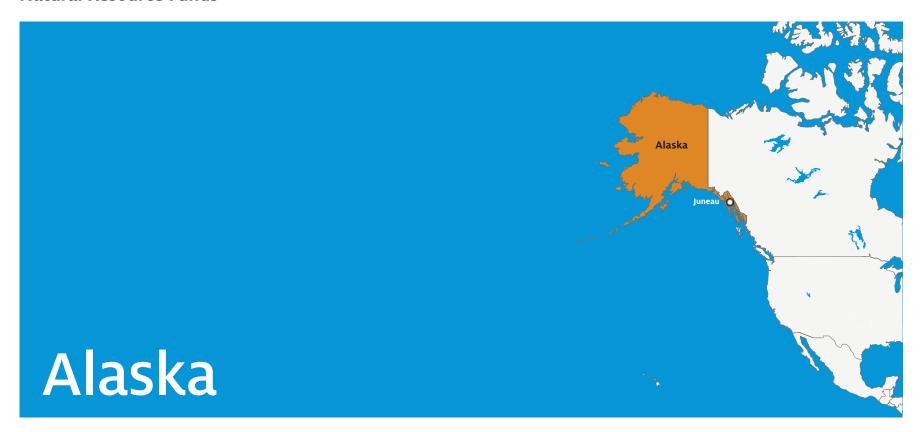
### **Natural Resource Funds**



Alaska Permanent Fund





# **Synopsis**

### **Market Value**

Alaska Permanent Fund \$46.35 billion Santiago Compliance Index

83 / 100

Resource Governance Index Natural Resource Fund Score

Not Yet Rated

Truman Sovereign Wealth Fund Scoreboard

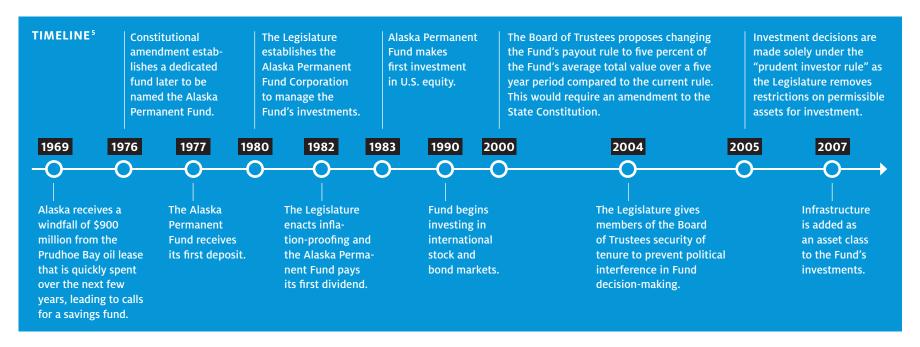
91 / 100



### **Fund Highlights**

- The Alaska Permanent Fund was established in 1976 to save oil revenues for future generations and create a source of financing for direct cash transfers.
- Only a portion of oil revenues are deposited into the Fund.
   For example, corporate income taxes from oil companies go straight into the budget.
- Only investment income from the Fund can be withdrawn and it can only be used for three purposes: direct distribution to Alaskan citizens through dividend checks, inflation-proofing the principal and covering the Alaska Permanent Fund Corporation's operating expenses.
- The Fund's investment strategy is principle-based rather than rules-based.
- The Fund is subject to strong public oversight and publishes extensive information on investments and operations.

