

# The 2010 Census and the American Community Survey

Greg Williams, PhD  
Alaska State Demographer  
Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce  
Development, Research and Analysis Section.



# 2010 Census

- The 2010 Census will be the basis for Federal Funding for the next 10 years.
- It starts in Rural Alaska in February and runs through May. The reference date is April 1.
- A resident is a persons who says that his current location is his usual residence on census day (the place he/she lives most of the year).
- If a residence is occupied by a non-resident it is counted as vacant.

# 2010 Census

- The 2010 Census will only have a Short Form - that asks Age, Sex, Race, Household relationship for persons in households, and Age, Sex and Race for persons in Group Quarters such as prisons, college dorms and military barracks.
- There will be no Long Form for social and economic information as in the past. That information will be collected by the ongoing American Community Survey.

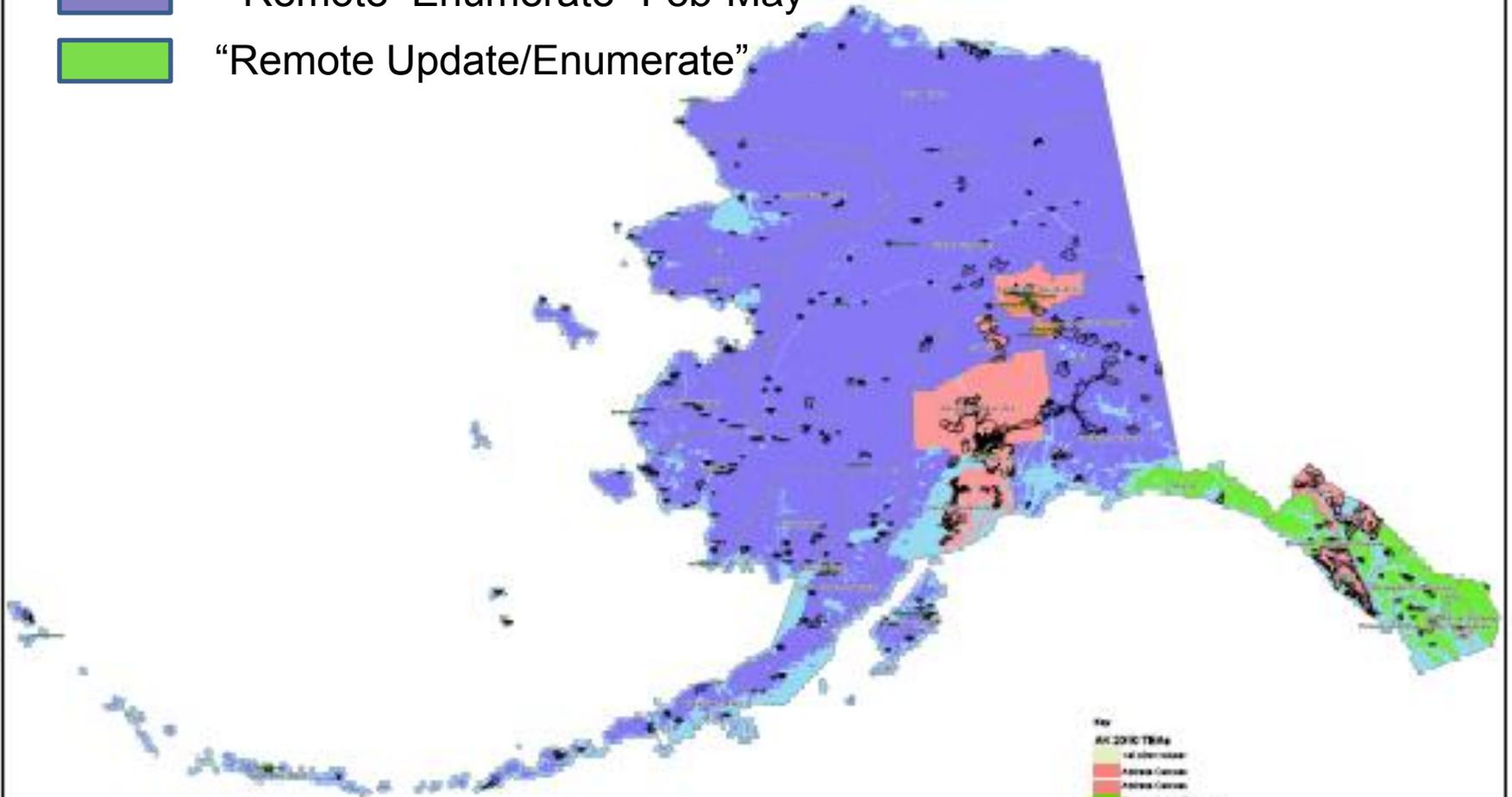
# 2010 Census

- There will be three Types of Enumeration.
  - “Mail Out/Mail Back” – where there is urban mail delivery to an address. (Forms are mailed)
  - “Update/Leave” – where there is an address but mail is received at a PO Box. (Forms are hung on the door and followed up with a visit if not mailed back.)
  - “Remote Alaska” - No urban style address. A team will be sent to each community. Local enumerators will be hired to visit every house and community leader will be asked to sign off on the count. **IT IS ESSENTIAL THAT COMMUNITY LEADERS EVALUATE THIS INFORMATION CAREFULLY!**

# 2010 Census

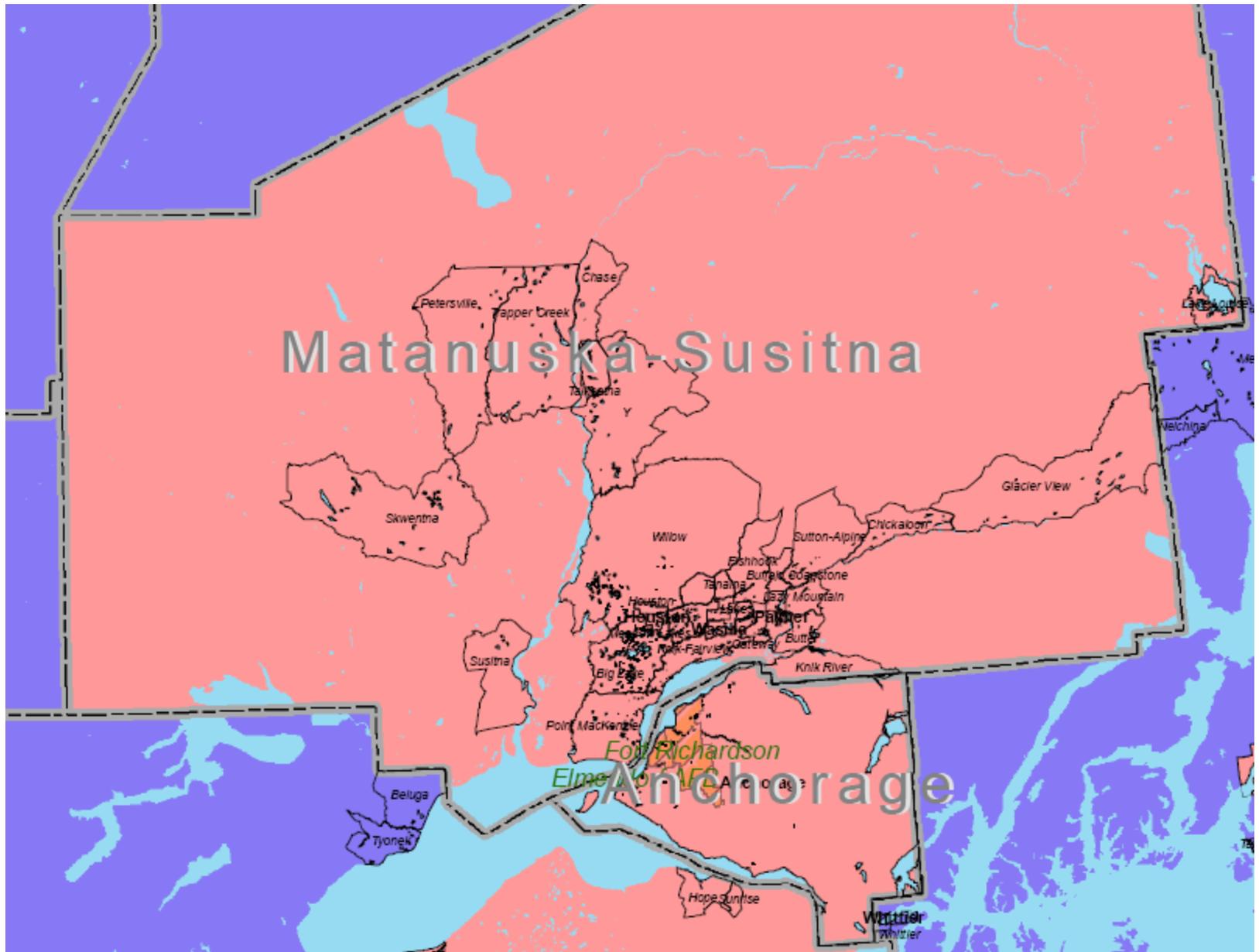
- The following maps show the type of enumeration being used for the 2010 census in various parts of Alaska

