

Alaska's Scenic Byways Program



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Scenic Byways Coordinator
February 12, 2007

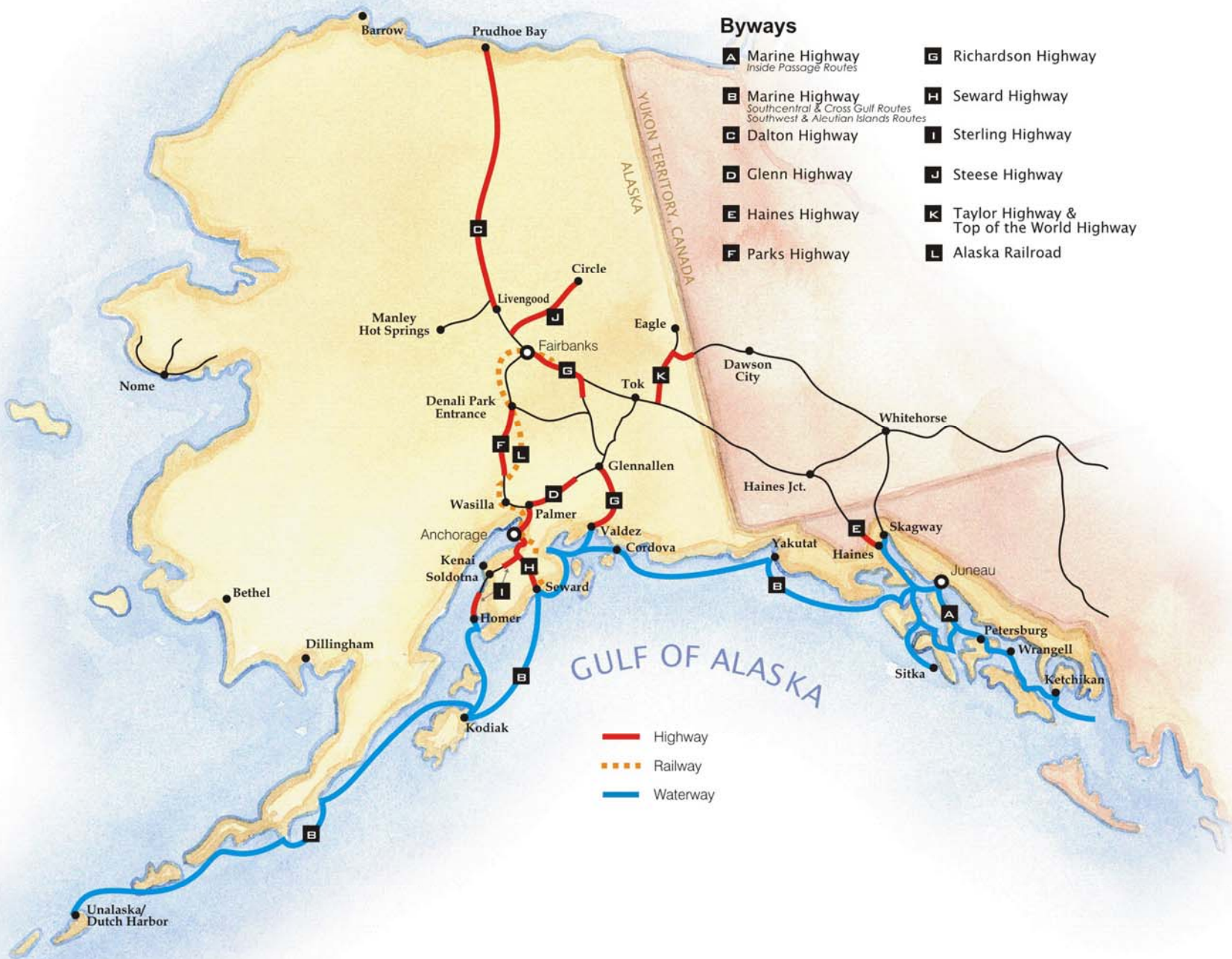


Alaska's Byways

13 Byways, 4,800+ miles

- Seward Highway, All-American Road
- Alaska Marine Highway, All-American Road
- Glenn Highway, National Scenic Byway
- Alaska Railroad
- Dalton Highway
- Haines Highway
- Parks Highway
- Richardson Highway (north)
- Richardson Highway (south)
- Steese Highway
- Sterling Highway (north)
- Sterling Highway (south)
- Taylor/Top of the World





