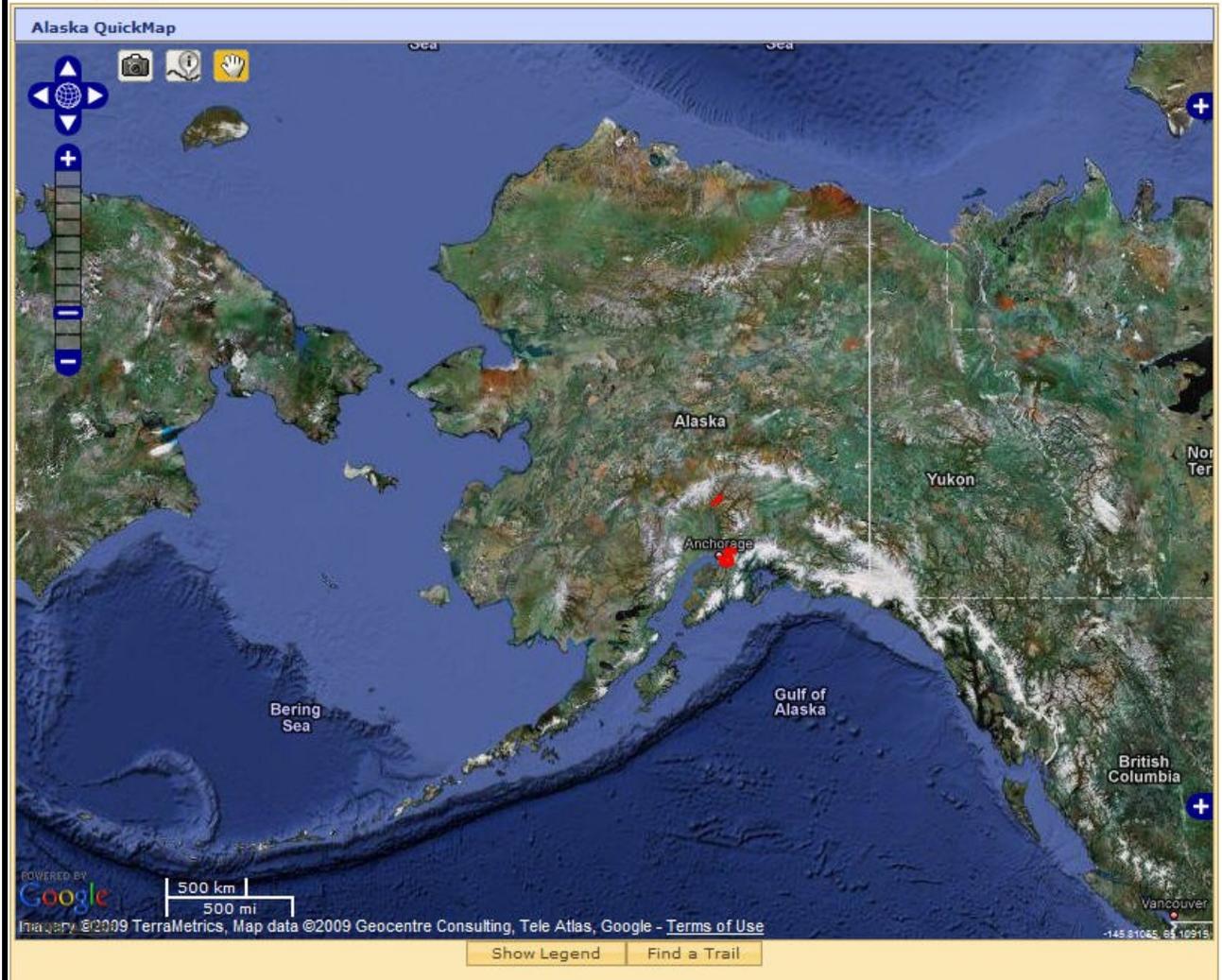




# Alaska State Trails Program

Alaska Department of Natural Resources, Division of Parks and Outdoor Rec.



## User Guide

Version 3.0 – December 2009<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> The screenshots in this document are currently in development and will change once the design is complete. The icons will move to the right of the screen and the latitude/longitude coordinates will display in the Alaska QuickMap header bar.