# **Timeline and Fund Objectives**



### **Fund Inception**

 The Alaska Permanent Fund was established under the Alaska State Constitution, Article IX Section 15 in 1976.<sup>1</sup>

### Fund Objectives<sup>3</sup>

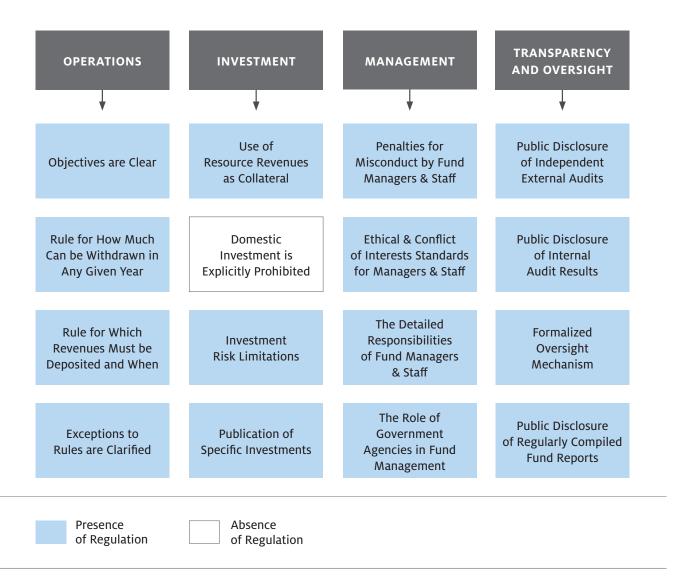
 The Alaska Permanent Fund is a future generations savings fund and a source of funding for direct cash distribution of oil revenues to Alaskans

- According to Alaska State Law, the Alaska Permanent Fund, "should provide a means of conserving a portion of the state's revenue from mineral resources to benefit all generations of Alaskans."<sup>2</sup>
- Each year the Alaskan Legislature appropriates a Permanent Fund dividend from the Alaska Permanent Fund.<sup>3</sup> This dividend is an annual direct payment to Alaskan citizens.
   Between 1982 and 2012, a total of \$19.4 billion was paid out to Alaskan citizens via these annual dividend check distributions. In 2012. \$878 was distributed to each citizen.<sup>4</sup>

Each box represents a regulatory standard essential for promoting consistent use of and safeguarding resource revenues. White boxes highlight regulatory gaps in fund governance.

15/16
Good Governance
Standards Met

# **Good Governance Standards and Gaps in Regulation**



August 2013

# **Operational Laws, Rules and Policies**

Withdrawals from the Alaska Permanent Fund are used to make direct payments to Alaskan citizens.

### **Fund Structure**

The Alaska Permanent Fund consists of two parts:

- 1. The Fund's principal consists of deposits of mineral revenues. Funds cannot be withdrawn from the principal unless there is a majority vote in a statewide plebiscite.<sup>6</sup>
- The Earnings Reserve Account consists of the Fund's income from investments.

### Fund Deposit Rules<sup>7</sup>

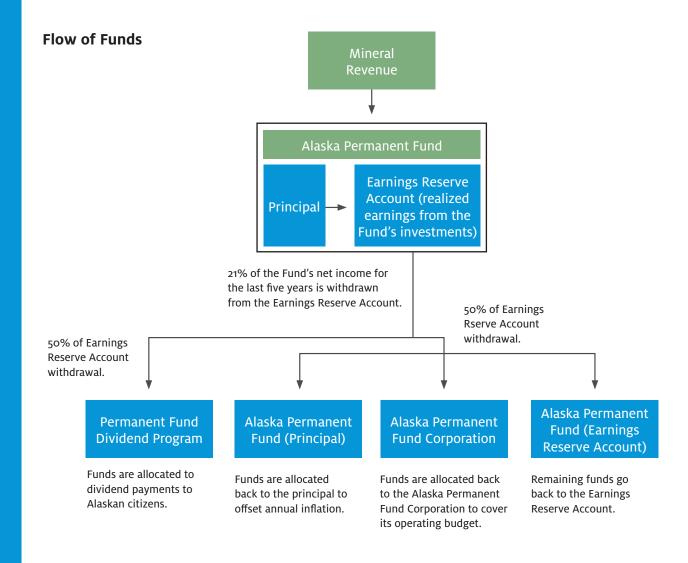
- Deposits into the principal of the Alaska Permanent Fund consist of:
  - 25 percent of all mineral lease rentals, royalties, royalty sale proceeds, net profit shares, federal mineral revenue sharing payments (from leases issued on or before December 1, 1979) and bonuses received by the state from mineral leases issued on or before February 15, 1980.
  - 50 percent of all mineral lease rentals, royalties, royalty sale proceeds, net profit shares, federal mineral revenue sharing payments (from leases issued after December 1, 1979) and bonuses received by the state from mineral leases issued after February 15, 1980.
- Funds are also deposited into the Alaska Permanent Fund's principal from the Earnings Reserve Account in order to offset the impact of annual inflation on the Fund's principal.
- Deposits into the Earnings Reserve Account portion of the Alaska Permanent Fund consists of all investment income.

