

# NAME THE FERRY

## ALASKA CLASS FERRY PROJECT

### Message from Commissioner Marc Luiken

As Commissioner of the Department of Transportation and Public Facilities (DOT&PF) and on behalf of the State of Alaska, I would like to invite you to participate in the Name the Ferry contest. The construction of two new Alaska built ferries is currently underway and the vessels are each in need of a name. Through cooperation with the Office of Governor Walker and the Alaska Marine Highway System (AMHS), DOT&PF is sponsoring an essay contest to establish these vessel names. This guide is designed to help prepare you for entering the contest with resources and activities that support the authoring of an essay. There is specific criteria governing the naming of a ferry that each participant should review along with the rules and guidelines of the contest, prior to researching and writing a qualifying essay. The winner will play an active role in making Alaska State history and be awarded special recognition from Governor Walker, Lt. Governor Mallott and myself.



### Department of Transportation & Public Facilities

The DOT&PF has far reaching responsibilities to, "Keep Alaska moving through service and infrastructure." Achieving this goal requires a unique set of skills throughout the department, which is focused on providing a safe and efficient transportation network. The department maintains assets that include 5,619 highway miles, 805 bridges, 254 airports, 11 ferries serving 35 ports, and 720 state-owned or managed buildings around the state. Crews are visible to the public completing duties such as plowing snow, cleaning ditches, repairing guardrails and traffic lights, maintaining roads and runways, cutting roadside vegetation; or you may witness crews who respond to floods, mudslides, downed trees and other emergencies.

### Alaska Marine Highway System: A Division of DOT & PF

The 11 ferries of the Alaska Marine Highway cover a 3,500 mile route and provide service to over 35 communities. From our southern terminus in Bellingham, Washington to Dutch Harbor in the Aleutian chain, the ferries provide service to Alaska's diverse and scenic coastline. Unlike the 'Lower 48,' many of our communities are not accessible by a land-based road system so they are called "roadless" communities. One such community is Juneau, the capital of Alaska. The primary means of travel to Juneau is by air or sea. Therefore, the Alaska Marine Highway makes up a large part of our state highway system and is a route so special that in 2002 it was designated a National Scenic Byway and All-American Road by the Federal Highway Administration. Currently, it is the only marine route with the designation of an All-American Road.



AMHS connects remote coastal communities and provides them with access to goods and services found in other communities. Without the ferry system, Alaska's coastal communities would have limited options for transportation. Learn more about the AMHS route and the communities the ferries service at [www.FerryAlaska.com](http://www.FerryAlaska.com).



## AMHS Ferries Word Search

The current AMHS vessels are each named after a glacier within the State of Alaska. Can you find each vessel in the puzzle below?

A O C J T Z C L E K J A C A R  
 S Y N O B T E V W G K S H N P  
 V A U A L C O O V S J U E I Y  
 Z H E T O U H C U Y D K N P Z  
 M Q Y N I Z M N I J I A E S D  
 V C T T F L A B V N I T G A Q  
 F E G E C T C E I D N H A L S  
 R E H T A E W R I A F E Y A Z  
 H C S M A R O R U A E L K M R  
 F G Q Y T U S T U M E N A Y R

AURORA	KENNICOTT	MATANUSKA
CHENEGA	LECONTE	TAKU
COLUMBIA	LITUYA	TUSTUMENA
FAIRWEATHER	MALASPINA	

### FUN FACT!

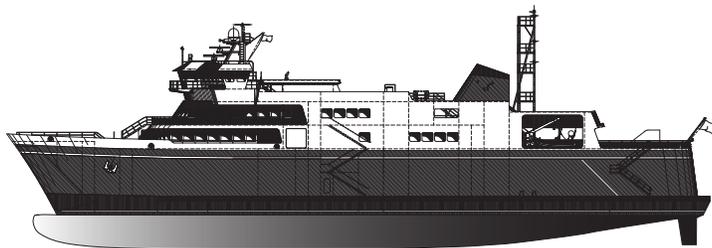
Ships measure their speed in knots (Kt) and distance in nautical miles (NM). If a ship is traveling one Nautical Mile per hour, its speed is one knot. One knot is equal to 1.15 miles per hour in your car (which uses a shorter statute mile for distance).

