

SUSITNA-WATANA HYDROELECTRIC PROJECT

River Recreation Flow and Access Study

Q3 2013 Progress Report

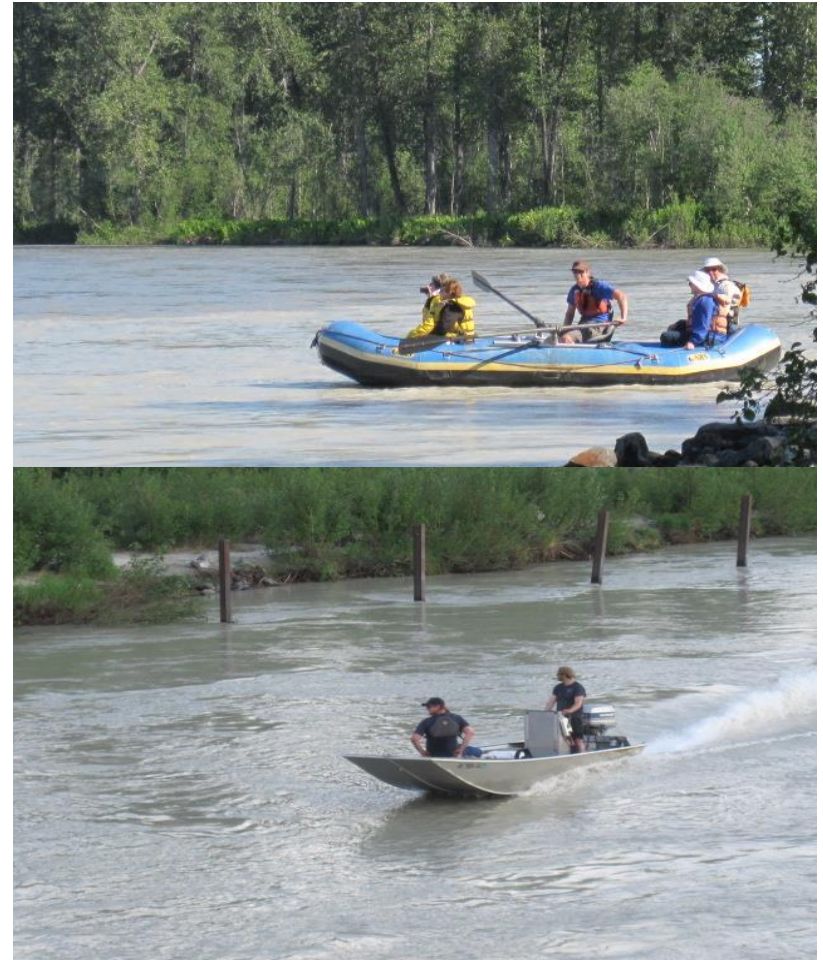
Q3 Technical Working Group Meeting



Q3 Update

June – August 2013

- **Susitna River Recreation Internet Survey**
 - Internet survey launched in late June
 - 47 survey questions related to motorized and non-motorized recreation opportunities, use patterns, access and quality of experiences for three river reaches on the Susitna River
 - Designed to try and capture distinct recreation experiences from 1975-current



Susitna River Recreation Survey

www.susitnariversurvey.com



The State of Alaska has contracted with URS/Environmental Resources Management (ERM) to survey individuals recreating on the Susitna River. Please take the time to complete the Susitna River Recreation Survey, and encourage other river recreators to do the same!

To take the survey, go to:

