

## News Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### UPDATE

## Susitna River Flooding Impacts Train Traffic

*With cleanup underway, northbound train service to resume May 15*

ANCHORAGE, Alaska – Flooding and ice overflow due to ice jams on the Susitna River near Curry have shut down Alaska Railroad (ARRC) train service north of Talkeetna since Saturday, May 12. The ice jams have since broken up and water has receded, however, crews are working to clear the tracks of ice overflow. Floodwaters pushed a six-to-eight-foot wall of ice onto the track and surrounding area.



Between ARRC mileposts 247 and 250, ice pushed nearly one thousand feet of track off the track bed by more than 25 feet in some areas. Flooding also scoured track bed ballast. Heavy equipment crews are on-site working to remove ice, re-set the tracks, and fill in gaps in ballast. The railroad expects to reopen the main line for freight service by late Tuesday, May 15, and to run passenger service on Wednesday, May 16, in time for the first *Denali Star* daily summer train service between Anchorage, Denali and Fairbanks.

Pictures are courtesy of ARRC.

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Susitna River Flooding

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At Alaska Railroad milepost 249, flooding has scoured the ballast, leaving gaps in the track bed.



A bulldozer tackles ice overflow that Susitna River flood waters had pushed onto the tracks and surrounding area.



Ice pushes the track several feet from its original position along the track bed.

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