ALASKA LEGISLATURE COMMITTEE FILES 2001-2002 8672

10402 HOUSE RESOURCES

- Campaign for the Abolition of Angling [CAA] (Pisces) UK anti-fishing organization.
- Campaign to Free Karttula Beagles and Rabbits (Finland)
- Campaign for Responsible Transplantation (CRT)
- Carolina Animal Activists Together [CAAT]
- Centre d'Information Vivisectionniste International Scientifique (CIVIS)
- Cincinnati's Animal Rights & Vegan Page
- Civitas, Citizens for Planetary Health, Coalition to Protect Animals in Parks & Refuges
- Coalition for Animals
- Coalition to Abolish the Fur Trade [CAFT]
- Coalition to End Private Experimentation (CEPE)
- Committee to Abolish Sport Hunting
- Compassionate Action for Animals [Minneapolis, MN]
- Compassion in World Farming (CIWF)
- Compassion Over Killing (COK)
- Concern for Helping Animals in Israel (CHAI)
- Cornell Students for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (CSETA)
- Danish Society for the Protection of Laboratory Animals [Danish & English]
- Deca AnimalRights [Swedish]
- Defenders Coalition for Animal Liberation
- Dr. Hadwen Trust Researching alternatives to animal use.
- EarthCare [English/Chinese]
- Earthroot Education
- .ERN - electronic resistance network
- Ethics and Vegetarianism in Action [EVA] (Dutch Language)
- EVRTR - support group - Animal Liberation Front activist [Finland]
- EUROPEAN COALITION TO END ANIMAL EXPERIMENTS
- FALCON--Front for Animal Liberation and Conservation (South Africa)
- Farm Animal Reform Movement (FARM)
- FARM Sanctuary
- Feminists for Animal Rights (FAR)
- Florida Voices for Animals, Inc. (FVA)
- Friends of Animals (FoA)
- The Fund for Animals
- Gaia Belgium-based AR organization.
- Guide to Animal Rights (About.com)
- Houston Animal Rights Team
- Humane Education Network
- The Humane Farming Association
- Humanitarians for Animal Rights Education (HARE)
- Hunt Saboteurs Association UK direct-action organization for stopping hunting.

- Illinois Animal Action
- In Defense of Animals [IDA]
- In the Defense of Earth and Animals - I.D.E.A.
- Israeli Society for the Abolition of Vivisection (ISAV) (English and Hebrew language page)
- Japan Anti-Vivisection Association (JAVA)
- Jews for Animal Rights (JAR)
- International Society for Animal Rights
- Keele (UK) Animal Rights Society
- Kids Who Kare Online
- Last Chance for Animals (LCA)
- Latin American Society of Animal Welfare
- League Against Cruel Sports (LACS)
- Lega Anti Vivisezione (LAV) Italian language.
- Lega Antivivisezionista LEAL (Milano, Italy) Italian Language.
- Lega Italiana dei Diritti dell' Animale Italian language.
- Lehigh Valley Animal Rights Coalition
- Leonardo da Vinci Animal Rights Webpage (Spain)
- Les Cahiers Antispecistes (French Language)
- Liberación Animal es liberación Humana
- Liberation Animal Rights and Vegan Magazine
- Live Exports
- London Animal Action
- Manitoba Animal Rights Coalition (MARC)
- Maqi - for Animal Rights, against Speciesism [German Language Site]
- Medical Research Modernization Committee
- Menschen FuR Tierrechte Bundesverband der Tierversuchsgegner - Menschen für Tierrechte E.V.
- Mercy for Animals Online (US-OH)
- Michigan Animal Rights Society
- MIT Students for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (SETA)
- National Anti-Hunt Campaign
- National Anti-Vivisection Society [NAVS]
- New England Anti-Vivisection Society [NEAVS]
- New Jersey Animal Rights Alliance (NJARA)
- New River Valley Coalition for Animal Rights and the Environment (N R V - C A R E)
- New West Research
- New Zealand Anti-Vivisection Society (Inc.)
- NOAH - for dyrs rettigheter (Norwegian Language)
- NOAH - Tromsø, For dyrs rettigheter [Norway]
- Northwest Animal Rights Network (NARN)
- OIKEUTTA ELÄIMILLE (Justice for Animals) [Finland]
- One Struggle [Net-based Animal Rights Forum]
- One Struggle
- One Struggle: Earth Rights - Animal Rights - Human Rights
- Open University Students for Ethical Science (OU SES)

- People Against Companion Animal Slaughter (PACAS)
- People Against Vivisection
- People for Animal Rights
- People for Animal Rights [P.A.R. of Central New York]
- Performing Animal Welfare Society (PAWS)
- People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA)
- PETA-Deutschland e.V.
- PETA Europe
- PeTA India
- PlanetKeeper [Portuguese]
- Predator Defense Institute
- Primarily Primates
- Primates in Entertainment (PIE) Action Center
- Progressive Animal Welfare Society (PAWS)
- Protect Our Earth's Treasures (P.O.E.T.)
- Protesters Animal Information Network Limited [UK]
- The Protesters Supporters' Page [UK - BAN LIVE EXPORTS]
- Psychologists for the Ethical Treatment of Animals
- QUebec Alliance of Students for Animal Rights (QUASAR)
- Rabbit Information Service
- Respect for Animals
- Richmond Animal Rights Network (RARN)
- Rocky Mountain Animal Defense (RMAD)
- San Diego Animal Advocates (SDAA)
- Sarasota In Defense Of Animals
- Save Animals From Exploitation (SAFE) [New Zealand]
- Sea Defense Alliance (SeDnA)
- Sea Shepherd Conservation Society
- SHARK (formerly the Chicago Animal Rights Coalition -- CHARC)
- South Bay In Defense of Animals [San Jose, CA]
- STANFORD VEGAN ACTION
- St. Louis Animal Rights Team (START)
- Student Coalition for Animal Rights (SCAR) Wilmington, NC.
- Students for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (SETA) [University of Oregon]
- Students for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (SETA) (University of Toronto)
- Students for Animal Liberation (SFAL)
- Students Organization for Animal Rights (SOAR) At the University of Minnesota.
- Supporting and Promoting Ethics for the Animal Kingdom [SPEAK]
- The Swedish Fund for Research Without Animal Experiments (Swedish Language and Some English)
- Swedish Society Against Painful Experiments on Animals [In Swedish]

- Swedish Society Against Painful Experiments on Animals (Uppsala Branch) (Swedish Language and Some English)
- Texas Establishment For Animal Rights [T.E.A.R.]
- Die Tierversuchsgegner Aachen e.V. - Menschen für Tierrechte [German AR organization]
- UncagedCampaigns-HomePage
- United Animal Nations (UAN)
- United Poultry Concerns (UPC)
- Vegan Outreach
- Vegan Resistance For Liberation
- VIVISECTION Home Page
- VOICE for Animals [US-TX]
- Voices For Animals [US-PA]
- Voices for Animals [US-VA]
- Washington Wildlife Alliance (WWA)
- The WEBster: Animal Information and Animal Rights
- Wellington Animal Action [New Zealand]
- Wildlife Advocacy Project
- World Animal CONSCIENCE
- World Animal Net Directory [Has one of the best directories of organizations on the net!]
- World Society for the Protection of Animals [WSPA]
- Youth for Animal Liberation [Miami. FL]
- Youth for Animal Liberation (British Columbia)
- Zoocheck Canada

Send suggestions for further links to ARRS.

Further financial support has been provided through a grant from the International Fund for Animal Welfare.

ALASKAOUTDOOR COUNCIL
P.O. Box 2193
Palmer, Ak. 99645
(907) 745-3772
FAX 745-6944

March 7, 2000

Representative Fred Dyson
Alaska State Capitol
Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Representative Dyson:

The Alaska Outdoor Council (AOC) appreciates your efforts to sustain consumptive uses of wildlife as an important Alaskan heritage. Your legislation, HJR 12 HUNTING, TRAPPING AND FISHING, will provide Alaska's consumptive users a much needed level of protection.

We have ample historical evidence that consumptive uses have lost considerable ground over the past three decades here in Alaska. Actions like ANILCA, Sheep Mountain, Cooper Lake, Paint River, etc. have closed substantial areas to consumptive uses since statehood. Environmental groups continue to pressure the state for more closures and have effectively emasculated any attempts to manage wildlife for sustained yield. In fact very little has been done to reverse the dramatic declines in several ungulate populations over the past eight years. Declines that have resulted or will soon result in major new restrictions on consumptive uses.

It is clear for those of us who have been working to support wildlife conservation efforts over the past several decades that the environmental groups have every intention of stopping consumptive uses of wildlife. Although they consistently present themselves to be supportive of consumptive uses, their testimony before the Legislature and the Board of Game has always opposed increased opportunities, and has always supported increased restrictions. This is a matter of public record.

On behalf of our membership and the thousands of Alaskans who still cherish their natural relationship with the natural world and choose to participate in that world rather than just observe it, we would like to thank you for your courage and foresight in promoting legislation that will protect this important Alaskan heritage. Please feel free to contact us if we can be of any assistance in the passage of HJR 12.

Sincerely,

Carl Rosier

Carl Rosier
President

FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA
2001 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Fiscal Note Number:
Bill Version: HJR12
() Publish Date:

Revision Date/Time (Note if correction):
Dept. Affected: OOG
Title: Constitutional Amendment relating to hunting, trapping, and fishing
BRU: Elective Operations
Component: Elections
Sponsor: Representative Dyson
Requester: House Resources Committee
Component Number: 21

Expenditures/Revenues (Thousands of Dollars)

Note: Amounts do not include inflation unless otherwise noted below.

OPERATING EXPENDITURES	FY 2002	FY 2003	FY 2004	FY 2005	FY 2006	FY 2007
Personal Services						
Travel						
Contractual		1.5				
Supplies						
Equipment						
Land & Structures						
Grants & Claims						
Miscellaneous						
TOTAL OPERATING	0.0	1.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
CAPITAL EXPENDITURES						
CHANGE IN REVENUES ( )						

FUND SOURCE (Thousands of Dollars)

1002 Federal Receipts						
1003 GF Match						
1004 GF		1.5				
1005 GF/Program Receipts						
1037 GF/Mental Health						
Other (Specify Type)						
TOTAL	0.0	1.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Estimate of any current year (FY2001) cost: 0.0

Check this box (X) if funding for this bill is included in the Governor's FY 2002 budget proposal:

POSITIONS

Full-time						
Part-time						
Temporary						

ANALYSIS: *(Attach a separate page if necessary)*

This figure includes the cost of providing information about this issue in the Official Election Pamphlet, as required by AS 15.58. If this measure requires the printing an 8-1/2 by 18 inch ballot, the cost will increase by $22.0.

Prepared by: Gail Fenumiai
Phone 465-3935
Division: Division of Elections
Date/Time 3/7/01 11:00 AM
Approved by: Lieutenant Governor Fran Ulmer
Date 03/07/2001
Agency: Office of the Lieutenant Governor

For distribution information, call the Governor's Legislative Office

(Rev 2/7/2001 OMB)

ALASKA OUTDOOR COUNCIL
P.O. Box 2193
Palmer, Ak. 99645
(907) 745-3772
FAX 745-6944

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Juneau, AK 99801

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Sincerely,

Carl Rosier

Carl Rosier
President

HJR

19

FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA
2001 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

BILL NO. HJR 19

Revision Date/Time (Note if correction) _____
Dept. Affected Natural Resources
Title Digital Orthoimagery & Elevation Data
BRU _____
Component _____
Sponsor House Resources Committee
Requester House Resources Committee
Component Serial No. _____

Expenditures/Revenues (Thousands of Dollars)

Note: Amounts do not include inflation unless otherwise noted below.

OPERATING EXPENDITURES	FY 2002	FY 2003	FY 2004	FY 2005	FY 2006	FY 2007
Personal Services						
Travel						
Contractual						
Supplies						
Equipment						
Land & Structures						
Grants & Claims						
Miscellaneous						
TOTAL OPERATING	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
CAPITAL EXPENDITURES						
CHANGE IN REVENUES ( )						

FUND SOURCE (Thousands of Dollars)

1002 Federal Receipts						
1003 GF Match						
1004 GF						
1005 GF/Program Receipts						
1037 GF/Mental Health						
Other (Specify Type)						
TOTAL	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Estimate of any current year (FY99) cost: 0.0

POSITIONS

Full-time						
Part-time						
Temporary						

ANALYSIS: *(Attach a separate page if necessary)*

It is extimated that there will be no fical impact for this resolution.

Prepared by House Resources
Phone 465-2689
Division Legisalture
Date/Time 3/26/01 1:59 PM
Representative: REPRESENTATIVE DREW SCALZI
Date 3/26/01
REPRESENTATIVE BEVERLY MASEK

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(Rev 10/98) 99fnform.xls/OMB

LETTERS OF ENDORSEMENT SUMMARY LIST

1. Resource Development Council for Alaska, Inc
2. Alaska Land Managers Forum
3. Arctic Power Inc.
4. Institute of the North
5. Alaska Airmen's Association, Inc.

6. Association of ANCSA Regional Corporation Presidents and CEOs, Inc.
7. NANA Corporation
8. Tanana Chiefs Conference, Inc.
9. Calista Corporation
10. Chugach Alaska Corporation
11. Bering Straits Native Corporation
12. Ahtna Inc.
13. Arctic Slope Regional Corporation.
14. Bristol Bay Native Corporation

15. State of Alaska Dept. of Natural Resources
16. State of Alaska Dept. of Community and Economic Development
17. State of Alaska Dept. of Environmental Conservation
18. State of Alaska Dept. of Fish and Game
19. State of Alaska Dept. of labor and Workforce Development
20. State of Alaska Cooperative Extension Service

21. Alyeska Pipeline Service Company
22. Phillips Alaska Inc.
23. BP Exploration (Alaska) Inc.
24. URS Corporation
25. AeroMap U.S.
26. Racal Pelagos
27. Evergreen Helicopters of Alaska, Inc.
28. GeoNorth

29. National Digital Orthophoto Program
30. US Air Force
31. Federal Aviation Administration
32. "CAPSTONE" Project
33. National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
34. Joint Pipeline Office
35. Corps of Engineers
36. Census Bureau
37. Environmental Protection Agency
38. US Fish and Wildlife Service
39. Bureau of Land Management

40. National Park Service
41. Bureau of Indian Affairs
42. US Forest Service
43. Alaska Soil and Water Conservation District

44. North Slope Borough
45. Municipality of Anchorage
46. Matanuska-Susitna Borough

47. The Nature Conservancy of Alaska
48. Ducks Unlimited National Office
49. Ducks Unlimited Western Regional Office
50. Sierra Club

51. Management Association for Private Photogrammetric Surveyors
52. American Society of Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing
53. Urban Regional Information Systems Association

EXCERPT FROM: ALASKA SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY FOUNDATION NEWSLETTER

March 2001

ASTF Invests in Project that Paves the Way for Better, More Accurate Maps of Alaska

Alaska remains the least-mapped state in the nation. For useful maps, Alaskans determine the specifications for the maps so the resulting product is useful for the many applications that Alaskans will use higher resolution images for: mining exploration, environmental monitoring, land use changes, resource assessment and others. While vendors and different government agencies propose different mapping standards, the challenge is to have both public and private users define requirements so the Alaskan end user has a product that is useful and cost effective.

At its February Board Meeting in Juneau, the ASTF Board of Directors voted to support a $20,000 project that would provide different sample products so Alaskans can better determine user requirements. ASTF is working with a number of key vendors (Aeromap, Intermap, etc.) who have competitive technologies (airborne vs. satellite, etc.) to produce a catalog of products. The catalog will help Alaskans determine appropriate mapping standards for different applications. The project will also involve the Alaska Geographic Date Committee, United States Geological Survey (USGS) and private users such as mining companies and regional corporations to take the next step in creating a consensus on the degree of resolution needed in different areas of the state. The project also will also recommend the most useful format for remote sensing data.

For information on the Alaska Science & Technology Foundation (ASTF), visit the web site at www.astf.org or call (907) 272-4333.

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STATE OF ALASKA

TONY KNOWLES, GOVERNOR

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FAX: (907) 465-3886

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ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99501-3650
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FAX: (907) 269-8918

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER

February 9, 2001

Randy Phillips
Alaska State Legislature
State Capitol (MS 3100)
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182

Dear Senator Phillips:

Thank you for the letter on the Alaska Geographic Data Committee Orthoimagery Initiative. I appreciate your concern for federal funding of digital elevation modeling and orthoimagery efforts in Alaska. We would all like to have better topographic data and orthoimagery for Alaska.

It is my understanding that this year the U. S. Geological Survey (USGS) has included an approximately $6 MM Initiative in their federal FFY02 budget submittal to Congress for the Alaska Orthoimagery Initiative. I also understand other Interior Department agencies may supplement this request. As part of the normal federal budget process, this Initiative is now progressing through the various steps that are required of all federal budgets. DNR applauds the federal recognition of the shortcomings of topographic elevation data and orthoimagery in Alaska and we certainly support the funding effort they are making to address the issue.

This initiative is becoming a part of the President's budget and funding has already been officially requested. Endorsements will probably not affect the outcome of this initiative in the federal Office of Management and Budget one way or the other and if the Initiative reaches the Senate Appropriations Committee, I believe the chances are good that it will receive favorable consideration.

DNR supports the work that the Alaska Geologic Data Committee is doing to bring this matter to the attention of the USGS National Mapping Division at the national level.

Sincerely,

Pat Pourchot
Commissioner

Date of Committee Action: 3/09/21

The RESOURCES Committee considered: HJR 19

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 19 DIGITAL ORTHOIMAGERY AND ELEVATION DATA

Urging the United States Congress to pass legislation to fund the acquisition of high- resolution digital orthoimagery and digital elevation data for the entire state of Alaska.

