

Snug Harbor Road, Phase II

# AGENDA

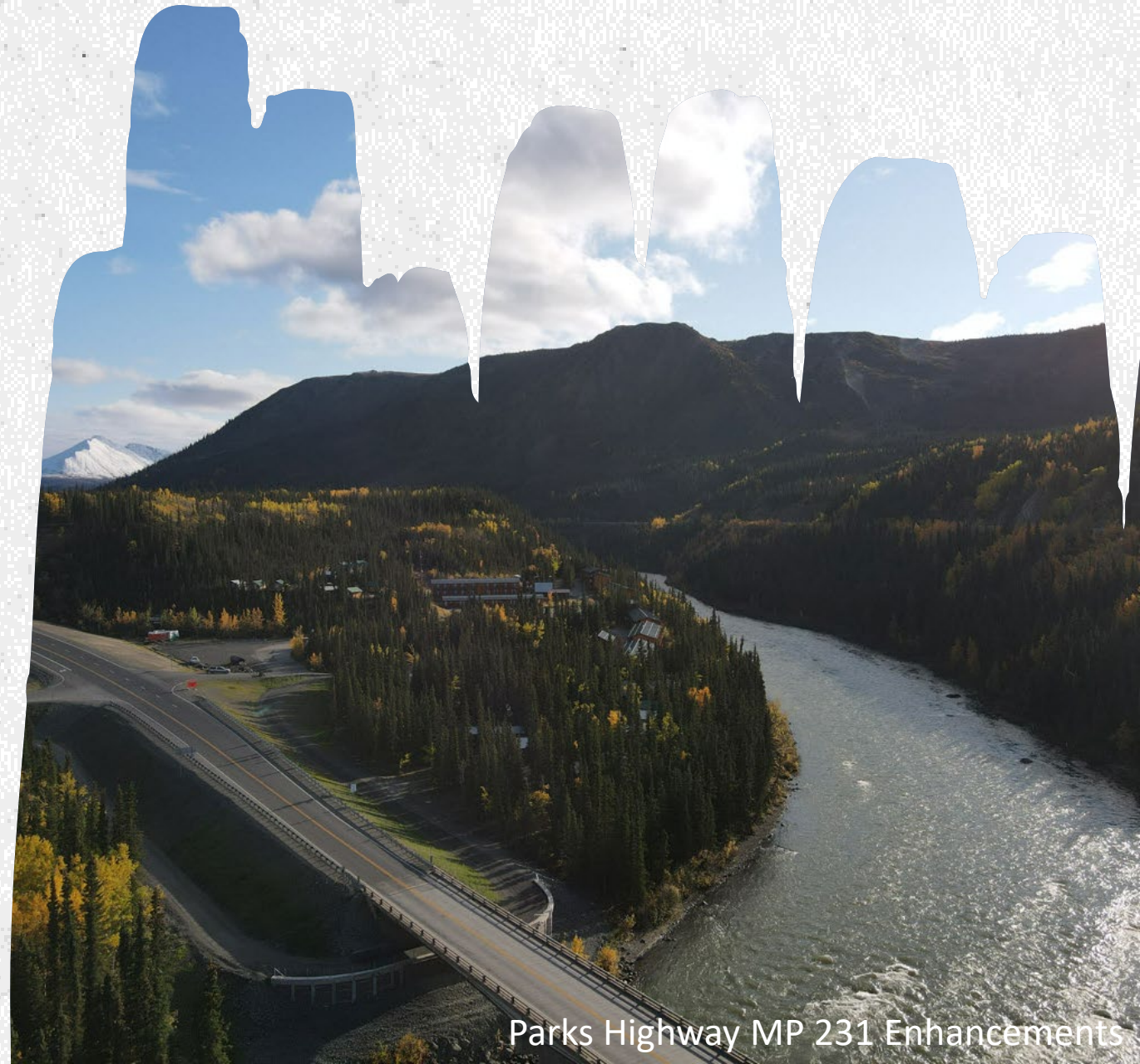
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- Federal Lands Highway
- Federal Lands Transportation Bills
- Federal Lands Access Program (FLAP)
- Eligibility & Project Type
- Changes and evaluation criteria
- Tips for a good proposal
- Questions



# FEDERAL LANDS HIGHWAY (FLH)

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Parks Highway MP 231 Enhancements



# FEDERAL LANDS HIGHWAY (FLH)

- Federal Lands Highway (FLH) is an office within the FHWA
- 3 Division Offices
  - CFL
  - EFL
  - WFL
- Deliver projects that access or are in:
  - National Parks
  - National Wildlife Refuges
  - National Forests
  - Bureau of Land Management Lands
  - US Army Corp of Engineers Lands
  - Bureau of Reclamation Lands
  - Department of Defense Lands