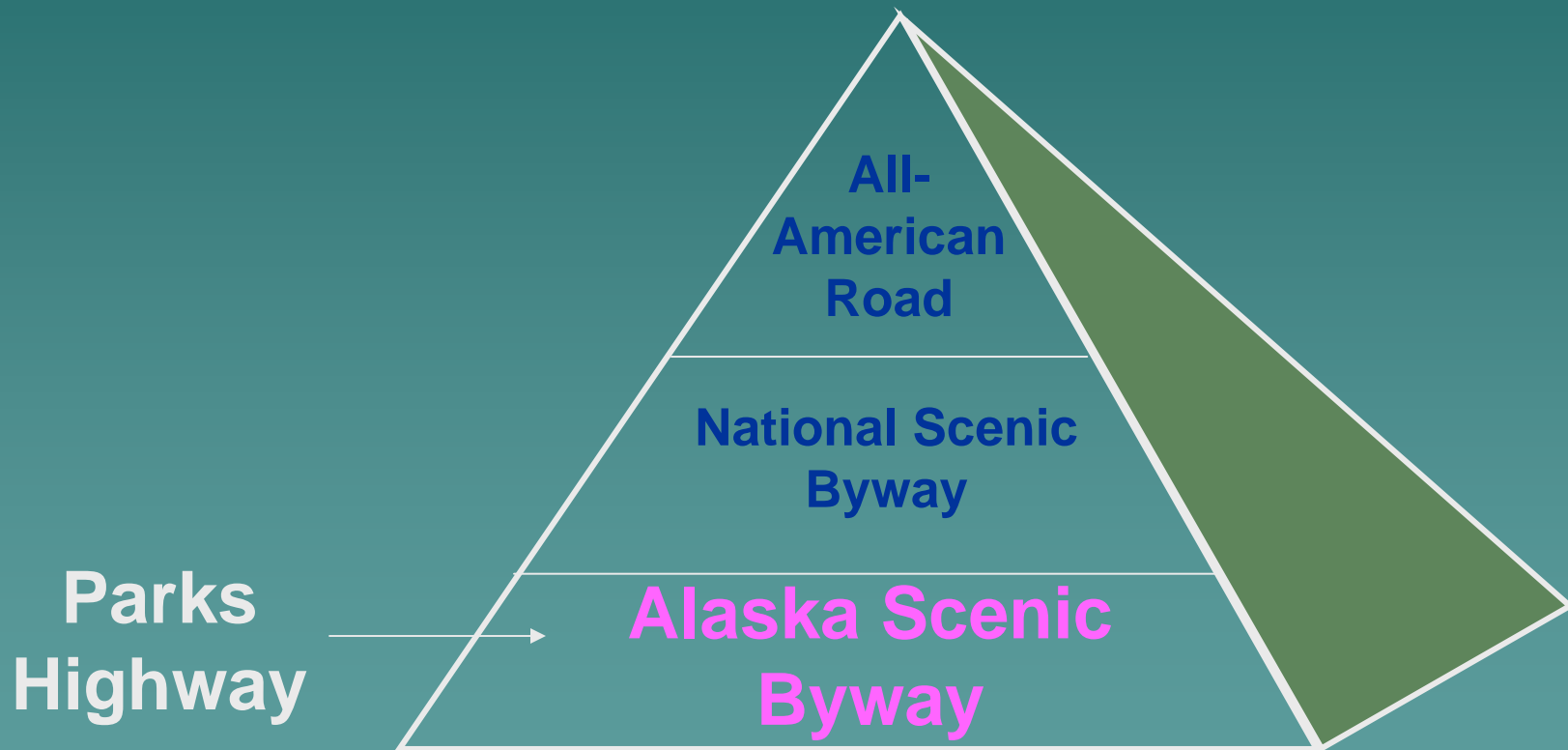
Byways

- | | |
|--|---|
| A Marine Highway
<i>Inside Passage Routes</i> | G Richardson Highway |
| B Marine Highway
<i>Southcentral & Cross Gull Routes</i>
<i>Southwest & Aleutian Islands Routes</i> | H Seward Highway |
| C Dalton Highway | I Sterling Highway |
| D Glenn Highway | J Steese Highway |
| E Haines Highway | K Taylor Highway &
Top of the World Highway |
| F Parks Highway | L Alaska Railroad |

