



# Alaska Department of Transportation & Public Facilities

## **Richardson Highway MP 266-341 Passing Lanes Virtual Open House**

Presented by Stephanie Mormilo, PE  
HDL Project Manager

May 19, 2022

Our mission is to *Keep Alaska Moving* through service and infrastructure.



# Meeting Agenda

- **Welcome**
  - Introductions & Housekeeping
- **Project History & Background**
  - Schedule
  - Public Feedback
- **Design Overview**
- **Opportunity to Share Comments**
  - Please include any input that should be considered during project development.
- **Meeting Wrap-Up**



# Introductions / Project Team

**Carl Heim, P.E.**

*DOT&PF Project Manager*

**Stephanie Mormilo, P.E.**

*Project Manager*

**Jessica Carlson**

*Assistant Project Engineer*

**Owen Means**

*Environmental Analyst*

**Anne Brooks, P.E.**

*Lead Public Involvement Specialist*

**Camden Yehle**

*Public Involvement Specialist*



# Housekeeping

- Meeting will be recorded (includes audio, video, and chat).
- Please make sure your first and last name are displayed.
- Please let us know if you need assistance with the Zoom meeting.
- You can use the chat function to ask your questions, which will be answered throughout the presentation.
- Please use the hand-raise function if you would like to speak. If you are on a phone, press \*9 to raise your hand.



# Project Scope & Goals

**Scope:** Construct additional passing lanes on the Richardson Highway between Delta Junction and North Pole (MP 261-341).

## Goals:

- Improve **safety** by providing passing opportunities without the need to go into the opposing lane
- Increase **capacity** by reducing delays at specific locations, such as steep hills and curves
- Improve overall **traffic operations** by breaking up platoons of vehicles
- No right-of-way / private property acquisition

# Project Schedule

**2015 – 2018\***

## Environmental Document

-Identified 16 potential passing lane locations



**2021 – 2023**

## Design

-Final locations are being determined



**2023 – 2024**

## Construction

\*Project shelved in 2018.



We are here.



# Upcoming Field Work

- Environmental
  - Wetlands Delineation for Material Source Sites
- Survey
  - Detailed Survey in Passing Lane Areas
- Geotechnical
  - Drilling Material Source Sites
- Engineering
  - Passing Lane Area Site Visits
  - Culvert Analysis