Recommends it be replaced with _____CS_____(_____) [ ] Same Title [ ] New Title
For Senate Bills with new title: [ ] Technical Title [ ] New Title: HCR_____

[ ] attach amendments
[ ] add new referral to _____ Committee
[ ] Letter of Intent _____Committee

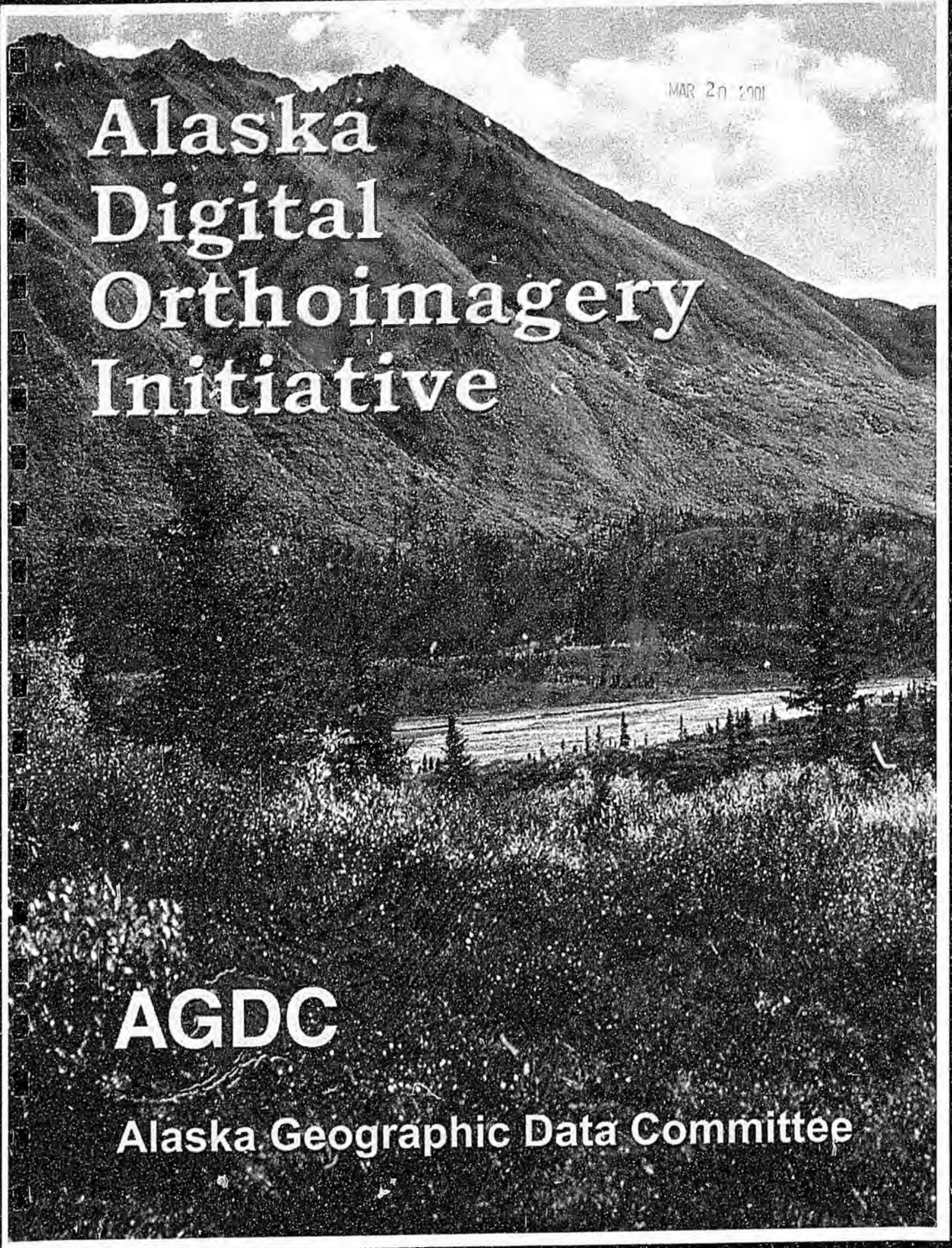
List of Abbrev. For Depts.:
ADM
CED
COR
CRT
EED
DEC
DFG
GOV
HSS
LAA
LAW
LWF
MVA
DNR
DPS
REV
DOT
UA

NEW FISCAL NOTES *For Chief Clerk's Office Use Only				
FN# *	List by Dept(s):	Fiscal	Indet.	Zero
	HRES			✓

PREVIOUS FISCAL NOTES				
List by Dept(s):	FN #	Fiscal	Indet.	Zero

Signing with recommendations	Printed Last Name	DP	DNP	NR	AM
	Kerttula	X			
	Fate	✓			
	Green	✓			
	Chenault	✓			
	Stutes	✓			
Chair:	SCALZI	✓			
Chair:					

Alaska Digital Orthoimagery Initiative



AGDC

Alaska Geographic Data Committee

Table of Contents

Alaska
Geographic
Data
Committee

AGDC
Room 230
4230 University Drive
Anchorage, Alaska 99508

Introduction

The Alaska Digital Orthoimagery Initiative is a proposal to obtain funding for the acquisition of high resolution digital orthoimagery and digital elevation data for Alaska. The Initiative was developed by the Alaska Geographic Data Committee (AGDC).

The AGDC has recognized the need and value of statewide digital orthoimagery and elevation data for Alaska. The AGDC currently has 40 members representing Departments within the State of Alaska, Federal agencies, Municipalities, Boroughs, Native organizations, private enterprise, and the University of Alaska. The membership has always been on the forefront of incorporating the latest technology in its business practices. The AGDC believes reliable, current, statewide base geographic information is essential for continued economic development, livability, and public safety. Orthoimagery and elevation data are considered the foundation for the framework of base geographic data. At this time, Alaska does not have digital orthoimagery or accurate elevation data.

We feel this Initiative is critical to Alaska's future because Alaska's statewide base geographic information data is very poor. US Geological Survey (USGS) maps of Alaska are over 40 years old, do not meet National Map Accuracy Standards, and there is no existing or planned program to replace them. The most recent statewide high resolution imagery available is 20 years old and does not reflect the current Alaska landscape. This imagery was acquired through the Alaska High Altitude Aerial Photography Program and is not in digital form, a prerequisite for modern technology. It should also be noted past and present funding situations in federal and state agencies have not allowed Alaska to be a participant in the National Aerial Photography Program and the National Digital Orthophoto Program. These programs provide complete aerial photography and orthoimagery coverage for the lower forty eight states on a regular basis. Most recently, NASA's 2000 Shuttle Radar Topography Mission for producing elevation data for topographic mapping covered 80% of the world. This mission covered less than 20% (twenty percent) of Alaska because it did not map above 60 degrees north latitude.

New orthoimagery and elevation data provide common data foundation layers which would show current conditions and trends on the Alaska landscape. They are the layers from which many types of geographic information are extracted and to which many types are registered. These layers will allow Alaska agencies, Native corporations and private organizations to better utilize GIS technology to aid in responsible decision-making.

The Initiative is composed of an executive summary and tabs. The executive summary provides an overview of the proposal and the tabs provide specific examples and more detailed information.

The Alaska Digital Orthoimagery Initiative is a product of the Alaska Geographic Data Committee. Any questions concerning the Initiative may be directed to the following individuals:

Mark Shasby
Co-Chairperson, Alaska Geographic Data Committee
(907) 786-7022 or shasby@usgs.gov

Richard McMahon
Co-Chairperson, Alaska Geographic Data Committee
(907) 269-8836 or richard_mcmahon@dnr.state.ak.us

Gust C. Panos
Chairperson, Digital Orthoimagery Subcommittee
Alaska Geographic Data Committee
(907) 271-5545 or gust_panos@ak.blm.gov

AGDC Co-Chairs

Mark Shasby

Richard McMahon

Digital Orthoimagery Subcommittee Chairperson

Gust Panos

Executive Summary

Goal:
Obtain funding to acquire digital orthoimagery and elevation data for Alaska (**Tab 1**) and have these data available on the Internet via the Alaska Geographic Data Committee for use by Alaska agencies, Native organizations, the private sector, and the public (**Tab 2**).

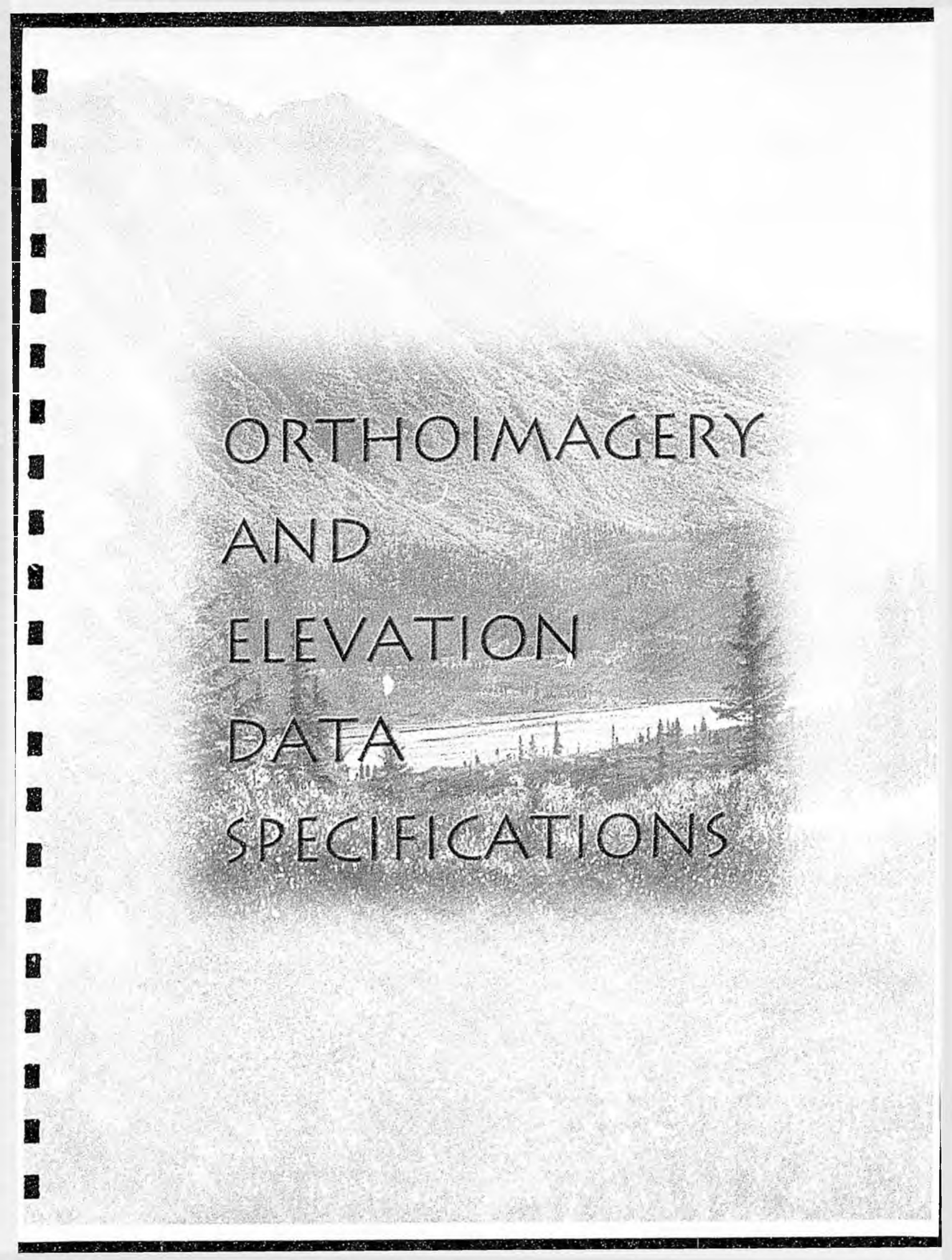
Need:
Alaska agencies, Native organizations, and the private sector are involved in analyzing and responding to critical issues including; disaster response and hazard prevention, land conveyance, resource exploration and development, legal access and public safety, public use and resource assessment, and community and economic development (**Tab 3**). These organizations have a recurring need for high quality, current, digital base map data. Orthoimagery and elevation data are essential to providing digital base maps for geospatial decision making. Orthoimagery is geometrically corrected photography of the earth's surface and digital elevation data represents the shape of the earth's surface. These data types are recognized as the foundation layers for all digital base map data (**Tab 4**). Alaska lacks orthoimagery and accurate digital elevation data.

Justification:
US Geological Survey (USGS) maps of Alaska are over 40 years old and do not meet National Map Accuracy Standards. The most current statewide high resolution imagery is 20 years old. Neither reflect Alaska's current landscape and neither are in digital form. They both have very limited usefulness as base map data because of their age and form (**Tab 5**). Alaska does not have digital orthoimagery or accurate digital elevation data base layers which reflect the current Alaska landscape or on which base map data can be built. This request would provide orthoimagery and accurate elevation data for Alaska.

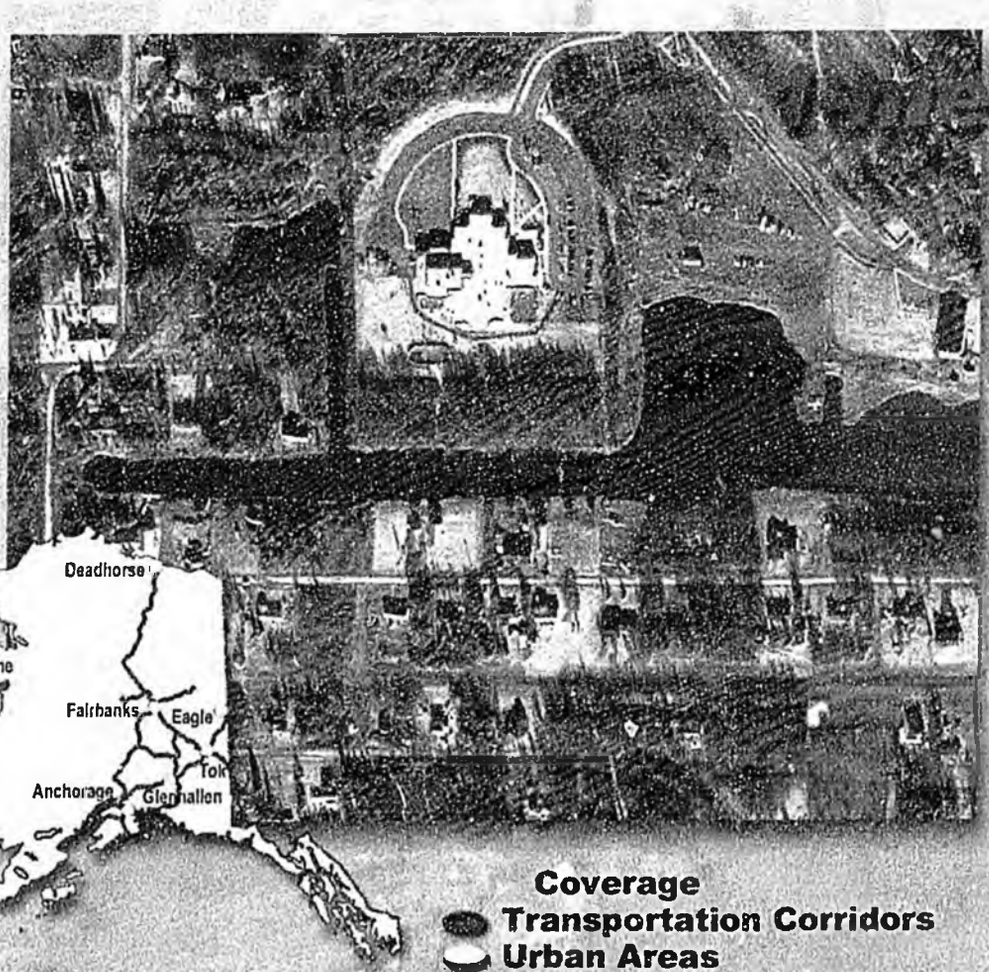
Time frame and Cost:
This Initiative provides for a four year program to collect orthoimagery and elevation data. Production would begin in 2002 and be completed in 2006. Access to this data, via the Internet, will begin once products are available. Estimated cost for acquisition and production, applied over the estimated four year life of the project, is a total $100 million dollars or $25 million dollars a year (**Tab 6**).

Acquisition Method and Data Access:
Acquisition and production of orthoimagery and elevation data will be done via contract with the private sector. US Geological Survey will administer the contract. Internet access will be managed through the Alaska Geographic Data Committee Clearinghouse and EROS Data Center (**Tab 7**).

Endorsements:
This Initiative is widely endorsed throughout Alaska. Thirty eight (38) organizations have provided letters of endorsement (**Tab 8**).


ORTHOIMAGERY
AND
ELEVATION
DATA
SPECIFICATIONS

Statewide Coverage



Coverage
Transportation Corridors
Urban Areas

Digital Orthoimagery

Digital orthoimagery is a georeferenced image prepared from aerial photography or other remotely sensed data in which sensor distortions are removed, so it is geometrically correct.

Orthoimagery combines the image characteristics of aerial photography with the geometric qualities of a map.

Specifications

5-meter resolution

- ✓ Statewide coverage
- ✓ Quarter-quad format
- ✓ Color-Infrared Imagery
- ✓ Meets National Map Accuracy Standards
- ✓ North American Datum 1983

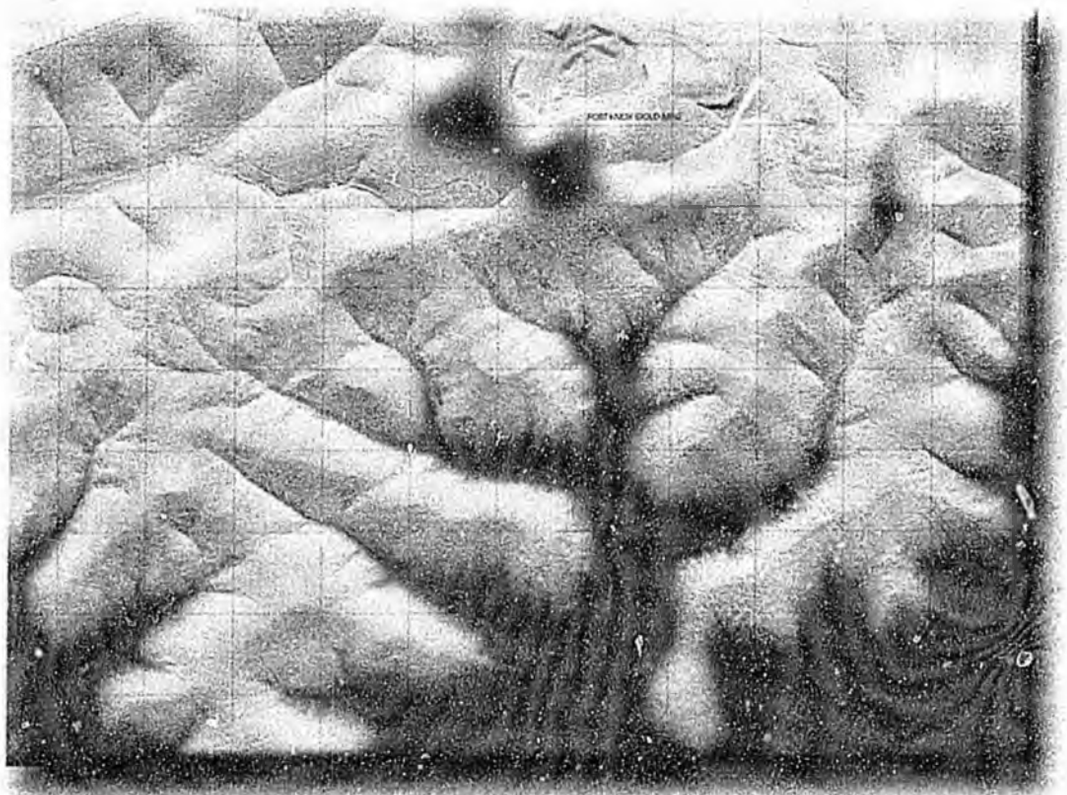
1-meter resolution

- ✓ Urbanized areas, Native villages, major transportation corridors and the Trans-Alaska Pipeline
- ✓ Color-Infrared Imagery
- ✓ Quarter-quad format
- ✓ Meets National Map Accuracy Standards
- ✓ North American Datum 1983

EXISTING

Elevation data from existing USGS 1:63,360 topographic map.