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## **Introduction**

### **What is Alaska State Trails Program?**

The Alaska Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Alaska State Trails Program is a web-based application that provides trail information from databases maintained by the Division of Parks and Recreation, the Information Resource Management Section and other divisions within the DNR. The Alaska State Trails Program is integrated with the Alaska QuickMap interface to provide intuitive user interaction in a few simple steps. The versatile user interface allows you to interact with the trail and view images, trail information, and an Adobe PDF trail map. The Adobe PDF document can be saved or printed to a specified printer.

### **About This User Guide**

This user guide serves as a reference to the features and functions of the Alaska State Trails Program.

## **System Requirements**

### **Supported Browsers**

The Alaska State Trails Program is compatible with Internet Explorer versions 5.5.x, 6.x and 7.x.

### **Recommendations for Best Performance**

For best performance, we recommend that your system have the following:

- Screen resolution of at least 1024 x 768 pixels,
- Ability to display at least 24-bit color video, and
- Adobe Acrobat Reader browser plug-in.

## Getting Started

### Accessing Alaska State Trails Program

Direct your Web browser to <http://dnr.alaska.gov/aktrails/trails>

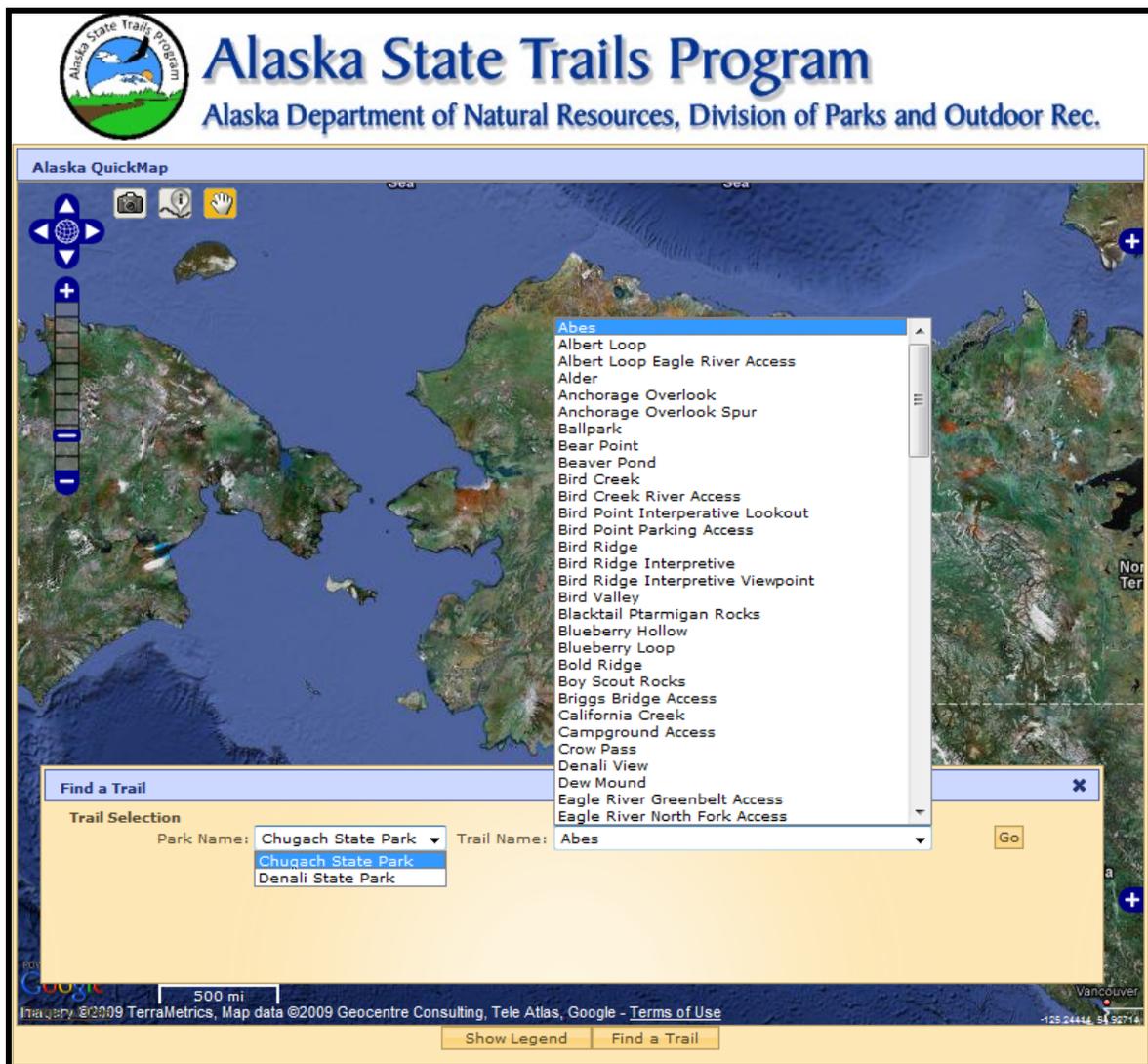
## Alaska State Trails Program Basics

### Navigate To a Trail

The *Find a Trail* navigation box shown in the figure below displays the park and trail options. The "Trail Name" is dependent on the selection made in the "Park Name" drop down. Selecting a park will populate the trails as appropriate for that park. See "Find a Trail" on page 12 for more information about how to find a trail.

**Note:** Only single items may be selected.

Figure 1 – Navigation Links



## **Processing Requests**

Retrieving data is initiated in two ways: (1) retrieving data with the **Trails**

**Information** button is displayed as,  triangle icon, (flashes yellow, than turns green) and; (2) retrieving data with the **View Photo** button is displayed as a

flashing grey  camera icon.

- Flashing from red to green indicates the program is retrieving data.
- A solid green triangle/camera indicates the data has been retrieved and data shows up in a separate pop-up. See Alaska QuickMap Tools on page 7 for more information.
- A solid red triangle/camera icon indicates there is no data. See Alaska QuickMap Tools on page 7 for more information.

