

From: [John Bennett](#)
To: [John Bennett](#)
Subject: LWCF Notes
Date: Wednesday, March 04, 2015 2:59:52 PM

Within the Alaska Dept. of Natural Resources, LWCF oversight responsibility lies with the State Liaison Officer, Ben Ellis, Director, Division of Parks and Outdoor Recreation and Alternate State Liaison Officer, Jean Ayers, Grants Administrator. 550 W. 7th Ave, Suite 1380, Anchorage, AK 99501. ben.ellis@alaska.gov 907-269-8701 jean.ayers@alaska.gov 907-269-8694. It also lies with USDOL, National Park Service, NW regional office. Contact: Martha Droge, LWCF Project Officer, 909 First Avenue, 5th Floor, Seattle, WA 98104-1060. Martha_J_Droge@nps.gov 206-220-4122

Martha J. Droge, Associate ASLA Landscape Architecture/Master Planning Studios, Ayers/Saint/Gross
Martha J. Droge served for 7 1/2 years as a special agent in the U.S. Department of State's Diplomatic Security Service. As a federal law enforcement officer, she conducted criminal investigations and implemented physical security, personal security, and counter-terrorism programs domestically and at U.S. embassies abroad. Ms. Droge holds graduate degrees in both landscape architecture and urban & environmental planning.

Martha J. Droge, AICP, ASLA, LEED AP, is a Program Officer for the National Park Service's Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) State & Local Assistance Programs in the Seattle Regional Office. She coordinates the creation and application of SCORPs in numerous states in her daily work with the LWCF park projects grant program. Previously, Martha served as the Kitsap County Park Projects Coordinator where she oversaw planning and capital projects for a 6,000 acre public park system. For several years she specialized in site analysis, sustainable design, master planning, public process facilitation, health impact assessments, and stakeholder development as a consultant for design firms in Seattle and Baltimore. Martha holds graduate degrees in both Landscape Architecture and Urban & Environmental Planning from the University of Virginia. She is the co-author of Site Security Design: Analysis, Assessment and Landscape Architectural Solutions (pub. 2005, Wiley & Sons) and several news and trade publication articles.

A Designated Safety Corridor is a segment of a state highway that has been identified as having a higher than average incidence of fatal and serious injury crashes, and the Commissioners of Transportation & Public Facilities and Public Safety have agreed to provide funding for effective education, enforcement, engineering, and support emergency response agencies for those sections of road.

Currently the Seward (May 2006), the Parks (October 2007), the Knik/Goose Bay Road and the Sterling (both in July 2009) are the four designated Safety Corridors in Alaska. Fatal and major injury crashes are a serious problem in the Safety Corridors. DOT&PF and DPS are tasked by law with the responsibility of reducing these crashes. It is recognized that these roads are at or near traffic volume capacity. Long term, major road projects are needed to address traffic volume growth. In the immediate term, cost-effective solutions will be pursued to reduce severe crashes. Fatal and major injury crashes are down by almost 40% overall since May 2006.

Fatal crashes are up primarily on the Seward Highway. This is a volatile indicator which can vary year to year due to very small numbers. One fatal crash each year makes the difference in whether the trend is up or down, and in 2008 there were two fatal crashes above average.

In 2006, the portion of the **Seward Highway between MP 87-117 was designated a Traffic Safety Corridor due to frequency and severity of crashes.** This makes MP 87-117 eligible for funding to

increase enforcement and education and to implement safety measures such as improved signage and centerline/shoulder rumble strips. A recent Traffic Safety Corridor audit shows that safety improvements implemented since the designation have resulted in an approximately 33% reduction in fatal and major injury crashes.

John F. Bennett, PLS, SR/WA *Senior Land Surveyor – Right of Way Services*

R&M CONSULTANTS, INC. | 212 Front Street, Ste. 150 | Fairbanks, Alaska 99701
907.458.4304 direct | 907.687.3412 mobile

[Facebook](#) | [LinkedIn](#) | rmconsult.com

Innovating Today for Alaska's Tomorrow