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# **BREAKFAST MEETING**

Thursday, February 4, 2016

- 1. Call to order Eric Fjelstad, Senior Vice President
- Self Introductions
- 3. Head Table Introductions
- Staff Report Marleanna Hall, Executive Director
- 5. Program and Keynote Speaker:

#### **AIDEA Statewide Update**

John Springsteen, Executive Director, Alaska Industrial Development & Export Authority

Next Meeting: Thursday, February 18th:

Alaska's Future: Act Now!

Former Governor Tony Knowles
Sophie Minich, President and Chief Executive Officer, Cook Inlet Region, Inc.

Sign up for RDC e-news online!
This breakfast packet and presentation may be found online at:

akrdc.org



**TOURISM** 



**FISHERIES** 



OIL & GAS

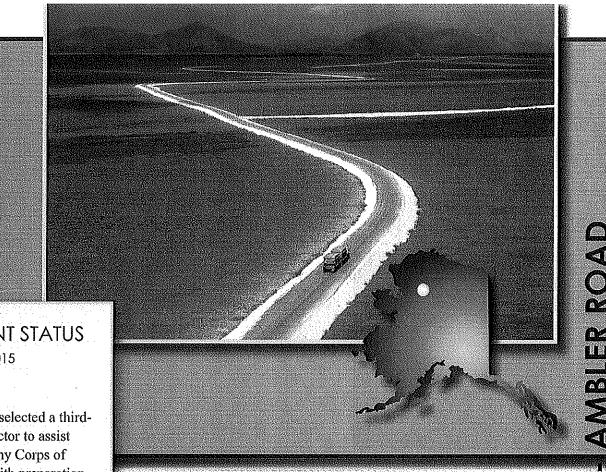


MINING



FORESTRY

121 West Fireweed Lane, Suite 250, Anchorage, Alaska 99503 Phone: 907-276-0700 • Fax: 907-276-3887 • Email: resources@akrdc.org • Website: akrdc.org



#### **CURRENT STATUS** October 2015

AIDEA has selected a thirdparty contractor to assist the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers with preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) under the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (ANILCA). Per ANILCA, consolidated permit applications for relevant federal agencies have been drafted.

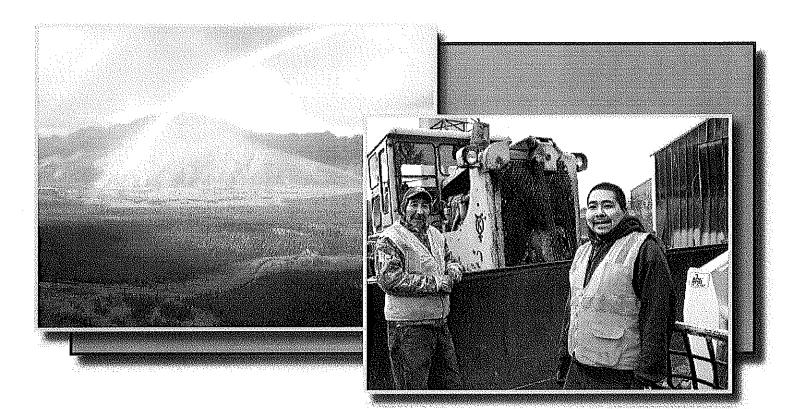
#### PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The Ambler Mining District Industrial Access Road (AMDIAR) project is a Roads to Resources project that proposes preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for an approximately 200-mile industrial access road from the Dalton Highway to the Ambler Mining District in northwest Alaska. The Ambler Mining District has extensive mineral resources, including copper, silver, gold, lead and zinc. It has been characterized as one of the largest undeveloped copper-zinc mineral belts in the world. The area has been explored for decades, but development of the mineral resources has been limited due to a lack of transportation infrastructure for mine construction and operation.

The AMDIAR project could provide surface access to the Ambler Mining District and enable further exploration and development of the area's rich resources, providing for economic development in rural parts of northern Alaska. AIDEA undertook the project with the goal of forming a Public-Private Partnership to finance, construct, opreate and maintain the facility. The project design is modeled on AIDEA's successful Delong Mountain Transportation System (DMTS), which includes an industrial access road from the Red Dog Mine to the DMTS port. AIDEA worked with private industry to develop the DMTS industrial access road and the costs of road construction were paid back through tolls on road use.