**Tip:** If the red icon appears, search again by placing the mouse pointer in the middle of the colored red line or green dot and not t either side of it.

## **Manipulate Pop-Ups**

The pop-up windows can all be moved around on the screen.

### **To Manipulate the Pop-Ups**

1. Click on the pop-up header bar and move the pop-up wherever desired.
2. Click the “x” to the right in the header bar to close the pop-up.

## Alaska Parks Trail Program Elements

The Alaska Parks Trail Program is comprised of five basic elements: the map and its tools, a pop-up window that displays information initiated from the map tools, *Find a Trail* selection, and a show legend & User Guide. Each of the five elements is described in the following sections.

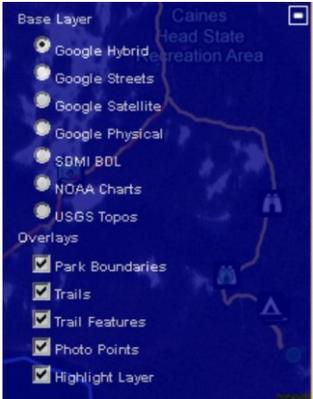
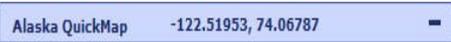
### Alaska QuickMap Overview

The Alaska QuickMap interface displays the base map and overlays trail layers on top of it. The layers are everything that is seen in the legend (see Figure 6).

Using the Alaska QuickMap tools, you can make selections (based on the type of tool you are using) to interact with and manipulate data directly on the map. The following table describes the Alaska QuickMap tools and what they do.

Icon	Name	Description
	Pan	Lets you click on the map and drag it around, altering the part of the map that is viewed.
	Trails Information	This button is used to display simple information about a trail. Along with a PDF: Trail Guide/Map.
	View Photo	This button is used to display images along a trail.
	View Tools	These buttons alter how the map is viewed. Arrow buttons move the map in that direction. The circle in the middle of the arrows returns the map to the default view. The plus button zooms in, the minus button zooms out and the blue marker between the plus and minus buttons shows the level of zoom currently at and can be clicked and dragged to zoom in or out.

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Icon	Name	Description
<p> - click to expand; expanded view shown below:</p> 	<p>Map View (top right) – Base Layer</p>	<p>This tab button exposes or hides the base map layer. Click the minus (-) button to collapse the screen.</p>
<p> - click to expand; expanded view shown below:</p> 	<p>Map View (lower right) – Overview Map</p>	<p>This tab button exposes or hides a map overview. Moving the rectangle changes the area displayed on the base map. Click the minus (-) button to collapse the screen.</p>
	<p>Alaska QuickMap header bar</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The numbers at the top of the map are the latitude/longitude.</li> <li>• The map window can be dragged to another spot on the screen.</li> </ul>

## Alaska QuickMap Tools

The map tools provide additional information about the trails and points of interest.