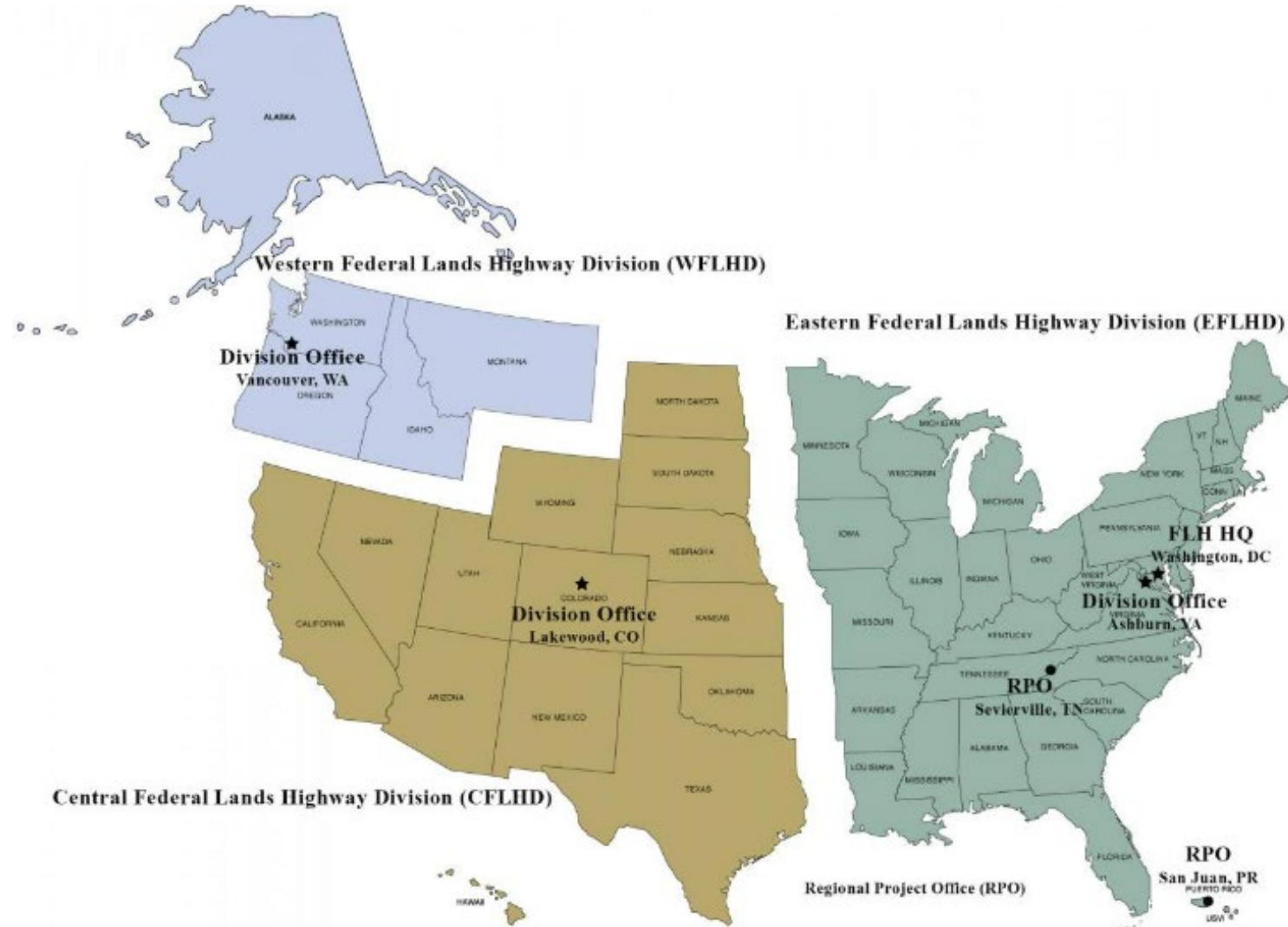


Skilak Lake Road AOP Improvements



# WESTERN FEDERAL LANDS HIGHWAY DIVISION

- Western Federal Lands Highway Division (WFL)
  - Located in Vancouver, Washington
    - Regional Project Office (RPO) located in Wasilla, AK
  - Serves Alaska, Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Montana
  - Approximately 160 staff currently
  - Provides:
    - Planning
    - Project Development (design/ROW)
    - Construction advertisement and administration
      - Includes material testing verification in our AASHTO & ISO accredited lab
    - Technical services (capacity dependent)







Sterling HWY — Kenai NWR Visitor Enhancements

# FEDERAL LANDS TRANSPORTATION BILLS

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# FEDERAL LANDS HIGHWAY TRANSPORTATION BILLS

- Surface Transportation and Uniform Relocation Assistance Act, 1987
- Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act (ISTEA), 1991
- The National Highway System Designation Act (NHS), 1995
- Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century (TEA-21), 1998
- Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU), 2005
  - Named after Don Young's wife (Lu Young)
- Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act (MAP-21), 2012
  - 2-year bill +1 year extension
  - **FLAP introduced with 9.03% match**
- Fixing America's Surface Transportation Action (FAST Act), 2015
  - 5-year bill +1 year extension
  - **FLAP continued with 9.03%**
- Infrastructure Investment and Jobs (IIJA or BIL), 2021
  - 5-year bill (ends in 2026)
  - **FLAP continued with no match required**



# IIJA OVERVIEW

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- Signed into law in 2021
- 5-year bill authorized through FY26
- Requires a minimum 4-year program of projects
- Funds Federal Lands Highway Programs
  - **Federal Lands Access Program (FLAP)** – program providing transportation access to Federal lands
  - **Federal Lands Transportation Program (FLTP)** – program funding transportation within Federal lands
- Funds allocated annually



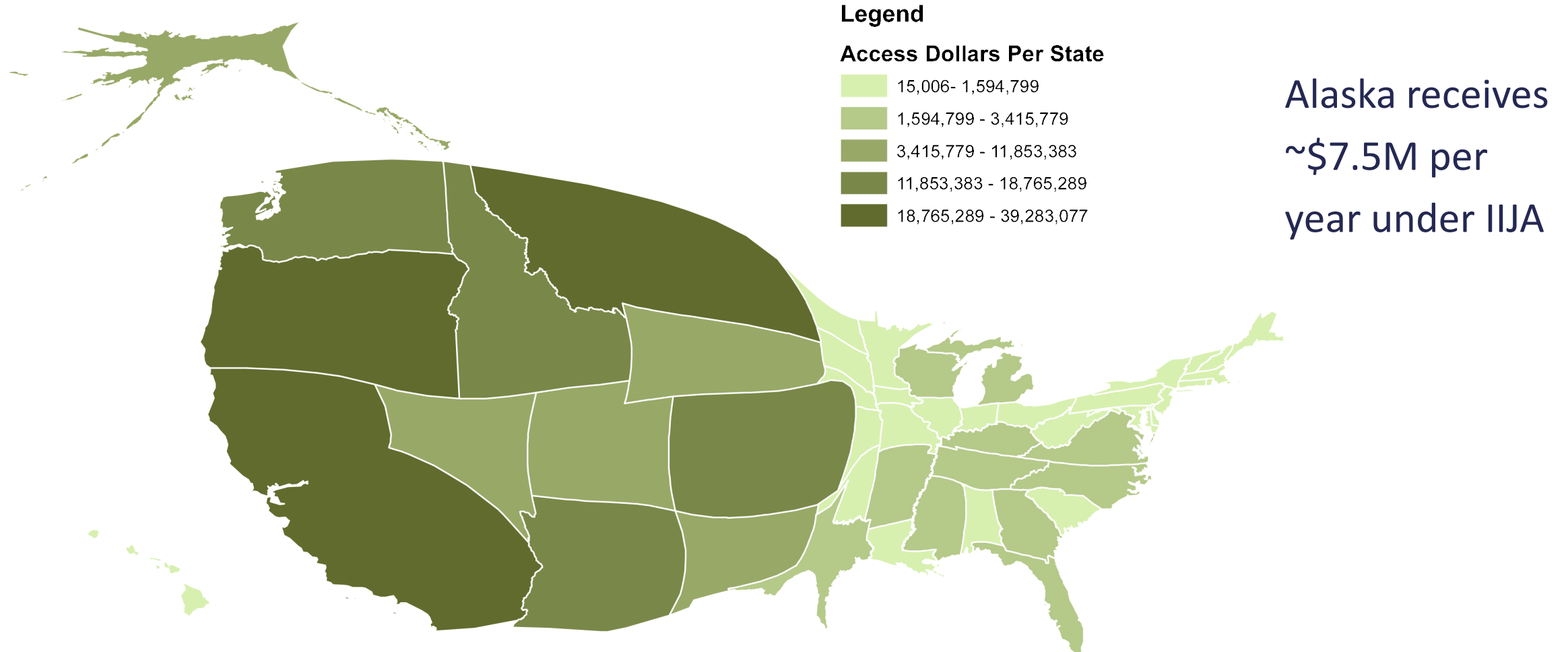
# FEDERAL LANDS HIGHWAY TRANSPORTATION BILLS