AMDIAR could provide access to the Ambler Mining District through Gates of the Arctic National Preserve making use of special provisions in ANILCA that allow this type of road to cross this preserve to reach the Ambler Mining District.

#### **BUDGET/FINANCE**

AIDEA, as a development finance authority, would develop the access road as a public-private partnership in which AIDEA funds and bonds would be used in conjunction with private capital for the construction and operation of the road. As with the Delong Mountain Transportation System, mines using the road to haul ore to market would pay a user fee that would pay back the financing used for the road's development and construction.

#### PROJECT/ ECONOMIC BENEFITS

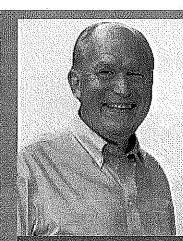
Development of AMDIAR could allow private industry to develop a 75-mile long area of high mineral resources. Over the life of the project, multiple mines would likely be developed in the area. Benefits from the project include:

- Job and business opportunities for rural residents in north-central and northwest Alaska
- An annual average of 300 jobs over the road construction period
- A total payroll of up to \$120 million for the road construction workforce

- Up to 20 full-time jobs for road operations and maintenance over the life of the road
- Increased employment and wages from mine construction and operations in the Ambler Mining District
- Economic benefits from just one proposed mine (Arctic) include:
  - 400 direct jobs over two years for mine construction
  - \$100 million in wages for mine construction workers
  - 500 long-term direct jobs for mine operations
  - \$46 million per year in mine workforce wages
  - 1,000 direct, indirect and induced jobs with \$79 million in wages annually
  - \$115 million in mining license tax revenues to the State
  - \$158 million in corporate income taxes to the State
  - \$58 million in production royalties to the State

#### **PARTNERS**

Owner/Operator: Public-Private Partnership Partners: AIDEA, NovaCopper, other mining companies, and other private entities



## From the Offices of

# GOVERNOR BILL WALKER

LT, GOVERNOR
BYRON MALLOTT



February 3, 2016

## Public Testimony on the Permanent Fund Protection Act

Dear Alaskan,

I am writing to let you know about an opportunity to testify on the Alaska Permanent Fund Protection Act (Senate Bill 128), my proposal to restructure and protect the permanent fund.

Who: Alaska public

What: Public testimony on SB 128, the Alaska Permanent Fund Protection Act

When: Thursday, February 4, 5:30 p.m.

In person: Butrovich Room 205 in the Alaska Capitol in Juneau. Locate your nearest

Legislative Information Office here.

By teleconference: (866) 465-4958 (call in advance to arrange to testify by phone) Written testimony: Send to senate.state.affairs@akleg.gov or fax to (907) 465-4928

Watch livestream: http://akl.tv

As you likely know, Alaska is facing a nearly \$4 billion budget gap. To protect our savings and avoid devastating impacts to the economy and essential services like education, transportation and public safety, I have proposed a comprehensive plan. My plan calls for:

Continued spending cuts

Modest tax increases

Strengthening the permanent fund and using a sustainable portion of its earnings to support public services

The Alaska Permanent Fund Protection Act enacts the critical third leg of the plan. The Senate

State Affairs Committee plans to take public testimony on the bill tomorrow.

If we implement the plan in its entirety, we will still be the only state that pays an annual dividend to residents. Alaska will have the second lowest individual tax burden in the nation. We will still be able to grow our savings. We will be able to provide essential state services, and we will have the means to invest in the growth of our state.

If we don't make significant changes in how we fund government, we will drain the constitutional budget reserve within two years and the permanent fund earnings reserve in another two years. The permanent fund dividend will go to zero dollars in just four years.

To learn more, please go to my website or read my latest op-ed here.

Regardless of your viewpoint, I encourage all Alaskans to participate in our public process.

