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## **Alaska Railroad Announces In-River Construction on Phase One (Tanana River Crossing)**

### ***Caution Advised for Tanana River Travelers***

Anchorage, AK — The Alaska Railroad Corporation (ARRC) has initiated in-river construction of the Tanana River Crossing. Boaters and snowmachiners are advised to use EXTREME CAUTION when traveling on the Tanana River near Salcha, to avoid construction-related activity and potential hazards.

Pile-driving activities begin this month and will continue through September 2014. Piles will be driven and a temporary bridge constructed to mid-channel by December 2012; the remaining piles will be installed and a permanent bridge completed by fall 2014.

Travel corridors will be maintained as much as possible during construction. The ARRC will post project advisories and detour information on the project website, two weeks in advance of any planned closure. The public is reminded that construction areas are private property and are closed to the public for safety reasons.

The Tanana River Crossing is the first of four phases of the Northern Rail Extension (NRE) Project. When complete, the NRE will add approximately 80 miles of new rail line to the Alaska Railroad system. As a common carrier, the line would be available to the general public, commercial, and military shippers including agricultural and resource development businesses.

The Alaska Railroad Corporation is a full-service railroad serving ports and communities from the Gulf of Alaska to Fairbanks. Owned by the State of Alaska since 1985, the Alaska Railroad is a self-sustaining corporation that operates without state subsidy, and provides year-round passenger, freight and real estate services. In 2011, the Alaska Railroad had 685 full-time employees and moved more than 6.2 million tons of freight over its nearly 500 miles of mainline track.

For more information, visit [www.northernrailextension.com](http://www.northernrailextension.com)

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