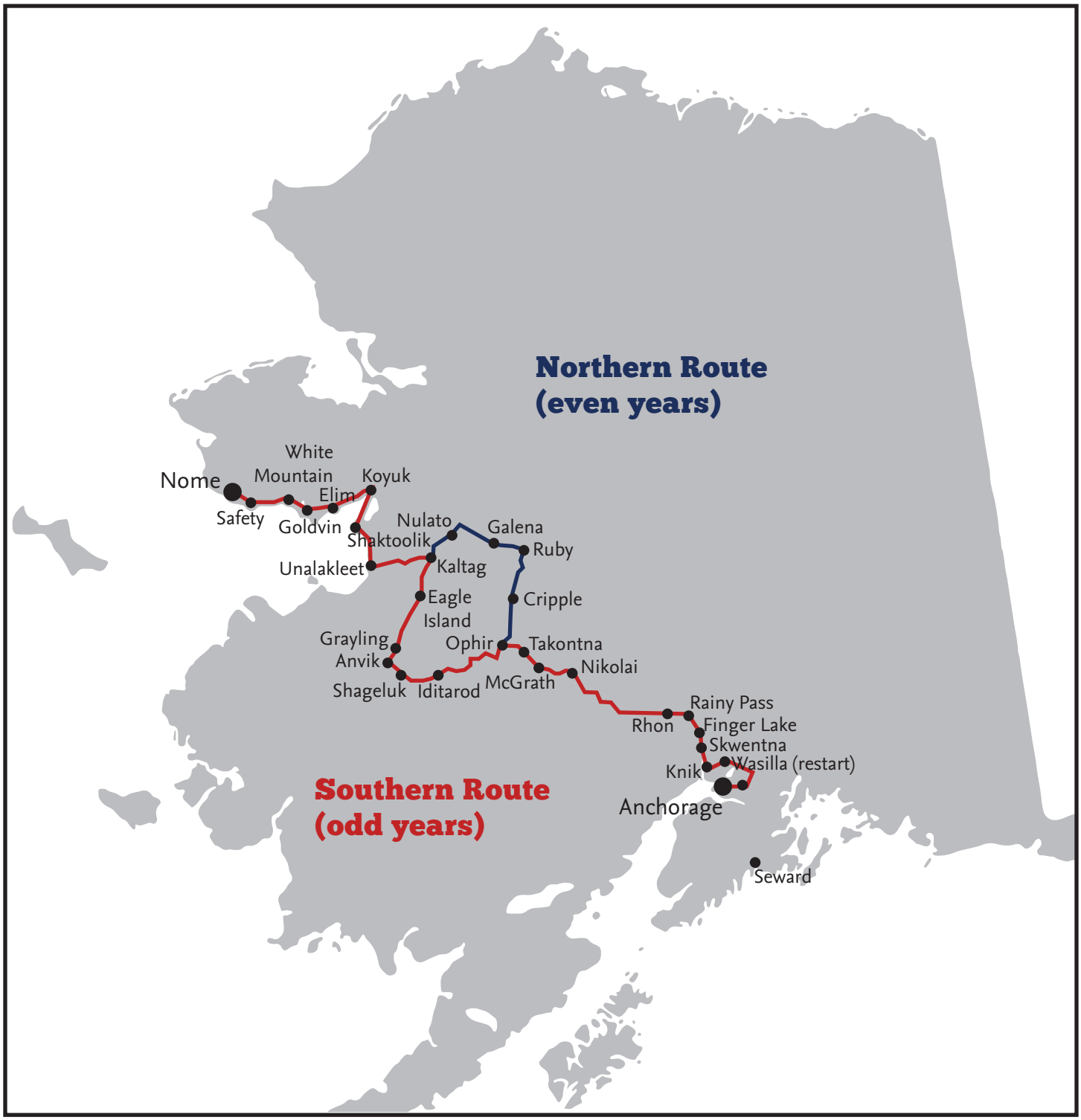

The Course of the Iditarod Trail

In 1925, mushers traveled the challenging route from Nenana to Nome out of necessity. Today, a route from Anchorage to Nome, Alaska is the racetrack for an annual sporting event where dogs and people pit themselves against the elements. The Iditarod Trail Sled Dog Race as it is today has taken place yearly since the 1970s.

Thanks to a small, battery-powered satellite tracking system called the IonEarth, sled dog teams can be tracked real time as they compete in the race. Spectators and racers alike now have access to each team's whereabouts, which not only makes viewing the so-called Last Great Race on Earth much more exciting but also provides us with important statistics.

The 2014 winner of the Iditarod Race was Dallas Seavey. The table below displays his time and speed on the three longest legs of the race. With this information, calculate the distances of these routes by following the example.

Example

Step 1

Convert the elapsed time into decimal form.

9h 19m = 9 19/60

Change the fraction into decimal form through long division. Divide the numerator by the denominator and stop at the hundredths place.

19 ÷ 60 = 0.31

Elapsed time = 9.31 hours

Step 2

Round the decimal to the tenths place

9.31 rounded to the tenths place = 9.3 hours

Step 3

Solve for the distance using this formula:

Distance = (elapsed time) × (rate)

= (9.3 hours) × (7.51 mph)

= 69.843 miles

Step 4

Round your answer to the nearest whole number.

= 70 miles

LEG OF THE ROUTE	ELAPSED TIME	AVERAGE SPEED	DISTANCE
Cripple to Ruby	9h 19m	7.51 mph	70 mi
Rohn to Nikolai	14h 2m	5.34 mph	
Ophir to Cripple	11h 51m	6.16 mph	
Kaltag to Unalakleet	12h 0m	7.08 mph	

Rohn to Nikolai: 75 Ophir to Cripple: 73 Kaltag to Unalakleet: 85