Sincerely,

Governor Bill Walker

gov.alaska.gov

Office of the Governor | P.O. Box 110001 | Juneau, AK 99811

Email Governor Walker

Unsubscribe

# 2016 Resource Development Council Policy Positions

#### TOP LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

- Advocate to limit unrestricted general fund spending to a sustainable level.
- Advocate for tax policy and incentives that enhance the State of Alaska's competitiveness for all industries.
- Support efforts to bring more accountability to the appeals and litigation processes for community and resource development projects.
- Encourage the State to promote and defend the integrity of Alaska's permitting process and advocate for predictable, timely, and efficient state and federal permitting processes based on sound science and economic feasibility.
- Support policies to encourage new exploration and development of Alaska's mineral and energy deposits, as well as enhanced production from existing operations.

#### General Issues

#### Fiscal Policy & Planning

- Advocate for tax policy and incentives that enhance the State of Alaska's competitiveness for all industries.
- Advocate for implementation of a comprehensive, responsible, and long-range state fiscal plan.
- Advocate to limit unrestricted general fund spending to sustainable level.
- Support some use of the Permanent Fund earnings as part of a fiscal plan.
- Oppose efforts to enshrine the Permanent Fund Dividend in the Alaska Constitution.
- Encourage and support foreign and domestic private sector investments in Alaska's resource industries and manufacturing.

#### Access

- Advocate for increased access to and across public lands for resource and community development.
- · Advocate for multiple-use of public lands.
- Advocate for the state's rights on navigable waters and submerged lands.

#### Regulation/Permitting

- Support efforts to bring more accountability to the appeals and litigation processes for community and resource development projects,
- Encourage the state to promote and defend the integrity of Alaska's permitting process.
- Encourage the state to use all available avenues to ensure reasonable and predictable decision making under the GWA Section 404 permit program including establishment of an industry/state government working group to identify and implement Alaska solutions to wetlands mitigation.
- Advocate predictable, timely, and efficient state and federal permitting processes based on sound science and economic feasibility.
- Provide adequate resources to permitting agencies for personnel, research, and science.
- Support the State of Alaska's efforts to challenge unwarranted Endangered Species Act listings and proposed critical habitat designations.
- Support reasonable mixing zones for resource and community development.
- Support efforts to reduce federal interference and devolve more authority to the states.

#### Infrastructure

- Support transportation and power projects that enhance resource and community development activities.
- Encourage development of new electrical generating and transmission systems to provide stable sources of electricity for economic development and existing consumers.
- Support efforts stimulate investment in power and transportation infrastructure by catalyzing private partnership investment through the public-private-partnership (P3) model.

#### Education

- Support programs, including the Alaska Resource Education program, to educate students and the general public on responsible resource development activities in Alaska.
- Support efforts to provide for a skilled and trained Alaska workforce necessary to support resource development industries.

#### Industry Specific Issues

#### Oil & Gas

- Support tax policies that establish a competitive tax structure and incentives to increase the exploration, production and development of all Alaska's oil fields (new and existing).
- Support policies to establish a competitive tax structure and legislative and administration efforts to increase the commercial viability of developing Alaska's natural gas resources.
- Advocate for access to and development of oil and gas resources on federal lands; including the coastal plain of ANWR, NPR-A, and the Alaskan OCS.
- Advocate for federal revenue sharing and/or community impact assistance to maximize benefits of OCS development to Alaska.

#### Mining

- Encourage the expansion and increased production from existing deposits as well as new exploration and responsible development of Alaska's mineral resources.
- Advocate for continuation and expansion of airborne geophysical mapping and the on-the-ground follow up work required to realize the full benefits of the program.
- Support the State's efforts to maintain control of reclamation bonding.

#### **Fisheries**

- Support policies that ensure healthy, sustainable commercial, sport and subsistence fishery resources; access and markets for Alaska fishermen, sport charter businesses and coastal communities; including a reasonable and stable regulatory environment.
- Support funding of fisheries and marine mammal research.
- Encourage programs that not only manage but in fact enhance the State's fisheries resources.

#### Forestry

- Advocate for a reliable and economical long-term state and federal timber supply.
- Support funding and enforcement of the Alaska Forest Practices Act.
   Encourage funding of forest management initiatives that address long-term forest health and reforestation.

