

2025

MINING IN ALASKA

ESSENTIAL FOR OUR STATE, CRITICAL FOR OUR FUTURE



MINING IN ALASKA

LARGE PRODUCING MINES

79
Au

DAWSON / Gold, Silver

- Owned and operated by Sundance Mining Group
- Produced 9,402 oz. of gold, 14,093 oz. of silver
- 50 employees
- Spent \$4.6 million with 42 Alaska companies

47
Ag

79
Au

FORT KNOX AND GIL / Gold

- Owned and operated by Kinross Alaska
- Land ownership: State/Alaska Mental Health Trust
- Produced 377,258 oz. of gold
- 780 employees
- Spent \$382 million with 509 Alaska vendors

47
Ag

GREENS CREEK / Silver, zinc, gold, lead, copper

- Owned and operated by Hecla
- Land ownership: Private/federal
- Produced 8.5 million oz. of silver
- 511 employees
- Spent \$58 million with 160 Alaska vendors

30
Zn

79
Au

82
Pb

29
Cu

79
Au

KENSINGTON / Gold

- Owned and operated by Coeur Alaska, Inc
- Land ownership: Private/federal/state
- Produced 95,671 oz. of gold
- 371 employees
- Spent \$57 million with 169 Alaska vendors

79
Au

MANH CHOH / Gold, Silver

- Developed by Kinross Alaska and Contango ORE
- Land ownership: Native Village of Tetlin
- First gold poured July 2024
- Produced 42,739 oz. of gold
- 58 employees

47
Ag

79
Au

POGO / Gold

- Owned and operated by Northern Star Resources
- Land ownership: State
- About 280,000 oz. of gold produced
- 656 employees
- Spent \$113 million with 174 Alaska vendors

30
Zn

RED DOG / Zinc, lead, silver, germanium

- Operated by Teck Alaska
- Land ownership: NANA Regional Corporation
- Produced 556,000 tonnes of zinc
- 790 employees
- Spent \$280 million with 250 Alaska vendors

82
Pb

47
Ag

32
Ge

06
Coal

USIBELLI / Coal

- Owned and operated by Usibelli Coal Mine
- Land ownership: State
- Produced about 1,000,000 tons of coal
- 105 employees
- Spent \$33 million with 287 Alaska vendors

(2024 data for production, employment, and local spending unless noted)

ACTIVE EXPLORATION PROJECTS

Estelle / Southwest / Gold, antimony

Flat Gold / Southwest / Gold

Golden Summit / Interior / Gold

Graphite Creek / Northwest / Graphite

Johnson Tract / Southwest / Gold, silver, zinc, copper, lead

Illinois Creek / Northwest / Gold, silver, lead, zinc, copper

Livengood / Interior / Gold

Mohawk / Interior / Antimony

New Amalga / Southeast / Gold

Nikolai / Interior / Nickel, cobalt, copper, platinum group metals

Palmer / Southeast / Copper, zinc, gold, silver, barite

Sun / Northwest / Copper, zinc, silver, lead, gold

Treasure Creek / Interior / Antimony

Upper Kobuk Mineral Projects (Arctic and Bornite)

Northwest / Copper, zinc, gold, silver, lead, cobalt

Wiseman / Interior / Copper, gold, silver, molybdenum

Whistler / Southwest / Gold, copper, silver

PROJECTS IN OR NEAR DEVELOPMENT

Donlin / Southwest / Gold

Lucky Shot / Southcentral / Gold

Pebble / Southwest / Copper, gold, molybdenum, silver, rhenium





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2026 STATE ISSUES OF CONCERN FOR THE ALASKA MINING INDUSTRY

Alaska's Permitting System

- Promote and defend Alaska's stringent permitting process to demonstrate that Alaska is open for business and is a key location to grow America's domestic mining industry.
- Adequately resource State regulatory agencies to attract and retain qualified personnel with the expertise to efficiently and durably permit large resource projects that will grow Alaska's economy.
- Reinforce and promote the mission of the Office of Project Management and Permitting to manage and streamline permitting activity for large projects.
- The Alaska Department of Natural Resources Office of Project Management and Permitting (OPMP) should be modernized by adopting best practices like those in the federal FAST-41 program—including transparent project tracking, improved interagency coordination, public engagement, and digital tools—to streamline permitting processes, ensure accountability, and enhance stakeholder involvement for resource development projects in Alaska.