- Highway
- - - Railway
- Waterway



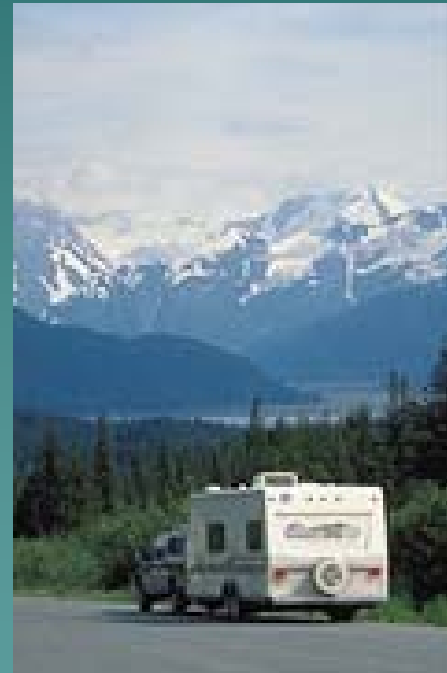
Levels of Byway Designation

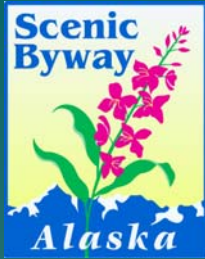




Property & Regulatory Protections

The Policy (01.03.020) establishing the byways program was amended in 2006 to include language aimed at providing property and regulatory protections.

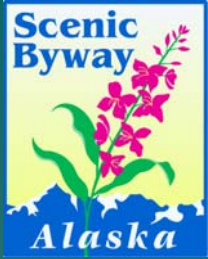




Protections continued....

The amendment explicitly states that nothing in the policy shall:

- **Abridge the rights of any property owner**
...including the right to refrain from participating in any plan, project, program, or activity conducted within or along a designated byway; or
- **require any property owner to modify or permit public access to his/her property; or**
- **Alter any adopted land use regulation or conveys any land use or other regulatory authority to any local coordinating entity.**



Byway Corridor Planning

Corridor Partnership Plans are available for:

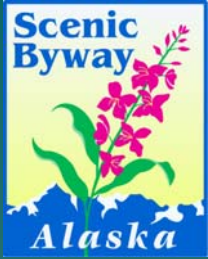
- Seward All American Road
- AMHS All American Road
- Glenn Highway National Byway

Plans are underway for:

- Haines State Byway
- Sterling State Byway
- Parks State Byway*
- North Richardson State Byway*



Photo Credit: Jack Stickel



Eligible Grant Categories

- ◆ State Programs
- ◆ Corridor Partnership Plans
- ◆ Safety Improvements
- ◆ Byway Facilities
- ◆ Access to Recreation
- ◆ Resource Protection
- ◆ Interpretive Information
- ◆ Marketing



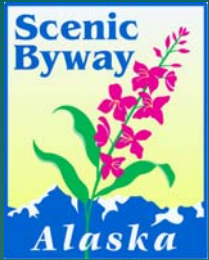
Grant-funded Byway Projects

Construction of restroom, bus shelter and interpretive sign at the Seward Kawabe Park



Landscaped rest area and interpretive sign in Moose Pass





Grant-funded Byway Projects

Restoration of multiple Bruhn-Ray Mining Buildings



Development of new interpretive Panels at Hope Museum Complex



Grant-funded Byway Projects

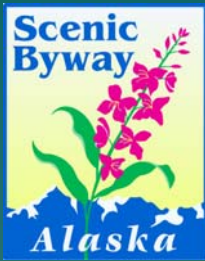
Restoration of historic buildings to be used as a scenic byway interpretive center in Cooper Landing



