GUIDE TO SOURCES FOR THE STUDY OF THE 1971 ALASKA NATIVE CLAIMS SETTLEMENT ACT

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Cover Photo: Alaska Federation of Natives Delegation in Washington, D.C., April 1970 who were there to testify at a hearing of the Senate Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs about ANCSA legislation. Left to right: Flore Lekanof, Aleut League; Fred Bismark, Tyonek; Margaret Nick, Bethel; Larry Oskolkoff, Ninilchik; Don Watson, Anchorage; Phillip Guy, Bethel; Joe Upicksoun, Barrow (now Utqiaġvik); Tony Lewis, Bethel; and Alice Brown, Anchorage/Kenai. B2001.11.AFN Delegation 1970. “Moosemeat” John Hedberg and Alice E. Hedberg Brown Collection. Anchorage Museum.


Designed by Krista West.
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Introduction

The Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/STATUTE-85/pdf/STATUTE-85-Pg688.pdf#page=1) -- Public Law 92-203, approved December 18, 1971 (85 Stat. 688) has been the subject of a number of bibliographies compiled since the act was passed. They include stand-alone publications and ones that are in published books about the act. This bibliography was initiated for commemoration of the 50th anniversary of the passage of the landmark legislation, especially to add sources published since the 40th anniversary and media resources, as well as to be helpful for a researcher initiating a study.

The first ANCSA publications generally provided background historical context and summarized the law, although from the start critics of the legislation published works expressing their concerns. After the regional and village corporations organized and land selections started, sections of the act needed clarification, and Congress began to amend the law. Numerous articles appeared in legal journals as issues such as the extinguishment of aboriginal hunting and fishing rights, tax issues, revenue sharing plans, and tribal sovereignty were debated and clarified. As the twenty-year implementation period neared 1991, writers assessed the law’s successes and failures. Several movement leaders wrote memoirs. Historians began to write books, with context as well as details of implementation of the act and to interpret the impact of the legislation on Alaska Native people, the State of Alaska, and federal Indian policy. More recently, in addition to printed works, radio and television programs, oral history projects, films, video productions, and podcasts have been produced.

Bibliographies are a great place to start one’s research. How to organize one to be most useful is the challenge. The first decision was not to list the many amendments of ANCSA or all of the numerous hearings that were involved. These can be found at https://www.govinfo.gov. Although many of the sources address the wide impacts of ANCSA, this bibliography is not an exhaustive compilation of these. Left for another publication are works that tell the story of the passage of the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (ANILCA), legislation that stemmed directly from ANCSA’s 17(d)(1) and 17(d)(2) provisions and addressed subsistence issues that ANCSA did not. Virtually all general histories of Alaska published since 1971 have at least a chapter on the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act, but the authors selected only a few to include. A problem of many earlier bibliographies is that the digital links to online resources no longer exist or have changed. The authors opted to include links here, all of which are current as of May 10, 2022. This bibliography is divided into the following sections:

- Books
- Articles and chapters in books
- Newspapers, magazines, journals
- Reports (policy and economic analysis, legal reviews)
- Selected Congressional hearings
- Statements and speeches
• Lectures and webinars
• Websites
• Films, video productions, oral recordings, oral histories
• College term papers, theses, and dissertations
• Bibliographies
• Major archival collections (manuscripts, photographs, oral histories, films)
• Selected educational materials (primary, secondary, post-secondary)
Books


Berger, Thomas R. *Village Journey: The Report of the Alaska Native Review Commission*. New York, NY: Hill and Wang, 1985. At the instigation of the Inuit Circumpolar Conference, Berger, a Canadian judge, toured over 60 Alaska villages to hear testimony on ANCSA. Concludes that corporations are inappropriate for controlling the land the Native people received and recommends that most of the land be transferred to tribal governments. Videos of the hearings are at the Alaska State Library and the Alaska Film Archives, University of Alaska Fairbanks; and audio recordings and transcripts of the hearings are at Oral History Program, Elmer E. Rasmuson Library, University of Alaska Fairbanks.


