



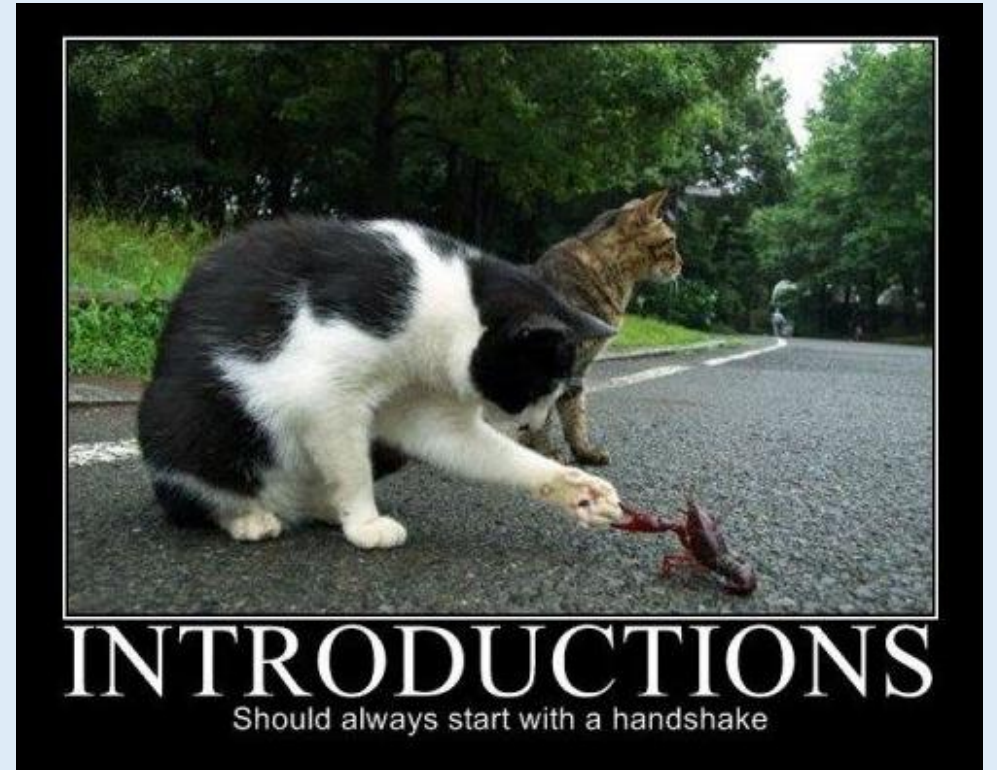
We Found a Thing – What to Do with a Cultural Resource After Discovery

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Goals

- SHPO perspective
 - What should get an AHRS number?
 - What is a site?
 - When to consider a district?
- When to do a National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) Determination of Eligibility (DOE)?



What is the AHRS?

- [The Alaska Heritage Resources Survey \(AHRS\)](#) is a data repository with information on over 48,000 reported cultural resources (archaeological sites, buildings, structures, objects or locations, etc.), from prehistoric to modern, and some paleontological sites within the State of Alaska.
- Cultural resources listed in the AHRS should contribute to our understanding of Alaska's prehistoric and historic cultural heritage and should be important in some manner to be considered a cultural resource.

What is a Cultural Resource?

- Not defined in federal law
- Alaska Statute (AS) 41.35.010:
 - “historic, prehistoric, and archaeological resources” includes deposits, structures, ruins, sites, buildings, graves, artifacts, fossils, or other objects of antiquity which provide information pertaining to the historical or prehistorical culture of people in the state as well as to the natural history of the state.



Should it get an AHRS Number?

- More than a Yes/No question
- What is it?
 - Object, Structure, Site, Building, or District
- Does it contribute to our understanding of Alaska's cultural heritage?

Should it get an AHRS Number?

- Is it cultural (or paleontological)?
- Is it historic (45-50 years old)?
 - If younger, does it have exceptional significance?
- Is it a grave or cemetery?



Should it get an AHRS Number?