#### Tourism

- Advocate for a positive business environment to promote continued growth of the cruise and tourism industries in Alaska.
- Advocate for equitable environmental laws for cruise ships,
- Advocate for additional aircraft landing sites and reduced restrictions on over-flights.
- Support South Denali infrastructure development to provide for a variety of visitor experiences and help accommodate future visitor needs in the region.
- Advocate for the reinvestment of a portion of visitor industry-related revenues to market Alaska as a destination.

#### Energy

- Support simplified leasing and efficient permitting of non-conventional fuel resources to encourage development of the state's resources and provide energy to local areas.
- Support utilization of Alaska's coal resources for value-added industries and power generation in addition to export to international markets.
- Support efforts to diversify Alaska's energy sources, including known renewable energy options.

Testimony of Marleanna Hall • Executive Director, Resource Development Council Donlin Gold Draft EIS Meeting • Tuesday, January 28, 2016 Anchorage, AK

Good evening. My name is Marleanna Hall and I am the Executive Director at the Resource Development Council for Alaska.

RDC is a statewide business association comprised of individuals and companies from Alaska's oil and gas, mining, forest products, tourism, and fisheries industries. RDC's membership includes Alaska Native Corporations, local communities, organized labor, and industry support firms. RDC's purpose is to encourage a strong, diversified private sector in Alaska and expand the state's economic base through the responsible development of our natural resources.

RDC is here today to strongly support Alternative 2.

Under the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act Calista selected the mineral rights at Donlin Gold, The Kuskokwim Corporation (TKC) selected the surface estate, both in efforts to benefit shareholders from the development and production of the mineral resources. This economic opportunity for shareholders and descendants of Calista is precisely the purpose behind Congress' grant of entitlement of these lands to Calista and TKC.

There are many social and economic benefits of this project to the region, state, and to the nation, including:

- Through the ANCSA 7(i) and 7(j) revenue sharing provisions, the Donlin Gold project will provide revenue to all Alaska Native regional and village corporations and shareholders.
- The jobs and the economic stimulus provided by Donlin Gold would help sustain communities in the Yukon-Kuskokwim (YK) region and fund traditional and subsistence activities.
- The potential for lower cost energy options to the region as the proposed natural gas pipeline will have excess capacity should there be an interest in accessing natural gas to address the energy needs of the YK region.

An estimated 3,000 jobs will be created during the approximate four-year construction phase, and up to 1,200 jobs for the estimated mine life of 27.5 years. These jobs will have a significant and positive impact on the economy of the region and the state, especially in a region that experiences some of the highest unemployment rates. This will likely lead to reduced out-migration, helping to maintain rural schools and culture, including a traditional way of life.

An example to compare the positive potential benefits of a project like this is the Red Dog Mine in Northwest Alaska.

Through the exploration stages, Donlin has shown a strong commitment to local hire and for supporting communities and cultures in the region. A project like this truly is a rare opportunity to improve the local economy where few other opportunities exist.

If developed, RDC believes it will be done in a way that creates opportunity for local employment and economic growth, while protecting the subsistence resources and culture of the region, and protecting the environment.

RDC supports the rigorous permitting process that has already permitted the six large mines under the review of NEPA and the scientifically-based process which includes over 60 major state and federal permits and authorizations. Alaska's existing mines are operating to the highest standards and in harmony with our renewable resources. Donlin's project description demonstrates an understanding of environmental concerns, and features vigorous environmental management principles.

We look forward to further participating in the public process for this project. We believe the EIS process gives Alaskans adequate time to fully review the project documents, and to provide input on the plans. As what I have mentioned is just some of the highlights of the project, RDC will submit comprehensive comments before the April 30th deadline.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this important issue.

#### **ACTION ALERT**

# Support the Hilcorp Liberty Project in the Beaufort Sea Comment Deadline Extended: Mionday, March 28, 2016

#### Overview:

Hilcorp Alaska, LLC is currently pursuing the necessary permits and authorizations to develop the Liberty reservoir several miles offshore the central North Slope. The first major step in this process is the approval of the Development and Production Plan (DPP). Hilcorp recently filed the plan with the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM). A public comment period on the plan has closed. However, BOEM has extended a public comment period on the preparation of a draft environmental impact statement (DEIS) on the plan to Monday, March 28, 2016.

