

Department of Law

CIVIL DIVISION

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December 27, 2013

Certified Mail No: 7013 1090 0000 1858 3581

7013 1090 0000 1858 3598

Honorable Tom Vilsack Secretary of Agriculture 1400 Independence Ave., S.W. Washington, DC 20250

Honorable Sally Jewell Secretary of the Interior 1849 C Street NW Washington, D.C. 20240

Re: Stikine River

Dear Secretary Jewell:

Attached is a letter dated August 27, 1992, in which the State of Alaska provided notice—pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 2409a(m)—of its intent to file a quiet title action to the submerged lands underlying the Stikine River, among other rivers. By way of this letter, the State seeks to renew and clarify that prior notice as it pertains to the Stikine River. Those portions of the bed of the Stikine River that are permanently or periodically covered by tidal water up to the line of mean high tide were included in a Disclaimer of Interest by the United States filed in *Alaska v. United States*, 546 U.S. 413 (2006) (Glacier Bay). To the extent the United States continues to dispute the State's title, in not less than 180 days, the State intends to sue to quiet title to the submerged lands underlying the Stikine River. This includes all land between the ordinary high water lines of the left and right banks from the Alaska/Canada International Border in T 60 S., R. 86 E., Copper River Meridian, Alaska, downstream to all points of confluence at its mouth in the Eastern Passage, Dry Strait and Frederick Sound, within T. 60 S., R. 82 E.; T. 61

Letter to Secretary of Agriculture and the Interior
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S., R. 83 E. and T. 61 S., R. 84 E.; and T. 62 S., R. 82, 83 and 84 E., Copper River
Meridian, Alaska.

Title to these lands passed to Alaska at statehood based on the equal footing doctrine, the Submerged Lands Act, 43 U.S.C. §§ 1301 *et seq.*, and the Alaska Statehood Act, 72 Stat. 339, 48 U.S.C. note preceding § 21.

Sincerely,

MICHAEL C. GERAGHTY ATTORNEY GENERAL

By:

Jessica M. Alloway Assistant Attorney General

JMA/jma

cc: Bud Cribley, State Director, BLM

Beth G. Pendleton, Regional Forester, USFS, Alaska Region

Enclosure

STATE WF ALASKA

DEPARTMENT OF LAW

OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

August 27, 1992

WALTER J. HICKEL, GOVERNOR

PLEASE REPLY TO:

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- ☐ P.O. BOX 110300 STATE CAPITOL JUNEAU, ALASKA 99811-0300 PHONE: (907) 465-3600 FAX: (907) 463-5295

Manuel Lujan, Jr., Secretary Department of the Interior 1849 C Street NW Washington, D.C. 20240

Dear Mr. Lujan:

The State of Alaska intends to file real property quiet title actions as to the submerged lands described on the list attached as appendix A, and is providing you this notice pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §2409a(m). Title to these lands passed to Alaska at statehood based on the equal footing doctrine, the Submerged Land Act of May 22, 1953, P.L. 83-31, 67 Stat. 29, 43 U.S.C. §\$1301 et seq., and the Alaska Statehood Act of July 7, 1958, P.L. 85-508, 72 Stat. 339, 48 U.S.C. note preceding §21.

Sincerely,

CHARLES E. COLE ATTORNEY GENERAL

Bv.

Joanne M. Grace

Assistant Attorney General

JMG/sh Attachment

cc: J. T. Tangen, Regional Solicitor, Department of Interior Edward F. Spang, State Director, Bureau of Land Management Niles Cesar, Area Director, Bureau of Indian Affairs Walter Stieglitz, Regional Director, Fish and Wildlife Service John Morehead, Regional Director, National Park Service

8/27 mailed lest return recept

03-C5LH

Appendix A to letter of August 27, 1992.

Colville Region

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Mouth of Colville River to Nuka River Mouth of Kuna River to Chefornak

Northwest Region

Mouth of Agiapuk River to American River
Mouth of American River to Budd Creek
Mouth of Buckland River to West Fork
Mouth of Fish River to Omilak Creek
Mouth of Niukluk River to Council
Mouth of Kobuk River to Lower Kobuk Canyon
Mouth of Koyuk River to Dime Landing
Mouth of Kuzitrin River to Noxapaga River
Mouth of Noxapaga River to Turner Creek
Mouth of Noatak River to Aniuk River
Mouth of Selawik River to Kugarak River
Shaktoolik River
Throat River
Ungalik River
Mouth of Unalakleet River to Tenmile Creek

Koyukuk River Region

Mouth of Hogatza River to Hog Landing Mouth of Koyukuk River to Bettles Mouth of Middle Fork to Wiseman

Upper Yukon Region

Mouth of Bearpaw River to Diamond Mouth of Beaver Creek to Victoria Creek Birch Creek Mouth of Black River to Boundary Mouth of Chandalar River to North and West Forks Mouth of Charley River to Bear Creek Mouth of Chatanika River to Steese Highway Bridge Christian River Mouth of Coleen River to Lake Creek (59 miles) Mouth of Crooked Creek to Bridge Grass River Mouth of Hess Creek to North and South Forks Mouth of Hodzana River to Pitka Fork (79 miles) Jim Lake Mouth of Kandik River to Boundary Mouth of Nation River to Boundary

Mouth of Porcupine River to Boundary Ray River Mouth of Seventymile River to Barney Creek Mouth of Sheenjek River to Thluickohnjik Creek Mouth of Tatonduk River to Boundary