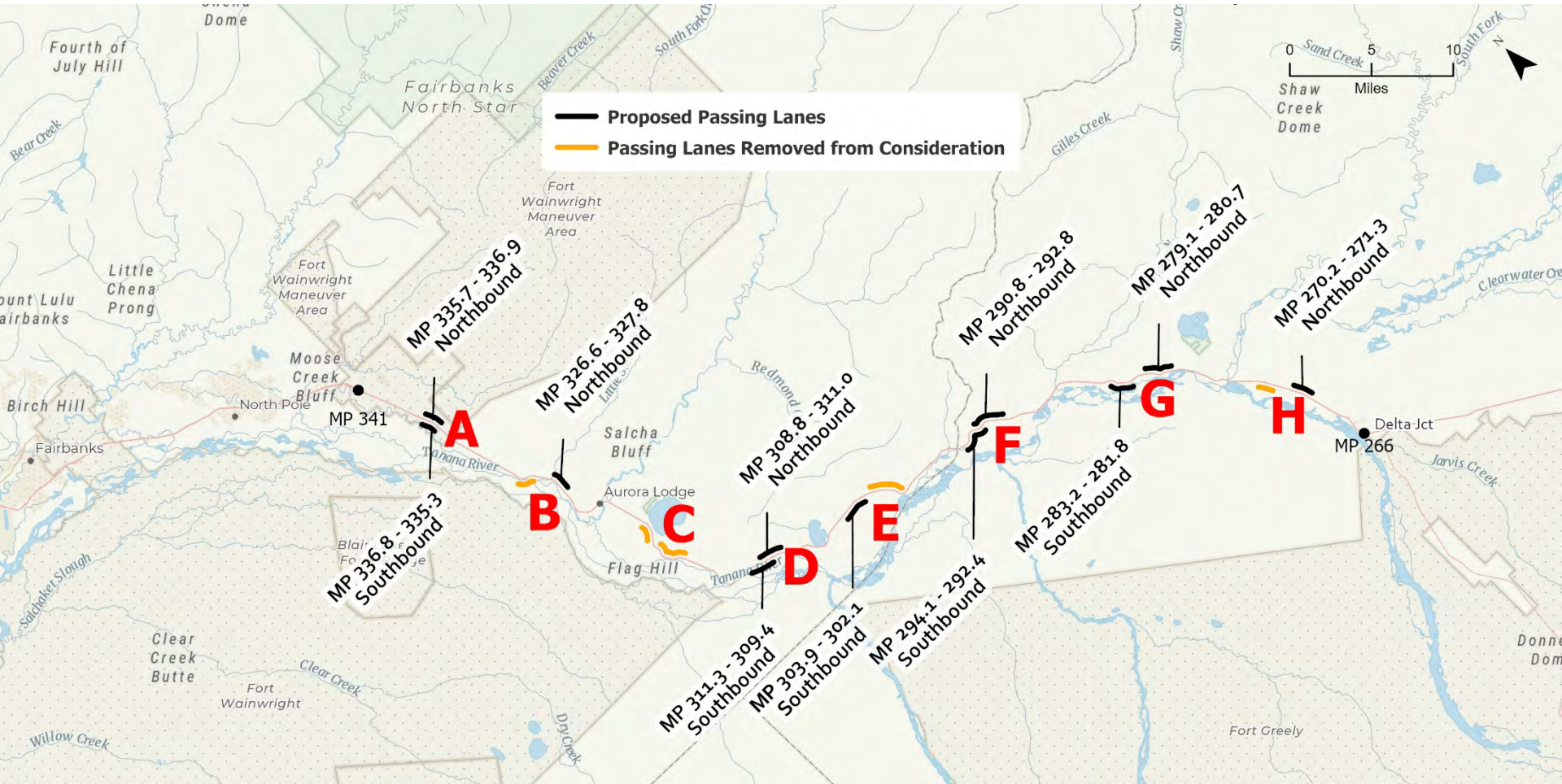


# Public Feedback

- Just do it already!!
- Concerns with specific passing lane locations
  - Many of these have been removed from the project due to right-of-way /private property impacts or significant construction barriers (blasting)
- Requests for additional turn lanes, non-motorized facilities, or changes to posted speed limits
  - Not in project scope

