

# Department of Transportation and Public Facilities

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## January 2010 Update

Frank Richards, P.E.  
Deputy Commissioner  
January 21, 2010



# Overview

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- ARRA / Jobs for Mainstreet Update
- Reason Foundation Mis-information
- Governor's Initiatives
- FY 2011 Budget
- Accomplishments
- Emergencies
- Successes

# ARRA Update

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- Surface Transportation
  - Obligated \$131.5M
- Aviation
  - Obligated \$73.4M
- Transit
  - Obligated \$9.1
- New web site:
- [www.dot.state.ak.us/econstim](http://www.dot.state.ak.us/econstim)



Gustavus



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# Glenn Highway Paving



# Jobs for Main Street Act

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- Passed the House
- Surface Transportation Funding
  - \$178.5M for Alaska
- Big Difference = 90 days to contract



# Jobs for Mainstreet (cont.)

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- Requested projects from community and tribal governments
- STIP amendment out to public notice – comments due 2/1/10 for 1<sup>st</sup> 50%
- Anticipate additional amendments for projects for 2<sup>nd</sup> 50%

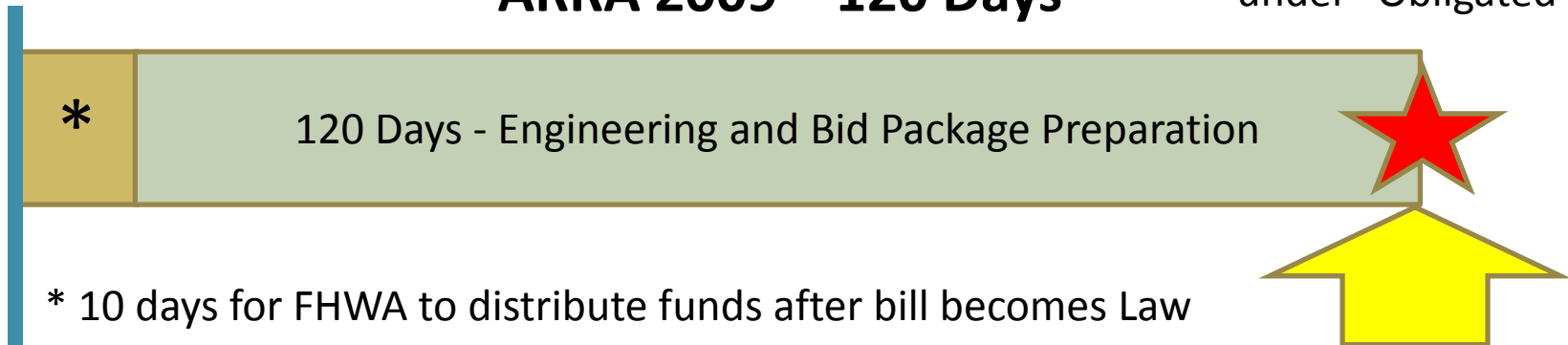


# Timelines Compared

Time Starts with  
President's Signature

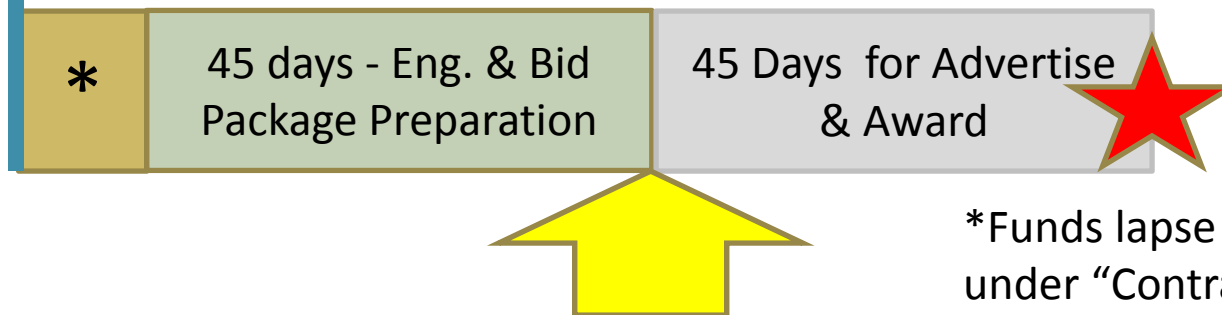
## ARRA 2009 – 120 Days

\*Funds lapse if not  
under “Obligated”



**130 Days to  
Prepare Bid  
Package & FHWA  
Approval**

## Jobs Bill 2010 – 90 Days



\*Funds lapse if not  
under “Contract”

**55 Days to Prepare Bid Package & FHWA Approval**



# Alaska's Highways Worst in the Nation?

"Alaska's highway system is the worst in the nation when it comes to cost-effectiveness and performance, according to Reason Foundation's 18th Annual Highway Report rankings released today."

