

Bristol Bay Native Association

BBNA A2K Road Feasibility Study Public Meeting #1
Ekwok, Alaska
Date 10/8/2025

Welcome

We are here to discuss:

BBNA Aleknagik to Koliganek Road Feasibility Study

We are:

Bristol Engineering Services Company, LLC
Isaac Pearson, P.E.
Brandon Shayan

Bristol

ENGINEERING SERVICES COMPANY, LLC

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Presentation Overview

- ▶ Project Background / Information
- ▶ Public Involvement Overview
- ▶ Project Team
- ▶ What is Connectivity?
- ▶ Community Input on Roadway
 - Opportunities and Threats
 - Where Could a Road go?
- ▶ Project Schedule/Next Steps
- ▶ Questions



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Project Champion and Funding

- ▶ Project Champion
 - Bristol Bay Native Association Department of Transportation and Infrastructure Development
- ▶ Funding Sources
 - Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) Grant Program, FY 2023
 - Denali Commission (DC)

Bristol Bay Native Association

U.S. Department of Transportation

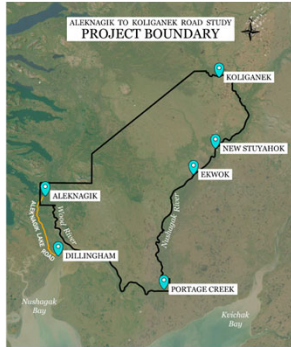
DENALI COMMISSION
PARTNERING TO DEVELOP ALASKA'S BASIC INFRASTRUCTURE

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Primary Stakeholders

- ▶ Community of,
 - Aleknagik
 - Dillingham
 - Ekwok
 - Koliganek
 - New Stuyahok
 - Portage Creek



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Project Need

- ▶ Understand ways to reduce costs of delivering goods, services, and people
- ▶ Provide year-round all-weather access to communities to enhance public safety
- ▶ Provide information to communities about connectivity feasibility

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Project Objectives

- ▶ Understand communities' thoughts about road connections
- ▶ Evaluate cultural, environmental, economic, and social impacts of a road connection
- ▶ Evaluate the feasibility of road connections
- ▶ Develop a report that summarizes the findings

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Project Do's and Do Not's

What This Study Does

- ✓ Considers the possibility of road connections between Aleknagik, Portage Creek, Ekwo, New Stuyahok, and Koliganek.
- ✓ Evaluates both pros and cons of the potential roads including economic, environmental, social, and cultural considerations.
- ✓ Identifies if communities want road connections or not.
- ✓ Helps communities make informed decisions about road connection planning.
- ✓ Identifies potential road corridors based on community input and traditional local knowledge.

What This Study Does NOT Do

- ✗ Make decisions for communities.
- ✗ Build roads.
- ✗ Solicit input from outside interests.
- ✗ Promote the Nuyakuk Hydroelectric Project.
- ✗ Promote mining or resource development.

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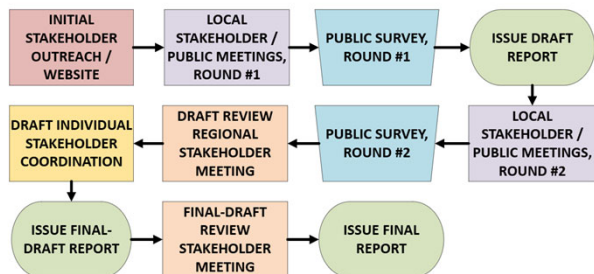
Project Approach

- ▶ Public Involvement
 - Initial Stakeholder Outreach / Website
 - Local Stakeholder / Public Meetings, Round #1 – before draft
 - Public Survey, Round #1
 - Local Stakeholder / Public Meetings, Round #2 – after draft
 - Public Survey, Round #2
 - Draft Review Regional Stakeholder Meeting
 - Draft Individual Stakeholder Coordination
 - Final-Draft Review Stakeholder Meeting
- ▶ Study Development (Draft, Final-draft, Final)
 - Cultural Resources / Environmental
 - Economic Analysis
 - Geotechnical
 - Land Status and Corridor Development

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Project Approach



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Public Involvement Overview

- ▶ Purpose of Public Engagement
 - Ensure transparency, inclusivity, and collaboration throughout the study
 - Gather local insights to inform reporting
- ▶ Engagement Tools
 - Project Website: Project updates, meeting materials, contact information
 - Public Surveys: To gather broad input
 - In–Person & Virtual Meetings: Local and regional reach
 - Target Outreach: For key stakeholders and communities

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Public Involvement Overview

▶ Engagement Activities

Activity	Timeline	Status
Project Website Launch	Summer 2025	Complete
Initial Stakeholder Outreach	Summer 2025	Complete
Public & Stakeholder Meetings – Round 1	Fall 2025	In Progress
Public & Stakeholder Meetings – Round 2	April 2026	Planned
Individual Stakeholder Coordination	Ongoing	In Progress

▶ Your Voice Matters

- We invite the community to participate, ask questions, and stay engaged.