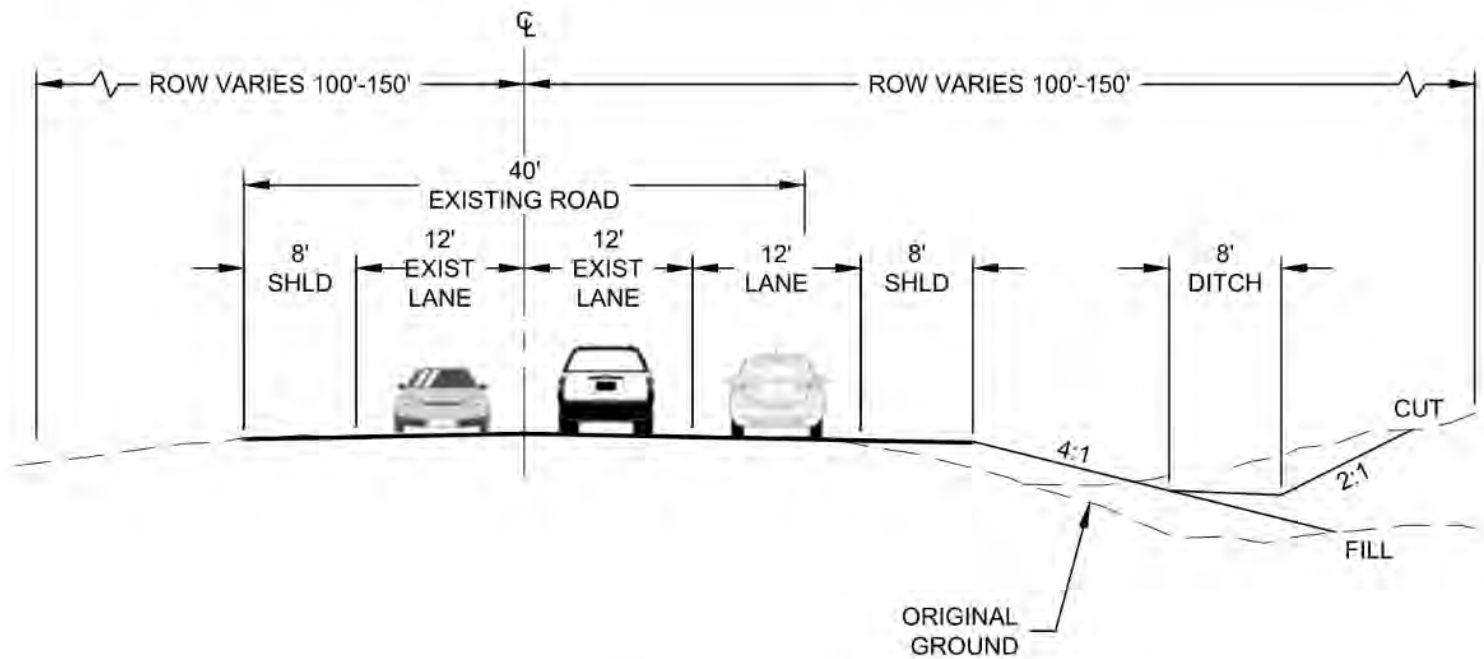


# Design Overview



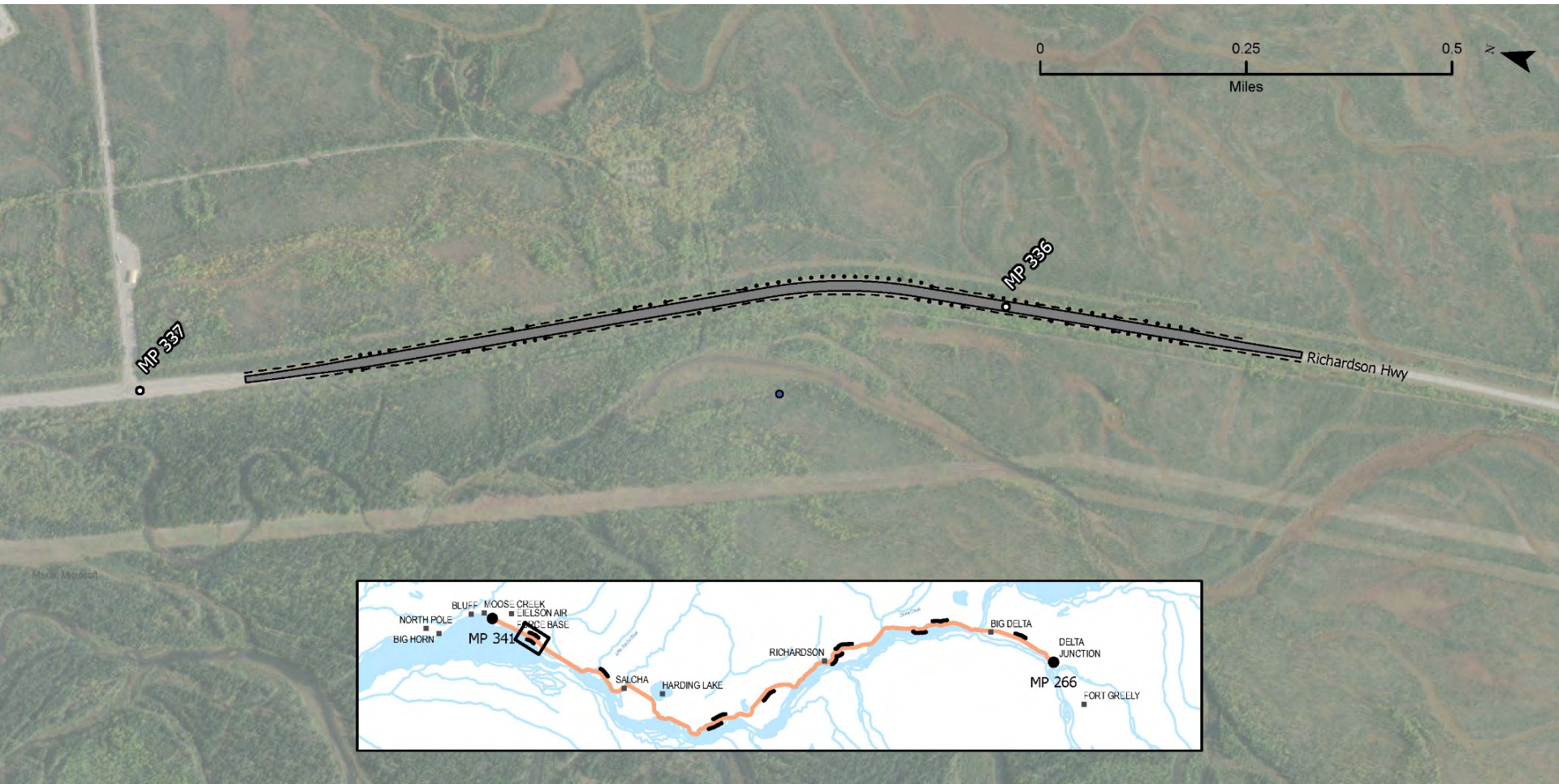
Note: All passing lanes are 1 to 2 miles in length.

