



The Southeast Alaska Sustainability Strategy

Investment Component Overview

Engaging Communities and Sustaining Economies

Earlier this summer, the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) launched the Southeast Alaska Sustainability Strategy to help support a diverse economy, enhance community resilience, and conserve natural resources.

USDA is focused on maximizing its collective resources to provide the highest level of support and service to Southeast Alaska, by investing federal dollars in a sustainable way, identifying diverse investment opportunities using an inclusive path by listening to local voices, and streamlining internal administrative procedures to get funding out faster.

The overall outcome would be a diverse economy, enhanced community resilience, and conserved natural resources.

Investments

USDA agencies, including the Forest Service, Rural Development, and Natural Resources Conservation Service are strategizing to obtain investment ideas, seek out short- and long-term opportunities, and identify administrative barriers that impact federal investments.

Consultation with Tribal Nations, Alaska Native corporations, and collaboration with municipal governments, local partners, communities, and the public are ongoing to create a sustainable and inclusive path forward as we invest in common ground opportunities and relationships.

Key opportunities will build on regional assets and include investments that reflect the diverse needs and opportunities in the region, including:

- *Fisheries and Mariculture*
- *Recreation and Visitor Services*
- *Tourism*
- *Renewable Energy*
- *Habitat Restoration*
- *Transportation*
- *Cultural and Niche Wood Products*
- *Sustainable Timber Management*
- *Carbon Sequestration*

USDA initially committed up to \$25 million based on local priorities for short-term investments.

We want to hear from you!

Information shared by Tribal Nations, Alaska Native corporations, municipal governments, local partners, communities, and the public is invaluable as we move through this process.

We look forward to engaging and collaborating on critical investments in local communities and across the region. This is just the beginning.

We will be offering several opportunities for dialog and collaboration into the future on this topic. Investment proposals and strategies will be collected through several platforms.

Find more information on our website at <http://www.fs.usda.gov/goto/r10/sass>.