Water Policy

- Require that Alaska's Water Quality Standards are scientifically supportable and developed using site-specific criteria, with ongoing evaluation as needed.
- Support Legislation and Administrative policy that requires designation of Tier 3 waters can only be made by a vote of the Legislature.
- Require that instream flow reservations are held only by the state.
- Support funding for State primacy over the CWA Section 404 permitting program and ADEC administration of the program concerning the fill of State 404 waters and wetlands in Alaska.
- Closely monitor EPA and USACE post-Sackett actions, and work to define adjacent wetlands in Alaska by limiting jurisdictional waters to only those with a continuous surface connection to a traditionally navigable water or tributary.
- Direct that a consistent and practicable statewide CWA 404 Compensatory Mitigation policy following the fundamentals agreed to the 2018 Memorandum of Agreement signed by USACE and EPA, and ensure that projects have access to reasonable and workable wetland mitigation tools.

Fiscal Policy

Implement a comprehensive, long-term fiscal plan that ensures sustainable spending levels using budget reductions, use of Permanent Fund earnings, new revenues from broad-based sources, and strategies to grow a strong private sector.

Equitable Local Taxation

Reserve the authority to levy metal mining severance taxes solely to the Legislature.

Ballot Initiative Reform

- Support legislation, or a Constitutional amendment to reform the ballot initiative process, including measures that would nullify a ballot initiative if a court finds any portion to be unconstitutional.
- Prevent management of Alaska's natural resources outside of the regulatory process.

Funding Disclosure for Nonprofit Advocacy

Enact legislation to require disclosure when funds from nonprofit organizations are used to affect natural resource policy, permitting, litigation, and initiative proposals.

Land and Mineral Management

- Oppose all proposed policies that are designed to elevate one resource over another and recognize that Alaska mining projects successfully co-exist with the natural environment and other industries.
- Improve the status of Alaska's baseline mapping and collect resource data, such as airborne geophysical mapping as a means for increasing future State revenues.
- Support and promote funding and establishment of a State Data Repository for historic exploration and geological data to house, digitize, and make available to the public records voluntarily donated to the repository.



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Land and Mineral Management Cont.

- Advocate the requirement of future exploration programs on state lands to provide the State its collected exploration data annually, with appropriate controls to hold data proprietary for a period of time prior to being public information.
- Pursue and defend guaranteed access, including RS2477s, for all uses across all state and federal lands.
- Require a thorough evaluation of mineral potential and access prior to any land allocations such as parks, preserves, or land disposals.
- Ensure the Trust Land Office meets its obligation to develop the mining lands (including the conversion of federal mining claim inholdings to Trust land) specifically transferred to the Alaska Mental Health Trust pursuant to the 1994 settlement of the Alaska Mental Health Trust Case to support Trust beneficiaries.

Support Alaska Statehood Defense efforts

- Oppose any federal encroachment on States' rights, such as the use of preemptive federal veto actions and imposition of excessive permitting requirements.
- Oppose unwarranted Endangered Species Act listings and critical habitat designations in Alaska and insist all decisions are based on sound science.
- Assist ANCSA Native Corporations in being recognized in federal government-to-government consultations.
- Coordinate amongst federal actions to rescind Public Land Orders issued under ANCSA Section 17(d)(1) where such actions would not harm the statutory right of Alaska Native Corporations to select and receive conveyance of the federal lands that they were promised in ANCSA.
- Ensure that neither the review process for placing tribal lands into trust, nor the final designation of a parcel as trust land, results in any temporary or permanent restrictions on access to, and development of, resources on adjacent lands.
- Support exemption of the Tongass National Forest from the 2001 Roadless Rule.
- Pursue blanket Federal approval of all State-designated navigable waterways as State managed, with the burden on the Federal agencies to prove otherwise.

Mining Education and Training

- Maintain a highly trained Alaskan workforce through support of all mining and geology related degree and occupational certificate programs in the UA system, including the UAF College of Engineering and Mines, the Mining and Petroleum Training Service, UAS Center for Mine Training, and the Prince William Sound College Millwright Program.
- Support University of Alaska efforts for the Alaska Critical Mineral Collaborative and endorsement of the application for a \$160M NSF Regional Innovation program to establish the Alaska Critical Minerals Accelerator.
- Provide State of Alaska support for Alaska Resource Education to educate an upcoming workforce about natural resource industry careers.

