



Alaska Scenic Byways Program News

Spring 2007

byways.alaska.gov

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2007 Official State Highway Map update

The Official State Highway Map was revised this year and printing will be complete this week. Maps are being provided to visitor centers and various public offices across the state for free distribution to travelers.

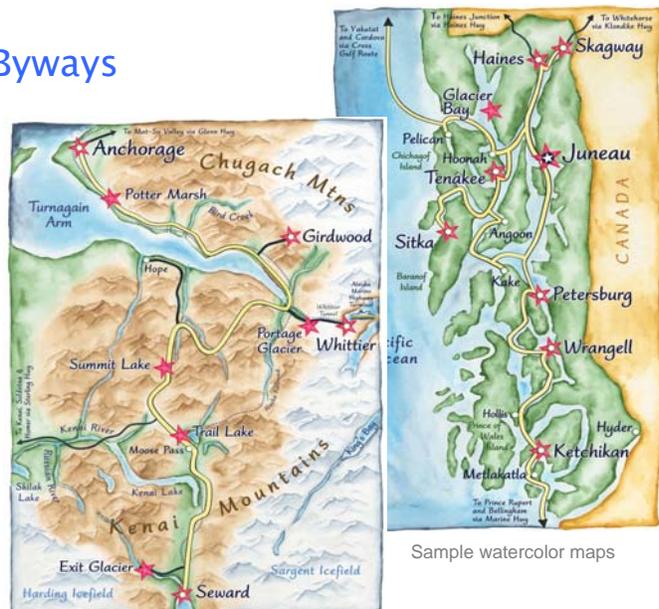
The backside of the new map includes many updates to the information provided about each of Alaska's byways. The most noticeable change is the addition of new watercolor maps that highlight each of the designated byways (see below). Also, all byway segments will now have a separate panel that includes a photo, map and visitor highlights.

For more information contact Aneta Synan at (907) 465-8769.

New watercolor maps of Alaska's Byways

Fifteen new watercolor maps of Alaska's byways were produced this year for the Alaska Department of Transportation & Public Facilities with a National Scenic Byways Grant from the Federal Highway Administration.

The new maps are featured on the back of the 2007 State Highway Map and will be added to the Alaska Scenic Byways website (<http://byways.alaska.gov>) this summer. The maps feature many of the towns and visitor highlights along each byway.



Sample watercolor maps

Corridor planning updates for the Sterling and Haines State Byways

Final drafts of the Corridor Partnership Plans (CPP) for the Haines and Sterling State Byways are nearly complete and publication of both plans is expected before the end of summer. The plans will make both byways eligible for National Scenic Byway grant funds (even though they are state byways) and to apply for future designation as a National Scenic Byway or All-American Road.



Haines / © Alaska Division of Tourism



Homer Spit / © Anne Marie Holen

The Sterling plan calls for naming the two byways located on the Sterling Highway. The name “*Angler’s Paradise Byway*” will apply from the Sterling Wye to Skilak Lake and the name “*Land’s End Byway*” will apply from Anchor Point to Homer.

Please contact Anne Marie Holen (907-235-8121 ext. 2246) for information on the Sterling plan, and Lori Stepansky (907-766-2234) for information on the Haines plan.

Update on 2007 National Scenic Byway grant applications

Nine applications for 2007 National Scenic Byway grant funds were submitted to DOT&PF by the February 20, 2007 submission deadline. The grant funds requested total \$574,159 and, if awarded, would leverage an additional \$159,968 in matching funds or in-kind services.

Funds were requested to specifically benefit the Alaska Marine Highway All-American Road, the Glenn Highway National Scenic Byway and the Seward Highway All-American Road.

After the project applications are prioritized by local byway leaders, a statewide review team reviews proposals and makes a recommendation to the Federal Highway Administration. It is expected that the grant awards will be announced by the Federal Highway Administration later this summer. Please check the Alaska Scenic Byways website periodically for funding updates:

<http://www.dot.state.ak.us/stwdplng/scenic/org-funding.shtml>

Byway corridor planning for the Parks Highway State Byway

Work is well underway on the Parks State Byway Corridor Partnership Plan. Public meetings were held monthly along the byway between February and June to collect information about the byway and develop draft vision and goal statements. More meetings on the project will resume in September.

A special web page has been created to share information about the project at:

<http://www.dot.state.ak.us/stwdplng/scenic/parkscpp.shtml>



Stakeholder meeting in Cantwell, May 31, 2007

Partnership formed for Seward Highway All-American Road

A group of individuals representing businesses, residents and public agencies between Seward and Anchorage recently voted to re-establish a byway committee for the Seward Highway All-American Road. The new committee, called the “Seward Highway All-American Road Partnership” (SHARP), also adopted bylaws and elected officers. Meetings will resume in the fall and the committee has discussed updating the Corridor Management Plan that was completed in the late 1990s and seeking grant funding for other activities along the byway. Anyone interested in getting involved or would like more information should contact the partnership president, Carl Ekstrom, at carle@acdllc.us or (907) 646-4887 (days) / (907) 382-3338 (cell).

For more information about the Alaska Scenic Byways program or to add and remove names from the newsletter distribution list, please contact:

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