## Alaska Class Ferries

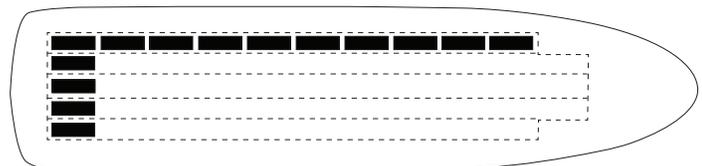
In the fall of 2014, the Governor's office announced that Alaska DOT & PF had reached a final agreement to construct two Day Boat Alaska Class Ferries (ACFs) at Vigor Alaska shipyard in Ketchikan. The ferries are designed to be 280 feet long, seat up to 300 passengers and have 1060 feet of usable car deck space. Each ferry will feature fully enclosed car decks as well as bow and stern doors for quicker loading and unloading. A modified hull design will greatly improve traveler comfort during rough weather and controllable pitch propellers will allow the operator to maximize maneuverability and efficiency. The ACFs are being constructed in modules that will be fit together from the hull upward, moving from bow to stern. Progress to date is looking good and can be reviewed at [www.FerryAlaska.com](http://www.FerryAlaska.com) on the Our Fleet page. The vessels are scheduled for delivery in 2018.

## ACF Car Capacity

The drawing below is of the proposed ACF car deck - can you answer the questions that follow about car deck capacity?



■ = 1 car



1. What is your estimate of how many vehicles the ACFs can carry? \_\_\_\_\_
2. If vehicles are put bumper to bumper, the ferry could carry up to 1060 feet. How long do you think the average vehicle is? \_\_\_\_\_
3. Did your estimate change for how many vehicles can fit on each ACF vessel? \_\_\_\_\_
4. The ACFs are being built as RoRo vessels; can you explain what RoRo means and why it's important for AMHS operations? \_\_\_\_\_



## State of Alaska Statute 19.65.020

The process of naming a state ferry is governed by law, specifically by the written word of Alaska Statute 19.65.020. Statutes are formal written enactments that either provide guidelines and direction or declare a policy. They are named by starting with the main category or title, then the chapter and finally the section it belongs within.

The Alaska Statute that governs the naming of ferries is as follows:

- **Title 19:** Highways and Ferries
- **Chapter 65:** Alaska Marine Highway System
- **Section 20:** Naming of Vessel or Facility

Statute documents are created within the legislative body of the state and agreed upon by the highest executive authority. Ideally, all state statutes are in line with the state constitution as well as the fundamental laws of Alaska when enacted.

### Sec. 19.65.020 Naming of Vessel or Facility

- a) A vessel or facility of the Alaska Marine Highway System constructed or acquired by the Department of Transportation and Public Facilities under this chapter may be given a name only by law.
- b) A maritime vessel shall bear the name of an Alaska glacier. For full statute details;

<http://www.legis.state.ak.us/basis/statutes.asp#19.65.020>



### Trivia Question

What is represented on the stack of each AMHS vessel?

## North Lynn Canal

The ACFs are anticipated to serve the upper Southeast panhandle known as North Lynn Canal. The intended route is highlighted in red on the map. Can you name the three communities on this route? If the ACFs are anticipated to travel at a speed of 15 knots, can you determine the expected running time between these three communities? AMHS vessels operate in multiple ports, in addition to the three in North Lynn Canal - can you name any of the other Southeast Alaska ports shown on the map? Hint: You'll find answers on our website.



## Glacier Information

Scientists study glaciology to discover how a glacier is created and survives over many years. A glacier begins in a bowl-shaped pocket called a névé located in a mountain top location. Precipitation collects in layers of snow, then compresses under immense pressure created by these layers, squeezing out air to create dense glacier ice.

After the large masses of densely packed ice buildup, they begin to move by pressure and gravitational force. As the glacier moves, it picks up pieces of the terrain causing abrasion as it moves; this reaction is similar to sandpaper and wood. The road map from this abrasion allows scientists to study these characteristics and study changes in the Earth's climate.



### FUN FACTS!

Glaciers can be found in mountain ranges on every continent except Australia. There are over 745 named glaciers in Alaska. Glaciers store approximately 75% of the Earth's entire fresh water supply.

