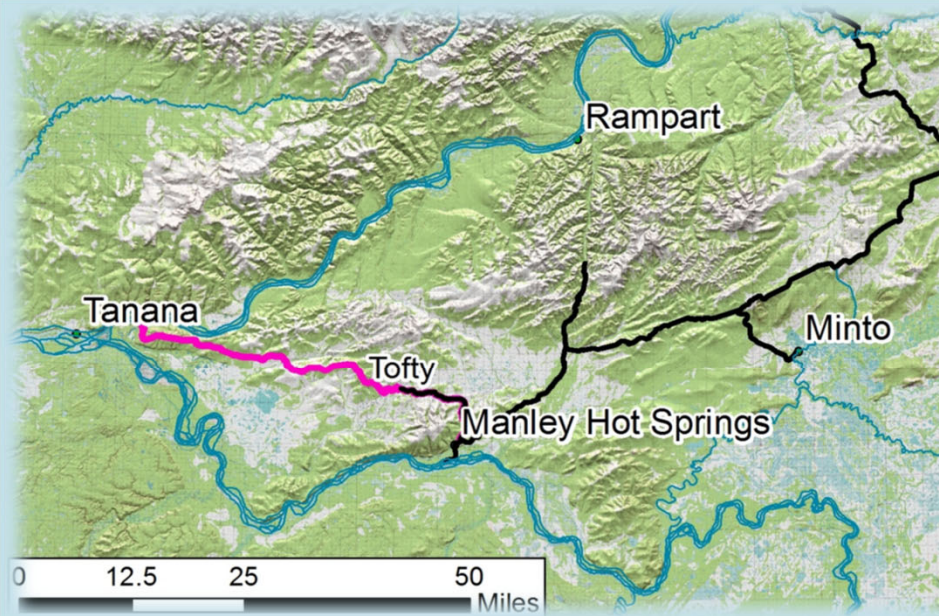




Alaska Department of Transportation & Public Facilities

Public Involvement in Rural Alaska Road to Tanana Project

Jonathan J Hutchinson, P.E.
November 18, 2021



Why Involve the Public/Community/Stakeholders?

- 35 miles of new road
- Temporary access onto private lands for Field Studies
- Acquisition of R/W from Native Corporations
- Additional public access to adjacent privately owned lands
- Additional public access to subsistence use areas
- Privately owned material sources
- Project Budget – pioneer road concept (creative with design and construction)





During construction

- ▣ 50 year record rain year, 2014
- ▣ Massive fire in 2015



Public Involvement Timeline

Level of Public Involvement Selected: **Project partnership and active community role in decision making**

Pre-Construction (Feb 2012 - April 2014)

- Feb 29, 2012- Public & Stakeholder Meeting in Tanana**
- March 27, 2012 - Public & Stakeholder Meeting in Manley**
- April 17, 2012 - Coordinated field plans for Summer field work**
- June 2012 - Public & Stakeholder Meeting in Tanana**
- June 2012 - Trip to identify road terminus on River**
- July 2012 - Field Coordination with subsistence and cultural advisors & local leadership**
- August 2012 - Public & Stakeholder Meeting in Tanana**
- August 2012 - Field Coordination with subsistence and cultural advisors & local leadership**
- December 2012 - Meeting with Stakeholders in Fairbanks**
- December 2012 - Public & Stakeholder Meeting in Manley**
- December 2012 - Public & Stakeholder Meeting in Tanana**
 - Identified the most feasible route (preferred Alternative)
- January 2013 - Stakeholder Meeting in Tanana**
- January 2013 - Ice road field study with community and UAF**
- March 2013 - Meeting with TCC in Fairbanks**
- April 2014 - Meeting with Tozitna Corp for Right of Way, finalize Acquisition**
- April 2014 - Advertised Project**

Construction (2014-2016)

- April 2014 - Local Entities begin R/W Clearing**
- June 2014 - Public & Stakeholder Meeting in Tanana (PAC)**
- May 2015 - Public & Stakeholder Meeting in Tanana**
- May 2016 - Public & Stakeholder Meeting in Tanana**
- July 2016 - On Site inspection and coordination of turnouts and reclamation**

Preliminary Alternatives



Feb 2012- Public & Stakeholder Meeting in Tanana.