PROPOSED



Example of proposed elevation data derived from radar technology of 1:25,000 topographic map.

Elevation in meters

140 255 370 472 575 610 730

Digital Elevation Data

Digital elevation data is an array of elevation values representing the shape of the earth's surface. Digital elevation data is a required component for the production of digital orthoimagery.

Existing elevation data for Alaska is coarse and inaccurate. This data is not adequate to produce the proposed orthoimagery. The Initiative will result in a dense, accurate elevation data set.

Specifications

30-meter postings
7-meter vertical accuracy
1983 North American Datum

Uses of digital elevation data:

- ✓ Geometric corrections for orthoimagery
- ✓ Derive topographic information

*aspect *slope *contours
*drainage *landform *solar insolation
*watersheds

Alaska Digital Orthoimagery Initiative Product Profile

Digital Orthoimagery

Digital orthoimagery is a geo-referenced image which combines the characteristics of digital imagery with the geometric qualities of a traditional line map. Digital orthoimagery is derived from raw image data and digital elevation data by computer processing which removes any image displacements or distortions due to the sensor system, its orientation, and the earth's surface. For example, digital orthoimagery can be derived from conventional aerial photography systems, digital camera systems, airborne scanners, or satellite systems. Similar to traditional line maps, digital orthoimagery meets National Mapping Accuracy Standards (NMAS).

Image resolution and spectral characteristics are the primary parameters affecting the utility of imagery. For Alaska, 5-meter ground sample distance (GSD) is the most practical for statewide coverage. In addition to statewide 5-meter GSD data, the proposal calls for 1-meter GSD digital orthoimagery for all urban areas, 224 Native villages, all transportation corridors, and the TransAlaska Pipeline. The imagery will be color-infrared. Snow cover, vegetation, sun angle, and cloud cover are factors which affect the utility of the imagery and are taken into consideration during the image acquisition stage. The imagery collection will be during leaf-on, snow-free (except in permanent snow areas), and near cloud-free seasons over several years.

Image coverage is the next most important characteristic affecting image utility. For given image resolution, the land coverage of a particular image affects file size and has both practical limitations and user convenience requirements. Alaska digital orthoimagery will be formatted to one-quarter of the 1:63,360-scale maps; nominally 7.5 minutes, and meeting NMAS for 1:24,000-scale products.

Map projections, datums, and coordinate systems are the other characteristics affecting the utility of digital orthoimagery data. For consistent statewide coverage, the digital orthoimagery will be projected to the Universal Transverse Mercator (UTM) projection, using the North American Datum of 1983 (NAD 83), and metric units. Image file format affects user ease in using the data in a particular geographic information system, image processing system, or application program. Alaska digital orthoimagery will be archived in native format; however, Alaska data users can have the digital orthoimagery formatted GeoTIFF, if desired.

Digital Elevation Data

Digital elevation data is an array of elevation values representing the shape of the earth's surface. Elevation data is required in the production of digital orthoimagery. It is used for the necessary geometric corrections of the imagery. Existing digital elevation data in Alaska is derived from the contours on US Geological Survey Topographic maps. This data is not of sufficient density or accuracy to meet production specifications for the proposed digital orthoimagery.

The minimum specifications required for digital elevation data to meet the proposed orthoimagery requirements is 30-meter postings with 7-meter vertical accuracy. This data will

be cast on the Universal Transverse Mercator projection system and referenced to the North American 1983 Datum. Elevation data meeting these specifications does not exist for Alaska and will have to be collected. Radar technology will be employed to capture and process elevation data. Cloud cover and sun angle will not affect the collection of this data. The distribution format for the digital elevation data will use the Spatial Data Transfer Standard (SDTS) format. The SDTS format is designed to transfer data complete with the data attributes.

Metadata

Finally, metadata affects both current use and future use of geospatial data. Metadata provides data users with a means to assess the process used to derive the data, data lineage, data quality, and other factors which affect the appropriateness of the data for a particular application. Digital orthoimagery and digital elevation data developed under the Alaska Digital Orthoimagery Initiative will have metadata that meets Federal Geographic Data Committee (FGDC) metadata standards.

In summary, the specifications for the Alaska Digital Orthoimagery Initiative is for statewide coverage with 5-meter resolution imagery and 1-meter resolution data in urban areas, over 224 Native villages, along major transportation corridors, and the TransAlaska Pipeline. The digital orthoimagery will be color-infrared, based on Alaska quarter-quad coverage and projected to UTM and NAD 83 in metric units. In addition, the digital orthoimagery will meet NMAS and have standard USGS headers which meet FGDC metadata standards. The digital orthoimagery will be available in GeoTIFF file format. Statewide coverage requires approximately 11,900 Alaska quarter-quads. The State will also be completely mapped with digital elevation data. Digital elevation data is required for the production of digital orthoimagery. The digital elevation data will be 30-meter postings with 7-meter vertical accuracy and will be cast on the Universal Transverse Mercator projection system and referenced to the North American 1983 Datum.

Management Oversight

The National Digital Orthophoto Program Steering Committee has provided program and technical guidance for the National Digital Orthophoto Program. Management oversight of the Alaska Digital Orthoimagery Initiative will be provided by this steering committee through representation of the Alaska Geographic Data Committee.

Production Strategy

The US Geological Survey has been responsible for executing the National Digital Orthophoto Program since its inception. The majority of the production has been performed by the private sector through architect-engineer contracts. Firms selected for these contracts have been based on professional qualifications, specialized experience, capacity to perform, and past performance. Contract monitoring and quality assessment has been performed by in-house personnel. Possible

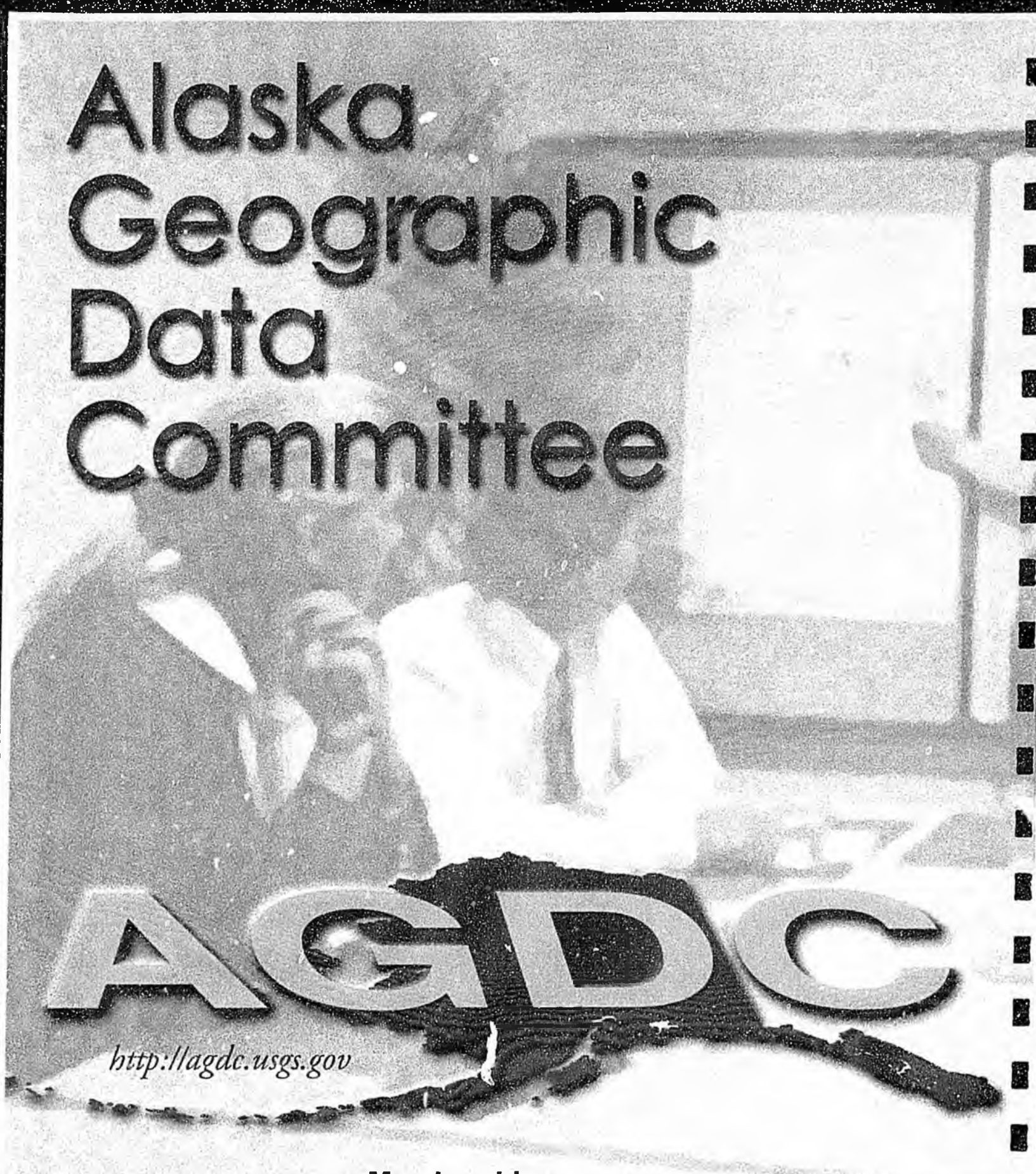
contracting scenarios for the Alaska Digital Orthoimagery Initiative include: 1) Use the current DOQ contract, 2) Use the soon-to-be awarded Cartographic Services Contract, and 3) Award a new and separate contract for the acquisition of Alaska digital orthoimagery

Public Domain Data

The data produced through the proposed Alaska Digital Orthoimagery Initiative will be in the public domain, free of any licensing restrictions, and will be available to all government agencies as well as the general public at the cost of reproduction.


ALASKA
GEOGRAPHIC
DATA
COMMITTEE

Alaska Geographic Data Committee



Membership

State Departments - Community and Economic Development - Natural Resources - Fish & Game - Environmental Conservation - Labor and Workforce Development - University of Alaska -Transportation and Public Facilities - ***Boroughs/Municipalities*** - North Slope Borough - Kodiak Island - Haines - Kenai Peninsula - Matanuska-Susitna - Anchorage - ***Native Organizations*** - Arctic Slope Native Association, Ltd - Association of Village Council Presidents - ***Non Government*** - ABR - AeroMap US - AK Remote Sensing and Cartographic Services - BP Exploration - ESRI, AK - GeoNorth - Resource Data, Inc.

The Alaska Geographic Data Committee (AGDC) was formed in 1993. It currently has 40 members representing State of Alaska departments, Federal agencies, Municipalities, Boroughs, Native organizations, private enterprise, and the University of Alaska. The purpose of the AGDC is to provide statewide leadership for surveying, mapping and related spatial data coordination. The AGDC's overall objective is to:

- ✓ **build geographic information partnerships in Alaska**
- ✓ **leverage resources**
- ✓ **promote the visions and goals of the National Spatial Data Infrastructure**
- ✓ **serve as the technical advisory committee to the Alaska Land Managers Forum**

Federal Agencies - US Geological Survey - Bureau of Land Management - National Park Service - Fish & Wildlife Service - Bureau Of Indian Affairs - Minerals Management Service Environmental Policy & Compliance - Environmental Protection Agency -Forest Service - Natural Resources Conservation Service - National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration National Weather Service - Federal Aviation Administration - Federal Highway Administration Coast Guard - Department of Defense - US Army Corps of Engineers - US Air Force

THE ALASKA GEOGRAPHIC DATA COMMITTEE

In October 1990, the Office of Management and Budget issued a revised Circular A-16, "Coordination of Surveying, Mapping, and Related Spatial Data Activities." The goals of the Circular were to develop a national digital geographic information resource, to reduce duplication, to reduce the expense of developing geographic data, and to increase the benefits of using available data by ensuring coordination of Federal agency geographic data activities. The Circular also established an interagency committee, the Federal Geographic Data Committee (FGDC), to promote the coordinated development, use, sharing, and dissemination of geographic data categories. The Circular assigned to Federal agencies the responsibilities of leading coordination activities for 10 categories of data. Agency responsibilities include providing government-wide leadership in developing data standards, assisting information and data exchange, and coordinating data collection.

Presidential Executive Order 12906 of April 1994 recognized a critical national need for improved means for finding and sharing geographic data. This document called for the establishment of a coordinated National Spatial Data Infrastructure (NSDI) "to support public and private sector applications of geospatial data in such areas as transportation, community development, agriculture, emergency response, environmental management and information technology." The NSDI was seen as part of the evolving National Information Infrastructure which would provide citizen access to essential government information and thus strengthen the democratic process. The NSDI encompasses policies, standards, and procedures for organizations to cooperatively produce and share geographic data. The Federal agencies that make up the FGDC are developing the NSDI in cooperation with organizations from state, local and tribal governments, the academic community, and the private sector.

In response to these major initiatives at the national level, Federal and state agencies in Alaska with interests in surveying and mapping came together in 1993 and organized themselves as the Alaska Geographic Data Committee (AGDC). The AGDC was formally recognized as the Alaska cooperating group of the FGDC in early 1996. The purpose of the Alaska Geographic DataCommittee is to provide statewide leadership for surveying, mapping, and related spatial data coordination as well as serve as a forum for: (1) Coordination of spatial data development projects; (2) Development of coordinated methodologies for implementing standards and policies; and (3) Review and response to Federal Geographic Data Committee initiatives. The overall objective is to build geographic information partnerships among all institutions within Alaska to coordinate programs, leverage resources, and jointly promote the vision and goals of the NSDI. The AGDC serves as the technical advisory committee to the Alaska Land Managers Forum on all matters related to surveying, mapping, and geospatial data.

Since its establishment, the AGDC has continued to add to its membership base by adding representation from all sectors of the Federal government, state and local government, Native organizations, as well as Universities and private industry. (See Membership List). The AGDC is organized into a number of Working Groups and Subcommittees that have responsibility for specific themes of information, as well as activities that cut across themes such as Data Management and Data Clearinghouses. The Orthoimagery Subcommittee of the AGDC has been responsible for developing the Orthoimagery Initiative for the entire AGDC membership.

Membership List:

FEDERAL AGENCIES

U.S. Department of the Interior:
- U.S. Geological Survey, Alaska
- Bureau of Land Management, Alaska State Office
- U.S. National Park Service, Alaska Field Office
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Region 7 - Alaska
- Bureau of Indian Affairs, Juneau Area Office
- Minerals Management Service, Alaska OCS Region
- Office of Environmental Policy and Compliance - Alaska

U.S. Department of Agriculture
- U.S. Forest Service Alaska Region
- U.S. Forest Service, Pacific Northwest Research Station, Anchorage Forest Sciences Laboratory
- Natural Resources Conservation Service, Alaska State Office

U.S. Department of Commerce
- NOAA, Office of Coast Survey
- National Weather Service, Alaska Region

U.S. Department of Transportation
- Federal Aviation Administration Alaska Region
- Federal Highway Administration
- U.S. Coast Guard 17th District

U.S. Department of Defense
- U.S. Army, Corps of Engineers, Alaska District
- U.S. Air Force

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. Region 10, Alaska Operations Office

ALASKA STATE AGENCIES
- Department of Community and Economic Development
- Department of Environmental Conservation
- Department of Fish and Game
- Department of Labor and Workforce Development
- Department of Natural Resources
- Department of Transportation and Public Facilities
- University of Alaska

BOROUGHS/MUNICIPALITIES

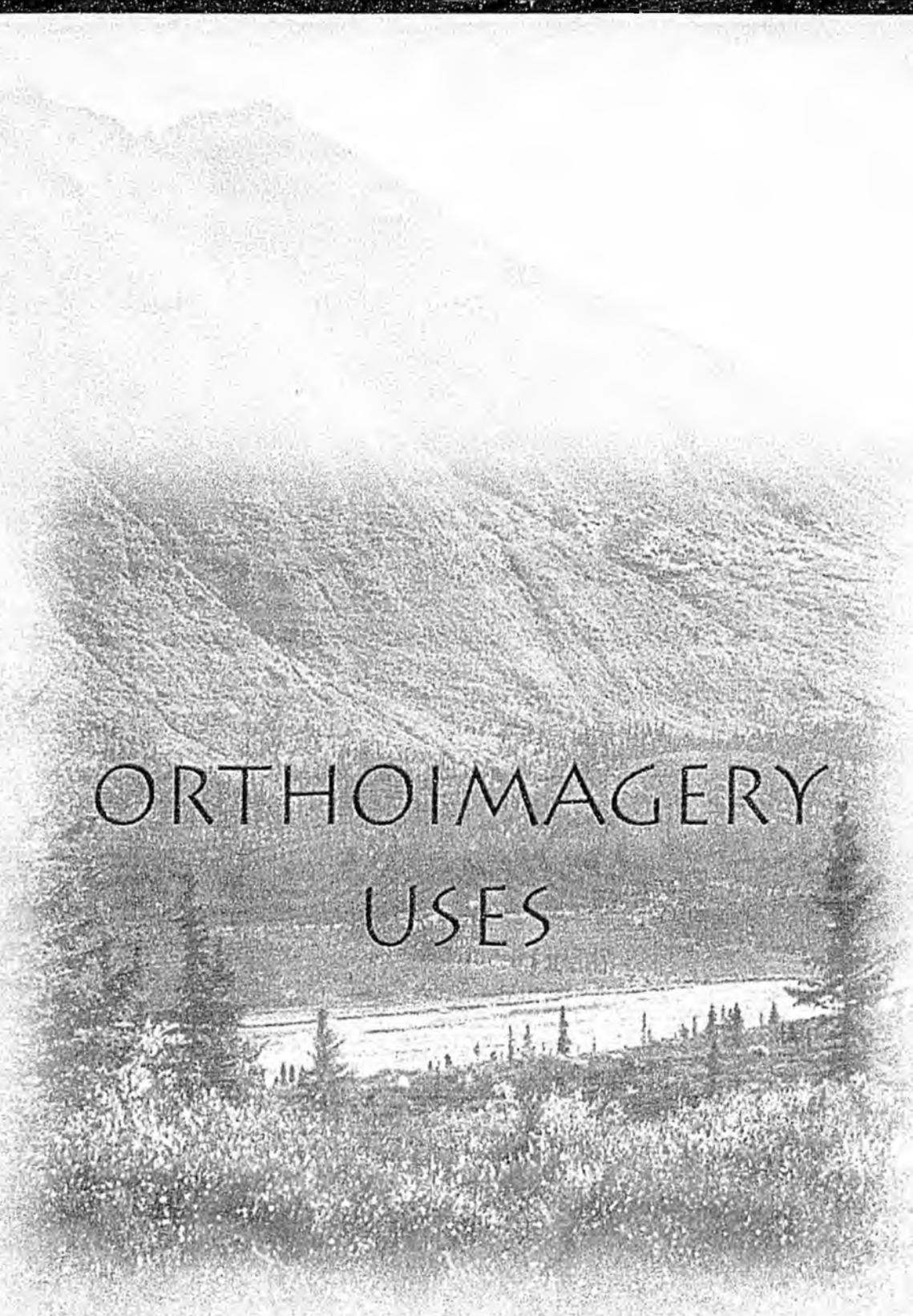
Haines Borough
Kenai Peninsula Borough
Kodiak Island Borough
Matanuska- Susitna Borough
Municipality of Anchorage
North Slope Borough

NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

ABR, Inc.
AeroMap U.S.
Alaska Remote Sensing and Cartographic Services
BP Exploration (Alaska) Inc.
Environmental Systems Research Institute (ESRI)
ESRI Alaska Regional Office
Resource Data Inc.
Geo North, Inc

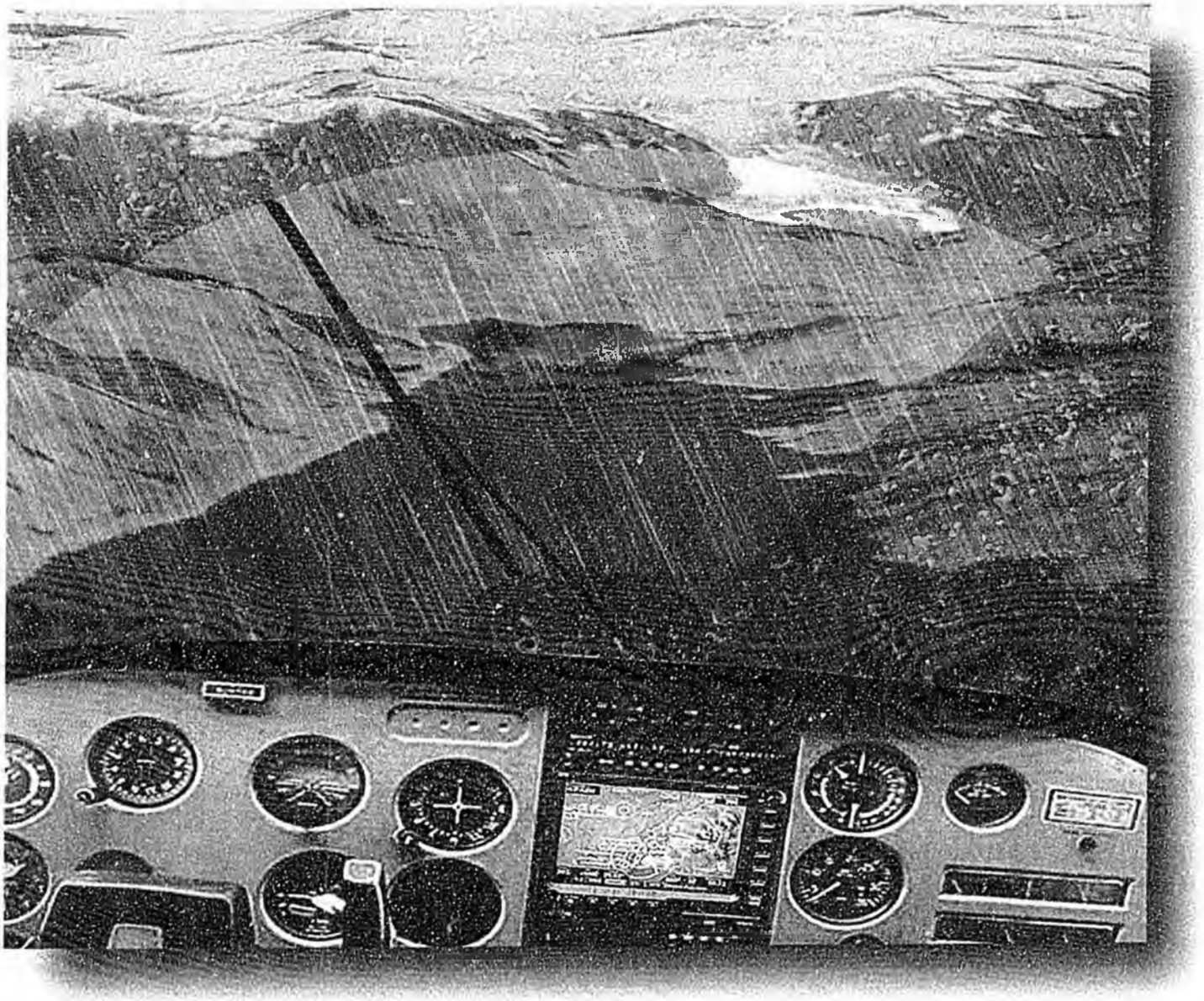
NATIVE ALASKAN ORGANIZATIONS

Arctic Slope Native Association, Limited
Association of Village Council Presidents



ORTHOIMAGERY USES

Aviation Safety



Advanced Avionics

MX-20 Multi-Function Display

GX-60 GPS/Comm

Precise aircraft positioning via accurate moving map display yielding significant increase in aviation safety.

Infrastructure Development

Aviation is a key element in Alaska's future economic growth. The FAA Alaska Region is providing leadership to improve aviation safety, air traffic control innovation, and infrastructure development. Orthoimagery and accurate elevation data will provide valuable information for this effort.

Orthoimagery serves as a reference tool for:

- Increased safety via CAPSTONE technology utilizing more accurate data
- Accurate chart publications for both VFR and IFR flight
- Lower instrument approach minima equals more arrivals/departures
- Planning information for airport location and development
- Airspace management and traffic modeling
- Planning/zoning to protect existing and future arrival/departure routes
- Accurately locate towers, power lines, and other aircraft obstructions
- Provide military area charting and routes for military and civilian traffic de-confliction

Disaster Response

Orthoimagery Map

Burned Area Boundary

Access Trails

Natural Fire Barrier

Hazard Prevention

Fire is a natural part of the Alaskan ecosystem and fire management is fundamental to the protection and enhancement of human values, wildlife habitat, and ecosystem integrity.

Wildfires burn an average of 978,000 acres a year. Suppression response is based on statewide fire management plans. Prescribed fire plans for fuel hazard reduction and wildlife enhancement are now common practices. Both plans require accurate and up-to-date information provided by orthoimagery.

Orthoimagery serves as a reference source to:

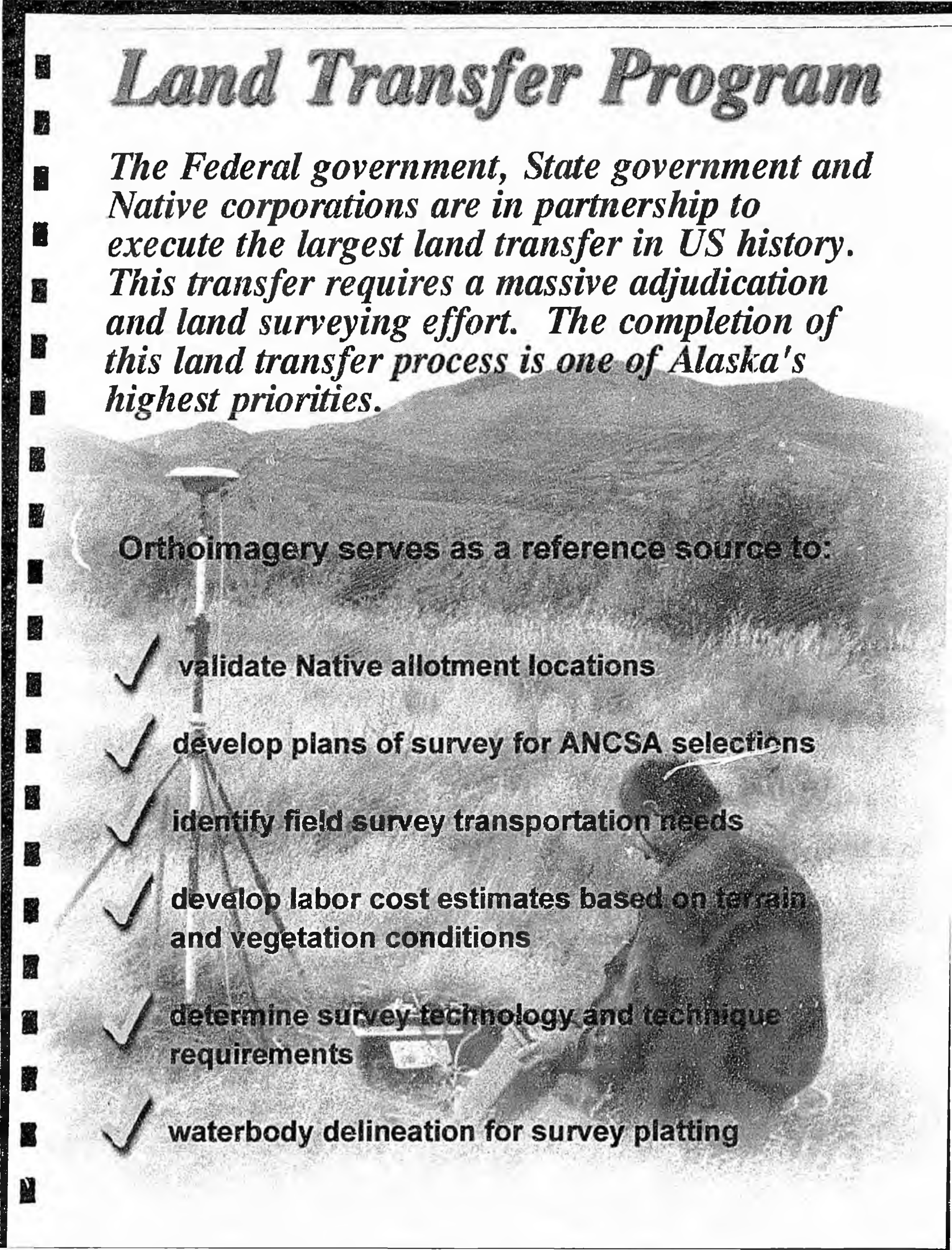
- ✓ assess fuel types and changes in surface features
- ✓ identify resource habitat to assess the level of fire suppression efforts necessary
- ✓ strategically plan prescribed fire burns
- ✓ locate natural fire barriers for staging areas and crew placement
- ✓ pinpoint viable evacuation routes
- ✓ identify and plan relocation of village landfills for fire prevention

Orthoimagery Map

- Hydrography
- Survey Monuments
- Native Allotments
- Trails
- ANCSA Selection Boundary

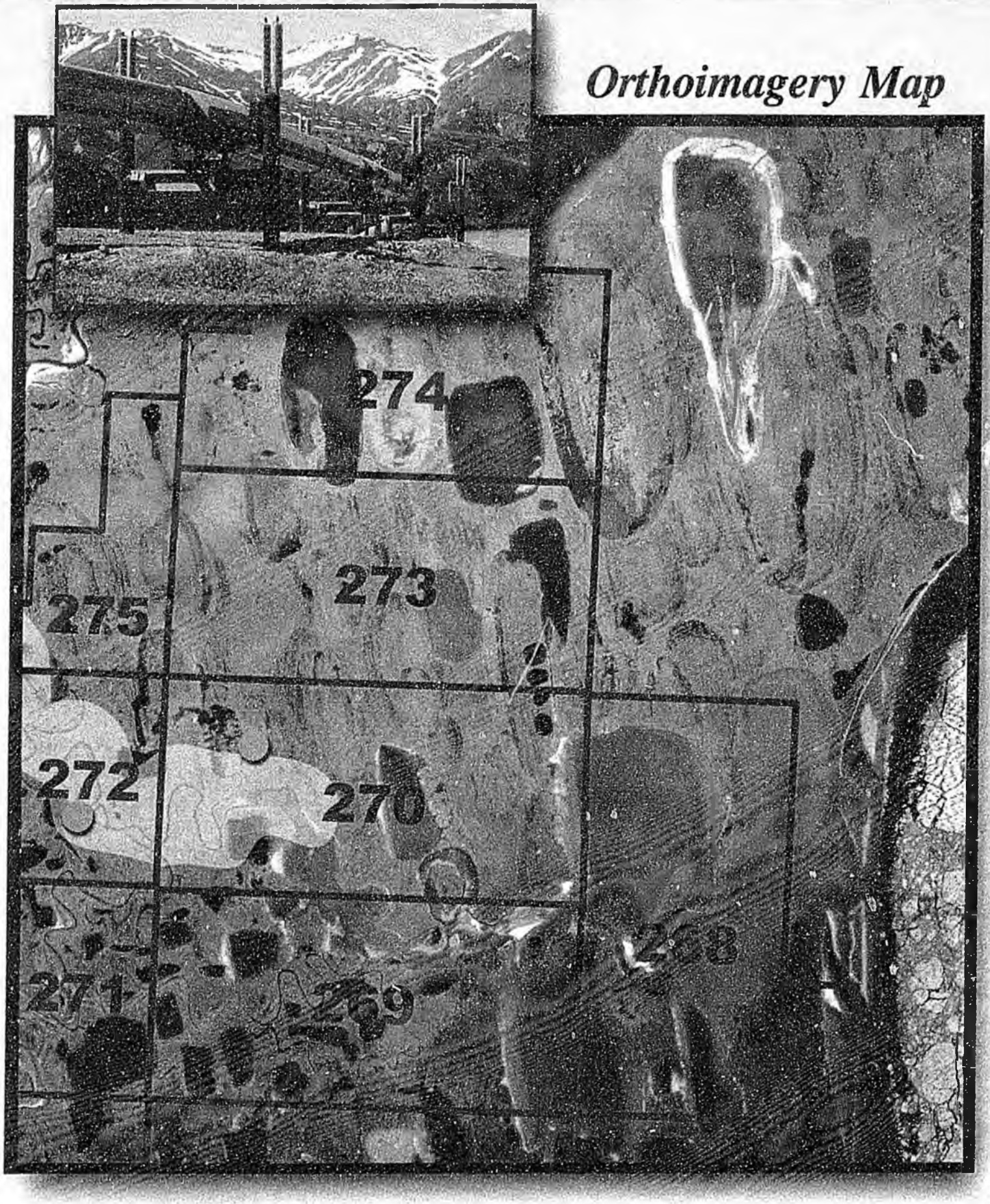
Land Transfer Program

The Federal government, State government and Native corporations are in partnership to execute the largest land transfer in US history. This transfer requires a massive adjudication and land surveying effort. The completion of this land transfer process is one of Alaska's highest priorities.



Orthoimagery serves as a reference source to:

- ✓ validate Native allotment locations
- ✓ develop plans of survey for ANCSA selections
- ✓ identify field survey transportation needs
- ✓ develop labor cost estimates based on terrain and vegetation conditions
- ✓ determine survey technology and technique requirements
- ✓ waterbody delineation for survey platting


Orthoimagery Map
274
273
275
272
270
271
269
268
Oil and gas lease tracts
Sensitive area consultation
Ecological monitoring location

Resource Exploration and Development

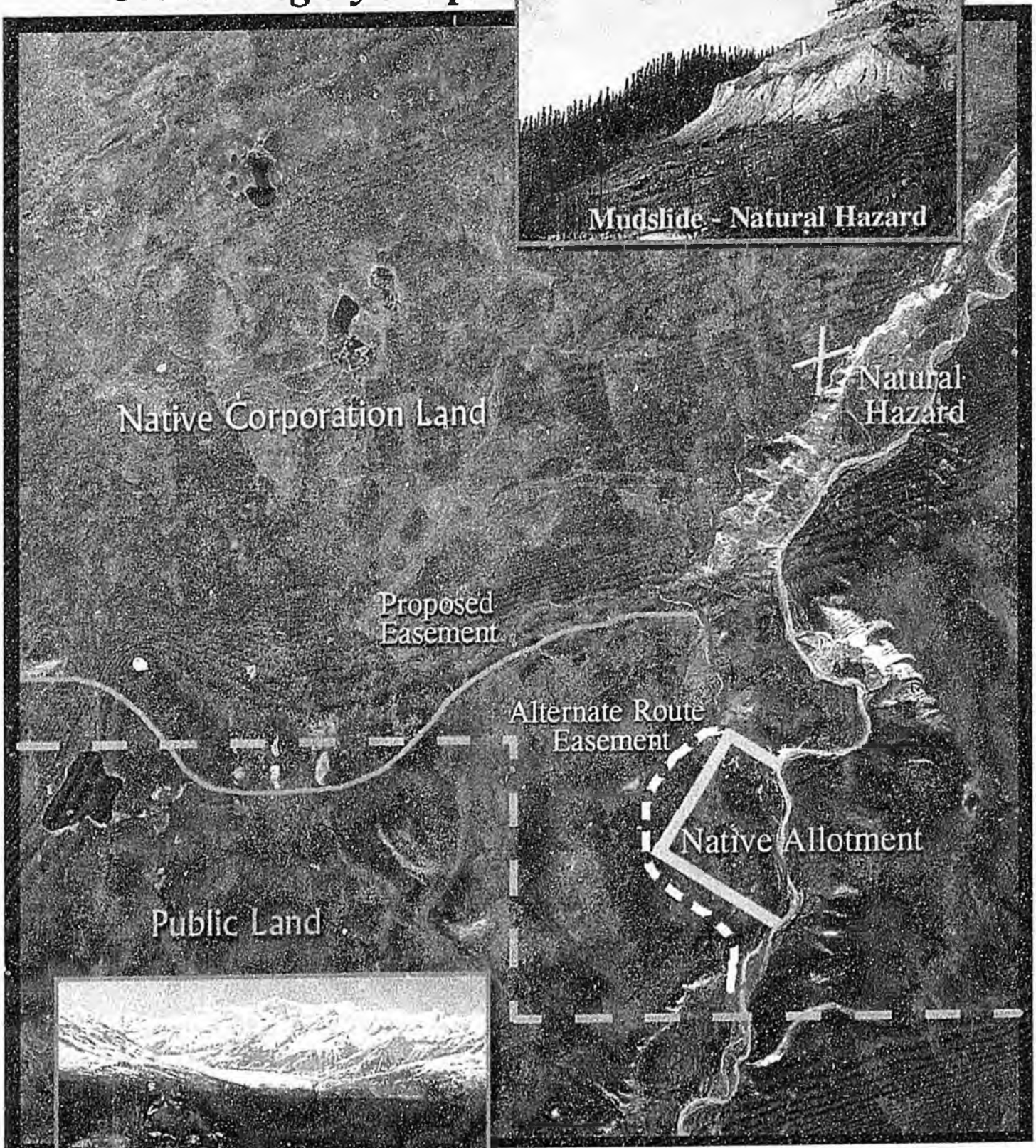
Development of Alaska's natural resources has been key to the state's economic vitality. Future resource exploration and development must be based on the best available information. Ortho-imagery provides valuable information about the landscape and the environment.

