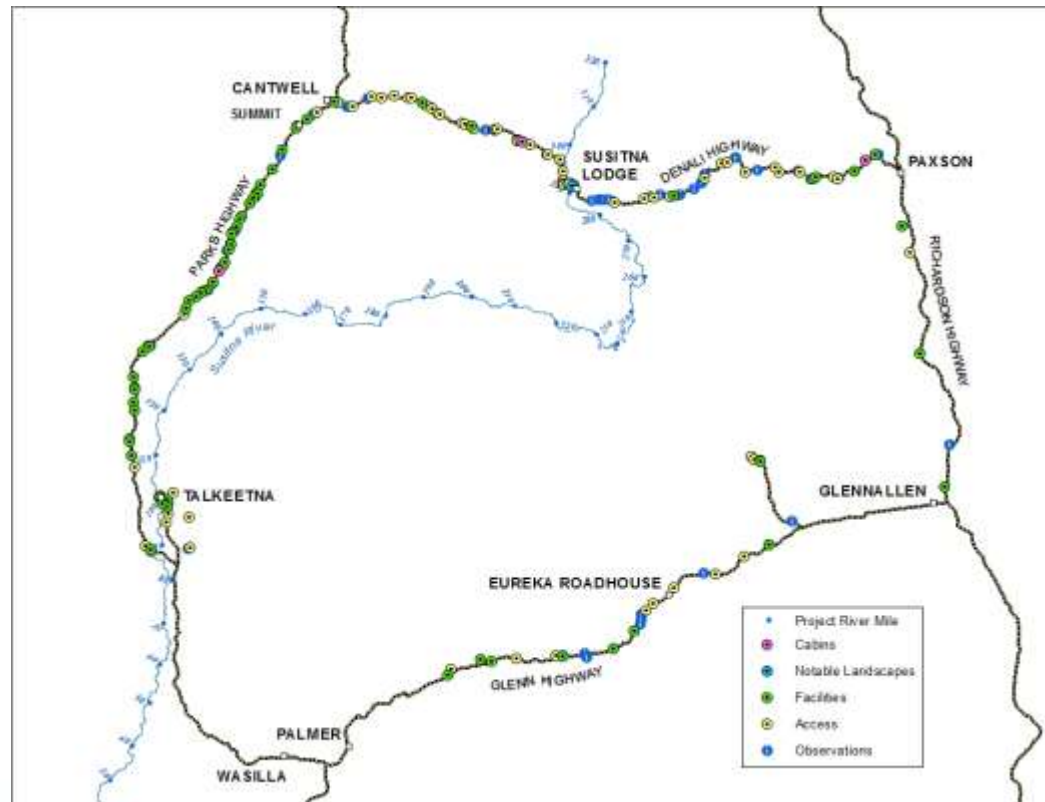
- Includes: Facilities, Access Points, Dispersed Recreation
- Road network (2013), remote sites (2014)

### Facilities

Facility Type	Count
CAMPGROUND	13
DAYUSE AREA	6
WAYSIDE	5
OVERLOOK	7
BOAT LAUNCH	5
Total	64

