

Brief update on  
oil and gas  
leasing in the  
Arctic National  
Wildlife Refuge

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For PCMB Annual Harvest Meeting

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# Leasing Process 7- year History

- Mandated 2 lease sales in December 2017 Tax Cuts and Jobs Act
- 2019 – Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)
- 2020 – Record of Decision, First lease sale
- January 2021(Trump) – 9 leases awarded
- January 2021 (Biden) – leases frozen
- 2022 – 2 owners give back leases
- 2022 – Chevron and Hilcorp pay Kaktovik \$10M to end leases on private land in ANWR
- 2023 US Gov't cancels the remaining leases (all owned by AIDEA)
- 2023 Draft Supplemental EIS
- Nov 2024 Final Supplemental EIS – new alternative
- Dec 2024 Record of Decision and Notice of Lease Sale
- January 2025: No bids received

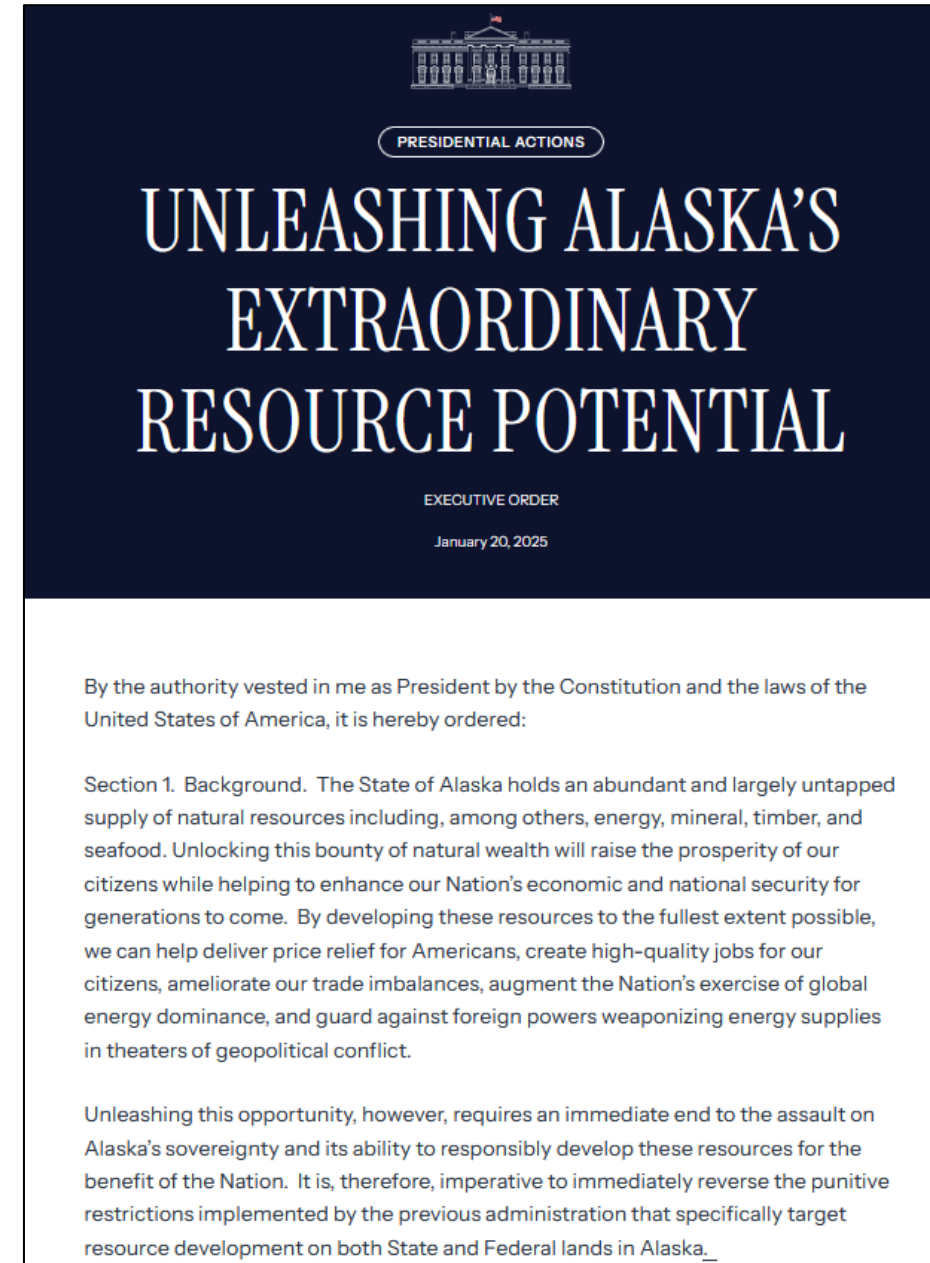
# What now?