Statewide Policy Impacts

- Support infrastructure projects that leverage responsible resource development to sustain and grow the State's economy.
- Ensure that public infrastructure is open to all users and maintenance comes from public revenue or broad-based funding sources.
- Support continued successful collaboration between the State of Alaska and our Canadian neighbors on responsible resource development within the transboundary region.
- Support timely legislative approval of the \$70 million supplemental appropriation needed to meet Alaska's federal fiscal year 2026 transportation match and unlock federal infrastructure dollars already designated for the state. Predictable investment in transportation infrastructure is critical to mining development, workforce access, supply chains, and the long-term competitiveness of Alaska's resource economy.



ALASKA HAS ONE OF THE MOST ROBUST REGULATORY SYSTEMS IN THE WORLD

PERMITTING PROCESS DOES NOT GUARANTEE A YES

- ✓ Agencies often ask for changes to proposals based on regulations and stakeholder input.
- ✓ Companies make design and engineering changes and resubmit.
- ✓ Final approved project may not look like what was initially proposed, due to stakeholder and agency input

LARGE MINES REQUIRE DOZENS OF FEDERAL, STATE, AND LOCAL PERMITS

- ✓ Anywhere from 60-100 permits will be obtained prior to operating a large mine in Alaska.
- ✓ More than two dozen agencies participate in mining regulation.
- ✓ Multiple opportunities for public comment.

RECLAMATION: IT'S THE LAW!

- Mine site must be returned to a stable condition compatible with post-mining land use.
- Reclamation plan must be approved by DNR Commissioner prior to operations beginning.



ALASKA MINERS
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REGULATORY OVERSIGHT CONTINUES DURING OPERATION

- ✓ Throughout the mine life, state and federal agencies monitor and enforce compliance to the permit requirements.
- ✓ Ecological monitoring ensures environmental protection by sampling downstream water and fish. If conditions remain healthy during mining, the permits are effective.
- ✓ Third-party audit of the system: a double check by a qualified expert who is not associated with the state or the mining company.



STATE OF ALASKA REQUIRES FINANCIAL ASSURANCE FROM ALL MINERS

- ✓ Every mine operator must post financial assurance, regardless of where company is headquartered or who owns the land.
- ✓ Reviewed every 5 years or whenever there is a significant change.
- ✓ Amount is tailored to specifics of the mine design, location, and other unique characteristics.
- ✓ Financial assurances for Alaska mines total approximately \$800 million dollars.



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SEPTEMBER 2025

ALASKA'S MINING INDUSTRY



2024 BENEFITS TO ALASKA

\$1.1 billion

spent on goods and services with 500+ Alaska businesses

\$47 million

in local tax revenues to support services like libraries, schools, road maintenance, and public safety

Mines

are the largest property taxpayers in Fairbanks, Juneau, and the Northwest Arctic Borough

\$92 million

in state government revenues for services like education, highways, and airports

\$240 million

in royalty payments to Alaska Native Regional and Village Corporations across the state; totaling \$3.6 billion since 1989

\$1.5 million

to Alaska Mental Health Trust to support Alaskans' mental health needs

MINING JOBS: EMPLOYING ALASKANS ACROSS THE STATE

85 communities have mining industry employees

\$122,500 average annual wage paid to mining employees

12,400 total jobs supported

\$1.2 billion in wages statewide

75% average Alaska resident hire at the large producing mines

GIVING BACK!

230 Alaska nonprofits supported by mining companies

\$5.6 million in contributions

\$1.7 million in contributions to the University of Alaska and vocational training programs

\$800,000 in support of civic, business, and industry organizations throughout Alaska



INVESTING FOR THE FUTURE



\$465 million

spent in 2024 on exploration and development by Alaska's mines and projects



\$13.4 billion

spent on exploration and development since 1981



A MODERN SOCIETY RELIES ON MINING

We use mined materials every day!



- Gallium
- Germanium
- Indium
- Silver
- Tellurium



- Aluminum
- Coal
- Copper
- Rare-earth elements



- Copper
- Graphite
- Lithium
- Manganese
- Silver



1/2 of smart phone components are made from mined products.



Lifesaving medical equipment requires minerals and metals, like silver and gold.



Next Netflix binge session? You need metals first.

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