



# Division of Mining, Land & Water

*House Resources - Finance Subcommittee*

Marty Parsons, Director

Theresa Cross, DNR Administrative Services Director



Alaska Department of Natural Resources, February 11, 2022



# FY2023 GOVERNOR BUDGET CHANGES



## **Fund Change from UGF to General Fund/Program Receipts and Shore Fish Receipts - \$255.8 (DGF)**

- Replace Unrestricted General Funds (UGF) with:
  - **\$155.8** in General Fund/Program Receipts (GF/PR)
  - **\$100.0** in Shore Fish Receipts
- This fund change does **not** result in an increase in fees

## **Fund Change from Land Disposal Income Fund to UGF - \$962.9 (UGF)**

- The Land Disposal Income Fund (LDIF) will be swept at the end of FY2022, and a reverse sweep was not included in the FY2023 budget
  - There will not be sufficient funding to cover anticipated expenditures based on projected FY2023 revenue collections and therefore this fund change ensures continuity of service

## **Amend Carryforward of General Fund/Program Receipts - \$5,000.0**

- Increase the carryforward cap from **\$3,000.0** to **\$5,000.0**
- FY2022 - **\$545.0** fund change from UGF to GF/PR



# DIVISION OF MINING, LAND & WATER (DMLW)

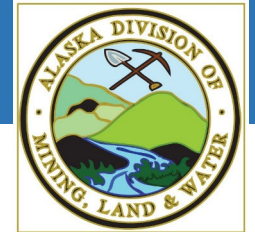


## MISSION STATEMENT

Provide for the appropriate use and management of Alaska's state-owned land and water, aiming toward maximum use consistent with the public interest



# ORGANIZATION CHART



**MARTY PARSONS  
DIRECTOR**

**KRIS HESS  
DEPUTY DIRECTOR**

- APPRAISALS
- SURVEYS
- PROGRAM SUPPORT & IT SERVICES
- PUBLIC ACCESS  
ASSERTION DEFENSE
- REALTY SERVICES
- RESOURCE ASSESSMENT  
& DEVELOPMENT (RADS)

• ADMINISTRATIVE  
SUPPORT SERVICES

- MINING
- WATER

**CHRISTY COLLES  
OPERATIONS CHIEF**

- CONTRACT INITIATION  
& REVENUE RECOVERY  
(CIRR)
- LAND CONVEYANCES
- REGIONAL LAND  
OFFICES  
(FAIRBANKS,  
ANCHORAGE & JUNEAU)
- STATEWIDE  
ABATEMENT OF  
IMPAIRED LANDS (SAIL)



# WHAT DMLW MANAGES

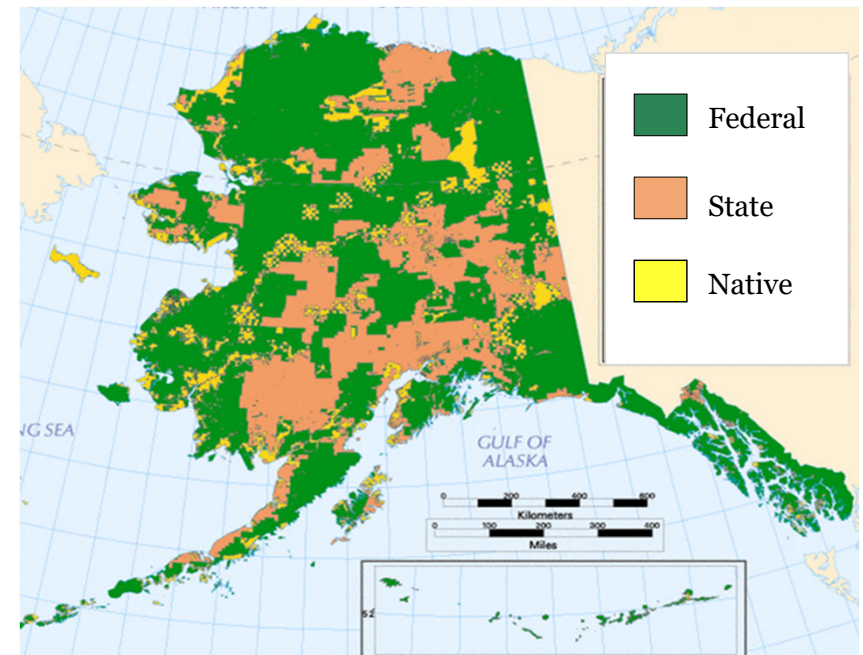
## STATE OF ALASKA LAND BASE & OWNERSHIP

### Multiple Use Management of State Lands

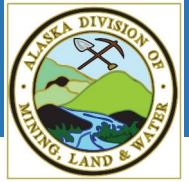
- DMLW manages 100+ million acres state-owned land, 65 million acres of tides lands and 34 thousand miles of coastline making them available on a sustained-yield basis for a variety of multiple beneficial uses.
- DMLW does not manage TLO, Parks or lands acquired by other agencies for specific purposes.



