



Mapping the Bumps on the Road

THAWING PERMAFROST AND
THE NORTH ALASKA HIGHWAY

Travelers of the Alaska Highway know what it is like to drive a bumpy road.

The northern 200km of the Alaska Highway is built on permafrost that is thawing and becoming less stable due to the combined effects of construction and climate change.

The Northern Climate ExChange and Highways and Public Works will map permafrost under the Alaska Highway and identify areas where it is the most sensitive. This will help Highways and Public Works prepare for future impacts along this important road and ensure its stability into the future.

Timeline: 3-year project with information shared with communities on an on-going basis

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Photos: HPW Transportation Engineering Branch