December 17, 2009

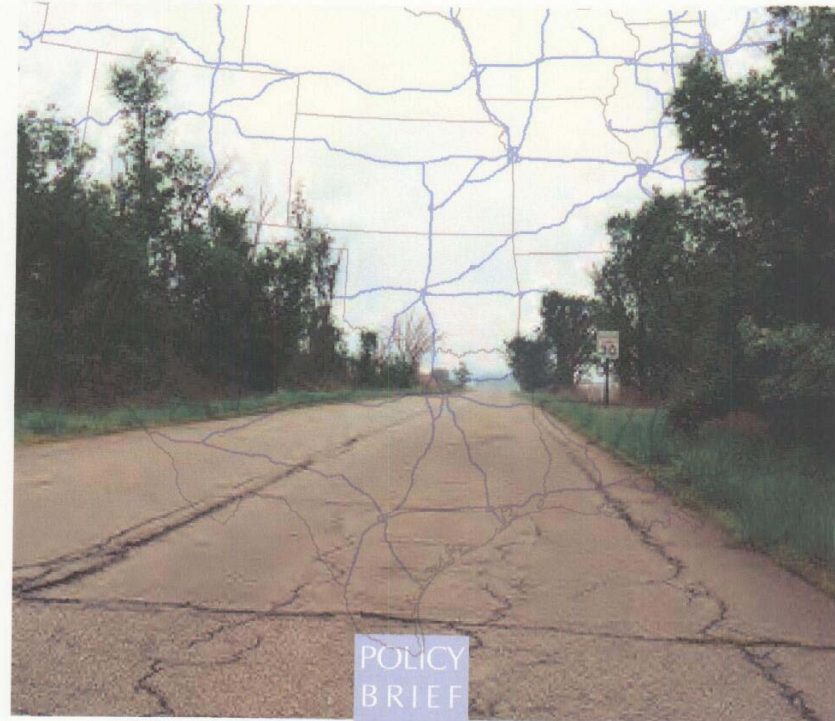
**Alaska  
DOT&PF  
Disagrees  
and  
Here's Why**



December 2009

## 18th Annual Report on the Performance of State Highway Systems (1984-2007/8)

by David T. Hartgen, Ph.D., P.E., Ravi K. Karanam, and M. Gregory Fields  
Project Director: Adrian T. Moore, Ph.D.



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BRIEF  
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# Reasoning is Flawed and Does Not Account for Alaska's Unique Highway System

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- Measures roughness of rural highways
  - **does not account** for extensive gravel sections of Dalton, Elliot, Taylor, and Denali Highways
- Measures roughness of rural interstates
  - **does not account** for 1000+ mile AK Interstate's unique characteristics (two-lane, local access, poor existing highway geometrics)
- Compares 4 categories of funding on per mile basis
  - **does not account** for substantial allocations to longest state owned ferry system in the nation

# Reasoning is Flawed

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- Statistical method = one bad ranking (Rural Highway Roughness – Gravel Roads) overwhelms good rankings in other categories (funding, congestion, highway standards and safety)
- Alaska's highway system is unique:
  - Federal rules allow unique interstate system
  - Design, construction, and maintenance over discontinuous permafrost
  - Dalton Highway (400+ mile arctic highway to access important national industrial complex)
  - Shortest construction season in nation
- Report is skewed = national comparison of 11 categories. Comparison of Alaskan Highways to lower 48 highways and interstates is apples to oranges
- DOT&PF is proud of its highway system and employees who daily design, construct, and maintain these highways in the harshest conditions of the U.S.