The Liberty oilfield contains one of the largest potential sources of new light oil production on the North Slope, with an estimated 80-130 million barrels of recoverable oil. Development of Liberty will help offset declining light oil production on the North Slope and contribute to increasing the life span and efficiency of Trans-Alaska Pipeline System (TAPS).

New oil is needed to keep the pipeline operating efficiently now that throughput is less than 25 percent of capacity. An additional 60,000-70,000 barrels of oil per day from Liberty will be an important addition to keeping the pipeline operational for decades to come.

The Liberty field would produce oil from an existing lease in the Beaufort Sea using a manmade gravel island. Artificial islands in the Beaufort Sea date back to the mid-1970s. In the last 40 years, 18 islands have been responsibly constructed for exploration and development of oil and gas.

Liberty is well past the exploration phase and the DPP outlines how the oil from the reservoir will be developed and produced. The oil will be shipped by pipeline into existing infrastructure on the North Slope and into TAPS.

The initial discovery of Liberty occurred in the 1980s after an artificial island was built in 1981 and 1982 to support exploratory drilling. Hilcorp's Liberty DPP can be viewed at: <a href="http://www.boem.gov/Hilcorp-Liberty/">http://www.boem.gov/Hilcorp-Liberty/</a>

#### **Action Requested:**

BOEM is accepting public scoping comment on the preparation of the DEIS on the Liberty DPP up to March 28, 2016.

PREPARATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT (EIS) FOR LIBERTY DPP <a href="https://www.federalregister.gov/articles/2015/09/25/2015-24391/outer-continental-shelf-alaska-region-beaufort-sea-planning-area-liberty-development-and-production">https://www.federalregister.gov/articles/2015/09/25/2015-24391/outer-continental-shelf-alaska-region-beaufort-sea-planning-area-liberty-development-and-production</a>

#### Supporting the EIS process

Responsible development in the Beaufort Sea has been heavily studied and achieved in recent years. It's important for regulators to take note that Hilcorp's Liberty DPP incorporates existing and recently compiled data as well as lessons learned from the initial EIS drafted in 1999 in response to a submission by BP. The key components of Hilcorp's newly submitted plan for Liberty are based on the very same concepts approved in the prior EIS. Those areas include but are not limited to: proposed island location, gravel island construction, method of construction, on-island drilling and processing facilities, pipeline route to shore.

#### Points to consider in your comments:

- The Liberty oilfield contains one of the largest potential sources of new light oil production on the North Slope, with an estimated 80-130 million barrels of recoverable oil.
- Development of Liberty will help offset declining light oil production on the North Slope and contribute to increasing the life span and efficiency of TAPS.
- New oil is needed to keep the pipeline operating efficiently now that throughput is less than 25 percent of capacity. An additional 60,000-70,000 barrels of oil per day from Liberty will be an important addition to keeping the pipeline operational for decades to come.
- Artificial islands in the Beaufort Sea date back to the mid-1970s. In the last 40 years, 18
  islands have been responsibly constructed for exploration and development of oil and gas
  off the Alaska coast.
- Hilcorp will utilize the construction and operational technology perfected at Alaska's other
  offshore facilities. It's proven to be a safe and effective means for oil and gas development
  in the Arctic. Like Liberty, the majority of the artificial islands were constructed in shallow
  water depths less than 20 feet.
- Alaska has a 30-year record of safely operating offshore in the Arctic. Endicott, the first
  offshore development on the North Slope, has been in operation for almost three decades,
  and now there are three other offshore fields in production: Northstar (2001), Oooguruk
  (2008) and Nikaitchug (2011).
- As the first Outer Continental Shelf oil project in the U.S. Arctic, Liberty will provide important tax and economic benefits to the federal government, the State of Alaska and North Slope Borough. It will generate well-paying construction and permanent jobs for Alaskans. It will create opportunities for many Alaska businesses.
- In its recent report, the National Petroleum Council said the U.S. should immediately begin oil and gas exploration and development in the U.S. Arctic or risk a renewed heavy reliance on imported oil in the future. In order for the U.S. to keep domestic production high and imports low, oil companies should move forward with new Arctic development. If development proceeds, production could come on line around the same time that Lower 48 production is projected to decline sharply.

