

The Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities (DOT&PF) is conducting a planning study for the Scammon Bay airport. The purpose of this project is to improve the safety of aviation infrastructure in Scammon Bay.

Project Background

Scammon Bay is a remote community located near the Bering Sea, along the Kun River. The airport is threatened by riverine flooding from the Kun River that overtops the airport every five to ten years. The Scammon Bay airport is expected to be impacted by major flooding sometime before 2030; the most recent major flood was in 2022.

Scammon Bay is not on the road system and the airport is a critical link to essential infrastructure, such as medical care. The purpose of this project is to improve the safety of aviation infrastructure in Scammon Bay. This study will evaluate the airport and determine whether rehabilitating the airport in its current location, or relocating the airport, would be the most prudent long-term airport management decision.

What is an Airport Planning Study?

An airport planning study examines conditions of an airport, the needs of the community the airport serves, and ways the airport can continue to serve those needs. It also helps guide future project development.

What is the process?

The first tasks are an airport inventory, needs assessment, and forecast. A Coastal Report and Hydrology and Hydraulics Report have already been completed.

What does the flooding look like?



Scammon Bay, Airport, and the Kun River (Looking West)



2022 Runway Flooding (Looking North, from the Foothills)



2004 Flooding of the Runway (Looking North)



2016 Flooding of the Runway