Program	Annual funding
Federal Lands Access Program (FLAP)	\$286 - \$309 Million
Federal Lands Transportation Program (FLTP)	\$422 - \$456 Million
Tribal Transportation Program (TTP)	\$578 - \$628 Million
Nationally Significant Federal Lands & Tribal Projects Program (NSFLTP)	\$1,000 - \$900 Million



Connecting Anchorage Trail Improvements

# FLAP FUNDING BY STATE



Sources:  
State Shapefile: US Census  
Access Dollars: FLHD, Access Program Funding Table Dated 10/26/2012

Puerto Rico is not represented, but will receive  
around \$78,000 per year in Access Funds



A photograph of a construction site at sunset. In the foreground, a yellow bulldozer is parked on a dirt path. To its left, two workers in high-visibility vests are standing near a long, dark, flexible pipe or hose that runs along the ground. In the background, another excavator is visible. The sky is a mix of orange, pink, and blue, with silhouettes of tall, jagged mountains in the distance. A few small houses are visible on a hill to the right.

# TELL ME MORE ABOUT FLAP

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Tanana River Recreation Access Improvements



# ALASKA FEDERAL LANDS ACCESS PROGRAM (FLAP)

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Improving *transportation facilities* that **provide access to, are adjacent to, or are located within** Federal lands with an emphasis on high-use recreation sites and economic generators.



Luck Lake Access Improvements





## FLAP OVERVIEW

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- Administered per Title 23, USC 204
- Must be a public transportation facility, including highways, roads, bridges, trails, or other transit systems
- Is located on, is adjacent to, or provides access to Federal Lands (NPS, FS, FWS, BLM, BOR, USACE, DOD)
- Title or maintenance responsibility is vested with State, Borough, Local Government, or Tribe
- Vested agency bears majority of the costs
- The Federal Lands Access Program focuses on ACCESS to FEDERAL LANDS
- Is a transportation program, not a grant program

# ELIGIBILITY & PROJECT TYPE

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- Location (accessing Federal lands)
- Applicants
- Match funding
- Project type
- Project size





# FLAP ELIGIBILITY

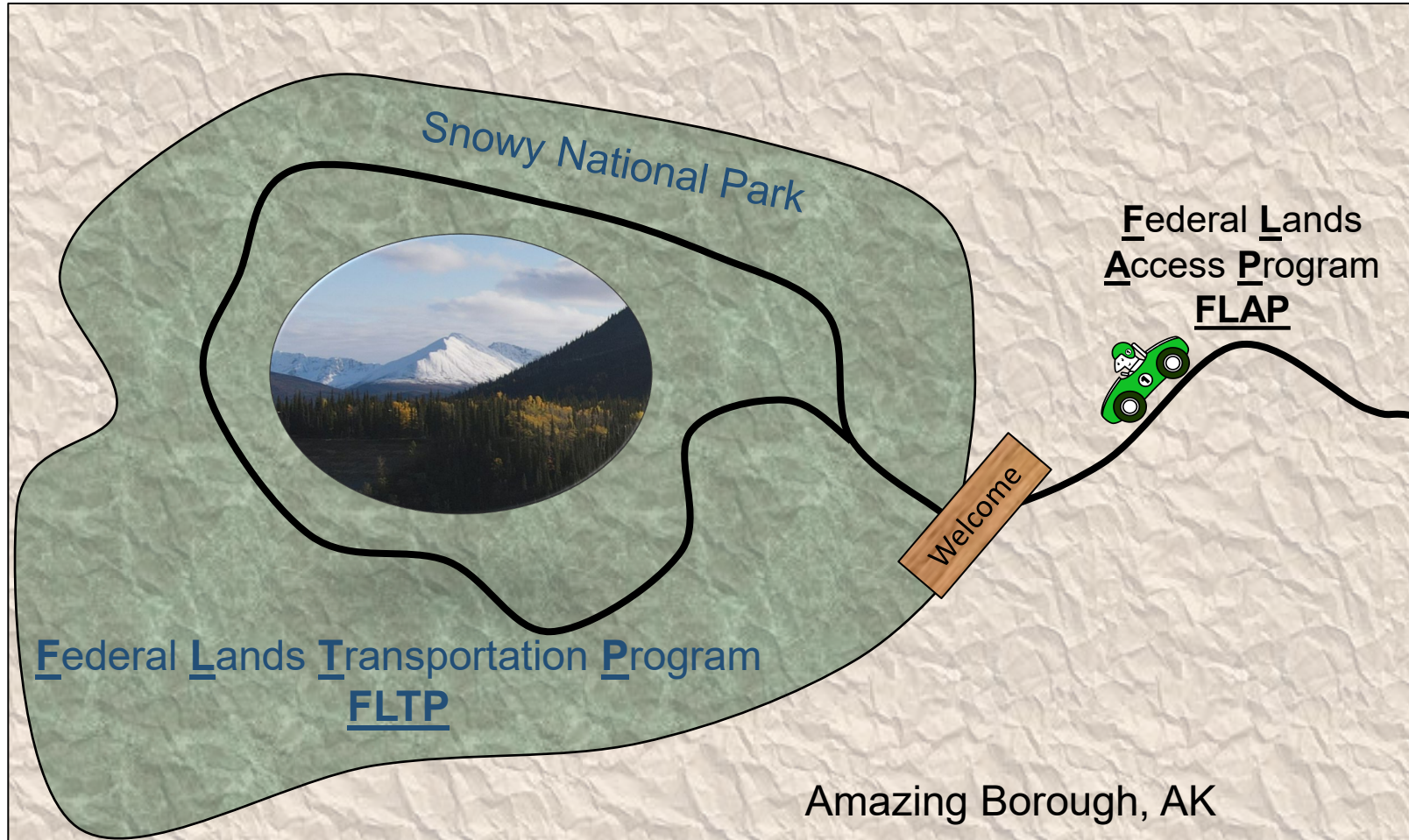
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- Is the project on a public highway, road, bridge, trail or transit system?
- Is it located in, adjacent to or provides access to Federal lands?
- Is the title or maintenance responsibility vested with the Local Public Agency (State, Borough, Local Government or Tribe) (must be documented in an agreement)?



