

For Immediate Release: June 25, 2020

## State auction puts Alaska land in Alaskan hands, nets \$1.5 million

**(Anchorage, AK)** – The Division of Mining, Land and Water concluded another successful state land auction Wednesday, in which 46 Alaskans offered nearly \$1.5 million in winning bids for 48 parcels comprising more than 500 acres of state land.

"Our mission is to help put Alaska lands into Alaskans' hands, and so we are always pleased to see these kinds of results from our land auctions," said Rachel Longacre, chief of the division's Land Conveyance Section.

Winning bidders offered \$1,465,700 for a total of 509 acres of land located in various areas across the state in the state's 2020 Land Auction #489. The division received 150 bids during the auction.

"Placing Alaskan land in Alaskans' hands remains a priority of my administration, and I thank the Department of Natural Resources for giving these 46 Alaskans a chance to obtain their own piece of the Last Frontier," said Governor Mike Dunleavy.

Division staff conducted the auction online, sharing results on the division website and through the Facebook Live broadcast service. Full results for Auction #489, plus additional information on other state land sales programs, are available at: <u>https://dnr.alaska.gov/mlw/landsales/</u>

Parcels that did not receive bids Wednesday will be available for purchase through the division's Over-the-Counter land sale program, starting July 8 at 10 a.m. Unsold parcels from previous auctions are currently available over the counter, as well.

Longacre noted that the state makes land available to Alaskans through several programs:

• Land auctions, in which Alaska residents may bid to purchase about 200 parcels each year

- Over-the-counter sales, in which Alaskans and non-residents may buy land unsold at past auctions
- Remote Recreational Cabin Sites staking, in which Alaska residents only may stake a parcel of land in designated areas, lease the land until DNR completes a survey and appraisal, then purchase the land at market value
- Agricultural land sales, in which Alaskans and non-residents may bid for parcels specifically designated for and limited to agricultural use

To learn more about over-the-counter sales, see pages 23, 24, and 127 of Brochure #489, at: <u>https://dnr.alaska.gov/mlw/landsales/</u>. The public may sign up there for automatic emails with land sale information. DNR offers competitive, in-house financing for land purchases. To follow land sales, and find financing and cost details, go to:

- Facebook: <u>www.facebook.com/alaskaland/</u>
- Twitter: @alaskaland4sale
- Instagram: @alaska\_land4sale
- Email subscription: http://landsales.alaska.gov/email
- 907-269-8400 (TYY: 711 or 800-770-8973; weekdays 10 a.m.-5 p.m.)

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**CUTLINE: AUCTION – 1:** Division of Mining, Land and Water Operations Director Christy Colles started off Wednesday's all-online auction of state land auction Wednesday, while Land Conveyances Section Chief Rachael Longacre readies a presentation on the available parcels.



**CUTLINE: AUCTION – 2:** Christy Colles describes the variety of programs the state uses to put Alaska lands into Alaskans' hands, in advance of Wednesday's state land auction #489. Forty-six Alaskans offered nearly \$1.5 million in winning bids for 48 parcels comprising more than 500 acres of state land.



**CUTLINE: AUCTION – 3:** The staff of the Land Conveyances Section of the Division of Mining, Land and Water worked diligently Wednesday to guard against the spread of COVID-19 by maintaining social distancing, while conducting an all-online land auction: They included (L-R): David Smith, Aleria Knudson, Hannah Uher-Koch and Justin Wholey.