- Historic or Prehistoric?
- Is it isolated, generic, or ubiquitous?
 - Culturally modified trees (CMTs)
 - Foxholes
 - Surface isolate
 - Can dump
- Is it part of a larger property?



Should it get an AHRS Number?

- Reasoned judgement call that is articulated in a report
- Consult with OHA



Site

Location of a significant event, prehistoric or historic occupation or activity, or a building or structure, whether standing, ruined, or vanished, where the location itself possesses historic, cultural, or archeological value regardless of the value of any existing structure



Site Examples

- Battlefield
- Campsite
- Ceremonial site
- Designed landscape
- Habitation site
- Petroglyph
- Pictograph
- Rock shelter
- Ruins of a building or structure
- Shipwreck
- Trail
- Village site
- Natural feature (such as a rock formation having cultural significance)



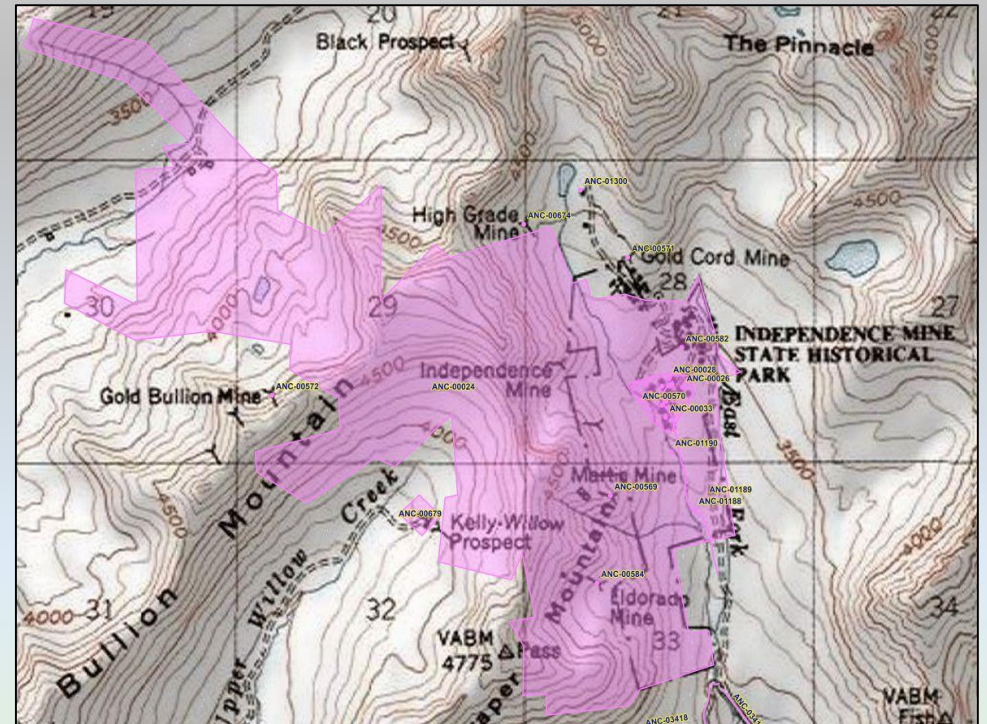


District

Possesses a significant concentration, linkage, or continuity of sites, buildings, structures, or objects united historically or aesthetically by plan or physical development

What is a District?

- Are made up of interrelated resources
- Contributing and non-contributing features
- Contributing properties can be individually distinctive or lack distinction



Independence Mine ANC-024

District Examples

- Business districts
- Canal systems
- Groups of habitation sites
- College campuses
- Farms with large acreage/numerous properties
- Industrial complexes
- Residential areas



District Examples

- Prehistoric archaeology
- Rural villages
- World War II
- Cold War
- Transportation networks



When to do DOEs?

