

# SUSITNA HYDROELECTRIC PROJECT

## PROJECT SUMMARY

# National Hydropower Association

March 11th, 2010



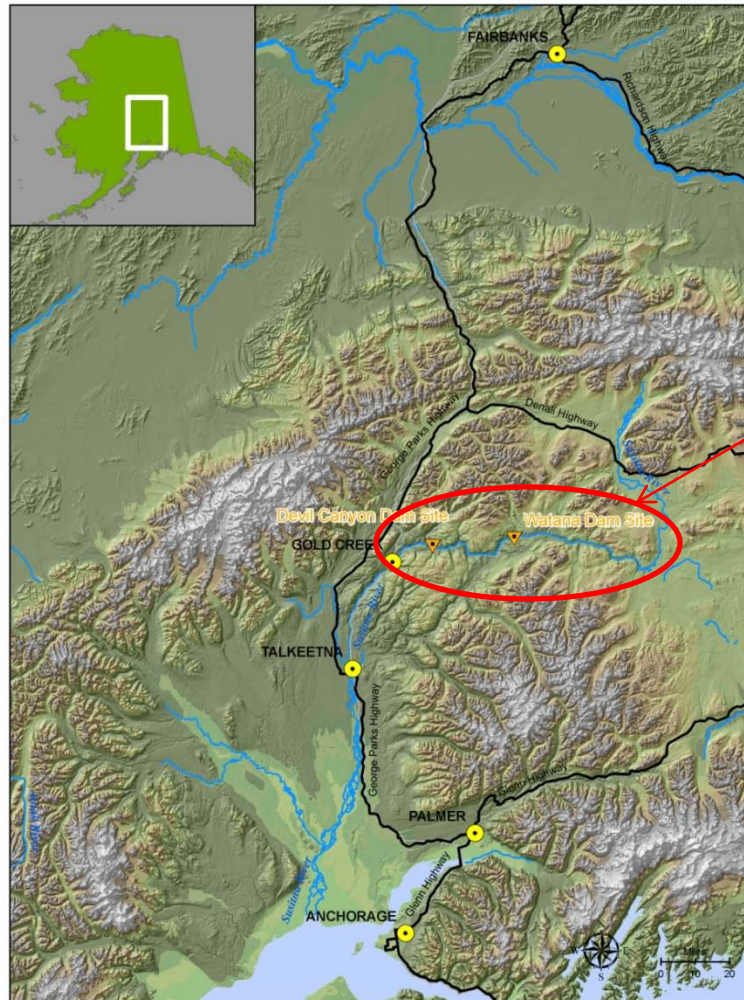
## MAJOR POWER GENERATION PROJECTS RECOMMENDED BY THE RAILBELT INTEGRATED RESOURCE PLAN (RIRP)

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- ✖ DSM/EE Programs (2011)
- ✖ Nikiski Wind (2011)
- ✖ HCCP (2011)
- ✖ Fire Island Wind (2012)
- ✖ Southcentral Power Plant (2013)
- ✖ Glacier Fork Hydro (2014)
- ✖ Anchorage and GVEA MSW (2015/2017)
- ✖ GVEA North Pole GT Addition(2018)
- ✖ Mt. Spurr Geothermal (2020)
- ✖ **Parallel pursuit of Chakachamna/Susitna/Glacier Fork**
- ✖ Multiple transmission projects

