

Invitation for Public Comment

Yukon-Koyukuk

Regional Education Attendance Area School Board Recasting

On June 21, 2023, House Bill 69 was signed into law modifying AS 29.04. This bill states that "...a first-class city with a population of less than 400...may be reclassified as a second-class city if the council submits a written request to the Local Boundary Commission." Following the passage of this bill, the City of Tanana submitted a petition to reclassify from a First-Class City to a Second-Class City. The Local Boundary Commission (LBC) accepted this petition on March 12, 2024. Per AS 29.04.045(c) this certification will not go into effect until July 1, 2024. Upon certification, the City of Tanana's responsibility of maintaining a school district will be absolved and the city will be absorbed into the Yukon-Koyukuk School District (YKSD) Regional Educational Attendance Area (REAA).

Additionally, on October 4, 2023, the YKSD REAA voted to expand its current school board membership from seven to nine members. This vote was certified on October 20, 2023.

Alaska Statute 14.08.031(a) requires that the Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development (DCCED), in consultation with the Department of Education and Early Development (DEED) and local communities, divide the Unorganized Borough into education services areas. Therefore, upon passage of HB 69, the reclassification certification of the City of Tanana, and YKSD's increase in school board members, DCCED is required to review the section boundaries and school board apportionment scheme of each REAA to ensure they meet the standards contained at AS 14.08.051(a). The standard is that each school board member must represent, "as nearly as practicable, an equal number of persons."

A generally accepted standard for equal representation is that the population represented by each school board member not vary more than plus or minus five percent from the average. The average is determined by taking the total population of the REAA and dividing it by the total number of school board seats. When current representation varies by more than plus or minus five percent, the Commissioner must recast the boundaries of each section to more closely meet the standard.

Under the existing school board apportionment scheme, as adopted following the statutory relocation of Rampart from Yukon Flats REAA to Yukon-Koyukuk REAA in 2022, Yukon-Koyukuk REAA has three sections containing a total of seven school board seats. Section I has two seats and includes the Cities of Allakaket, Bettles, and Huslia and the communities of Alatna, Coldfoot, Evansville, and Wiseman. Section II has two seats and includes the Cities of Kaltag, Koyukuk, Hughes, and Nulato. Section III has three seats and includes the City of Ruby and the communities of Four Mile Road, Manley Hot Springs, Minto, and Rampart as well as the areas along the Parks Highway south of Nenana and north of Four Mile. With the reclassification of the City of Tanana from a First-Class City to a Second-Class City and the increase in the number of seats from seven to nine, the voting district

boundaries must again be reapportioned. Five new options are being proposed (*see attached maps*).

- Option A contains three sections and moves the City of Hughes from Section II to Section I, moves the community of Rampart from Section III to Section I, and introduces the City of Tanana into Section III. In this scenario, Section I has three seats, Section II has two seats, and Section III has four seats. Option A has an overall deviation of 5.61 percent.
- Option B contains four sections and moves the City of Hughes from Section II to Section I, moves the community of Rampart from Section III to Section I, and places the City of Tanana into a newly created Section IV. In this scenario, Section I has three seats, Section II has two seats, Section III has three seats, and Section IV has one seat. Option B has an overall deviation of 8.01 percent.
- Option C contains three sections and moves the City of Huslia from Section I to Section II, the City of Hughes from Section II to Section I, moves the community of Rampart from Section III to Section I, and introduces Tanana into Section III. In this scenario, Section I has two seats, Section II has three seats, and Section III has four seats. Option C has an overall deviation of 19.24 percent.
- Option D contains three sections and moves the City of Hughes from Section II to Section I, moves the City of Ruby from Section III to Section II, and introduces the City of Tanana into Section III. In this scenario, each section has three seats. Option D has an overall deviation of 19.31 percent.
- Option E consists of two sections. Section I contains the cities of Allakaket, Bettles, and Tanana as well as the communities of Alatna, Coldfoot, Evansville, Four Mile Road, Manley Hot Springs, Minto, Rampart, and Wiseman, plus all outlying areas in the REAA excluding those near Koyukuk and Ruby. Section II contains the Cities of Kaltag, Koyukuk, Hughes, Huslia, Nulato, and Ruby and the outlying areas near Koyukuk and Ruby. In this scenario, Section I has five seats and Section II has four seats. Option E has an overall deviation of 4.59 percent.