-  "Mail Out/Mail Back" & "Update Leave"
-  "Remote Enumerate" Feb-May
-  "Remote Update/Enumerate"

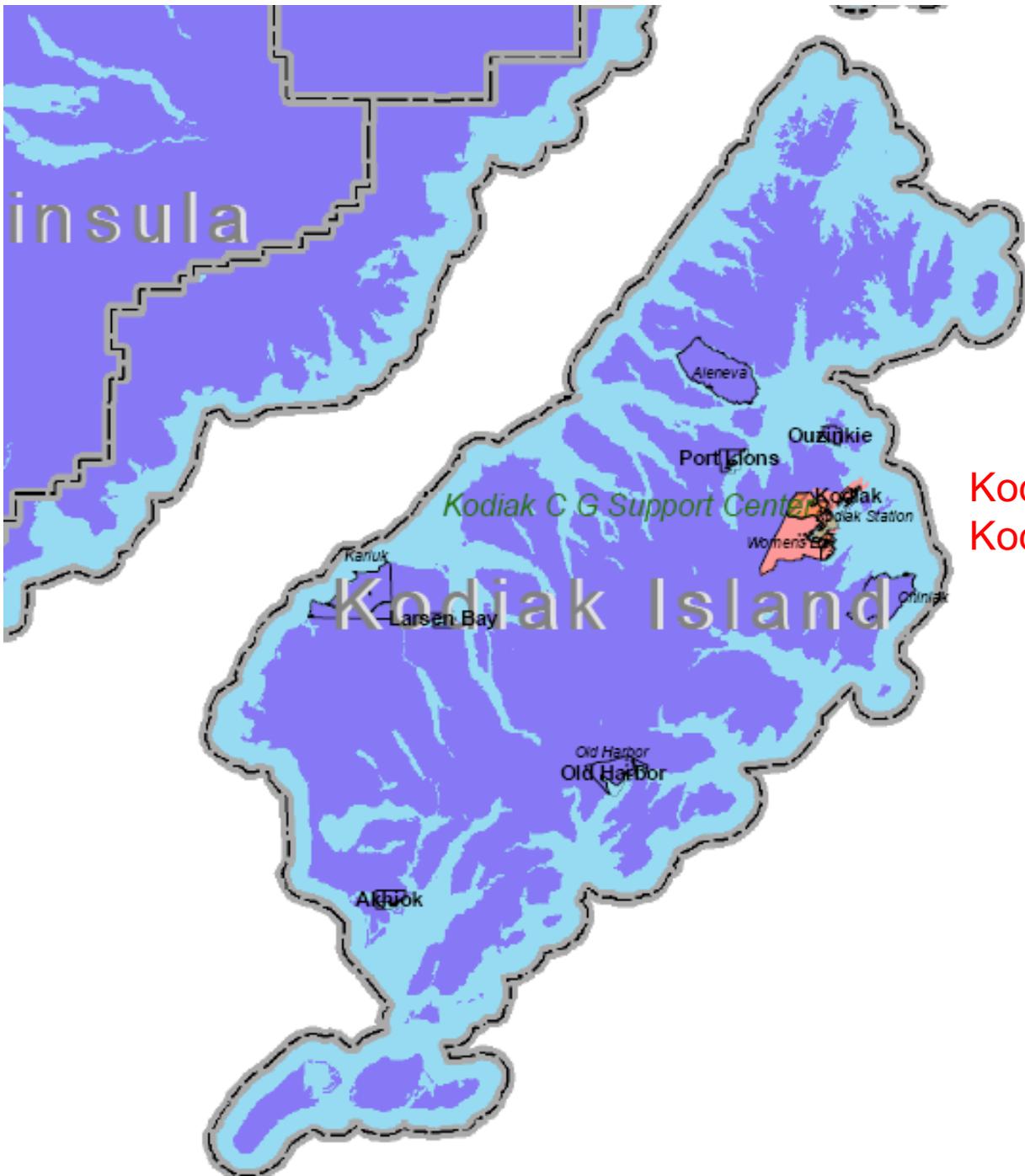


Map  
AK 2010 TRM  
all interview  
Anchorage Census  
Anchorage Census  
Fairbanks/Juneau Census  
Fairbanks/Juneau