Biography of Utqiagvik woman appointed magistrate after statehood, who actively called attention to the need to preserve opportunities for rural residents to continue to live traditional lives and to hunt and fish.

Comprehensive study of Alaska Natives’ legal status in U.S. law from aboriginal title, ANCSA, subsistence, tribal government, and tribal sovereignty.

Papers presented at a conference on the economic and social impact of ANCSA in rural Alaska.

Two noted scholars provide an overview of the history of Indian legal and political rights. With no mention of ANCSA, it provides a context for ANCSA in the bigger picture of U.S. Indian policy and history.

The author interviewed many individuals active in getting ANCSA passed, usually synthesizing the interviews, although sometimes quoting directly.

Dixon and Astruc traveled extensively to Yup’ik communities and worked at the request of villages to assist in community organizing and local government structures before and immediately after ANCSA.

The former Chief Counsel of the U.S. Senate Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs gives an overview of the complexities and accomplishments of ANSCA in this 16-page booklet.

Biography of Charles Etok Edwardsen Jr., political activist from the North Slope of Alaska and prominent during the years leading to the passage of ANCSA.

The book’s legal analysis of ANCSA indicates it may well be a revival of termination policy. This work in its many editions is highly regarded as a resource on federal Indian law.
In 1946, an anthropologist and lawyer traveled through southeast Alaska and conducted interviews to establish who owned and used lands and waters and under what rules. Their report established strong historical evidence to support Native land claims.

Includes a timeline of events from 1960 to the passage of ANCSA.

Navigates the confluence of Native land claims, environmentalists seeking protection of lands, and the oil industry’s push for the pipeline in the twentieth century in a broader survey of Alaska history.

Hensley was a key player in Washington, D.C. when ANCSA was debated, a state legislator, president of the Northwest Alaska regional Native corporation, active in statewide Native affairs, and university teacher on Alaska Native law and issues.

A collection of articles by the president of Cook Inlet Region, Inc. published in *The Anchorage Times* between 1981 and 1984 addresses many topics including ANCSA, education, leadership, health, and the debate about subsistence.

An overview of the major indigenous groups of Alaska.

Examines contemporary Alaska Native politics with an emphasis on the Arctic Slope region.

Twenty-seven young Alaska Natives talk about their cultures, traditions, meaning, and relevance in their worlds as well as ANCSA’s impact in their lives.
An almanac of dates of significance in Alaska Native history.

Corporations created by ANCSA are placed in the context of Alaska's history and economic and social issues. The book explores the leaders and shareholders' struggle with the bottom-line, honoring traditional values, and preserving their cultures.

Following a brief overview of ANCSA, this is a directory of Native corporations and tribal organizations in the first decade of the twenty-first century.

Founded in the 1910s, the influential organization worked diligently for southeast Native peoples' land claims then broadened its scope to work on the ANCSA legislation.

The author details the federal government's relationship with Alaska's Native people before statehood.

The author surveys the 134-year relationship of the U.S. government and Alaska's Native people with a focus on the eleven years prior to passage of ANCSA.

The author presents the decades-long movement among Alaska Natives to gain tribal sovereignty as one that was long at the fringes of Native activism, but that over the last generation has migrated to the center of Alaska Native politics.

Journalist recounts her travels to villages throughout Alaska and her view of the subsistence way of life in the year after ANCSA's passage.


O’Neill, Dan. *The Firecracker Boys*. New York, NY: St. Martin’s Press, 1994. The federal government’s proposal in 1958 to use nuclear power to create a deep-water harbor in northwest Alaska brought the Indigenous people of the area together to successfully oppose the project. Subsequently, the people continued to work together to challenge hunting and fishing regulations, create the North Slope Borough, and get resolution of their land claims.


Pratt, Ken L., editor. *Chasing the Dark: Perspectives on Place, History and Alaska Native Land Claims*. Anchorage: U.S. Bureau of Indian Affairs, Division of Environmental and Cultural Resources Management, ANCSA Office, 2002. Forty profiles of historical sites, with maps and photos, that were part of ANCSA’s Section 14(h)(1) cultural sites inventory.