## Glacier Resources

Alaska State Library: [http://library.alaska.gov/asp/alaska\\_glaciers.html](http://library.alaska.gov/asp/alaska_glaciers.html)

National Park Service: <http://www.nps.gov/glba/learn/nature/glaciers.htm>



The **mission** of the Alaska Marine Highway System is to provide safe, reliable, and efficient **transportation** of people, goods, and vehicles among Alaska **communities**, Canada, and the "Lower 48," while providing opportunities to develop and **maintain** a reasonable standard of living and high **quality** of life, including social, education, and health **needs**.



# Department of Transportation & Public Facilities

## Name the Ferry Contest: Contest Outline

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### Background

The Department of Transportation and Public Facilities (DOT&PF) currently has two new Alaska Class Ferries being constructed for the Alaska Marine Highway System (AMHS) at the Vigor Alaska shipyard in Ketchikan. The ferries will each be 280 feet long, carry 53 standard cars and 300 passengers, and include a food court, study areas, observation lounge, family lounge and solarium. The service speed of the ferry is 15 knots, or 17.25 mph.

The ferries will be used in the North Lynn Canal region, serving the ports of Haines, Juneau and Skagway. Alaskan statute (AS 19.65.020) requires the ferries be named for an Alaska glacier and the name be given by law. This contest will allow the students of Alaska to select a proposed name for each new ferry. The names of the new ferries will be introduced as legislation during the 2017 legislative session. By tradition, a ferry is given its chosen name during a christening ceremony at the time of launch.

### Eligibility

Students who are currently enrolled in the 6<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> grades in the State of Alaska are eligible to participate in the contest. Two winning entries will be selected for the naming of each of the two Alaska Class Ferries. One entry will be selected from students in middle school grades 6-8, the second winning entry will be selected from students in the high school grades 9-12.

### Guidelines

Each student participating in the contest will choose an Alaska glacier and prepare a short essay. The essay should include the following information about the chosen glacier:

1. The location and characteristics of the glacier: where it starts, how long, wide and deep it is, how it is moving and any other descriptive information.
2. The background on the name of the glacier: who or what it is named for, when it was named, why that name was chosen and any other interesting information about the history of the glacier and how it relates to Alaska's history.
3. The student's reason why a new ferry should be named for the glacier chosen.

Each essay should be a minimum of 400 words and will not exceed 800 words. Entries may be submitted electronically or in written hard copy format. Electronic entries should be submitted as MS Word documents or in a PDF format and should be typed in a 10 or 12 point font. Written entries should be typed and double spaced on plain white paper, or clearly written on lined white paper. The student's last name and grade level should appear on each page of the essay. The name must be the official State name of the glacier.

The following glaciers cannot be chosen as these are the names of existing AMHS vessels:

**AURORA  
CHENEGA  
COLUMBIA  
FAIRWEATHER**

**LECONTE  
LITUYA  
KENNICOTT  
MALASPINA**

**MATANUSKA  
TAKU  
TUSTUMENA**

## Submission and Selection

Entrants will submit their essays directly to the Alaska Marine Highway System administrative offices. Each entry must include an entry form attached to the front of the essay (see Judging and Submission Criteria). Essays can be submitted via email to [dot.amhs.marketing@alaska.gov](mailto:dot.amhs.marketing@alaska.gov) or can be sent by mail to:

**Alaska Marine Highway  
ATTN: Name the Ferry Contest  
7559 North Tongass Highway  
Ketchikan, AK 99901**

All entries will be recorded and forwarded to the DOT&PF Commissioner's office. DOT&PF will then select the 20 best essays (1 batch of 10 for each grade category) and forward those essays to the office of the Governor for review. The final selection of a name for each ferry will be made by Governor Walker, Lt. Governor Mallott, and Commissioner Luiken. Two winners will be selected, one entry from students in middle school grades 6- 8 and one entry from students in high school grades 9-12.

