

ASLAG Alaska State Lands Advisory Group

MISSION:

- To bring together visionary and learned members of the Alaskan public to use their combined talents and resources to understand and explore the viability for transferring management and/or ownership of federal public lands in Alaska to the State of Alaska.
- To research the legal, economic, jurisdictional, and other issues associated with such a transfer.
- To identify, discuss and strategize more efficient management of public lands in Alaska for maximum sustained conservation, utilization, access, and productivity by Alaskans as the most capable and motivated stewards of those lands.
- To deliver to the Commission a detailed report of the group's findings and recommendations no later than June 30, 2017.

GOAL 1: **Research Viability of Transferring Federal Public Lands (TPL) in Alaska**

- OBJECTIVE 1: Evaluate whether TPL would be consistent with Alaska's statehood compact.
- OBJECTIVE 2: Determine whether Alaskans have the ability to demand TPL and on what grounds.
- OBJECTIVE 3: Research and articulate constitutional arguments for and against TPL in Alaska.
- OBJECTIVE 4: Research and articulate the applicability of ANCSA and ANILCA to any TPL effort.
- OBJECTIVE 5: Research and articulate any substantive differences in the application of FLPMA in Alaska (compared to other states) which may have an impact on any TPL effort.
- OBJECTIVE 5: Evaluate and compare the success or failure of TPL in other states and nations.

GOAL 2: **Explore Networking With Other States and Groups**

- OBJECTIVE 1: Research and advise on Alaska joining the Utah interstate compact for TPL.
- OBJECTIVE 2: Research and advise on the Commission joining groups focused on TPL issues, such as the American Lands Council.
- OBJECTIVE 3: Designate one spokesman and up to two alternates for conference attendance; the spokesperson for the group in all other respects shall be the Chairman of the Commission or his or her designee.
- OBJECTIVE 4: Develop a process whereby conferences will be identified for possible attendance; submit all attendance requests to the Director for consideration by the Commission.
- OBJECTIVE 5: For any conference attended, submit a detailed report to the group and Commission no later than 45 days after conference completion.

GOAL 3: Analyze and Research Sources of Revenue

- OBJECTIVE 1: Identify current potential revenue streams from federal public lands; evaluate the extent to which those revenue sources are used, underused and unused.
- OBJECTIVE 2: Estimate potential revenues to Alaska if certain federal lands are transferred into State of Alaska management and/or ownership. Pinpoint areas where potential revenue is currently lost due to federal land management actions, laws and/or policies.
- OBJECTIVE 3: To the extent expertise is needed, identify potential experts and resources and submit invitation or engagement requests to the Director for consideration by the Commission.
- OBJECTIVE 4: Identify and estimate any costs borne by states due to federal land management actions, laws and/or policies in regard to federal public lands in those states.
- OBJECTIVE 5: Evaluate any obligation on the part of the federal government, legal or otherwise, for maximizing revenue on public lands for states in which those lands are located.
- OBJECTIVE 6: Generally and specifically compare each finding with land management and revenue generation on state lands in Alaska.

GOAL 4: Explore Legislative, Judicial and Administrative Strategies to Accomplish TPL

- OBJECTIVE 1: Identify and research pending national legislation granting mineral and other rights on federal public lands to states; prepare draft resolutions which tie into those efforts.
- OBJECTIVE 2: Explore the viability of state legislation, either a new law or modification of existing law, in support of TPL and/or to exert control by the State of Alaska over changes in federal land status and/or management from this point forward.
- OBJECTIVE 3: Identify and summarize litigation related to TPL efforts; explore application of those findings, principles and/or litigation strategies in Alaska.
- OBJECTIVE 4: Identify and articulate management tools in state statute and regulation which would be consistent with existing federal mandates and procedures.

GOAL 5: Research Obstacles to Development

- OBJECTIVE 1: Identify and summarize examples of federal agency statutes, regulations and policies which preclude viable development or investment potential on federal public lands in Alaska, considering the Alaska context.
- OBJECTIVE 2: Explore access and infrastructure needs and obstacles with respect to federal public lands in Alaska.
- OBJECTIVE 3: Consider both the existing and future needs of industry and communities.

GOAL 6: Engage the State of Alaska

- OBJECTIVE 1: Support the CACFA Executive Director, as needed, to secure assistance from the State of Alaska in working towards and achieving the goals and objectives outlined here, including providing for staffing needs, research questions and agency cooperation.
- OBJECTIVE 2: Assist CACFA in making recommendations and providing documentation to state agencies to enable forward progression on sovereign issues.

Administrative Set-Up and Operations

- TASK 1: Create a plan of proposed methods of operation, function and revised objectives. Submit the plan to the Director within 90 days of the group's first meeting on June 9, 2015, for consideration by the Commission at its Anchorage meeting in Fall 2015.
- TASK 2: Elect a chairman and, if desired, officers and determine a meeting schedule in coordination with the Director and the Commission's Executive Committee.
- TASK 3: Provide quarterly reports, with anticipated operating costs, to the Director. Progress reports will be due at the end of each quarter (January 1, April 1, July 1 and October 1, respectively) with anticipated operating costs in contemplation of the following quarter.
- TASK 4: As needed, submit expenditure requests with a proposed purpose, estimates and justification to the Director for consideration by the Commission.
- TASK 5: Coordinate all meeting travel and logistics with Commission staff.