



The Alaska Mental Health Trust

October 2, 2024

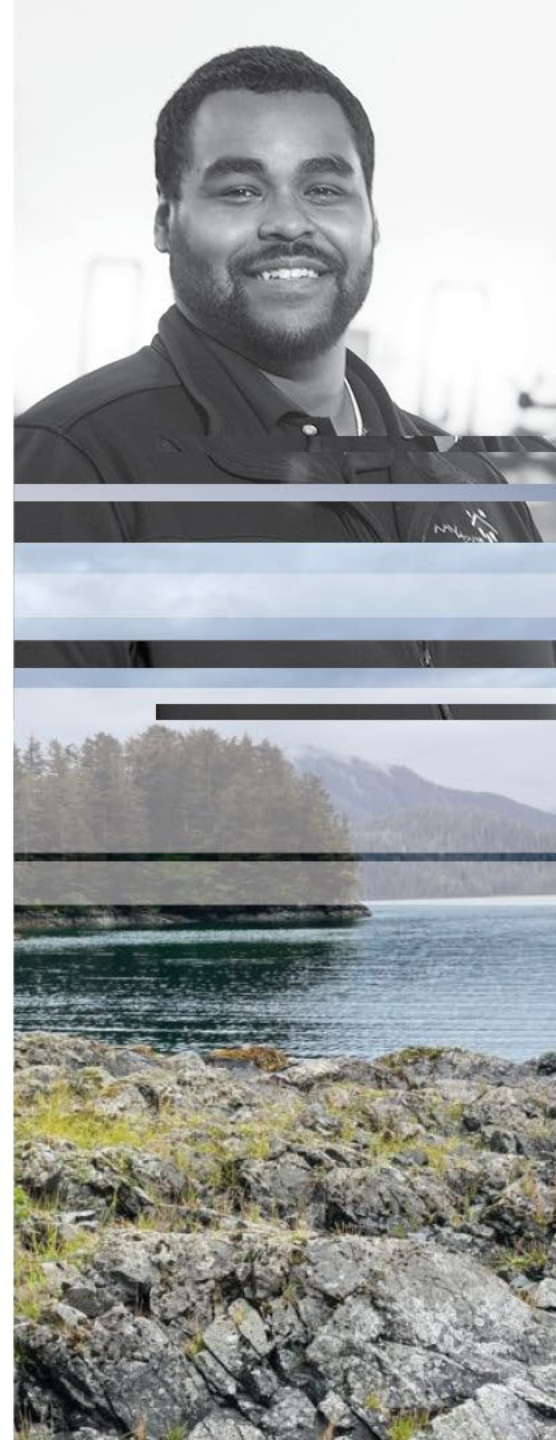
Trust

Alaska Mental Health
Trust Authority



History of the Trust

- Prior to statehood, few mental health services available in the territory
- Mental Health Trust Enabling Act, 1956
- Legislature was fiduciary, but mismanaged assets
- Weiss v State of Alaska, 1982
- Final settlement creating the Trust Authority,
 - 1994 Reconstitution of lands
 - Cash payment
 - Established board of trustees





History of the Trust - 1994 Settlement

- Creation of the Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority (the Trust) to act as trustee
- Separate appropriations bill for mental health program
- Program improvements
 - Comprehensive Integrated Mental Health Program Plan required
 - Four advisory boards (ACoA, ABADA, AMHB, and GCDSE) make budget recommendations to Trust trustees
 - Commissioners (DNR, DOR, DHSS) designated as advisors to The Trust

The Trust Mission Statement

It is the duty of the Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority to provide leadership in the advocacy, planning, implementing and funding of services and programs for Trust beneficiaries.