# Typical Section



RICHARDSON HIGHWAY  
ONE DIRECTION WIDENING

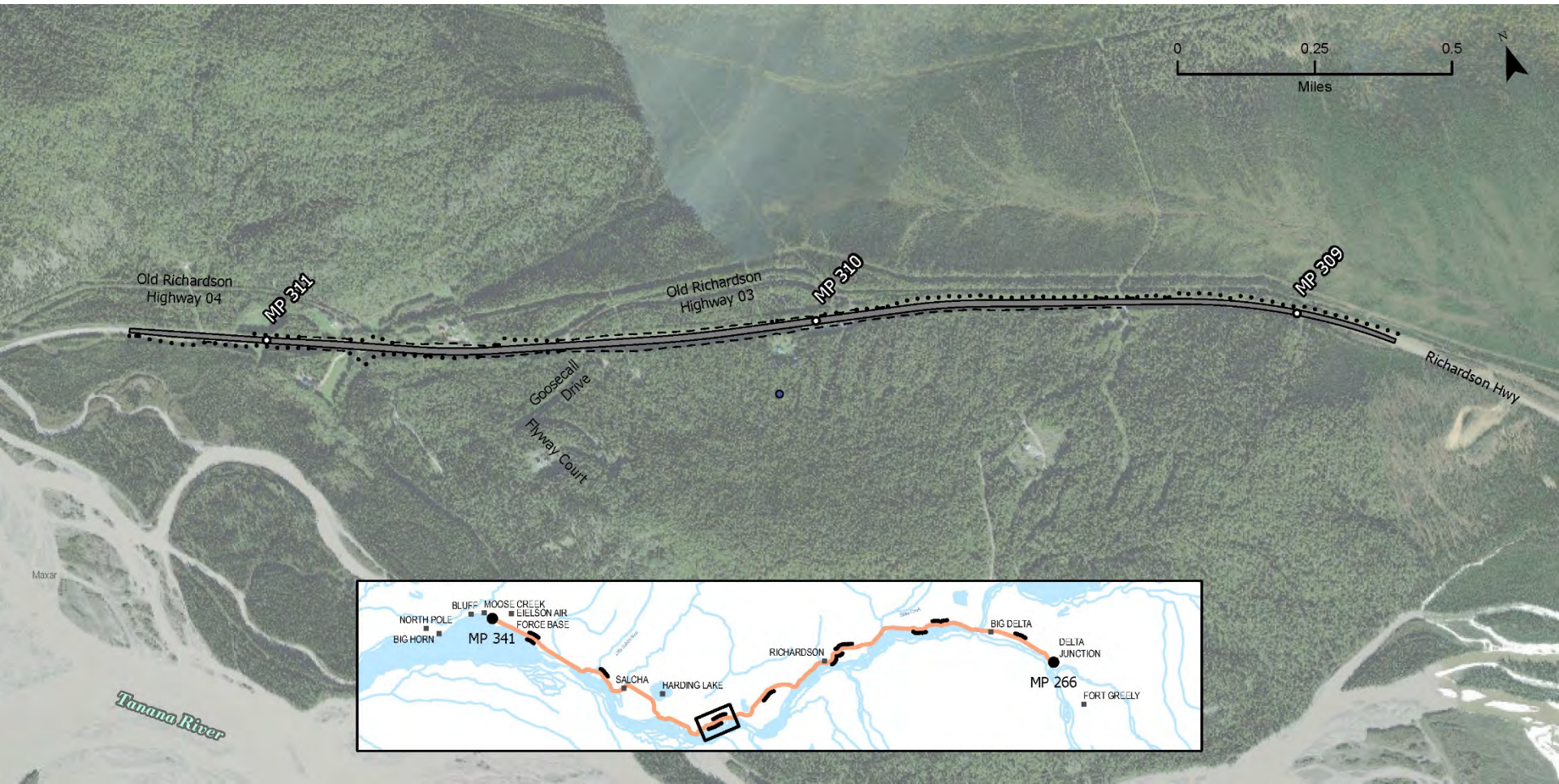
# Passing Lanes A - NB and SB



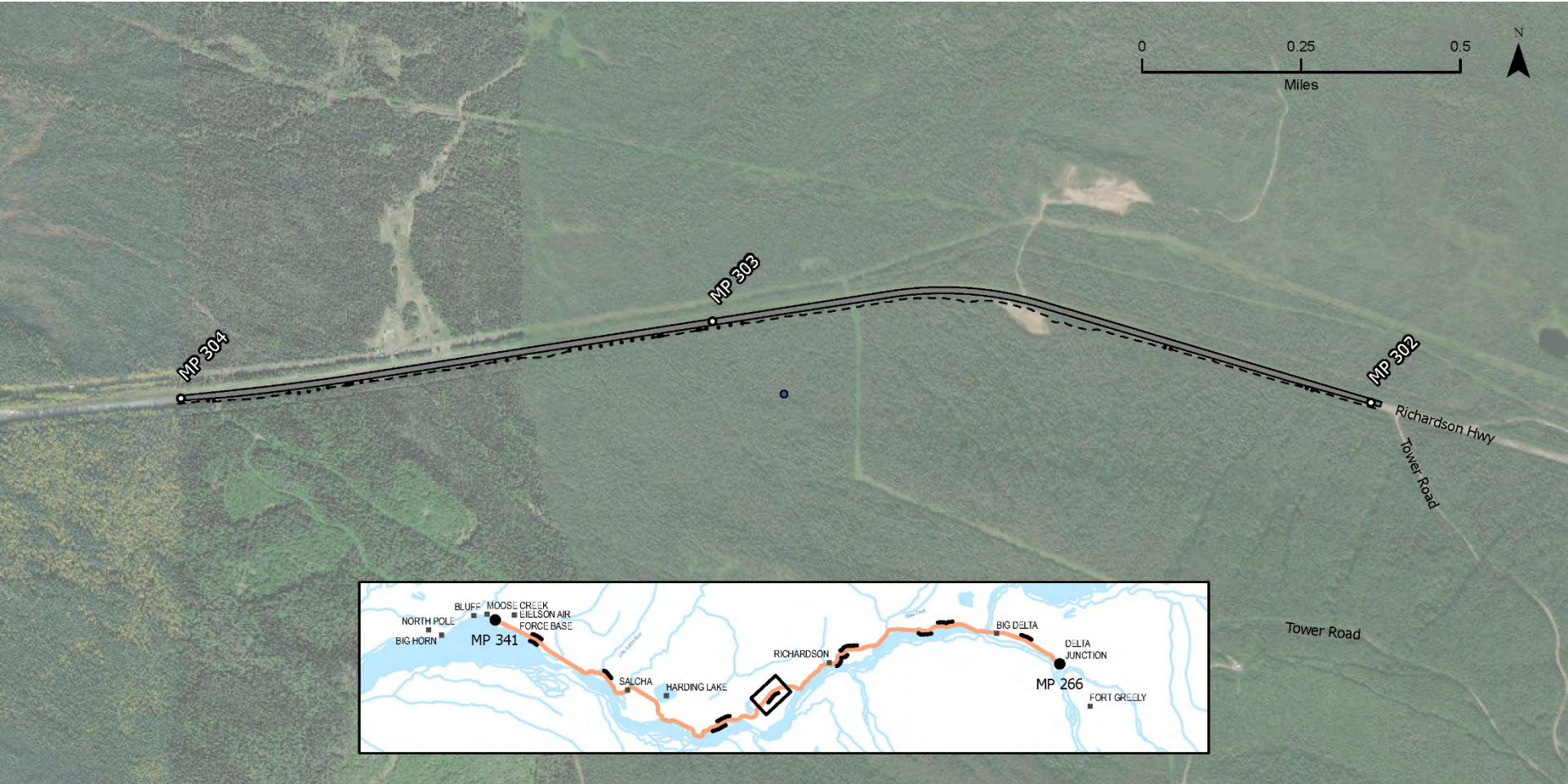
# Passing Lane B - NB



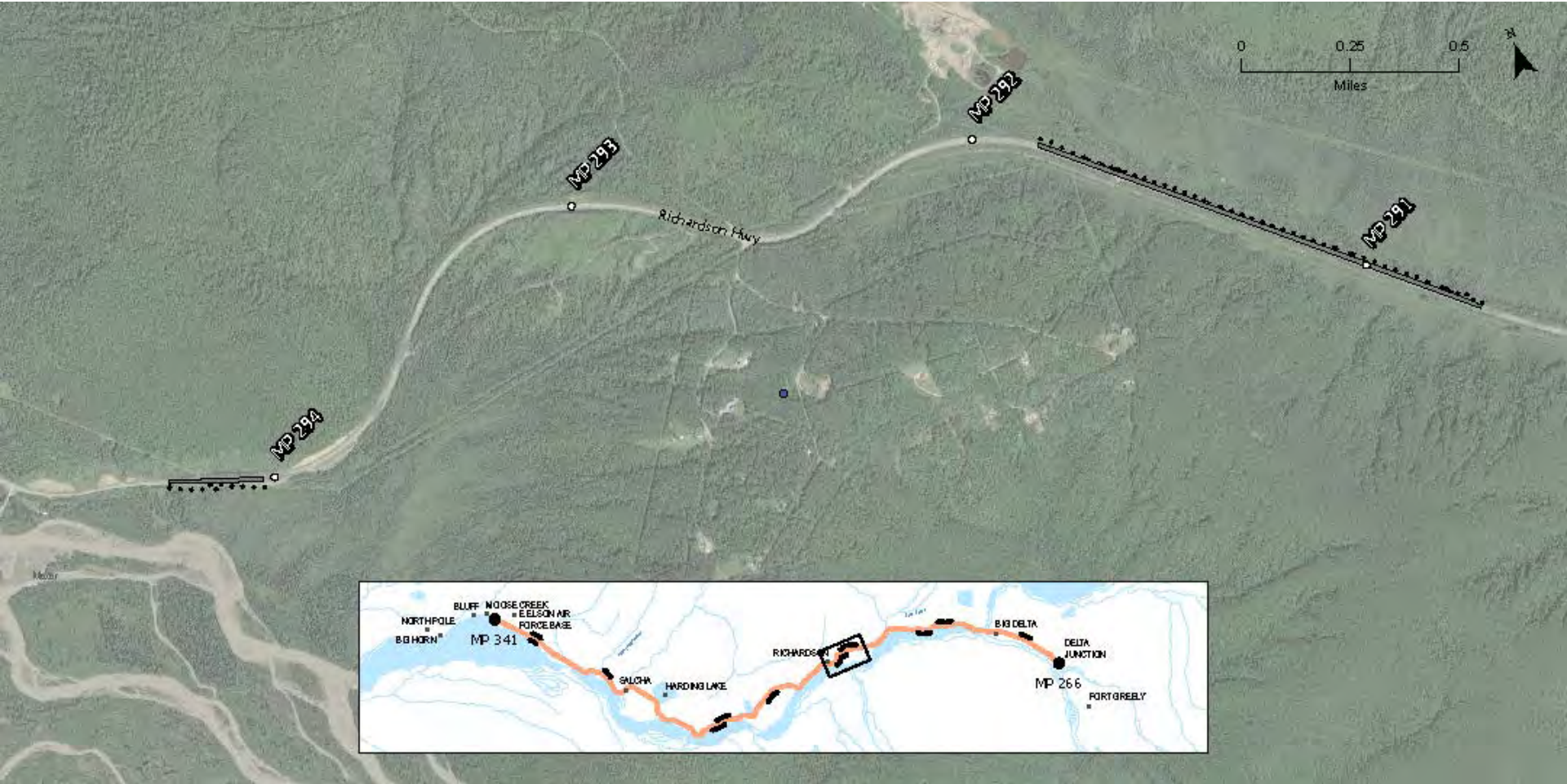