Comment Deadline: Monday, March 28, 2016

#### **ANILCA APPEAL**

#### John Sturgeon v. National Park Service Help Alaska Win!

RDC strongly encourages its members to help support John Sturgeon in his U.S. Supreme Court lawsuit protecting Alaska's rights to manage state lands and uphold the intent of the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (ANILCA). This is a 100 percent public interest lawsuit and the first ANILCA case to be heard before the Supreme Court since the law was enacted 35 years ago. The verdict in this case is tremendously important to Alaska.

John's lawsuit is all about the special provisions of ANILCA that are suppose to protect Alaskans from federal overreach. To be clear, his lawsuit is much more than a moose hunter being able to use his hovercraft on state-managed navigable waters. It's all about federal overreach. It's about the federal government keeping the promises it made in ANILCA. It's also about access to lands rich in natural resources and who should have the right to make management decisions over state and Native lands – owners of the land or the federal government.

The Supreme Court had over 2,000 appeals for his first term for 2016. John's case was one of 13 the court decided to hear.

Ultimately, the Court's verdict will have long-term implications on resource development, fish and game management, and land rights in general as outlined in an amicus brief filed in support of the case by RDC and other groups. Oral arguments will be held in Washington, D.C. on January 20. More background information, including the amicus brief filed by RDC and other organizations, can be found here.

John is a long-time RDC board member and willingly took this case on to draw a line in the sand against federal overreach and protect Alaska's interests. It's costing him a small fortunate as his expenses are mounting with total costs expected to reach between \$650,000 and \$700,000. Please consider donating to John's case today.

- Tax deductible donations can be made by check or online at <u>Alaska Outdoor</u> <u>Council</u> and a <u>Go Fund Me</u> page has been set up as well. Links are provided at akrdc.org.
- You may also mail a check directly to Mr. Sturgeon's legal team at: Attn: Sturgeon Trust
   Ashburn & Mason, 1227 W 9th Ave #200, Anchorage, AK 99501

This is a critical case for Alaska and we must prevail. Thank you for your support of Alaska's states rights.



# RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

Growing Alaska Through Responsible Resource Development









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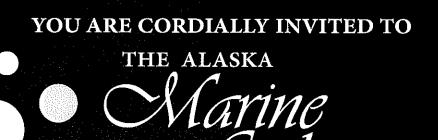












# FLIP Head Over Fin Head OVE

FEBRUARY 13, 2016 DENA'INA CENTER • ANCHORAGE, ALASKA

## GUEST SPEAKER

JOEL SARTORE

Photographer, author, and a regular contributor to National Geographic magazine

6:00 pm • Cocktails and Silent Auction
7:00 pm • Dinner, Awards and Live Auction

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Q

SUSTAINABLE NORTHERN SHELTER SPONSOR

Most of the Arctic, like most of the world, is commonly owned. With ownership comes the obligation to manage our resources for the benefit of the total. To do that, we must understand the reality, the richness, and the responsibility of the North.

Governor Walter J. Hickel, Founder



CALENDAR

FEBRUARY 29-MARCH 1, 2016 ANILCA TRAINING

### FEBRUARY 29-MARCH 1, 2016 ANILCA TRAINING

Register for this event

Mon. February 29, 2016 - The, March 01, 2016

#### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

February 29-March 1, 2016 ANILCA Training

March 11-13, 2016 Sustainable Northern Shelter Forum

May 20-21 Alaska Dialogue on Devolution

ANILCA Training November 14-15, 2016

ANILCA Training November 17-18, 2016



Department of Interior Employees Register HERE:

Other Federal Employees Register HERE:

All others (non-federal) Register with the Institute BELOW. The registration options through the Institute of the North are not applicable to federal employees.

