



LAND  
MANAGEMENT

## RE-EVALUATING LAND HOLDINGS IN THE HAINES AREA

*Updated April 2022*

### **Introduction**

The University of Alaska, Land Management Office (UA Land) manages about 13,000 acres in the Haines/Chilkat Valley region. Originally, in 2018, UA Land was planning a 10-year timber project with the intention of coordinating with other agencies. However, the timber industry in Southeast Alaska continues to experience disruptions. The ongoing tariffs between the US and China, combined with Sealaska and the US Forest Service's departure from old growth logging, have all contributed to a shifting economic landscape in the region. As a result, the University is re-evaluating all of its land holdings in the Haines area which was presented to the University of Alaska Board of Regents during its committee meeting on November 4, 2021.

As a land grant university, our primary role is to generate revenue from University lands to support our educational mission. Although the University remains committed to some timber development, we are looking at other development options to monetize University property.

### **Community Engagement**

The UA Land team is grateful for all of the feedback and suggestions we have received from community members. We also appreciate everyone who has made time on the phone and in person and for your willingness to share your perspective. In 2018, the UA Land team set up a special website, email list and other materials, in order to foster a positive flow of information. As new projects in the Chilkat Valley area move forward, UA Land will continue its community engagement by promoting communication and information exchange.

In addition to a public comment period for a potential timber sale in 2018, we held in-person community meetings, coffee times, and individual meetings with community groups and leaders in 2018 and 2019, prior to the COVID-19 pandemic. We continue to keep in touch with individual community members via phone, Zoom and email, and are planning a site visit in May 2022. Please reach out anytime.

### **How can someone engage in the process?**

UA Land is committed to keeping the community informed about news related to the timber project with the goal of a two-way information exchange.

- **Website:** UA Land established a [special website](#) where community members will be able to find information such as surveys, reports and more.
- **Email distribution list:** Our email list is the fastest way to receive updates about the project including community meetings, employment, and new economic opportunities that may result from the project. Sign up on our [website](#).
- **Community meetings:** UA Land will continue to hold community-wide meetings in Haines to inform and gather local input.
- **Reach out to us directly:** We are always happy to hear from you. Please email our liaison, Kirsten Henning, at [UALandHaines@gmail.com](mailto:UALandHaines@gmail.com).

### **Additional information**

- UA Land will continue to update the Board of Regents on the project's progress.
- Kirsten Henning will serve as facilitator and point of contact for UA Land on issues relating to the Haines/Chilkat Valley community engagement. She can be reached directly at [UALandHaines@gmail.com](mailto:UALandHaines@gmail.com).
- As a land grant university, the University of Alaska develops its investment lands to support its education mission in conformance with Board of Regents' Policy, University Regulations, and these guiding principles: Value, Best Practice, Community Engagement and Partnerships. You can read more at [alaska.edu](http://alaska.edu).