

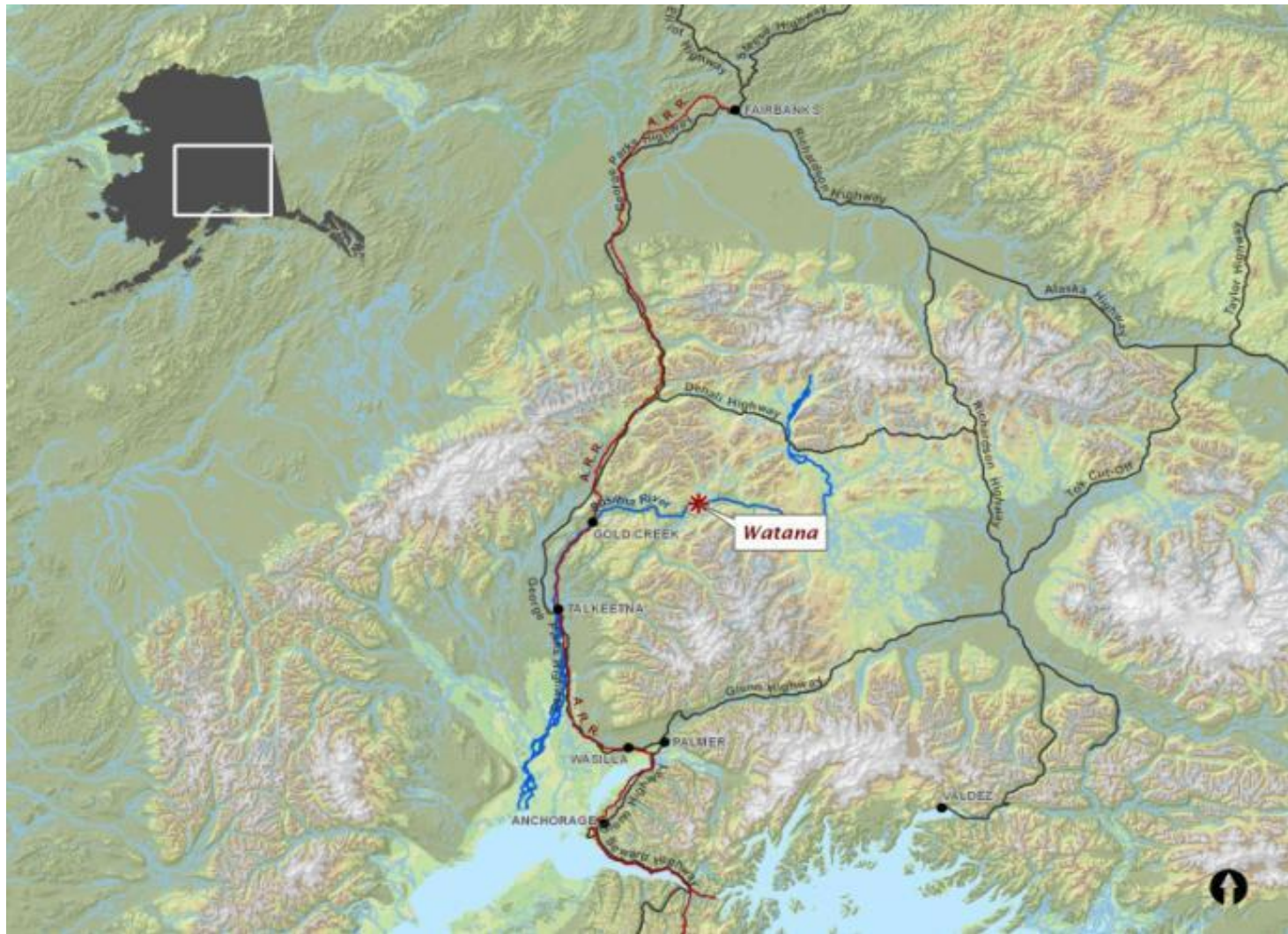
Watana Hydroelectric

City of Anchorage Energy Task Force

Prepared by Alaska Energy Authority 4/07/2011



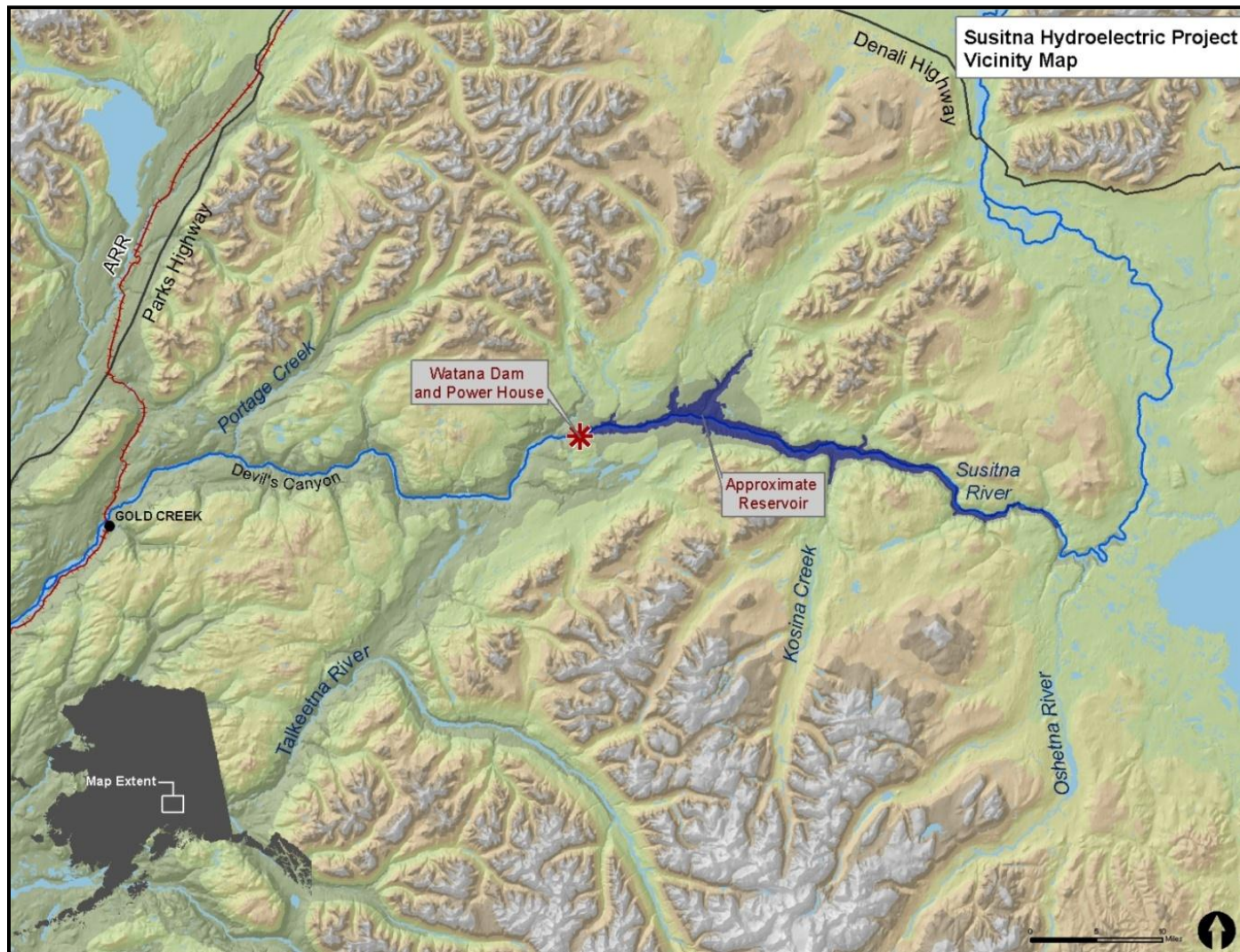
Watana Hydroelectric Project Location



Susitna History

- **Concerns about declining availability of natural gas and aging infrastructure**
- **2008 - \$2.5M Appropriation to re-evaluate Susitna Project**
- **2010 – Railbelt Integrated Resource Plan**
- **2010 – HB 306 State goal of 50% Renewable by 2025**
- **2010 - AEA receives \$10M for large Hydro projects**
- **2010 – AEA states that primary Large Hydroelectric Project is Watana Hydroelectric Project**
- **2011 – HB103/SB42 Proposed Reestablishment of AEA ability to own new projects**
- **2011 – Governors budget proposes \$65M to proceed with preliminary design & licensing**