# Governor's Initiatives

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- Deferred maintenance
- Highway safety corridors
- Roads to Umiat and Nome
- Crime lab
- Dalton Highway



# FY 11 Budget

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- Operating Budget
  - \$542,985,800
    - \$236,182,400 GF
    - \$306,825,700 Federal and Other Funds
- Capital Budget
  - \$823,312,500
    - \$149,884,7 00 GF
    - \$673,427,8 00 Federal Funds

# **Accomplishments in 2009**

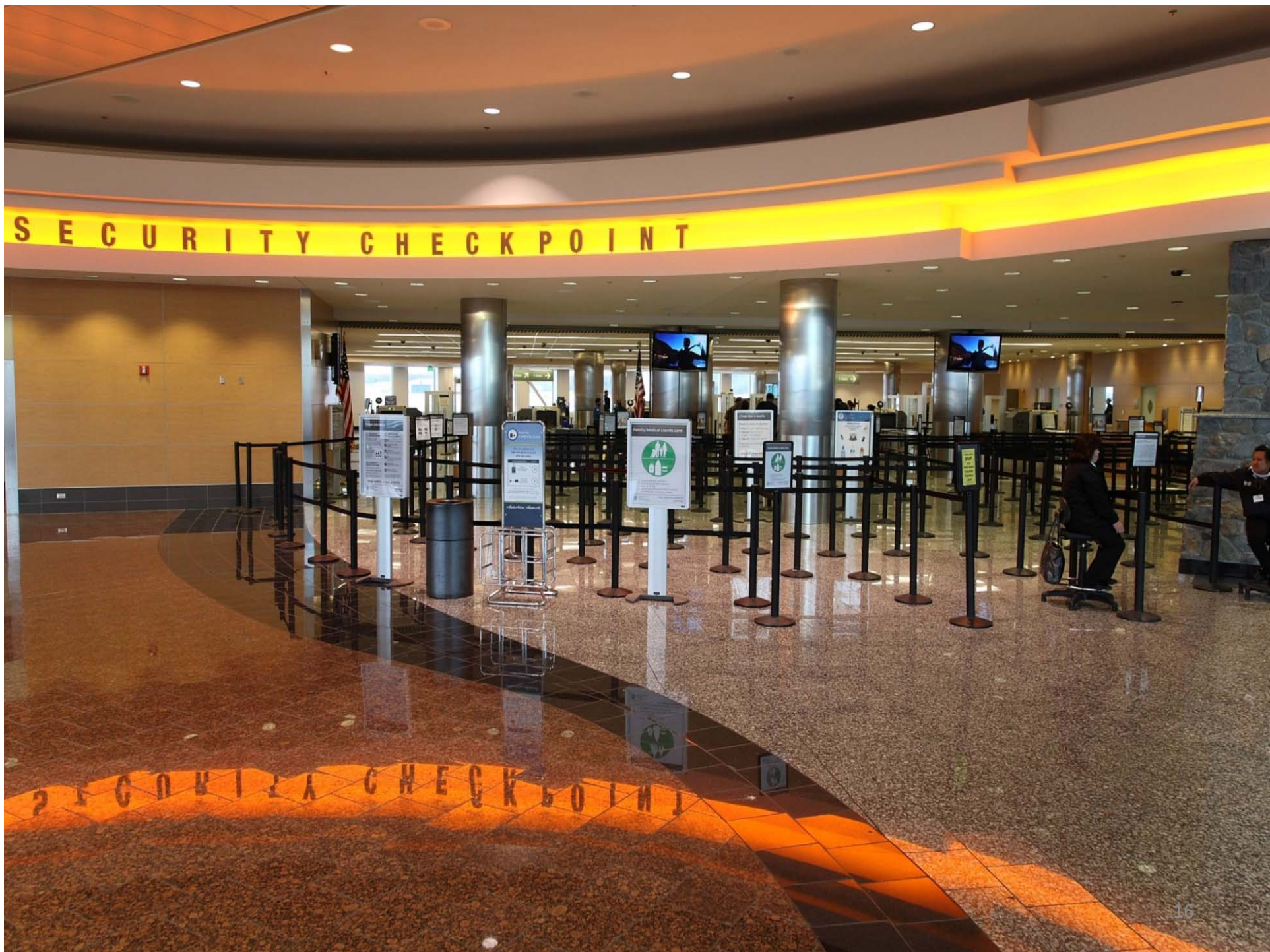
# Ted Stevens International Airport A & B Concourses

