United States Department of the Interior
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
Alaska State Office
222 West Seventh Avenue, #13
Anchorage, Alaska 99513-7504
www.blm.gov/alaska

In Reply Refer To:
(2627)(944)

NOV 03 2026

CERTIFIED MAIL
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DECISION

State of Alaska	:	General Purposes Grant
Department of Natural Resources	:	State Selection Applications
Division of Mining, Land, and Water	:	
550 West Seventh Avenue, Suite 1050A	:	
Anchorage, Alaska 99501-3579	:	

State Selection Applications Rejected
State Selection Applications Rejected in Part

The State of Alaska filed General Purposes Grant selection applications under the provisions of Sec. 6(b) of the Alaska Statehood Act,[1] and Sec. 906(e) of the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (ANILCA).[2] This decision rejects the Sec. 6(b) selections identified in the *State's Notice of Upcoming Relinquishment of Alaska Statehood Act Land Selections* (public notice), published on September 25, 2026, and updated on October 8, 2026.

The State has received title to approximately 96% of its land entitlement authorized by the Alaska Statehood Act. The State currently has a remaining Sec. 6(b) General Grant entitlement of approximately 3,628,729 acres, with approximately 12,757,738 acres selected. The State has pending General Grant selection applications which exceed the 125 percent selection limitation provided in ANILCA and the Alaska Land Transfer Acceleration Act (ALTAA).[3]

The State's September 25 public notice (referenced above) identified approximately 5.7 million acres of selections made pursuant to the Alaska Statehood Act for potential relinquishment. In response, on September 30, 2026, the BLM notified the State of its intent to reject the Sec. 6(b) selections identified in the State's public notice to begin to make the State's overselections consistent with ANILCA and ALTAA. The BLM also requested the State identify any lands it wished to retain. In its October 13, 2026, response, the State confirmed the affected lands were the lowest priority selections and did not object to their rejection.

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[1] Pub. L. 85-508, 72 Stat. 339, as amended, 48 U.S.C. prec. 21.
[2] Pub. L. 96-487, 94 Stat. 2371, as codified in 43 U.S.C. § 1635(f)(1).
[3] Pub. L. 108-452, 118 Stat. 3575, Sec. 404(a)(4)(B)(i) of ALTAA (referring to it as a 125 percent limitation).

Therefore, as to the lands identified in the State's public notice dated September 25, 2026, and updated on October 8, 2026, depicted on 18 maps incorporated herein, the General Purposes Grant selections made pursuant to Sec. 6(b) of the Alaska Statehood Act are hereby rejected as the lowest priority selections and will be removed from the records. The BLM will prepare a summary of the affected selection applications, legal land descriptions and acreages, and provide a forthcoming notice to the State outlining the lands in detail.

The State is encouraged to continue to identify lands for potential relinquishment to achieve consistency with the 125% selection limitation. In future decisions impacting State selections and the State's remaining entitlement, the BLM will continue to monitor and take appropriate action regarding the percentage of State's selections in excess of the State's remaining entitlement.

This decision may be appealed to the Interior Board of Land Appeals (IBLA), Office of Hearings and Appeals, in accordance with the regulations contained in 43 CFR Part 4. The notice of appeal must be timely filed pursuant to the provisions of 43 CFR 4.403(c). Any notice of appeal must be filed with the IBLA and must include a copy of the decision being appealed, a statement of standing, and a statement of timeliness.

You may file a petition for a stay of the effectiveness of this decision during the time that your appeal is being reviewed by the Board. A petition for a stay must demonstrate that issuance of a stay is warranted based on the following criteria: (i) The likelihood of immediate and irreparable harm if a stay is not granted; (ii) Whether the harm to the appellant absent a stay exceeds the harm to the United States or other parties from a stay being granted; (iii) The likelihood of the appellant's success on the merits; and (iv) Whether the public interest favors granting a stay.

The appellant must serve a copy of the notice of appeal and any accompanying documents on the office of the officer who made the decision, each person or entity named in the decision, and the appropriate Official of the Office of the Solicitor at the time of filing with IBLA (see 43 CFR 4.403(b); 4.407(b)). Parties must serve the Office of the Solicitor at the address shown on Form 1842-001 if service is not made through Bison File and Serve. Service on a party known to be represented by an attorney or other designated representative must be made on the representative. Your statement of reasons for the appeal must be filed within 30 days after the record on appeal is filed with the IBLA. Failure to file a statement of reasons within the time required will subject the challenged decision to summary affirmance (see 43 CFR 4.412(a)).

Kevin J. Pendergast
State Director

Enclosures:
Public Notice Maps (18)