



# Ambler Access Project

## Stakeholder Engagement Update

September 19, 2023

Happy September-

We are excited to provide updates about the ongoing activities and progress for the Ambler Access Project(AAP). This week marks the end of the 2023 field season. A big thanks for everyone's support on the successful completion of a variety of efforts for the project. In the near future, highlights will be shared on the important work that was accomplished. You can stay up to date on progress by following us on social media or visiting the AAP website at <http://ambleraccess.org>.

Please share this email with others who may be interested and encourage them to subscribe to our distribution list by sending contact information to [info@ambleraccess.org](mailto:info@ambleraccess.org). We also invite everyone to share ideas and feedback on the project by filling out the contact form located on the project website.

Thanks!

Craig Jones  
AAP Deputy Program Manager

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- Did you see the recent article in the Anchorage Daily News about the project? Check it out here: [OPINION: Ambler Access Project is more than a road -](#)

[Anchorage Daily News \(adn.com\)](http://AnchorageDailyNews.adn.com) or on our social media page at:  
<https://www.facebook.com/AmblerAccessProject>.

- The summer 2023 field activities are coming to a close with the teams packing up gear from Coldfoot Camp. Bornite Camp operations closed in late August. The AAP team appreciates the partnership with Ambler Metals and their support at the camp this summer. The AAP team also appreciates the hard work by NANA Management Services taking such great care of everyone! All field activities from Coldfoot are anticipated to be completed in the next several days.
- The AAP leadership team thanks all of the field teams and individuals who made this summer a great success. Since the end of April, more than 2,000 person-days of work were performed out of both Coldfoot and Bornite Camps – and, just as importantly, we had ZERO safety incidents. This is a great accomplishment for all involved, and we thank everyone for their focus on safety throughout this past summer.
- The cultural/archaeological survey teams finished field work for the season on August 27. In total, the team performed surveys of 14 road sites. As required under the project's Programmatic Agreement (PA), a comprehensive report documenting the survey work will be provided to the PA signatories in the near future. The archaeology team employed six NANA and Doyon shareholder tribal liaisons who assisted with field efforts and provided valuable knowledge of the area that informed the survey activities.
- Over 32 Alaska Native shareholders and local residents participated in the project this past summer, and as the project advances, that number will significantly increase. If you or someone you know who lives in the region would like to be involved in the project, please let us know.
- Creek and river bathymetry survey work included the surveying of more than 119 creeks/rivers. Separate hydrology and hydraulics (H&H) teams completed their assessments and flow measurements of the more than 160 creeks and rivers across the corridor. These teams are now in the process of wrapping up their work and starting to prepare the reports that will be shared with PA signatories.
- Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) biologists returned in August (August 16–25) after assessing fish habitat and species presence in many of the

creeks on the eastern side of the corridor. In total, the ADF&G evaluated 154 sites, setting traps at 110 of those and catching fish at 64.

- Since mid-August, civil and bridge engineers continue to visit many of the proposed bridge locations to understand specific river characteristics in an effort to create smart and strategic designs for each crossing.
- Fantastic stakeholder meetings were held in Allakaket and Alatna on August 23 and 24, respectively. More than 50 residents attended the community meeting in Allakaket on August 23 to learn about the project.
- The Subsistence Advisory Committee (SAC ) and Workforce Development Working Group met and toured Allakaket and Alatna to learn about village-specific challenges and needs.
- The project looks forward to the publication of the Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS) around September 22. This draft document will be posted at <https://eplanning.blm.gov/eplanning-ui/project/57323/510> and a schedule for public meetings is forthcoming. The timing and instructions for providing public comments will be posted once the draft document is available. Please continue to watch the AAP website (<http://ambleraccess.org>) and social media channels for further information on the Draft SEIS.
- The AAP team is planning a robust schedule of community meetings for this fall. Stay tuned for the community meeting schedule and job fair dates.

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*Toomas Kollo and Moe Morris packing up hydrology instrumentation.*



*Photo of the SAC meeting in Allakaket.*

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## 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.

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### Want to learn more?

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

Check out our [Facebook](#) Page or follow us on [Twitter](#)!

Visit our website

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