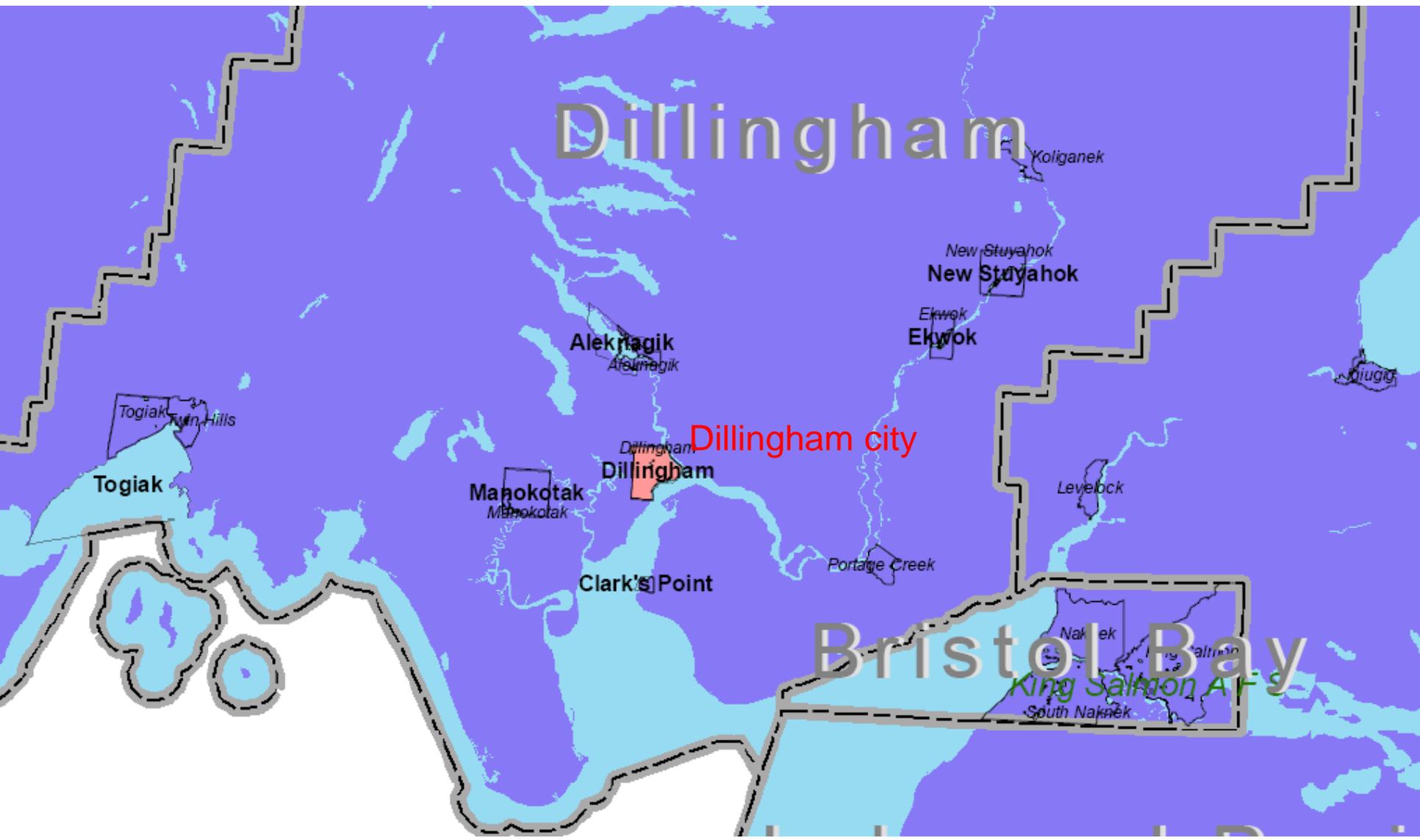








Kodiak City and  
Kodiak Station



# Dillingham

Dillingham city

# Bristol Bay

King Salmon AF's

Togiak  
Togiak  
Togiak Hills

Manokotak  
Manokotak

Clark's Point

Dillingham  
Dillingham

Alektagik  
Alektagik

New Stuyahok  