Based on the REAA's demographic, socio-economic, linguistic, transportation, cultural, and communication considerations, the recommendation for the Yukon-Koyukuk REAA is to implement Option E. This option also accounts for past public comment that each section should contain multiple seats and represent multiple schools, while also accounting for the State of Alaska's desire to have a population deviation close to the desired level of five percent.

To learn more about these options and the reapportionment process please visit <https://www.commerce.alaska.gov/web/dcra/>

If you are interested in the apportionment of the Yukon Flats REAA school board, you are invited to submit comments. You may do so verbally or in writing.

Verbal comments may be submitted by calling 907-269-4559, between the hours of 8:00 am and 4:30 pm, or by voicemail at that number.

Written comments should be emailed to reaa.recast.2020@alaska.gov or mailed to:

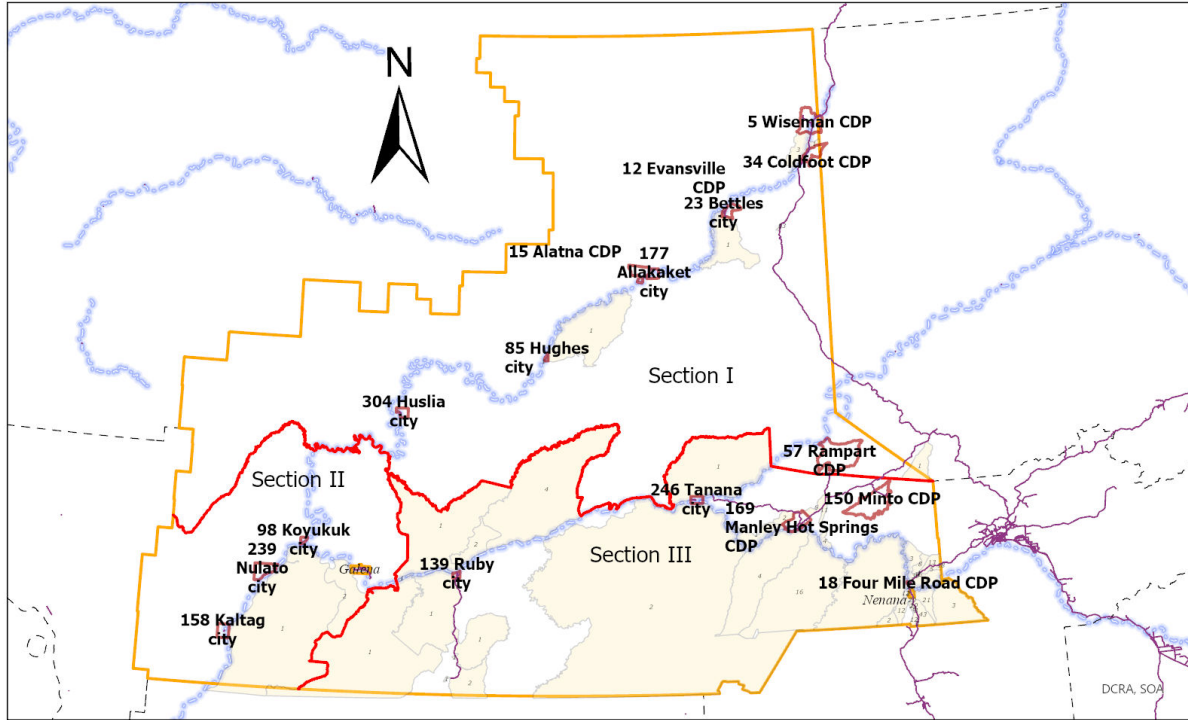
Attn: REAA Recasting
Jedediah Smith
Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development
550 W 7th Ave. STE 1650
Anchorage AK 99501

Written comments must be received by **Friday, May 3rd, 2024, by 5:00PM**. Notice can be viewed on the State of Alaska web site at <https://aws.state.ak.us/OnlinePublicNotices/>

