

# Alaska Railroad 2013 Summer Train Schedule\*

Current as of: 2 Jul 13

\*Changes from previous version highlighted in yellow\*

\*Please note, this schedule is in no way official and, outside of the scheduled passenger trains, is not set in stone. It is based on knowledge of the railroad, observation, and experience. It is subject to change without notice and should be used as reference only. Good luck!

**\*Main Road Channel: 161.280\***

## **Anchorage- Fairbanks Freight:**

- Runs 5 times per week: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday, and Sunday
- Does not run on Thursdays or Saturdays
- Typically departs the yard after the arrival of the SB Denali Star (no earlier than 1930L)
- Crews usually get dog caught on the trip; 10-12 hours to get to Fairbanks (0630-0800L arrival time in Fairbanks)

## **Fairbanks-Anchorage Freight:**

- Runs 5 times per week: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Saturday
- Does not run on Fridays or Sundays
- Usually arrives into Anchorage ~0800L. This tends to slip to a later time as the week progresses based on crew availability

## **Gravel Trains:**

- 2 gravel trains operating this year
- AS&G Train:
  - o Operates Monday through Saturday; on call at 0530L
  - o Typically starts its day at Birchwood, loads either in Birchwood or out on the Palmer Branch, runs south to AS&G in south Anchorage at O'Malley and Old Seward Highway, and ends its day back at Birchwood
- QAP Train:
  - o Operates Monday through Friday; on call at 0815L
  - o Typically starts in the Anchorage yard or Elmendorf siding, runs north to Kashwitna to load, runs south to QAP along C Street, and ends its day in the Anchorage yard.
- Both trains do this full cycle in about a 12-hr time span
- AS&G trains typically run with 2 MACs up front; QAP trains run 1x1

### **Coal Trains:**

- 3 train sets per week
- The coal schedule below is currently not accurate. The coal trains have been running early, early mornings, sometime after midnight
- Run north (empty) out of Anchorage to Healy on Sunday, Tuesday, and Thursday.
- Load at Healy the following morning and run south to Anchorage Monday, Wednesday, and Friday
- Depart Anchorage for Seward Wednesday, Friday, and Sunday. ARR has an extra board unload these trains in Seward and will return to Anchorage on the same day

### **Whittier Freight:**

- Totally dependent on the barges into Whittier
- Will typically run one train from Anchorage to Whittier before the barge arrives. Then they'll run a second train from Anchorage to Whittier when the barge arrives. This second train will be a turn and will return to Anchorage the same day. The first train unloads the barge, ties up, then loads the barge and brings back to Anchorage whatever is left
- The Whittier freights have been running early in the morning with departures around 0030L

### **Coastal Classic (full schedule listed on ARR's website):**

- Anchorage to Seward daily
- 2 MACs or 1 MAC and a Geep for power
- Departs Anchorage 0645L; arrives Seward 1105L
- Departs Seward 1800L; arrives Anchorage 2215L

### **Denali Star Northbound (full schedule listed on ARR's website):**

- Anchorage to Fairbanks daily
- Typically 2 MACs for power; Holland passenger cars on the rear
- Departs Anchorage 0815L; arrives Fairbanks 2000L

### **Denali Star Southbound (full schedule listed on ARR's website):**

- Fairbanks to Anchorage daily
- Typically 2 MACs for power; Holland passenger cars on the rear
- Departs Fairbanks 0815L; arrives Anchorage 2000L

**Glacier Discovery (full schedule listed on ARR's website):**

- Anchorage to Whittier, Whittier to Grandview, Grandview to Whittier, Whittier to Anchorage daily
- 1 Geep up front, DMU on rear for SB, reverse order running NB
- Departs Anchorage 0945L

**Hurricane Turn (full schedule listed on ARR's website):**

- Talkeetna to Hurricane and back
- Runs Thursday, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday
- Departs Talkeetna 1215L; arrives Hurricane 1415L
- Departs Hurricane 1530L; arrives Talkeetna 1800L

**Cruise Trains:**

- Run on Saturdays and will alternate Mondays and Wednesdays
- 3 separate Cruise Trains on days they run:
  - o One departs Fairbanks 0400L for Whittier and then back to Anchorage
  - o One departs Anchorage 0400L for Whittier and then up to Fairbanks
  - o One departs Seward 0230L, arrives Anchorage ~0930L, changes crews, then to Denali, then back to Seward

**Airport Trains:**

- Seward to Anchorage International Airport back to Seward
- Run on Monday, Thursday, and Friday
- Arrives Airport ~1130L; departs for Seward 1300L

**Work Trains:**

- Two work trains are the norm
- First work train:
  - o Operates Monday through Friday; on call at 0730L from wherever they ended up the day prior
- Second work train:
  - o Operates Sunday through Thursday; on call at 0800L

**APU Spur Trains:**

- Run as needed

### **Fairbanks & Eielson AFB Trains:**

#### **Coal Trains:**

- Run a couple of times per week; depart Fairbanks, run to Healy to load, and back to Fairbanks
- The only set schedule is a 0030L departure on Mondays to Healy; loading depends on the southern end export coal (aka the ones that go to Seward)
- There have been sightings of a coal train departing around 1200L for Healy and returning to Fairbanks late Saturday

#### **North Pole Branch:**

- Daily oil train to North Pole; seen leaving around 2100L; returns early AM the next day
- This train has been known to bring coal cars for Eielson AFB; the USAF Geeps will not come off base, so an ARR train will deliver these cars to the base

#### **Industrial Switcher:**

- Typically runs during the evening hours to avoid the morning rush hour