

JOINT TECHNICAL AND STAKEHOLDER ADVISORY COMMITTEES

Meeting No. 7

March 4, 2025

The environmental review, consultation, and other actions required by applicable federal environmental laws for this project are being, or have been, carried out by DOT&PF pursuant to 23 U.S.C. 327 and a Memorandum of Understanding dated April 13, 2023, and executed by FHWA and DOT&PF.

ZOOM REQUESTS AND FUNCTIONS

TECHNICAL AND STAKEHOLDER ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING



Please keep your microphone muted. Phone users can press *6 to mute or unmute their line.



Use “Chat” to view the chat window or send a message.



Select “Raise Hand” under “Reactions” to indicate you have a question or comment. Phone users can press *9 to raise hand.



Make sure you are identified by name and organizational affiliation. Open the “Participants” window, hover your mouse over your name, select the ellipse (...), then “Rename,” and make the change.



If your connection cuts out, dial back into the meeting using this phone number: (253) 215-8782, Meeting ID: 824 6196 8544, Passcode: 208666.

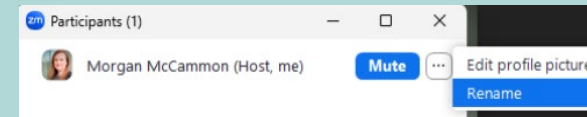


Use the “Show Captions” function to view closed captioning.

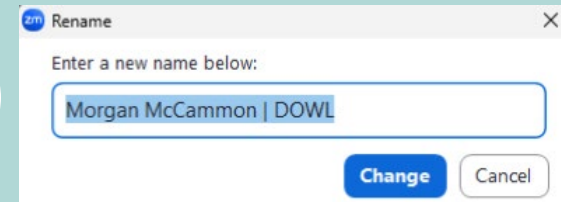
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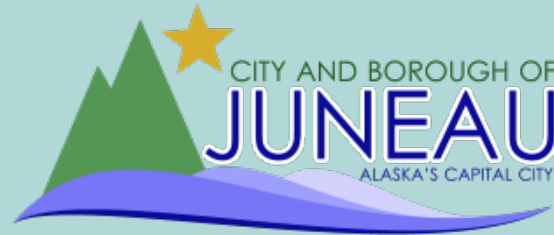
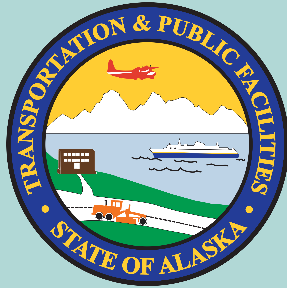


AGENDA

- Welcome and Introductions
- Schedule
- Level 2 Screening - Final
- Discussion
- Wrap-up & Next Steps