Uses of Orthoimagery in oil field development

- ✓ Lease boundary locations
- ✓ Hydrologic basin delineation
- ✓ Routing for ice roads
- ✓ Water sources for ice road construction
- ✓ Location for infrastructure facilities
- ✓ Base for sensitive habitat locations
- ✓ Location sites for ecological monitoring
- ✓ Communication tool for public meetings

Legal Access

Orthoimagery Map



Public Safety

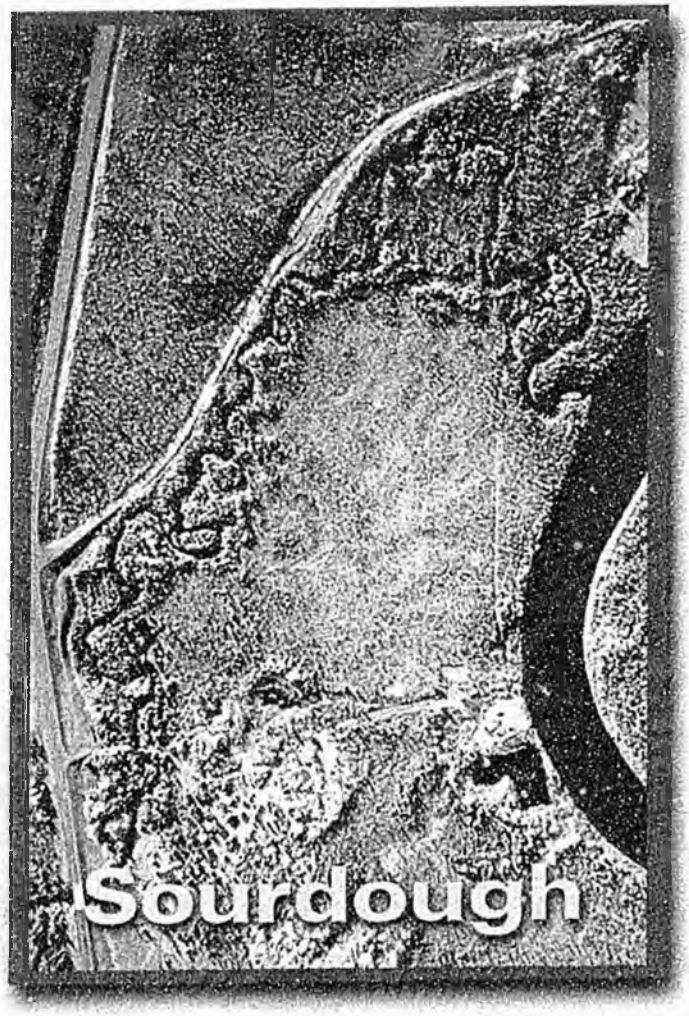
Public easements provide access to major waterways and to Federal, State, and Municipal lands. These easements cross Native lands and must be well-planned and managed. There are 3,000 public easements in Alaska.

Orthoimagery serves as a reference tool for:

- ✓ **Identifying conflicts between easements and land ownership**
- ✓ **Rerouting of existing easements because of public safety concerns**
- ✓ **Easement improvement, maintenance, and marking**
- ✓ **Minimum impact of easements in environmentally sensitive areas**
- ✓ **Identifying discrepancies between locations of reserved easements to actual trails**

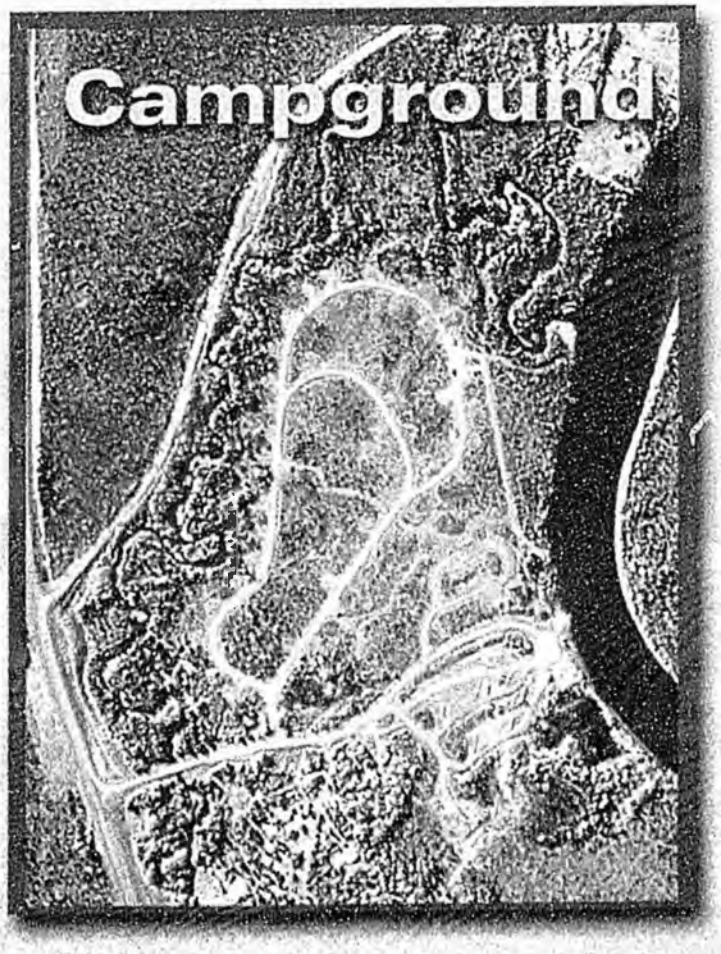
Public Use

Orthoimagery Map



September 1990

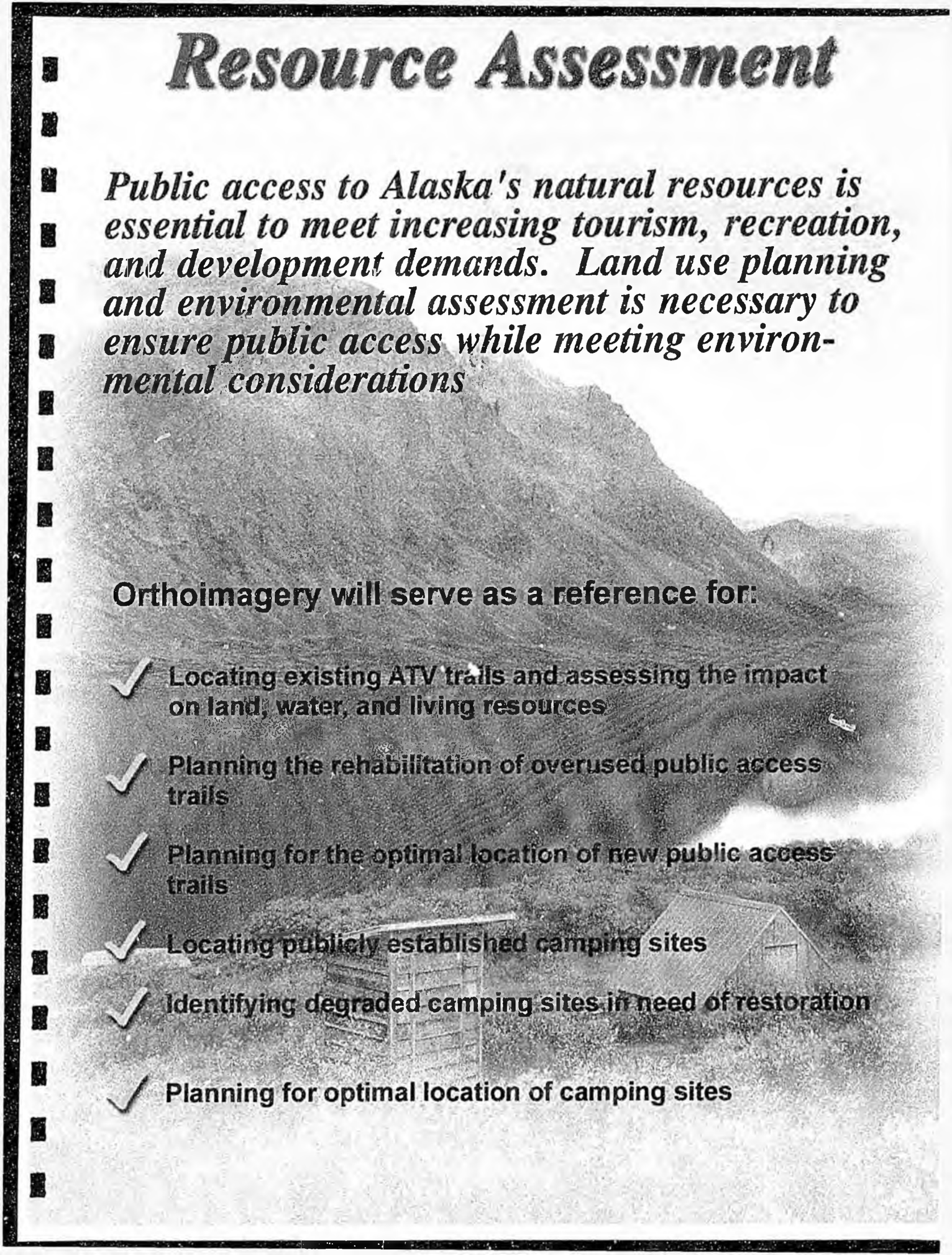
Orthoimagery Map



August 1998

Resource Assessment

Public access to Alaska's natural resources is essential to meet increasing tourism, recreation, and development demands. Land use planning and environmental assessment is necessary to ensure public access while meeting environmental considerations



Orthoimagery will serve as a reference for:

- ✓ Locating existing ATV trails and assessing the impact on land, water, and living resources
- ✓ Planning the rehabilitation of overused public access trails
- ✓ Planning for the optimal location of new public access trails
- ✓ Locating publicly established camping sites
- ✓ Identifying degraded camping sites in need of restoration
- ✓ Planning for optimal location of camping sites

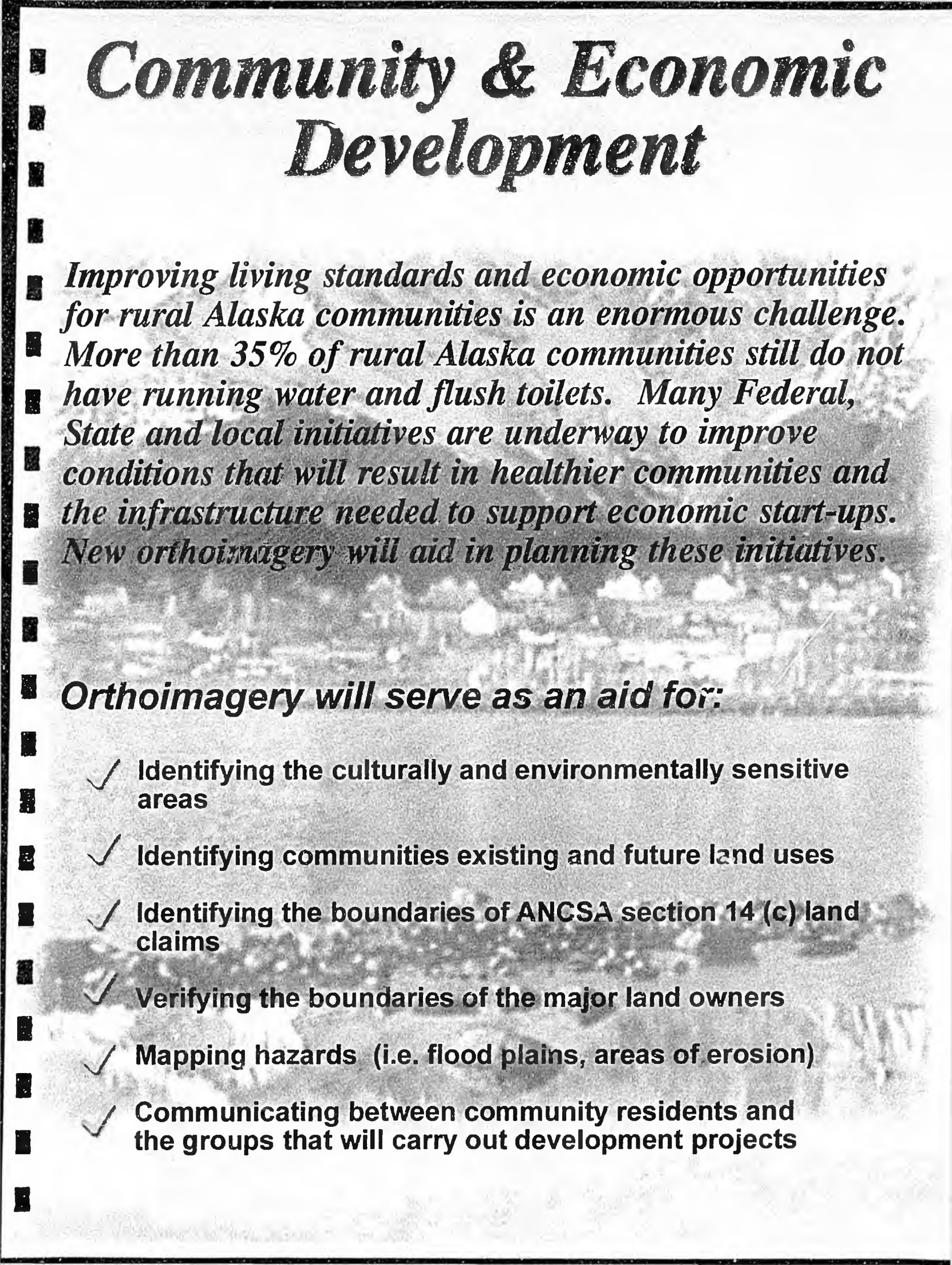
Orthoimagery Map

Buckland Area Use Map

- Salmon Fishing
- Winter Fishing
- Boat Parking
- Berry Picking

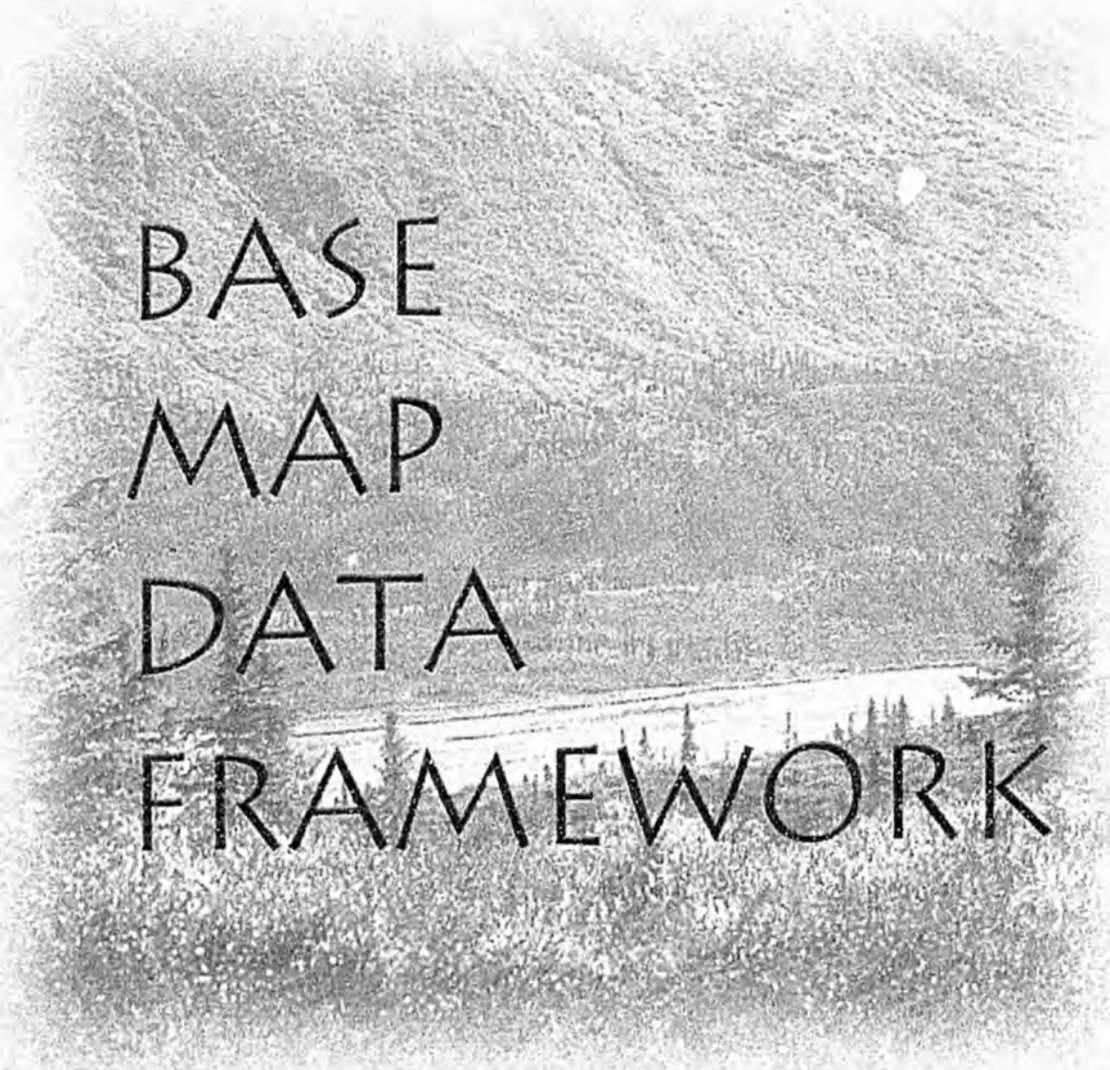
Community & Economic Development

Improving living standards and economic opportunities for rural Alaska communities is an enormous challenge. More than 35% of rural Alaska communities still do not have running water and flush toilets. Many Federal, State and local initiatives are underway to improve conditions that will result in healthier communities and the infrastructure needed to support economic start-ups. New orthoimagery will aid in planning these initiatives.



