



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 beginning construction in 2020 and opening the new highway to traffic by the end of 2025.

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IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENTS:

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

PROJECT UPDATE

Tasks Performed in August and September:

- **Public Involvement:** Made firewood available to public
- **Environmental:** Continued field work for cultural resource surveys, wetlands, and wildlife
- **Agencies:** Conducted wildlife crossing field trip, held bi-monthly coordination meeting, and continued efforts for design input and required permitting
- **Phase 1:** Completed 1A Final Design and Certification (MP 56-58), continued coordination on 1B (MP 44.5–47) with utilities and property owners
- **Phase 2:** Continued development of bridge alternatives
- **Phases 3–5:** Continued design progress of pioneer road and final alignment
- **Field Efforts:** Continued clearing operations to 200-foot corridor and drilling operations at abutments and along alignment

Tasks Anticipated for October:

- **Public Involvement:** Hold online public meeting
- **Environmental:** Complete field work and begin reporting for cultural resource surveys and wildlife
- **Agencies:** Continue efforts for design input and permitting
- **Phase 1:** Continue coordination with property owners along 1B
- **Phase 2:** Select Juneau Creek Bridge Alternative
- **Phase 3-5:** Complete 30% Design for Off-Alignment Section
- **Field Efforts:** Complete 2020 clearing and geotechnical field efforts; begin Pioneer Road efforts



Near-term Schedule Goals

- Continue clearing and geotechnical efforts through October
- Begin construction of Pioneer Road
- Bid Phase 1A in February 2021