- DMLW's responsibilities include
  - Land acquisition;
  - Mining, land, and water use authorizations;
  - Area and Management plan development;
  - Land sales and conveyances;
  - Land stewardship
- DMLW has jurisdiction over the appropriation of the State's water resources, accounting for approximately 40% of the nation's stock of fresh water



# ASSISTING ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT THROUGH AUTHORIZATIONS



## FY2022 Management Plan Budget

PCNs	UGF	DGF	Fed	Other	Total
219	5,115.0	20,601.4	1,341.0	3,324.0	30,381.4

- Thousands of jobs and millions of dollars in state revenue require authorizations for use of state land (surface and mineral estate), freshwater, and tidelands by DMLW
- DMLW currently has over 51,000 issued authorizations which assist in the development of local economies and support a variety of industries statewide
- DMLW assists in diversifying the state's economy thru authorizations involving in mining, hydroelectric power generation, hunting, fishing, guide-outfitter activities, aquatic farming, and other industries that depend on state land, and water to operate
- DMLW subdivisions, sale of state lands, and issuance of Municipal Entitlements assist in creating a tax base for cities and boroughs



# TYPES OF AUTHORIZATIONS



- **Permits**

- Land Use Permits
- Over-The-Counter Permits
  - ❖ Commercial Recreation

- **Leases**

- Upland Leases
- Tideland Leases
- Shore Fish Leases
- Aquatic Farm Leases

- **Easements**

- Road Right-of-Ways
- Access Trails
- Utilities
  - ❖ Electric
  - ❖ Telephone
  - ❖ Fiber Optic

- **Material Sales**

- Designation of Material Sites
- Material Sale Contracts

- **Mining**

- Application for Permits to Mine in Alaska (APMA)
- Millsite Leases
- Miscellaneous Land Use Permits
- Upland and Offshore Mineral Lease

- **Water**

- Water Right Certificates
- Temporary Water Use Authorizations
- Reservation of Water

# DIRECTOR'S OFFICE & SUPPORT



## FY2022 Management Plan Budget

PCNs	UGF	DGF	Fed	Other	Total
30	960.9	3,424.8	0.0	1,951.5	6,337.2

### Critical Functions:

- Provides direction, goals, strategies, oversight for Division sections
- Oversees operating and capital budgets
- Provides personnel management and hiring, procurement and travel support
- Delivers DMLW website management and programming support
- Develops regulations and provides legislative analysis support
- Responds to public records requests
- Coordinates the Divisions response to federal actions and large projects
- Ensures revenue collection for DMLW authorizations



# LAND CONVEYANCE SECTION & APPRAISAL UNIT



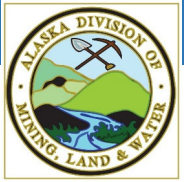
FY2022 Management Plan Budget					
PCNs	UGF	DGF	Fed	Other	Total
24	0.0	3,222.2	100.0	46.0	3,368.2

## Critical Functions:

- Get Alaska Lands into Alaskan hands (private ownership)
  - Subdivision sales via annual auction
  - Over-the-Counter (OTC)
  - Remote Recreational Cabin Staking (RRCS) sites
  - Public and charitable conveyances
  - Preference rights
- Conveys land to municipalities
- Ensures accurate fair market value is determined for land acquisitions, disposals, leases or other management actions



# REGIONAL LAND OFFICES



## FY2022 Management Plan Budget

PCNs	UGF	DGF	Fed	Other	Total
62	1,347.7	5,327.3	37.5	429.7	7,142.2

### Critical Functions:

- Gravel sales for road construction and private development
- Ice roads, and open/closing of tundra for construction purposes
- Lodge sites and access for the tourism industry
- Lease set-net sites for commercial fishing and mariculture sites for the shellfish farming industry
- Support timber industry by authorizing necessary infrastructure
- Access for public and private entities across state lands and waters, including roads, power, telephone, and fiber optic