 Any other funds may be appropriated to or otherwise allocated by law or former law to the Alaska Permanent Fund.

### **Fund Withdrawal Rules**

- Funds can only be withdrawn from the Fund's Earnings Reserve Account and not the principal.
- 21 percent of the Fund's net income for the last five years is withdrawn from the Earnings Reserve Account each year, as long as it does not exceed the Fund's net income for the latest year plus the balance of the Earnings Reserve Account.<sup>8</sup>
  - From this amount, half is allocated to the Permanent
    Fund dividend program to be directly distributed to
    Alaskans through dividend checks.<sup>9</sup> The amount of the
    dividend check payments is calculated simply by dividing
    the amount that's been allocated by the number of
    eligible recipients. The price of oil is not a factor.<sup>10</sup>
- Next, a portion of the funds withdrawn from the Earnings Reserve Account is allocated back to the Alaska Permanent Fund principal. This is to counter the devaluing effects of annual inflation on the principal.<sup>11</sup>
- Then, an amount is allocated to the Alaska Permanent Fund Corporation to cover its operating budget.<sup>12</sup>
- Finally, any remaining funds are reallocated back to the Earnings Reserve Account for investment.

# **Operational Laws, Rules and Policies**



## **Investment Laws, Rules and Policies**

### **Investment Authority**

The Alaska Permanent Fund Corporation is a state-owned corporation of the Alaska Department of Revenue. It was established under the Alaska State Constitution and is governed by its own by-laws.<sup>13</sup>

### **Investment Objectives**

The Fund's goal is to preserve the principal while maximizing total return with a view towards producing an average annual real rate of return of 5% over the long-term.<sup>14</sup>

### Investment Strategy<sup>15</sup>

- All investments must be income-producing and conform to the prudent investor rule, which requires that investment decisions be made with prudence, intelligence and discretion, and no investments are made for political or social reasons.<sup>16</sup>
- Investments are made with a long-term time horizon of greater than ten years to meet investment objectives.
- Although the Fund's investment policy calls for diversification of assets, it gives greater weight to equity to take advantage of the Fund's long-term investment horizon.
- Rather than categorize allocation by asset class, the Fund groups assets by their risk and return:
  - Company exposure: assets with higher risk and potential returns of 6% higher than returns on three month U.S.
     Treasuries (includes equities, corporate bonds, private credit and private equity)

- Real assets: assets with lower risk and potential returns of 4% higher than returns on three month U.S. Treasuries (includes real estate and infrastructure)
- Cash and interest rates: assets with the lowest risk and potential returns of 1.5% higher than three month U.S.
   Treasuries (includes U.S. bonds, non-U.S. bonds and cash)
- Special opportunities: other assets not included in the categories above and that have potential returns of 5% higher than three month U.S. Treasuries

### **Investment Allocation**

Rather than categorize by asset class, the Fund's target allocation groups assets by their risk and return. The target allocation changes each year with the 2013 target as follows:<sup>17</sup>

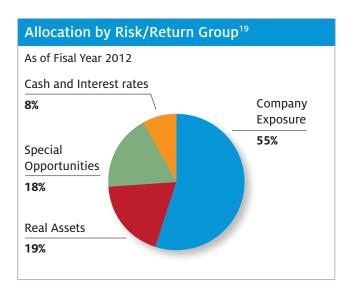
- 55% Company Exposure
- 19% Real Assets
- 6% Cash and Interest Rates
- 20% Special Opportunities

