

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE ALASKA ROAD COMMISSION

FISCAL YEAR 1930

REPORT UPON THE CONSTRUCTION AND
MAINTENANCE OF MILITARY AND POST
ROADS, BRIDGES AND TRAILS; AND OF
OTHER ROADS, TRAMWAYS, FERRIES,
BRIDGES, TRAILS, AND RELATED WORKS
IN THE TERRITORY OF ALASKA

TWENTY-SIXTH ANNUAL
REPORT

1930

PART II
OPERATIONS

BOARD OF ROAD COMMISSIONERS
FOR ALASKA

JUNEAU, ALASKA

1930

Alaska Road Commission,
Juneau, Alaska, October 1, 1930.

The Honorable, The Secretary of War
(Through The Chief of Engineers, United States Army)
Washington, D. C.

SIR:

In compliance with the provisions of Sec. 2 of an Act of Congress approved January 27, 1905, as amended by Act approved May 14, 1906, I have the honor to submit the attached report of the operations of the Board of Road Commissioners for Alaska for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1930:

Maj. Douglas H. Gillette, Corps of Engineers, was relieved as engineer officer of the Commission on February 15, 1930. The undersigned was appointed engineer officer in addition to his duties as president and served as such to include June 24, 1930.

Maj. Layson E. Atkins, Corps of Engineers, reported for duty June 24, 1930, and has served since June 25, 1930 as engineer officer of the Commission.

First Lieut. Philip R. Gargas, Corps of Engineers, assumed the duties of secretary and disbursing officer on August 1, 1929, relieving First Lieut. Emerson C. Itschner, Corps of Engineers, who remained on duty with the Commission to include August 22, 1929. First Lieut. James G. Christiansen, Corps of Engineers, succeeded Lieut. Gargas as secretary and disbursing officer on February 1, 1930. Lieut. Gargas remained on duty with the Commission to include April 4, 1930.

First Lieut. Emerson L. Cummings, Corps of Engineers, remained on duty with the Commission to include August 29, 1929.

Second Lieuts. Leland B. Kuare and Raymond B. Oxrieder, Corps of Engineers, reported for duty August 19, 1929 and have remained on duty with the Commission throughout the remainder of the year.

The duties of this Commission, whose members also serve on river and harbor work under the Chief of Engineers, have required close cooperation with Territorial and Federal agencies. This cooperation has been accomplished without friction and has resulted in efficient execution of public works and economical expenditures of Federal and Territorial funds. These desirable results are attributable in part to the authority vested in the Commission by law to handle its business "of its own motion" and make decisions in Alaska.

The accomplishments during the past year are shown in the report.

Respectfully,

MALCOLM ELLIOTT.

Major, Corps of Engineers, U. S. Army.

President.

CURRENT APPROPRIATION.

Construction and Maintenance of Roads, Bridges, and Trails. Alaska: For the construction, repair, and maintenance of roads, tramways, ferries, bridges, and trails, Territory of Alaska, to be expended under the direction of the Board of Road Commissioners described in Section 2 of an Act entitled "An Act to provide for the construction and maintenance of roads, the establishment and maintenance of schools, and the care and support of insane persons in the District of Alaska, and for other purposes," approved January 27, 1905, as amended by the Act approved May 14, 1906, and to be expended conformably to the provisions of said Act as amended to be immediately available. (Act of May 28, 1930).

OPERATIONS DURING THE FISCAL YEAR.

The work during the fiscal year ending June 30, 1930, was executed under appropriations for "Construction and maintenance of roads, bridges, and trails, Alaska, 1929-1930" approved February 28, 1929, and "1930-1931," approved May 28, 1930, and from receipts from the "Alaska Fund," Act of Congress approved January 27, 1905, as amended by Act approved May 14, 1906. Work was also done which was covered by funds contributed by the Territory of Alaska, the National Park Service and others, Act of Congress approved June 30, 1921.