# Passing Lanes D - NB and SB



# Passing Lane E - SB

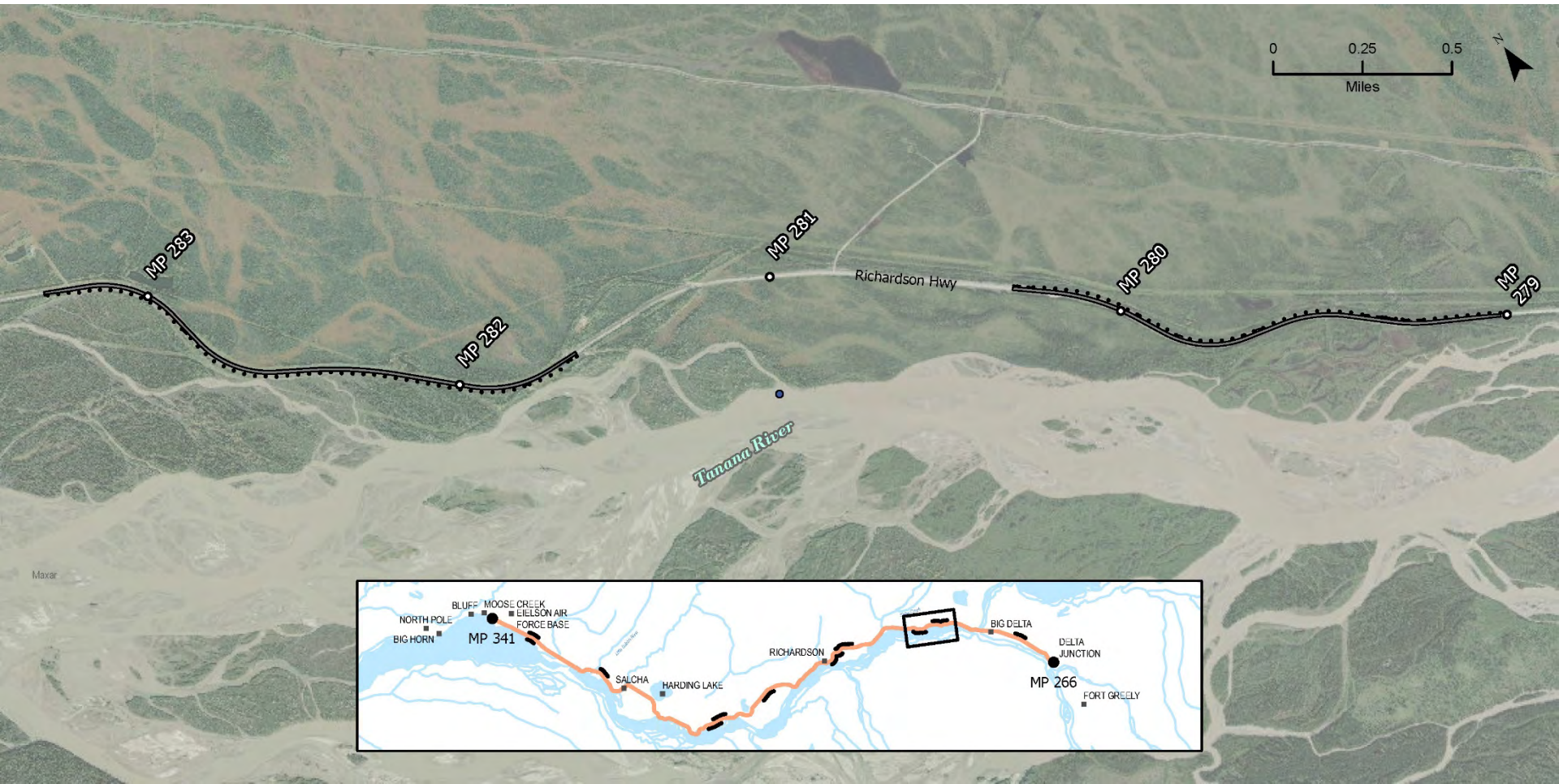


# Passing Lanes F - NB and SB



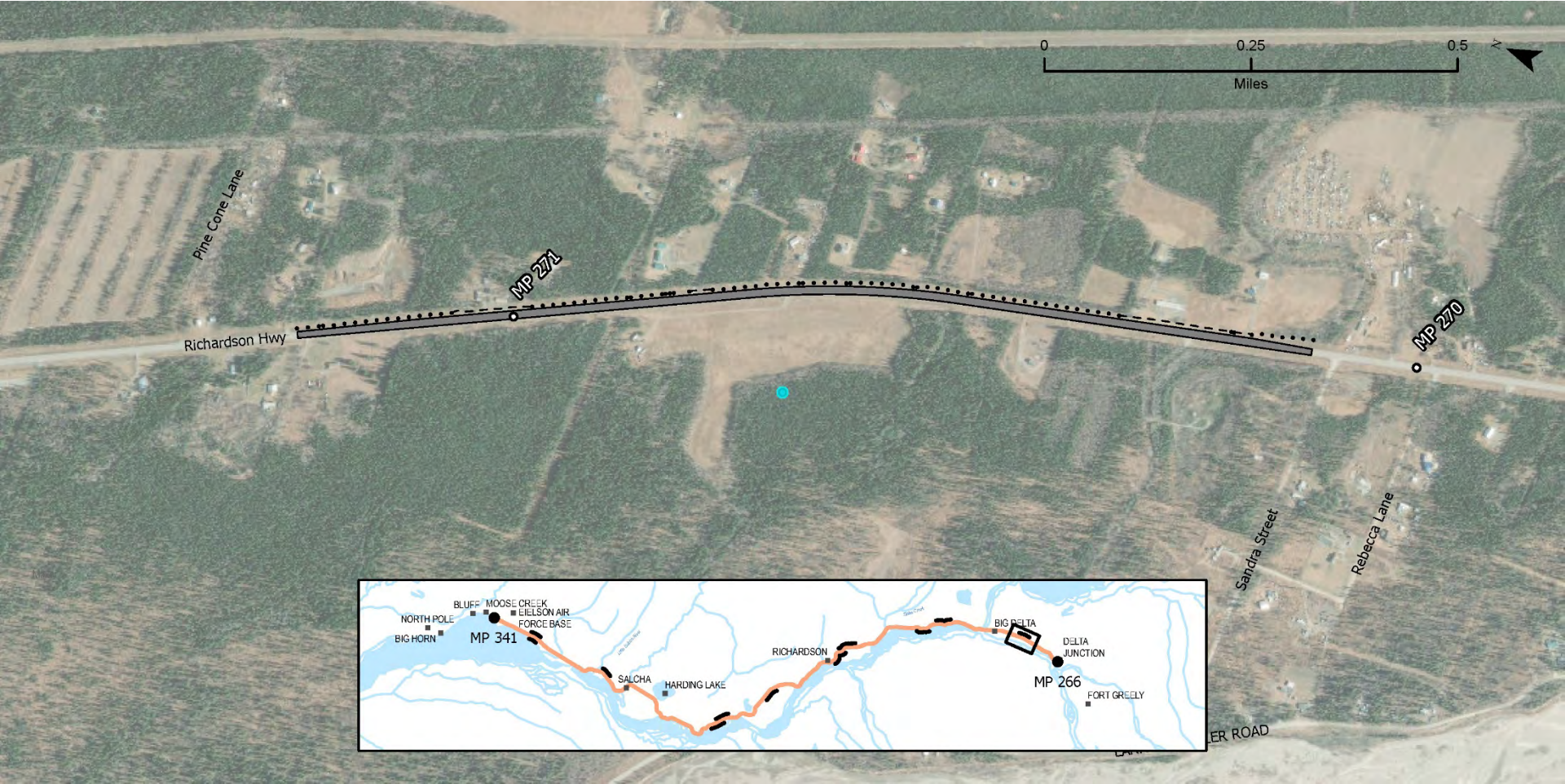
Note: These passing lanes appear to be short because they are extending existing climbing lanes.

# Passing Lanes G - NB and SB





# Passing Lane H - NB



# Passing Lane B SB - Removed



This lane was removed due to the close proximity to the Tanana River.



# Passing Lane C NB - Removed



This lane was removed due to the amount of blasting that would be required to construct.



# Passing Lane C SB - Removed



This lane was removed due to significant utility conflicts.



# Passing Lane E NB - Removed



This lane was removed due to the amount of blasting that would be required to construct.

# Passing Lane H SB - Removed



This lane was removed due to significant utility conflicts and insufficient Right-of-Way.





For More Information

**DOT&PF Project Manager**

Carl Heim, P.E.

Phone (907) 451-5359

Email: [richardson-passing-lanes@akprojectinfo.com](mailto:richardson-passing-lanes@akprojectinfo.com)

Project website:

<https://dot.alaska.gov/nreg/richardsonpassinglanes/>