

## **RS 2477 Rights-of-Way**

Revised statute 2477 is found in the Mining Law of 1866, which granted states and territories rights of way over vacant and unappropriated federal lands. These RS 2477 rights of way are an important tool for preserving public access. During its 84 years of application, many rural mail routes, mining trails, and other transportation corridors were established. The Department of Natural Resources documented these historic routes, and the Legislature listed over 600 hundred. In hopes of benefiting all Alaskans, some routes may be improved for access to valuable state resources, communities, and public land, while others will remain in trail status.