

ALASKA MARINE HIGHWAY SYSTEM



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Status Update: 11-30-2020

Winter Service

AMHS released its 2020-2021 winter schedule in early September. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic and the resulting loss of revenue for the system it was necessary to build the schedule with reduced service to most communities. Please review the latest [Operating Plan](#) for scheduled service gaps.

Fleet Status

MV Kennicott is currently operating Bellingham, Cross Gulf, Prince William Sound and to Kodiak & Homer. The vessel will leave service for its state overhaul in Ketchikan on January 7th and then commence operating in mid-March on the above schedule which will be modified as the Tustumena and Aurora resume service.

MV Lituya is currently operating Ketchikan to Metlakatla and will enter its state overhaul in Ketchikan from January 10th-26th, it will then resume service to Metlakatla.

MV LeConte is currently operating Juneau, North Lynn Canal, and the Northern Panhandle communities, it will enter its state overhaul in Ketchikan on February 15th-April 12th and then resume like service.

MV Matanuska is currently in its state overhaul in Ketchikan and will go into a cost savings layup commencing on January 1st. It will commence Bellingham SE service on February 10th.

MV Aurora is currently at Ketchikan shipyard undergoing extensive steel replacement, along with amenity upgrades and other needed repair items. The ship will proceed into a state overhaul in Ketchikan on January 1st, and will commence Prince William Sound service on April 15.

MV Tustumena is currently at Seward Shipyard undergoing a federal amenities project. It will enter its state overhaul on February 8th which will include repairs to the stabilizer fin that were interrupted in 2020 when technicians had to depart Alaska due to COVID. The Tusty is scheduled to resume Southwest service on April 15th.

MV's Columbia, Tazlina & Hubbard- The Columbia is currently in a cost savings layup in Ketchikan and will begin its annual state overhaul starting in late November. The Tazlina is currently at Vigor Shipyard undergoing its side vehicle door installation scheduled for completion in late January. It will then proceed to its annual state overhaul and go into layup status until further notice. The Hubbard side door installation is complete and the vessel is currently in layup at Vigor Shipyard Ketchikan where it will stay for the remainder of winter.

MV's Malaspina, Fairweather & Chenega – All three vessels are currently in long term layup status in Ward Cove, Ketchikan. No long term decisions have been made for the Malaspina at this time. DOT&PF has tasked a contractor with the sale of both the fast vehicle ferries, Fairweather and Chenega. The vessels are currently for sale via a sealed bidding process. Interest in the vessels has been expressed by several potential buyers.

Safe Travels Initiative

DOT&PF has partnered with the Alaska Department of Health & Social Services (DHSS) and the travel industry to launch "Safe Travels", to promote personal health-safety and to increase awareness about Alaska's COVID-19 health mandates and advisories affecting travel.

Travelers heading to Alaska by land, air, or sea are assured they are receiving the most accurate interstate travel information when they see Safe Travels. Safe Travels amplifies the information about Health Mandate 10 to improve the traveler experience. For more Safe Travels information visit,

www.AlaskaSafeTravels.com.



The Safe Travels initiative and corresponding Safe Travel Portal do not change any travel requirements for AMHS. Please ensure that you read all of the information available on the [Alaska Marine Highway COVID-19 Travel Advisory page](#) before you travel, requirements for ferry travel may differ from state mandates. Some communities also have additional restrictions, so check with local communities about non-essential travel off the road or ferry system.



The Alaska Marine Highway would like to wish everyone a happy, healthy and safe holiday season.

The Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities oversees 239 airports, 10 ferries serving 35 communities, more than 5,800 miles of highway and 776 public facilities throughout the state of Alaska. The mission of the department is to "Keep Alaska Moving through service and infrastructure."

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