The work in the last fiscal year was largely directed to maintaining the existing system and the improvement of the more important routes for the use of motor vehicles. New construction was confined to a few major projects upon which work has been in progress for several years.

The work accomplished during the fiscal year may be summarized as follows:

New construction: 37 miles road, 38 miles trail, 780 linear feet bridges over 60 ft. span, 11 airplane landing fields, and 14 shelter cabins.

Improvement: 58½ miles road reconstructed, 68½ miles road surfaced, 2 miles Tolovana tramway rebuilt and numerous small bridges and culverts rebuilt.

Maintenance: 1342½ miles road, 85 miles tramway, 905¼ miles sled road, 4277¼ miles permanent trail, 314 miles temporary flagged trail, 736 miles telephone lines, 29 airplane landing fields and 40 shelter cabins.

Total for all classes of work: 7126¼ miles consisting of 1504½ miles of road, 87 miles tramway, 905¼ miles sled road, 4315¼ miles of permanent trail, 314 miles temporary flagged trail.

The more important roads upon which new construction was performed were the McCarthy-Nizina, Chatanka-Circle, Mount McKinley National Park, Gulkana-Chistochina, Long-Poorman, Haines-Chilkoot, Kaslof, Iliamna, Circle Hot Springs and Nome-Council. The bridge renewal program was continued. The more important structures upon which new construction or extensive repairs were performed included bridges across Chistochina River, Noyes Slough and East Fork.

The important Richardson Highway was maintained open during the entire season. Improvement to new standard was continued and except for a few short sections this road is now in excellent condition for auto traffic. As a result of the rapid improvement both local and tourist travel has continued to increase. During the 1930 season tourist travel began in June.

Surfacing of the Steese Highway was continued. As a result of the improvement traffic over this route continued to increase. During the 1930 season travel began over this route in May.

Construction of the road from Gulkana on the Richardson Highway to Chisana, through the mineralized belt north of the Wrangell Mountains was continued. This is now the major new project under construction.

Work was started late in 1929 and an unusual amount of precipitation during the summer greatly retarded the progress of the work.

