



**Alaska  
Department of  
Transportation  
and  
Public Facilities**

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**Alaska  
Construction  
Surveying  
Requirements (US  
Customary Units)**



# Alaska Construction Surveying Requirements (US Customary Units)

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# 1. Survey accuracy requirements

## Third order survey

- ✓ Use a 1/5000 horizontal closure.
- ✓ Use an angle closure of  $30\sqrt{N}$  seconds, where N equals the number of angles in the traverse.
- ✓ An Alaska-registered professional land surveyor must perform or supervise replacement of survey monuments (property, USGS, USC&GS, BLM, etc.) or establishment of monuments (including centerline).
- ✓ All monument work must comply with AS 34.65.040 and meet standards in the latest version of the Alaska Society of Professional Land Surveyors' *Standards of Practice Manual*.
- ✓ The allowable vertical error for misclosure is  $e = 0.05\sqrt{M}$  e = maximum misclosure in feet, M = length of the level circuit in miles.

**Table 1—Survey accuracy requirements (in feet)**

	Stationing	HI	Closure	Horizontal Angle	Distance To center line	Grade
Additional cross sections	1.0	0.01	0.04	**	0.1	0.1
Benches		0.01	0.02			
Blue tops***	1.0	0.01	0.04		0.1	0.02
Bridges	*	0.01	0.02			0.01
Centerline	*			*		
Clearing & Grubbing	1.0				1.0	
Culverts	1.0	0.01	0.04	**	0.1	0.1
Curb & gutter	1.0	0.01	0.02		0.1	0.02
Grade stakes	1.0				0.1	0.1
Guardrail	1.0				0.1	
Manholes, catch basins & inlets	1.0	0.01	0.02		0.1	0.02
Monuments	*			*		
Red tops***	1.0	0.01	0.02		0.1	0.05
Riprap	1.0	0.1	0.04		1.0	0.1
Signs	1.0				0.1	
Slope stakes & RP's	1.0	0.01	0.04	**	0.1	0.1
Under drains & sewer	1.0	0.01	0.02		0.1	0.02

\* Third order survey

\*\*Right angle prism or transit angles from center line

\*\*\* Use blue tops for top of base course and red tops for the bottom of base course.

# 1. Survey frequency requirements

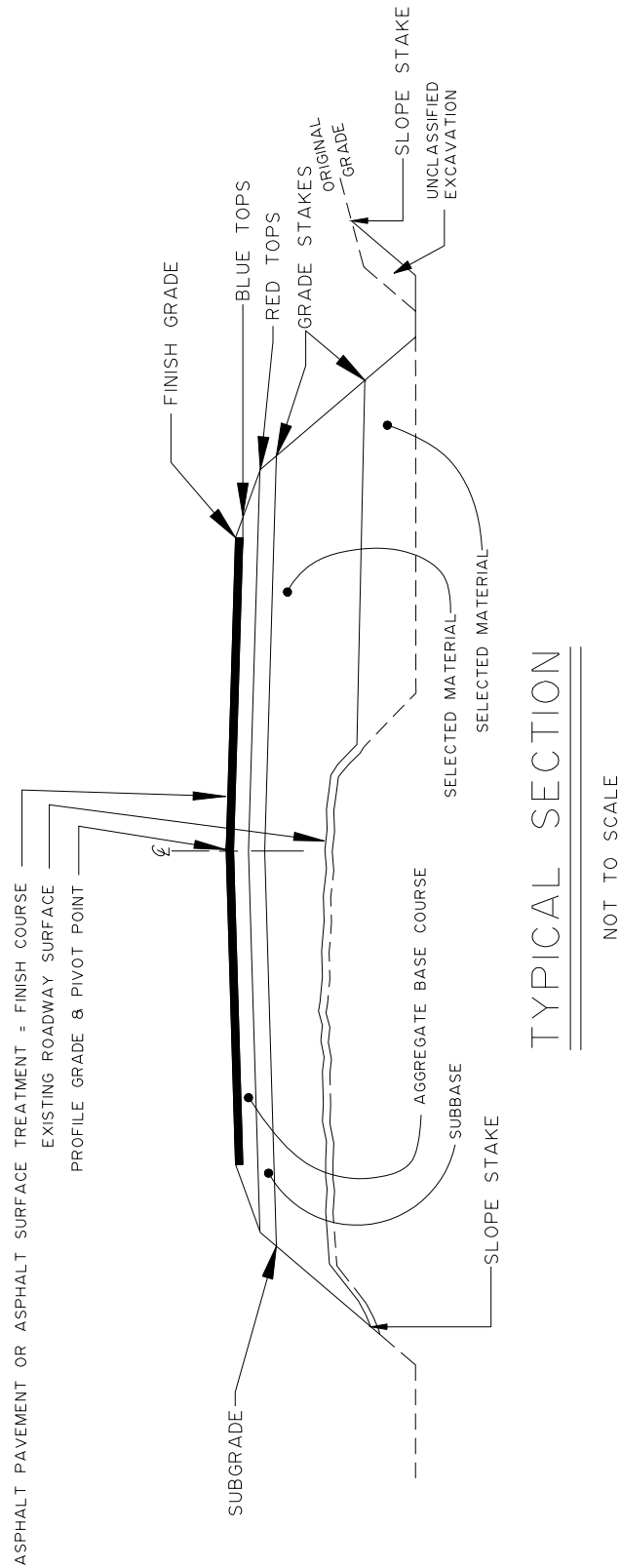
**Table 2—Survey frequency requirements (in feet)**

