



Sterling Highway MP 45–60 Project Update

The purpose of this monthly report is to provide a snapshot update of the project. For more detailed project information, please visit www.sterlinghighway.net.



PROJECT OVERVIEW

The Sterling Highway MP 45–60 Project will reconstruct the east and west ends of the existing roadway from approximately MP 45 to 46.5 and MP 56 to 58, widening shoulders, straightening the road, and adding passing lanes. Between MP 46.5 and 55.5 (off-alignment section), the project will construct 10 miles of new roadway north of Cooper Landing and the Kenai River, including a new bridge spanning Juneau Creek Canyon.

This project will bring the highway up to current standards by efficiently and safely serving through-traffic, the local community, and traffic bound for recreation destinations, both now and in the future. Schedule goals include construction beginning in 2020 and the new highway opening to traffic by the end of 2025.

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IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENTS:

The project will continue geotechnical and clearing operations this month. Please proceed carefully when recreating on Resurrection Pass Trail, Bean Creek Trail, and Slaughter Ridge Trail and watch out for equipment and crews. For construction information, visit www.AlaskaNavigator.org.

PROJECT UPDATE

Tasks Performed in July

- Continued field work for cultural resource surveys, wetlands, and wildlife crossings
- Continued clearing operations to 200-foot corridor after bird window closed
- Geotechnical field efforts – included five active drill rigs, deep abutment borings, and test pits
- Investigated Juneau Creek Canyon slope stability by rappelling into canyon
- Continued design and coordination on all project phases
- Continued coordination with agencies for design input and required permitting
- Continued development of bridge alternatives
- Ongoing coordination in Phase 1B with utilities and property owners

Tasks Anticipated for August

- Make firewood from project clearing available to the public – look for an emailed notice and an update in the Cooper Landing Crier
- Complete Phase 1A Final Design/Certification
- Continue clearing and geotechnical field efforts
- Continue outreach to property owners
- Continue development of preliminary bridge alternatives
- Complete 30% Design for Phases 3 and 4
- Conduct agency meeting and wildlife crossing field trip

Near-term Schedule Goals

- Continue clearing and geotechnical efforts through October
- Begin construction of Pioneer Road