Rude, Robert W. *An Act of Deception*. Anchorage: Salmon Run Publishing Company, 1996. The author, an Alaska Native leader, argues ANCSA benefited a select few, divided Alaska Natives, revoked aboriginal hunting and fishing rights, and placed Native lands in jeopardy. He believes Native lands should be protected by tribal governments or exempt from taxation until they are developed and sold to non-Native individuals or corporations.

detailed, personal view of why he voted to support ANCSA but soon saw it as an “Act of Deception” and spent many years critical of the administration of the CIRI corporation.

Schneider, William. *The Tanana Chiefs: Native Rights and Western Law*. Fairbanks: University of Alaska Press, 2018. Details the 1915 meeting between Athabascan chiefs and U.S. government officials that was an important precursor to ANCSA. The chiefs said they did not want reservations. In discussing the significance of the meeting, the author notes, however, it extended beyond land rights.


Smith, Barbara S. and Joaqlin M. Estus, compilers. *Native Organizations in Alaska: A Records Survey and Historical Profile*. Anchorage: Alaska Native Foundation, 1979. A resource guide aimed to document the Native role in the development of ANCSA by providing a catalog of data about Alaska Native organizations at the time of ANCSA’s passage and the relevant collections including several documented and updated in Volume 1 of this resource guide, such as the Roger Lang, William Paul, Sr., and the Curry-Weissbrodt collections.

Articles and Chapters in Books

A critique of the Small Business Administration’s 8(a) BD program as applied to Alaska Native Corporations.

Beyond an overview of ANCSA is offered a comparison of ANCSA with other federal Indian acts.

A late 1980s perspective on the tension for Alaska Native corporations between their profit-making activities and their social and cultural responsibilities.

Unresolved by ANCSA and inadequately addressed by ANILCA, subsistence remains an issue and Alaska Native sovereignty was ignored by both and continues as unfinished business.

https://scholarship.law.duke.edu/alr/vol33/iss2/3/
Included in the article is an outline of Alaska Native rights prior to passage of the ANCSA.

Challenges the federal assumption during Alaska’s territorial period that citizenship for Alaska Natives was incompatible with indigenous land and sovereignty rights and economic self-determination.

Examines village economic life on the eve of ANCSA.
Arnold, Robert D. “Looking Beyond Capitalism: Reflections on the 10th Anniversary of the Native Claims Settlement Act.” *The Alaska Journal*, 12, no. 3 (Winter 1982): 25-29. Asks if the goals of ANCSA have been realized and how the lives of Natives have been changed.

A condensed version of the report the Canadian judge wrote after conducting hearings around Alaska in the mid-1980s to hear from Native people about the impacts of ANCSA on their lives.

The legal strictures on issuance of new stock by ANCSA corporations are examined by an Alaska Native corporation in-house attorney and shareholder.

On the eve of passage of ANCSA, Native leader Borbridge describes the emergence of Alaska Native political organizations like the Alaska Federation of Natives as key. He also addresses the importance of non-Native Alaskans’ recognition of the future political impact of Alaska Natives as ANCSA is implemented.

Examines the competition between the Native people, development interests and conservation interests in courts and Congress. Votes in the U.S. House of Representatives on amendments are analyzed leading the author to conclude that environmentalists and the oil industry significantly affected the final form of the ANCSA.

[https://scholarship.law.duke.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1065&context=alr](https://scholarship.law.duke.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1065&context=alr)
Compares non-traditional corporations and trusts by studying Alaska Native corporations and Hawaii’s Bishop Trust.

A description and personal response to the 2011 Impact of ANCSA series at the university that culminated in a two-day symposium.

An Arctic anthropologist and Smithsonian research associate surveys ANCSA’s provisions with a critical eye and cites problems that arose in the first eight years of the act’s implementation.


In ignoring international legal principles of self-determination and the existence of tribes in Alaska, Congress’ passage of ANCSA while creating the regional corporate structure was problematic in several respects including subsistence rights and tribal sovereignty.