Orthoimagery will serve as an aid for:

- ✓ Identifying the culturally and environmentally sensitive areas
- ✓ Identifying communities existing and future land uses
- ✓ Identifying the boundaries of ANCSA section 14 (c) land claims
- ✓ Verifying the boundaries of the major land owners
- ✓ Mapping hazards (i.e. flood plains, areas of erosion)
- ✓ Communicating between community residents and the groups that will carry out development projects

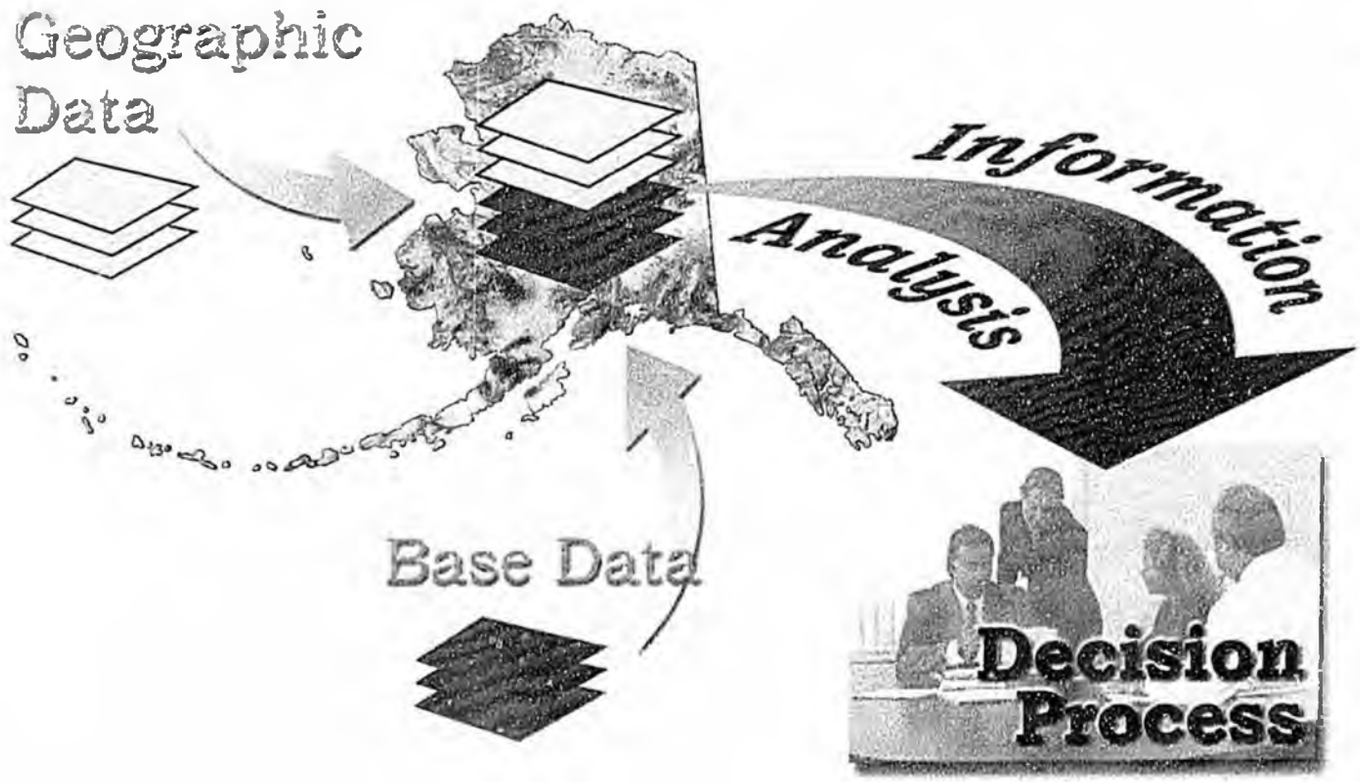

BASE
MAP
DATA
FRAMEWORK

Digital geographic data is essential for managing and developing Alaska resources. Alaska has a recurring need for a framework of high quality, current digital map data. Base map data layers provide a "framework of data you can trust." There are eight base map data layers comprising the base data framework. Orthoimagery is recognized as the foundation layer for digital base map data framework. the framework provides:

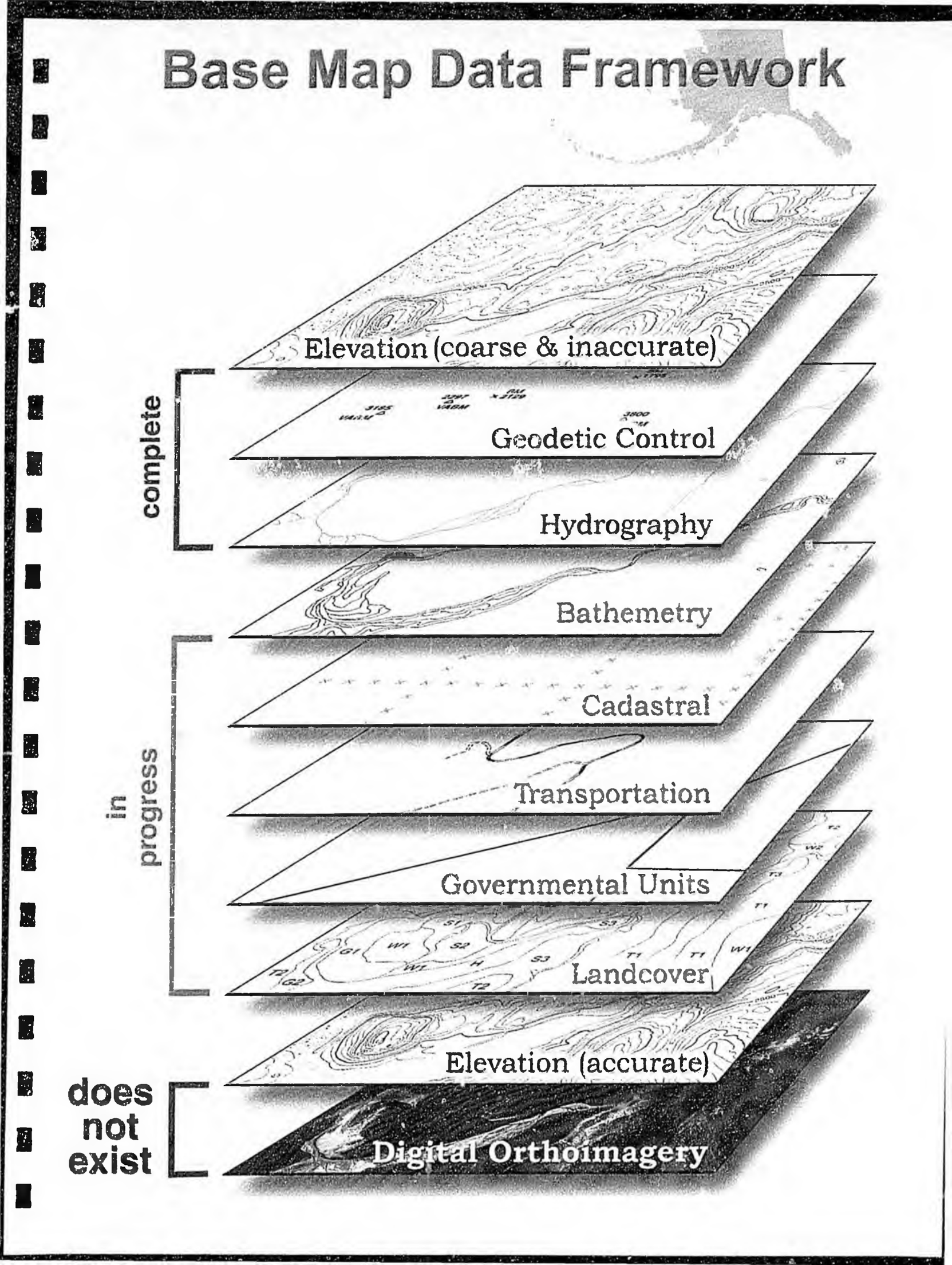
- ✓ base data that can be used in numerous applications
- ✓ a base to which users can add or attach specific geographic information
- ✓ a reference source for accurately registering and extracting geographic data
- ✓ a reference map for displaying the location and the results of an analysis of other data

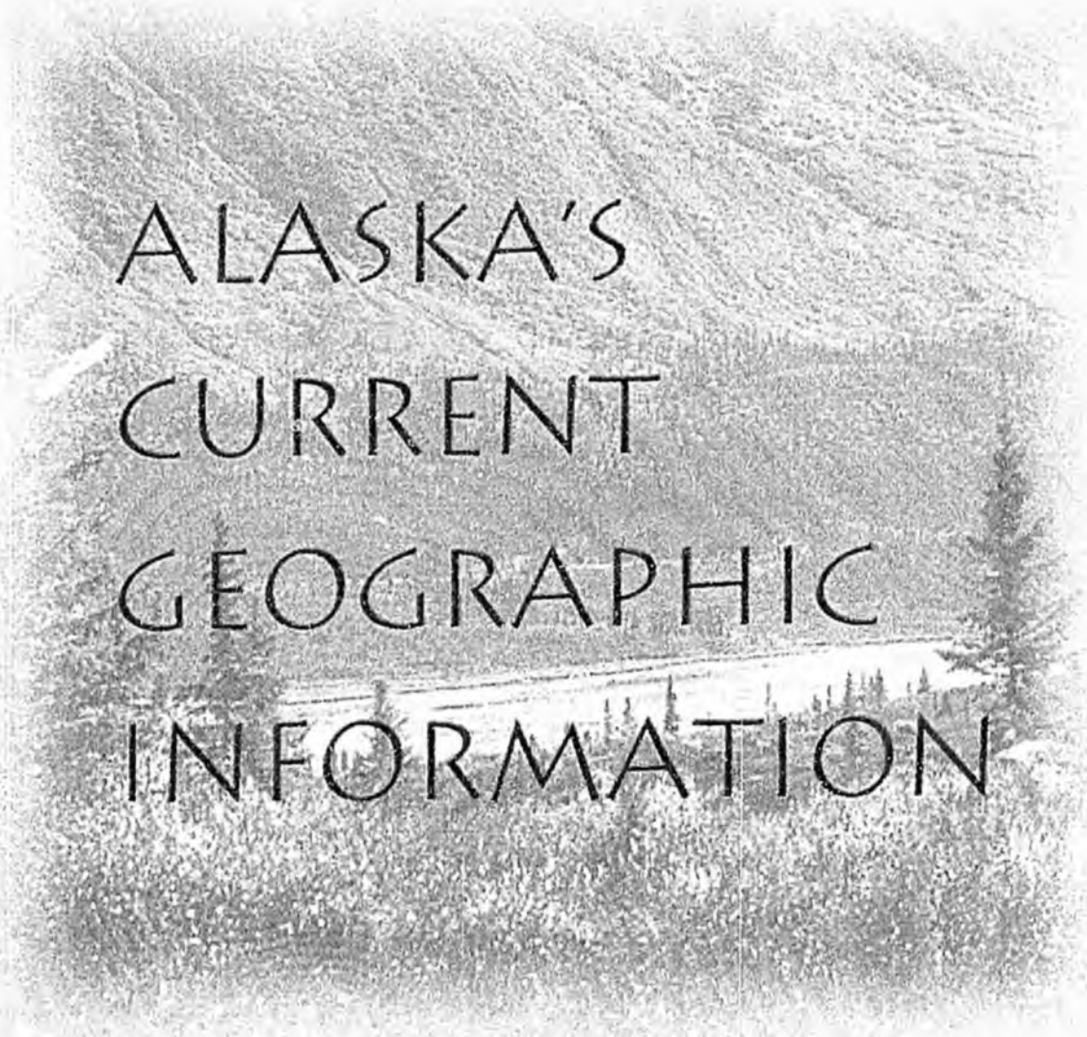
Alaska currently has elevation (coarse and inaccurate), hydrography, and geodetic control in statewide digital coverage. Cadastral, transportation, and governmental units are being built.

Alaska does not have the digital orthoimagery base layer or an accurate digital elevation layer.

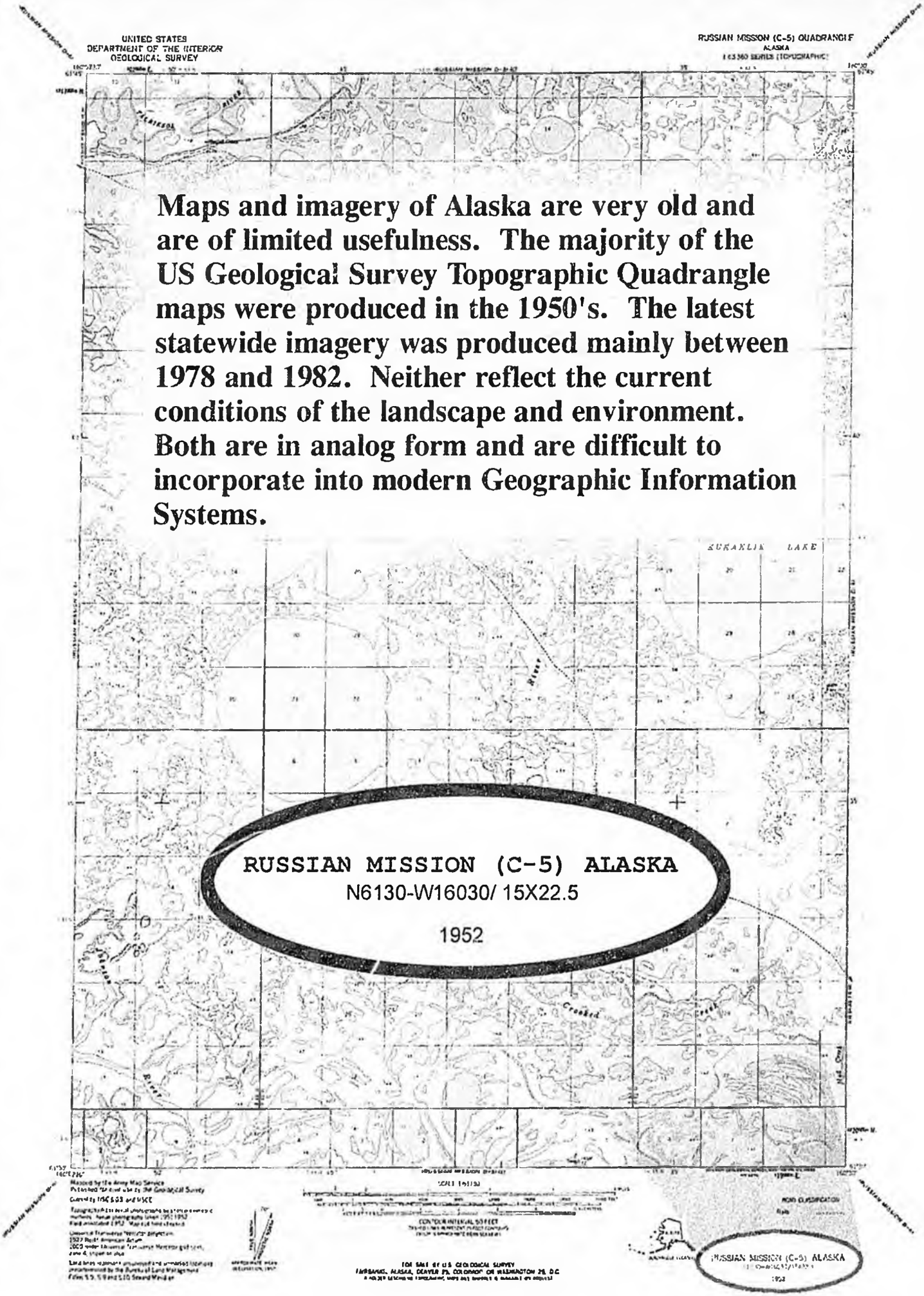


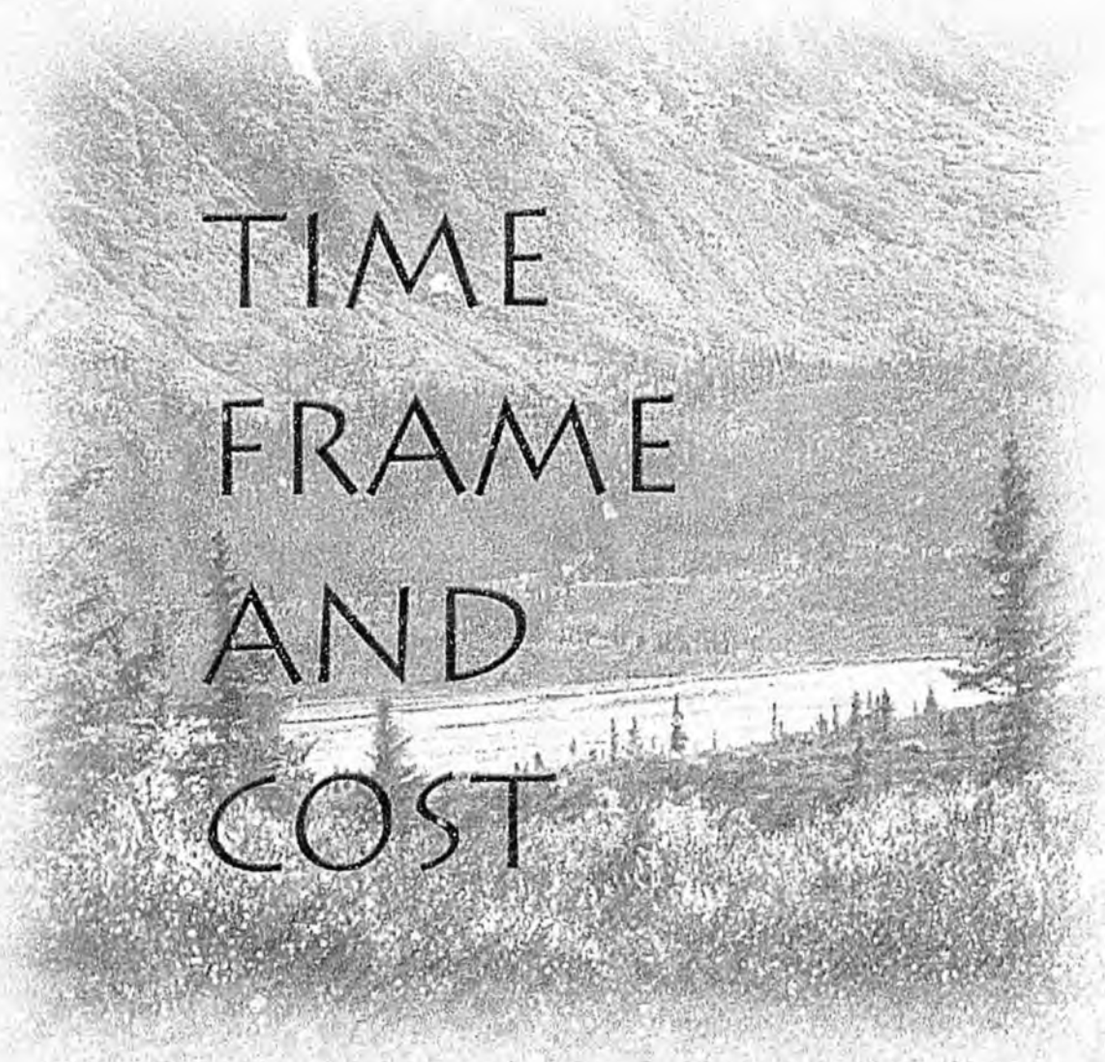
Base Map Data Framework



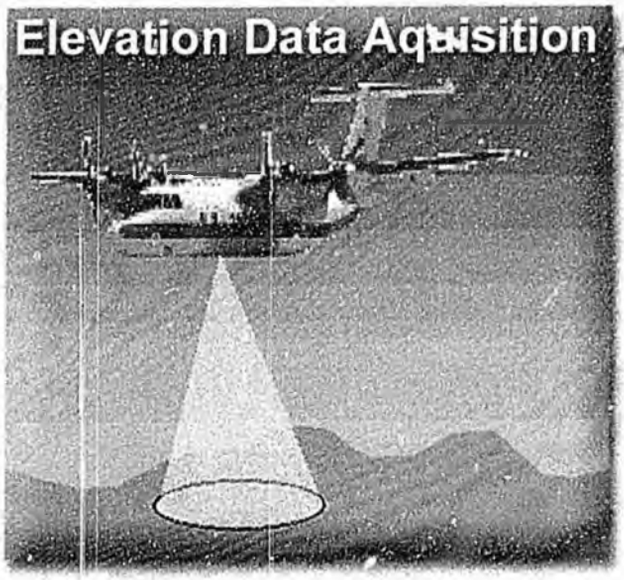

ALASKA'S
CURRENT
GEOGRAPHIC
INFORMATION

The 1978 and 1999 images of Fairbanks are illustrations of change. New digital orthoimagery would reflect the current landscape and environment and would allow for the easy integration into modern Geographic Information Systems.


UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY
RUSSIAN MISSION (C-5) QUADRANGLE
ALASKA
1:63360 SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)
Maps and imagery of Alaska are very old and are of limited usefulness. The majority of the US Geological Survey Topographic Quadrangle maps were produced in the 1950's. The latest statewide imagery was produced mainly between 1978 and 1982. Neither reflect the current conditions of the landscape and environment. Both are in analog form and are difficult to incorporate into modern Geographic Information Systems.
RUSSIAN MISSION (C-5) ALASKA
N6130-W16030/ 15X22.5
1952
RUSSIAN MISSION (C-5) ALASKA
1952

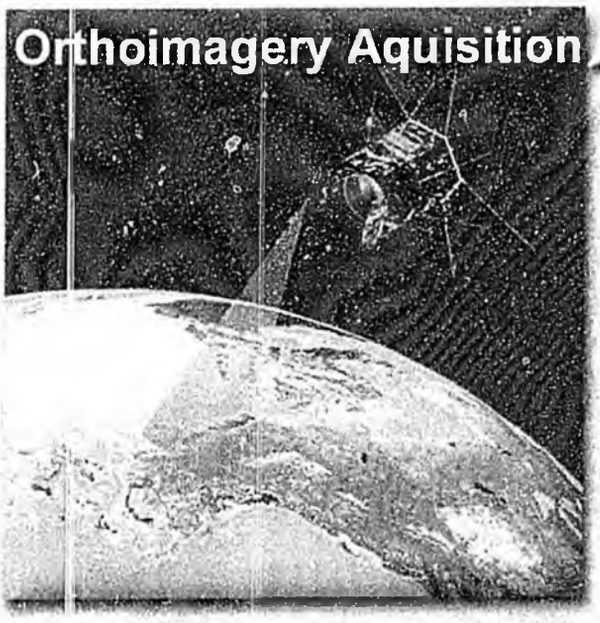

TIME
FRAME
AND
COST

Data Aquisition Costs



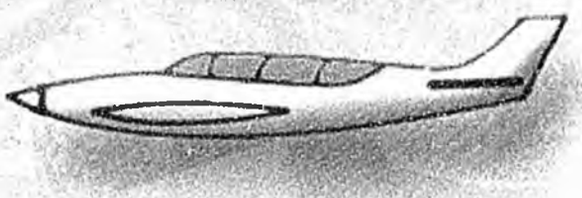
60 Million

Radar Derived Elevation Data



40 Million

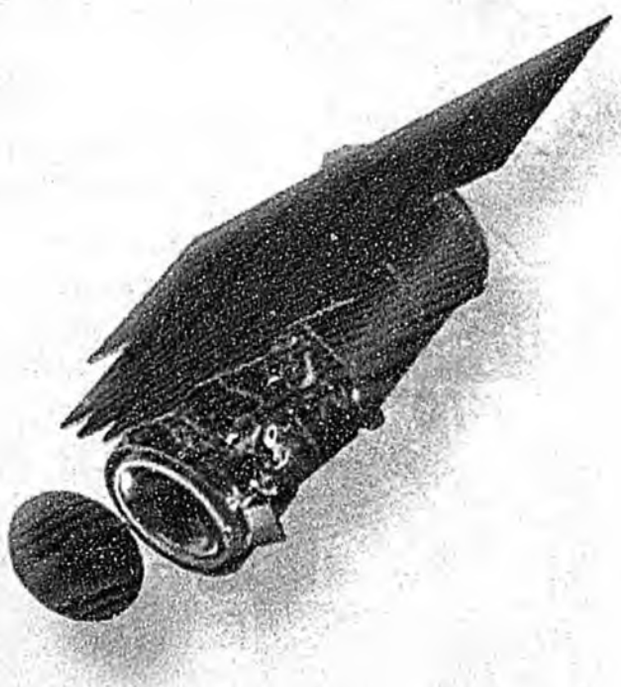
Project Timeline



Radar Derived Elevation Data

2002 2003 2004 2005

*Projected Timeline of Project



Orthoimagery

2002 2003 2004 2005 2006

*Projected Timeline of Project


DATA
ACCESS

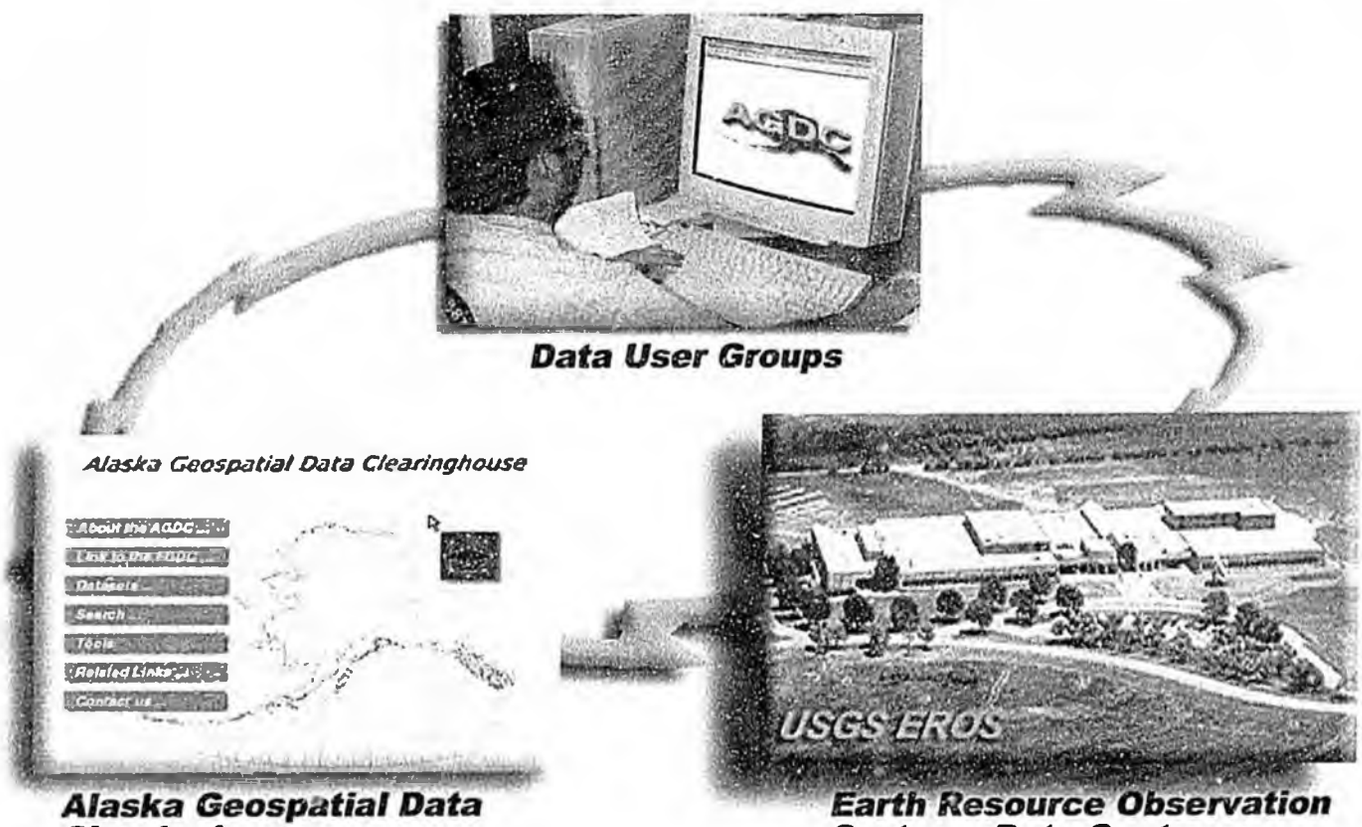
Data Management

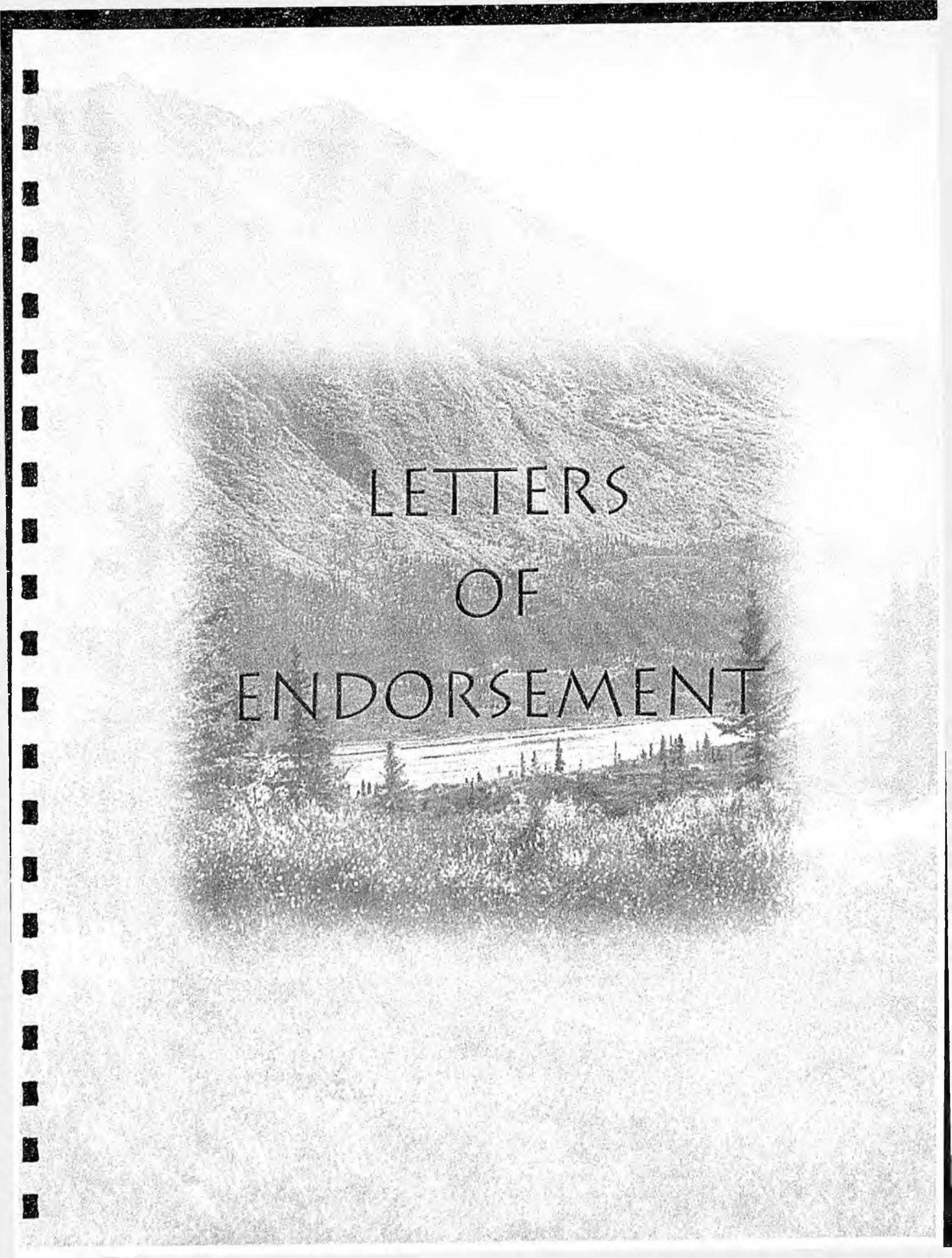
The Alaska Geospatial Data Clearinghouse Network

One of the objectives of the Alaska Geographic Data Committee (AGDC) is to build geographic information partnerships among its membership. This primary goal strives to provide for a nationally consistent and cost effective means to share geospatial data at all levels of government and industry. In support of this vision, the AGDC has developed and is promoting an Internet-based network of clearinghouse nodes which are linked together to form the Alaska Geospatial Data Clearinghouse.

The Clearinghouse will be the initial focal point where data users can access the digital orthoimagery and elevation data produced by the Initiative. The primary archive site for this digital data will be the USGS' Earth Resources Observation System (EROS) Data Center in Sioux Falls, South Dakota.

The AGDC is investigating potential use of the Supercomputer Facility at the University of Alaska, Fairbanks, to act as the in-state repository. This would provide real-time access and long-term management of the data as well as promote utilization of a unique Alaskan capability and would provide an important, secondary data archive site in addition to the EROS Data Center.




LETTERS
OF
ENDORSEMENT

LETTERS OF ENDORSEMENT SUMMARY

1. Resource Development Council for Alaska, Inc.
2. Alaska Land Managers Forum
3. Arctic Power
4. Institute of the North
5. Alaska Airmen's Association., Inc.
6. Association of ANCSA Regional Corporation Presidents and CEO's. Inc.
7. Tanana Chiefs Conference, Inc.
8. Calista Corporation
9. Chugach Alaska Corporation
10. Bering Straits Native Corporation
11. Ahtna Inc.
12. Arctic Slope Regional Corporation.
13. Bristol Bay Native Corporation
14. NANA Regional Corporation
15. Alyeska Pipeline Service Company
16. Phillips Alaska Inc.
17. BP Exploration (Alaska) Inc.
18. URS Corporation
19. AeroMap U.S.
20. Racal Pelagos
21. Evergreen Helicopters of Alaska, Inc.
22. GeoNorth
23. State of Alaska Dept. of Environmental Conservation
24. State of Alaska Dept. of Community and Economic Development
25. State of Alaska Dept. of Labor and Workforce Development
26. State of Alaska Dept. of Natural Resources
27. State of Alaska Dept. of Fish and Game
28. State of Alaska Dept. of Transportation
29. Alaska Cooperative Extension, University of Alaska Fairbanks
30. National Digital Orthophoto Program
31. Department of the Army
32. US Air Force
33. Environmental Protection Agency
34. Federal Aviation Administration
35. FAA 'CAPSTONE' Program
36. National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
37. Census Bureau
38. National Park Service
39. Bureau of Indian Affairs
40. Bureau of Land Management
41. US Fish and Wildlife Service
42. Joint Pipeline Office
43. US Forest Service
44. Alaska Soil and Water Conservation District
45. North Slope Borough
46. Matanuska-Susitna Borough
47. Municipality of Anchorage
48. The Nature Conservancy of Alaska
49. Ducks Unlimited National Office
50. Ducks Unlimited Western Regional Office
51. Sierra Club
52. Management Association for Private Photogrammetric Surveyors
53. American Society of Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing
54. Urban Regional Information Systems Association

Resource Development Council
for Alaska, Inc.

121 West Fireweed Lane, Suite 250, Anchorage, Alaska 99503-2035
(907) 276-0700 Fax: (907) 276-3887 e-mail: Resources@akrdc.org

June 21, 2000

Mr. Gust Panos
Digital Orthophoto Subcommittee
Alaska Geographic Data Committee
222 West 7th Avenue, #13
Anchorage, AK 99513

Dear Mr. Panos:

The Resource Development Council (RDC) would like to express its strong support for the Alaska Digital Orthoimagery Initiative. RDC believes it will be very beneficial to acquire high resolution imagery of Alaska.

RDC is a statewide membership-funded organization working on behalf of Alaska's basic industries -- oil and gas, mining, timber, fishing and tourism. RDC's membership also includes sectors which support Alaska industry, such as construction, labor and other technical service providers, individuals, Native corporations and local communities.

Many of our members recognize the need and value of digital imagery in Alaska. Reliable, current and base geographic data is a prerequisite for economic and resource development. It is also a public safety consideration. RDC considers orthoimagery as the foundation for the framework of base geographic data.

Since Alaska does not have digital orthoimagery at this time, RDC fully supports the Initiative's goal to obtain funding from Congress to acquire complete digital orthoimagery and digital evaluation data coverage of Alaska.

Sincerely,

RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL
for Alaska, Inc.

Carl Portman
Deputy Director

ALASKA LAND MANAGERS FORUM

Federal Co-Chair
Marilyn Heiman
Special Asst. to the Secretary
U.S. Dept. of the Interior
1689 C Street, Suite 100
Anchorage, AK 99501-5151
Tel 907.271.5485
Fax 907.271.4102

State Co-Chair
Fran Ulmer
Lieutenant Governor
State of Alaska
PO Box 110015
Juneau, AK 99811-0015
Tel 907.465.3522
Fax 907.465.5400

Native Co-Chair
Nelson Angapak, Sr.
Vice President
Alaska Federation of Natives, Inc.
1577 C Street, Suite 300
Anchorage, AK 99501
Tel 907.274.3611
Fax 907.276.7989

Federal Members
U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Indian Affairs
Bureau of Land Management
National Park Service
Fish and Wildlife Service
USDA Forest Service

State Members
Lieutenant Governor
Division of Governmental Coordination
Dept. of Community & Economic Development
Dept. of Environmental Conservation
Dept. of Fish and Game
Dept. of Natural Resources
Dept. of Transportation & Public Facilities

Native Representatives
Alaska Federation of Natives
Alaska Inter-Tribal Council

June 27, 2000

Mr. Gust Panos
Chairperson, Digital Orthoimagery Subcommittee
Alaska Geographic Data Committee
222 West 7th Avenue, suite #13
Anchorage, Alaska 99513-7599

Subject: Letter of Endorsement

Dear Mr. Panos:

The Alaska Land Managers Forum is pleased to endorse the Alaska Digital Orthoimagery Initiative sponsored by the Alaska Geographic Data Committee. The Forum members applaud the collaborative work that public agencies have undertaken to bring this proposal forward.

The Alaska Land Managers Forum is a coalition of senior level federal, state, and Native land managers. The development of digital information systems and the open sharing of electronic databases are one of the target areas for the Forum. We have benefited in the past from briefings and projects completed by the Alaska Geographic Data Committee and view this proposal as an important advancement toward our goals of providing all land managers with the information resources they need to achieve their missions effectively and efficiently.

Digital geographic information is now a business standard for Native organizations and local, state, and federal governments. Orthoimagery and elevation models provide the foundation layers for representing complex land management issues. This project would deliver both of these essential basemap themes to Alaska for use in the Geographic Information Systems of all Forum members.

We recognize the common problems faced by a lack of geographic information, and the high costs of acquisition. Existing paper maps and statewide aerial photography are decades old and not fully reliable. This initiative would apply national mapping standards to Alaska. New remote sensing technologies now offer Alaska the means to overcome the obstacles created by a lack of on-the-ground control points. These technologies create a tangible means for meeting national mapping standards, both in scale and accuracy, for Alaska.

We understand that the coterminous states have recently had digital orthoimagery provided to them through national programs but these programs have so far not included Alaska. We seek to extend the benefits of these programs to Alaska. The products from this initiative will improve our land management capabilities, benefiting resource development and conservation, public access and safety, recreation, emergency response to wild fire and other natural disasters, management of transportation corridors, community development, and environmental assessments and permitting.