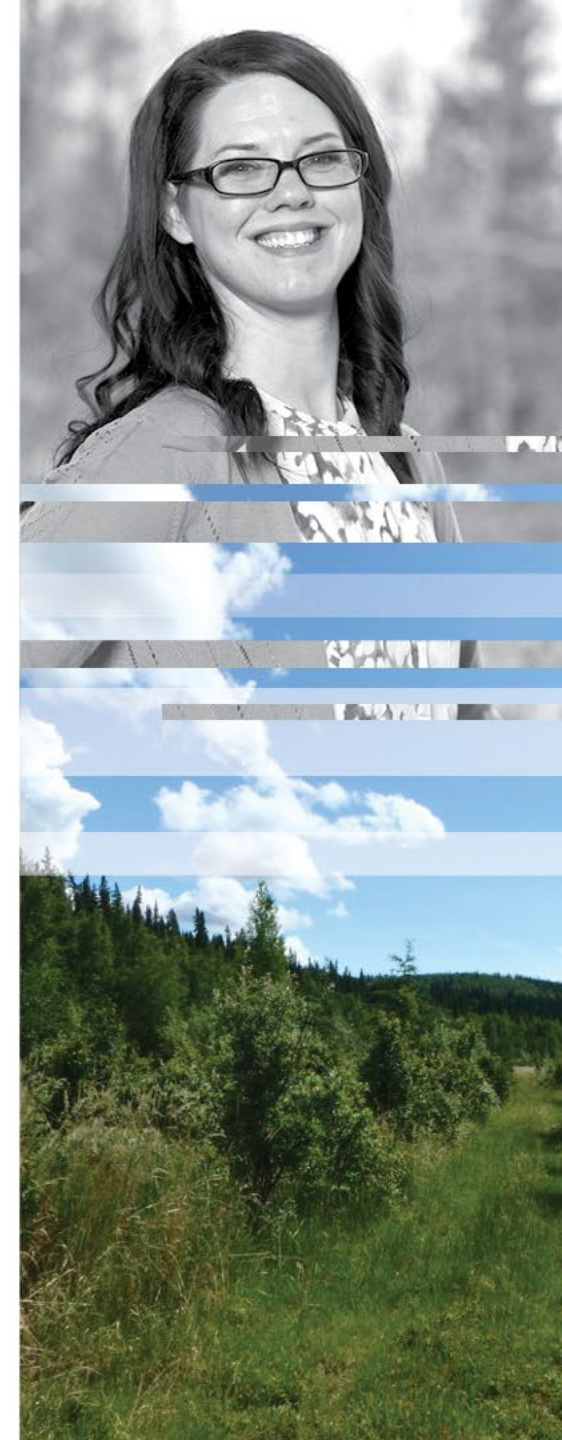
The Trust Land Office is contracted exclusively by the Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority to manage its approximately one million acres of land and other non-cash assets to generate revenue to better serve our beneficiaries.



