



## NORTHERN RAIL EXTENSION

- Removal of the temporary in river access(Causeway) continues
- Causeway rip rap is being stockpiled on the south bank.
- Due to cold temperatures the contractor has decided to abandon further bolting after this week. Main focus will be on temporary access removal.



Setting anchor bolts

# PORT MACKENZIE RAIL EXTENSION



New Little Su Bridge Set and Being Welded Together



Segment 4 Clearing



Driving Pile on Diamond Lake Outfall Bridge



Drainage repair and improvements at BMBF pad

## **PORT MACKENZIE RAIL EXTENSION (CONT.)**

- o Last August, the 9<sup>th</sup> Circuit **affirmed** the District Court's denial of the Sierra Club's request for a preliminary injunction and remanded the case back to the District Court for a decision on the merits of the Sierra Club's claims regarding the propriety of Corps of Engineers permit. The parties have completed briefing of their respective summary judgment motions and are currently waiting for the District Court judge to schedule oral argument on the motions.
- o FY 2014 Capital Budget includes \$25MM to MSB for project. Funding is expected to be used for Parts of Segment 2 and for long lead items.

### **Segment 1 Summary:** (Construction)

#### **Contractor:** Bristol Construction

- o Grade construction has shut down for the winter. Expected restart is February for a month and then awaiting break-up to complete all work.
- o Winter Trail crossing Culvert (19'6") is complete.
- o Baker Farm Bridge is completed.
- o UA property access road is completed.
- o BMBF is completed.
- o Expected completion of all work is July 2014.

### **Segment 2 Summary:** (ROW and Design)

- o ROW acquisition is underway by the MSB. 1 of 11 parcels has been acquired.
- o Engineering is complete to 60% for most of segment. Acquired segment is at 90% engineering.
- o Construction is not generally funded, however project may construct on available parcel with existing funding.

### **Segment 3 Summary:** (Construction)

#### **Contractor:** Quality Asphalt Paving (QAP)

- o Grade construction is nearly complete throughout the project, but has shut down for the winter.
- o Bridge sub-contractor has shut down work on bridges (Old Iditarod Trail, Iditarod Trail, and Diamond Lake Outfall), restart is expected in March.
- o Expected completion is August 2014.

### **Segment 4 Summary:** (Construction)

#### **Contractor:** Bristol Construction

- o Mental Health lands (more than half the segment) will possibly be available the second week of January 2014.
- o Contractor has begun clearing on available parcels.
- o Contractor has been tracking cleared areas to drive down frost to facilitate beginning haul operations in February.

### **Segment 5 Summary:** (ROW and Design)

- o Intent to Bid (ITB) for Segment 5 is prepared for bid when real estate is available.
- o ROW acquisition is underway by the MSB. 0 of 1 parcel are acquired.

- o Engineering is complete.
- o Construction can be funded if real estate becomes available.

**Segment 6 Summary:** (Construction)

**Contractor:** Granite Construction

- o Remaining grade work, mostly north of the Little Susitna River is suspended for the winter.
- o New Little Susitna river bridge is essentially completed. Contractor is installing trainman's walkway.
- o Expected completion is June 2014.

**Segment 7 Summary:** (Construction - Signal)

**Contractor:** Midvale Electric

- o Work to install signal apparatus at new Houston wye track junction and establish PTC northward between Pittman and Kashwitna (27 miles)
- o Expected start-up April 2014. Expected completion in Fall of 2014.

**Segment 7 Summary:** (Construction – Houston Communications Tower)

**Contractor:** Moss Cape

- o Work to install a 150 foot communications tower near the new Houston wye.
- o Expected start-up May 2014. Expected completion in Summer of 2014.

**Segment 7 Summary:** (Construction – Track Component Assembly)

**Contractor:** ARRC Internal Labor Forces

- o Work to assemble switches, ties and rail for installation of Houston wye track facilities.
- o First anticipated track work is cut-in of new south wye switch in early February.
- o Expected start-up of most trackwork is April 2014. Expected completion in Fall of 2014.

## **POSITIVE TRAIN CONTROL (PTC)**

- Funding:
  - o The Governor's proposed FY 2015 budget includes \$15 million for PTC.
- Office Segment:
  - o The Wabtec Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) System was implemented on January 16, 2014. This system is required for PTC (Phase 1 of the Office Segment).
- Locomotive On Board Systems: :
  - o The contract is in place for the installation of on board PTC equipment to begin February 24<sup>st</sup>, 2014 with the contractor – Wabtec Global Services (WGS). Three ARRC Mechanical personnel will be trained to provide quality assurance for the installation. All components are on order from multiple vendors and ARRC is tracking the delivery for this installation to ensure we can start February 24<sup>th</sup>.
- Communications:
  - o The nationwide PTC effort is struggling with tower licensing from the Federal Communications System (FCC). This is affecting ARRC's ability to license two towers system-wide. Moose Pass tower has been approved for construction by FCC. FCC recently allowed ARRC to proceed with environmental work on three other locations south of Portage at Primrose, Snoring and Grandview. These three sites are needed to perform brake algorithm tests in our steep grade territory.
- Wayside:
  - o Lab testing of PTC software for the wayside interface units in the Anchorage to Whittier test corridor is nearly complete. Field deployment of the software will occur in February and March.
  - o Field installation of wayside equipment in the test corridor is complete, including the 220 Mhz radios. However, ARRC was recently notified by the manufacturer that the wayside messaging servers require a software fix. The test corridor will not be ready until this fix is place, but his is not expected to delay testing this Spring.
  - o Midvale Electric Inc has been issued the contract for the CTC installation between Pittman to Kashwitna. Funding for the project is 30 percent PTC and the remainder is from the Port Mack project. Completion is expected in Fall 2014.
  - o Fall 2013 field work for power and signal cables concluded with 3 sidings south of Talkeetna completed. 2014 work will complete the remaining two and then proceed north from Talkeetna.
- Integration and Implementation:
  - o The test corridor from Anchorage to Whittier continues to be the focus of integration activities. The test corridor will prove the software/hardware in a manageable area. The beginning of field testing is scheduled for spring of 2014.

- o A solicitation for surveying services is on the street, due 2/6/14. This contract will be used to update information from the 2006 PTC survey. Supplemental survey is required where ARRC has added features such as track or signals, or has relocated the track alignment.