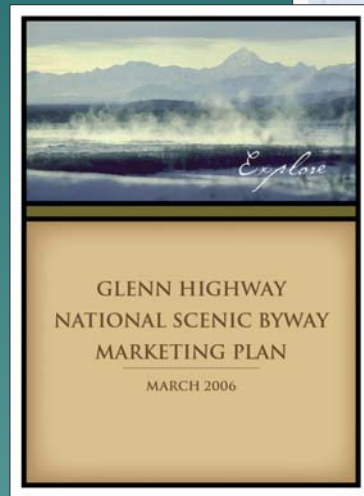
Photo Credit: Ron King



Restoration of the Pt. Retreat Lighthouse in Southeast Alaska



Grant-funded Byway Projects



Interpretive Plan and Marketing Plan for the Glenn Highway National Scenic Byway

Interpretive panels at the South Palmer Station





Active Byway Organizations

Glenn Highway

AMHS

North Richardson Highway

Sterling Highway*

Haines Highway*

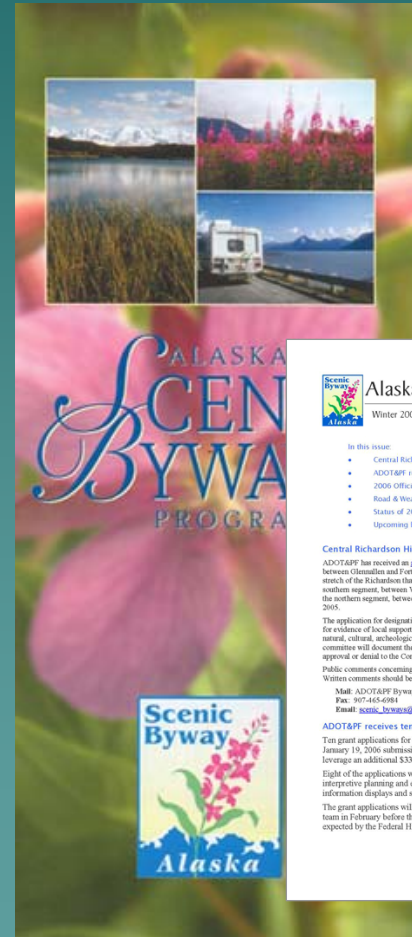
Seward Highway*





Resources for Byways Information

Information
for travelers
and byway
leaders



Alaska Scenic Byways Program News

Winter 2006

byways.alaska.gov

In this issue:

- Central Richardson Highway is nominated for state Scenic Byway status
- ADOT&PF receives ten FY06 National Scenic Byway grant applications
- 2006 Official State Map to be released in April
- Road & Weather Conditions information now reported from six new sites
- Status of 2005 National Scenic Byway grant applications
- Upcoming byway events & meetings

Central Richardson Highway is nominated for state Scenic Byway status

ADOT&PF has received an application to designate the Richardson Highway between Glenallen and Fort Greely, a State Scenic Byway. This is the only stretch of the Richardson that has not yet been designated as a State Byway. The southern segment, between Valdez and Glenallen, was designated in 1998 and the northern segment, between Fort Greely and Fairbanks, was designated in 2005.

The application for designation will be reviewed by an interagency committee for evidence of local support and that the route possesses significant scenic, natural, cultural, archeological, historical and/or recreational qualities. The committee will document their findings and submit a recommendation for approval or denial to the Commissioner of Transportation and Public Facilities. Public comments concerning the application must be received by March 1, 2006. Written comments should be submitted to:

Mail: ADOT&PF Byways Coordinator, PO Box 112500, Juneau, AK 99811
Fax: 907-465-6981
Email: scenic_byways@ak.state.ak.us

ADOT&PF receives ten FY06 National Scenic Byway grant applications

Ten grant applications for 2006 National Scenic Byway grant funds were submitted to DOT&PF by the January 19, 2006 submission deadline. The funds requested total \$655,200 and, if awarded, would leverage an additional \$331,000 in matching, non-state funds or in-kind services.

Eight of the applications would benefit the Alaska Marine Highway and include projects such as interpretive planning and enhancements, trail improvements near ferry terminals, on-board traveler information displays and several marketing programs.