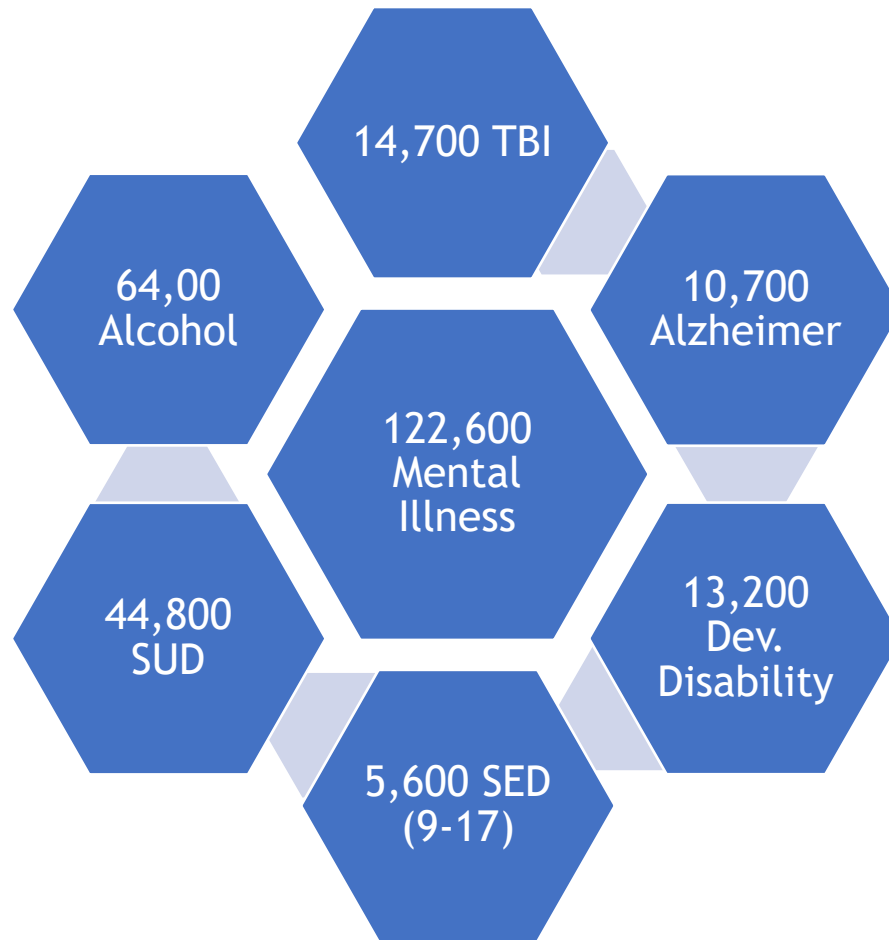
The Trust - Beneficiaries

Alaskans who experience

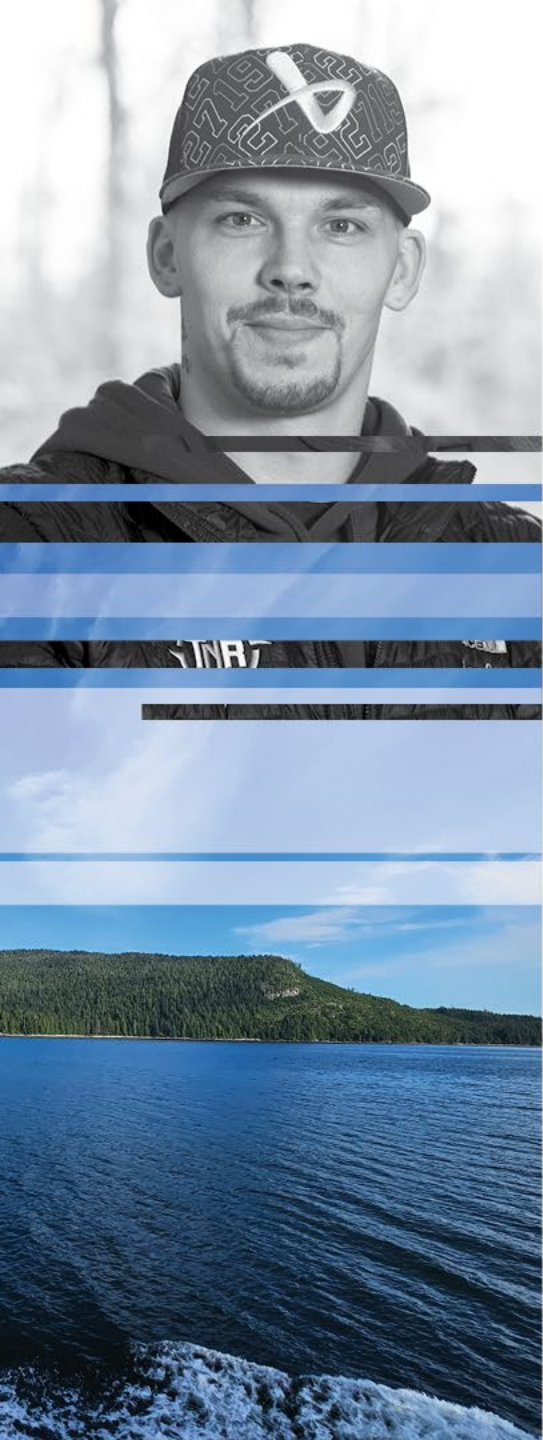
- Mental illness
- Intellectual and developmental disabilities
- Substance use disorders
- Alzheimer's disease and related dementia
- Traumatic brain injuries
- The Trust also works in prevention and early intervention services for individuals at risk of becoming beneficiaries. The Trust considers prevention of these conditions, where possible, to be part of its mandate.



The Trust - Beneficiaries



Numbers are approximated using population density estimates.



The Trust - Role

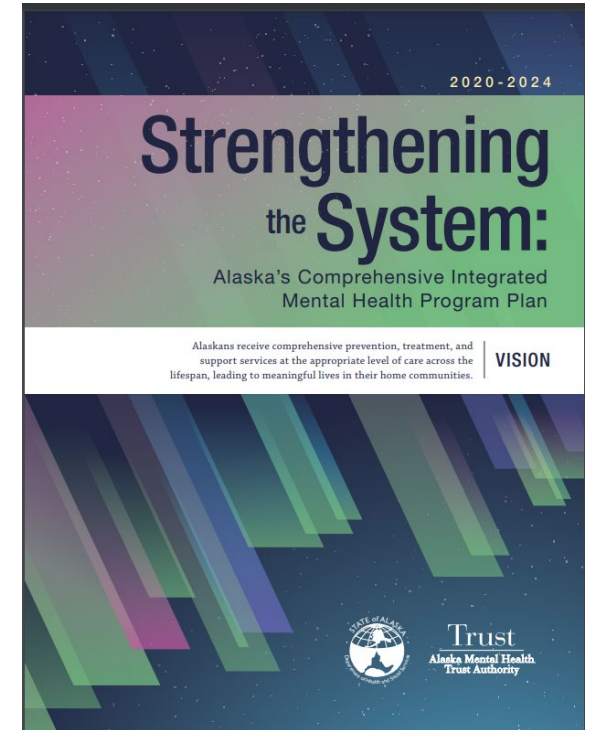
- **Oversee management of Trust assets**
- **Spend trust income**
- **Recommend to the governor and legislature how the state of Alaska should spend general fund resources**
- **Ensure the state has a comprehensive integrated mental health program plan**
- **Advocate and be an agent of in the system**

