

State of Alaska Department of Natural Resources



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Alaska Roadless Rule Citizen Advisory Committee begins public meetings

(Juneau, AK) – The Alaska Roadless Rule Citizen Advisory Committee held its first meeting on Oct. 2-3 in Juneau and is scheduled to hold two additional meetings on Oct. 24-26 in Ketchikan and Nov. 6-8 in Sitka. These meetings are open to the public with time allotted for public comment.

Established by Governor Bill Walker through Administrative Order 299, the advisory committee is charged to provide recommendations to the Governor and State Forester, including up to three options for a state-specific roadless rule for possible inclusion in the National Environmental Policy Act review of alternatives. These options would be in addition to the “no-action” alternative or restoration of a full exemption of the Roadless Rule in the Tongass National Forest.

The committee is comprised of thirteen members, including representatives from a federally-recognized tribe, Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act regional corporation, environmental/conservation organizations, energy, timber, mining, tourism, and commercial fishing industries, and other commercial interests, including transportation.

The objectives of the first meeting were to review and discuss the roadless rulemaking process, lessons from previous rulemaking efforts, and the committee’s charge, timeline, process, and desired outcomes; articulate the interests of each committee member and define commonly held principles to underpin future deliberations; and identify specific topics and background information that will need to be examined to develop options for the rulemaking effort.

Additional information regarding committee meetings and other committee-related topics will be posted at the committee’s website (www.merid.org/AKroadless) as it becomes available. If you would like to provide written comments for the committee’s consideration, please visit the Contact Us page on the committee website.

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