# MINING SECTION & ABANDONED MINE LANDS

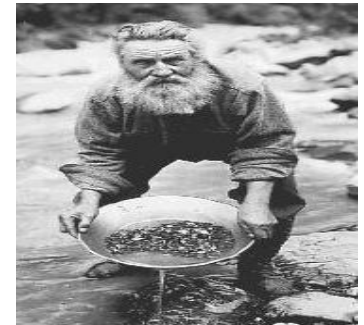


## FY2022 Management Plan Budget

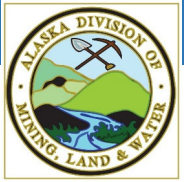
PCNs	UGF	DGF	Fed	Other	Total
30	463.4	2,272.0	983.5	205.0	3,923.9

### Critical Functions:

- Authorizes the use of state land for large- and small-scale mining through
  - Approval of Plans of Operations for Upland & Millsite Leases
  - 41,000+ mining claims for mineral exploration and development
  - 30 Coal Leases and 48 Mineral Leases
  - 87 Offshore Mining Leases
- Oversees statewide reclamation requirements
- Regulates reclamation and removes hazards from past mining operations to help protect public health or safety hazard



# PUBLIC ACCESS ASSERTION & DEFENSE SECTION



## FY2022 Management Plan Budget

PCNs	UGF	DGF	Fed	Other	Total
8	994.0	300.0	0.0	10.0	1,304.0

## Critical Functions:

- Supporting the Governor's Unlocking Alaska initiative
- Defends ownership of state lands under navigable waters
- Asserts RS 2477 rights-of-way





# REALTY SERVICES SECTION

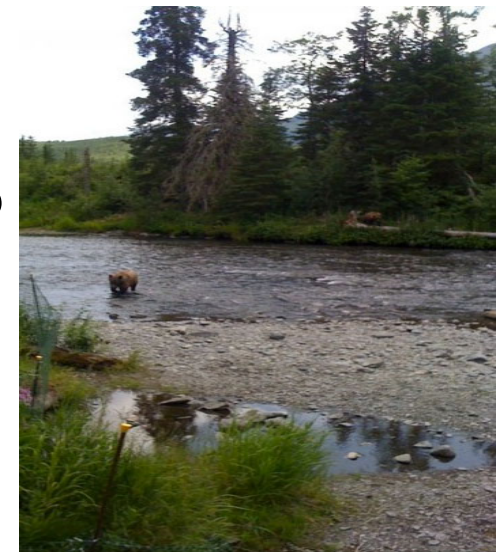


## FY2022 Management Plan Budget

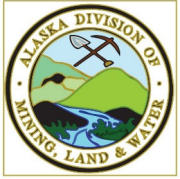
PCNs	UGF	DGF	Fed	Other	Total
14	430.0	946.0	0.0	99.5	1,475.5

## Critical Functions:

- Acquire and secure clear title to land from the federal government, and other sources
- Issue clear title documents to the private sector, municipalities, and other government entities
- Responsible for fulfilling the State's land entitlement
- Maintain administrative records of state land ownership



# STATEWIDE ABATEMENT OF IMPAIRED LANDS (SAIL) SECTION



## FY2022 Management Plan Budget

PCNs	UGF	DGF	Fed	Other	Total
5	0.0	496.1	90.0	26.6	612.7

## Critical Functions:

- Provides land stewardship of nearly 165 million acres of state land with the intent to keep the land unencumbered and available for public use
- Represents the interest of the state as the landowner in matters pertaining to contamination, spills, and abandoned and derelict vessels





# SURVEY SECTION

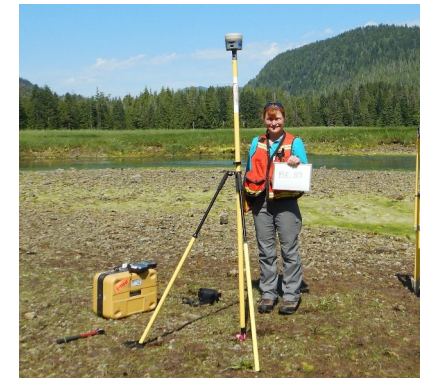


## FY2022 Management Plan Budget

PCNs	UGF	DGF	Fed	Other	Total
18	460.0	1,895.0	0.0	224.4	2,579.4

### Critical Functions:

- Determines boundaries of state lands, submerged lands and navigable waters
- Ensures the boundaries of lands conveyed to or by DNR are legal and protect the rights of the state and other adjacent landowners
- Ensures lands acquired by DNR are adequately described and state property interests are protected from loss to federal overreaching surveys
- Fulfills DNR's role as platting authority for all lands outside organized boroughs





