

February 5, 2020

Timber Negotiations Remain on Hold

The University of Alaska Lands team hopes everyone reading this is healthy and well. This is our first email newsletter update in 2020.

Negotiations between Land Management and the potential buyer remains on hold. China and the United States agreed to a Phase 1 trade deal on January 15th. However, current tariffs on Alaskan wood remain and there is uncertainty in knowing when the trade war will end.

The potential buyer remains committed to an eventual sale so will continue to perform the due diligence needed for permitting the necessary infrastructure connected with the sale and developing the timber markets for appropriate species.

Land Management also continues to participate in the timber industry through posting potential jobs, industry education and training/internships with timber operators, agencies and schools. The goal is to collaborate with other landowners and agencies to foster future sales and to recruit and train new talent. We believe in sharing talent to streamline cost in the industry.

The University of Alaska will continue to stay abreast of any timber development from other landowners in the Haines area. We have complementary missions regarding the use of our resources on lands in proximity to each other. If any adjacent landowners engage in timber activity, UA Land Management may assess the situation to determine if it is advantageous to move forward with any resource development to capitalize on opportune timing and potential cost savings.

Land Management continues to analyze the potential of engaging in a carbon credit program on all University of Alaska Lands, which includes the proposed Haines 10-year Timber Sale. Land Management is still in the beginning stages of this complex process and continues its review of University lands that best fit the carbon credit program.

As always, we appreciate the ongoing dialog with the Haines community. Please reach out with any questions.