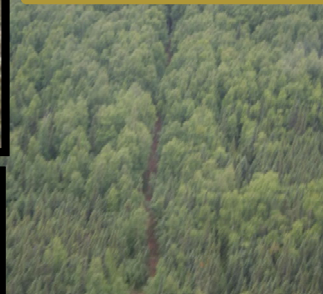
Objectives of Meeting:

1. Familiarize community with alternatives
2. Identify concerns
3. Identify which alternatives to advance to field studies.

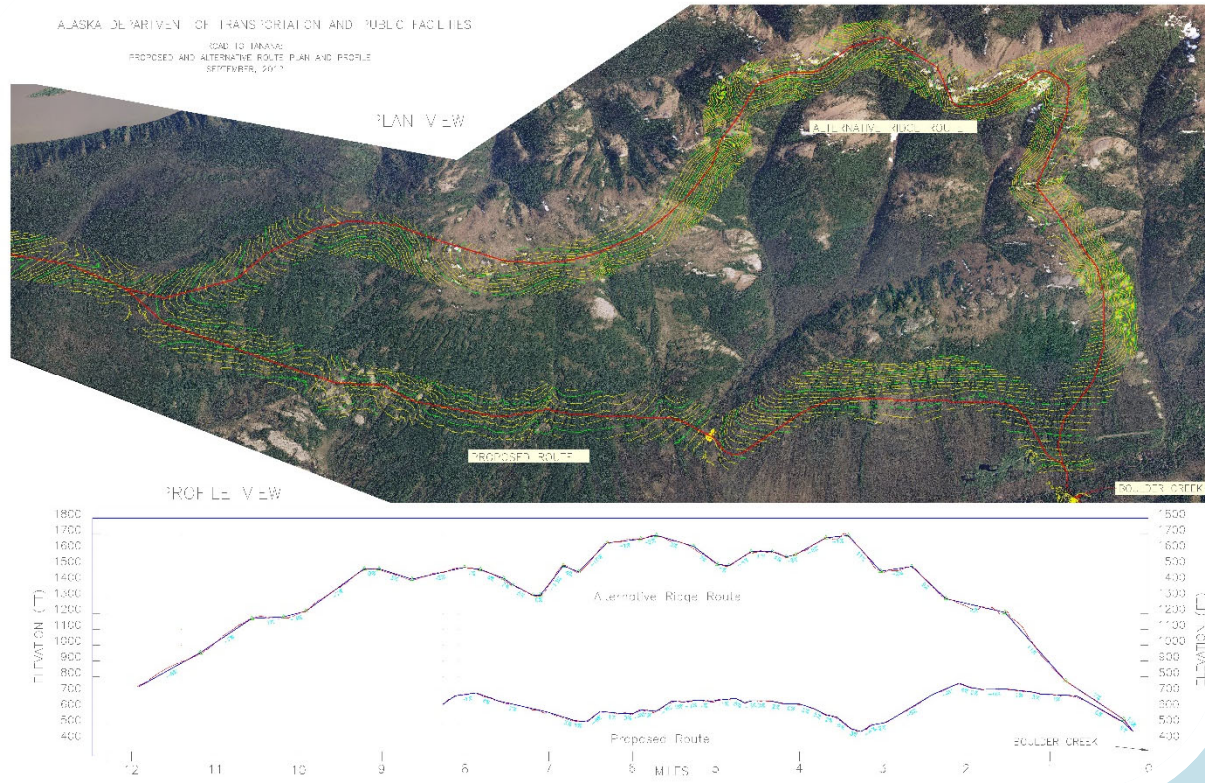
- Engage local leadership prior to public meeting(s)
- Establish clear Meeting Objectives
- Be prepared to change your mind
- Follow through