1. Pending court decision on cancellation of AIDEA leases: Ruling to come before end of March 2025
2. Executive Order “Unleashing Alaska’s Extraordinary Resource Potential” – January 20<sup>th</sup>, 2025.
3. Secretary of Interior Order 3422 – February 3, 2025

## 2. Executive Order (President)

- Main point: This order does not do anything on its own... it directs Secretaries to “*exercise all lawful authority and discretion available to them and take all necessary steps to...*” do a long list of things.
- For the Arctic Refuge, the list of things to do are all aimed at opening up the whole area for leasing with as few restrictions as possible.

[Link to Executive Order](#)



The image shows the cover of a Presidential Action titled "UNLEASHING ALASKA'S EXTRAORDINARY RESOURCE POTENTIAL". At the top, there is a small illustration of the White House. Below it, the text "PRESIDENTIAL ACTIONS" is enclosed in a rounded rectangle. The main title is in large, white, serif capital letters. Underneath the title, it says "EXECUTIVE ORDER" and "January 20, 2025". The background of the top half is dark blue. The bottom half of the image is white and contains the text of the executive order.

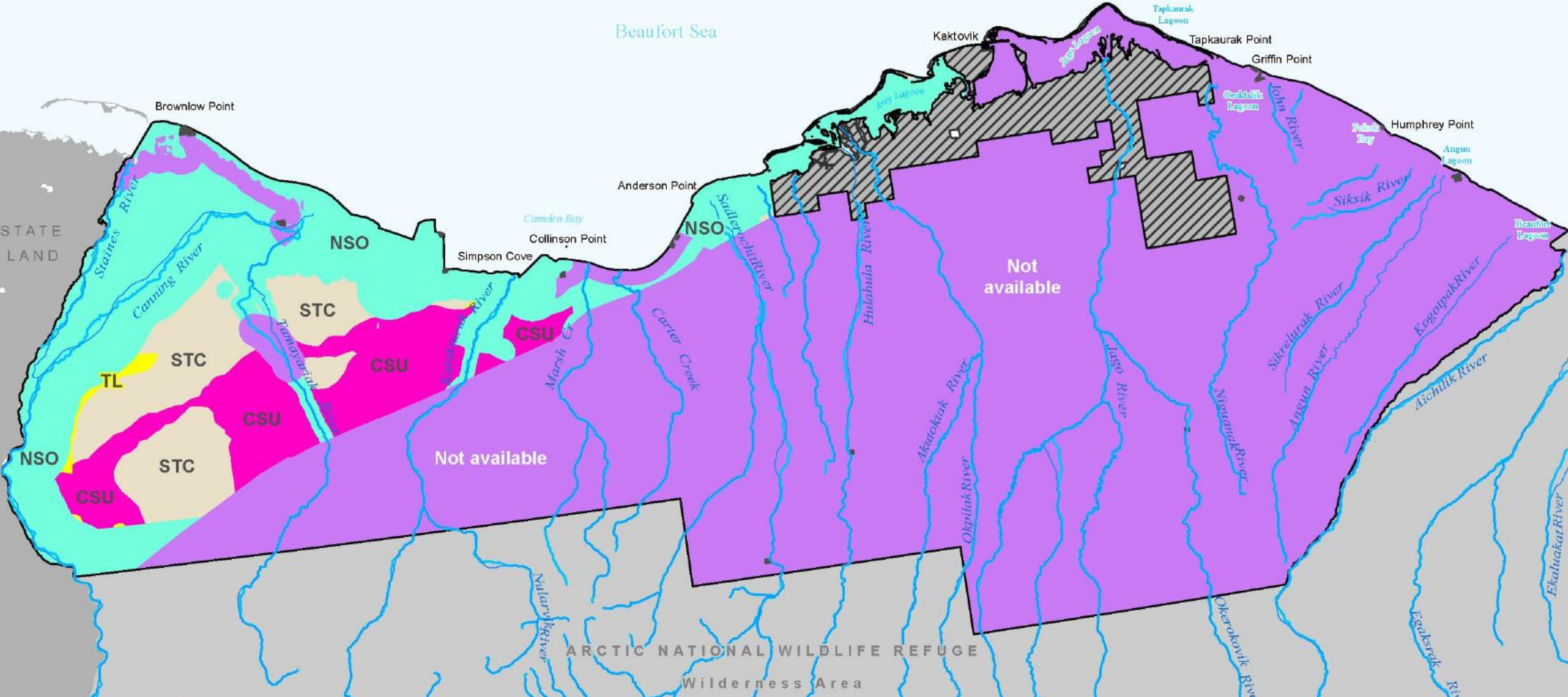
By the authority vested in me as President by the Constitution and the laws of the United States of America, it is hereby ordered:

Section 1. Background. The State of Alaska holds an abundant and largely untapped supply of natural resources including, among others, energy, mineral, timber, and seafood. Unlocking this bounty of natural wealth will raise the prosperity of our citizens while helping to enhance our Nation's economic and national security for generations to come. By developing these resources to the fullest extent possible, we can help deliver price relief for Americans, create high-quality jobs for our citizens, ameliorate our trade imbalances, augment the Nation's exercise of global energy dominance, and guard against foreign powers weaponizing energy supplies in theaters of geopolitical conflict.

Unleashing this opportunity, however, requires an immediate end to the assault on Alaska's sovereignty and its ability to responsibly develop these resources for the benefit of the Nation. It is, therefore, imperative to immediately reverse the punitive restrictions implemented by the previous administration that specifically target resource development on both State and Federal lands in Alaska.

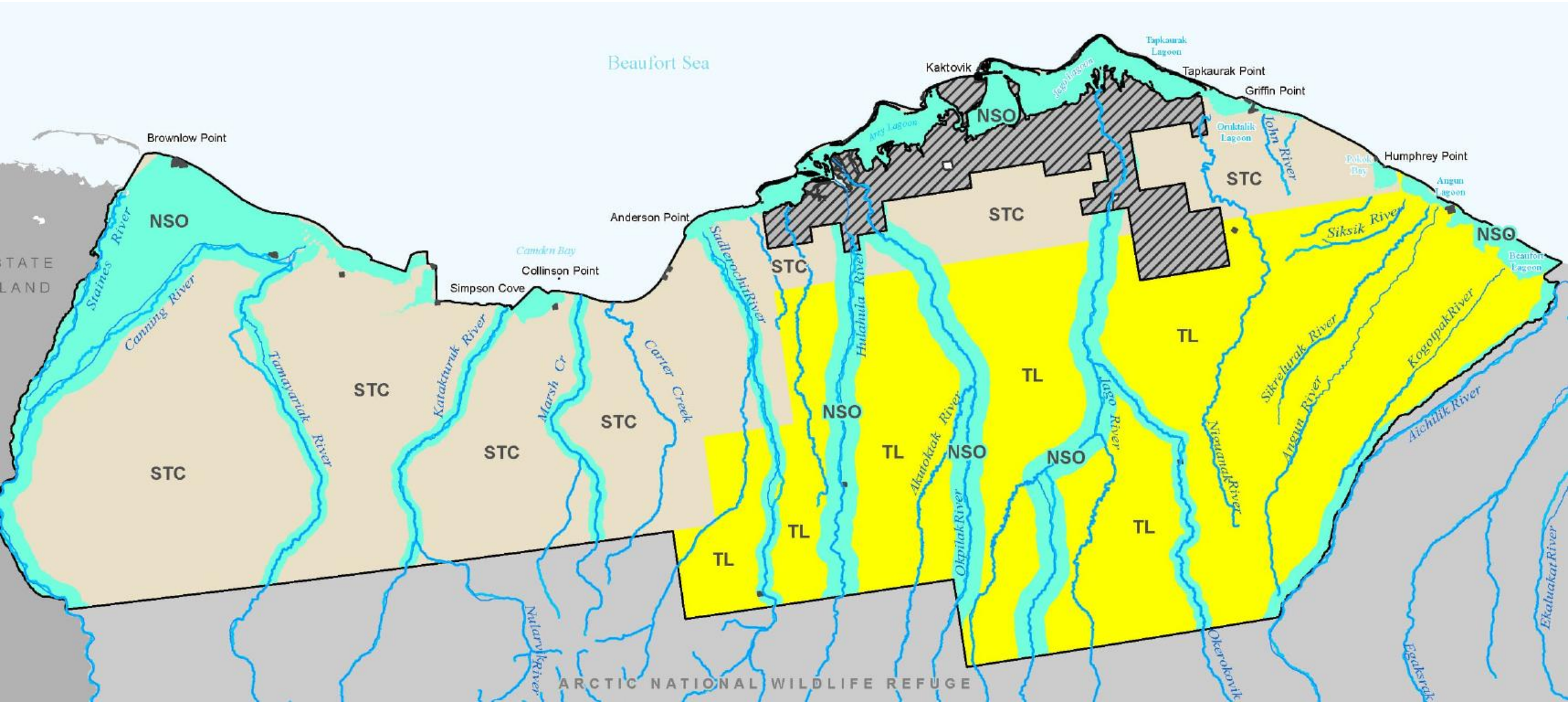
# Current ROD Lease Plan (“D2”)

NSO = No surface occupancy  
TL = timing limitations  
CSU = controlled surface use  
STC = standard terms and conditions



# Previous ROD Lease Plan ("B")

NSO = No surface occupancy  
TL = timing limitations  
CSU = controlled surface use  
STC = standard terms and conditions



# Secretarial Order

- Main point: Asks for a plan by February 18<sup>th</sup> on how to implement the President's Executive Order.
- This plan isn't automatically public – unknown when we will see it or know content.

[Link to Secretary Order 3422](#)



THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR  
WASHINGTON

**ORDER NO. 3422**

Subject: Unleashing Alaska's Extraordinary Resource Potential

Sec. 1. **Purpose.** This Order implements provisions of President Trump's January 20, 2025, Executive Order (EO) 14153, titled "Unleashing Alaska's Extraordinary Resource Potential," which directs the Secretary of the Interior to exercise all lawful authority and discretion available and take all necessary steps to unleash the State of Alaska's abundant and largely untapped supply of natural resources.

Sec. 2. **Authorities.** This Order is issued under the authority of section 2 of Reorganization Plan No. 3 of 1950 (64 Stat. 1262), as amended. Other authorities include, but are not limited to, EO 14153.

Sec. 3. **Background.** President Trump declared that unlocking Alaska's massive bounty of natural wealth (Alaska is larger than our smallest 22 States combined) will raise the prosperity of our citizens and help our Nation's economic and national security for generations to come by, among other policies:

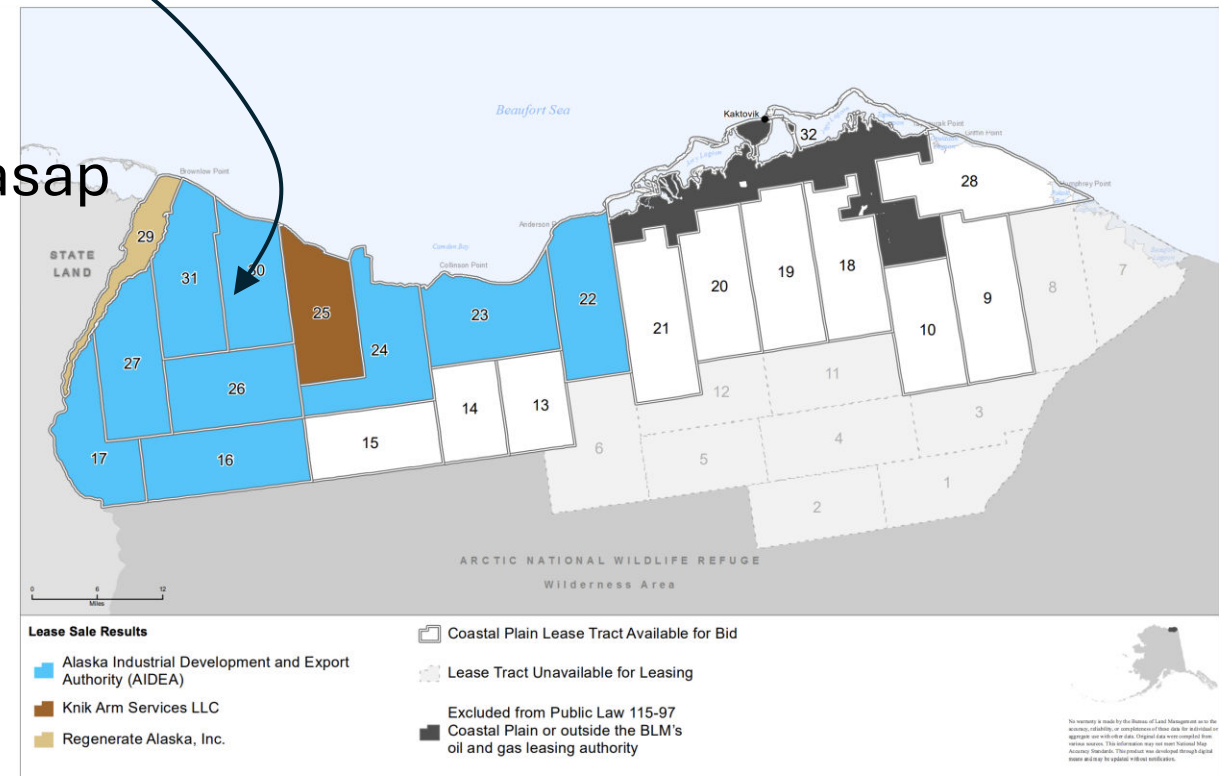
- fully availing itself of Alaska's vast lands and resources for the benefit of the Nation and the American citizens who call Alaska home;
- efficiently and effectively maximizing the development and production of the natural resources located on both Federal and State lands within Alaska;
- expediting the permitting and leasing of energy and natural resource projects in Alaska (including specifically for the rights of way and easement for roads that enable this

# Potential Outcomes

- Opening the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge to oil and gas as prescribed by the President's order could mean (pending legal challenges):

- AIDEA gets their leases back
  - Likely AIDEA will seek to do seismic asap
- New ROD that has Alternative B
- More lease sales

More questions than answers right now on how this might happen, what is "legal", and what sort of court cases will be filed.





# International Porcupine Caribou Board Update

- The IPCB last met in February 2020
- The U.S. has not had a quorum (3 of 4) appointed members during the Biden administration.
- The remaining U.S. members were appointed at the end of Secretary Haaland's term, but appointment letters are not being shared until the new administration confirms its choices/direction.
- For now, members include Sara Boario (USFWS, US Co-chair), Charlene Stern (Gwich'in), Doug Vincent-Lang (State of AK), and an Inupiat member.
- Canadian members: Craig Machtans (CWS, Canadian Co-chair), Joe Tetlichy (PCMB rep), Marc Cattet (Yukon), Brett Elkin (NWT).