## On-Schedule and Under Budget!

- Opened for Business on November 2, 2009
- Passenger/Baggage screening centralized
- A&B concourses  
352,000 ft<sup>2</sup>  
renovation











# Fairbanks Passenger Terminal

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**On-Schedule  
Under Budget!**

- Opened May 7, '09
- Authorized \$96.2M
- Cost \$92.3M





# Fairbanks Runway Reconstruction and Cargo Stand Construction





# Dowling Road Extension





# Sitka Roundabout





# North Pole Interchange



# Alaska Marine Highway System

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- 92% on Time Departures
- Schedule
  - Winter '09 /Spring '10 released July 17<sup>th</sup>
  - Summer '10 schedule released October 1<sup>st</sup>
- Power Management /Fuel Savings
- Alaska Class Ferry
  - \$60 M in the STIP, \$60 M FY10 capital appropriation
  - Design complete in summer 2010



# Highway Safety Corridors

- Education
  - Includes distracted and aggressive driving
  - <http://www.youtube.com/user/asthwsads#p/u>
  - <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yjmAy2Q4BRY>
- Enforcement
  - Bureau of Highway Patrols 2<sup>nd</sup> year
- Engineering
  - KGB & Vine Rd; KGB & Fairview Loop signals
  - Sterling Hwy Rut repair

