

Ambler Access Project

Stakeholder Engagement Update

August 11, 2023

Greetings-

We are excited to continue to share updates on our progress, ongoing activities, and other news about the Ambler Access Project (AAP). The last update email was sent on July 14. These project updates are all available at ambleraccess.org.

Please share this email with others who may be interested and encourage them to subscribe to our distribution list by sending a note to info@ambleraccess.org. We also encourage you to share your ideas and feedback for the project by emailing or filling out the contact form on the project website.

Thanks!

Jeff San Juan
AAP Program Manager

- Field activities continue to be performed for the project out of the Bornite Camp. Camp populations have ranged from 25 to 40 individuals over the past few weeks, with teams moving in and out to support the various activities. NANA Management Services is doing a great job of providing camp support. No one is going hungry!

- We continue to collaborate with the two other exploration projects in the region: the Roosevelt exploration project being performed by South32 and the Sun exploration project being performed by Valhalla Metals. We are encouraged by the progress being made on these projects that may also use portions of the proposed road; both projects are examples of the significant opportunities that may be realized through the AAP.
- Hydrology surveys have continued to be performed on both large and small creeks across the corridor. Good assessments of water flows and stream dimensions (bathymetry) will minimize impacts to the surface water and groundwater hydrology and will also minimize impacts to fish in these water bodies. More than 160 locations will have been visited for assessments and surveys over the course of this summer.
- The Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) deployed two biologists from July 24 to 31 to assess many of the streams for fish habitat and species present.
- Civil and bridge engineers have visited many of the proposed bridge locations to collect measurements and understand characteristics for each crossing that will impact its design and construction. Additional assessments of bridge and culvert locations on the eastern end of the corridor will be conducted using the Coldfoot Camp as the team's base of operations; some teams moved to Coldfoot last Saturday (August 5).
- Chief Harding Sam (Alatna), Second Chief Gordon Bergman (Allakaket), AAP Program Manager Jeff San Juan, and ADF&G Biologist Audra Brase traveled by helicopter in mid-July on a visual reconnaissance of the Alatna River. This visit helped provide an understanding, from the Chiefs' perspective, of areas of concern and value to the villages of Alatna and Allakaket.
- The cultural resources team continues to perform archaeology surveys along the corridor, recently mobilizing the teams to the Bornite Camp for their 3rd rotation, which will be wrapping up next week. The team will be moving over to the Coldfoot Camp for their 4th and final rotation which will wrap up at the end of the month.
- The BLM intends to publish the draft Supplemental Impact Statement (SEIS) in late September 2023, with public comments to be accepted through November while the agency conducts public meetings and ANILCA 810 hearings in affected

communities. A community meeting schedule will be published in a Federal Register Notice and posted at <https://eplanning.blm.gov/eplanning-ui/project/57323/510>. Once the comment period opens, comments will be accepted via mail and at the link above. AIDEA continues to respond to Requests for Information from the BLM that will assist with the SEIS.

- AIDEA is planning for Subsistence Advisory Committee and Workforce Development Working Group meetings in Allakaket on August 23 and 24. These meetings will serve as an opportunity for the project team to learn more about Allakaket residents' ideas about the project. We will post the agendas for these meetings on the AAP website next week.
- On behalf of AAP, PJ Simon recently visited Hughes to conduct a community meeting. During the visit, the project team collected video that will be shared over the coming months.
- Be on the lookout for the AAP quarterly newsletter which will be published next week. The newsletter will provide more detailed insights into some of our recent outreach to local communities.

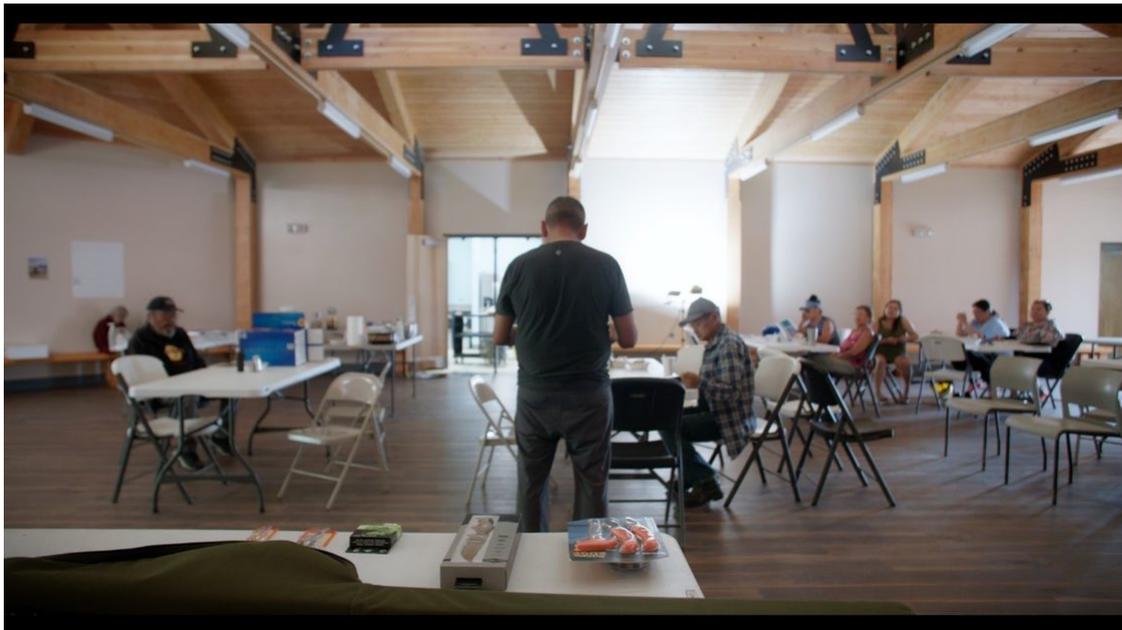


Photo of PJ Simon leading the recent community meeting in Hughes.



Photo of field team members after moving to Coldfoot Camp this past weekend.

Working Together to Find Opportunity

The Ambler Access Project is being developed collaboratively, in close consultation with the tribes and communities throughout the NANA and Doyon Regions.

Want to learn more?

Visit ambleraccess.org to learn how the AAP is unlocking opportunity for Alaska's rural communities. [Contact us](#) anytime with questions!

Visit our website

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