A public hearing on all recommendations will be held on **Wednesday, May 8th, 2024 from 10:00AM to 11:00AM** by electronic means. The public hearing can be accessed by going to: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86234761767?pwd=ekk5aHgwaXAzaW5NK1F2M1IzdGlkdz09>

52 - Yukon-Koyukuk REAA - Option A

Total Population:	2284	Seats:	9	Target Pop:	254
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REAA - 52 Yukon-Koyukuk

Option A - Move the City of Hughes from Section II to Section I, move Rampart from Section III to Section I, and introduce the City of Tanana into Section III

State Highway	Yukon-Koyukuk REAA
Section Line	City outside of REAA
Census Places	Other REAAs
Census Block with Population	Critical Logistics River Systems

	Residents	Seat Count	Seats	Pop per Seat	Pct Deviation
Section I		3	A B C	247.0	-2.67%
Allakaket	177				
Alatna CDP	15				
Bettles	23				
Areas (S of Bettles)	1				
Coldfoot CDP	34				
Area (N of Coldfoot)	4				
Area (S of Coldfoot)	22				
Evansville CDP	12				
Hughes	85				
Areas (N of Hughes)	2				
Huslia	304				
Rampart CDP	57				
Wiseman CDP	5				
Total	741				

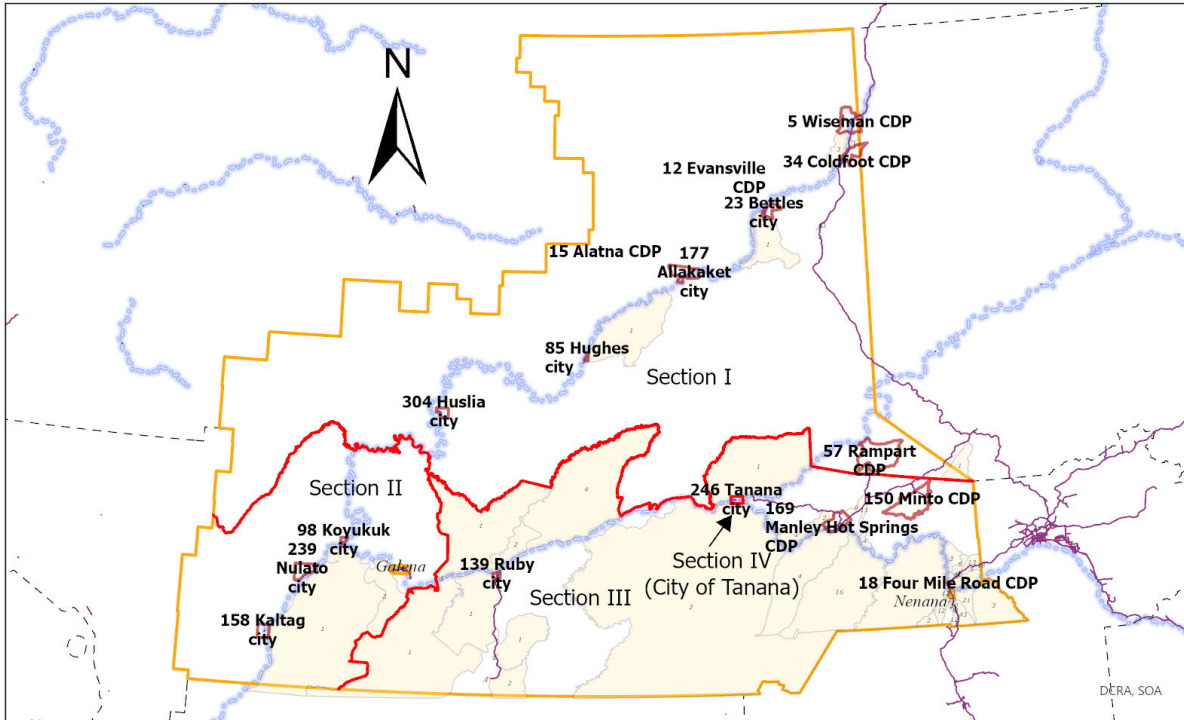
	Residents	Seat Count	Seats	Pop per Seat	Pct Deviation
Section II		2	D E	249.0	-1.88%
Kaltag	158				
Koyukuk	98				
Area (S & SW of Koyukuk)	3				
Nulato	239				
Total	498				