- Process
- Significance
 - District level vs. site level vs. object level
- Efficiency and Management

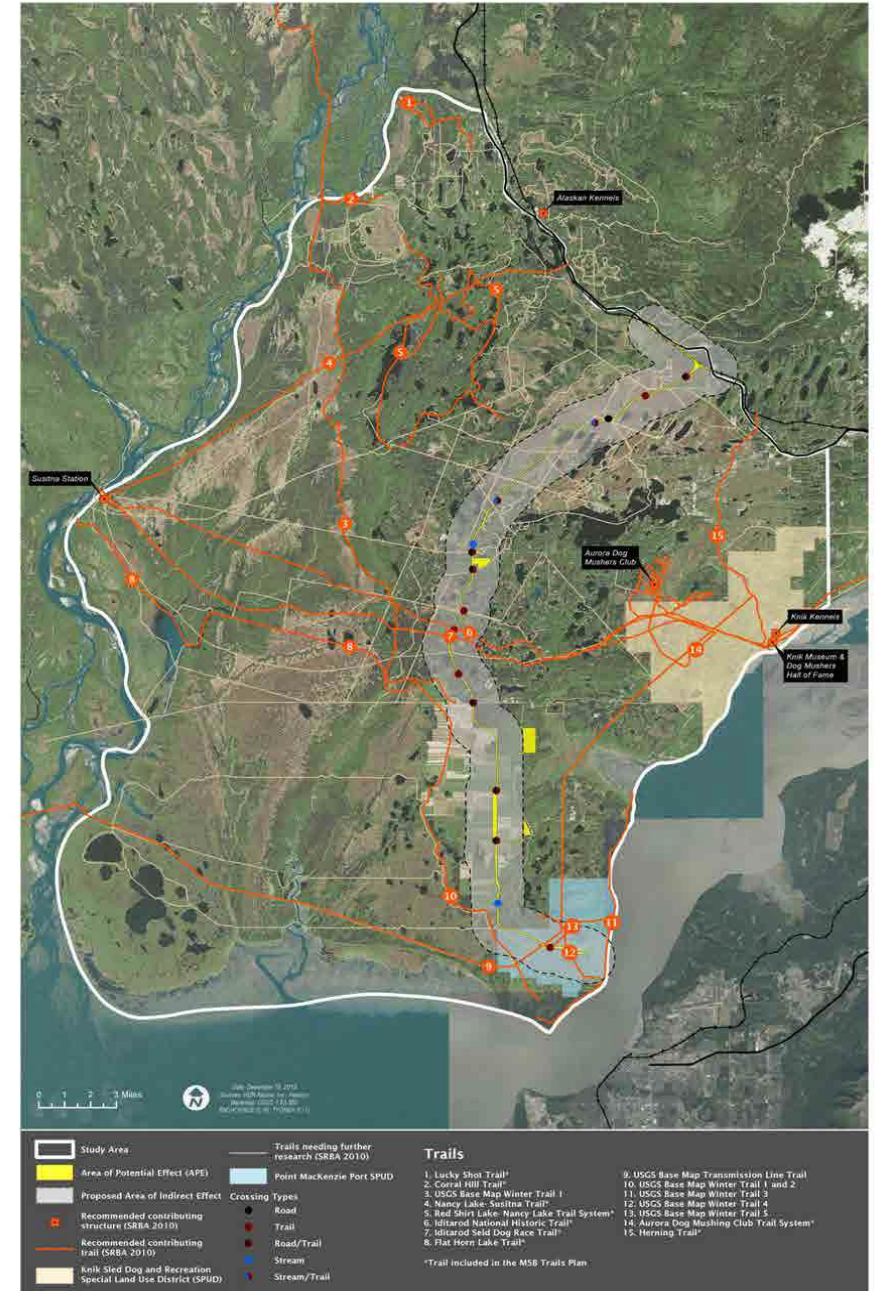


Case Study