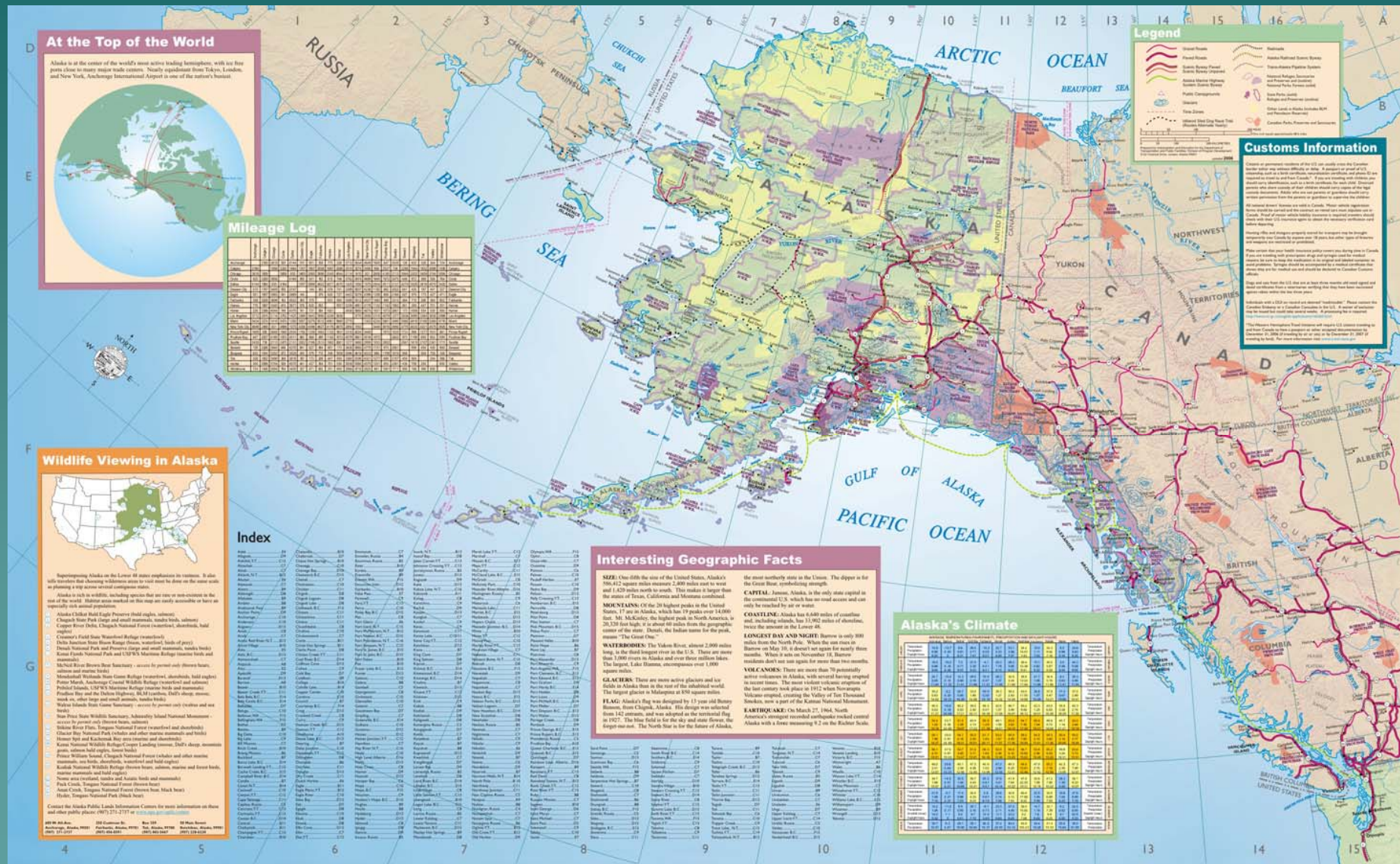
The grant applications will be prioritized by byway leaders and then reviewed by a statewide grant review team in February before they are submitted to the Federal Highway Administration. Final decisions are expected by the Federal Highway Administration in the summer of 2006.



View of Alaska Coastline from the Richardson Highway near Milepost 197
Credit: Anita Soren, 4/20/04



2006 Official State Map - Front



2006 Official State Map - Back

Alaska's Scenic Byways

Connecting Travelers with Alaska's Beauty, History, Culture and Recreation

Byways

- 1 All-American Road
- 2 National Scenic
- 3 State
- 4 National Historic
- 5 National Historic
- 6 National Historic
- 7 National Historic
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1 DALTON HIGHWAY Great Work Road of the Arctic

Anchorage to Deadhorse | Distance: 414 miles | Driving Time: 12 hours one-way (in two days)

A remote and challenging road, the Dalton Highway connects Fairbanks to Deadhorse, the support center for the North Slope oil fields. A few miles from the Arctic Circle, named for James Dalton, a North Slope explorer, the Dalton was originally developed as a haul road connecting the Yukon River and Prudhoe Bay during construction of the Trans-Alaska Pipeline.

Highlights

- The Dalton Highway is the longest paved road in Alaska.
- The Dalton Highway is the only road in Alaska that crosses the Arctic Circle.
- The Dalton Highway is the only road in Alaska that crosses the Yukon River.
- The Dalton Highway is the only road in Alaska that crosses the Prudhoe Bay.
- The Dalton Highway is the only road in Alaska that crosses the Dalton River.
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2 GLENN HIGHWAY National Scenic Byway Formed by Fire & Ice

Anchorage to Little Narrows River | Distance: 139 miles | Driving Time: 4.5 hours

The Glenn Highway National Scenic Byway follows a path carved by ancient glaciers. Following the broadened Pitmead River for over half its length, the Byway winds through 130 miles of the most impressive terrain on earth.

