



## PTFF-32 – “Trans Alaska Pipeline System (TAPS)”

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Completed in 1977, the TAPS moves crude oil from the Alaska North Slope field at Prudhoe Bay to the Valdez Marine Tanker terminal at Valdez, which is the northern-most ice-free port in North America.

The pipeline is 800miles long, using 48inch diameter pipes, with several pumping stations along its route to maintain the oil flow of around 4mph.

Maintenance is critical and the pipeline is surveyed several times each day.

### **Suggested Aircraft:**

Appropriate cargo aircraft. Pilots should note runway lengths when selecting aircraft.

### **Flight Schedule:**

1. *Aerial Survey*. Fly from Deadhorse, Prudhoe Bay (PASC) to Valdez Pioneer (PAVD) at lowest altitude consistent with safety and terrain - 546nm.
2. *Load welding equipment and supplies*. Fly from Valdez Pioneer (PAVD) to Pumping Station at Wien Meml, Kotzbue (PAOT) – 548nm.
3. *Load "Galvanic Anode Units"*\*. Fly from Valdez Pioneer (PAVD) to Pumping Station at Rampart (RMP) - 283nm.
4. *Load Non-Destructive Testing Equipment*. Fly from Deadhorse (PASC) to Pumping Station at Wiseman (WSM). Offload 50% and fly on to Arctic Angel (9AK4). Offload remaining cargo - 405nm.
5. *Load "Pig Cleaning Units"*\*\*\*. Fly from Deadhorse (PASC) to Gulkana (PAGK) – 487nm.

\*Galvanic Anode Units are placed in subterranean sections of the pipeline to prevent corrosion

\*\* Pig Unit travels along pipeline removing wax and detecting corrosion.

### **NOTAMS:**

Total flight distance 2,269nm.

Please start PIREP Comments with, eg, PTFF-32-1/5.

Runway lengths - PAOT 5,882' Asphalt  
RMP 3,489' Gravel  
WSM 2,000' Gravel  
9AK4 2,800' Gravel  
PAGK 4,986' Asphalt