	Tangents	Curves	Interchange ramps	Stake each per plan	See special instructions on sample notes
Additional cross sections	*	*	*		
Bench marks					X
Blue tops	100	100**	25		X
Blue tops within 100 feet both sides of railroad track crossings and bridge approaches	25	25	25		X
Bridges				X	X
Center line	100	100**	25		
Clearing	100	100**	25		X
Culverts				X	X
Curb and gutter	25	25	25		
Grade stakes	100	100**	50		
Guardrail	25	25	25		
Manholes, catch basins & inlets				X	
Monuments				X	
Red tops	100	100**	25		X
Riprap	50	50	50		
Signs				X	
Slope stake / cross sections	100	100**	25		X
Under drains and sewers	50	25	25		

\* Establish additional cross sections and slope stakes at all breaks in topography and where structures begin and end.

\*\*Curves shall be staked on 50-foot stations if the curve is greater than six degrees.

## 2. Typical Section Drawing



### 3. Survey point materials requirements

- ✓ These are minimum requirements; larger sizes may be necessary.
- ✓ Use only stakes with planed sides.

**Table 3—Survey point materials requirements**

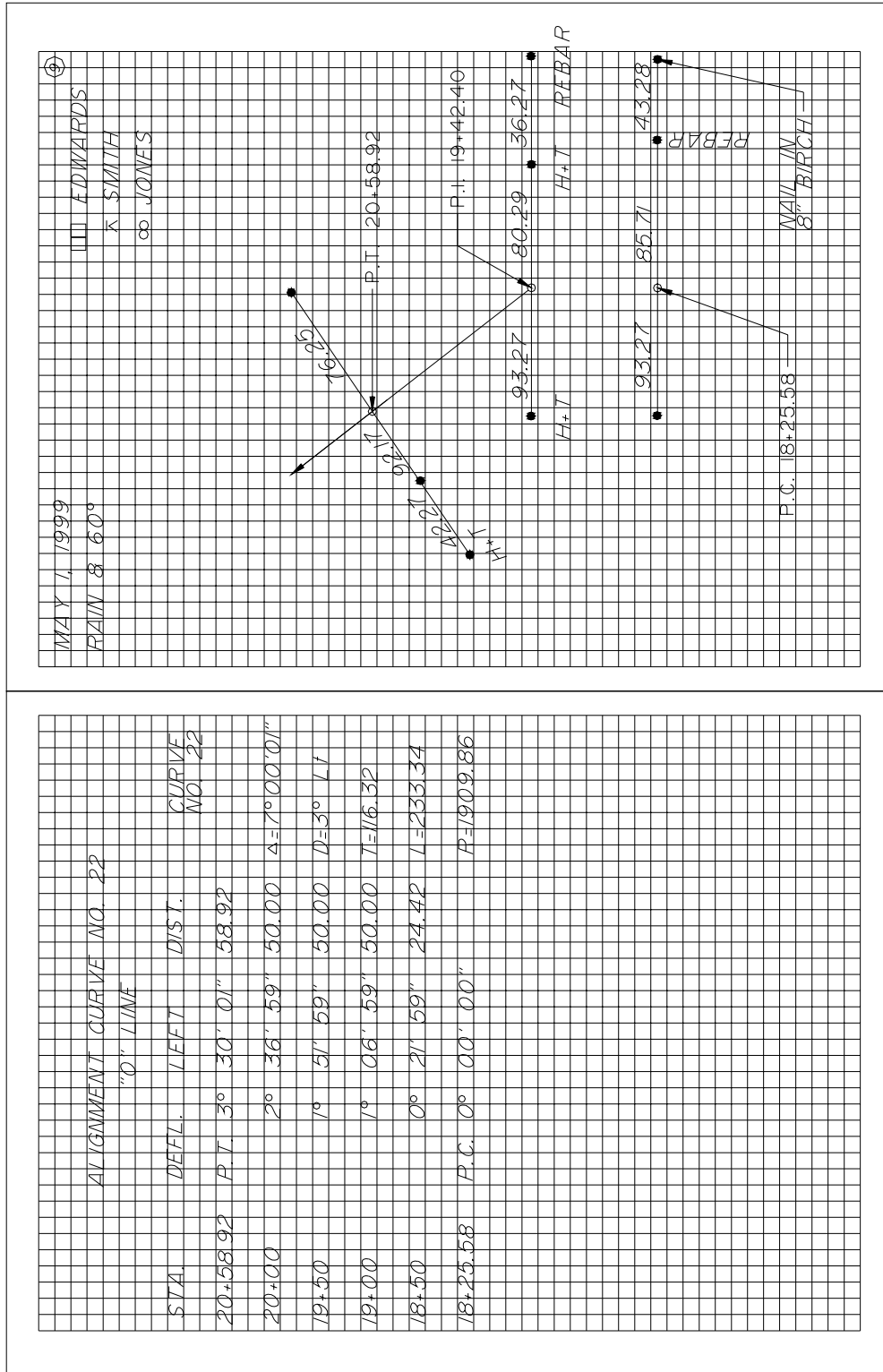
	24" lath or whiskers	2" x 2" x 8" hub	2" x 2" x 12" hub	1" x 2" x 18" stake	1" x 2" x 24" stake	48" lath	Hub and tack	40d nail	60d nail	1/2" x 24" rebar
Benchmarks									X	
Blue tops	X	X								
Centerline P.C., P.T., P.O.T.			X	X			X *			X *
Centerline reference points			X	X			X *			X *
Centerline station				X				X		
Clearing						X				
Culvert stake			X		X	X				
Culvert stake references			X		X	X				
Curb and gutter			X		X		X			
Guardrail								X		
Major structures			X	X *	X *	X	X *			X *
Red tops	X	X								
Signs						X				
Slope stake					X	X				
Slope stake references			X		X	X				