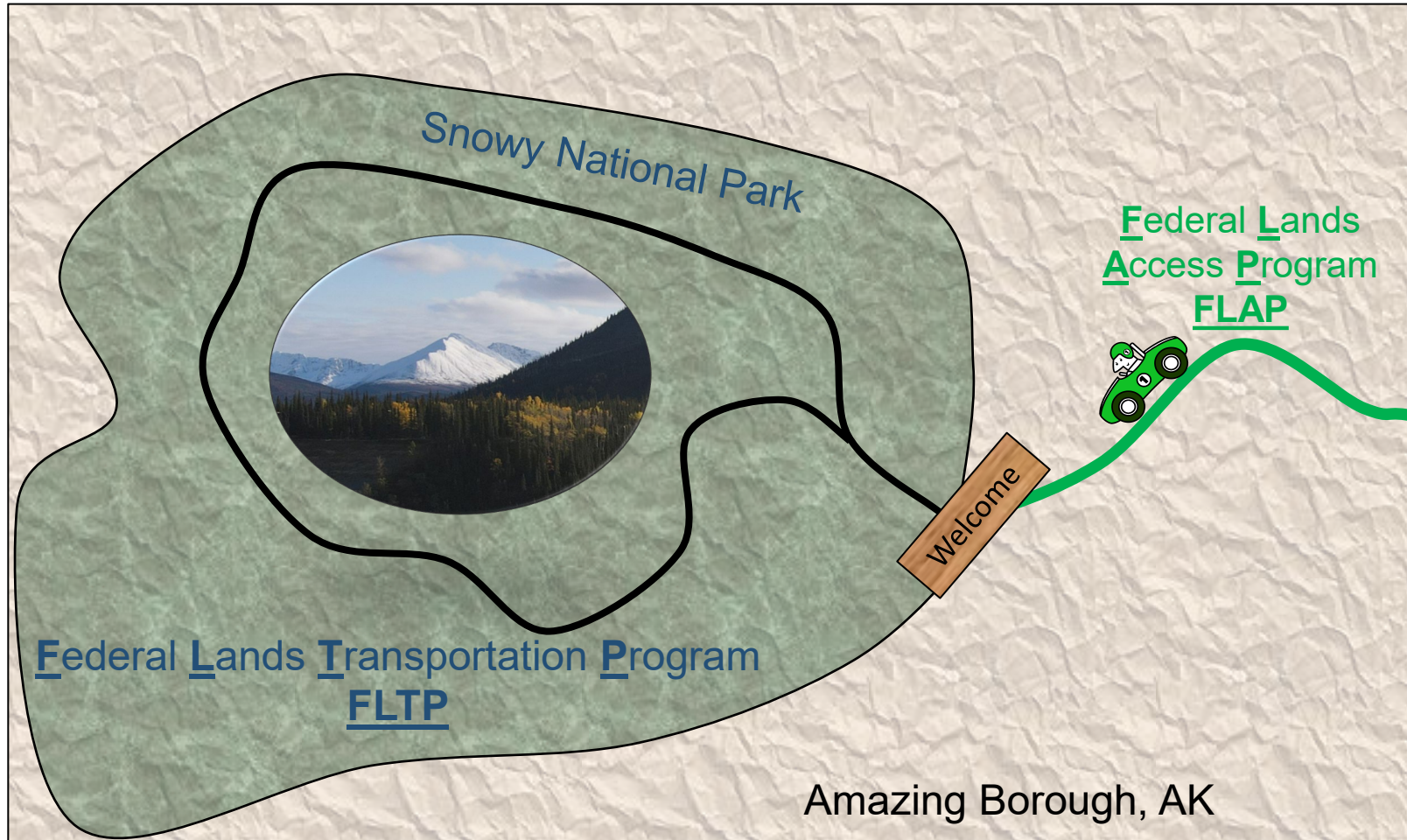
Chena Lakes Recreation Access Improvements, Phase II

