

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.



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!

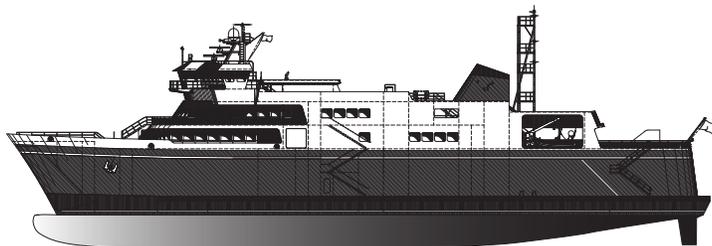
Ships measure their speed in knots (Kt) and distance in nautical miles (NM). If a ship is traveling one Nautical Mile per hour, its speed is one knot. One knot is equal to 1.15 miles per hour in your car (which uses a shorter statute mile for distance).

Alaska Class Ferries

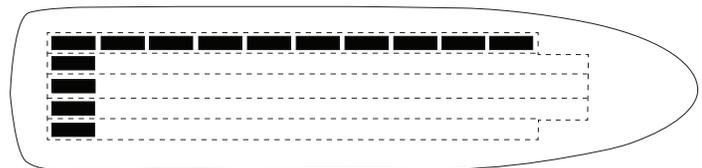
In the fall of 2014, the Governor's office announced that Alaska DOT & PF had reached a final agreement to construct two Day Boat Alaska Class Ferries (ACFs) at Vigor Alaska shipyard in Ketchikan. The ferries are designed to be 280 feet long, seat up to 300 passengers and have 1060 feet of usable car 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 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

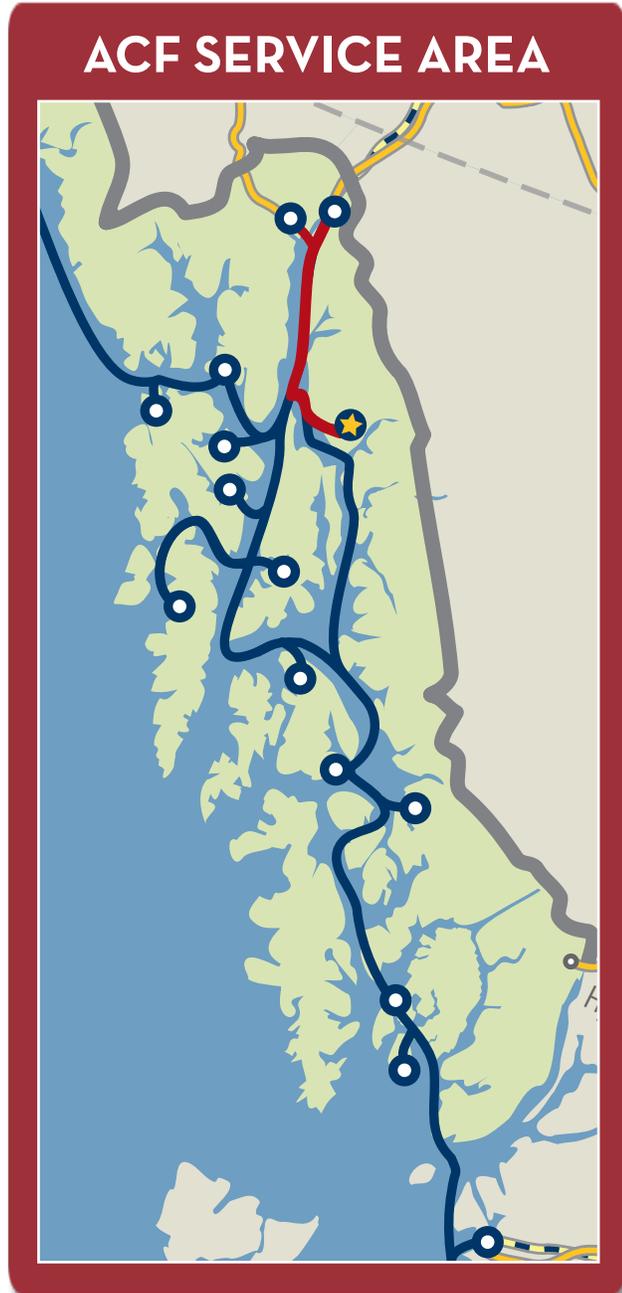


1. What is your estimate of how many vehicles the ACFs can carry? _____
2. If vehicles are put bumper to bumper, the ferry could carry up to 1060 feet. How long do you think the average vehicle is? _____
3. Did your estimate change for how many vehicles can fit on each ACF vessel? _____
4. The ACFs are 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 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.
- 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

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**.