New Stuyahok

Ekwok  
Ekwok

Levelock

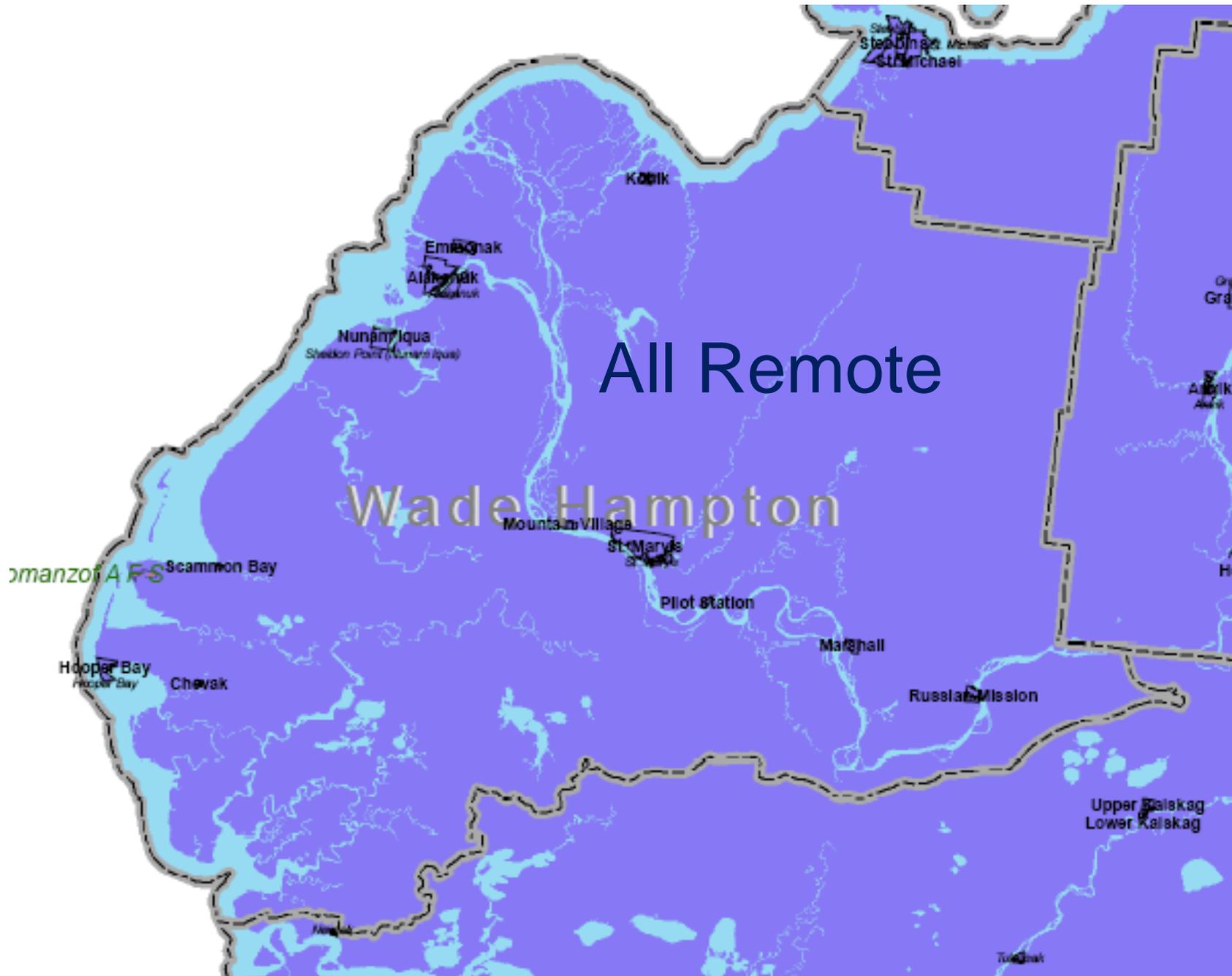
Portage Creek

Naknek

South Naknek

Ugig

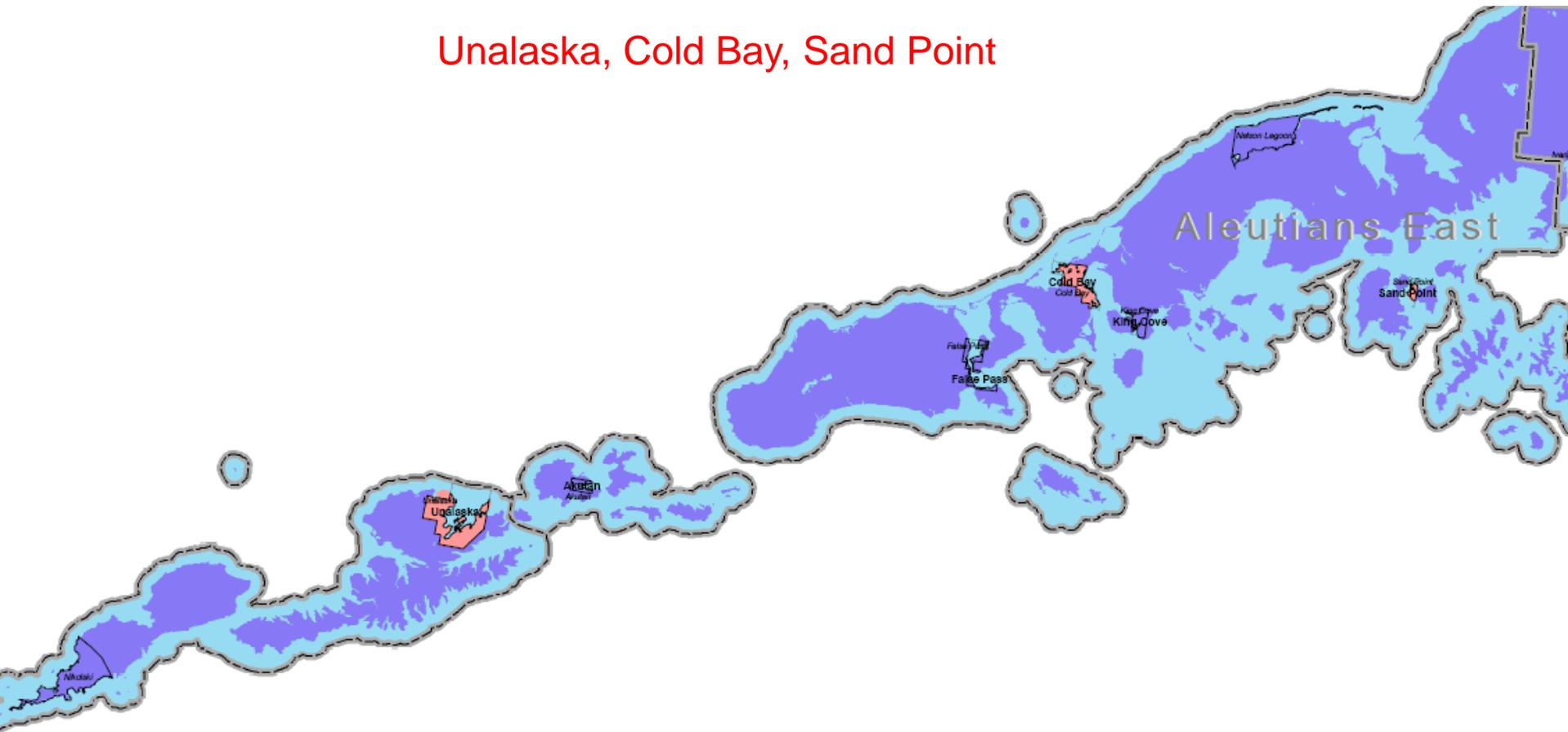


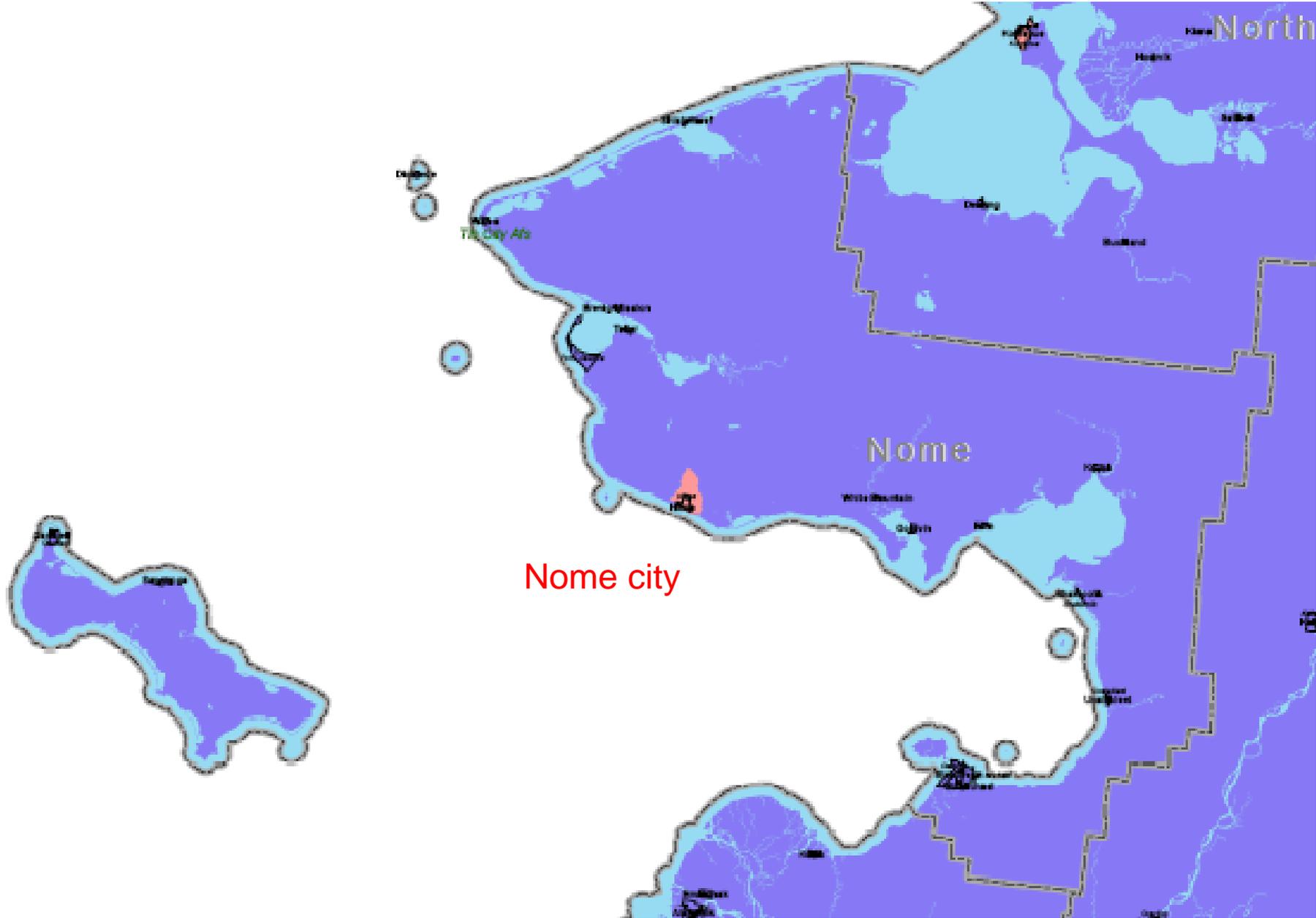


All Remote

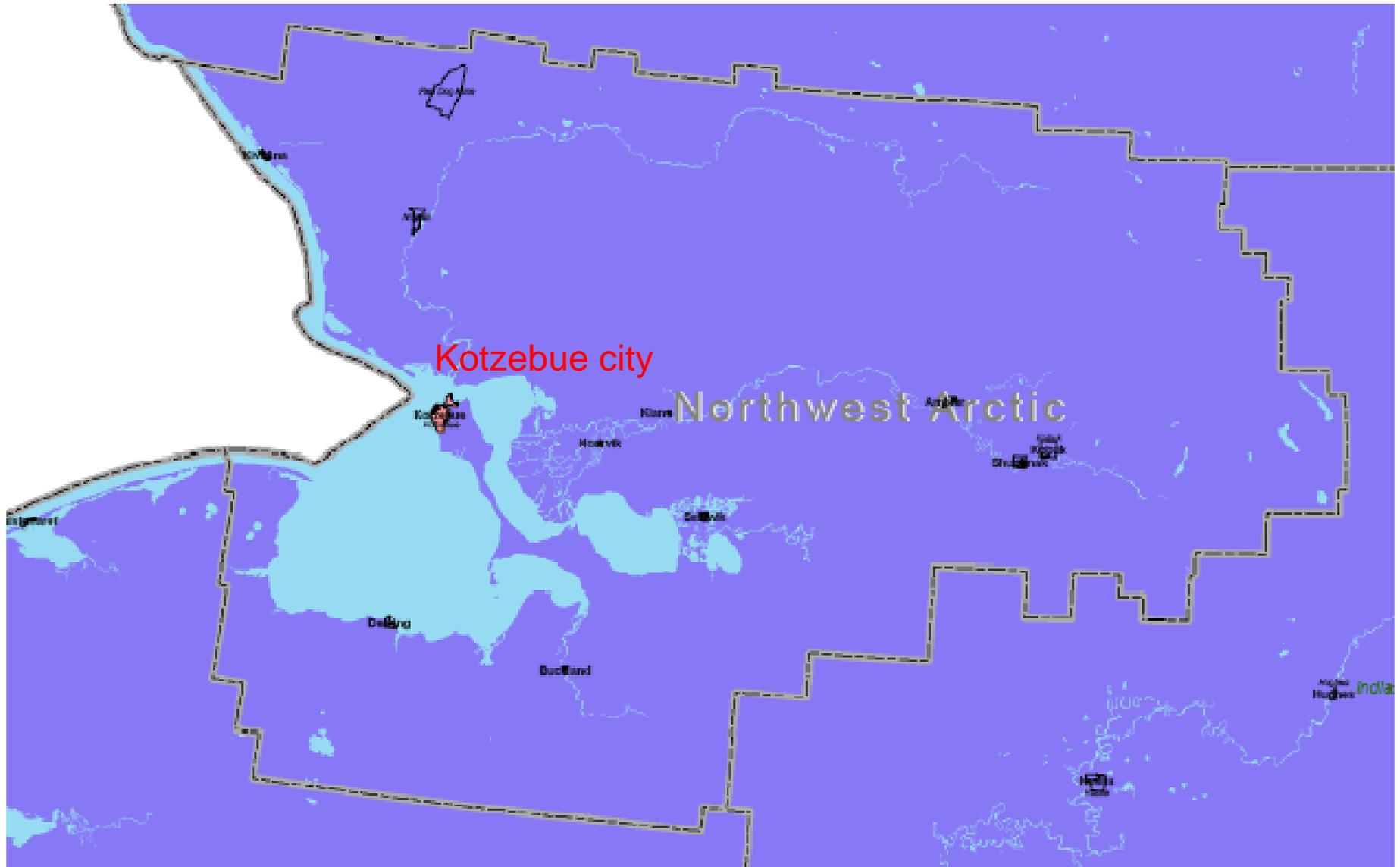
Wade Hampton