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Project Team

- ▶ Agnew::Beck
 - Economic Analysis
 - Public Involvement
- ▶ Bristol
 - Land Status Mapping
 - Public Involvement
 - Analysis and Reporting
 - Project Management
- ▶ Midnight Sun Environmental
 - Environment Analysis
- ▶ Shannon & Wilson
 - Geotechnical Reporting
- ▶ True North
 - Cultural Resources Report



Midnight Sun
ENVIRONMENTAL, LLC



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What is Connectivity?

- ▶ Movement of people, goods and services
- ▶ Current Connectivity in Study Area
 - Air
 - Land
 - Water
- ▶ Cost, Seasons, and Weather are limitations for current modes of travel
- ▶ Let's evaluate Connectivity with less barriers...

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Barrier Reduction Strategies

- ▶ **What will improve accessibility and/or reduce cost?**
- ▶ Air Travel
 - Runway Improvements including instrument approach.
- ▶ Water Travel
 - Waterway maintenance programs for safety and water levels.
 - More freight movement options.
- ▶ Over Land Travel
 - Winter trail improvements / ice roads.
 - Permanent roadway. Let's talk about this!

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Considerations for Permanent Roadways

- ▶ Community Needs & Priorities
- ▶ Cultural & Subsistence Considerations
- ▶ Environmental & Season Factors
- ▶ Economic & Social Impacts
- ▶ Logistics & Access
- ▶ Governance & Decision Making
- ▶ Road Design & Maintenance

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Evaluation of Opportunities and Threats

- ▶ As a group let's discuss.
- ▶ Think of a road of either to neighboring communities or the hub.
- ▶ **Opportunities:**
What good things could a road bring in the future?
- ▶ **Threats:**
What risks could come with a road, or from outside forces?"

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Community Needs & Priorities

Opportunities

▸ xx

Threats

▸ xx

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Cultural & Subsistence Considerations

Opportunities

▸ xx

Threats

▸ xx

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Environmental & Seasonal Factors

Opportunities

▸ xx

Threats

▸ xx

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Economic & Social Impacts

Opportunities

▸ xx

Threats

▸ xx

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Logistics & Access

Opportunities

▸ xx

Threats

▸ xx

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Governance & Decision-Making

Opportunities

▸ xx

Threats

▸ xx

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Road Design & Maintenance

Opportunities

▸ XX

Threats

▸ XX

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Where Could a Road Go?

▸ Things to consider:

- Geographic feasibility
 - Terrain challenges (mountains, rivers, wetlands, permafrost)
 - Accessibility in all seasons
- Environmental Factors
 - Sensitive ecosystems, wildlife corridors, fisheries
 - Subsistence resource areas
- Cultural and Historical Resources
 - Sites of cultural or historical importance
- Community Preferences
 - Connections people would find useful
 - Proximity of road to the townsite

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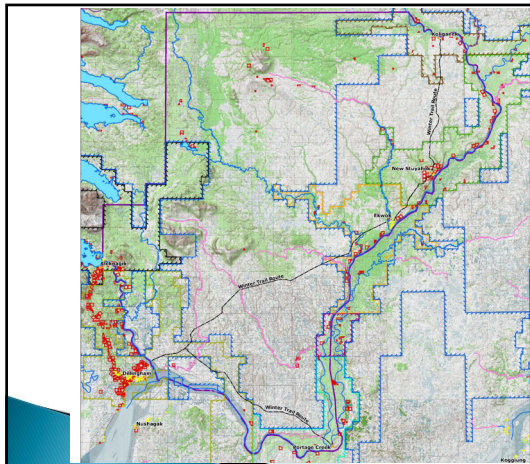
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Where Could a Road Go?

- ▶ We want to hear from you!
 - If a road were considered, where would you want it to go, or not go?
 - Where should be avoided?
- ▶ Let's mark up some maps!!!
- ▶ Also, Let's do some surveys!!!

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Project Schedule / Next Steps

- ▶ Draft A2K Study February / March 2026
- ▶ Public Meeting Round #2 April 2026
- ▶ Final Draft A2K Study August 2026
- ▶ Final A2K Study December 2026

Check out the website:
A2KRoadStudy.com



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Questions or Comments?

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Thank you for your
participation!



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