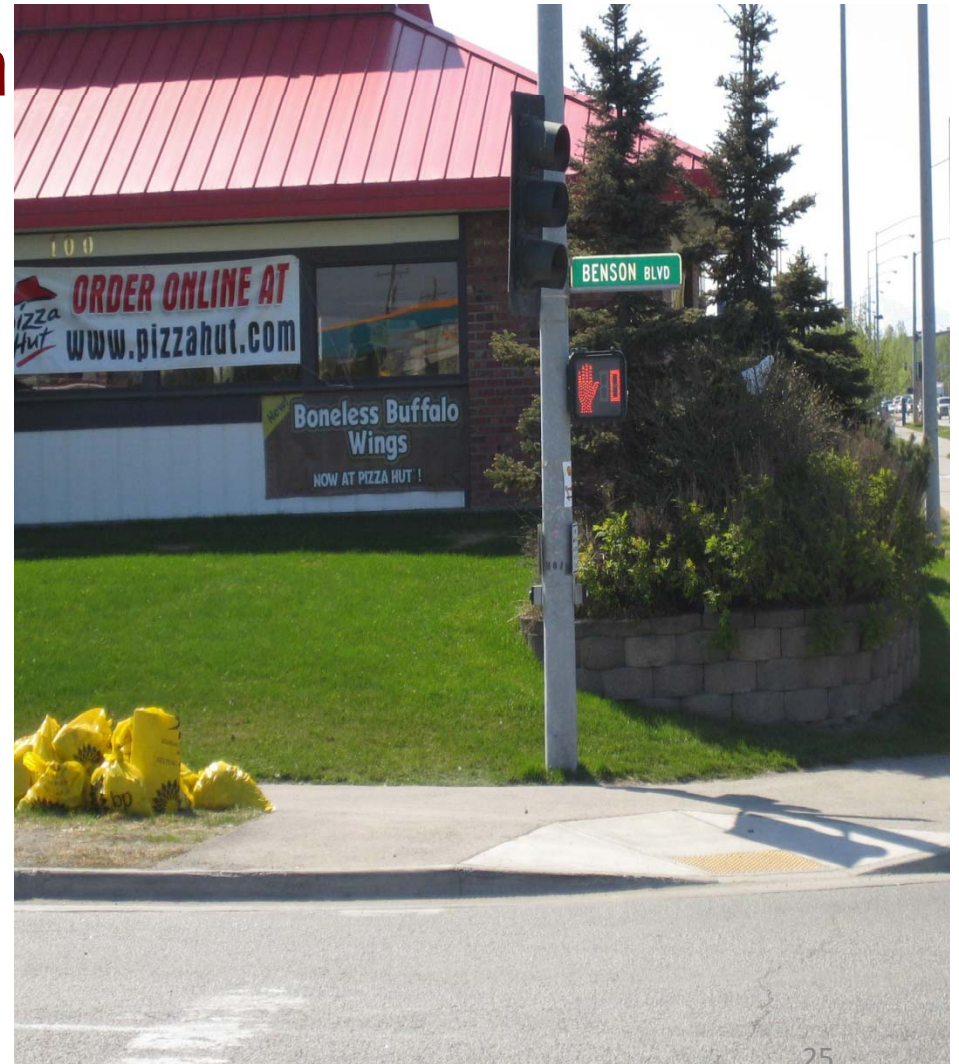




# Safety Projects Elsewhere

## Pedestrian Countdown Signals

- Reduce pedestrians crashes by 25%
- Started in Anchorage & Fairbanks in 2009
- 2010 complete Anchorage, Matsu and Kenai



## Reflectors – Cooper Landing





# Rumble Strips

- Installed on the Richardson Highway – 2009
- Highway Safety Corridors – to be constructed in 2010



# Emergency Response

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- Flooding
- Portage Road to Whittier Tunnel
- Glenn Highway Erosion