Map tool functionality is described below:

- In order to use the **View Photos** and **Trails Information** map tools there must be a feature available to select on the map. A feature will show up on the map as a yellow line (trail) or green dot (view point) and is initiated by running queries with the "Trail Selection" navigation box. If a feature is not selected with the appropriate tool nothing will happen.
- Once a map tool is selected it will highlight in orange.
  - This is how the **Pan** map tool looks when it is not selected .
  - This is how the **Pan** map tool looks when it is selected .

## **Alaska State Trails Program User Guide**

- As each map tool is selected the mouse pointer does not change to look like the icon in the map tool. The mouse pointer mimics the functionality of the map tool selected.
- The map tools; **View Photos** and **Trails Information** are interactive tools to select features. As feature becomes selected it has two actions: (1) the action flashes yellow while the selection is being made, and; (2) the action turns green or red (depending on whether or not data is available) when the selection is completed.
- Only one map tool can be used at a time but the pop-up boxes that show the information will stay open.

**Tip:** Select the middle of the yellow trail line or green dot otherwise the **Trail Information** or **View Photos** map tools may look like it is touching the yellow trail line or green dot but is not. If it is not touching the yellow trail line or green dot no information will be returned.

### **Pan Tool**

The **Pan** map tool is used to move the map around. In addition to using the mouse pointer to move the map, the mouse scroll bar can be used to zoom in and out of the map view. By scrolling up with the mouse will zoom the map into a closer view and the view tools slider bar will correspond with the appropriate level of zoom that was created with the mouse scroll bar.

**Note:** The faster you scroll the faster the map will zoom in or out. Additionally, the previous zoom and next zoom tools will remember the last level zoomed into.

### **Trail Information Tool**

The **Trail Information** map tool is used to select a trail on the map. Each trail is represented on the map as a yellow line. Once a trail is selected the map will display a zoomed in view of the trail on the map. The trail will have icons at various points along the line. Figure 1 illustrates this.

When a trail is selected the triangle icon will flash from white to yellow and become a solid green or red. The solid color depends on whether or not there is information about the selected trail. If the trail has information to display it will show up in a separate pop-up window and the triangle icon will turn green. Additionally, the yellow trail line will be overlaid with a dashed orange line as shown in Figure 2. The dashed orange line signifies which trail information is being provided about. If there is no data returned the triangle icon will turn red as shown in Figure 3.