Highlights

- The Glenn Highway National Scenic Byway follows a path carved by ancient glaciers.
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3 HAINES HIGHWAY Bold Eagle Byway

Alaska Haines Hwy Terminal to U.S.-Canada Border | Distance: 44 miles | Driving Time: 1 hour

This Byway is accompanied by the built coastal rail fence as it makes its way up the St. Elias Mountains and into Canada, where the forest gives way to open tundra and the Haines Highway connects with the Alaska Highway at Haines Junction.

Highlights

- The Haines Highway is a Bold Eagle Byway.
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4 SEWARD HIGHWAY All-American Road

Anchorage to Seward | Distance: 127 miles | Driving Time: 4 hours

Connecting Anchorage and Seward, the Seward Highway is Alaska's first All-American Road and one of the most scenic drives in the U.S. The 95 miles across the base of the Chugach Mountains and the shores of Turnagain Arm, where it's common to see beluga whales, Dall sheep, waterfalls and eagles. The remainder of the drive winds through the mountains of the Chugach National Forest, offering dramatic views of wild Alaska.

Highlights

- The Seward Highway is an All-American Road.
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5 STERLING HIGHWAY Alaska's Playground

North Seward Seward Hwy to Sable Lake | Distance: 39 miles | Driving Time: 1 hour

South Seward: Anchor Point to Homer Spit | Distance: 29 miles | Driving Time: 45 minutes

From the Seward Highway, All-American Road, follow the Sterling Highway as it plays tag with the Kenai River to the "End of the Road" at passenger Homer. The Sterling offers diverse recreational opportunities as well as unlimited recreational opportunities.

Highlights

- The Sterling Highway is Alaska's Playground.
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6 STEESE HIGHWAY Nature's Ultimate Roadtrip

Fox to Circle | Distance: 151 miles | Driving Time: 5 hours

The Steese Highway carries travelers north from Fairbanks to within 50 miles of the Arctic Circle. Underpinning rights, scenic and natural wonders along the route include the midnight sun, an extensive view of the Chena River and Circle Hot Springs. The Wild Wood Plantations National Recreation Area and Birch Creek National Wild and Scenic River are accessible from the Steese.

Highlights

- The Steese Highway is Nature's Ultimate Roadtrip.
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7 ALASKA MARINE HIGHWAY Inside Passage Routes

All-American Road • Sailing Away!

Total Distance: All Routes 1048 miles | Cruising Time Sample: 4 hours (Gaines to Haines)

All routes within the Alaska Marine Highway System (AMHS) are collectively an All-American Road. Links and routes into Alaska's marine resources in a vibrant atmosphere, through some of the most breathtaking scenery in the world. Voyagers are treated to spectacular views of glaciers, towering peaks, lush forests and unbelievable concentrations of seabirds and marine wildlife.

Highlights

- The Alaska Marine Highway System (AMHS) is an All-American Road.
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8 PARKS HIGHWAY Gateway to Denali

Denali State Park border to Hasty | Distance: 114 miles | Driving Time: 4 hours

Completed in 1971, the Parks Highway shares some of Alaska's most memorable and spectacular scenery with travelers. Access to Denali National Park and Preserve is via the Parks Highway. Major route marks include the Denali Highway and the Denali Park Road.

Highlights

- The Parks Highway is a Gateway to Denali.
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9 TAYLOR & TUB OF THE WOODS HIGHWAYS The High Plateau Route

Little Junction to Boundary | Distance: 103 miles | Driving Time: 4 hours

The Taylor Highway provides access to the historic Fairbanks gold fields, made famous in Jack London novels. It's a scenic, winding and beautiful road that goes the top of the World Highway which leads to Denali City on the Taylor Highway.

Highlights

- The Taylor & Tub of the Woods Highways is The High Plateau Route.
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10 ALASKA MARINE HIGHWAY Southeast & Cross Gulf Routes, Southeast & Aleutian Island Routes

All-American Road • Sailing Away!