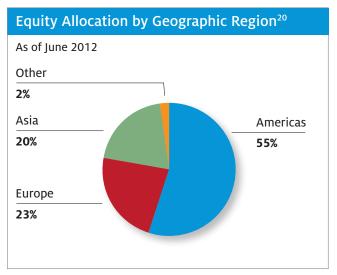
### Policy on In-State Investments:

When investing in-state, the Board shall invest the Fund's assets according to: 18

- A risk level and expected return comparable to alternate investment opportunities abroad.
- If the investment conforms to the Prudent Investor Rule.

# **Investment Laws, Rules and Policies**





# **Management and Accountability**

### Management and internal accountability

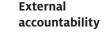
The Legislature approves the Alaska Permanent Fund Corporation's annual budget. The Legislative Budget and Audit Committee overseas Fund operations.

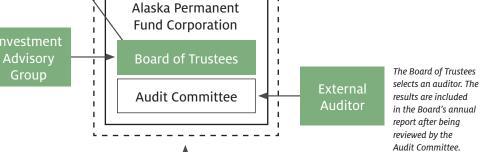
The Governor appoints the members of the Board of Trustees.

As a state-owned corporation of the Alaska Department of Revenue, the Alaska Permanent Fund Corporation manages the Fund. Policy is set by the Corporation's Board of Trustees and internal audits are performed by the Corporation's Audit Committee.

The Investment Advisory Group advises the Board on investment policy.

30% of the Fund's bond investments and all of its equity investments are managed externally.





Legislative Budget and Audit Committee

Alaska Department

of Revenue

Alaska Permanent Fund (Bank of New York serves as master custodian)

# **Oversight and Safeguards**

Public interest and awareness is high among Alaskans due to the Fund's dividend payments.

### **Oversight Mechanisms**

- The Alaska Permanent Fund Corporation reports to the Legislative Budget and Audit Committee and must have its budget approved by the Alaska Legislature annually.
- A periodic review process of investment methodology by the Board of Trustees exists to improve management of investments.
- Finances are subject to regular and comprehensive internal audits.
- Arbitrary withdrawals from the Fund are not allowed; all spending from petroleum revenues must be approved by a public plebiscite.
- Fund finances are subject to a **regular and independent external audit** that meets international standards.
- Direct payments from the Alaska Permanent Fund to Alaskan citizens generates public awareness and oversight of Fund activities.

# **Transparency Laws, Rules and Policies**

## There is public disclosure of the following:

When or how often Fund reports are published and made publicly available	yes	
Which individuals or organizations are responsible for publishing Fund reports	yes	
Size of the Fund(s)	yes	
Deposit and withdrawal amounts	yes	
Returns on investments	yes	
Detailed asset allocation – geographic location	yes	
Detailed asset allocation – asset class	yes	
Detailed asset allocation – specific assets	yes	
Natural resource prices and other fiscal assumptions used to calculate deposit and withdrawal amounts allowed under fiscal rules	yes	

### **Annex:**

### List of Applicable Laws

#### Alaska State Constitution Article IX Section 15

www.ltgov.alaska.gov/treadwell/services/alaska-constitution/article-ix-96-finance-and-taxation.html

#### Alaska Law Title 37.13

www.legis.state.ak.us/basis/folioproxy.asp?url=http://wwwjnu01.legis.state.ak.us/cgi-bin/folioisa.dll/stattx11/query=\*/doc/{t15316}?

#### Alaska Law Title 39.50

www.legis.state.ak.us/basis/folioproxy.asp?url=http://wwwjnu01.legis.state.ak.us/cgi-bin/folioisa.dll/stattx11/query=\*/doc/{t16113}?