Community engagement in the field (Summer 2012)



Selection of Preferred Alternative



December 2012 - Public & Stakeholder Meeting in Tanana

Objectives of Meeting:
Identify and agree on a preferred alternative. *Be prepared to NOT agree by the end of the meeting, or table a decision pending additional time, data, analysis etc...*

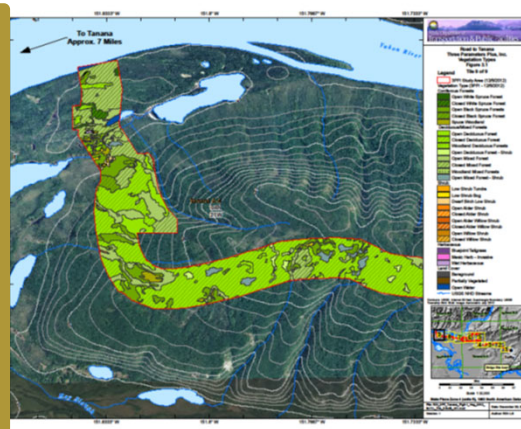
New(ish) Concerns:

- How to minimize trespass?
- Indecision over North vs South route
- How to get to Tanana from the end of the road?
- Who owns the timber?

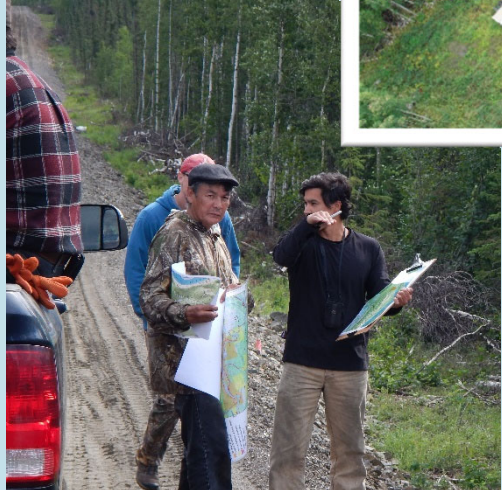
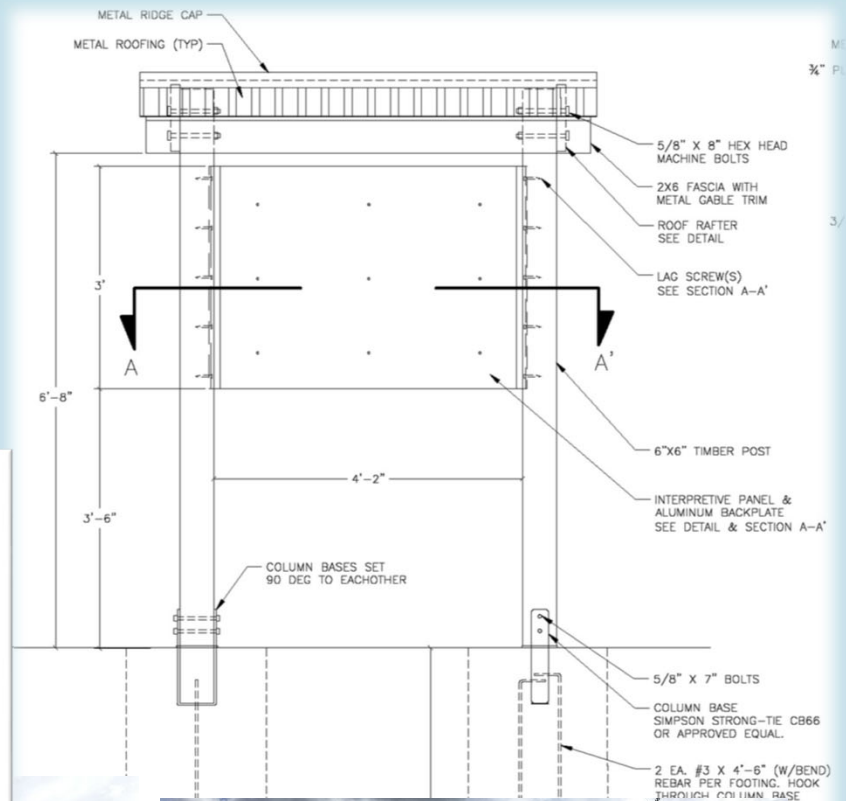
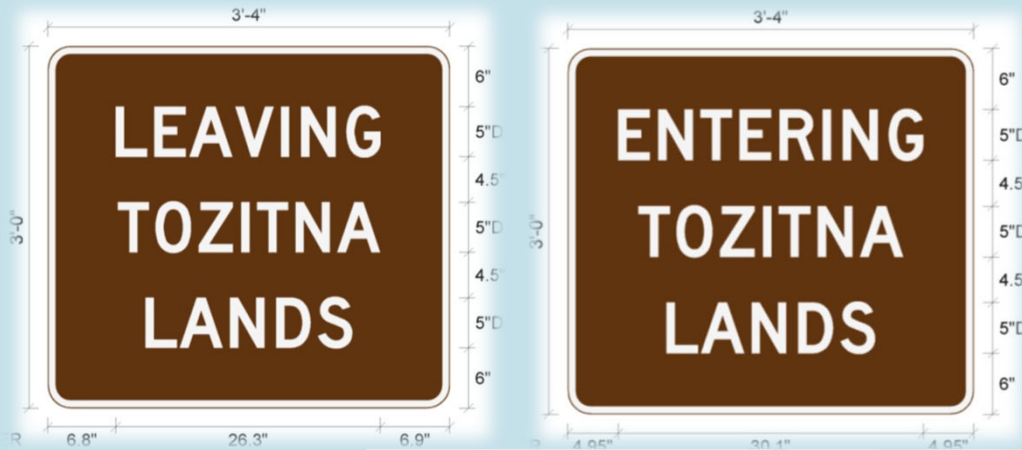
Follow up meeting: January 2013 – Stakeholder Meeting in Tanana

