



Alaska State Scenic Byways

Designation Application Form

This application will help the Department of Transportation & Public Facilities determine whether the nominated corridor will qualify for designation as a state byway.

Applications may be filed at any time but the evaluation process will begin each year in June.

During the evaluation process public comments will be solicited. The application and comments will be reviewed by an interagency committee and a recommendation will be forwarded to the Commissioner of Transportation and Public Facilities for action.

Applicant Information

Sponsoring Agency, Organization or Individual

Contact Person

Mailing Address

Physical Address

City

Zip Code

Telephone

Fax

Email

Byway Information

Proposed name of byway to be designated

Route section(s)

Length (in miles) of proposed designation

Basis for Designation

Using the intrinsic qualities identified on the following page, please explain how the proposed byway is significant, and why it should be added to the Alaska Scenic Byways System. Additional pages may be attached if necessary. Please do not exceed five pages.

Jurisdiction

Please list all local, state and/or federal government agencies that have jurisdiction over the byway corridor proposed for designation. Describe how each agency has been informed of the designation proposal and who was contacted.

Community Participation

Please describe any methods used to solicit participation by community residents in developing the byway nomination.

Intrinsic Qualities

State Byways must be designated for possessing one or more of six “intrinsic qualities.” These qualities are defined as follows:

Scenic Quality is the heightened visual experience derived from the view of natural and man-made elements of the visual environment of the byway corridor. The characteristics of the landscape are strikingly distinct and offer a pleasing and most memorable visual experience. All elements of the landscape – landform, water, vegetation, and man-made development – contribute to the quality of the corridor’s visual environment.

Natural Quality applies to those features of the visual environment that are in a relatively undisturbed state. These features predate the arrival of human populations and may include geological formations, fossils, landform, water bodies, vegetation, and wildlife. There may be evidence of human activity, but the natural features reveal minimal disturbances.

Historic Quality encompasses legacies of the past that are distinctly associated with physical elements of the landscape, whether natural or man-made, that are of such historic significance that they educate the viewer and stir an appreciation for the past. The historic elements reflect the actions of people and may include buildings, settlement patterns, and other examples of human activity. Historic features can be inventoried mapped and interpreted. They possess integrity of location, design, setting, material, workmanship, feeling and association.

Cultural Quality is evidence and expression of the customs or traditions of a distinct group of people. Cultural features include, but are not limited to crafts, music, dance, rituals, festivals, speech, food, special events, vernacular architecture, etc., and are currently practiced. The cultural qualities of the corridor could highlight one or more significant communities and/or ethnic traditions.

Archeological Quality involves those characteristics of the byway corridor that are physical evidence of historic and prehistoric human life or activity that are visible and capable of being inventoried and interpreted. The byway corridor’s archeological interest, as identified through ruins, artifacts, structural remains, and other physical evidence, has scientific significance that educates the viewer and stirs an appreciation for the past.

Recreational quality involves outdoor recreational activities directly associated with and dependent upon the natural and cultural elements of the corridor’s landscape. The recreational activities provide opportunities for active and passive recreational experiences. They include, but are not limited to downhill skiing, rafting, boating, fishing and hiking. Driving the road itself may qualify as a pleasurable recreational experience. The recreational activities may be seasonal, but the quality and importance of the recreational outdoor activities as seasonal operations must be well recognized.

Other Issues

Describe any corridor management issues that might arise if the corridor is designated. Issues might include things such as the benefits of new income due to increased tourism or the impact on public facilities and other infrastructure along the corridor. Please attach additional pages if necessary.

Public Support

If possible, please attach documentation demonstrating that broad-based support exists for the designation.

Signature of Sponsor & Date

Please attach at least 6 non-returnable photographs of the corridor, a detailed map of the route and the completed application form with any other attachments to:

State Byways Coordinator
Alaska Department of Transportation & Public Facilities
3132 Channel Drive, Room 200, P.O. Box 112500, Juneau, Alaska 99801
Phone: 907-465-8769 or 888-752-6368 in Alaska (outside Juneau)
Fax: 907-465-6984 / Email: scenic_byways@dot.state.ak.us