### Alaska Administrative Code

www.apfc.org/home/Content/aboutAPFC/regulations.cfm

### **Alaska Permanent Fund Corporation Bylaws**

www.apfc.org/\_amiReportsArchive/2011\_02\_Bylaws.pdf

# Alaska Permanent Fund Corporation Board of Trustees Charters and Governance Policies

www.apfc.org/\_amiReportsArchive/2011\_02\_GovernanceManual.pdf

### **Alaska Permanent Fund Corporation Investment Policy**

www.apfc.org/home/Media/investments/2012\_04b\_InvestmentPolicy.pdf

## **Endnotes**

- Alaska State Constitution, Article 9 Section 15. Available at: http://ltgov.alaska.gov/treadwell/services/alaska-constitution/ article-ix-96-finance-and-taxation.html
- Alaska Law Article 01, Alaska Permanent Fund Section 37.13.020.
   Available at: http://www.apfc.org/home/Content/aboutAPFC/constAndLaw.cfm
- An Alaskan's Guide to the Permanent Fund p. 25.
   Available at: http://www.apfc.org/home/Media/publications/ 2009AlaskansGuide.pdf
- 4. http://www.pfd.alaska.gov/DivisionInfo/ SummaryApplicationsPayments
- 5. http://www.apfc.org/home/Content/aboutFund/fundHistory.cfm
- An Alaskan's Guide to the Permanent Fund 2009 p. 13.
   Available at: http://www.apfc.org/home/Media/ publications/2009AlaskansGuide.pdf
- Alaska Law Article 01, Alaska Permanent Fund Section 37.13.010.
   Available at: http://www.apfc.org/home/Content/aboutAPFC/constAndLaw.cfm
- Alaska Law Article 01, Alaska Permanent Fund Section 37.13.140.
   Available at: http://www.apfc.org/home/Content/aboutAPFC/constAndLaw.cfm
- Alaska Law Article 01, Alaska Permanent Fund Section 37.13.145 (b).
   Available at: http://www.apfc.org/home/Content/aboutAPFC/ constAndLaw.cfm
- An Alaskan's Guide to the Permanent Fund 2009 p. 25.
   Available at: http://www.apfc.org/home/Media/publications/ 2009AlaskansGuide.pdf
- Alaska Law Article 01, Alaska Permanent Fund Section 37.13.145 (c).
   Available at: http://www.apfc.org/home/Content/aboutAPFC/constAndLaw.cfm

- Alaska Law Article 01, Alaska Permanent Fund Section 37.13.150.
   Available at: http://www.apfc.org/home/Content/aboutAPFC/constAndLaw.cfm
- Alaska Law Article 01, Alaska Permanent Fund Section 37.13.030 -Sec. 37.13.050. Available at: http://www.apfc.org/home/Content/ aboutAPFC/constAndLaw.cfm
- Alaska Permanent Fund Corporation Investment Policy, May 23, 2013
   p. 5. Available at: http://www.apfc.org/home/Media/ investments/20130523 Investment%20Policyc.pdf
- Alaska Permanent Fund Corporation Investment Policy, May 23, 2013 p. 7-10. Available at: http://www.apfc.org/home/Media/ investments/20130523\_Investment%20Policyc.pdf
- An Alaskan's Guide to the Permanent Fund p. 14-15.
   Available at: http://www.apfc.org/home/Media/publications/ 2009AlaskansGuide.pdf
- http://www.apfc.org/home/Content/investments/ assetAllocation2009.cfm
- Alaska Permanent Fund Corporation Investment Policy, May 23, 2013
   84. Available at: http://www.apfc.org/home/Media/investments/20130523\_Investment%20Policyc.pdf
- Alaska Permanent Fund Corporation Annual Report 2012 p. 4.
   Available at: http://www.apfc.org/\_amiReportsArchive/ FY2012AnnualReport.pdf
- Alaska Permanent Fund Corporation Annual Report 2012 p. 12.
   Available at: http://www.apfc.org/\_amiReportsArchive/ FY2012AnnualReport.pdf