February 29-March 1, 2016 8:00 am to 4:30 pm BLM Campbell Creek Science Center \* Anchorage, Alaska

#### DETAILS

Course content: This two-day ANILCA Training brings together numerous subject matter experts to provide an overview of the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act of 1980 (ANILCA), including:

Summary of Alaska's land history from Territorial days through ANILCA to present

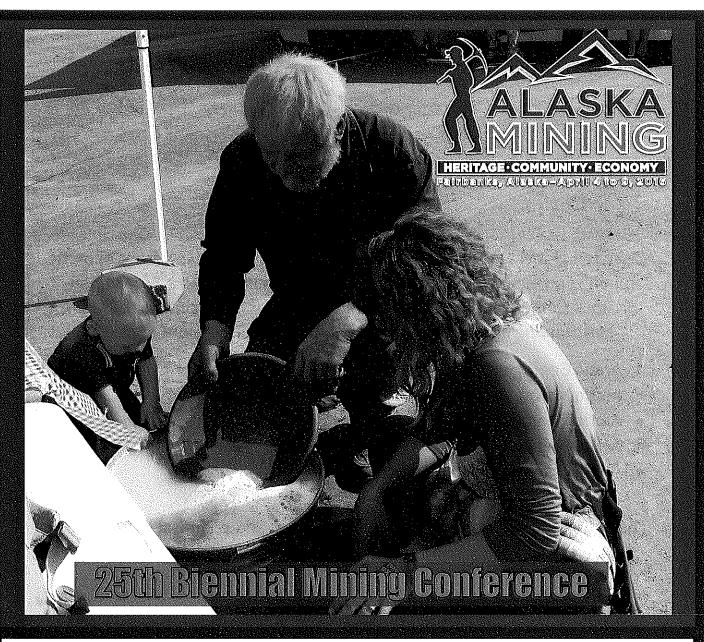
- Context of ANILCA's passage including major constituents, issues of the day, and the "Great Compromise"
- · Overview of ANILCA statutory provisions by Title or Section
- Key access provisions of ANILCA, including access for traditional activities, subsistence, inholdings, and transportation & utility systems
- · Subsistence on federal lands
- · Wilderness reviews and management
- · ANILCA implementation, including federal land planning
- · Case studies

Presenters: Federal agency representatives and others with extensive ANILCA experience.

Materials included: Copy of ANILCA & Amendments; presentation documents; Alaska in Maps - A Thematic Atlas; and portable USB drive with relevant laws, regulations and other supporting documents. Discussion sessions on ANILCA issues take place both days during lunch - lunch, coffee, and continental breakfast provided.

Recommended for: Federal agencies with ANILCA implementation responsibilities, state and local land and resource managers, Native corporations, rural residents and inholders, as well as community leaders, policy makers, consultants, the academic community and the interested public.

Objective: Upon completion of the training, attendees have a greater understanding of this



April 4 – 9, 2016

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Fairbanks, Alaska

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visit www.alaskaminers.org for more info



Alaska is a global leader in Arctic science. It is also at the forefront of arctic mining and exploration in the U.S. The 25th Alaska Miners Association Biennial Conference in Fairbanks will highlight innovation and research surrounding arctic environments with technical sessions such as:

- Arctic Geology
- Arctic Mining Technology
- Arctic Transportation
- Arctic Policy
- Arctic Engineering Innovations

The conference will also offer practical courses and technical sessions for mining professionals including:

- Advances in Geochemistry, Geoscience and Geophysics
- GPS & GIS Fundamentals & Applications
- Large Mine Permitting 101
- Placer Mining 101: Industry basics
- Wetlands Management: Ecology, regulations, mitigation
- Minerals Processing
- MSHA Surface Refresher
- MSHA Underground Refresher
- Latest updates on mining policy and projects in Alaska.

We hope you will join us to learn more about Alaska's Mining industry, and the most recent developments in arctic engineering and research.

# **Membership Form**

RDC is a statewide business association comprised of individuals and companies from Alaska's oil and gas, mining, forest products, tourism and fisheries industries. RDC's membership includes Alaska Native Corporations, local communities, organized labor, and industry support firms. RDC's purpose is to encourage a strong, diversified private sector in Alaska and expand the state's economic base through the responsible development of our natural resources.

To view a list of current members, please visit akrdc.org/corporate/

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