## Judging Process

Scoring will be based on the six traits identified below, and supported by the Alaska English Language Arts Standards (see Judging and Submission Criteria for details). These weighted components can be summarized as follows:

- |                       |           |
|-----------------------|-----------|
| 1. Ideas and Content  | 35 points |
| 2. Organization       | 15 points |
| 3. Voice              | 20 points |
| 4. Word Choice        | 10 points |
| 5. Sentence Fluency   | 10 points |
| 6. <u>Conventions</u> | 10 points |

**Total Points Awarded 100**

Additionally, judges will be looking for accuracy and completeness of the historical information and the correct use of grammar, spelling, composition, and writing skills.

## Timeline

- Students must submit their essays to AMHS by **March 15<sup>th</sup>, 2016**.
- DOT&PF will forward top ten essays to the Office of Governor Walker by **April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2016**.
- The two winners will be selected and announced by **May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2016**.

## Prize

The two students with winning essays will receive an award certificate in their classroom, presented by the Governor, Lt. Governor or Commissioner of DOT&PF. The winning essay will also be framed and displayed on the ferry it names.



## Department of Transportation & Public Facilities

Name the Ferry Contest: Student Entry Form

Students who are currently enrolled in the 6<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> grades in the State of Alaska are eligible to participate in the contest. Two winning entries will be selected for the naming of each of the two Alaska Class Ferries. One entry will be selected from students in middle school grades 6-8, the second winning entry will be selected from students in the high school grades 9-12.

### Instructions to the Student

- Each student participating in the contest will choose an Alaska glacier and prepare a short essay. The essay should include information about the chosen glacier that includes location and characteristics, the background on the name of the glacier, and the reason why a new ferry should be named for the glacier chosen. Each essay should be a minimum of 400 words and will not exceed 800 words.
- Electronic entries should be submitted as MS Word documents or in a PDF format and should be typed in a 10 or 12 point font. Written entries should be typed and double spaced on plain white paper, or clearly written on lined white paper.
- The name must be the official name of the glacier and the names of existing AMHS vessels cannot be selected. The student's last name and grade level should appear on each page of the essay.

Complete the following information and attach this form to the front of your essay. Essays can be submitted via email to [dot.amhs.marketing@alaska.gov](mailto:dot.amhs.marketing@alaska.gov) or by mail to:

**Alaska Marine Highway  
ATTN: Name the Ferry Contest  
7559 North Tongass Highway  
Ketchikan, AK 99901**

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent or Guardian Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of School/Home Schooled: \_\_\_\_\_

Grade Level Currently Enrolled: \_\_\_\_\_

Student's Age as of 03-15-2016: \_\_\_\_\_

## Specific Judging Criteria

### Ideas and Content (up to 35 points)

- Ideas are fresh, original, and/or insightful
- Ideas are based on the writer's knowledge and/or experience
- Geographic, geological and historical facts are included and accurate
- Details are relevant, telling, and contribute to the whole
- Content goes beyond the obvious or predictable
- Topic makes a point or tells a story

### Organization (up to 15 points)

- Sequencing of ideas and details is logical and effective
- Introduction is inviting – draws in the reader
- Conclusion is satisfying – leaves reader with a sense of resolution
- Transitions are thoughtful; clearly showing how ideas connect
- Organization flows smoothly, seems effortless

### Voice (up to 20 points)

- Language is highly individual
- Reader senses the person behind the words; feels an interaction with the writer
- Tone gives the writing flavor, adds interest
- Language is appropriate for purpose and audience
- Narrative writing seems honest, appealing, heartfelt
- Expository or persuasive writing reflects a strong commitment to the topic, anticipates reader's questions, shows why the reader should care or want to know more

### Word Choice (up to 10 points)

- Words are specific, accurate, striking
- Language is natural, not overdone
- Verbs are lively
- Nouns and modifiers are precise
- Clichés and jargon are used sparingly and only for effect

### Sentence Fluency (up to 10 points)

- Sentence construction makes meaning clear
- Sentences are purposeful and build upon each other
- The writing has cadence; the writer has thought about sound as well as meaning
- Sentences vary in length and structure
- Fragments are used only for style or effect
- Dialogue, if used, sounds natural

### Conventions (up to 10 points)

- Paragraphing reinforces the organizational structure
- Grammar and usage are correct (few, if any, errors) and contribute to clarity and style
- Punctuation is accurate (few, if any, errors) and guides the reader through the text
- Spelling is generally correct, even of more difficult words
- The writer may manipulate conventions for stylistic effect



## Department of Transportation & Public Facilities

Name the Ferry Contest: Judging Tally Form

### Judging Process

Read through each essay and then evaluate each section based on the key points outlined. Scoring will be based on the six traits identified below (see Judging and Submission Criteria for details). Additionally, judges will be looking for accuracy and completeness of the historical information and the correct use of grammar, spelling, composition, and writing skills. Do not make any comments or marks directly on the student essays.