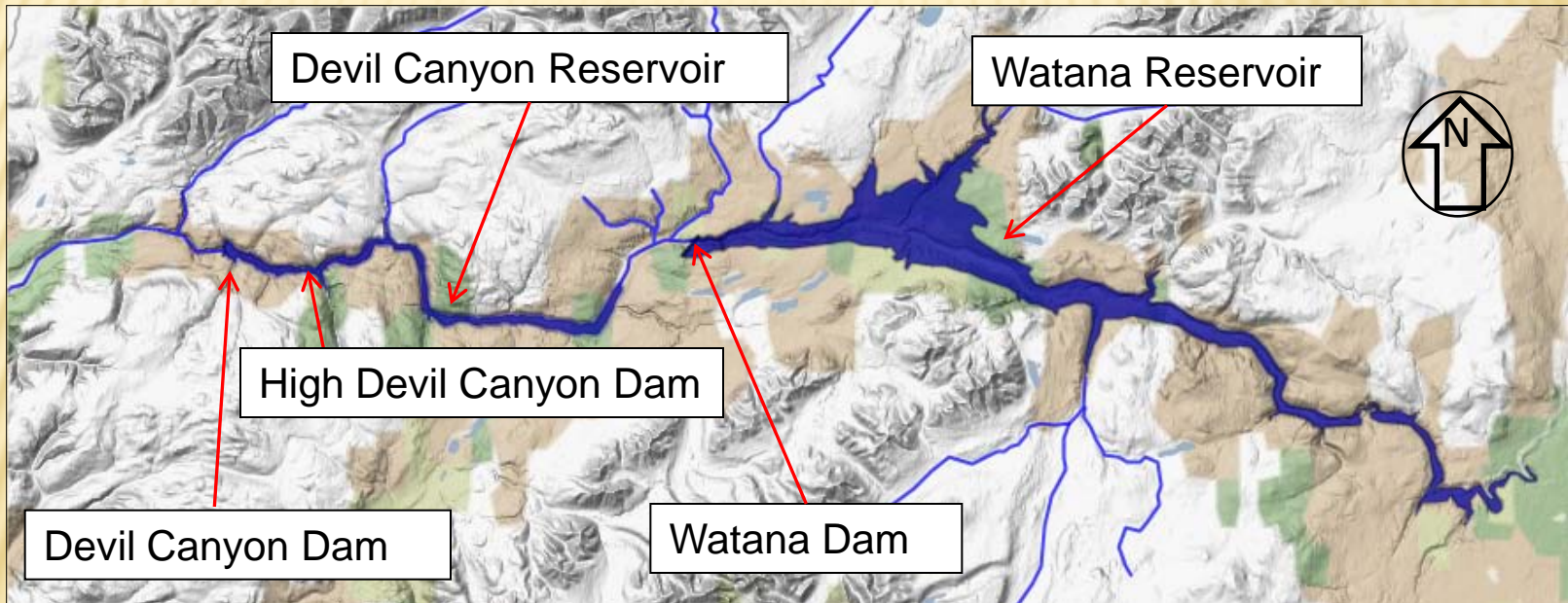


# SUSITNA PROJECT LOCATION



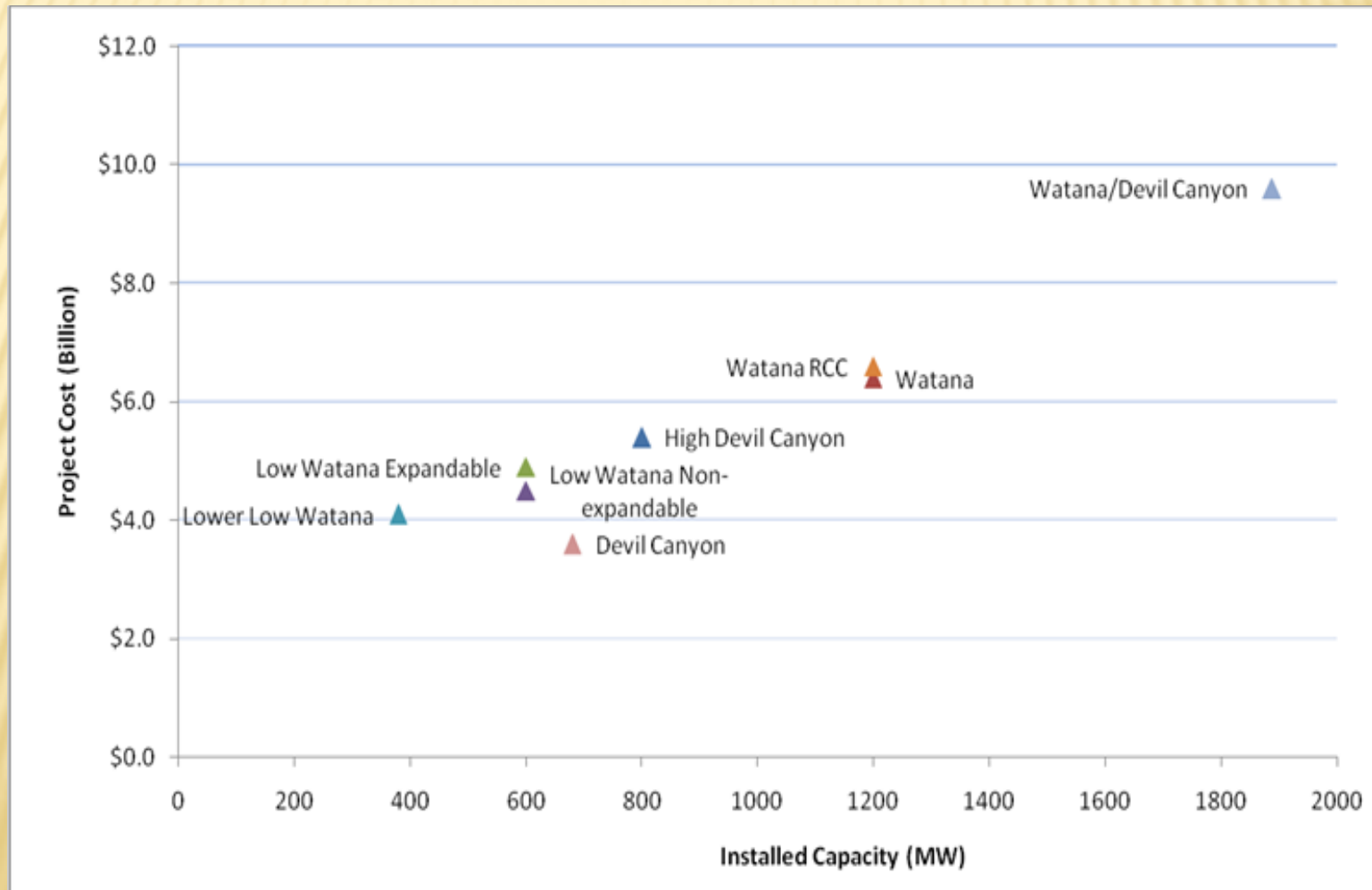
Susitna Hydro  
project area

# Potential Project Sites



# RIRP Project Susitna Evaluation

- Identify a range of single dam alternatives
  - Estimate energy & cost



# Study Results

Alternative	Dam Type	Ultimate Capacity (MW)	Construction Cost (\$ Billion)	Energy GWh/yr	Schedule (years from start of Licensing)
Lower Low Watana	Rockfill	380	\$4.1	2,100	13-14
Low Watana Non-expandable	Rockfill	600	\$4.5	2,600	14-15
<b>Low Watana Expandable</b>	<b>Rockfill</b>	<b>600</b>	<b>\$4.9</b>	<b>2,600</b>	<b>14-15</b>
Watana	Rockfill	1,200	\$6.4	3,600	15-16
Watana RCC	RCC	1,200	\$6.6	3,600	14-15
Devil Canyon	Concrete Arch	680	\$3.6	2,700	14-15
High Devil Canyon	RCC	800	\$5.4	3,900	13-14
Watana/Devil Canyon	Rockfill/Concrete Arch	1,880	\$9.6	7,200	15 - 20
Staged Watana/Devil Canyon	Rockfill/Concrete Arch	1,880	\$10.0	7,200	15 - 24

