

DATE: Aug. 26, 2019 FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE CONTACT: Tim Sullivan, 265-2357, cell 223-7372 or Stephenie Wheeler, 265-2671, cell 382-3327

## Snow River water recedes; repairs get underway

Railroad expects passenger bussing to continue through Aug. 29

ANCHORAGE, Alaska – Having assessed damage from Snow River high water over the weekend, the Alaska Railroad (ARRC) expects modified train service to continue through Thursday, Aug. 29, as track maintenance crews repair damaged infrastructure. Rising waters had peaked Saturday, flowing over tracks between ARRC mileposts 14 and 17 (see the <u>National Weather Service graph</u> for Snow River water levels). By Sunday, water had receded significantly, allowing crews to assess several areas affected by washouts and scouring. Daily *Coastal Classic* and chartered passenger trains will continue to stop at Moose Pass, where passengers are traveling by motor coach to and from Seward, about 30 miles from Moose Pass.

Near the middle of ARRC's route, the McKinley Fire that ignited Aug, 17 continues to burn on either side of the tracks in an area between Willow and Talkeetna. Trains are moving through the area, but speeds are reduced between ARRC Mileposts 199 to 207 (Kashwitna River to Goose Creek).



Snow River rising water flows over the tracks. Later over the weekend receding water reveals track washouts.

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Track maintenance crews tackle several areas impacted by significant washouts from high water.



High water scoured bridge infrastructure, including at MP 16.2, seen here from the side and above. All photos courtesy of the Alaska Railroad. Higher resolution photos are available online (AlaskaRailroad.com > Corporate > News/Media > Press/Media)

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