Eagle









## Copper River Hwy





# Nome Teller Road



# Tuluksak

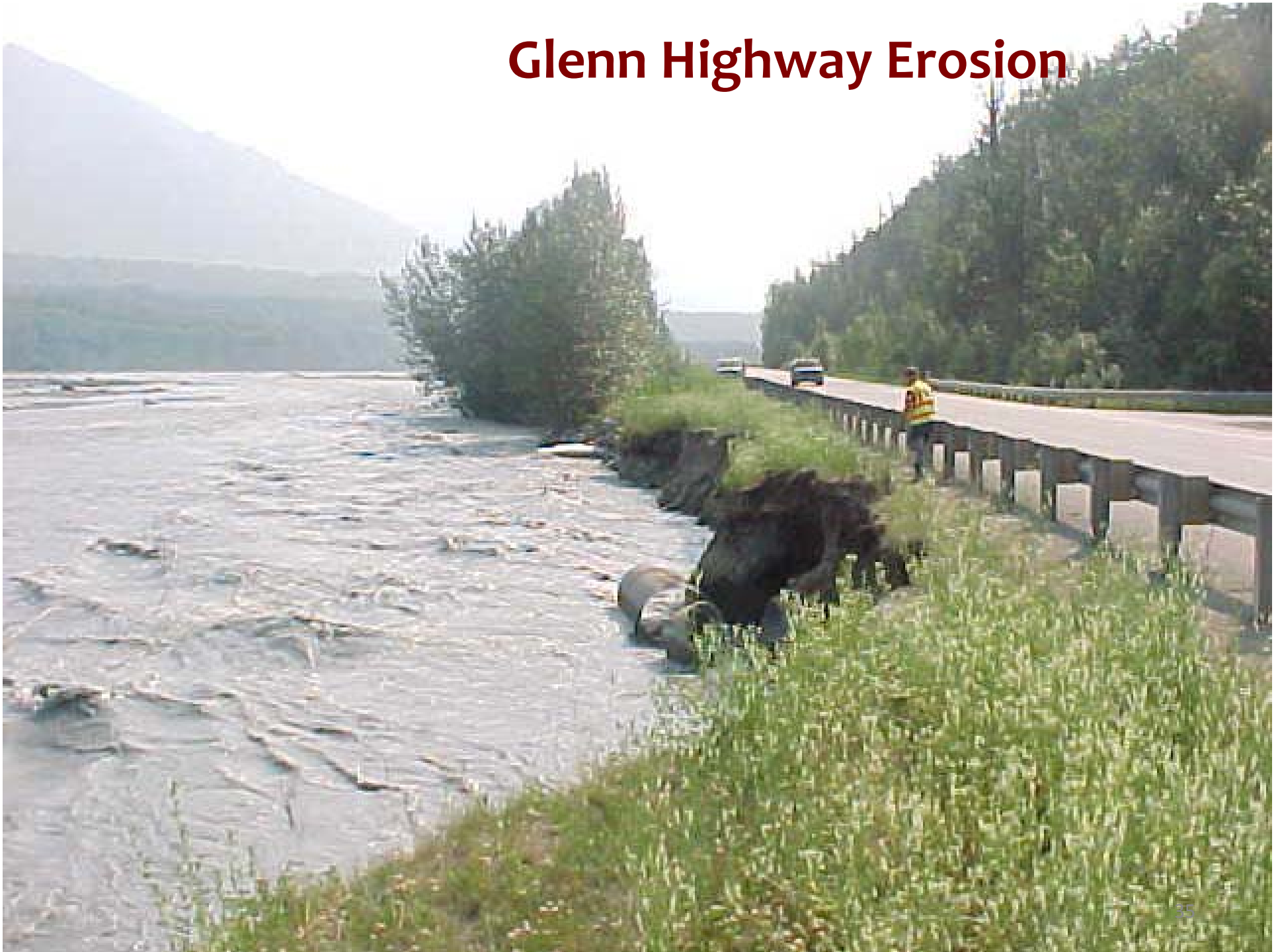


# Portage Rock Slide

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# Glenn Highway Erosion



# Maintenance & Operation

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- Maintain 15,221 lane miles, 256 airports
- M&O is half of DOT&PF's GF budget
- \$11.2 M FY10 increment:
  - Snow removal on sidewalks in Anchorage, Juneau, Fairbanks
  - Anti-icing efforts at rural airports
  - Safety items: guardrail, signs, lights, striping and markings on roads and airport

# Anchorage Street Sweeping

- Highways and Arterials
  - 2 times by June 1
  - 1 time between June 1 & Aug. 1
  - 1 time between Sept. 1 & Oct 1
- Secondary Roads
  - 1 time by June 1
  - 1 time between June 1 & Aug. 1
  - 1 time between Sept. 1 & Oct 1

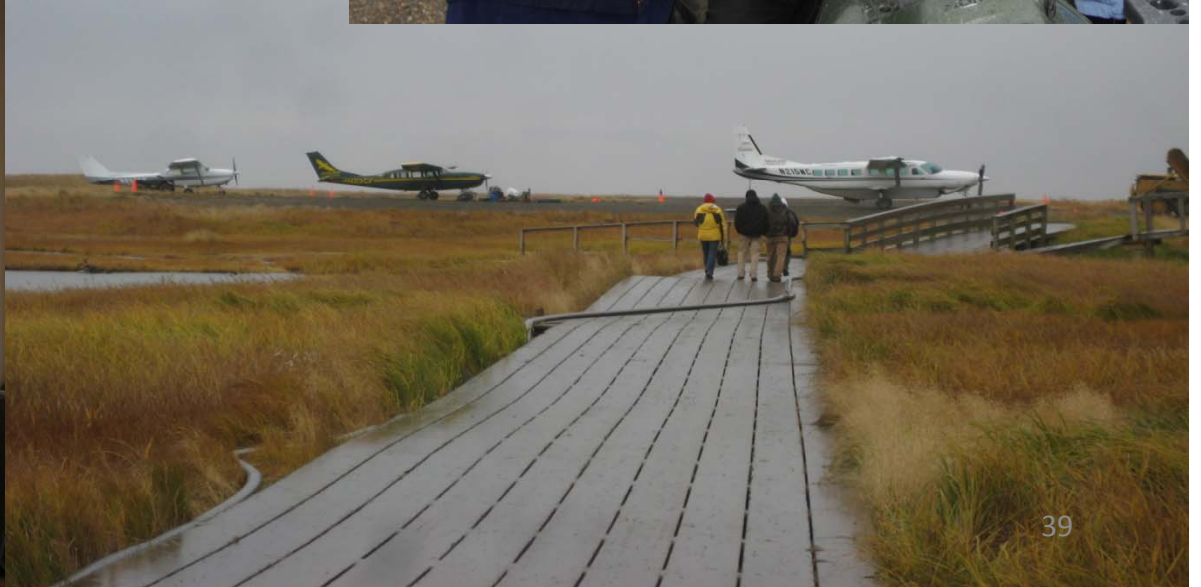




# Worked with legislators

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- Committee Meetings
- House Transportation Committee Education
- Dalton Highway Trip









# DOT&PF Successes

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- Fatality rate dropped over 24% between 2006 – 2007
- ARRA and regular program
- Department safety
  - 3.2 injuries/illness per hundred employees
- Rescues

# Taku Crew Receiving Coast Guard Award



**THANK YOU**