### Study Area Access Pts. (from road network)

Access Type	Count
LAND	78
WATER	10
AIR	7
Total	95

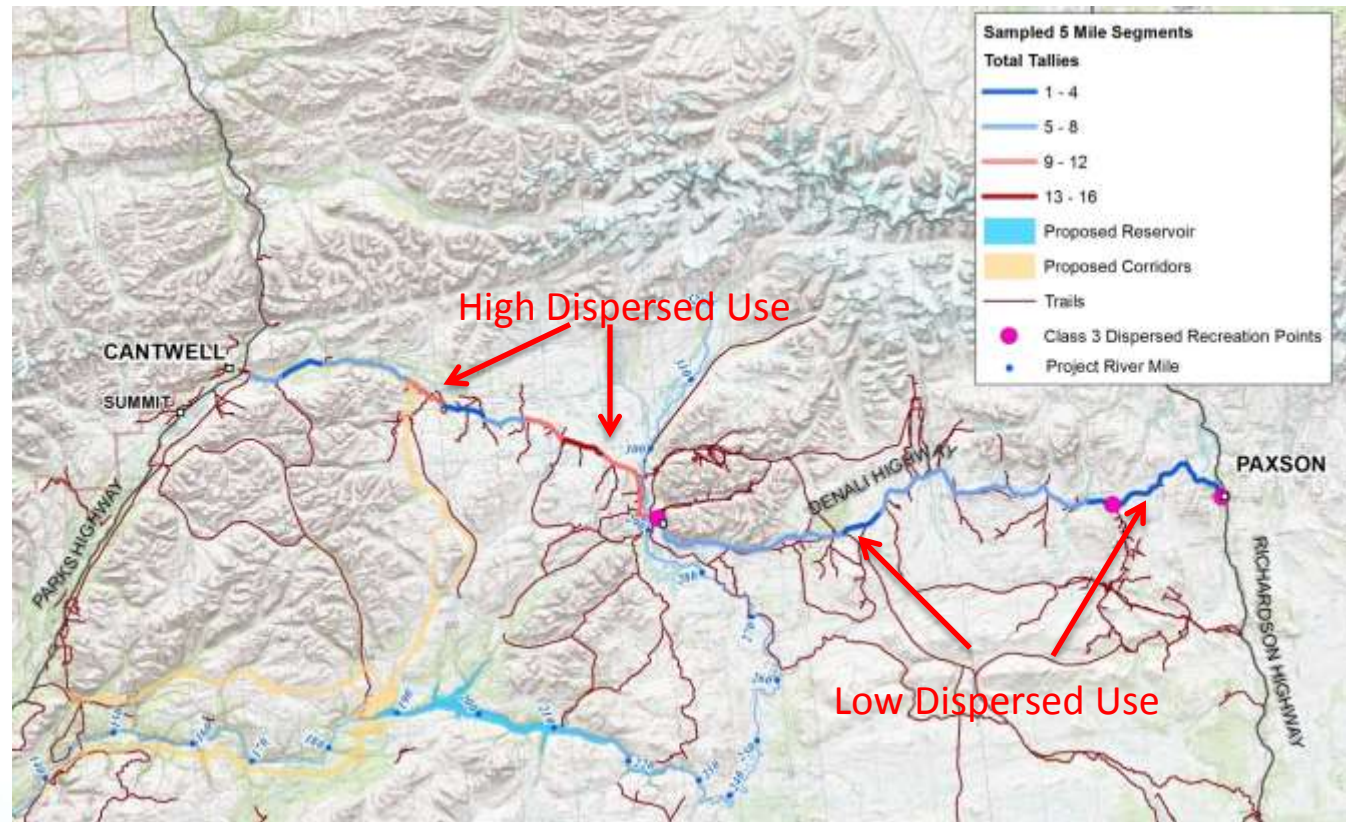


# 12.5 Recreation Resources

## *Dispersed Recreation*

Inventory of Dispersed Recreation along the Denali Highway

- Detailed sampling
- Tally data of different site types
- Based on USFS inventory system





# 12.5 Study – Recreation Resources

## Plan for Q4 2013

- Develop ISR
- Additional executive interviews
- Trails mapping using new imagery
- Analysis of recreation inventory data
- Preliminary assessment of remote dispersed recreation sites
- Recreation inventory for the rail corridor (Talkeetna to Hurricane)



# Update of 2013 Recreation Resources Surveys

- Intercept Survey
  - Ongoing
  - Completed ~804 surveys (as of 8/21)
  - Fielding in Talkeetna, Lake Louise, Paxson, Parks Highway (Y-Cantwell), East and West Denali Highway
  - 4 Teams – RV crew rotating in the field every week + Talkeetna



# Update of 2013 Recreation Resources Surveys

- Intercept Survey
  - Completed ~1,800 observational intercept tallies (as of 8/21)
  - “Leave Behind Cards” distribution started in May (online survey), 29 completed online (as of 8/21)
  - Data entry ongoing and keeping pace



# Update of 2013 Recreation Resources Study Surveys

- 1st mail survey mailing (7,500 households)
  - May 28: Pre-mailer postcard mailed
  - June 3: Survey booklet (16 pages) mailed
  - June 17: Initial due date
  - June 21: Second mailing to nonrespondents
  - August: still trickling in
- 2nd mail survey mailing in October (another 7,500)



# Update of 2013 Recreation Resources Study

## Surveys

- 1st mail survey mailing
  - Completed ~1,721 surveys (as of 8/21), of which 300 completed online
  - 24.5% response rate
  - Data entry ongoing and keeping pace
  - Coordinating with Veritas to share survey data
- Non-response telephone survey extended to September, so preliminary mail survey data review can inform telephone survey design
- Assess survey design for Oct. mailing



# Update of 2013 Recreation Resources Study

- Executive Interviews
  - Coordinating interviews with River Recreation and Recreation Resources to avoid duplication of effort or interviewee “fatigue”
  - Entered interview notes into recreation resources team executive interview database
  - Additional interviews to be conducted in Q3/Q4

# Update of 2013 Recreation Resources Study

- Continued Interdisciplinary Coordination
  - Aesthetics, River Recreation, Socioeconomics, Social Conditions and Public Goods and Services, Transportation