	Residents	Seat Count	Seats	Pop per Seat	Pct Deviation
Section III		4	F G H I	261.3	2.94%
Highway Area (Near Nenana)	261				
Areas (S of Manley)	24				
Areas (W of Manley)	6				
Areas (NE of Manley)	17				
Four Mile Road CDP	18				
Manley Hot Springs CDP	169				
Minto CDP	150				
Ruby	139				
Areas (N of Ruby)	7				
Area (S & SW of Ruby)	8				
Tanana	246				
Total	1045				

Spread	5.61%
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52 - Yukon-Koyukuk REAA - Option B

Total Population:	2284	Seats:	9	Target Pop:	254
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REAA - 52 Yukon-Koyukuk

Option B - move the City of Hughes from Section II to Section I, move Rampart from Section III to Section I, and City of Tanana becomes Section IV

Legend

- State Highway
- Section Line
- Census Block with Population
- Yukon-Koyukuk REAA
- City outside of REAA
- Other REAAs
- Critical Logistics River Systems
- Census Places

	Residents	Seat Count	Seats	Pop per Seat	Pct Deviation
Section I		3	A B C	247.0	-2.67%
Allakaket	177				
Alatna CDP	15				
Bettles	23				
Areas (S of Bettles)	1				
Coldfoot CDP	34				
Area (N of Coldfoot)	4				
Area (S of Coldfoot)	22				
Evansville CDP	12				
Hughes	85				
Areas (N of Hughes)	2				
Huslia	304				
Rampart CDP	57				
Wiseman CDP	5				
Total	741				

	Residents	Seat Count	Seats	Pop per Seat	Pct Deviation
Section II		2	D E	249.0	-1.88%
Kaltag	158				
Koyukuk	98				
Area (S & SW of Koyukuk)	3				
Nulato	239				
Total	498				

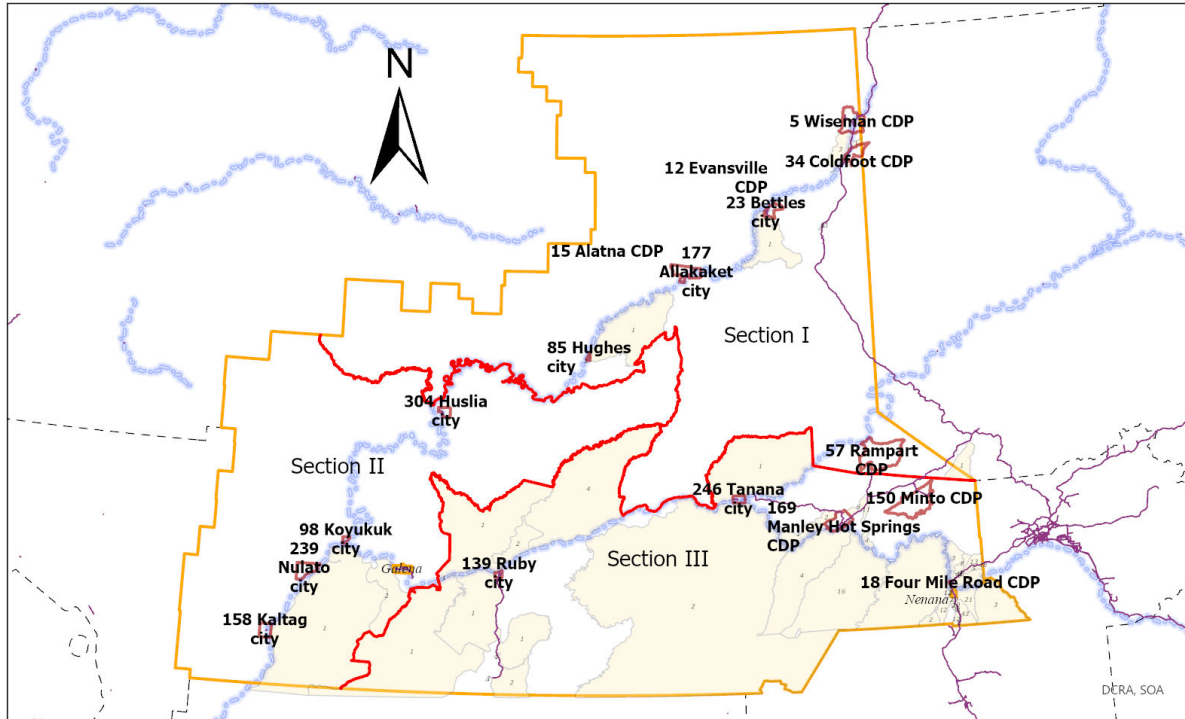
	Residents	Seat Count	Seats	Pop per Seat	Pct Deviation
Section III		3	F G H	266.3	4.95%
Highway Area (Near Nenana)	261				
Areas (S of Manley)	24				
Areas (W of Manley)	6				
Areas (NE of Manley)	17				
Four Mile Road CDP	18				
Manley Hot Springs CDP	169				
Minto CDP	150				
Ruby	139				
Areas (N of Ruby)	7				
Area (S & SW of Ruby)	8				
Total	799				