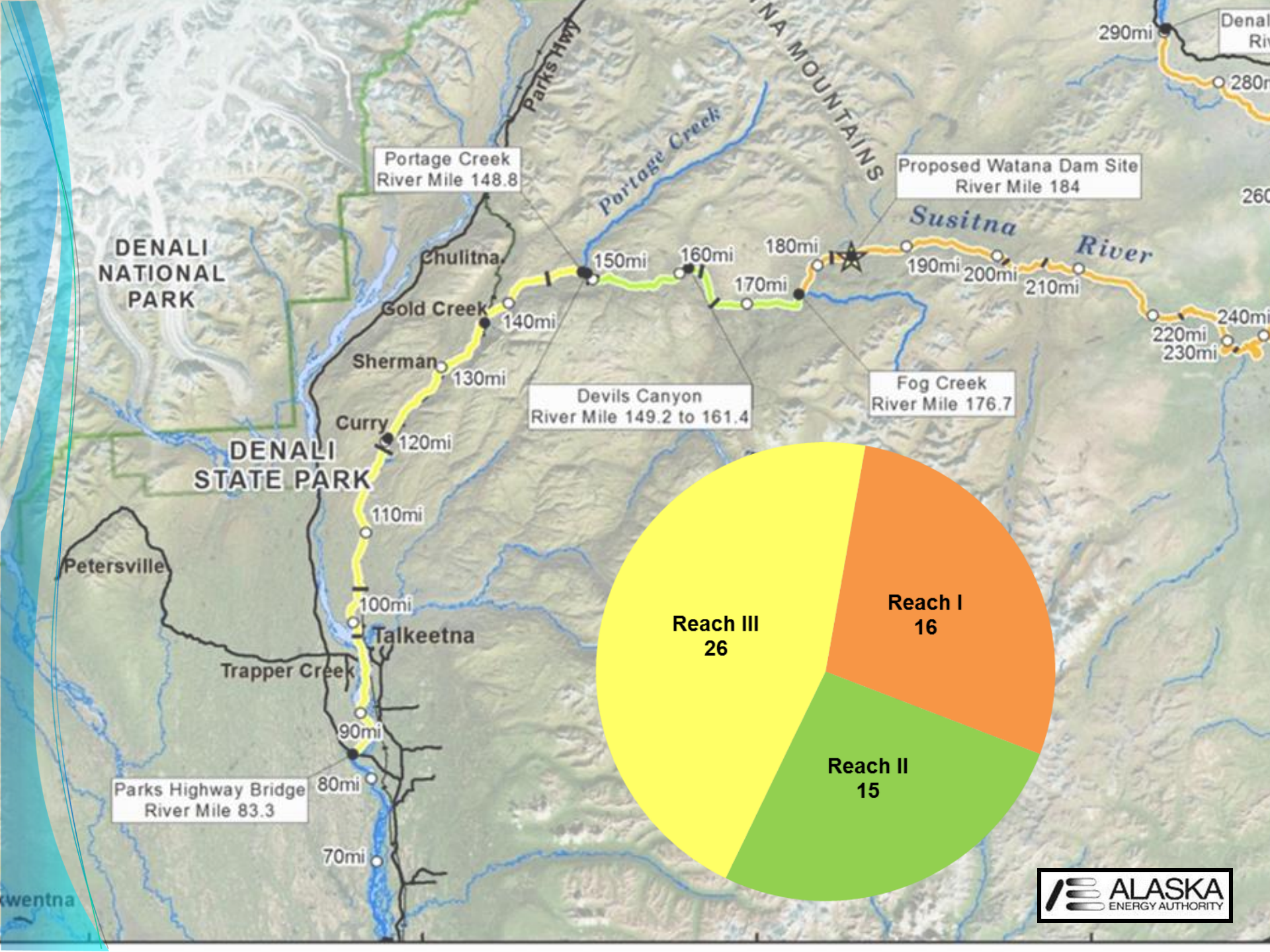
www.susitnariversurvey.com

Respondents who complete the survey will be eligible to win a \$250 gift certificate redeemable at Amazon or Cabela's. Your response to this survey will be kept confidential.

Thank you for helping with this important survey!

If you have any questions about completing this survey, please contact Erik Steimle at erik.steimle@erm.com

- An announcement of the internet survey was sent to known river recreators & user groups on July 15, 2013
- Over 1,000 cards encouraging participation in the survey have been distributed to local recreators and outfitters