# FEDERAL LANDS ACCESS EXAMPLES

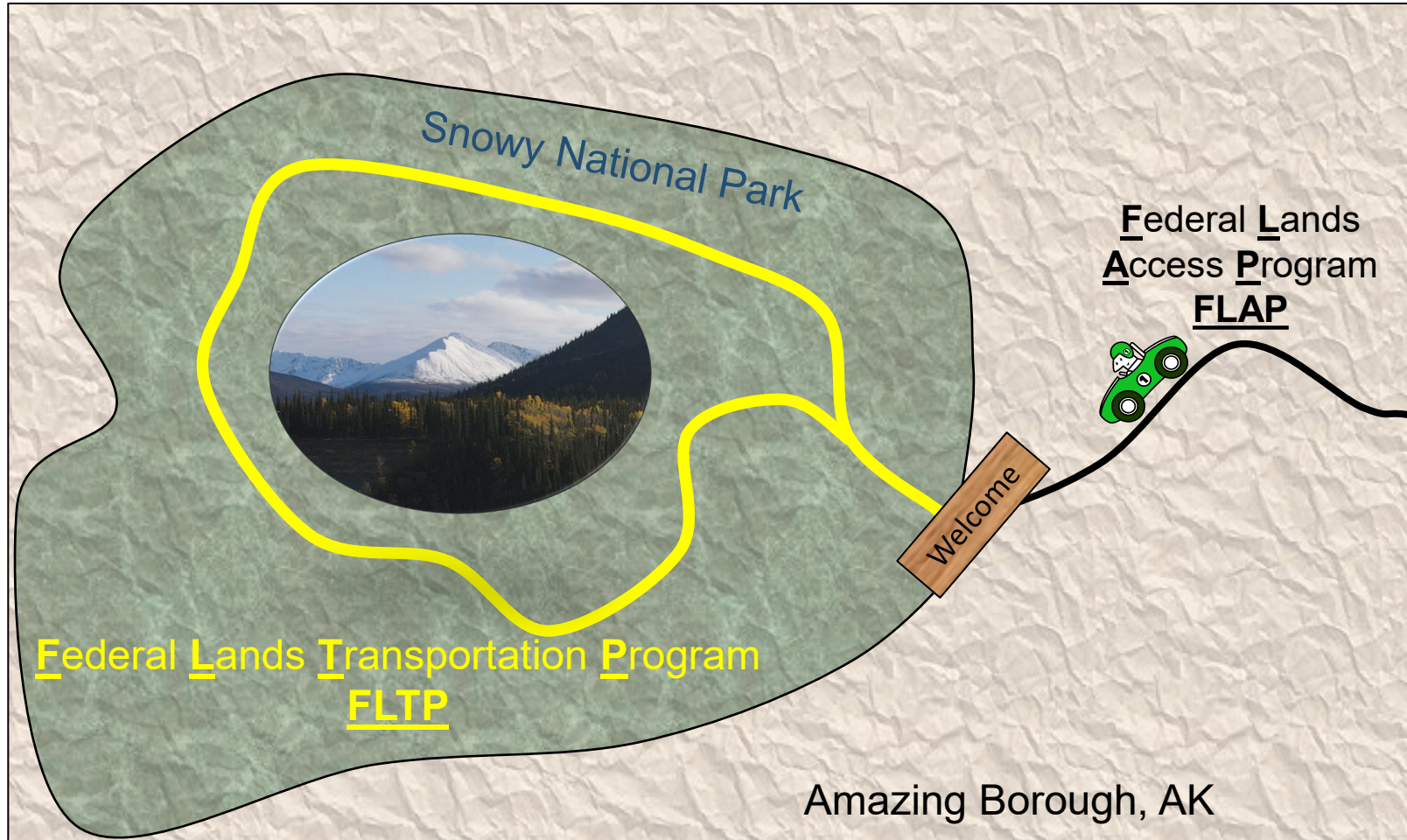




# FEDERAL LANDS ACCESS EXAMPLES

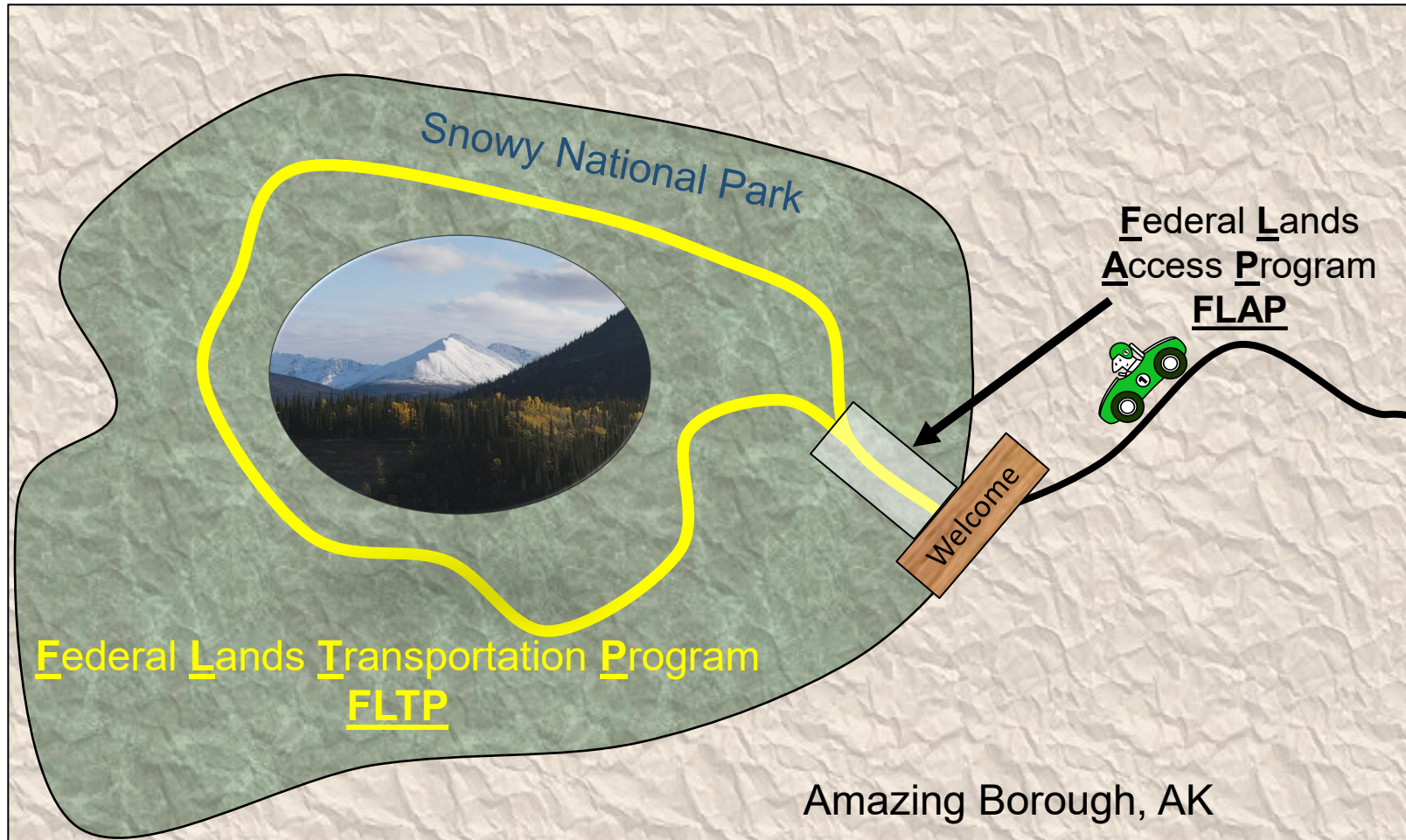


# FEDERAL LANDS ACCESS EXAMPLES





# FEDERAL LANDS ACCESS EXAMPLES



The Local Agency has a written maintenance Agreement with the Snowy National Park.