40 Mile Area

Forty Mile River Mouth of North Fork Forty Mile River to Kink Mouth of South Fork Forty Mile River to Mosquito Fork

South Central Region

Mouth of Chulitma River to Tokositma River Mouth of Kasilok River to Tustumena Lake Mouth of Kenai River to Kenai Lake Kenai Lake Knik River Lake Louise and outlet Lake Tusturmena Mouth of Skwentna River to Portage Creek Susitna Lake Mouth of Susitna River to Indian River Mouth of Talkeetna River to Chunilna Creek Mouth of Tokositna River to Home Lake Outlet Tyone Lake Mouth of Tyone River to Tyone Lake Mouth of Yentna River to confluence of its East and West Forks Johnson River Red River

Tanana Region

Mouth of Chena River to North Fork Mouth of Chisana River to Scottie Creek Mouth of Goodpasture River to Central Creek Harding Lake Healy Lake and outlet Johnson River Mouth of Kantishna River to Lake Minchumina Lake George and outlet Lake Mansfield and outlet Mouth of Nabesna River to Nabesna Mine Mouth of Nenana River to Healy River Mouth of Salcha River to Paldo Creek Mouth of Tanana River to Nabesna and Chisana Rivers Mouth of Teklanik River to near Comma Lake Mouth of Tetlin River to Tetlin Lake Mouth of Tolovana River to West Fork Mouth of Wood River to Fish Creek

Middle Yukon River

Mouth of Innoko River to Cripple Creek
Mouth of Iditarod River to Iditarod
Khotol River
Little Melozitna River
Melozitna River
Mouth of Nowitna River and Sulstna Rivers to Tamarack Creek
Tozitna River

Lower Yukon Region

Anvik River Bonasila River Kotlik River Nulato River Pastolik River

Kuskokwim River Region

Mouth of Aniak River to Salmon River
Mouth of Big River to Otter Creek
Mouth of Chukowan River to Gemmuk River
Crooked Creek
Mouth of Fast Fork Kuskokwim River to Slow Fork and Tonzona River
Mouth of Gemmuk River to Beaver Creek
Mouth of George River to Julian Creek

Mouth of Holitra River to Chukowan River

Hoholitra River Mouth of Johnson River from Mud Creek Portage to Crooked Creek

Mouth of Johnson River to Nunapitchuk and Atmautluak

Kisaralik River

Mouth of Kuguklik River to Kipnuk

Kulik Lake

Mouth of Kuskokwim River to North Fork

Little Tonzona River

Mouth of Middle Fork and Big River to Salmon River

Mouth of Middle Fork Kuskokwim River to Pitka Fork

Mouth of Nixon Fork to its West Fork

Mouth of North Fork Kuskokwim to Lake Minchumina Portage

Mouth of South Fork Kuskokwim River to Tatina River

Mouth of Stoney River to Lime Village

Mouth of Swift Fork to Highpower Creek

Mouth of Takotna River to Fourth of July Creek

Mouth of Talbiksok River to Yukon-Kuskokwim Portage

Mouth of Tuluksak River to Upper Land

Whitefish Lake and outlet

Bristol Bay Region

Alec River Aniakchak River



Black Lake Mouth of Chignik River to Black Lake. Chikuminuk Lake Chilikadrotna River Chulitna River Clark River Mouth of Copper River to Falls Dago Creek Dog Salmon River Eek River Egeqik River and Becharof Lake Gibralter Lake and outlet Mouth of Goodnews River to Watlamuse Creek Mouth of Igushik River to Amanka Lake Illiamna Lake Mouth of Illiamna River to Forks Mouth of Kanektok River to Kagati Lake Kakhonak Lake Mouth of King Salmon River to Olds Creek Mouth of Kvichak River to Illiamna Lake Lake Aleknagik Lake Chavekuktuli Lake Clark Lake Beverly Lake Kulik Lake Nerka Lower Pike Lake and outlet Kokwok River Koktuli River Muklung River Mouth of Mulchatna River to Summit Creek Mouth of Naknek River to Naknek Lake Negukthlik River Newhalen River Nishlik Lake Mouth of Nushagak River to New Stuyahok Mouth of Nuyakuk River to Nuyakuk Lake Ongoke River Osviak River Quigmy River Pile River Ruth Lake and outlet Mouth of Smelt Creek to Smelt Lake Mouth of Snake River to Nunavaugaluk Lake Stuyahok River Tazmina River Mouth of Togiak River to Togiak Lake Tunulk River Ualik Lake

Mouth of Ugashik River to Lower and Upper Ugashik Lakes

Upnuk Lake Weary River

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Mouth of Wood River to Lake Aleknagik

Cooper River Region

Mouth of Bering River to near Bering Lake
Mouth of Chitma River to Tana River
Mouth of Copper River to Batzulnetas (above Slana)
Crosswind Lake
Mouth of Eyak River and Eyak Lake
Mouth of Klutina River to Klutina Lake
Lowe River
Miles Lake and outlet
Nelchina River
Tasmuna River
Mouth of Tazlina River to Tazlina Lake

Southeast Region

Chilkat River Chilkoot River Stikine River

Kodiak Island and Shelikof Straight Region

Afognak Lake
Mouth of Afognak River to the remains of the Bridge
Akalura and Red Lakes
Mouth of Aniakchak River to Albert Johnson Creek
Karluk Lake
Mouth of Karluk River to Karluk Lake

Statewide Region

Yukon River