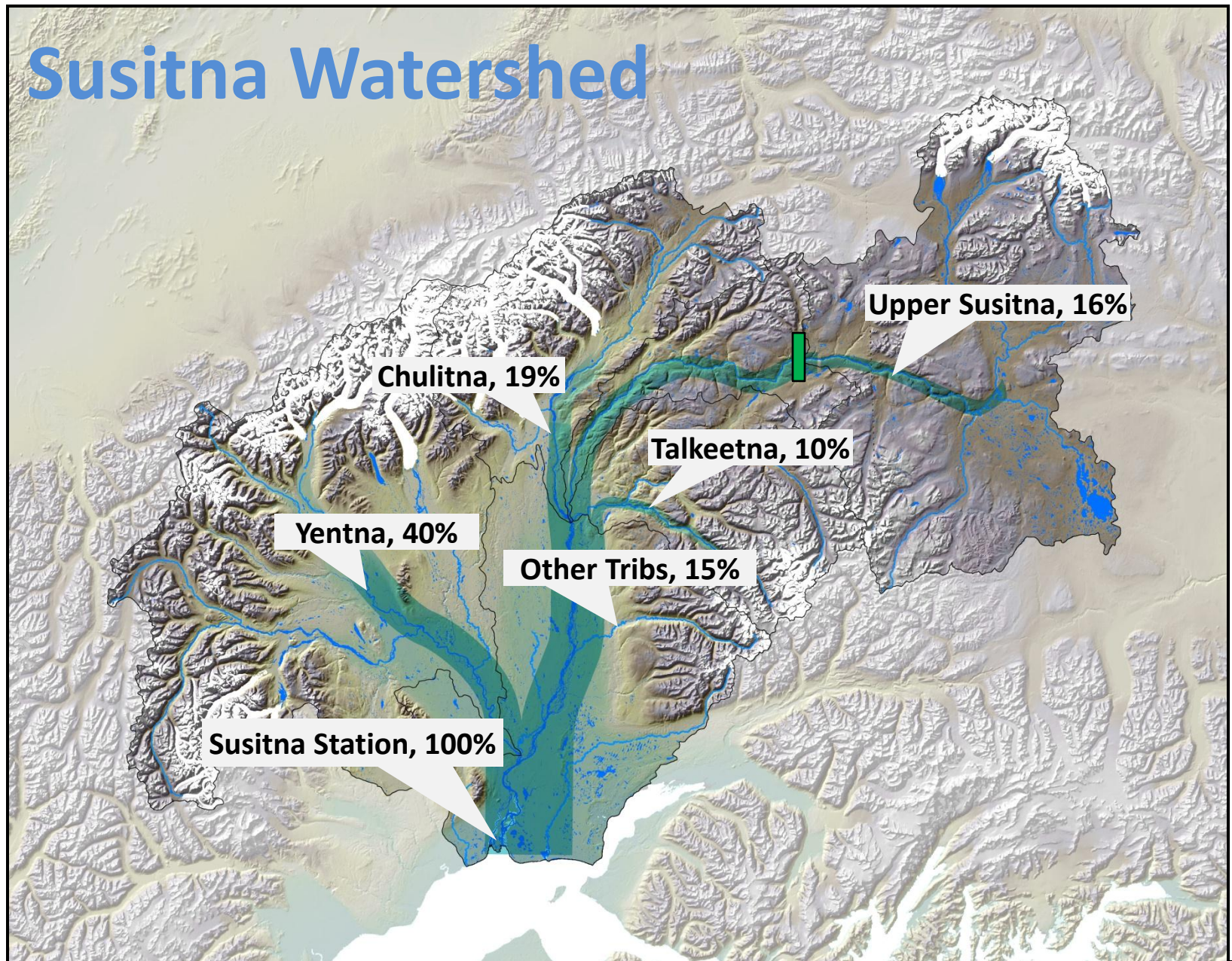
Watana Impoundment



Watana Hydroelectric Project

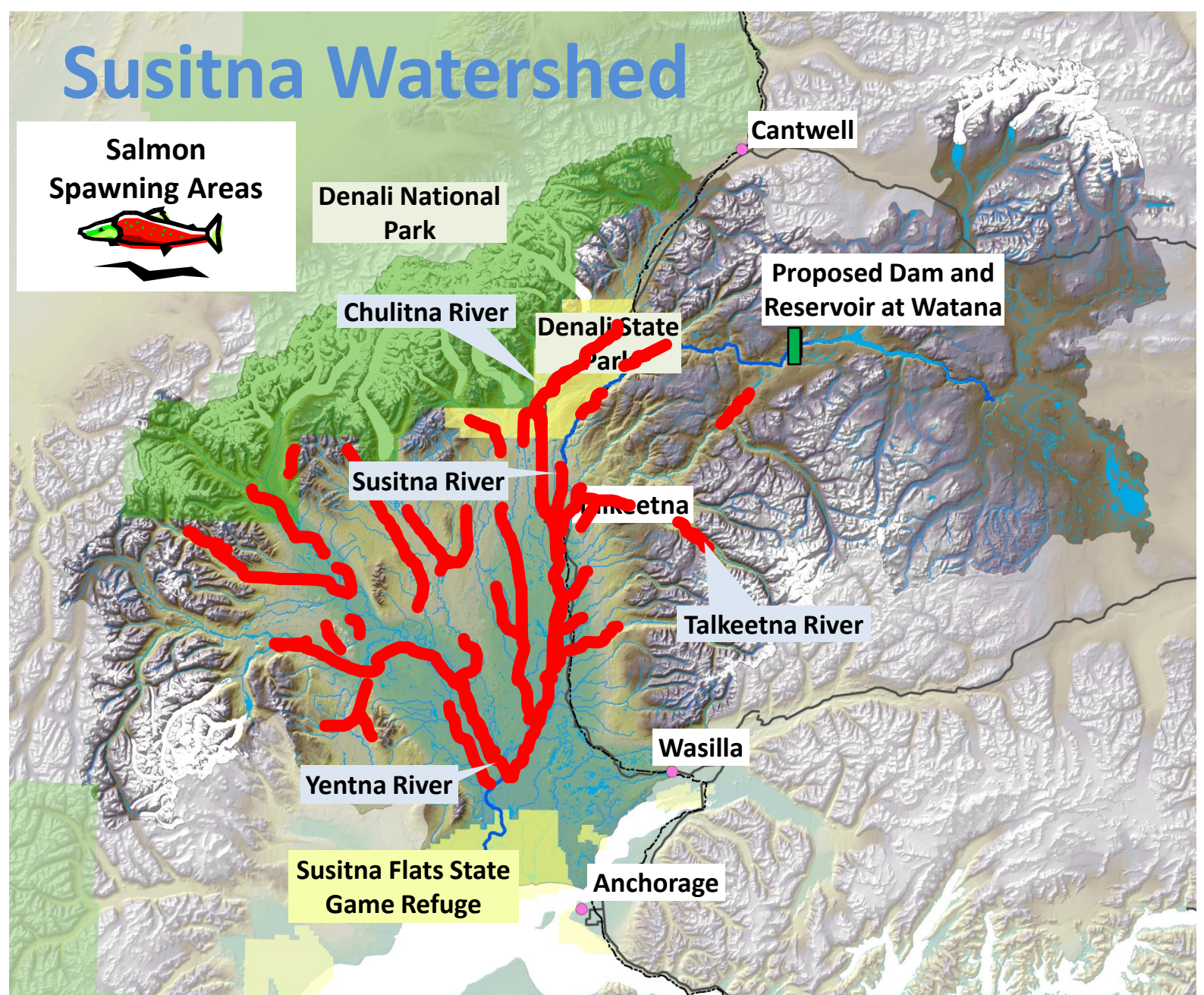
- **700' high dam located near Watana Creek**
- **Installed capacity 600 MWs**
- **Annual average 2600 GWhrs (near 50% Railbelt usage)**
- **Type of construction not finalized**
- **Reservoir 39 miles long and up to 2 miles wide**
- **Devil Canyon rapids block almost all upstream passage of salmon**

Susitna Watershed



Susitna Watershed

Salmon
Spawning Areas



Watana Next Steps

- **Need AEA authorization to own new projects to pass legislature**
- **Gap analysis of environmental baseline**
- **Detailed mapping of area**
- **Engineering studies**
- **Additional geotechnical drilling**
- **File Preliminary Application Document with FERC**
- **Project Scoping – Public & agency meetings, working groups**
- **Development of study plans**

Watana Timeline (estimated)



START-UP