The spirit and purpose in which the Alaska Digital Orthoimagery Initiative was assembled certainly parallels the spirit of the Alaska Land Managers Forum. We believe the Alaska Digital Orthoimagery Initiative is needed and we offer our full endorsement of the project.

Sincerely,

Fran Ulmer

Lieutenant Governor Fran Ulmer
State Co-Chair

Marilyn Heiman

Marilyn Heiman, Special Assistant to the Secretary of the Interior
Federal Co-Chair

Nelson Angapak Sr., Vice President, Alaska Federation of Natives
Native Co-Chair

ANWR:
JOBS AND ENERGY
FOR AMERICA

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1049 West 5th Avenue, Suite 102
Anchorage, Alaska 99501
(907) 274-2697
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Washington, D.C. 20002
(202) 544-6355
(202) 544-6655
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http://www.anwr.org

Gust C. Panos
Chairperson, Digital Orthoimagery Subcommittee
Alaska Geographic Data Committee
222 West 7th Ave Box 13
Anchorage, Alaska 99513-7599

Dear Mr. Panos,

Arctic Power would like to lend its endorsement to the Alaska Digital Orthoimagery Initiative. The use of current and reliable geographic information has become a business standard in the private sector as well as in the government. This initiative will provide an effective means for improving the quality of statewide geographic information through high-resolution digital orthoimagery and enhanced elevation data. We recognize the incredible value of orthoimagery and elevation data. They form the foundation layer in a framework of geographic information that is necessary to develop and manage the resources of Alaska.

Alaska's U.S. Geological Survey topographic maps are over forty years old, do not meet National Map Accuracy Standards, and there is no existing or planned program to update or replace them. The most recent statewide imagery is over 20 years. These major sources of information do not represent the changing landscape or the current conditions in Alaska. We believe the new digital orthoimagery and digital elevation data provided by the Initiative would go far in alleviating the critical shortage of current and reliable geographic information in Alaska.

The Alaska Geographic Data Committee is commended for fostering partnerships and determining the needs among Native Corporations, local, state, and federal agencies, and the private sector. Arctic Power recognizes the Initiative will increase knowledge about Alaska's resources and environment thereby reducing uncertainty, allowing the nation and Alaska to make more competent decisions, and enjoy greater benefits.

Best Regards,

Cam Toohey, Executive Director
Arctic Power

INSTITUTE OF THE NORTH
ALASKA PACIFIC UNIVERSITY
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WALTER J. HICKEL
FOUNDER
MEAD TREADWELL
MANAGING DIRECTOR

February 26, 2001

Mr. Gust C. Panos, Chairperson
Digital Orthophoto Subcommittee
Alaska Geographic Data Committee
222 West Seventh Avenue #13
Anchorage, AK 99513-7599

Dear Mr. Panos:

The Alaska Geographic Data Committee was formed during my last term as Governor, and we encouraged state agencies to participate. As founder of Institute of the North, a research and teaching think-tank based at Alaska Pacific University, I continue to see the need for up-to-date baseline geographic data of Alaska. I enthusiastically endorse your efforts with the Alaska Digital Orthoimagery Initiative.

The Institute of the North has numerous programs that would benefit greatly from this Initiative. The Institute offers for-credit courses at APU that focus on resource management, commonly owned lands (state, federal and Native), and northern geographic and strategic issues. As host to the Alaska Geographic Alliance, the Institute trains K-12 teachers in the use of Geographic Information Systems (GIS) and has recently produced the GIS-based interactive CD-ROM, "Alaska in Maps."

The relative absence of state of the art geospacial data on Alaska confounds our efforts to provide thorough policy and academic materials.

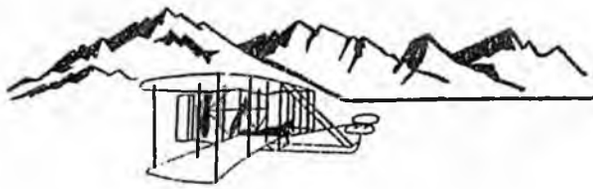
I applaud the Alaska Geographic Data Committee for developing a proposal to obtain funding for the acquisition of high-resolution digital orthoimagery and digital elevation data for Alaska. I also support the AGDC's contention that reliable, current, statewide base demographics information is essential for continued economic development, livability, and public safety.

With best regards.

Sincerely,

Walter J. Hickel

Walter J. Hickel
Founder



ALASKA AIRMEN'S ASSOCIATION., INC.

February 22, 2001

Mr. Gust C. Panos
Chair, Digital Orthoimagery Subcommittee
Alaska Geographic Data Committee
Bureau of Land Management
222 West 7th Avenue, #13
Anchorage, AK. 99513

Dear Mr. Panos:

The Alaska Airmen's Association is the biggest Alaskan aviation organization, with over 1,200 member Statewide, committed to the safety and enhancement of general aviation in the State.

Our first reaction to your proposal was one of enthusiasm. It is about time that maps reflect the advance in technology. As safety devises, pilots are using more advanced digital displays in the cockpits of their aircraft. Unfortunately, many of these displays show terrain based surveys carried out over 40 years ago.

In an age when aviators are concerned that most aircraft accidents are due to Controlled Flight Into Terrain (CFIT), it is paramount that maps and displays be as accurate as possible. Recently, I flew a Cessna 152 in VFR, from Independence, Kansas to Anchorage, Alaska. I became painfully aware of the lack of update on the maps, especially when flying through the remote parts of British Columbia and from Haines Junction to Anchorage. Railways were depicted where there was no longer railways. Easily and readily identifiable objects from small towns to mines, and even airports were missing from the maps.

While great strides have been made in the Instrument Flight Rules (IFR) arena, little has been done for the Visual Flight Rules (VFR) pilot. Capstone offers great promise but even that has a terrain display that does not match the maps. This can cause confusion. As we move into an era where ground based avionics will soon be phased out, it is even more important that our maps reflect what satellites will display in the future. In a State where the only realistic mode of transportation and lifeline to most villages is by air, the use of aircraft is essential.

The Alaska Airmen's association wholeheartedly supports your project and look forward to the publication of the results that will be a large factor in safe navigation for the general aviator in Alaska. We feel sure that the updated maps will also be a factc for limiting or slowing the phenomenal increase in Insurance rates for Alaskan Aviation and reduce the loss of life and equipment.

Sincerely,

Felix M. Maguire, Director
Government and Legislative Affairs, AAAI.

Association of ANCSA Regional Corporation Presidents & CEOs, Inc.

PO Box 92829
Anchorage, AK 99509-2829
Ph: (907) 265-4519 Fax: (907) 265-4528

February 5, 2001

Gus Panos, Chairman
Digital Orthoimagery Subcommittee
BLM (AK 924)
222 W. 7th Avenue, Box 13
Anchorage, AK 99513

Dear Mr. Panos:

On behalf of the members of this Association, please add our endorsement to the Alaska Digital Orthoimagery Initiative. Because of the Alaska Native Corporations' entitlement to more than 40 million acres of land, the use of current and reliable geographic information is critical to the operation of our businesses as we conserve and develop our resource assets.

Alaska's USGS topographic maps are based on 1950's photography. Taking that into consideration along with the fact that this state is seen as potentially rich in resources, we believe it is crucial to have updated mapping technology available. New digital orthoimagery would go a long way towards curing the critical shortage of reliable geographic information in Alaska.

We would also like to commend you for pulling together support from both the private and public sectors for this important initiative. Your listing of the broad-based support for the project recognizes that the need for this product is great. Thank you for the opportunity to lend our voice.

Sincerely,

Vicki A. Otte
Executive Director

TANANA CHIEFS CONFERENCE, INC.

122 FIRST AVENUE, SUITE 600
FAIRBANKS, ALASKA 99701-4897
PHONE 907/452-8251 • FAX 907/459-3850

April 17, 2000

Gust C. Panos
Chairperson, Digital Orthophoto Subcommittee
Alaska Geographic Data Committee
222 W. 7th Avenue, #13
Anchorage, Alaska 99513-7599

Dear Mr. Panos:

The Tanana Chiefs Conference would like to lend its endorsement to the Alaska Digital Orthoimagery Initiative. The use of current and reliable geographic information has become a business standard in the Native community as we employ Geographic Information System (GIS) technology to our daily business practices. We consider orthoimagery as the foundation layer in a framework of geographic information necessary for us to fully utilize GIS. Infrastructure development at the village level and natural resource management at the regional level will be greatly enhanced with orthoimagery. It is the layer from which many types of geographic information is extracted as well as registered.

Alaska's U.S. Geological Topographic maps are forty years old and available statewide aerial photography is twenty years old. These two major sources of base geographic information do not represent the changing landscape and do not provide adequate support to the Native community needs. We feel new digital orthoimagery would go far in alleviating the critical shortage of current and reliable geographic information in Alaska.

The Alaska Geographic Data Committee (AGDC) is commended for fostering partnerships and determining the common needs among Native corporations, local, state, and federal agencies, and the private sector. The Alaska Digital Orthoimagery Initiative is a result of the AGDC's work. The Initiative will not only help the Native Community, it will help all of Alaska. We believe the Initiative is of great value and we provide it our full endorsement.

Sincerely,

TANANA CHIEFS CONFERENCE, Inc.

Perry R. Ahsogeak
Director
Community & Natural Resources

Calista Corporation

301 Calista Court, Suite A • Anchorage, AK 99518-3028 • (907) 279-5516 • Facsimile (907) 272-5060 • www.calistacorp.com

May 11, 2000

Gust C. Panos
Chairperson, Digital Orthophoto Subcommittee
Alaska Geographic Data Committee
222 W. 7th Avenue
Anchorage, Alaska 99513-7599

Dear Mr. Panos:

Calista Corporation lends its endorsement to the Alaska Digital Orthoimagery Initiative. Two years ago we implemented Geographic Information System (GIS) technology in our Land and Natural Resources Department and rely on it to perform all land management functions. The availability of orthoimagery will greatly improve our options for base maps, geologic interpretation and the land selection process.

Currently we rely on low-resolution digital elevation models and digital raster graphic products scanned from out dated USGS topographic maps. We are excited about the prospect of having more current and more accurate registered aerial photographic images.

We commend the Alaska Geographic Data Committee (AGDC) for fostering partnerships and determining the common needs for digital products among Native Corporations, local, state and federal agencies, and the private sector. We support continued efforts and progress along these lines.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey Y. Foley
Senior Exploration Geologist

Chugach Alaska
CORPORATION

May 15, 2000

Mr. Gust Panos
Digital Orthoimagery Subcommittee Chairperson
AGDC
Room 230
University Drive
Anchorage, AK 99508

Dear Mr. Panos,

I am writing to express my support for the Alaska Radar Mapping and Digital Orthoimage Initiative. Chugach Alaska Corporation (CAC) is one of the twelve regional Native Corporations created by the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act of 1971 (ANCSA). These twelve corporations were conveyed approximately 44 million acres of land in Alaska to help insure financial independence through development of those lands. Chugach Alaska Corporation believes this initiative will provide accurate, high-resolution data that will help aid us in planning and managing our lands in the most efficient manner.

At present, our mapping standards in Alaska are the USGS 1:63360 and 1:250000 quadrangles. These maps were compiled in the 1950's and completed in the 1970's. They do not meet National Map Accuracy Standards and any data gleaned from these maps will propagate the inherent inaccuracies contained within them. At this time all of the twelve Native Corporations formed under ANCSA are using Geographic Information Systems as a proprietary tool for managing our land base. We need to have accurate base maps to provide us with the necessary information to manage these lands. An accurate Digital Elevation Model (DEM) is the first step in preparing highly accurate maps statewide. We believe the Alaska Radar Mapping and Digital Orthoimage Initiative will provide the necessary information to achieve these goals in a prompt and economical manner.

Sincerely,

B. Uhart

Barney Uhart
President, CEO
Chugach Alaska Corporation

560 East 34th Avenue Suite 200 Anchorage, Alaska 99503-4196 Phone 907-563-8866 Fax 907-563-8402

Bering Straits Native Corporation

BOARD OF DIRECTORS RESOLUTION

RESOLUTION NUMBER 5-19-00-06

A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF THE ALASKA DIGITAL ORTHOIMAGERY INITIATIVE

WHEREAS, the Alaska Geographic Data Committee (AGDC) is proposing the Alaska Digital Orthoimagery Initiative, the goal of which is to obtain funding to acquire digital orthoimagery of Alaska and have the imagery available via the Internet,

AND WHEREAS, the imagery will be on a five (5) meter resolution throughout the State of Alaska, with selected areas, including Native Villages and transportation corridors to a one (1) meter resolution,

AND WHEREAS, Bering Straits Native Corporation (BSNC), its member Village Corporations are the largest private land owners on the Seward Peninsula, owning over two million acres, . the imagery will provide BSNC and its Village Corporations the management tools necessary to make informed decisions through the analysis of digital orthoimagery to carry out planned resource exploration and development, assess existing land uses and plan for future uses,

AND WHEREAS, the imagery will provide government agencies the reference tools necessary to expedite the land transfer program within the State of Alaska, including validating Native allotment locations, develop plans for survey of ANCSA lands, identify optimal location of public access needs, identify easement conflicts and the rehabilitation of over used public access trails reserved through Native lands,

AND WHEREAS, current maps and imagery in Alaska are outdated and of limited usefulness. USGS topographic maps are nearly fifty years old and imagery throughout the state of Alaska was produced in the late 1970's and early 1980's,

AND WHEREAS, current technological advances within Geographic Information Systems (GIS) will make the digital orthoimagery the most important base layer of information that will be available to all users of GIS technology.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Bering Straits Native Corporation Board of Directors fully support the Digital Orthoimagery Initiative and request the Congress of the United States to fund this important initiative for the benefit of the State of Alaska and the Nation.

Passed at a meeting held: 5-19-00
Date

ATTEST: Elmer Dogru
Secretary

P.O. Box 1008 • Nome, Alaska 99762 • (907) 443-5252 • FAX (907) 443-2985

AHTNA

INCORPORATED

May 31, 2000

Gust C. Panos
Chairperson, Digital Orthophoto Subcommittee
Alaska Geographic Data Committee
222 W. 7th Avenue, #13
Anchorage, AK 99513-7599

Dear Mr. Panos,

Ahtna, Inc. would like to inform you of our endorsement of the Alaska Orthoimagery Initiative.

Ahtna has many areas in our various business lines as well as our land management area that would benefit greatly from this Initiative.

Ahtna has recently employed a Geographic Information System (GIS) to better manage our daily business activities. We were amazed to discover that the information we are building our system on is very outdated. The USGS topographic maps are roughly 40 years old, the aerial photography, if available, is twenty years old and the digital elevation data is inaccurate and coarse.

We believe that this new digital orthoimagery and digital elevation data would go a long ways toward providing the framework necessary for our geographic information. The base data provides the geographic information to build our other data layers on to register the data and to perform data analysis.

The Alaska Geographic Data Committee (AGDC) has done an excellent job of identifying the needs of the various government agencies and the private sector, including the Native corporations. The Alaska Digital Orthoimagery Initiative will greatly benefit Ahtna, Inc. and Alaska, and we provide it our full support.

Sincerely,

Victoria Precie

GIS/IS Manager

1760 Abbott Rd. • Anchorage, AK 99507
Phone: (907) 522-3638 • Fax: (907) 522-6228

Anchorage Office • 301 Arctic Slope Avenue • Suite 300 • Anchorage • Alaska • 99518-3035 • (907) 349-2369 • FAX (907) 349-5476 • 1-800-770-2772

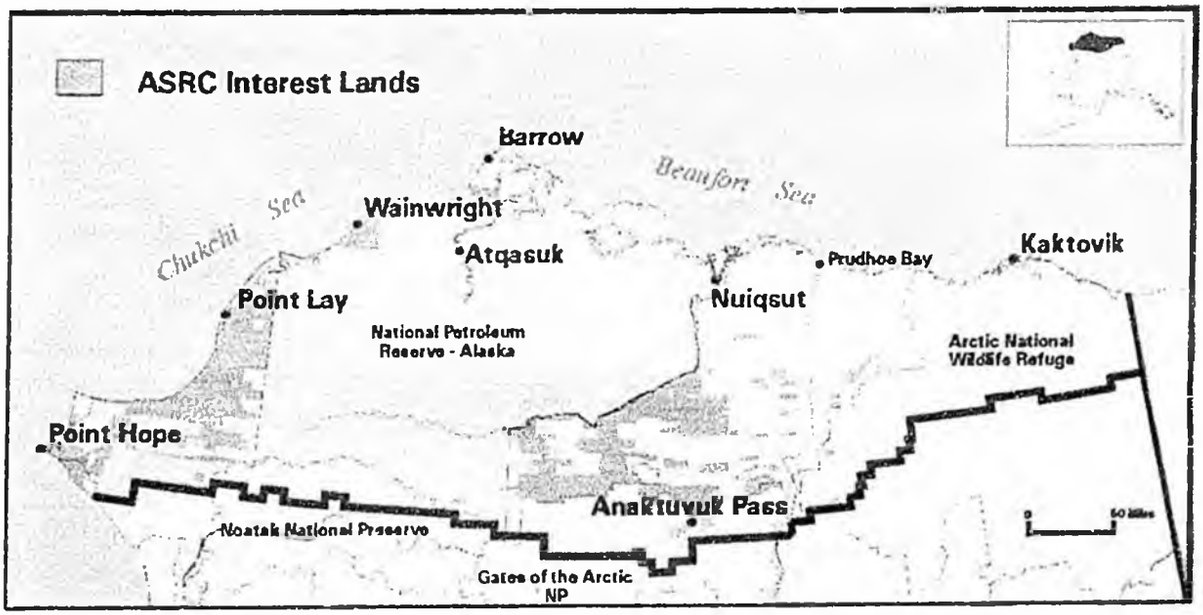
arctic slope
regional corp.

5/22/2000

Gust C. Panos
Chairperson, Digital Orthophoto Subcommittee
Alaska Geographic Data Committee
222 W. 7th Avenue, #13
Anchorage, Alaska 99513-7599

Dear Mr. Panos:

As one of the largest private landholders in the State of Alaska, Arctic Slope Regional Corporation (ASRC) fully supports the Alaska Digital Orthoimagery Initiative. ASRC uses Geographic Information System (GIS) technology to manage our five million acre land base on the remote North Slope of Alaska. Area-wide Digital Orthoimagery would be a critical new base layer used to tie our resource database to a single high quality common base layer.



In our region, the U.S. Geological Survey maps that are currently available are in desperate need of updating. This new project would be a giant step towards gaining the current data we need in our area to properly manage our lands.

Corporate Headquarters • P.O. Box 129 • Barrow • Alaska • 99723-0129 • (907) 852-8533 or (907) 852-8633 • FAX (907) 852-5733

Our high priority area would be what we call the Western Arctic. (The area from Point Lay to Point Hope and over to the National Petroleum Reserve - Alaska) This area provides the highest potential for resource development and therefore employment for our local population.

Infrastructure development at the village level and natural resource management at the regional level will be greatly enhanced with the addition on this Digital Orthoimagery. We believe the Initiative will be of great benefit to ASRC and we provide it our full endorsement.

Sincerely,

Erik Kenning
Land Department
Arctic Slope Regional Corporation