## Unalaska, Cold Bay, Sand Point

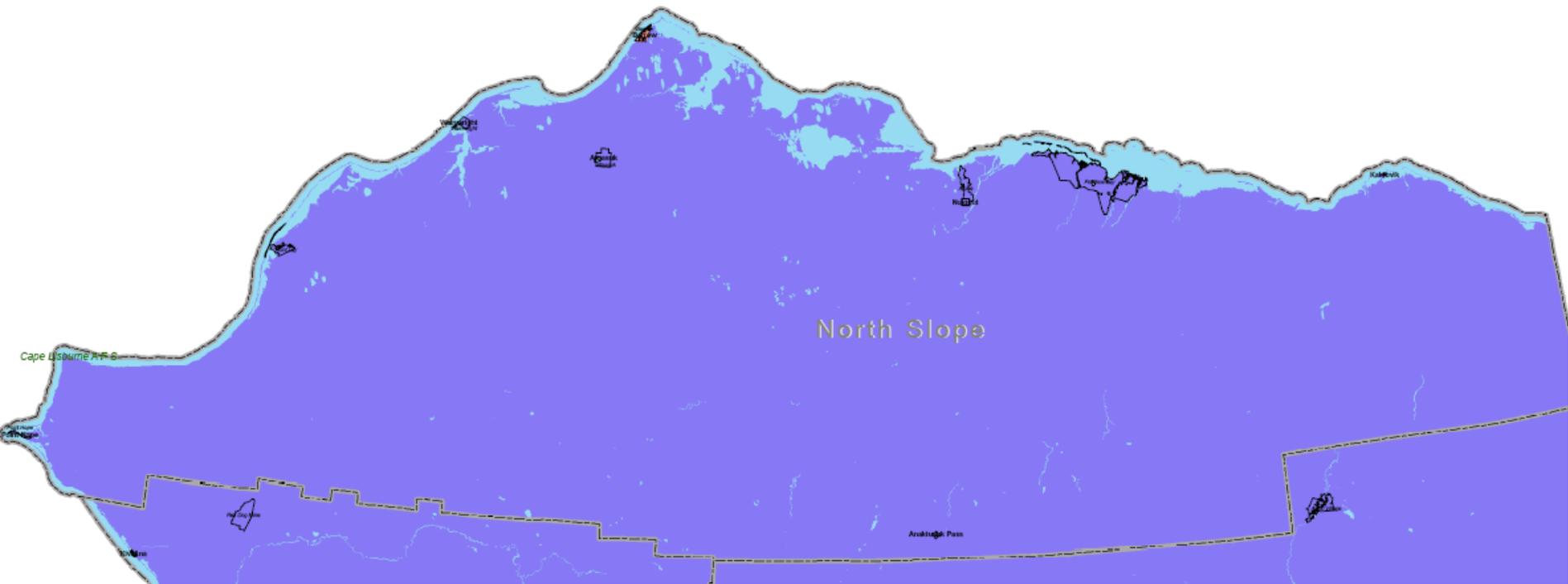


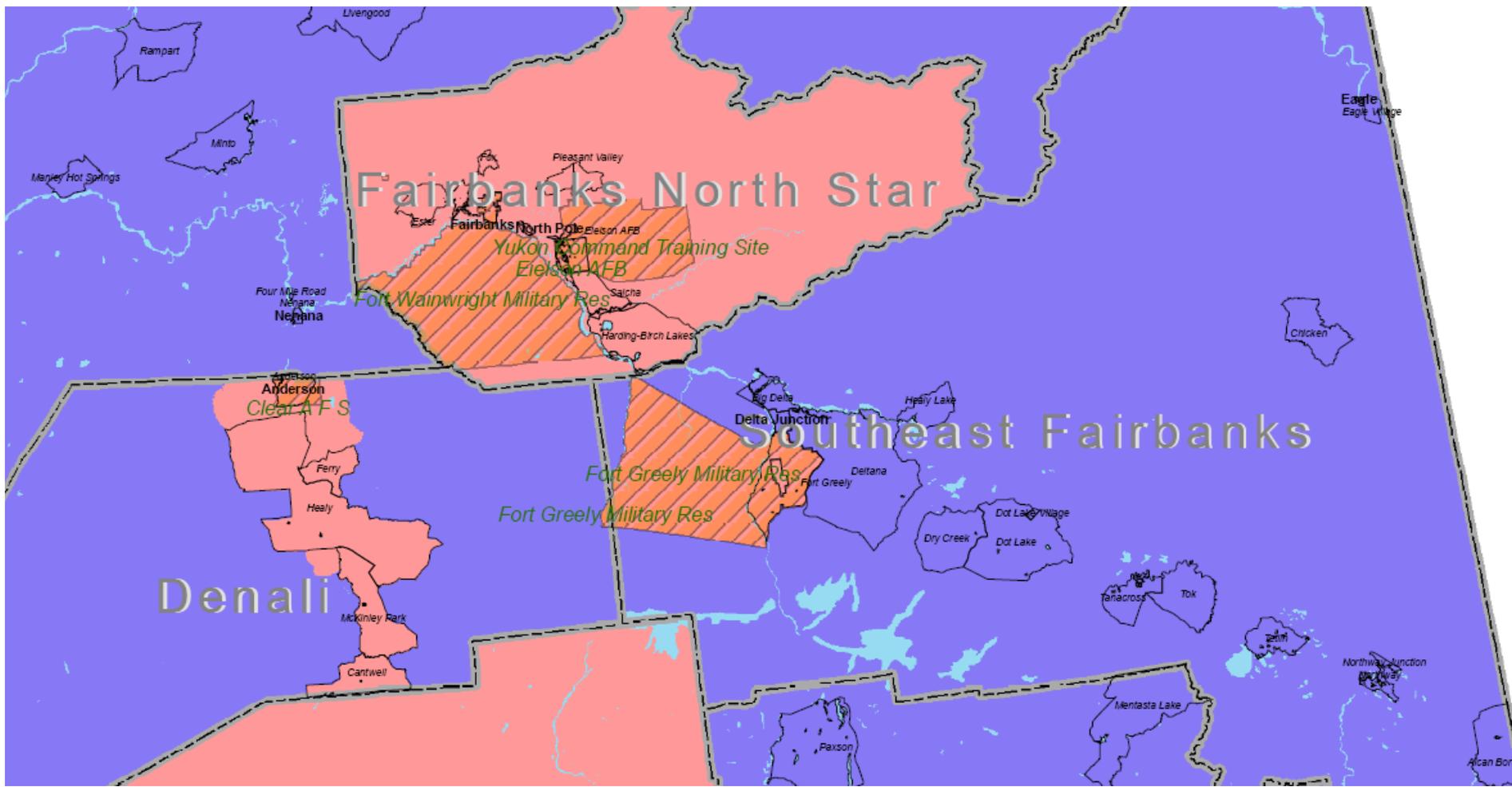


Nome city



Barrow city





Fairbanks North Star

Southeast Fairbanks

Denali

Fairbanks North Pole  
Yukon Command Training Site  
Eielson AFB  
Fort Wainwright Military Res