# APPLICANTS AND MATCH REQUIREMENTS

- Applicants:
  - The application is a joint application with the Local Public Agency (LPA) and Federal Land Management Agency (FLMA)
  - Early and on-going coordination is key
  - Applications are required to stay engaged through development and construction
- Available funding:
  - The FLAP program receives ~\$7.5M per year under IIJA. There's no project funding limit, however, be prudent with the funding available and leverage funding as much as possible.
- Match Requirements:
  - IIJA does not require match, however, IIJA expires in September 2026
  - Match requirements are unknown beyond 2026
  - Leveraging funds are encouraged to make the FLAP program go further.



Naukati Road Reconstruction



# PROJECT TYPES

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- Capital Improvement:
  - Roads, bridges, trails
  - Rehabilitation, restoration, construction and reconstruction of roads and bridges
- Enhancement:
  - Roads and trail improvements
  - Includes interpretive signing, kiosks, viewpoints, adjacent vehicular parking areas, roadside rest areas (including sanitary and water facilities), provisions for pedestrians and bicycles, acquisition of scenic sites, trailheads, trails, and improvements that reduce vehicle-wildlife mortality
- Planning:
  - Engineering studies, corridor management planning, bicycle/pedestrian planning and alternative transportation planning
  - Provides valuable information for future FLAP proposals



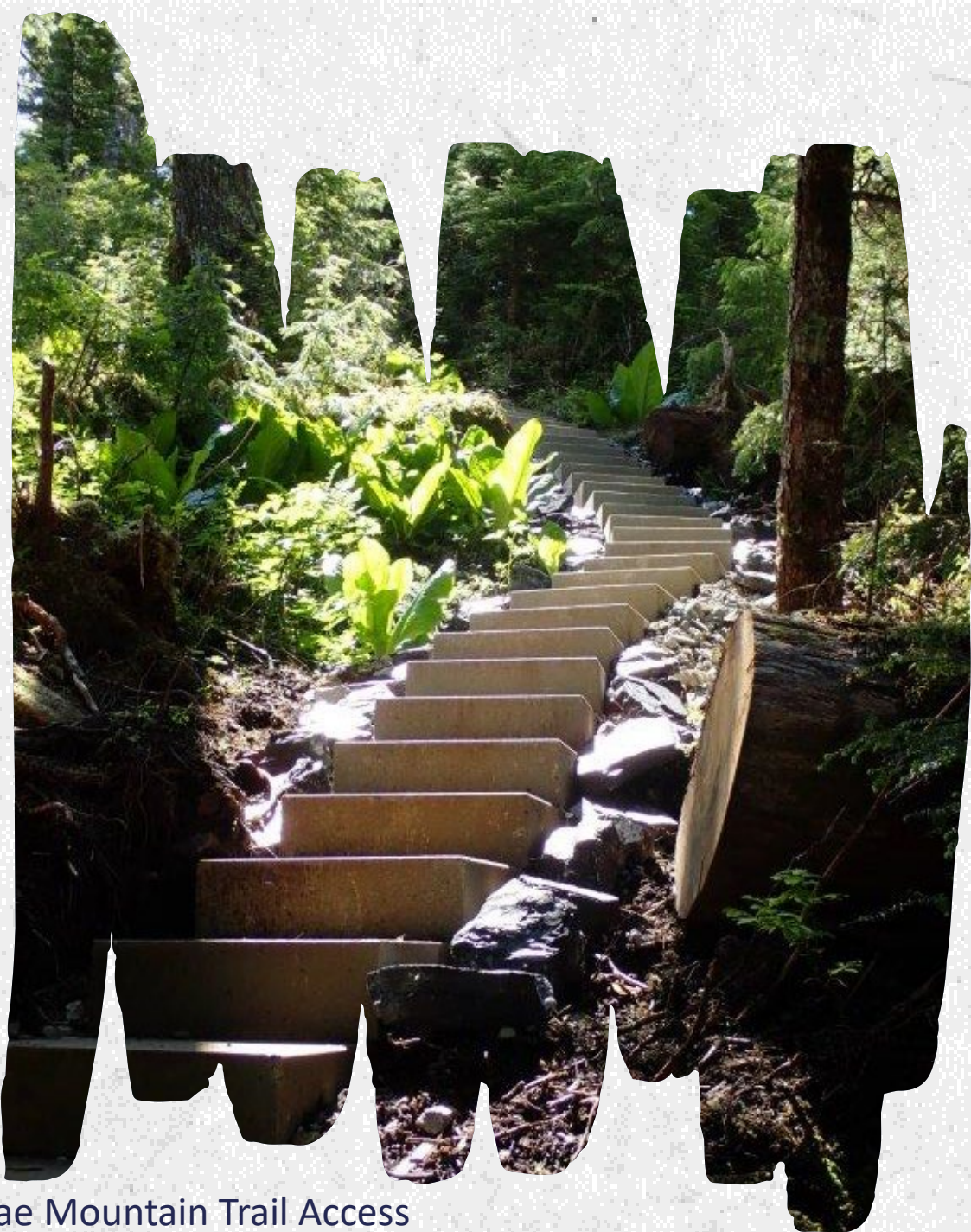
Russian River Campground Access Road, Phase 1



# PROJECT TYPES & FUNDING LIMITS

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- Transit:
  - Construction of transit facilities
- Research:
  - Evaluate solutions that enhance access, safety, sustainability or innovation
  - Must be broad-based and applicable to multiple Federal Land Management Agencies (FLMAs)
- In the application, if your project does not fall into a certain category and the application is asking more about it, simply state that it's not applicable.
  - Example: The project is a capital improvement, and the application section is asking about planning, simply put not applicable.



