

BLM fulfills final ANCSA entitlement for Sea Lion Corporation



Photo courtesy BLM by Matt Vos

Neil Kornze presents the final Sea Lion Corporation patent to Sea Lion Corporation President Myron Naneng and board member Nick Naneng.

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) last week Wednesday made a significant land transfer to Sea Lion Corporation to complete the corporation's land entitlement under the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act of 1971 (ANCSA).

Sea Lion Corporation was formed under ANCSA to represent the Alaska Native village of Hooper Bay. In addition to the transfer of the final entitlement acreage, Sea Lion also participated in a land exchange with the Yukon Delta National Wildlife Refuge. The land exchange gave the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service important habitats, including wetlands for the conservation of threatened spectacled and Steller's eiders. In addition, Sea Lion obtained ownership of sub-surface lands important to the future of the corporation and Hooper Bay.

"It is a major priority for the BLM and the Department to live up to the commitments made in ANCSA," said BLM Principal Deputy Director Neil Kornze.

"We are proud to complete the conveyances owed to Sea Lion Corporation with today's patent signing."

The signing ceremony was held at the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Region 7 office in Anchorage. Myron Naneng accepted the land transfer documents for Sea Lion Corporation. Kornze signed the patents for a total of 5,796 acres, including the 1,280 acres received in an exchange of prime coastal waterfowl habitat for higher elevation lands east of the village.

"To visitors, the land may not appear to have much value, but it is very productive and highly valued land to us," stated Naneng.

Sea Lion Corporation received its first conveyances under ANCSA from BLM in May 1982. With these patents, Sea Lion Corporation has received just over 188,160 acres of land in the vicinity of Hooper Bay in western Alaska.

"Partnering with others is a vital part of the Fish and Wildlife mission," noted Acting Regional Director Larry Bell.

KYUK able to spread to Lower Yukon and Kuskokwim Coast

by KYUK Staff

Villages on the Lower Yukon and on the Kuskokwim Coast could receive a much stronger KYUK 640 AM signal if they take advantage of a new proposal being offered by KYUK/Bethel Broadcasting Inc. The public radio and TV station recently rolled out the KYUK Unification Project meant to create a strong KYUK signal in every YK Delta village.

"Reception can be poor or non-existent in some YK Delta villages," says KYUK Radio Director Shane Iverson. "That's a shame because our mission at KYUK is to keep us connected and provide a place for the Yup'ik language in the media."

The Unification Project KYUK is proposing calls for the public radio station to work with local organizations to build a low-power FM station in every village that wants one. The technical term used by the Federal Communications Commission to describe these stations is Class D FM. Class D FM stations can be used to repeat a mother-station like KYUK.

"But that's not all," says Iverson. "There's also the capability to switch to local broadcasts from there in the village. Special events, conferences, basketball games, student speeches, music shows, elder interviews, and anything imaginable could be broadcast from the village."

These stations are not complicated

to build. The transmitter plugs into a standard wall socket. And power costs should be less than a few hundred dollars per month depending on local energy rates.

Information about Class D FM stations on the FCC website is sparse but there's evidence of their effectiveness all over Alaska. Nearly a dozen villages in the Northwest Arctic began receiving public radio station KOTZ out of Kotzebue after the region's phone service provider agreed to house the low power station's in their village out buildings.

Valdez public radio, KCHU, is delivered to Cordova, Tatitlek, and Whittier and McCarthy all with low power FM Stations says KCHU Operations Director John Anderson.

"The model is out there, but we can't do it alone. Like most success stories in rural Alaska it will take partnerships and team-work to make it happen," says Iverson.

KYUK estimates it will cost about \$18,000 to build, ship and install the most basic Class D FM station. That would allow the station to serve only as a KYUK repeater. To build, ship and install a versatile station that could perform local and educational broadcasts would cost closer to \$30,000.

"We can't afford to fund multiple stations by ourselves so first and foremost it will take local entities right there in the village that want KYUK and are

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ADAK PETERSBURG BARROW NOME
 BETHEL SITKA KODIAK DUTCH HARBOR
 FAIRBANKS PRUDHOE BAY CORDOVA
 KETCHIKAN ANCHORAGE KOTZEBUE
 JUNEAU NOME WRANGELL DILLINGHAM
 YAKUTAT KING OF THE HILL CUSTAVUS

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Bering Sea - Western Interior Resource Management Plan



The Bureau of Land Management invites you to attend a Public Scoping Meeting for the Bering Sea-Western Interior Resource Management Plan. This plan will provide future direction for 10.6 million acres of BLM-managed public land in western Alaska.

Attend a Public Scoping Meeting in your community and share your comments and concerns. We want to hear from YOU!

Date / Time	Community / Location
Friday, Nov. 8, 11 a.m.	Lower Kalskag Town Hall
Friday, Nov. 8, 2 p.m.	Kalskag Tribal Multi-Purpose Bldg
Tuesday, Nov. 19, 1 p.m.	Crooked Creek Traditional Council Office
Tuesday, Nov. 19, 6 p.m.	Aniak High School
Wednesday, Nov. 20, 6 p.m.	Yup'it Piciryarait Cultural Center, Bethel
Thursday, Nov. 21, 1 p.m.	Chuathbaluk Traditional Council Office
Friday, Nov. 22, 7 p.m.	Myles Gonongnan/Aaron Paneok Memorial Hall, Unalakleet
Wednesday, Dec. 4	BLM Campbell Creek Science Center, Anchorage (Elmore Road and 68 th Ave)
	• 4-6 p.m. Open House
	• 6-8 p.m. Q&A, Comments
Thursday, Dec. 5, 6 p.m.	McGrath Community Service Center
Tuesday, Dec. 17, 6 p.m.	Grayling School
TBD	Holy Cross and Russian Mission

Additional meetings will be announced in future public notices. Please visit www.blm.gov/ak/planning for additional ways you can participate in the Bering Sea-Western Interior planning process.



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