# WATER RESOURCES SECTION & DAM SAFETY



## FY2022 Management Plan Budget

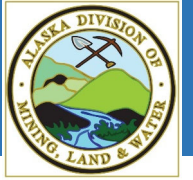
PCNs	UGF	DGF	Fed	Other	Total
20	459.0	1,783.2	130.0	317.3	2,689.5

## Critical Functions:

- Manages and authorizes the beneficial use of water in Alaska regardless of land ownership, consistent with the public interest
- Provides hydrologic assessments for understanding the impact of water appropriations on surface watersheds and ground water aquifers
- Protects public safety by regulating construction and maintenance of state jurisdictional dams



# DMLW SOURCES OF REVENUE GENERATION



- Generated \$33.1M in revenues to the state through authorizations for use of state lands and waters, royalty payments, and land sales
- The Division is a state revenue generator, producing an average of \$7 in revenue for every \$1 dollar of UGF appropriated to the Division
- Revenue generated through DMLW authorizations such as:
  - Mining Claim Payments
  - Land Sales
  - Leases
  - Easements
  - Permits
  - Material Sales
  - Temporary Water Use Authorizations
- In addition to generating revenue for the state, DMLW helps diversify local economies through resource and land use authorizations

# DMLW ACCOMPLISHMENTS

## SUPPORTING RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT



- Conveyed 41,677 acres out of state ownership in FY2021 to help support local economies
- DMLW's work to adjudicate water rights and temporary water authorizations generated over \$297.0 in revenue in FY2021
- Between October 2021 and January 1, 2022 the Mining Section staff reduced the backlog of new mining claims from 691 claims to 81 claims
- Updated DMLW policy to issue public easements for fiber optic projects resulting in a reduction of use fees to providers
- Aquatic Farm Lease Program Improvements
  - Expanded the aquatic farm program administration into the Southeast Regional Land Office
  - Coordinated with ADF&G and DEC to revise the Joint Agency Application



# DMLW AUTHORIZATIONS

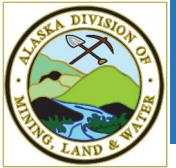
## AQUATIC FARM LEASES UPDATE



- Participated in the creation of the Alaska Aquaculture Permitting Portal, a portal that outlines the necessary steps to receive state and federal authorization for an aquatic farm in Alaska.
- 75 aquatic farm leases authorized encompassing 1,178 acres
  - 39 Southeast, 27 Southcentral, 7 Kodiak, 2 AK Peninsula and Aleutians
  - 31 farms encompassing 763 acres culture kelp
  - In 2020 - 2021 a total of 37 leases issued



# CONTINUOUS PROCESS IMPROVEMENTS ACCOMPLISHMENTS



- Establish policy teams to develop statewide consistent procedure for processing permits, easements, leases and material sales
- 79% of permit applications completed within 30 days of receipt
- Creation of additional Over the Counter (OTC) permits
- Created a new public facing website for the Regional Lands Offices
  - Details the timelines and the process for permits, easement, leases and material sites,
  - Provides general information on state land to assist in education of the public on the processes and provide clarity
- Developing an online application portal





# PENDING LEGISLATION SUPPORTING DMLW MISSION

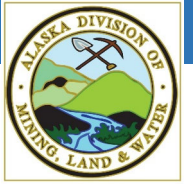


- SB 97/HB 120 – State Land Sales and Leases
  - Leasing/sale of state lands deemed suitable for commercial development, within Qualified Opportunity Zones or in state determined commercial development areas
  - Statutes are modified to reduce restrictions on agricultural land to private ownership
  - Increase spending authority from the Land Disposal Income Fund for project development
- SB 133/HB 195 – Remote Recreational Sites, Sales and Permits
  - Remote recreational cabin sites are included for permits, leases, and sales
  - Establishes the criteria and process for nomination of a parcel of a cabin site on land classified settlement or on vacant, unappropriated, or unreserved land
  - Establishes that a 10-acre parcel size may be staked





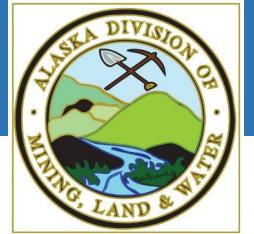
# PROJECTS UNDERWAY STATEWIDE



- Ambler Road Project
  - Site Specific Plan to classify land for the Ambler Road easement
  - Easement
- Donlin Project
- Nenana-Totchaket Agricultural Project
- Grant Lake Hydro
- CORS Network
- Unlocking Alaska Initiative



# CONCLUSION



Thank you, any questions?