The Trust – Role

Comprehensive Integrated Mental Health Program Plan

- Blueprint for change, inclusion, common principles, results-oriented, measurable
- Innovative, consumer-driven services, integration, early intervention and prevention, education
- <http://dhss.alaska.gov/Commissioner/Pages/MentalHealth/default.aspx>

The plan is currently being revised. Public comment will be available soon!



The Trust Focus and Priority Areas

- Mental Health and Addiction Intervention
 - Behavioral Health Crisis Response (Crisis Now)
- Disability Justice
- Housing and Home and Community-Based Services
- Beneficiary Employment and Engagement Workforce
- Workforce Development (priority)
- Early Childhood Intervention and Prevention (priority)



Improving Behavioral Health Crisis Response in Alaska

- Currently, Alaskans in crisis are primarily served by law enforcement, emergency rooms, and other restrictive environments
- Emergency rooms are not designed for and can be overstimulating to someone in an acute psychiatric crisis
- The Trust and partners are working to redesign Alaska's behavioral crisis response, using the *Crisis Now* framework
- The goal is to implement a behavioral health crisis response system analogous to the physical health system

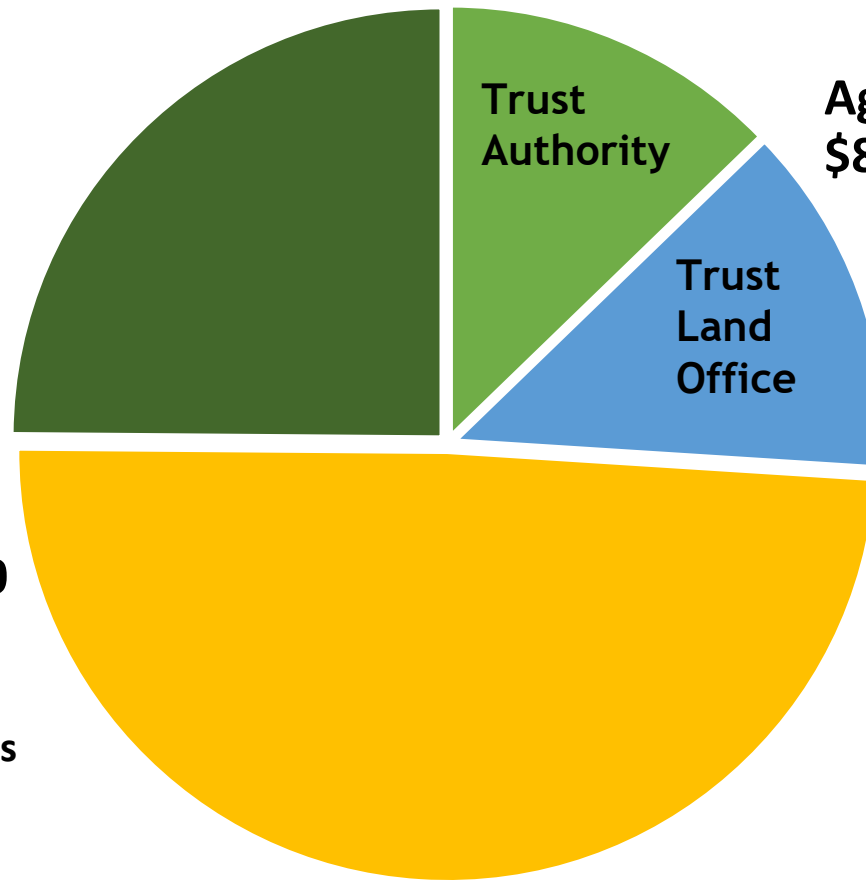


Fiscal Year 2026 Budget

MHTAAR \$21,060,200
Designated grants to state agencies, require receipt authority

Authority Grants \$19,199,300
Designated grants to community providers, nonprofits, local governments, and Tribal organizations

- Includes mini-grants – over 1,000 last fiscal year



Agency Budgets \$8,939,000

* The Trust is completely self-funded and uses no state GF dollars



Trust Grant Making

Trustees authorize around \$20 million in grants each year to nonprofits, service providers, state and local governments, and Tribal organizations.

