



# Alaska Railroad Corporation *News Release*

DATE: August 8, 2006 **UPDATE 8 PM**  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: Tim Thompson, 907-265-2695  
907-748-2079

## **UPDATE-Bridge Damage from Truck Halts Train Traffic** *ARRC crews working to restore service between Anchorage and Fairbanks*

ANCHORAGE, Alaska – Alaska Railroad (ARRC) crews have engineered a temporary fix to restore rail service between Anchorage and Fairbanks after a grade separated railroad bridge was struck and damaged by an excavator loaded on a lowboy tractor-trailer this morning at ARRC milepost 346.7/ Parks Highway milepost 236.7, located about a quarter of a mile south of the Denali Park entrance. At least five beams have been damaged compromising the integrity of the bridge.

Crews estimate it will be at least one to two days before the mainline is open for train traffic. At this time, the Parks Highway remains open to vehicle traffic but drivers may experience some delays at the bridge as ARRC crews complete repairs.

Passengers booked for travel on both the north and southbound Denali Star on Wednesday August 9 will follow the schedule below to avoid the damaged bridge until temporary repairs are made:

The Northbound passenger train leaving Anchorage bound for Fairbanks will travel as far as Talkeetna on its regular schedule. Those passengers traveling beyond Talkeetna will travel by bus to Denali Park. Passengers needing to continue to Fairbanks will meet the southbound train and continue north to Fairbanks by rail, on schedule.

The Southbound passenger train leaving Fairbanks and bound for Anchorage will travel as far as Denali Park. Those passengers traveling beyond Denali Park will travel by bus to Talkeetna. Passengers needing to continue to Anchorage will meet the northbound train and continue south by train, on schedule.

-30-