Fort Greely Military Res  
Fort Greely Military Res

Anderson  
Clear AFS

Delta Junction

Four Mile Road  
Nenana

Rampart  
Minto

Marjory Hot Springs

Livengood

Pleasant Valley

Eagle  
Eagle Village

Chitken

Dry Creek  
Dot Lake  
Dot Lake Village

Tanacross  
Tok

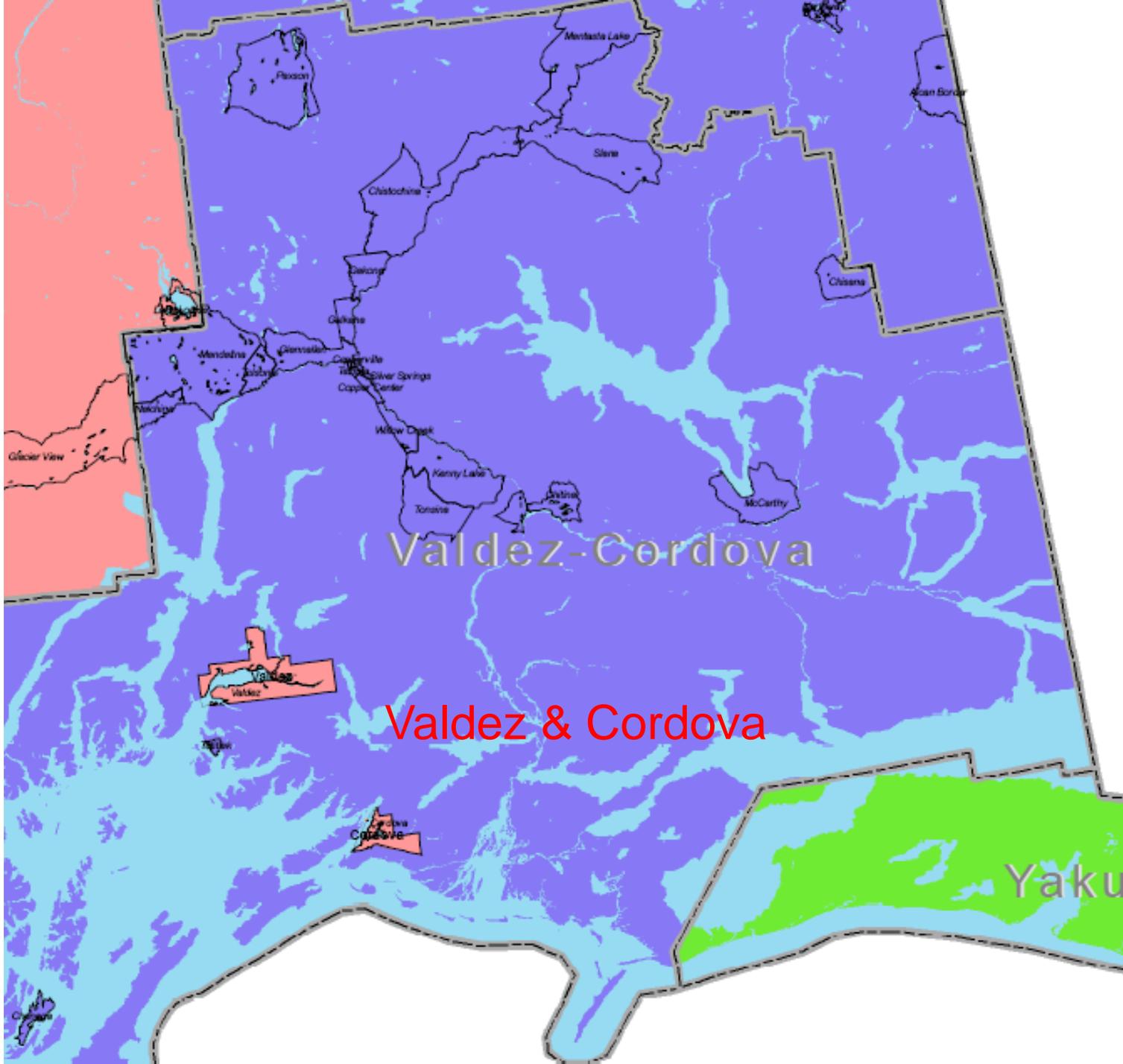
Zemlinsky

Northway Junction  
Northway

Paxson

Mentasta Lake

Alcan Border



Valdez-Cordova

Valdez & Cordova

Yaku

Valdez

Cordova

Glacier View

Ocean Border

Merlasto Lake

Passon

Slave

Chisokane

Eakons

Gakona

Altona

Abundance

Sibley

Copperville

River Springs

Copper Center

Willow Creek

Kerry Lake

Tonsina

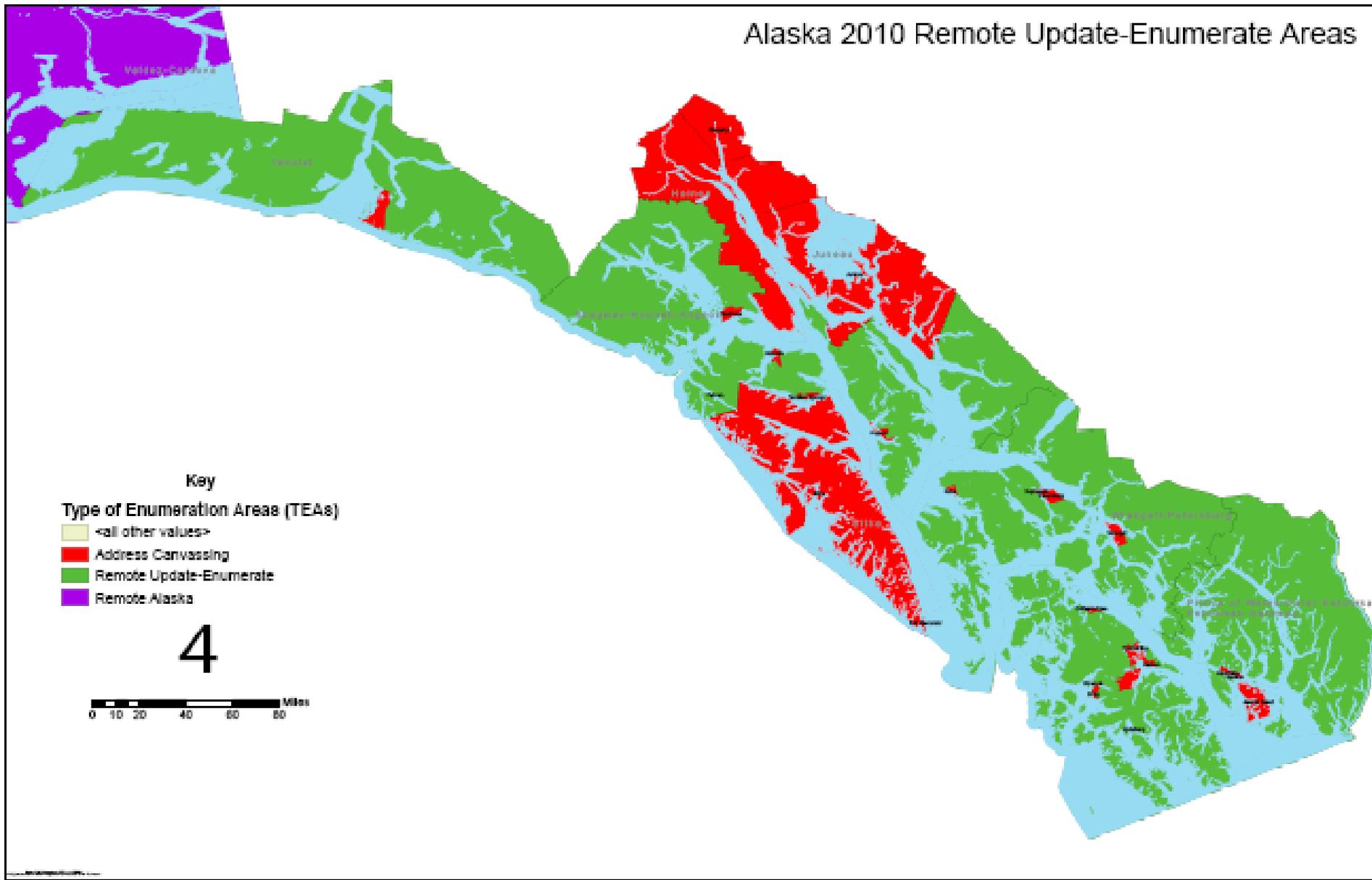
McCarthy

Chisokane

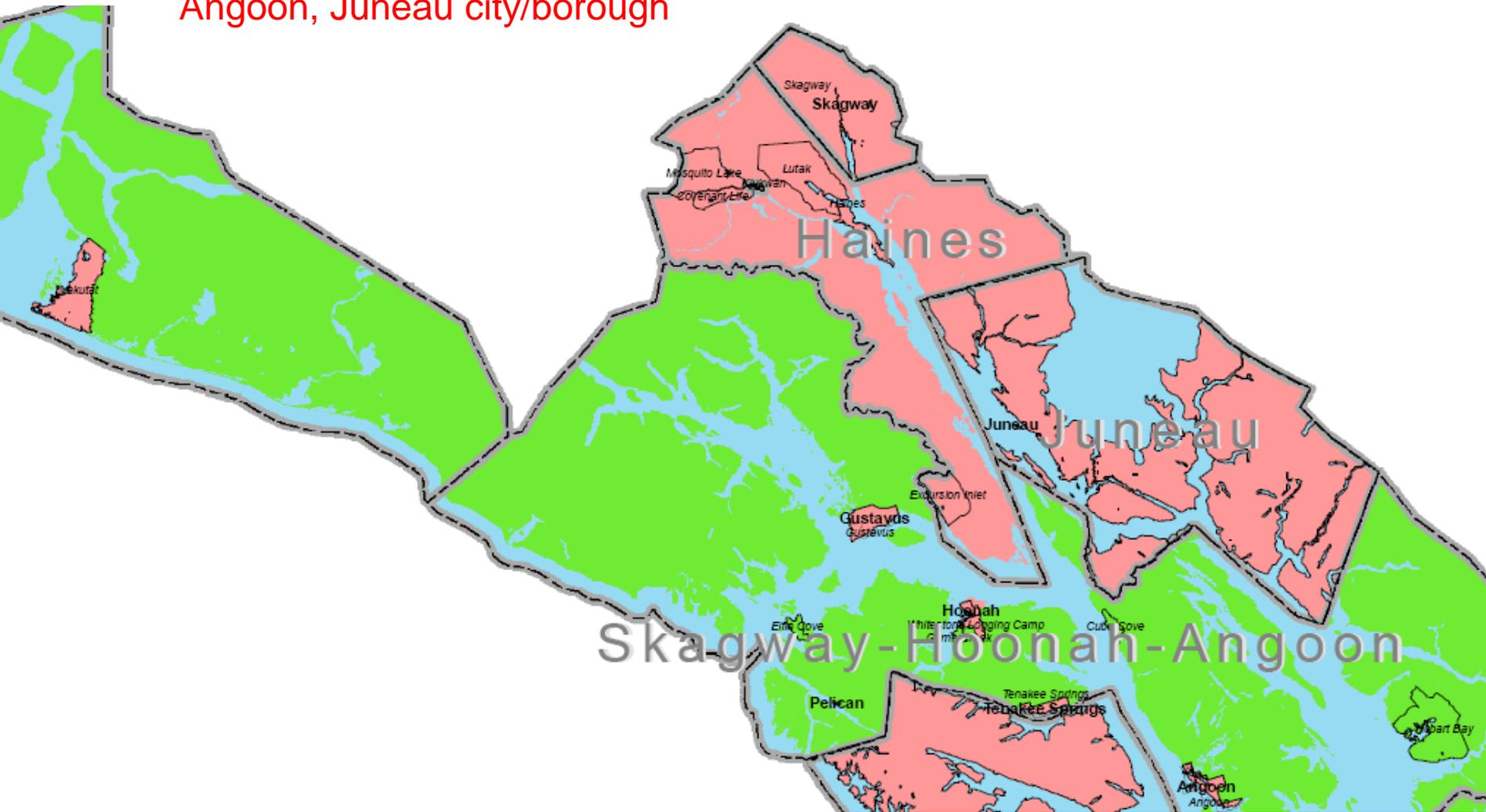
Willow



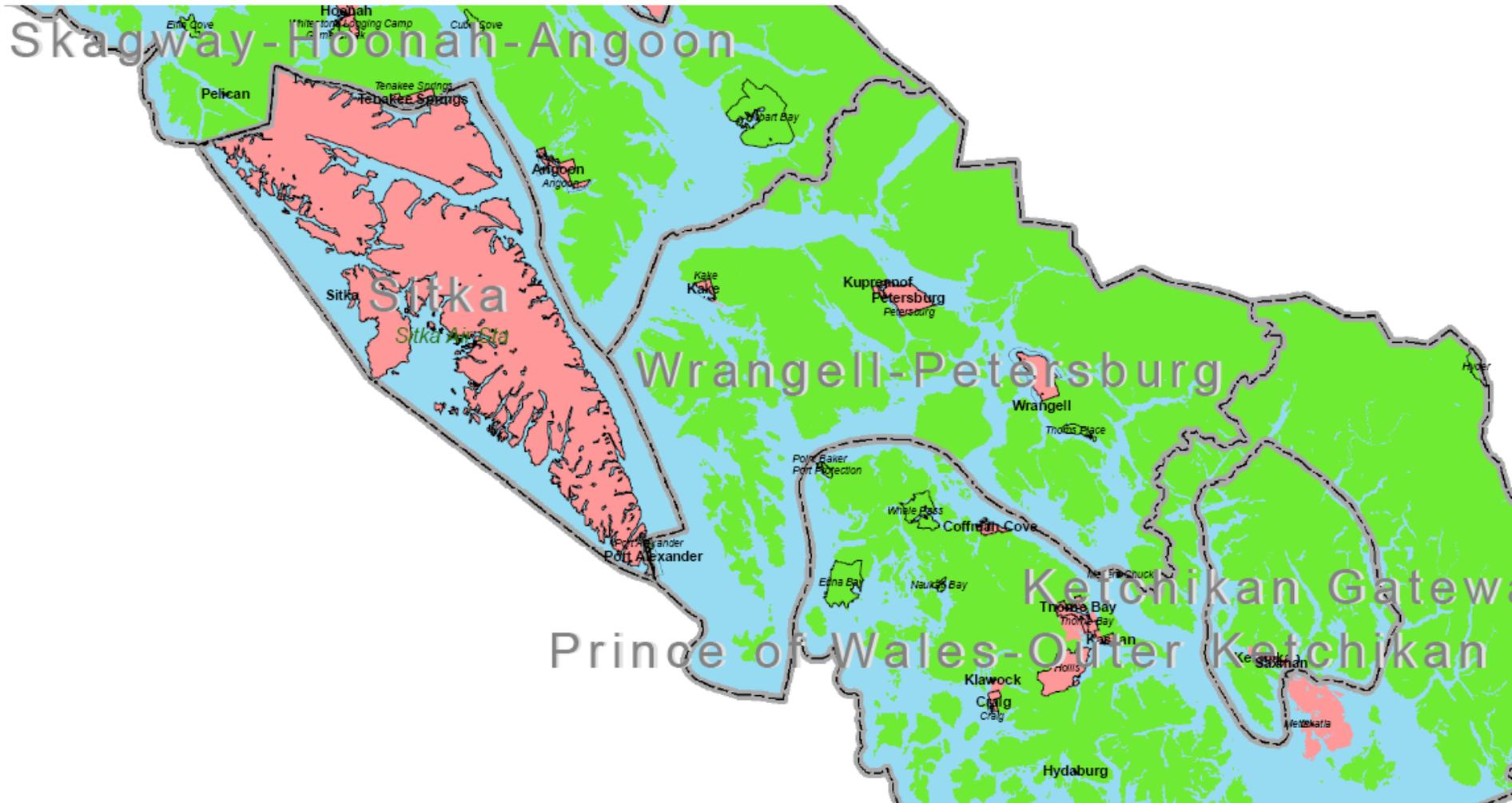
# Alaska 2010 Remote Update-Enumerate Areas



Skagway borough, Haines borough, Klukwan, Yakutat, Gustavus, Hoonah, Angoon, Juneau city/borough



Sitka city/borough, Kake, Petersburg, Kuperanof, Wrangell, Coffman Cove, Craig, Thorne Bay, Kasaan, Hollis, Metlakatla, Ketchikan city, Saxman



# American Community Survey

## The New “Long Form”

- Monthly sample. Smaller than the long form and complex. Sampled only January & September in rural Alaska. (Summer may be added)
- Sample is rolled up for 1,3 and 5 years with 90% confidence intervals.
- Data for 1,3 and 5 year samples is reported every year.
- 2 month residency (Controlled to Estimates bases on April 1 Census with 6 month census residency)
- Survey follows the same address types as census. They mail out to addresses, if people have boxes, it is returned. Sample is sampled for telephone (CATI) and finally personal interview (CAPI). Remote is all CATI/CAPI
- ACS is controlled to Census Bureau 2010 Census and later Census Bureau estimates.