DENALI NATIONAL PARK

DENALI STATE PARK

Portage Creek
River Mile 148.8

Proposed Watana Dam Site
River Mile 184

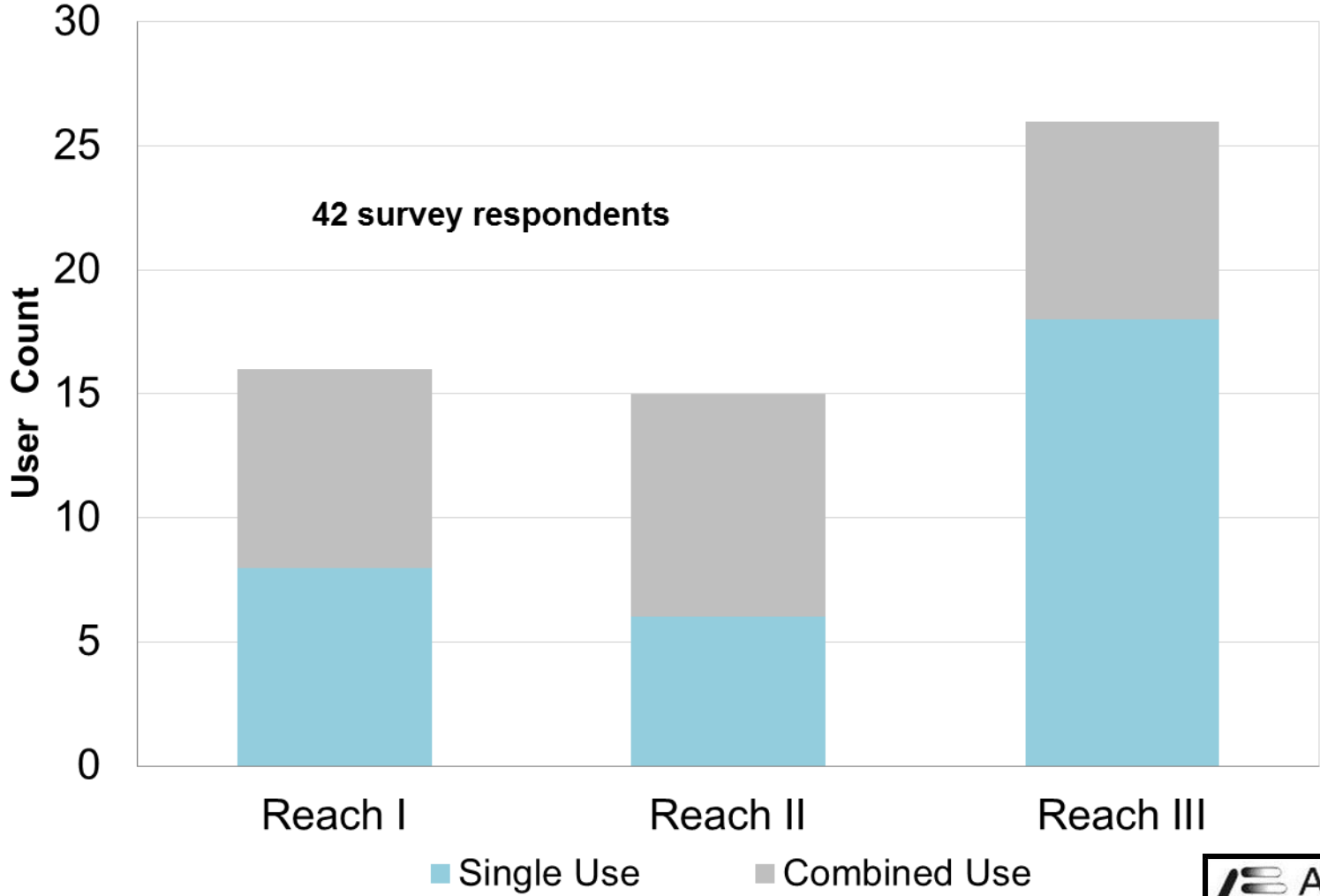
Devils Canyon
River Mile 149.2 to 161.4

Fog Creek
River Mile 176.7

Parks Highway Bridge
River Mile 83.3

Spatial Distribution of River Recreators in Reaches 1, 2, & 3

July 15 - August 16



Q3 Update

June – August 2013

- July 29-August 15, 2013 field verification of river recreation opportunities & activities in the three Susitna River project reaches and tributaries
- Ongoing interdisciplinary coordination with ice processes, fish resources, hydrology, and geomorphology study efforts
- Ongoing solicitation of river user groups and individuals to participate in the river recreation internet survey
- Finalizing summer river recreation executive interview candidates and appointments



Q4 Tasks 2013

- Continued coordination with ice processes, fish resources, hydrology, and geomorphology study efforts
- Continued solicitation of river user groups & individuals to participate in the Susitna River Recreation Survey
- Completion of summer use executive interviews
- Analysis of initial survey and executive interview data
- Study team looking to arrange River Recreation Focus Group Meeting(s) in Anchorage possibly Fall 2013 or winter 2014 time period.