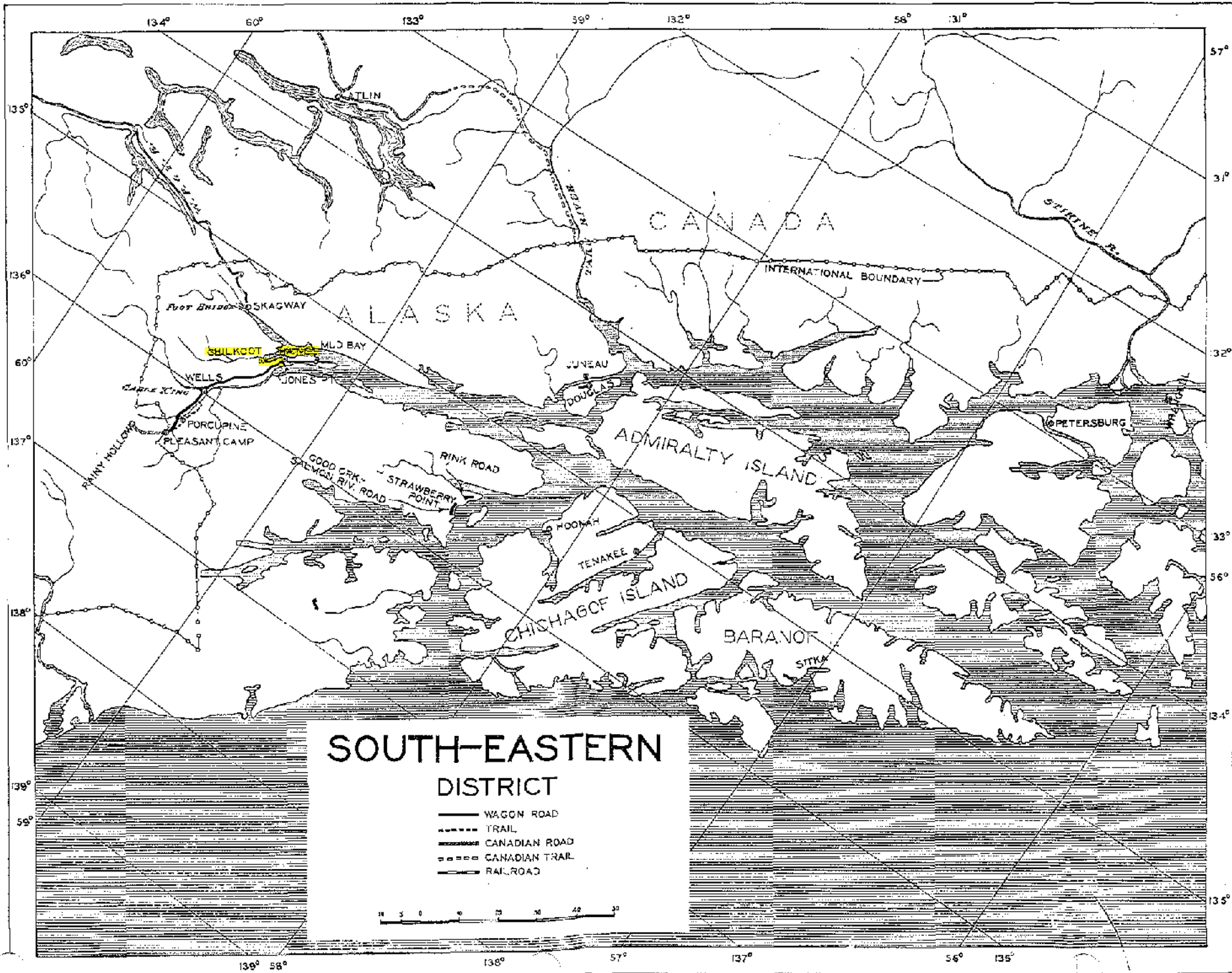
The roads constructed by the Commission, originally intended for wagon traffic are now generally of higher standard suitable for automobiles and light trucks. The demand for roads of this type is increasing, and effort is made in each case to provide a gravel surface for the road.

ORGANIZATION.

The headquarters of the Commission are located at Juneau; a sub-office is maintained at Washington, D. C., as required. The Territory is divided into seven districts and three sub-districts with boundaries as shown on the maps accompanying the district reports herein.

Each district is in charge of a Superintendent who supervises the work of the local foremen. The members of the organization are experienced men who in nearly all cases have been with the Commission many years.