MHTAAR Grants to State Agencies

Authority Grants

- Innovative Solutions/Pilots
- Capacity Building
- Equipment
- Capital - Construction
- Data Planning
- Direct Service Outreach
- Workforce Development/Training

Mini grants to individuals: up to \$2,500 per award for equipment, supplies, or services to improve quality of life and increase independent functioning.

Examples of Recent Grants Impacting Older Alaskans

- Alaska Commission on Aging Positions
 - Planner
 - Rural HCBS Coordinator
- Aging and Disability Resource Centers
- Home Modifications Grants (DOH/Facilities and Mgmt Svs)
- Care Coordination Support position (DOH/SDS)
- Alzheimer's Resource of Alaska - ADRD Minigrants
- Nikiski Senior Center - Caregiver Support Program
- Hospice Programs in Anchorage, Kodiak and Homer





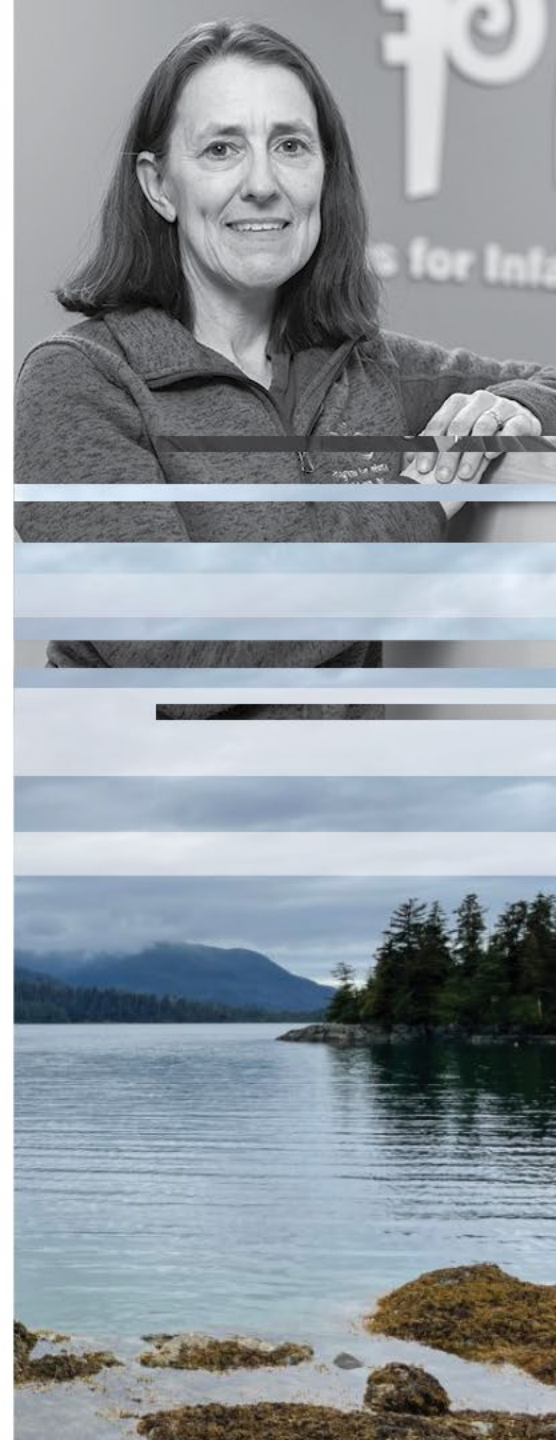
Contracts Impacting Older Alaskans

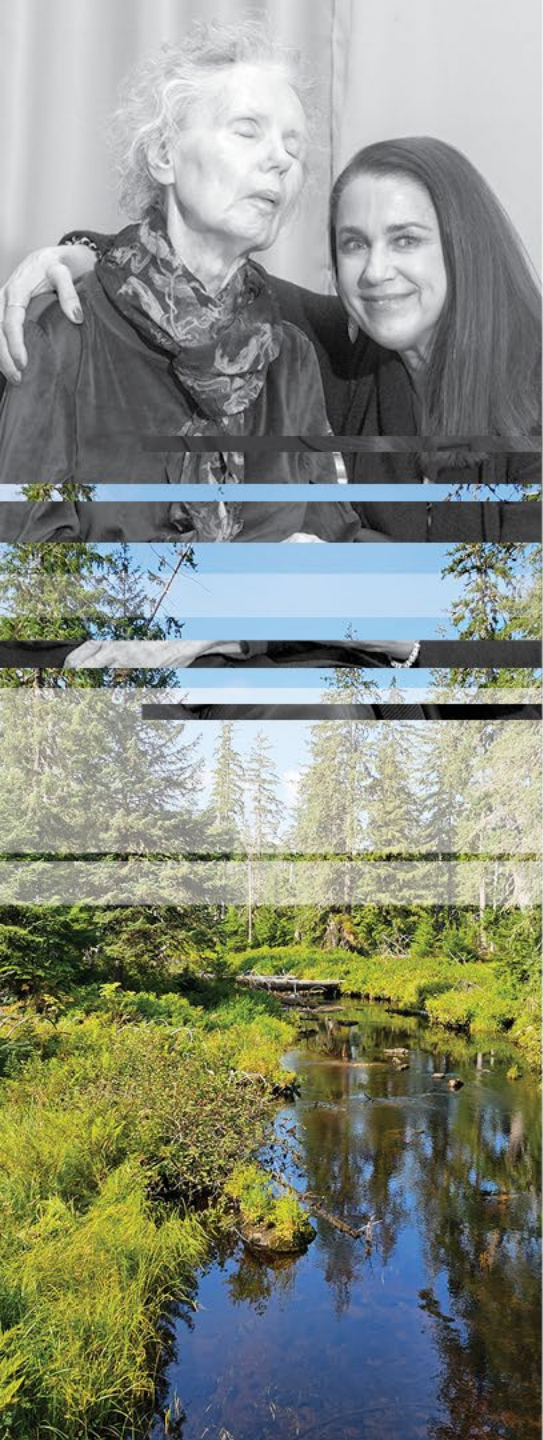
- Alaska Dementia Action Collaborative
 - Effective Health Design
- Home and Community Based Services Reform
 - HCBS Strategies
- Technical Assistance Contract
 - Multiple contractors
- Proposal Development Contract
 - Denali Daniels and Assoc.

Annual Expenditure Amount

Annual expenditures are funded by a combination of the following sources:

- Annual trust withdrawal from invested assets (4.25% of the previous four-year average value)
- Spendable income generated from Trust Land Office activities
- Interest income earned on cash balances
- Prior year's unexpended funds (average of the previous four-year lapse amount)