PROJECT TEAM



Greg Lockwood, PE
Project Manager

Jill Melcher
Project Planner

Christy Gentemann
Environmental Analyst

Christopher Goins, PE
Southcoast Regional Director

Katie Koester
City Manager

Denise Koch
Director of Engineering & Public Works

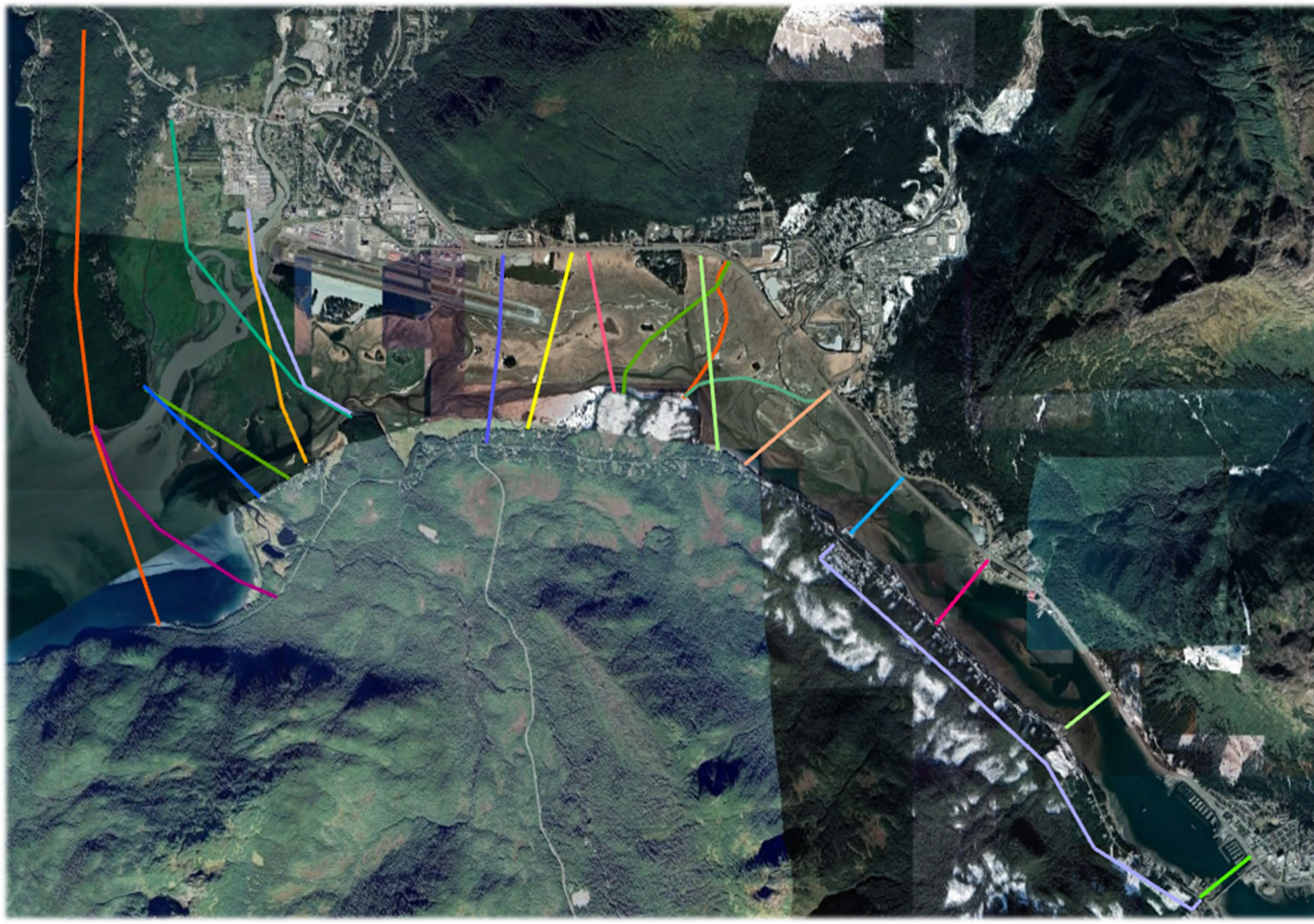
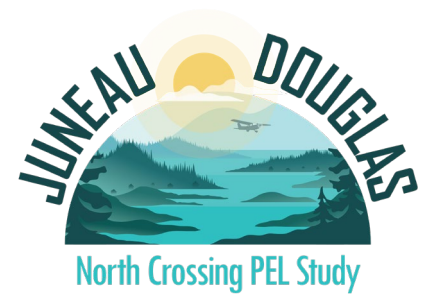
Nate Rumsey
Deputy Director of Engineering & Public Works

Bridget LaPenter, PE
Project Manager

Steve Noble, PE
Project Manager

Renee Whitesell, PTP
PEL Study Lead

Theresa Dutchuk
Environmental Lead



**CROWD-SOURCED
CROSSING
IDEAS**

SCHEDULE

SPRING 2022

SUMMER - FALL 2022

WINTER 2022 - SPRING 2023

SUMMER 2023 - FALL 2024

WINTER 2024 - SPRING 2025



Project Initiation,
Problems to be Solved,
Purpose & Need:
Emerging Themes



Evaluation Criteria,
Develop & Screen
Alternatives



Evaluate & Refine
Alternatives,
Level 1 Screening



Limited Environmental
Fieldwork, Additional
Analysis & Level 2
Screening



Finalize Documentation,
Public Comment Period &
Finalize PEL Study



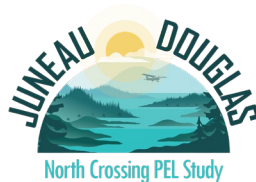
We are
Here



Advisory Committees Meeting



Public Meeting



SCREENING PROCESS

ALTERNATIVES SCREENING PROCESS

Level 1 screening evaluated how well each alternative:

- Satisfies the proposed projects purpose:
 - Improve connection between Douglas Island and Juneau
 - Improve transportation for non-motorized users
 - Reduce transportation related energy consumption
- Meets the transportation needs:
 - Alternate access and transportation infrastructure resiliency
 - Decrease traffic pressure on Douglas Island Bridge and its intersections
- Satisfies identified additional goals



Alternative screening process was designed to incorporate new information discovered throughout the process

LEVEL 2 SCREENING - DETAILS

Level 2 Screening quantitatively evaluated how well each alternative:

- Satisfies the proposed project purpose and meets the transportation needs
- Satisfies adopted planning documents
- Is technically implementable and constructable from an engineering perspective
- Is financially feasible
- Is reasonable under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)
- Is practicable under the Clean Water Act
- Is prudent and feasible under Section 4(f) of the Department of Transportation Act of 1966



SCORING TIMELINE

- Alternatives Screening process presented to Advisory Committees *November 17, 2022*
- Comments received through February 2, 2023
- Level 1 Screening presented to Advisory Committees *March 6, 2023*
- 14 Day review Period
- Revised Level 1 Screening *April 27, 2023*
- Decision to collect additional data during PEL phase *August 2023*
- Data collection *Fall 2023*
- Draft Level 2 Screening Results shared with Advisory Committees *March 1, 2024*
- 42 Day review period
- Level 2 screening paused to address Salmon Creek Dam questions *August 2024 – January 2025*
- Revised Level 2 screening completed and submitted to Agencies and Advisory Committees *February 2025*

REVISED LEVEL 2 SCREENING

SCREENING UPDATES BASED ON FEEDBACK

- Weighted scoring for impacts to resources within Mendenhall Wetland State Game Refuge (MWSGR).
- Important migratory bird habitat updated to only include acreage of impact within the MWSGR.
 - Updated the online webmapper.
- Acreages of direct impact updated to include bridge deck.
- Functional assessment used to evaluate impacts to high value wetlands.
- Stream and riparian impacts adjusted from acreage to linear feet calculations.
- Included Hendrickson Point as a potential 4(f) resource.



SCREENING UPDATES BASED ON FEEDBACK

- Added Hendrickson Point to the category of “protected lands.”
- Removed overlapping counts between residential uses directly affected and those within 100ft of residential property. Same for commercial.
- Removed the Essential Fish Habitat category and identified intertidal areas and anadromous streams as Essential Fish Habitat.
- Added construction and maintenance cost estimates.
- Excluded 5-mile beach as a community gathering place.
- Updated potential right-of-way needs to include 200-ft corridor.
- Anadromous streams were confirmed were based on ADF&G 2024 data.



REVISED SCORING

	No Build	Mendenhall Peninsula	Sunny Point West	Sunny Point East	Vanderbilt	Twin Lakes	Salmon Creek
Original	-18	-15	-6	-2	-6	-2	-11
Revised	-16	-11*	-23	-20	-18	-10	3**

* Dismissed as financially infeasible

** Proceeding without information regarding Salmon Creek Dam

KEY OBSERVATIONS ON REVISED SCORING



- Scoring was revised to place greater weight on all resources located within the Refuge.
- A Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request was submitted to Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) on August 30 and October 10, 2024, to obtain more information. No response has been received. Decision was made to address this issue during the NEPA phase.
- All alternatives will require a United State Coast Guard (USCG) determination for navigation that is less than the existing bridge. The Salmon Creek Alternative is most sensitive to this issue and will be addressed during the NEPA phase.
- All alternatives were evaluated under worst case scenarios and will be further evaluated during NEPA.