\* Optional depending on conditions, and to be determined by the Project Engineer.



## 4. Typical alignment notes

- ✓ The Chief of Parties must prepare the alignment book before actual staking.
- ✓ Don't use swing ties for reference points.
- ✓ Use three point right angle ties, two to the right and one left, or vice versa.
- ✓ Reference P.C., P.I., P.T., and P.O.T.

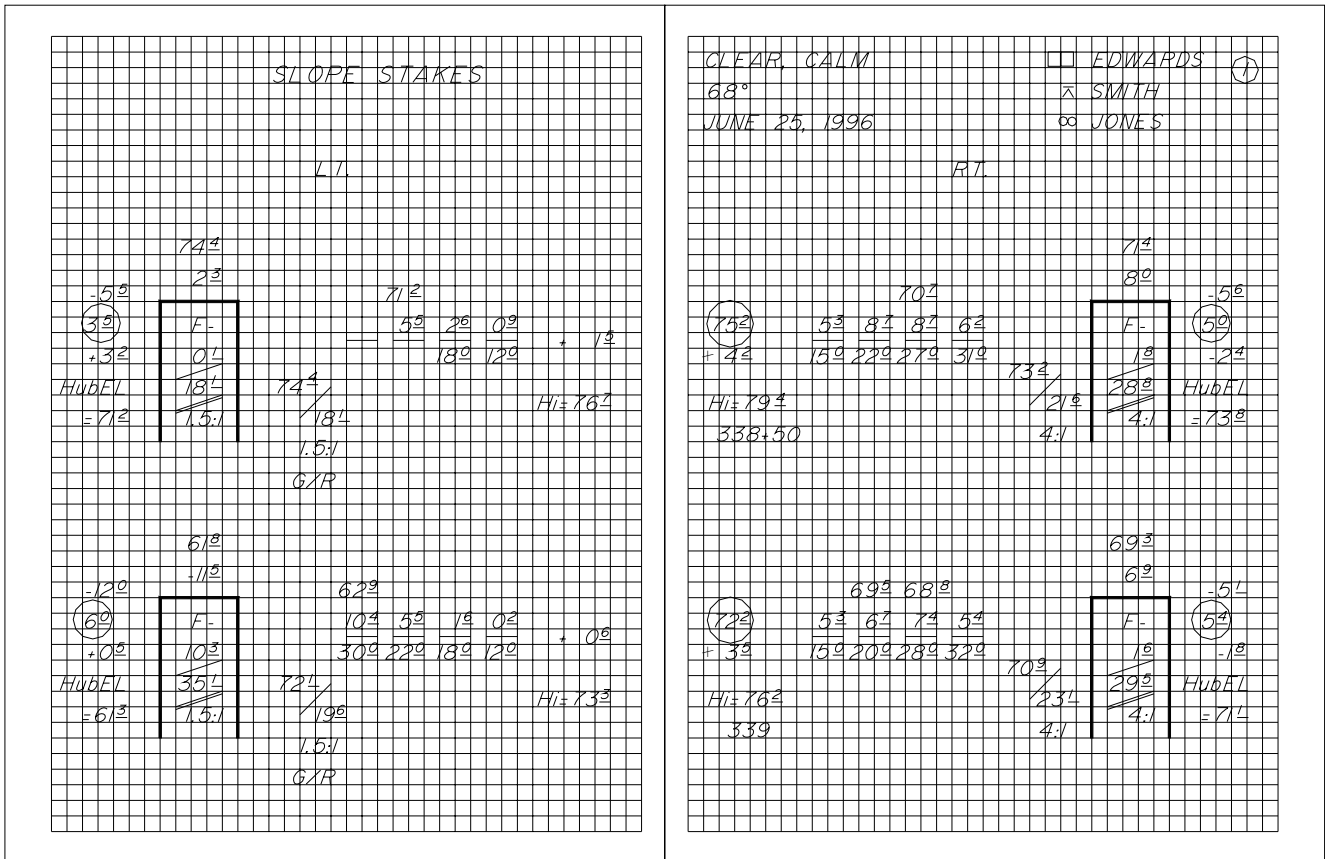






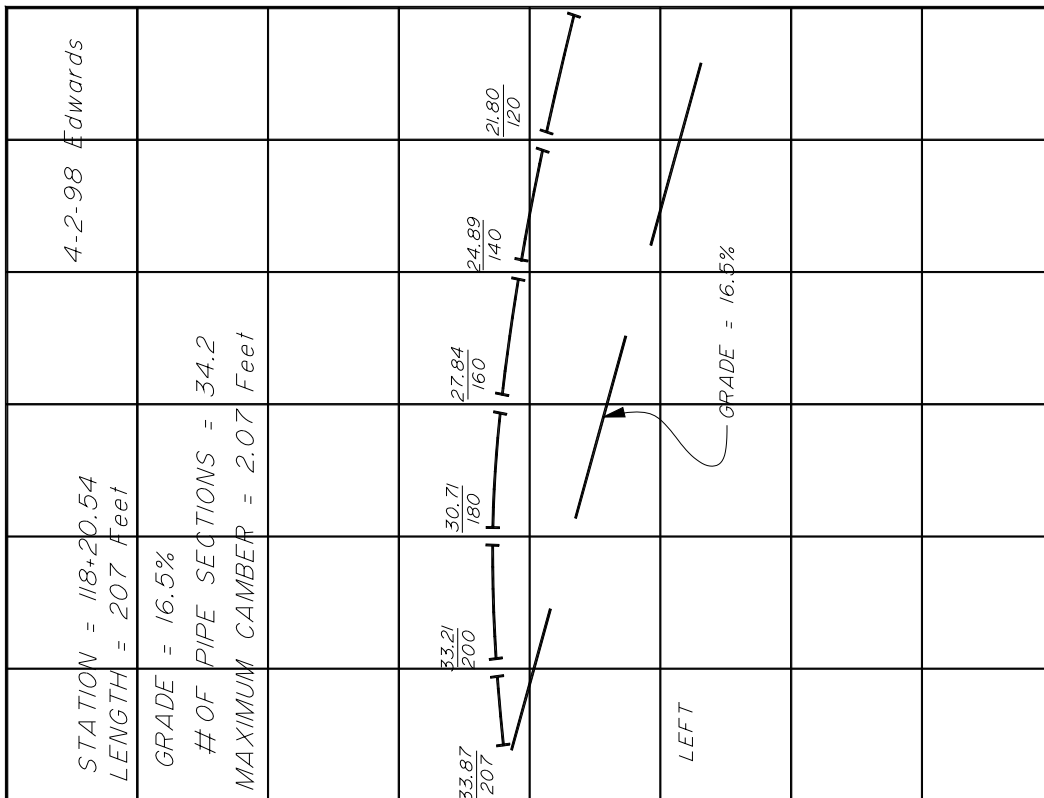
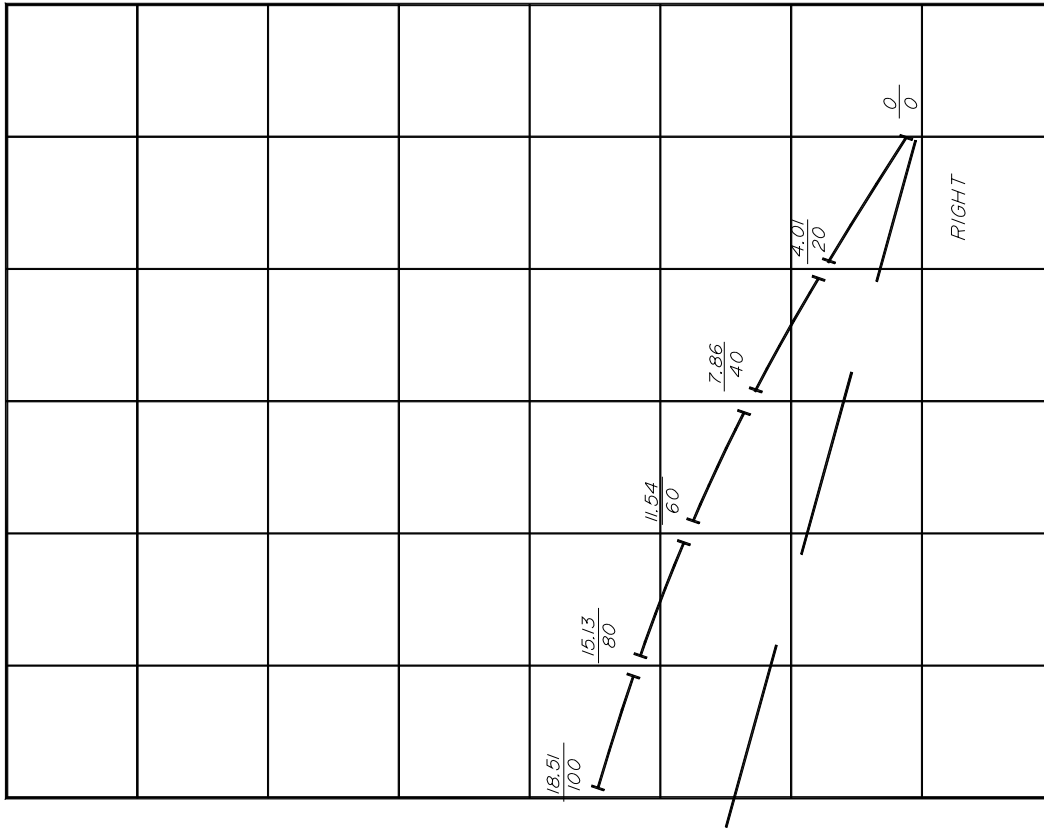
## 7. Typical slope stake notes

- ✓ Enter the station, elevations, shoulder distance or ditch distances, and slope in the slope stake book before staking begins.
- ✓ In areas where slides or overbreak are anticipated, extend the sections beyond the construction limits.