	Residents	Seat Count	Seats	Pop per Seat	Pct Deviation
Section IV	246	1	I	246.0	-3.06%
Tanana	246				
Total	246				

Spread	8.01%
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52 - Yukon-Koyukuk REAA - Option C

Total Population:	2284	Seats:	9	Target Pop:	254
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REAA - 52 Yukon-Koyukuk

Option C - Move the City of Huslia from Section I to Section II, move the City of Hughes from Section II to Section I, move Rampart from Section III to Section I, and introduces Tanana into Section III

Legend

- State Highway
- Section Line
- Census Block with Population
- Yukon-Koyukuk REAA
- City outside of REAA
- Other REAAs
- Critical Logistics River Systems
- Census Places

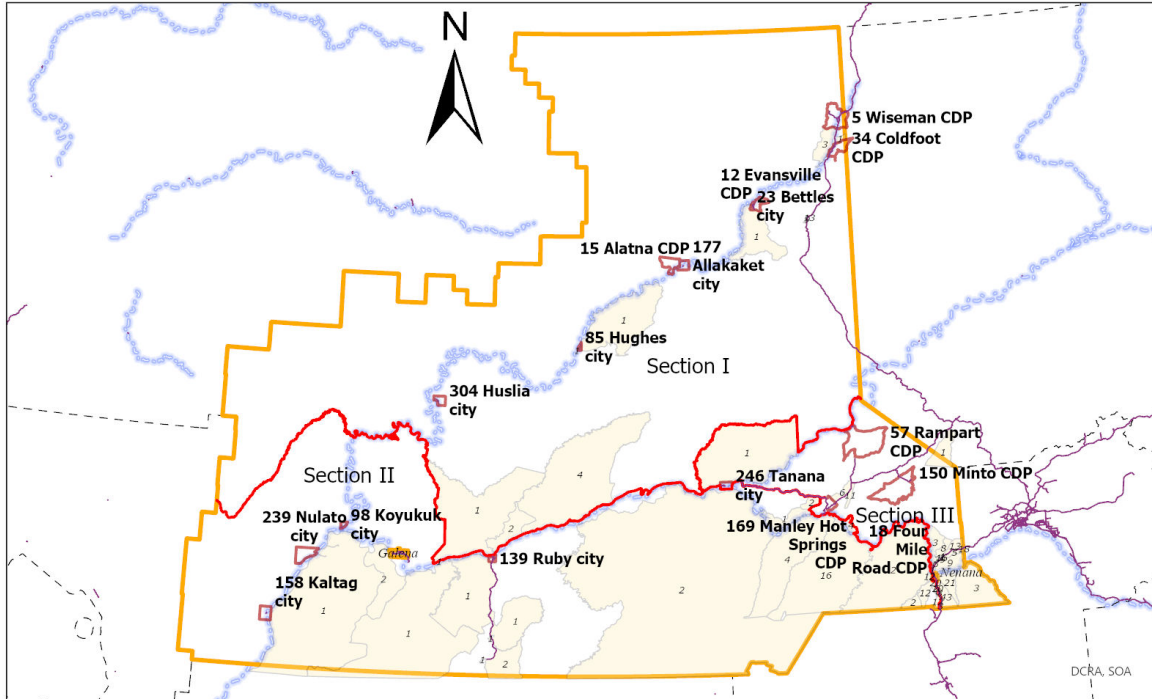
	Residents	Seat Count	Seats	Pop per Seat	Pct Deviation
Section I		2	A B	218.5	-13.90%
Allakaket	177				
Alatna CDP	15				
Bettles	23				
Areas (S of Bettles)	1				
Coldfoot CDP	34				
Area (N of Coldfoot)	4				
Area (S of Coldfoot)	22				
Evansville CDP	12				
Hughes	85				
Areas (N of Hughes)	2				
Rampart CDP	57				
Wiseman CDP	5				
Total	437				

