# Comprehensive Data Delivery README FILE

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| **Study Section** | Study 11.9: Invasive Plant Study |
| **Study Component** | (not applicable) |
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| **Data Collection and Processing By** | Joanna Roth and Erin Johnson, ABR, Inc.—Environmental Research & Services |
| **Field Date Range** | August 19–28, 2013 |

**Introduction:** The overall goal of this effort was to determine the current prevalence of invasive vascular plants in areas with the potential to be affected by construction and operation of the proposed Susitna-Watana Hydroelectric Project (Project) in Alaska, and in nearby disturbed areas, and to assess the risk of the continued spread of invasive species as a result of Project development.

The study area for the Invasive Plant Study is described in RSP Section 11.9.3. Since invasive vascular plant species are generally confined to disturbed areas and the Project area is primarily undeveloped, the 2013 field survey for this study was focused on disturbed areas near the Project area that could act as potential pathways for invasive species to enter and establish in the Project area. Surveyed in 2013 were sections of the George Parks (Parks) and Denali highways that are relatively close to the three possible alignments for the access road and transmission lines, primitive roads, and off-road vehicle (ORV) trails emanating from the Denali Highway that currently provide access into the Project area, and other disturbed areas near the Parks and Denali highway corridors. This two-year study was initiated in 2013 and final field surveys were planned to be conducted in the final study year. The results of the field surveys in the two study seasons will be reported in the USR. Data archived here are for the one completed year of field surveys (2013).

**Data Summary:** Data for the Invasive Plant Study consist of field ground-reference data, and GIS data layers created in planning the field survey. All data for the study have undergone at least a QC3 level of review.

*Field Data*—Field surveys for invasive plants were performed in the study area in 2013. Field plot locations (latitude and longitude) and observed invasive species were recorded. Photographs were taken of surveyed areas and invasive plants encountered.

*GIS Data*—Includes the study area for invasive plant surveys identified during project planning, field plot locations, and field photographs hyperlinked to field plot locations.

**Data Organization:**

Field data for the study are archived at the root folder /11-BOT/11.09-INVAS. The folder contains one Access database (11\_9\_INVAS\_Field\_Data\_20170630.accdb). The tabular data include:

* INVAS\_Field\_Data: contains a list of surveyed plots, their location (latitude and longitude), and observed invasive species.
* INVAS\_Plot\_Photos: contains a list of all photographs taken at invasive plant survey plots, with hyperlinks to photographs (see photos subfolder below)

The subfolder /11-BOT/11.09-INVAS/Photos contains additional data for each field plot.

* Photos: contains landscape and vegetation photos for each transect. The photos are housed in separate subfolders identified by the plot identification number and are accessible through hyperlinks in the data table INVAS\_Plot\_Photos and in GIS with the feature class INVAS\_2013\_Plot\_Photos.

The GIS data are archived in the subfolder /11-BOT/11.09-INVAS/GIS, which contains one geodatabase (SuWa\_11\_09\_GIS\_20170630.gdb) containing:

* INVAS\_2013\_Study\_Area: study area identified for 2013 field surveys
* INVAS\_2013\_Field\_Plots: invasive plant survey plots for 2013 field surveys
* INVAS\_2013\_Plot\_Photos: points hyperlinked to photographs taken at survey plots

**Online Data Link:** <http://gis.suhydro.org/SuWa/11-BOT/11.09-INVAS/>

**Online Report Link:** 11.09 Invasive Plant Study – Initial Study Report Part D under November 6, 2015; Initial Study Report – Part D at <http://www.susitna-watanahydro.org/type/documents>

[[1]](#endnote-1)

1. **Data Distributor Contact Information:**

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