Option selected by RIRP model

# LOW WATANA EXPANDABLE

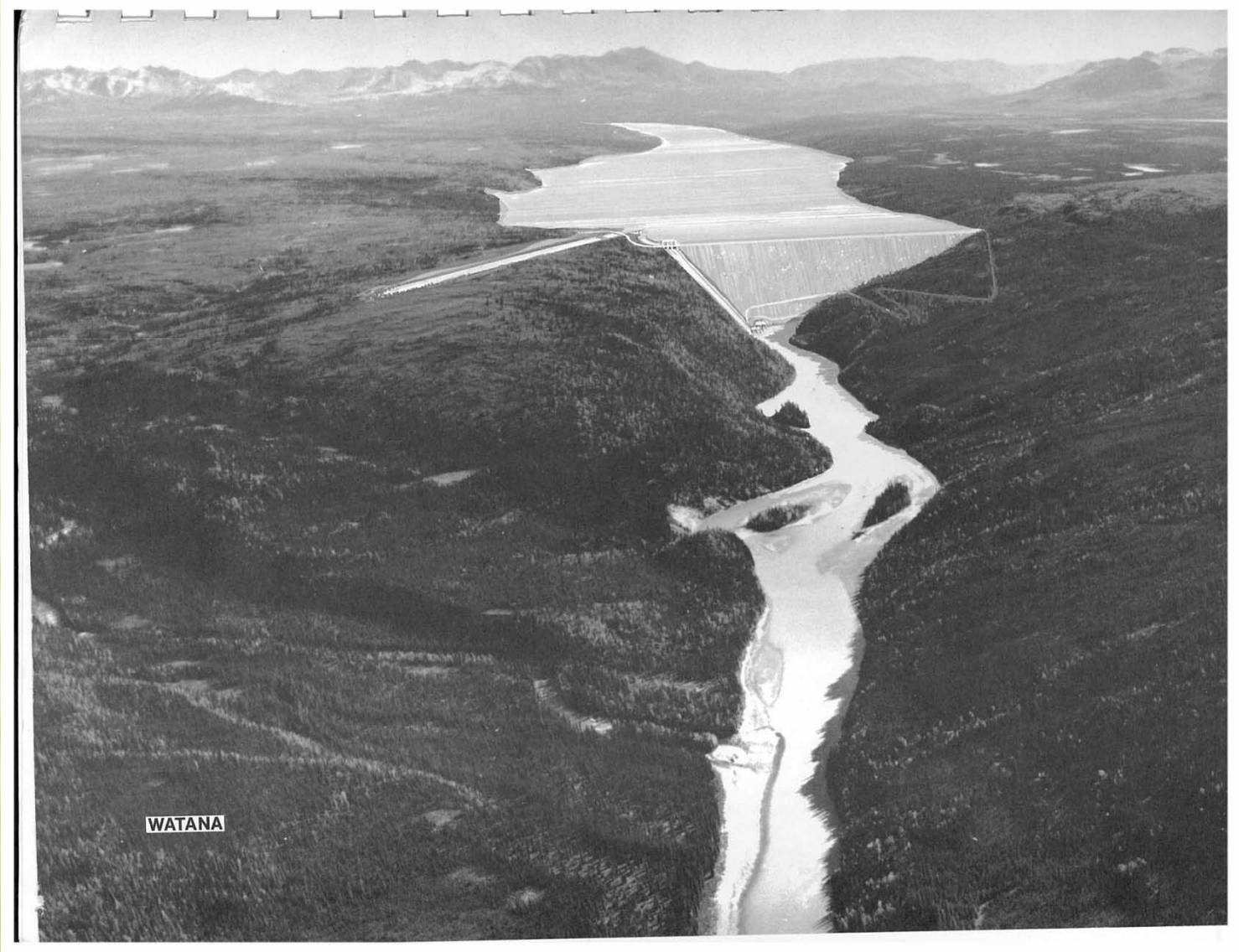
- ✖ 700' Rock filled embankment dam
- ✖ 39 mile long reservoir
- ✖ Produce about 40% of Railbelt annual energy
- ✖ Dam crest may be raised in the future (would provide a 39% increase in energy)

# ENVIRONMENTAL

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- ✘ Salmon have not been found at site (Devil Canyon blocks upstream migration)
- ✘ Endangered species not present
- ✘ River temperature effects within natural variability

# ROCK-FILLED EMBANKMENT DAMS



# FOCUSED QUESTIONS

- ❖ Project Timeline – 15 years from start of licensing
- ❖ Total Cost of Project – \$4.9 B
- ❖ Project Cost includes Transmission to Grid
- ❖ Cost of Power to Consumers
  - ❖ Levelized cost of power for 100 years (2010 dollars) - \$0.15/kwh
- ❖ Amount of Power Supplied to Railbelt - 2600 Gwh/year
- ❖ Likelihood of Completion – High, majority of technical and environmental issues resolved in 1980's
- ❖ Licensing Roadblocks – Next step for project is to engage stakeholders to explore project issues and concerns.

# CONCLUSIONS

- Of the renewable resources in the railbelt region, the Susitna project is the most studied and best understood.
- Project is considered to be technically feasible.
- Project has potential to expand to meet future loads.
- Large hydro provides dispatchable energy and stabilizes the grid.
- Environmental and seismic risk is considered manageable.
- Long term stable cost of power