	Residents	Seat Count	Seats	Pop per Seat	Pct Deviation
Section II		3	C D E	267.3	5.34%
Kaltag	158				
Koyukuk	98				
Area (S & SW of Koyukuk)	3				
Huslia	304				
Nulato	239				
Total	802				

	Residents	Seat Count	Seats	Pop per Seat	Pct Deviation
Section III		4	F G H I	261.3	2.94%
Highway Area (Near Nenana)	261				
Areas (S of Manley)	24				
Areas (W of Manley)	6				
Areas (NE of Manley)	17				
Four Mile Road CDP	18				
Manley Hot Springs CDP	169				
Minto CDP	150				
Ruby	139				
Areas (N of Ruby)	7				
Area (S & SW of Ruby)	8				
Tanana	246				
Total	1045				

Spread	19.24%
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52 - Yukon-Koyukuk REAA - Option D



REAA - 52 Yukon-Koyukuk

Option D - Move the City of Hughes from Section II to Section I, move the City of Ruby from Section III to Section II, and introduce the City of Tanana into Section III

Total Population:	2284	Seats:	9	Target Pop:	254
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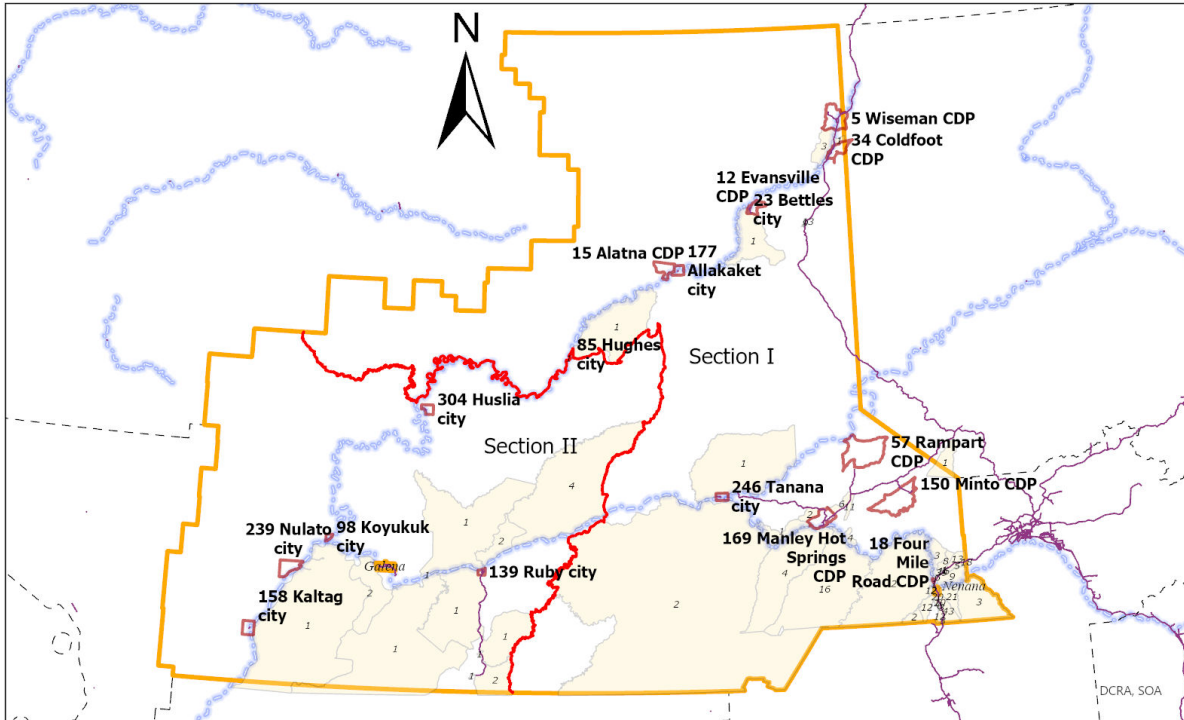
	Residents	Seat Count	Seats	Pop per Seat	Pct Deviation
Section I		3	A B C	230.3	-9.24%
Allakaket	177				
Alatna CDP	15				
Bettles	23				
Areas (S of Bettles)	1				
Coldfoot CDP	34				
Area (N of Coldfoot)	4				
Area (S of Coldfoot)	22				
Evansville CDP	12				
Hughes	85				
Areas (N of Hughes)	2				
Huslia	304				
Area (N of Ruby)	7				
Wiseman CDP	5				
Total	691				