No.	Sub-project Name	Federal Appropriations and "Alaska Fund"	Contributed Funds	Supervised Funds	Grand Total	Construction	Maintenance
1*	Prince of Wales Island	\$ 55,854.28	\$ 7,597.98	\$	\$ 63,452.26	\$ 42,811.86	\$ 21,038.40
2A*	Autie Bay Extension	11,286.13	14,879.66	1,247.64	27,413.43	18,104.33	12,390.30
21*	Mendenhall Glacier Extension	15,160.21			15,160.21	7,506.64	7,654.67
20*	Eagle River Extension	16,066.57		2,306.75	18,373.32	15,002.32	3,371.00
21*	Junoon-Duck Creek	99,731.04		9,927.23	109,658.27	78,497.72	31,250.55
22*	Goldmine Channel Bar		926.00	38,621.83	39,547.83	28,621.83	926.00
22*	Gold Creek Bridge, Junoon			2,156.76	2,156.76		
20*	Alaska Junoon Mine Trail			831.66	831.66		
211	Junoon Wharf	23,166.31	7,050.00		30,216.31	30,216.31	
3A	Haines-Webb	189,860.57	44,687.43		234,548.00	134,629.39	109,918.61
3B	Pleasant Camp Extension	99,639.29	73,869.80		173,509.09	142,194.20	21,314.89
3C	Porcupine Extension	46,591.63	1,040.00		47,631.63	38,554.59	9,077.04
3D	Haines-Mud Bay	2,970.27	10,790.00	16,368.16	30,128.43	18,897.46	11,226.27
3E	Haines-Chilkoot		10,663.32	6,362.74	17,026.06	16,756.16	869.90
3F	Haines-Jones Point		225.00	2,093.45	2,318.45	1,553.46	764.99
4A**	Donnelly-Washburn	33,480.06			33,480.06	18,866.40	14,594.66
4AA	Richardson-Democrat Creek		1,820.59	500.00	2,320.59	2,320.59	
4BA	Valdez-Ptarmigan Drop	974,748.83			974,748.82	470,656.65	504,192.37
4BB	Ptarmigan Drop-Ernestine	439,896.81			439,896.81	171,227.66	268,669.25
4C	Ernestine-Willow Creek	354,971.63			354,971.63	177,499.85	177,471.78
4D	Willow Creek-Gulkana	579,431.63			579,431.63	246,394.68	333,037.05
4E	Gulkana-Sourdough	364,551.41			364,551.41	144,173.70	220,377.71
4F	Sourdough-Mila 168	391,999.33			391,999.33	156,258.29	165,741.04
4G	Mila 168-Delta River	423,701.65			423,701.65	154,416.89	269,284.76
4111	Delta River-Rapids	678,376.91			678,376.91	254,366.60	418,414.51
4112	Rapids-Chandler	352,254.21			352,254.21	124,386.42	227,867.79
41	Chandler-Richardson	343,246.60			343,246.60	121,294.00	221,952.60
4J	Richardson-Sukhaket	439,878.34			439,878.34	216,518.01	223,360.33
4JA	Lake Harding Road	4,763.40			4,763.40	3,100.76	1,662.64
4K	Sukhaket-Patrbanks	625,788.61			625,788.61	264,962.87	360,825.74
4KA	Satcha Bridge	69,537.02			69,537.02	50,376.67	19,160.35
5**	Ester-Dunbar	19,406.18			19,406.18	13,024.18	6,781.90
5A	Dunbar-Tanana	87,239.22			87,239.22	60,260.69	36,969.53
5B	Nenana-Campbells	1,546.61	830.00		2,026.61	1,219.01	106.60
5C	Fish Lake-American Creek		7,501.43		7,501.43	5,766.53	1,734.90
6D	American Creek Aviation Field		550.00	320.00	870.00	246.00	
6E	Tanana Aviation Field		3,899.26		3,899.26	3,899.26	
6F	Illisnoo Creek-Morin Creek	1,178.89			1,178.89	1,178.89	
6A	Willow Creek-Poncha	279,769.27			279,769.27	109,669.78	170,108.49



SOUTHEASTERN DISTRICT.

Supervised from Juneau Office.

Lt. E. C. Itchner, July 1 to July 31, 1929.

Lt. P. R. Garges, Aug. 1, 1929 to Jan. 31, 1930.

Lt. J. G. Christensen, Feb. 1 to June 30, 1930.

Joe McKenzie, General Foreman, Haines.

Peter Trierschild, General Foreman, Sitka.

This district embraces all the territory east of the 141st meridian, the so-called Panhandle.

Due to the rugged topography and the excellent system of sheltered waterways through transportation will always be by water, short road systems serving areas developed along the coast.

All road expenditures in this district were upon co-operative projects supported by the Territory and the Alaska Road Commission, with the exception of the Haines-Chilkoot, Gastineau Bar and Sitka-Pioneer Cemetery Road, which are exclusively Territorial projects. The Sitka National Monument is a co-operative project with the National Park Service, and the Sitka National Cemetery is largely supported by funds from the Quartermaster General.

SUMMARY OF SUB-PROJECTS.

