

August 27, 2019

Timber Negotiations on Hold

The University of Alaska Lands Team would like you to be the first to learn of the latest developments with the proposed Haines timber project. The UA Lands Team negotiations with the potential buyer have recently been placed on hold.

The potential buyer is still interested in signing a timber contract but is now choosing to wait until the tariffs improve on US exports to China. As we reported earlier this year, we have been monitoring the increasing tariffs imposed by China and acknowledged they may impact the project.

It is challenging for us to predict what's next in the US-China trade war, however the potential buyer is seeking solutions to maintain the viability of the timber sale. They will continue to perform the due diligence necessary to obtain the required permitting for infrastructure connected with the sale and continue working on developing markets for all timber species within the sale area.

We do not foresee negotiations resuming until there is a change in the tariffs.

Carbon Credits

As we reported in our June newsletter, the UA Lands team is in the process of analyzing the potential of engaging in a carbon credit program for all University Lands, including the proposed Haines ten-year timber sale. The team is still in the beginning stages of this process. Stay tuned for further developments.

Budget Update

Governor Dunleavy and UA Board of Regents Chair John Davies recently signed a compact detailing cuts for the next three years. The UA Lands Team, along with the University of Alaska system, now has clarity on the reduced budget. The team is committed to fulfilling its mission of converting the University's grant land assets to investible income to support the University's educational mission.

We appreciate the partnership and patience of the Haines community. As always, feel free to reach out with questions.