Agreed on Preferred Alternative, with additional commitments.

- Trespass Management Plan
- Ice Route Study
- Timber Management Plan



Trespass Management



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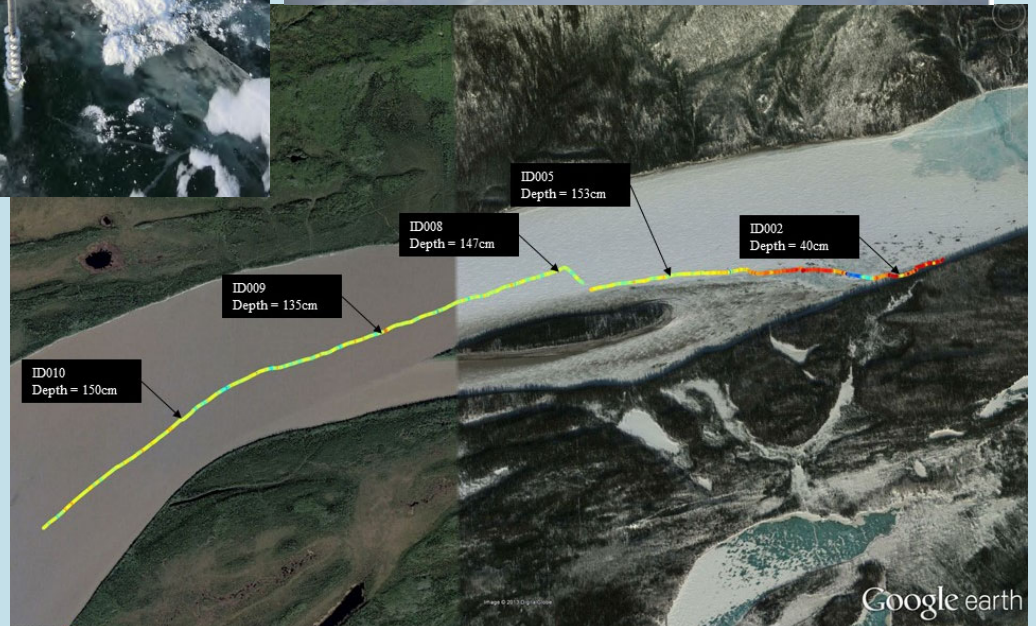
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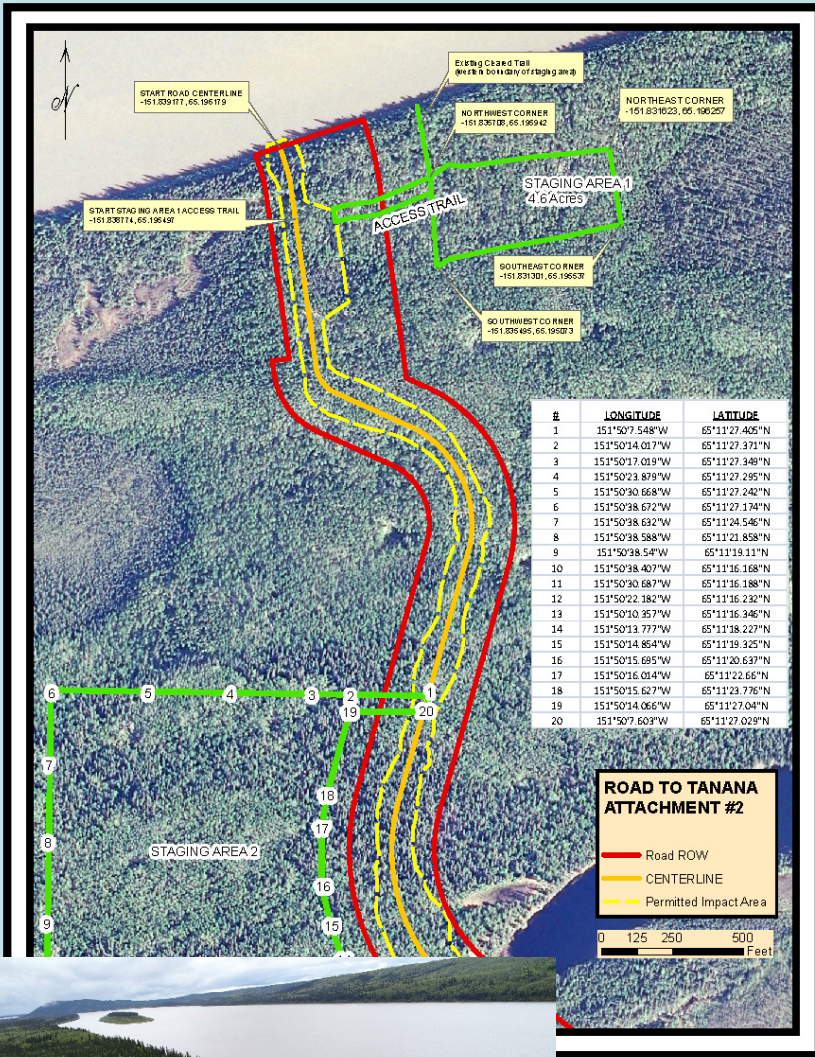
DRM

Ice Route Study

January 2013 – Ice road field study with community and UAF



Timber Management



A newer tool we're using successfully....

- ▣ <https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/a70700e6cd70461c9cb540a3d89f9d09>

Questions?