Sub-Project	Name of Sub-Project	Road	Trail	Total Miles
1000	Gastineau Channel Bar	—	—	—
1001	Juneau Wharf	—	—	—
1002	Haines-Wells	24 $\frac{1}{2}$	—	24 $\frac{1}{2}$
1003	Pleasant Camp Extension	17 $\frac{1}{2}$	—	17 $\frac{1}{2}$
1004	Porcupine Extension	5	15	20
1005	Haines-Mud Bay	19	—	19
1006	Haines-Chilkoot	3	—	3
1007	Haines-Jones Point	—	—	—
1008	Sitka-Indian River	11 $\frac{1}{2}$	—	11 $\frac{1}{2}$
1009	Sitka National Monument	—	—	—
1010	Sitka National Cemetery	—	2	2
1011	Sitka Pioneer Cemetery Road	—	—	—
1012	National Cemetery Road	—	—	—
1013	Douglas-Gastineau Channel	2	—	2
1014	Skagway Trails	—	6	6
1015	Skagway Aviation Field	—	—	—
1016	Good Creek-Salmon River	11 $\frac{1}{2}$	—	11 $\frac{1}{2}$
1017	Elk River	—	—	—
	Totals	67 $\frac{1}{2}$	23	90 $\frac{1}{2}$

(*) Cooperative with Territory of Alaska.

(**) Entirely supported by Territorial Funds.

DESCRIPTION.

For detailed description see Part II Annual Report for 1929. The following changes and additions should be noted:

3E—This road was relocated. The route now follows the shore

line, well above high tide, around the peninsula north of Haines. It is suitable for light motor traffic.

44B—This aviation field is located in the north end of the Skagway townsite. It is laid out 310 ft. by 1960 ft.

OPERATIONS DURING THE YEAR.

Important operations other than routine maintenance are summarized by subprojects as follows:

3E—Two and one-fourth miles of this road were reconstructed on a new location. The work involved the removal of 6,226 cu. yds. rock and 1,298 cu. yds. earth. 496 cu. yds. of surfacing were placed on three-fourths mile of road. Labor valued at \$1,000 was furnished by residents along the route.

14—A 60-ft. span was constructed (renewal) over Indian River.

14A—A 60-ft. section of bulkhead protecting the west abutment of footbridge over Indian River was rebuilt.

14B—Forty-nine interments of bodies from abandoned military posts were made. The road inside the boundaries of the cemetery was continued.

44B—Necessary surveys were made, the area cleared and grading is 40 per cent complete.

81—A landing dock, 30 ft. by 42 ft., was constructed off the shore opposite the mouth of Salmon River to replace the scow originally used.

EAGLE SUB-DISTRICT.

Supervised from the Juneau Office.

D. F. Millard, General Foreman in Charge, Eagle.

June 1 to October 31, 1929.

April 1 to June 30, 1930.

This sub-district includes that part of the Territory north of 63° 30' north latitude and east of the 144th meridian. It includes a region of early development in the history of Alaska. During the past few years, no extensive development has occurred. The system of winter sled roads and summer trails giving access from Eagle to the Fortymile and Seventymile districts, includes the most important projects within the sub-district.

All projects in this sub-district are supported by the Alaska Road Commission exclusively, with the exception of shelter cabins and aviation fields which are supported by the Territory exclusively.

EXPENDITURES IN DETAIL—CONTRIBUTED FUNDS.

(Included in Preceding Table).

FIRST DIVISION.

Acct. No.	Name of Sub-Project	Federal	Territorial	Total
2E	Gastineau Channel Bar	\$	\$ 361.00	\$ 361.00
3A	Haines-Wells	1,777.36	3,375.87	5,153.23
3E	Pleasant Camp Extension	711.91	1,500.00	2,211.91
3C	Porcupine Creek	35.00	65.00	100.00
3D	Haines-Mud Bay	183.00	349.00	532.00
3E	Haines-Chilkoot		10,393.82	10,393.82
14	Sitka-Indian River	135.39	299.00	434.39
14A	Sitka National Monument	35.41	611.65(b)	647.06
14E	Sitka Military Cemetery	1,499.89(a)		1,499.89
14C	Pioneer Cemetery Road		129.31	129.31
14D	National Cemetery Road	35.63	79.00	114.63
40	Douglas Road	191.20	410.00	601.20
44A	Skagway Trails	80.00	150.00	230.00
44B	Skagway Aviation Field		3,600.00	3,600.00
81	Good Creek-Salmon River	1,265.21	2,410.00	3,675.21
	Totals	\$ 5,891.33	\$ 23,711.65	\$ 29,602.98

(a) Allotted by the Quartermaster General.