Sunnahae Mountain Trail Access





# PROPOSAL SELECTION

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Programs Decision Committee (PDC)

Technical Advisory Group (TAG)



A photograph of a dirt road winding through a forested area. The road is light brown and curves to the left. The surrounding area is covered in green trees and bushes. A large white arrow is overlaid on the image, pointing from the left towards the right, indicating the direction of the project.

# EVALUATION CRITERIA

- PDC makes final decision and considers:
  - Agency priorities
  - Previous Federal investments related to project
  - Right-of-way constraints and public support
  - Delivery agency
    - Preferred lead agency is WFL
    - Alaska DOT&PF or another Federal agency can deliver (ICAP and overhead applied)
    - Case-by-case determinations will be made for an LPA to deliver (S/O required)
  - Availability of funds and project scalability
    - FLAP funds are contingent upon available funding and authorizing legislation
- WFL will concur with project delivery and schedule the project delivery years
  - Construction in 2029, 2030, possibly 2031

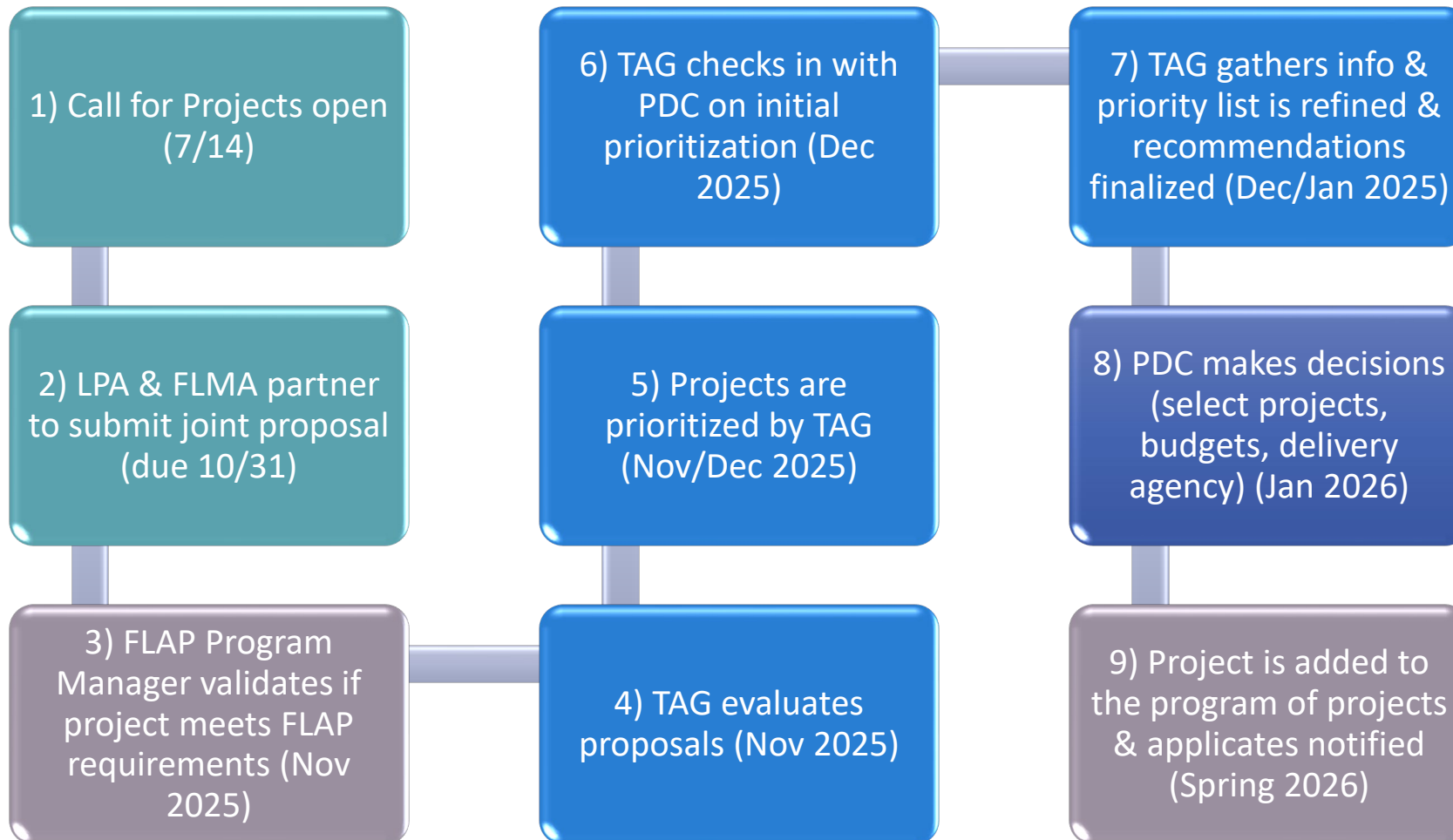


# PDC & TAG MEMBERS

- WFL (Matt Miller)
- AML (Nils Andreassen)
- DOT&PF (Katherine Keith)
- NPS (Kevin Doniere)
- FWS (Levi Wood)
- FS (Dusty Escamilla)
- BLM (Curt Fortenberry)
- USACE (Valerie Palmer)
- AML (Nils Andreassen)
- DOT&PF (Sara Lucey)
- FHWA - WFL (Samantha Shields)
- FHWA - DO (Emily Haynes)



# CALL FOR PROJECT PROCESS & SCHEDULE





# CHANGES & EVALUATION CRITERIA

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- Changes:
  - Proposal form has been updated
  - Estimate is now in an Excel file but must be included in the PDF and as an Excel file
  - Three main delivery agencies (WFL, DOT&PF (includes ICAP), other Federal agency (includes overhead))
- Evaluation Criteria includes:
  - Federal High Use Recreation and Economic Generator
  - Safety
  - Asset Improvement
  - Mobility
  - Environmental Goals
  - Readiness and Support