	Residents	Seat Count	Seats	Pop per Seat	Pct Deviation
Section II		3	D E F	251.7	-0.83%
Kaltag	158				
Koyukuk	98				
Area (S & SW of Koyukuk)	3				
Areas (S of Manley)	24				
Areas (W of Manley)	6				
Nulato	239				
Ruby	139				
Area (S & SW of Ruby)	8				
Area W of Tanana River to Nenana	30				
Area S of Nenana, W of Hwy	50				
Total	755				

	Residents	Seat Count	Seats	Pop per Seat	Pct Deviation
Section III		3	G H I	279.3	10.07%
Highway Area (Near Nenana, E of Tanana River)	181				
Areas (NE of Manley)	17				
Four Mile Road CDP	18				
Manley Hot Springs CDP	169				
Minto CDP	150				
Rampart	57				
Tanana	246				
Total	838				

Spread	19.31%
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52 - Yukon-Koyukuk REAA - Option E



REAA - 52 Yukon-Koyukuk

Option E - Dissolve Section III. Move the City of Ruby from Section III to Section II and move Rampart, Manley Hot Springs, Minto, and Four Mile Road from Section III to Section I. Move the City of Huslia from Section I to Section II, and introduce the City of Tanana into Section I.

Total Population:	2284	Seats:	9	Target Pop:	254
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	Residents	Seat Count	Seats	Pop per Seat	Pct Deviation
Section I		5	A B C D E	248.6	-2.04%
Allakaket	177				
Alatna CDP	15				
Bettles	23				
Areas (S of Bettles)	1				
Coldfoot CDP	34				
Area (N of Coldfoot)	4				
Area (S of Coldfoot)	22				
Evansville CDP	12				
Areas (N of Hughes)	2				
Highway Area (Near Nenana, E of Tanana River)	181				
Area W of Tanana River to Nenana	30				
Area S of Nenana, W of Hwy	50				
Areas (NE of Manley)	17				
Areas (S of Manley)	24				
Areas (W of Manley)	6				
Four Mile Road CDP	18				
Manley Hot Springs CDP	169				
Minto CDP	150				
Rampart	57				
Tanana	246				
Wiseman CDP	5				
Total	1243				

	Residents	Seat Count	Seats	Pop per Seat	Pct Deviation
Section II		4	F G H I	260.3	2.55%
Kaltag	158				
Koyukuk	98				
Area (S & SW of Koyukuk)	3				
Huslia	304				
Hughes	85				
Nulato	239				
Ruby	139				
Area (N of Ruby)	7				
Area (S & SW of Ruby)	8				
Total	1041				

Spread	4.59%
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