(b) Contributed by the National Park Service.

SECOND DIVISION.

Acct. No.	Name of Sub-Project	Federal	Territorial	Total
8	Nome-Council	\$ 12,875.28	\$ 6,025.88	\$ 18,901.16
8D	Council-Ophir	726.92	450.00	1,176.92
8H	Casa de Paga Road	3,133.99	2,000.00	5,133.99
8L	Port Safety Aids		120.00(a)	120.00
12A	Nome-Bessie	4,295.67	2,721.85(b)	7,017.52
12B	Bessie-Snake River	2,002.55	1,200.00	3,202.55
12C	Bessie-Little Creek	90.62	60.00	150.62
12F	Nome-Osborne	2,320.81	1,350.00	3,670.81
12K	Bessie-Buster	1,827.69	1,050.00	2,877.69
12M	Nome Depot	3,072.99		3,072.99
18	Kaltag-Nome	1,740.33	1,500.00	3,240.33
18A	Bonanza-Kotzebue	1,157.60	750.00	1,907.60
18B	Golovin-Council	99.00	80.00	179.00
18D	Unalakleet Aviation Field		795.17	795.17
18E	Solomon Aviation Field		39.20	39.20
18F	Golovin Aviation Field		948.10	948.10
18G	Moses Aviation Field		22.20	22.20
18H	Kaltag-Unalakleet Telephone Line		400.35	400.35
21	Unalakleet-St. Michael	939.76	690.00	1,629.76
25D	Mouth of Center Creek	4,808.43	2,552.60	7,361.03
25E	Submarine Paystreak	239.74	150.00	389.74
25L	Nome Aviation Field		1,197.37	1,197.37
25M	Telephone Lines Seward Peninsula		2,493.61	2,493.61
25P	Nome Harbor Lights		192.13(b)	192.13
28	Candle-Candle Creek	2,274.99	1,350.00	3,624.99
28E	Bear Creek Trail	7.09	8.00	15.09
28D	Kiwalk Aviation Field		136.50	136.50
28E	Candle Aviation Field		1,095.00	1,095.00
28F	Telephone Line Reconnaissance		148.00	148.00
27	Deering-Innatchuk	2,423.63	2,200.00	4,623.63
27A	Deering Aviation Field		576.50	576.50
23	Shelton-Candle	23.00	12.00	35.00
22A	Nome-Serpentine Hot Springs	2,213.13	1,200.00	3,413.13
37B	Bluff Aviation Field		80.00	80.00
41	Klana-Klery Creek	30.46	18.00	48.46
41A	Kotzebue-Shungnak	299.33	180.00	479.33
41D	Kotzebue Aviation Field		427.50	427.50
41E	Kobuk Aviation Field		1,000.00	1,000.00

ANNUAL REPORT ALASKA ROAD COMMISSION.

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Fiscal Year 1930:

1. For the Territory of Alaska:		
Lower Tonsina Aviation Field	\$ 1,000.00	
2. For the Chief of Engineers, U. S. Army:		
Improvement Nome Harbor	32,504.99	
Improvement Wrangell Narrows	43,454.07	
Examinations, Surveys and Contingencies ..	15,897.32	
3. Miscellaneous:		
Tazewell-Chilkoot Road	1,050.00	
Fairbanks Airport	500.00	
Itn City-Goodwin	500.00	
Ivon Creek-American Creek	500.00	
Total		\$ 96,386.29
III. Total Supervised Funds		\$2,352,518.41
Grand Total, all funds		\$19,101,300.43