

Alaska Lands Update

Citizens' Advisory Commission on Federal Areas, Department of Natural Resources, State of Alaska
3700 Airport Way Fairbanks, AK 99709

Photo Credit— Riverboat, Buckland, 2011 (DCCED, Community Photo Library)

PUBLIC INVITED TO CACFA FEDERAL OVERREACH SUMMIT ON AUG. 12-13

The Citizens' Advisory Commission on Federal Areas is sponsoring a two-day Federal Overreach Summit on Monday and Tuesday, Aug. 12-13. The summit will be held 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. both days at the Dena'ina Center located at 600 West 7th Avenue in Anchorage. The meeting is free and open to the public. For more details, visit our website at: www.dnr.alaska.gov/commis/cacfa. Registration is recommended because space is limited; to register visit www.StandWithAlaska.com.

CACFA's purpose for the summit is to discuss, document and highlight areas where the



relationship with federal government agencies with respect to the management of Alaska's land and natural resources may be deteriorating.

"Our goal is to develop a collaborative and effective action plan that can be implemented by the Alaska Legislature, the Congressional delegation, and the Governor," said Stan Leaphart, CACFA Executive Director.

Summit speakers include Governor Sean Parnell, U.S. Senator Lisa Murkowski, U.S. Senator Mark Begich, U.S. Rep. Don Young, Attorney General Michael Geraghty, and a number of other distinguished speakers from the public and private sector. The full agenda and list of speakers is available on the summit website. ♦

The summit will be streamed live at the Alaska Legislature's streaming video site, www.aklegtv.com. A videographer will be on hand if attendees want to share personal stories, knowledge and experiences for inclusion in the record for the summit. Following the summit, the proceedings, presentations and professional submissions will be posted online at www.StandWithAlaska.com

Can't make it but still want to provide a comment or story for inclusion in the summit record? Have questions? Contact the Citizen's Advisory Commission on Federal Areas at: dnr.cacfa@alaska.gov. ♦

BLM fulfills Final Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act Entitlement for Huna Totem Corporation

The BLM announced on July 31, 2013 it had made an important land transfer to Huna Totem Corporation that completes the corporation's land entitlement under the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act of 1971. Huna Totem was formed under ANCSA to represent the Alaska Native village of Hoonah.

The ceremony was held at the BLM-Alaska State Office in Anchorage and

was attended by representatives of the Huna Totem Corporation when Ron Dunton of the BLM signed the final patent for 448.51 acres.

Huna Totem Corporation received its first conveyance under ANCSA from BLM in 1979. With this patent, Huna Totem received just over 23,040 acres of land in southeast Alaska. ♦

Photo Credit—Hoonah, 2004
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IN THIS ISSUE:

Federal Overreach Summit-

BLM fulfills final Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act entitlement for Huna Totem Corporation -

1

Reminders -

Potential Recovery of Pigeon Guillemot Draft EA -

2

BLM Publishes NOI to Begin Scoping for the Bering Sea-Western Interior -



Deadlines and Reminders

- **Draft Land Protection Plans for Lake Clark National Park & Preserve, and Gates of the Arctic National Park & Preserve** are open for public comment through August 12; Find more information and to submit comments visit the NPS PEPC website located at: <http://parkplanning.nps.gov/publicHome.cfm> and follow the links;
- **Central Yukon Planning Area Scoping Comment Period through December 11, 2013.** For information at: www.blm.gov/ak or email the project Manager at j05cole@blm.gov;
- **Federal Overreach Summit—August 12-13, 2013, Dena'ina Center, Anchorage.** More information along with an agenda will be posted on CACFA's website as it becomes available, visit at: <http://dnr.alaska.gov/commis/cacfa/> or www.StandWithAlaska.com. Email at: dnr.cacfa@alaska.gov.



Valdez Terminal from the Air, 1997.DCCED-Community Photo Library

Agency Websites:

- National Park Service**
<http://www.nps.gov/state/ak/index.htm>
- U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service**
<http://alaska.fws.gov/>
- U.S. Forest Service - Region 10, AK**
<http://www.fs.usda.gov/r10/>
- Bureau of Land Management**
<http://www.blm.gov/ak/st/en.html>
- Department of the Interior**
<http://www.doi.gov/>
- National Marine Fisheries Service**
<http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/>

Draft EA - Potential Recovery of Pigeon Guillemot in Prince William Sound

The pigeon guillemot (*Cepphus columba*) is currently the only marine bird species remaining affected by the 1989 Exxon Valdez oil spill and is listed as "not recovering" on the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council's Injured Resources List. Since 1989, the pigeon guillemot population in Prince William Sound has declined 47% and there is no sign of population stabilization or recovery.

The USF&WS, Chugach NF and the USDA Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service announce the request for comments on the "Potential Recovery of Pigeon Guillemot Populations, Naked Island Group – Prince William Sound, Alaska" draft Environmental Assessment. The comment period is open for 30 days, starting July 19, 2013 and ending on Aug 17, 2013. ♦

BLM Publishes NOI to Begin Scoping for the Bering Sea-Western Interior

The Notice of Intent published in the *Federal Register*, July 18, 2013, begins a 150-day public scoping period for the Bering Sea-Western Interior Planning Area, which will run through December 16, 2013. The Bering Sea-Western Interior planning area includes all lands south of the Central Yukon watershed to the southern boundary of the Kuskokwim River watershed, and all lands west of Denali National Park and Preserve to the Bering Sea, including Saint Lawrence, Saint Matthew and Nunivak islands.

This Resource Management Plan/Environmental Impact Statement will be developed using the BLM's ePlanning system. Please visit BSWI RMP ePlanning site at:

<https://www.blm.gov/epl-front-office/eplanning/planAndProjectSite.do?methodName=dispatchToPatternPage¤tPageId=48430>, this site will contain all the information on this planning effort.

The BWSI Resource Management Plan (RMP) will provide a framework for managing and allocating uses of public land and resources. Resource Management Plans provide the BLM with comprehensive, long-term direction concerning the use and management of resources on BLM-managed public lands.

The BSWI RMP will: (1) address any new issues that have developed since the existing plans were approved, (2) address management issues not adequately addressed by the existing plans, and (3) provide direction for site-specific activity planning and implementation of specific tasks in the future. Some issues and management concerns the new RMP will address include, but are not limited to:

- Management of human uses such as recreation and mining;
- Protection of areas with critical or unique values;
- Management of natural and cultural resources, such as wildlife, fish, cultural sites, and vegetation.

The BSWI planning process will take about four years to complete. Along with the RMP, an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) will be developed as part of the planning process. Public involvement is an integral component of the BSWI RMP. Throughout the project, stakeholders and residents will have many opportunities to participate and share their insights and comments beginning with public scoping meetings in the fall of 2013.

To be added to the BSWI mail list and receive future notifications and information, complete the contact form on the website mentioned above. ♦