KEY OBSERVATIONS ON REVISED SCORING

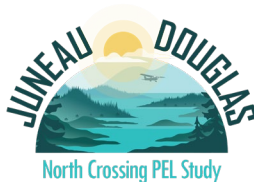


- Mendenhall Peninsula Alternative was determined to not be feasible based on cost. It is 2 to 4 times the cost of other alternatives and it is not realistic to obtain \$1.1 to \$1.7B in funding.
- All Level 2 Screening Alternatives, except for the Mendenhall Peninsula Alternative, will be recommended to be forwarded for further analysis as part of NEPA.
- The Level 2 Screening did not identify substantial impacts or constraints that were sufficiently outlying from the other alternatives to justify dismissal of any of the alternatives, except for the Mendenhall Peninsula Alternative which has been eliminated as it is not financially feasible.

RECOMMENDED ALTERNATIVES

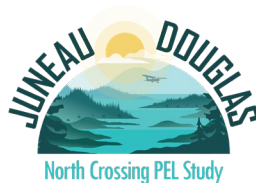
	No Build	Mendenhall Peninsula	Sunny Point West	Sunny Point East	Vanderbilt	Twin Lakes	Salmon Creek
Score*	-16	-11	-23	-20	-18	-10	3
Recommendation	NEPA	Dismiss	NEPA	NEPA	NEPA	NEPA	NEPA

*Scores will not follow alternatives into NEPA. Environmental impacts will be reviewed and confirmed through additional NEPA analysis.



WHAT'S NEXT?

ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETINGS	FOCUS	WHEN
1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Baseline data and existing conditions ▪ Purpose and need 	Spring 2022
Workshop	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Range of alternatives ▪ Alternatives screening process ▪ Screening criteria 	Summer 2022
2 & 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Preliminary alternative screening results ▪ Detailed alternative screening criteria ▪ Additional field studies 	Winter 2022 - Winter 2024
4, 5, & 6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Detailed alternative screening results ▪ Recommended alternatives 	Winter - Fall 2024
7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Final Level 2 Screening Results 	February 2025
Public Meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Draft PEL Study ▪ Final Public Open House and Comment Period ▪ Final PEL Study 	Spring 2025



HOW WE WILL RESPOND TO COMMENTS

- All comments received from **today's meeting** will be documented and responded to with feedback on the draft PEL study report
- Comment documentation in the draft PEL study report will include **all comments** received throughout the entire PEL study process
- CBJ sent a letter to DOT stating that the statute that created the Mendenhall Refuge provided CBJ with a preferential right for a transportation corridor in the Refuge.
 - Will be documented and responded to with feedback on the draft PEL study report





GROUP DISCUSSION






WE WANT YOUR FEEDBACK!

We welcome your feedback.

All comments will be reviewed and addressed during the comment period on the draft PEL Study.

- Call a study team member
 - Send an email to JDNorthCrossing@dowl.com
 - One-on-one meetings
- 

PROJECT CONTACTS:

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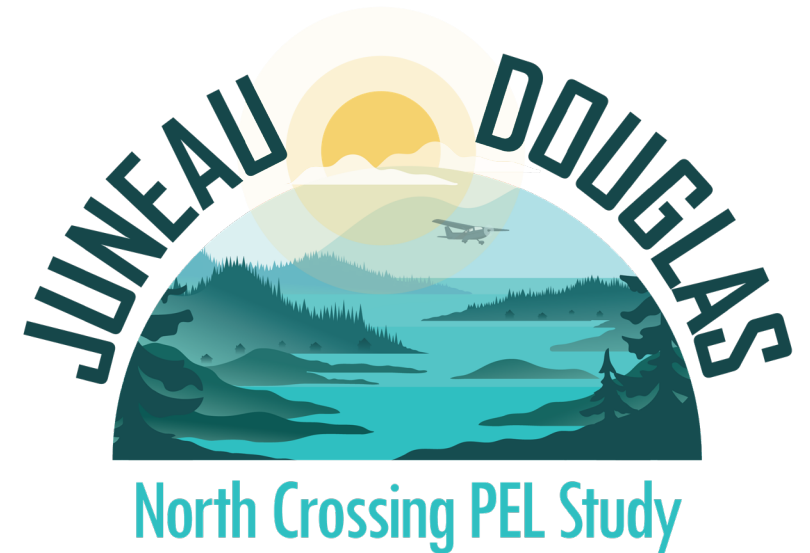
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THANK YOU

