



THE STATE
of **ALASKA**
GOVERNOR MIKE DUNLEAVY

Department of Transportation and Public Facilities

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER
John MacKinnon, Commissioner

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March 25, 2021

The Honorable Neal Foster
Chair, House Finance Committee
State Capitol Building, Room 505
Juneau, Alaska 99801

The Honorable Kelly Merrick
Chair, House Finance Committee
State Capitol Building, Room 500
Juneau, Alaska 99801

Dear Co-Chairs Foster and Merrick:

In response to a question posed by the House Finance Committee on Tuesday, March 23, 2021, the following information is provided:

1. How much of the decline in operating weeks in the last few years was due to ships breaking down?

The biggest reason for the overall decline in operating weeks over the past few years has been due to budget reductions. The Authorized Budget operating weeks versus the actual operating weeks and the reasons for the variance are as follows:

Fiscal Year	Authorized Budget Weeks	Actual Weeks Operated	Explanation
FY2020	254.3	203.0	9.1 weeks of service were lost due to the Inlandboatmen's Union strike, 3.0 weeks were lost due to mechanical breakdowns, and the remaining weeks lost were due to COVID-19.
FY2019	345.9	329.1	6.4 weeks were lost due to mechanical breakdowns, 8.2 weeks were lost due to delays in the shipyard, and the remaining weeks were lost due to weather.
FY2018	337.7	317.5	14.6 weeks were lost due to mechanical breakdowns, 4.8 weeks were lost due to shipyard delays, and the remaining weeks were lost due to weather.

"Keep Alaska Moving through service and infrastructure."

If you have any further questions, please feel free to contact Dom Pannone, Administrative Services Director, at 465-2956.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "J. MacKinnon", with a stylized flourish at the end.

John MacKinnon
Commissioner

cc: House Finance Committee Members
John Binder, Deputy Commissioner, DOT&PF
Rob Carpenter, Deputy Commissioner, DOT&PF
Dom Pannone, Administrative Services Director, DOT&PF
Mike Lesmann, Legislative Liaison, DOT&PF
Andy Mills, Special Assistant to the Commissioner, DOT&PF