Iditarod Dog Sledding Historic District Vernacular Landscape ANC-3326

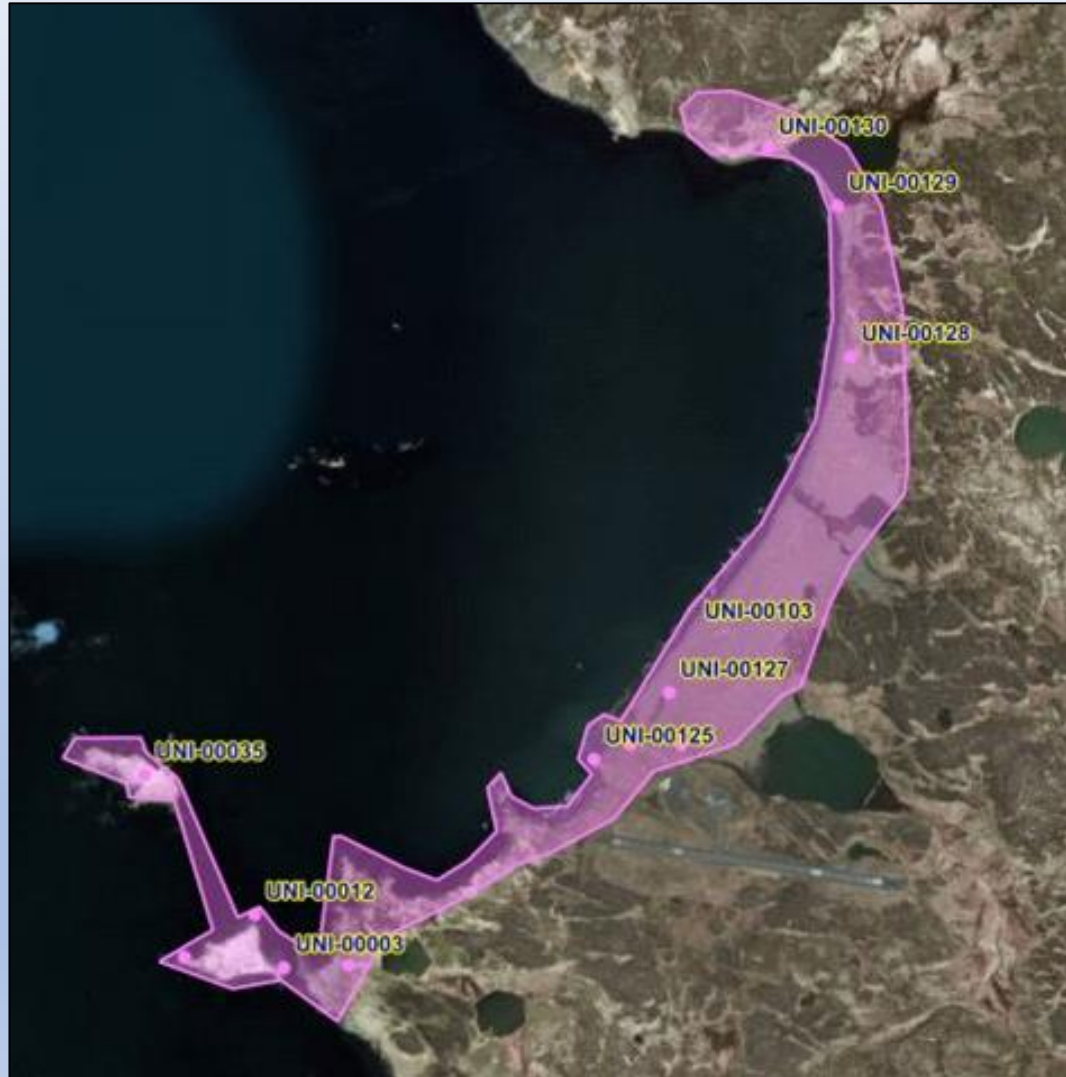


Image from Alaska's Digital Archives n.d.