- ✓ Slope-stake each section that is cross-sectioned.
- ✓ Final re-cross sections are required where there are overbreaks, undercuts, etc. Re-cross section book and page numbers shall be noted on the original cross-section and slope staking page for the relevant stations.
- ✓ Include at least the following information on the stake: (1) where to begin the cut or fill (2) the slope ratio (3) the depth of cut or height of fill and (4) the station.
- ✓ Use a hand level only for one turn up or down from the instrument.
- ✓ Clearly note hand level turns.
- ✓ Use a reference point that is 10-20 feet beyond the slope stake.
- ✓ The reference point must show the cut or fill to the slope stake and must include the slope stake information.
- ✓ Slope stake all abrupt changes in typical sections.
- ✓ Position all laths to face centerline.





# 9. Typical culvert camber diagram



## 10. Typical blue or red tops and grade stake notes

- ✓ Place blue and red tops at each break in typical section and on centerline.
- ✓ Use blue tops for top of base course.
- ✓ Use red tops for the bottom of the base course.
- ✓ Evenly space red/blue tops at and between crown section break points with a maximum spacing of 25 feet between red/blue tops.
- ✓ Establish horizontal control from centerline references and vertical control from benchmarks.
- ✓ Place blue tops at the same interval as slope stakes.
- ✓ Stake all curve transitions.