Total Distance: All Routes 1438 miles | Cruising Time Sample: 10 hours (Homer to Kodiak)

Highlights

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11 RICHARDSON HIGHWAY Going to Extremes

Niles to Girdwood | Distance: 113 miles | Driving Time: 3.5 hours

Fairbanks to Ft. Greely | Distance: 181 miles | Driving Time: 3 hours

The Richardson Highway is Alaska's oldest highway, known as a good road to the Eagle in 1898. General William Richardson wanted to upgrade it to a wagon road in 1910 after the Fairbanks gold strike. It was made suitable for automobiles in the 1920s and was paved in 1937.

Highlights

- The Richardson Highway is Going to Extremes.
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12 ALASKA RAIL ROAD All-Aboard!

Seward to Fairbanks | Distance: 476 miles | Riding Time: 14 hours (complete journey)

Completed in 1923, the Alaska Railroad's main line extends from Seward in the south north to the beauty of Fairbanks, about 470 miles of track. Operating year-round passenger service between Anchorage and Fairbanks, the Alaska Railroad also offers service to Sitka, Denali, Seward and Whittier during the summer. Amateurs available (just on of routes) include glass-fronted luxury railcars, gourmet cuisine and a wide variety of overnight adventures and sightseeing packages. The Alaska Railroad is one of the last remaining "big steel" passenger rail lines in the U.S. to travel and stop where and whenever passengers want to get on or off.

Highlights

- The Alaska Railroad is All-Aboard!
- The Alaska Railroad is All-Aboard!
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- The Alaska Railroad is All-Aboard!

Contact Information

Road Condition Information

- AKAHS: www.aka.org
- AKAHS Traveler Information: Call 5-1-1 in Alaska (866) 343-5377 outside Alaska <http://511.alaska.gov/>

Scenic Byways

- Alaska Scenic Byways Program (907) 463-4070 www.byways.alaska.gov
- National Scenic Byways Program www.nps.gov/nsbp/

General Information

- Alaska Department of Fish & Game Information on wildlife viewing, hunting and sport fishing (907) 463-4100 www.alaska.gov/dag/
- Alaska Department of Natural Resources Information on state parks, culture and mining (907) 268-8400 www.dnr.state.ak.us/
- Alaska Marine Highway System (800) 442-2064 www.alaskamarine.com
- Alaska Department of Transportation Public Facilities (907) 463-7900 www.dot.state.ak.us

Alaska Public Lands Information Centers
Information about camping and other permits (907) 271-2737 www.usps.gov/ak/camping/

Alaska Railroad
(800) 544-0333 outside Anchorage (907) 263-2494 in Anchorage www.alrr.com

Alaska Travel Industry Association
(907) 929-2200 www.alaska.com

Bureau of Land Management
(907) 271-5960 www.blm.gov

National Park Service
(907) 271-2737 www.nps.gov

Tourism North
www.visitalaska.com

U.S. Customs
(907) 271-1103 www.customs.usdoj.gov

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
(800) 344-9022 www.fws.gov

U.S. Forest Service
Information on wildlife viewing, hiking and information centers www.fs.fed.us/15/

Alaska! Official State Map

Welcome to Alaska - America's "Last Frontier." If you are one of the thousands of visitors who have chosen highway travel as your way to get around Alaska, you have made a great choice. Our highways are an excellent way to experience the Grand Land up close, whether you are seeking our abundant wildlife, our breathtaking scenery, fishing opportunities, or the warm welcome of Alaska's residents.

While we are continuously working to maintain, upgrade, and extend our highway system we recognize that our roads cover only a limited part of our very large state. But the adventures are unlimited!

If, as you travel Alaska's roadways, you need to know about road conditions, highway construction, delays and closure, weather, or related information, please use our "511 Travel in the Know" system. It can be accessed simply by dialing 5-1-1 (outside Alaska call 1-866-282-5777) or at <http://511.alaska.gov> on the internet.

Again, welcome to Alaska - we're glad you are here! Please buckle-up, have a safe trip and enjoy our great state.

Sincerely yours,

Frank H. Murkowski
Governor

State Symbols

- FLAG**:
- BIRD**:
- SPORT**:
- FISH**:
- FLOWER**:
- TREE**:

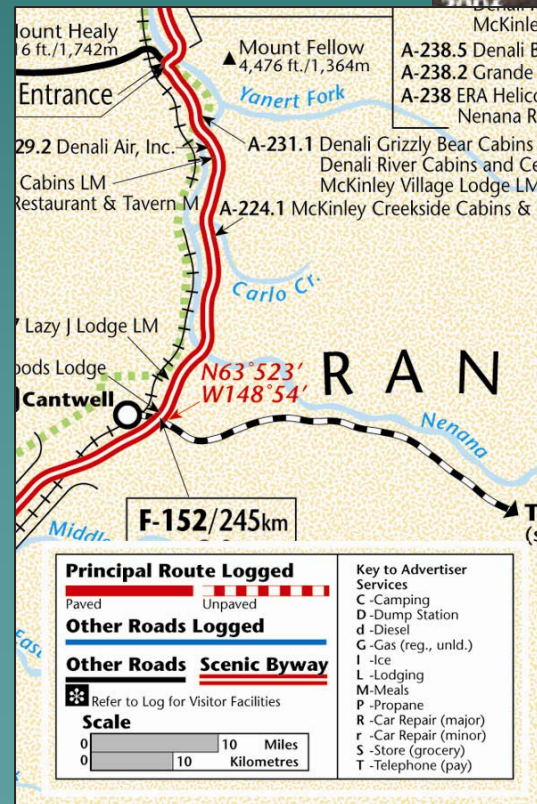
Mineral: Gold
Gem: Jade
Fossil: Woolly Mammoth
Land Mammal: Moose
Marine Mammal: Bowhead Whale
Insect: Four Spot Stemmer Dragon Fly
Nickname: "The Last Frontier"
Motto: "North to the Future"

Alaska! Official State Map
Alaska Department of Transportation & Public Facilities
2006



Alaska's Byways now featured in The Milepost

Maps within the milepost now highlight state and national scenic byways in Alaska






Byways.alaska.gov

Web information for the byway traveler and organizer

State of Alaska | Employee Directory | DOT&PF Home Search DOT&PF find



Alaska's Scenic Byways

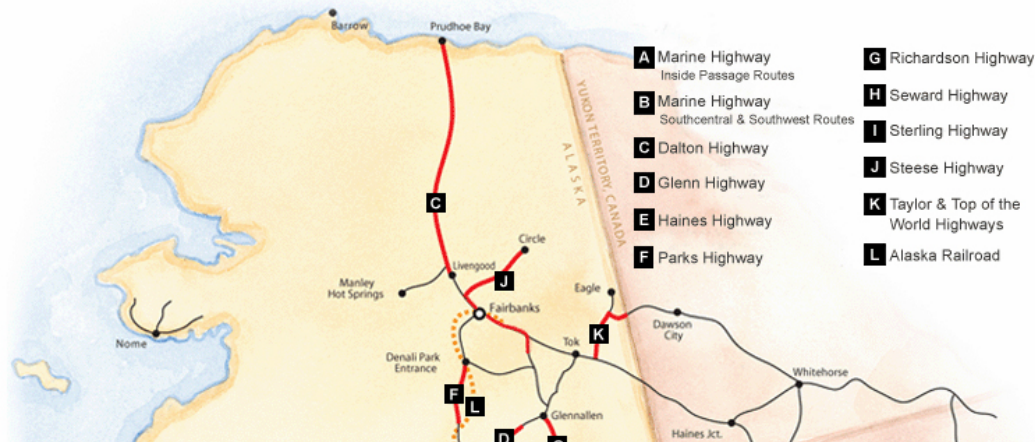
Information for Travelers

Welcome to Alaska's Scenic Byways!
This website features each of the state's byways and is designed to help you start the travel planning process. Where possible, we provide links to local tourism websites that can provide more detailed information about the travel amenities and features in each area.

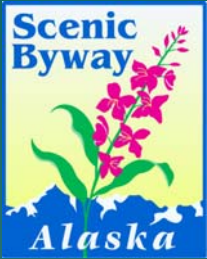
Click an area below to discover Alaska's Scenic Byways

Byways Links

- › [Traveler Information](#)
- › [Byway Organizer Information](#)
- › [Links of Interest](#)
- › [Request a Highway Map](#)
- › [Contact Us](#)



A Marine Highway Inside Passage Routes	G Richardson Highway
B Marine Highway Southcentral & Southwest Routes	H Seward Highway
C Dalton Highway	I Sterling Highway
D Glenn Highway	J Steese Highway
E Haines Highway	K Taylor & Top of the World Highways
F Parks Highway	L Alaska Railroad



Highway Logo Signs

Markers installed in 2006 along the:

- Dalton
- Glenn
- Seward
- Parks
- North Richardson
- Steese
- Sterling





Contact Information

Aneta Synan, AICP

Scenic Byways Coordinator
ADOT&PF

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Byways.alaska.gov



Photo Credit: Jack Stickel