Case Study

Surf Bay
UNL-00103



In Consideration – Loci, Multiple Sites, or District



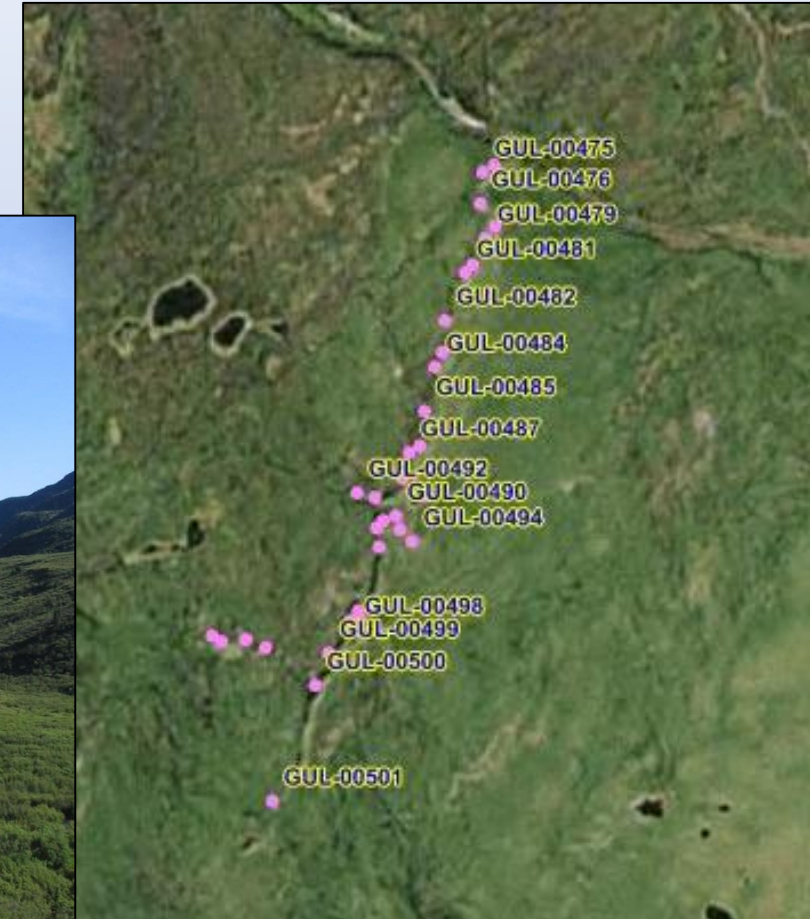
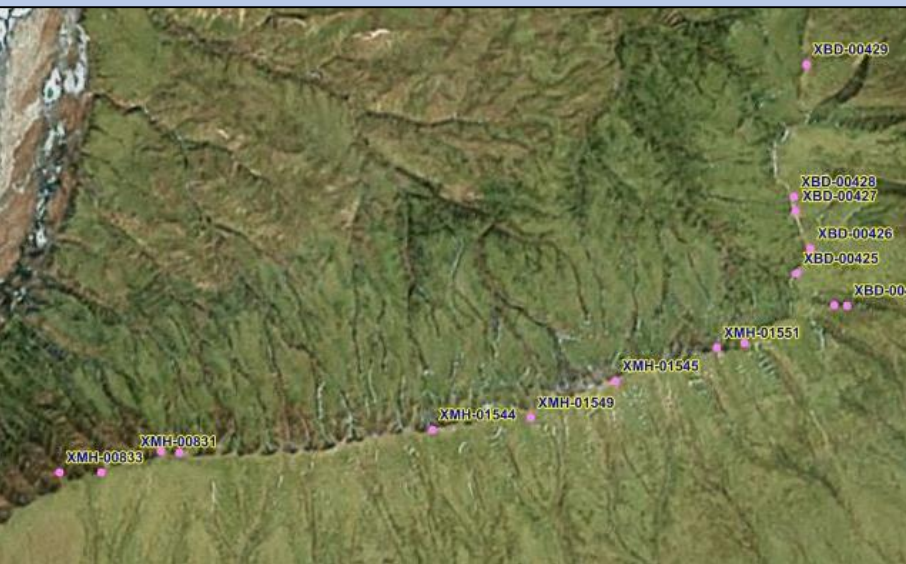
- Distance
- Historic Context
- Relationship



Images from Stern and Johnson 2019

In Consideration – Loci, Multiple Sites, or District

- Distance between cultural materials
 - 50 meters between loci
- Relationship
- Historic Context



In Consideration – Loci, Multiple Sites, or District

- Distance between cultural materials
 - 50 meters between loci
- Relationship
- Historic Context





Q & A

Thank You!