Auke Recreation Road Rehab



# TIPS FOR A GOOD PROPOSAL

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Campbell Airstrip Road and Trail Improvements, Mile 0.3 to 0.7



# TIPS FOR A GOOD PROPOSAL

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- Start early with coordination, turn application in on time
- This is a joint application with the LPA and FLMA
- Get all correct signatures
- Make sure scanned documents are legible
- Be clear, concise, succinct, etc.
  - Be clear on the intended work
  - Be clear on any additional funding (not required but encouraged)
  - Sometimes you need to state the obvious!
- Write to the criteria – look at the project evaluation criteria
- Remember Use the best cost data available
  - Use the excel calculator
  - Account for inflation (state the inflation criteria on the spreadsheet) for construction is in 2029, 2030 (possibly 2031)



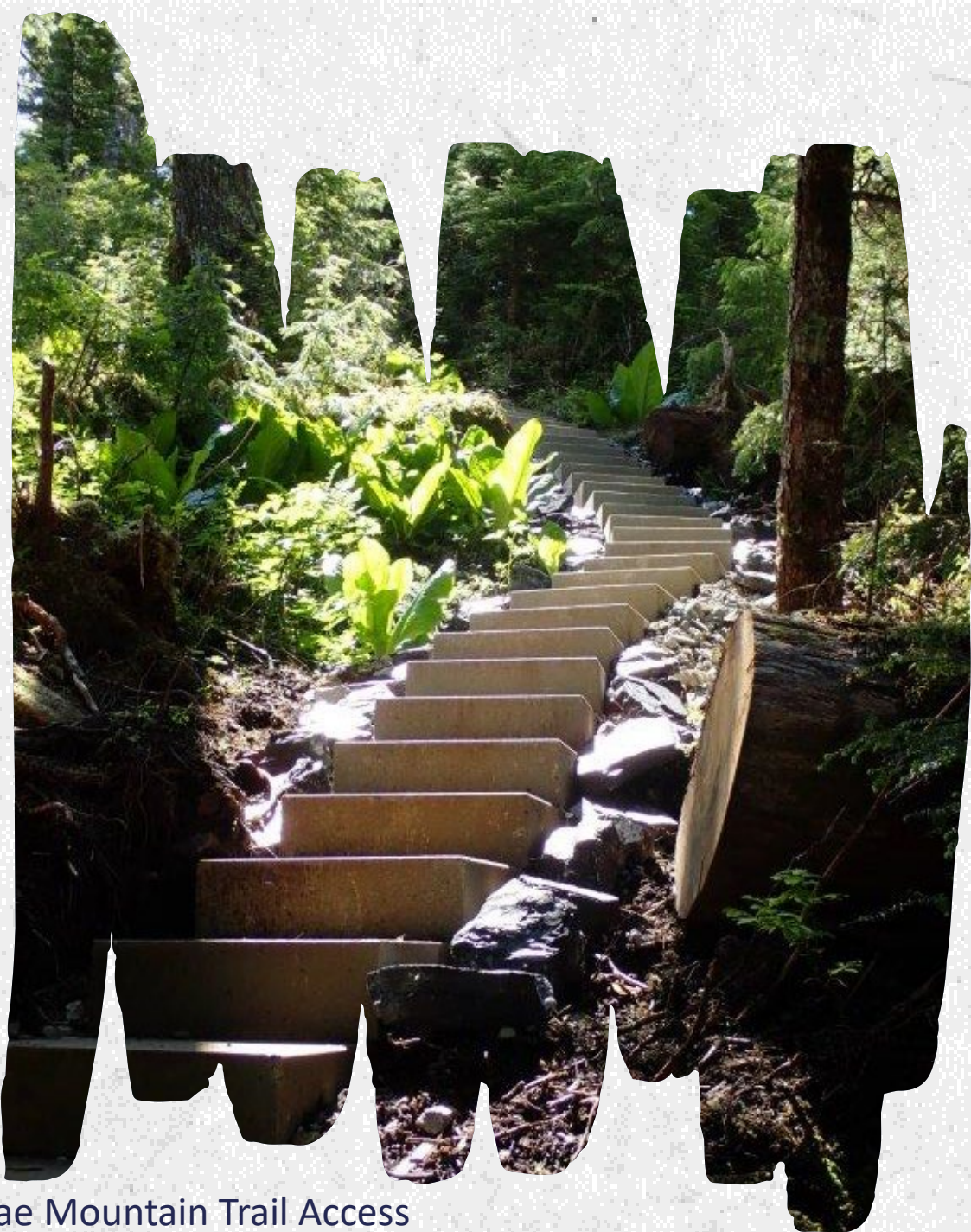
Birch Hill Recreation Area Trailhead Parking



# TIPS FOR A GOOD PROPOSAL

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- Maximize the use of limited funds by emphasizing:
  - Visitation through visitor use and acreage
  - Access high-use Federal recreation sites and Federal economic generators
  - Preserving existing access to Federal lands and restoring serviceability of the assets
  - Important access will be lost
  - Investment levels should be proportional to the % of use that is directly related to Federal lands
  - Proposals leveraging funds to make the project possible
- FLMA's are your friends!
  - Federal land user information
  - % Federal land related traffic
  - Mapping the federal lands
  - Help edit the proposal
  - Coordinate with your representative on the TAG!!!!



Sunnahae Mountain Trail Access



# TIPS FOR A GOOD PROPOSAL

- Include a map
  - Show the Federal lands being accessed
  - Show the Federal high use recreation sites and Federal economic generators
  - Other Federal lands roads (FLTPI roads)
  - Project start and termini
  - Key features (bridges, major culverts, curve realignment, landsides, etc.)
- Include letters of support and pictures – they're worth a 1000 words!
- If something is not applicable – write “Not Applicable”
- Application submission:
  - Include a single PDF file (not a PDF portfolio)
  - Limit application to 30 pages (including a printout of the excel file for the estimate)
  - The PDF file size is limited to 10 mb
  - Include an excel file of the estimate (yes we will get it in the PDF but we want to see the calculations too!)



# QUESTIONS?

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- Any Questions?
  - For general information or project eligibility – Samantha Shields – WFLHD
  - For questions like...Is this a good proposal? - Your Representative on TAG



Antler – Bison Ridge Trail