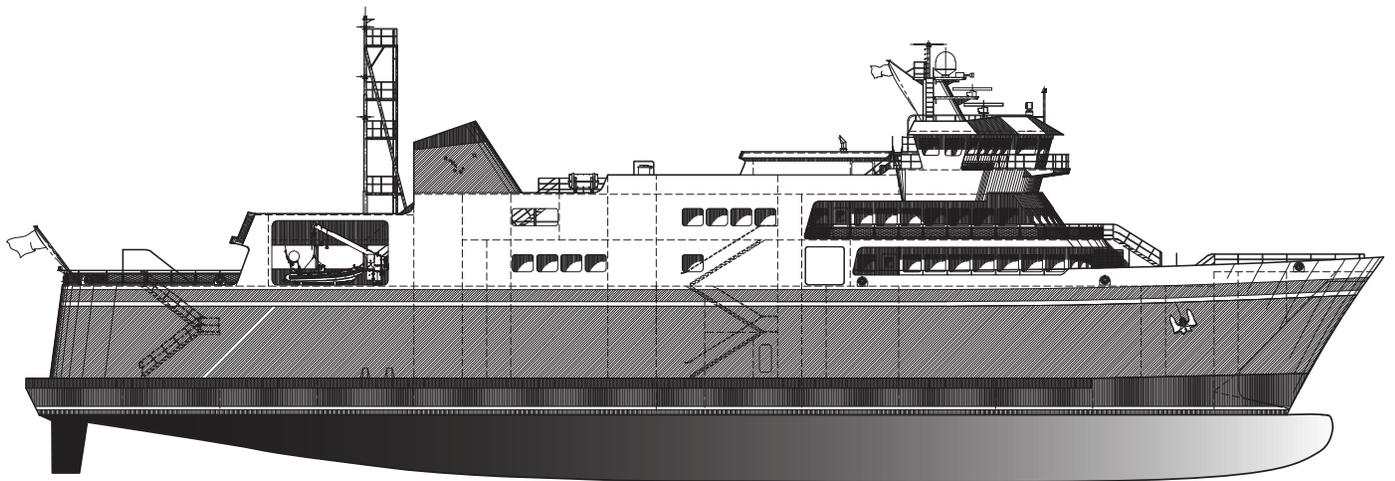
<b>Essay Tally Sheet</b>			
Student Name: _____			
<b>Ideas and Content</b>	up to 35 points	Points Earned:	
<b>Organization</b>	up to 15 points	Points Earned:	
<b>Voice</b>	up to 20 points	Points Earned:	
<b>Word Choice</b>	up to 10 points	Points Earned:	
<b>Sentence Fluency</b>	up to 10 points	Points Earned:	
<b>Conventions</b>	up to 10 points	Points Earned:	
<b>Total Points Earned:</b>			

# NAME THE FERRY

## ALASKA CLASS FERRY PROJECT

**Play a part in making state history by naming one of the new Alaska Class Ferries.**

*The winner will be awarded special recognition by Governor Walker and Lt. Governor Mallott!*



## Entries due March 15th, 2016

The Department of Transportation & Public Facilities, in cooperation with the Office of Governor Walker and the Alaska Marine Highway System (AMHS), invite you to participate in the Name the Ferry essay contest. Each AMHS vessel has been named after one of 745 named glaciers in the state, leaving several choices to author a qualifying essay for entry in the contest. Participants must be in the 6th through 12th grade and complete an essay with a minimum of 400 words, that includes a suggested name with supporting evidence about why that name is most appropriate. Two winners will be awarded: one winner will come from grades 6-8 and one from grades 9-12. Each winning essay will be displayed on the ferry it names! For full details on the contest, please visit [FerryAlaska.com/contest](http://FerryAlaska.com/contest).