Other Work of the Trust

- Advocacy/Public Policy
 - Medicaid
 - Disability Justice
 - Community-Based Services
 - Behavioral Health Crisis Response
- Planning
- Education/De-Stigmatization

Trust Land Office



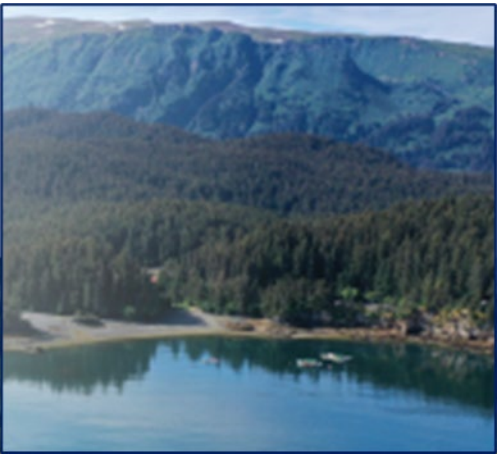
Trust
Land Office

The Trust Land Office sits in the Department of Natural Resources and manages the Trust's one million acres of land and other non-cash assets to generate revenue to help support our work and grant making for beneficiaries.



Trust Land Assets

- Received lands with revenue-generating potential
- Southeast, Southcentral, and Interior parcels
- Trust Lands activity earned \$11M in FY 2022
- Lands managed solely in the interest of the Trust and its beneficiaries
- Managed by asset class: lands, minerals and materials, energy, forestry, and real estate





How Does the Trust Land Office Support Trust Beneficiaries?

- The TLO has a responsibility, by law, to maximize revenue generation from Trust land assets and does so by selling and developing its land and resources
- All decisions pertaining to the use of Trust lands must be made in the best financial interest of the Trust and its beneficiaries
- The revenue generated by the TLO is managed by the Trust to improve the lives and circumstances of Trust beneficiaries across Alaska.



Trust

Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority

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For more information about the Trust:

www.alaskamentalhealthtrust.org