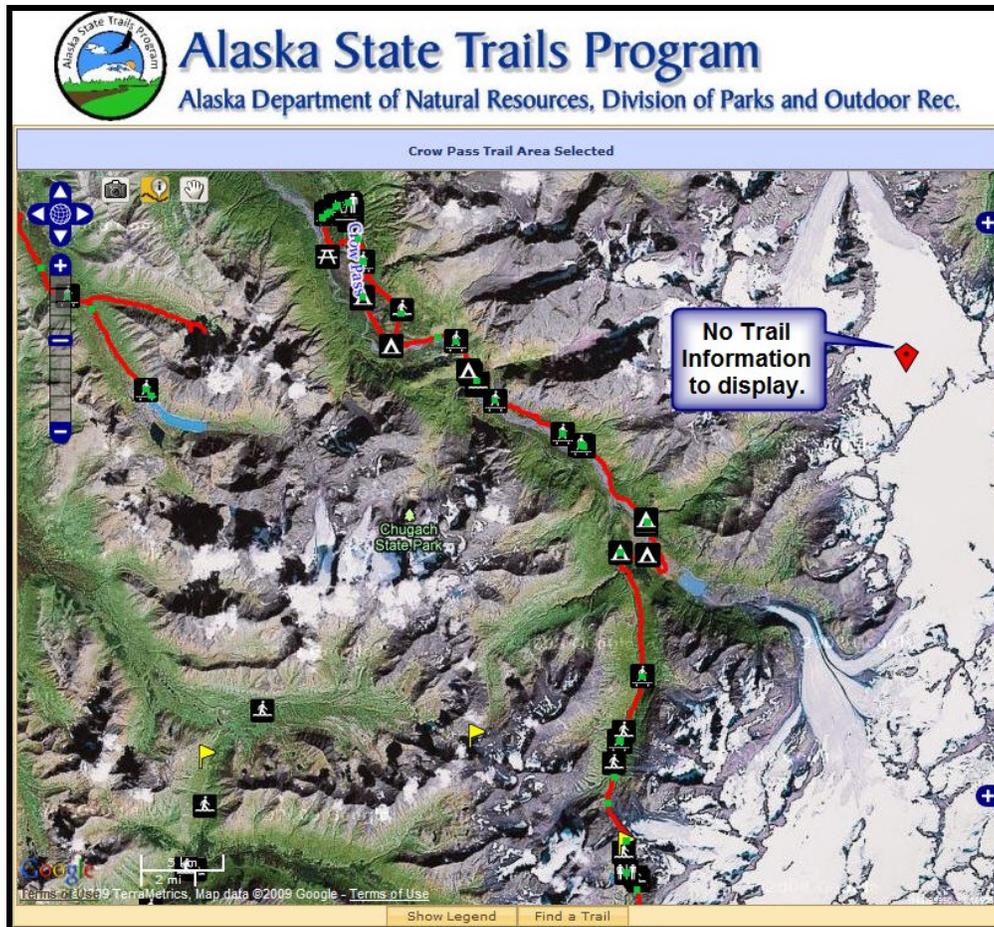
### **Figure 2 – Trail Information**

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**Figure 3 – No Trail Information**

\*\*\*Trail needs to be changed to yellow with orange dotted line\*\*\* on this map remainder of maps in this guide



### **Trail Map PDF**

The *Trail Information* pop-up displays simple information about the trail. The PDF hyperlink opens a new window with a high resolution view of the trail. The PDF shows more detail about the trail and may include the following:

- Topographic birds eyes view of the trail
- Elevation gain over the distance
- Trail difficulty
- Special features

### **View Photo Tool**

The **View Photo** map tool is used to view a photo of the selected site on the trail. Each point that has a viewable photo is represented on the map as a green dot.

When a view point is selected the camera icon will flash gray and become a solid green or red color. The solid color depends on whether or not there is information about the selected view point. If there is an image it will show up in a separate pop-up window as shown in Figure 4. Otherwise the camera icon will turn red.

Figure 4 – View Point Images



Clicking on the image will enlarge the image and open it in another window as shown below. If there is more than one photo the forward and back buttons can be used to view the images. This is shown on the following image.

**Figure 5 – Enlarged Image**



## **Find a Trail**

The *Find a Trail* navigation box shown in Figure 1 displays after the *Find a Trail* tab is selected at the bottom of the map screen. This navigation box displays the park and trail options.

To change the trail that is displayed on the map follow the steps below.

1. Click on the *Find a Trail* tab at the bottom of the map.
2. The *Find a Trail* navigation box displays.
3. The "Trail Name" is dependent on the selection made in the "Park Name" drop down. Selecting a park will populate the trails as appropriate for that park.

**Note:** Only single items may be selected.

4. Click the **Go** button to process the request.

The map will refresh with the map zoomed into the selected trail.

## Map Legend

The map legend is provided to describe the different icons displayed on the map. To view the map legend click on the *View Legend* tab at the bottom of the map screen. A sample map legend is below.

**Figure 6 – Map Legend**



## Map Views

The base map can be changed by selecting the plus signs, , to the right of the Alaska QuickMap interface. To minimize the screens select the minimize button.

### Base Layer

There are seven different base maps that can be used interchangeably on the Alaska QuickMap screen as shown in the table below. Select the top right plus sign to see the different base layer options.

Base Layer Options	Description	Data feeds provided by
Google Hybrid	A hybrid of the satellite and roadmap image, showing a transparent layer of major streets and place names on the satellite image.	Google
Google Streets	A standard roadmap image, as is normally shown on the Google Maps website	Google
Google Satellite	A satellite image.	Google
Google Physical	A physical relief image, showing terrain and vegetation.	Google
SDMI BDL	Alaska Statewide Digital Mapping Initiative (SDMI) Best Data Layer (BDL) provides the best available imagery base layer that covers the entire state of Alaska.	GINA
NOAA Charts	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) nautical charts that cover the coastal waters of Alaska.	GINA
USGS Topos	U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) topographic maps that show and name prominent natural and cultural features, with contours to show the shape and elevation of the terrain.	GINA

### Overview Map

Selecting the bottom plus sign to the right of the Alaska QuickMap interface displays the overview map. Moving the rectangle with the mouse pointer changes the area displayed on the Alaska QuickMap screen.