



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.

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Construction activities began in mid-March. For the most recent construction information, visit www.alaskanavigator.org.

PROJECT UPDATE

Tasks Performed in June:

- **Public Involvement:** New schedule announcement, public comment follow-up, and Cooper Landing community meetings.
- **Environmental:** Started cultural resources field season.
- **Agencies:** Continued efforts for design input and required permitting.
- **Phase 1:** Phase 1A (MP 56–58) contractor began construction work; continued the coordination of Phase 1B (MP 44.5 to 47) utility agreements and intersection of Phases 3 and 1B.
- **Phase 2:** Progressed Juneau Creek Bridge design.
- **Phases 3–6:** Continued effort on design, which included the early works package for Pioneer Road.
- **Field Efforts:** Continued minimal survey, wildlife, and cultural resources efforts.

Tasks Anticipated for July:

- **Public Involvement:** Continue landowner outreach; continue attendance at community meetings.
- **Environmental:** Continue intermittent wildlife fieldwork and the cultural resources field season with a focus on Phase 1A data recovery.
- **Agencies:** Continue efforts for permitting and design input and host an Agency Coordination Meeting.
- **Phase 1:** Continue Phase 1A construction; continue Phase 1B design and right-of-way process.
- **Phase 2:** Continue to develop the Juneau Creek Bridge design.
- **Phases 3–6:** Continue to work on mass/balance between the different phases.
- **Field Efforts:** Continue cultural resources fieldwork.

Near-term Schedule Goals:

- In-person Public Meeting scheduled for August 24, 2021.
- Development of Tract C (near Quartz Creek intersection)
- Environmental: Conduct intermittent wildlife fieldwork as needed.
- Advance design to 75% by late fall.
- Continue cultural resources fieldwork through September.



Geologists and Bridge Foundation Designers performing a site visit to the Juneau Creek Canyon. Instruments installed near the planned bridge abutments collect groundwater data from piezometers and measure for any ground movement.



PROJECT OVERVIEW

The Sterling Highway Milepost (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 (the 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 opening the new highway to traffic by the end of 2027.

CONTACT

Jonathan Tymick, P.E.
State of Alaska DOT&PF
Project Manager
907-269-0453
Jonathan.tymick@alaska.gov

Katherine Wood
HDR Public Involvement Lead
907-644-2153
sterlinghwy@hdrinc.com