



# **MEDIA RELEASE**

## **Alaska Department of Natural Resources**

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**DIVISION OF:** Geological & Geophysical Surveys  
(DGGS)  
**RELEASE DATE:** January 23, 2006 – For Immediate  
Release

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**SUBJECT:** Geophysical Survey Maps

### **NEW GEOPHYSICAL SURVEYS OF THE SOUTHERN NATIONAL PETROLEUM RESERVE, NORTHEAST FAIRBANKS, EAST RICHARDSON, LISCUM, AND BLACK MOUNTAIN AREAS, ALASKA**

On Monday, January 23rd, at 9:00 a.m., the Alaska Division of Geological & Geophysical Surveys (DGGS) released new airborne geophysical data and maps for five areas in Alaska. These surveys include the U.S. Bureau of Land Management (BLM)-funded, southern National Petroleum Reserve in Alaska (S. NPR-A) survey, and four State-funded surveys in the northeast Fairbanks, east Richardson, Liscum, and Black Mountain areas of Interior Alaska.

The data were compiled and processed under contract between the State of Alaska, Department of Natural Resources (DNR), Division of Geological & Geophysical Surveys (DGGS), and Stevens Management Corporation. Airborne magnetic and electromagnetic data for the areas were acquired in 2005 by subcontractor Fugro Airborne Surveys. Location maps for these data can be viewed at DGGS's Web site, [http://www.dggs.dnr.state.ak.us/download/GPAnnouncement\\_2006.pdf](http://www.dggs.dnr.state.ak.us/download/GPAnnouncement_2006.pdf).

The 1,447-square-mile S. NPR-A survey, located in the north-central Brooks Range in the Howard Pass and Misheguk Mountain quadrangles, was funded under an agreement with BLM to assist in an ongoing mineral assessment. This information will aid BLM and stakeholders in developing an integrated activity plan for the S. NPR-A planning area.

The northeast Fairbanks, east Richardson, Liscum, and Black Mountain surveys were flown as part of the State-funded Alaska Geophysical/Geological Mineral Inventory program. Partial support for the Liscum survey was also provided by AngloGold Ashanti (U.S.A.) Exploration Inc. The northeast Fairbanks survey area covers approximately 405 square miles in the Circle Quadrangle, and provides contiguous coverage between DGGS's previously published Fairbanks and Circle airborne geophysical surveys. The east Richardson, Liscum, and Black Mountain survey areas cover approximately 224, 67, and 222 square miles, respectively, in the Big Delta Quadrangle.

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Most flights were performed at a flight altitude of 200 feet above ground level and a line spacing of one-quarter mile. Areas with tighter line spacing include the western half of the Liscum survey, which was flown with three-sixteenths-mile line spacing, and the Drenchwater Creek area in the S. NPR-A survey, which was flown with one-eighth-mile line spacing. These very detailed geophysical data show contrasts in magnetic and electrical properties of geologic units. The maps and data provide additional tools for exploration for new mineral resources, and could enable new interpretations of some of the existing mineralized areas.

Some of the major publications produced for these BLM and State of Alaska projects include (1) 1:63,360-scale full-color maps of aeromagnetic data, (2) 1:63,360-scale full-color apparent-resistivity maps, and (3) CD-ROMs containing gridded and processed data from the surveys. All these materials are available for the cost of reproduction. They can be inspected and purchased beginning January 23, 2006, at DGGS, 3354 College Road, Fairbanks, Alaska 99709-3707 (907-451-5020), and at the DNR Public Information Center, 550 West 7th Avenue, Suite 1260, Anchorage, Alaska (907-269-8400). Mail orders should be sent to the Fairbanks DGGS office (fax 907-451-5050). A representative from DGGS will also be available to answer questions from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. on January 23rd at the Anchorage DNR Public Information Center.

The materials will be available for inspection beginning February 13, 2006, at the Alaska Resources Library and Information Services (ARLIS), at 3211 Providence Drive, Anchorage, AK 99508 (907-272-7547). Beginning February 20, 2006, the materials will be available at the Historical Collection of the Alaska State Library in the State Office Building in Juneau from 1 to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday; contact Patience Frederikson (907-465-2927).