# American Community Survey

- One Year Places of 65,000+ population (Statewide, Municipality of Anchorage, Mat-Su Borough, Fairbanks North Star Borough)
- Three Year Places 20,000 to 65,000 population (Kenai Peninsula Borough, Juneau Borough)
- Five Year – Everywhere else, census tracts and block groups. There will be no missing or suppressed data cells for the 5 year data.

# How ACS Sample Compares to Long Form

## ACS- 5 year Cumulative Sampling Rate

- <200 occupied housing units, (<500 people, ANVSA's) **50%**
- 200-800 occupied housing units (about 500-2,000 people) **34.5%**
- 800-1,200 occupied housing units (about 2,000-3000 people) **17.5%**
- Census Tracts with >2,000 Housing Units (more than about 5,000 people) **8.0%- 8.5%**
- Overall **11.5%**

## Long Form Census Day Sample

- <200 occupied housing units, (<500 people, ANVSA's) **50%**
- 200-800 occupied housing units (about 500-2,000 people) **50.0%**
- 800-1,200 occupied housing units (about 2,000-3000 people) **25.0%**
- Census Tracts with >2,000 Housing Units (more than about 5,000 people) **12.5%**
- Overall **16.7%**

The ACS is a smaller sample with wider confidence intervals  
But it will be 50% for ANVSA's and small communities in Alaska.

# Completed ACS Sample Cases

- Poor Response and Sub-sampling (Mail/CATI/CAPI) can reduce Sample quality.
- At each stage they follow up on a sample of the non-responses!

## ACS- 5 year Cumulative Sample - Completed Sample Cases- Overall

- If 20% Completed      Sample = 6.9%
- If 40% Completed      Sample = 7.4%
- If 55% Completed      Sample = 8.1%
- If 80% Completed      Sample = 9.1%

## 2000 Long Form Sample Census Day Rate of Completed Sample Cases

- Sample = 16.7%

# Proposed Changes to the ACS

- Improved follow-up for Sampling Non-response. The Census Bureau is proposing total follow-up instead of 2 out of 3.
- A third sample period in Remote Alaska in the summer to capture more seasonality.
- Increasing the Sample Size.
- In the 5 year ACS there will be no missing estimates for any of the data for small communities.

# ACS Questions

## Person Items

- Sex
- Age (at interview)
- Date of Birth (Mo/Day/Yr)
- Relationship to household reference person (person 1)
- Marital Status
- Hispanic origin
- Race (option for multiple races)
- Place of Birth
- Citizenship
- Year of immigration
- Attended school in last 3 months
- Grade attending
- Highest degree completed
- Ancestry or ethnic origin
- Language spoken at home
- How well speaks English
- Place of residence 1 year ago (city or town, county, state)
- Disability involving sight or hearing
- Disability involving physical activity
- Difficulty learning, remembering due to disability of 6 or more months
- Difficulty dressing, bathing or getting around the home

# ACS Questions

- *For people 15 and older*
- Difficulty going outside the home alone to shop, etc.
- Difficulty working at a job or business
- Given birth in past 12 months (women ages 15-50)
- Responsible for own grandchildren in the home
- How long responsible for grandchildren
- Veteran status (active duty)
- Period of active military service
- Number of automobiles, vans, trucks for use by household members
- Years of active military service (less than 2 years, 2 years or more)
- Working last week for pay or profit
- Place of work (address)
- Usual means of transportation to work last week
- If by car, truck, or van, how many people used it
- Time left home for work
- Minutes to work
- On layoff last week
- Temporarily absent from work last week
- Looking for work last 4 weeks
- Could have worked last week
- When last week
- Weeks worked, last 12 months
- Hours usually worked per week, last 12 months
- Class of worker of current or most recent employment
- Industry of current or most recent employment
- Occupation of current or most recent employment
- Wage and salary income, last 12 months

# ACS Questions

- Self-employment income (farm and nonfarm), last 12 months
- Interest, dividend, net rent, royalty, and trust income, last 12 months
- Social Security income, last 12 months
- Supplemental Social Security Income, last 12 months
- State or local public assistance income, last 12 months
- Retirement, survivor, or disability pension income, last 12 months
- Total income, last 12 months

## Housing Items

- Type of building/number of units in structure
- Year building built
- When household reference person (person 1) moved in
- Number of acres on property (single-family or mobile home).

- Agricultural sales, last 12 months (single family or mobile home on 1 or more acres)
- Whether business on property (single family or mobile home)
- Rooms in unit
- Bedrooms in unit
- Complete plumbing facilities
- Telephone service available
- Number of automobiles, vans trucks for use by household members
- Heating fuel most used
- Electrical cost, last month
- Gas cost, last month
- Water and sewer cost, last 12 months
- Oil, coal, kerosene cost, last 12 months
- Receive food stamps, value last 12 months
- Monthly Condominium fee
- Owner or renter (tenure)
- Monthly rent (and whether includes various utilities)
- Whether rent includes meals

# ACS Questions

## Housing Items – contd.

- Value of property if were for sale
- Annual real estate taxes
- Annual hazard insurance
- Monthly mortgage payment
- Whether mortgage payment includes taxes
- Whether mortgage payment includes insurance
- Whether a second mortgage and/or home equity loan
- Second mortgage/home equity loan monthly payment
- Annual costs for mobile home and site (personal property taxes, site rent, fees and licenses)
- Whether any household members live here year round
- Number of months members live here
- Main reasons members stay at this address

# ACS Quality Measures

- **Sample Size** – Alaska had lower rates of completed interviews than the U.S.
- **Coverage Rates** – Alaska had slightly lower coverage rates than the U.S.
- **Response Rates** – Alaska had slightly lower response rates due to higher refusal to answer than the U.S.
- **Allocation Rates** (for missing data) – Alaska had slightly better quality answers on three questions than the U.S.

# ACS Quality Measures

- Sample Size

- U.S. 2006
  - **Housing Unit** initial addresses 2,885,384
  - Final Interviews 1,968,262 = **68.2%**
  - **Group Quarters** Initial addresses 89,641
  - Final Interviews 145,311 = **76.6%**
- Alaska 2006
  - **Housing Unit** initial addresses 9,739
  - Final Interviews 5,835 = **59.9%**
  - **Group Quarters** Initial addresses 485
  - Final Interviews 337 = **69.5%**

- Coverage Rates

- US 2006
  - Housing units = **98.7%**
  - Group Quarters = **76.2%**
  - Total Population = **95.3%**
- Alaska 2006
  - Housing units = **98.3%**
  - Group Quarters = ----
  - Total Population = **92.0%**

- Response Rate

- U.S. 2006 = **97.5%**
  - Refusal **1.0%**
- Alaska 2006 = **96.1%**
  - Refusal **2.0%**

- Item Allocation Rates (for missing data – selected items)

- U.S.2006
  - Wage & Salary Income = **13.3%**
  - Race = **1.6%**
  - Place of Birth = **4.8%**
- Alaska 2006
  - Wage & Salary Income = **11.3%**
  - Race = **1.2%**
  - Place of Birth = **2.9%**

***For more information contact:***

**Dr. Greg Williams, State Demographer  
Alaska Department of Labor &  
Workforce Development  
Research & Analysis Section**



**ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF LABOR  
& WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT**

**P.O. Box 115501  
Juneau, AK 99811-5501  
Phone: 907.465.6029  
Email: [gregory.williams@alaska.gov](mailto:gregory.williams@alaska.gov)**