

The following statement is from Leila Kimbrell, executive director for the Resource Development Council for Alaska. More information about the organization is found at <u>akrdc.org.</u>

"Yesterday's <u>announcement</u> from Governor Dunleavy about standing up for Alaska's land and water rights is welcome news. The Resource Development Council for Alaska has been advocating for Alaska's right to control its submerged lands since the issue burst onto the scene when John Sturgeon famously took his moose hunting lawsuit to the Supreme Court of the United States and won- twice. We understand the governor's frustration as the Federal government continues to slow roll on its obligation to issue titles to the full inventory of Alaska's submerged lands and navigable rivers and lakes. These lands and waters belong to Alaskans and should be managed as such. The litigation announced yesterday is unfortunately necessary, but absolutely the right call."

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