An anthropologist decries paternalistic federal policies and asks how might economic development and change take place in the North while ensuring Alaska Native groups’ rights to preserve their cultural values and distinction.


A pre-ANCSA argument by an anthropologist for more Alaska Native participation in federal development policies.


Analysis of 20 years of data on the performance of regional corporations.


Looks at informal solutions developed to overcome problems in the corporate structures created by ANCSA.


Critically analyzes ANCSA and ANILCA through the lens of economist Amartya Sen’s concepts of capabilities and entitlements.

Identifies several similarities and differences in addressing Native land claims between the U.S. and Canada and makes several recommendations for Canada to formally resolve theirs.


Looks at how a local, rural, grassroots Native movement at the time of statehood grew into a unified, disciplined, skilled lobbying team that led to an innovative land claims settlement for Alaska Natives.


A profile of Tlingit attorney William Paul, Sr. in his role as the early leader of Alaska Native land claims in southeast Alaska and an eventual critic of ANCSA’s failure to address subsistence rights.


Traces the trajectory of the ANILCA debates from the failure of ANCSA to address the issue of subsistence.


An overview of the research guide with an example of how the archives records work.


Views the amendments of 1987 (PL 100–241) as a protection of Alaska Natives’ land ownership.


A case study of the early 2000s proposed but failed Doyon and Fish and Wildlife Service Yukon Flats lands exchange to illustrate “the structural inequalities intensified through ANCSA and the market-rational ways that issues of conservation and economic development for Native communities were addressed.”


The article looks at the ANCSA experiment’s unique aspects and implementation, primarily the regional corporations, and assesses the effectiveness of the approach.


Hensley, Willie Iġġiaġruk. “ANCSA at 50: How Alaska Natives Won the Land Claims Battle,” *Alaska* (October 3, 2021) https://alaskamagazine.com/authentic-alaska/culture/ancsa-at-50-how-alaska-natives-won-the-land-claims-battle/ In an overview of the land claims campaign, Hensley concludes: “In the beginning of the struggle for land, we had no idea that we’d inherit corporations. But we knew we were unlikely to get the land without some concessions, as that’s the reality of politics... It’s not perfect, but it has helped Alaska Natives to rise economically, politically and culturally.”

Introduction provides background on the creation of this important paper.


ANCSA left unanswered questions of Alaska Native sovereignty, governance, and subsistence as it opened avenues of economic development. The authors explore the resulting political impacts with special note of the legal challenges represented by the 1998 Venetie and the 2001 Katie John cases.

The author, daughter of activist leader Roy Huhndorf, reviews the 50 years of ANCSA through a family lens, but also contrasts the Alaska experience to the current threats to Native self-determination in the country at large.

A look at land ownership and transfer from 1867 to 2000. Includes a chronology of related historical events.

A history of an influential Alaska Native publication from its origins in the Project Chariot controversy and its active role in focusing Alaska Native activism leading up to passage of ANCSA.

Bell’s analysis of ANCSA’s accomplishments and shortcomings posits that many of the continuing debates about its legacy stem from the fact that the act was primarily aimed at land settlement, not tribal self-government or self-determination.

Attributes the initial poor financial performance, a high incidence of control contests, and high turnover among directors and managers of ANCSA corporations to the restrictions on share transfer in the legislation.


Examines regional corporation performance from 1984 to 1989 and suggests ways to alleviate the penalties of the ANCSA-imposed restrictions that affect performance.


In the aftermath of tribal loss of land rights under ANCSA and the subsequent ruling of the Supreme Court in *Alaska v. Native Village of Venetie Tribal Government,* the author sees two avenues for combating diminished tribal authority in the post-ANCSA struggle for sovereignty and self-determination: continued legislative and regulatory advocacy, and the use of science and traditional knowledge to forward sovereignty. The Yukon River Intertribal Watershed Council is offered as an innovative example of the latter.


Examines demographic data in an attempt to trace the impact of ANCSA in its first decade and finds it weak. Also at http://www.alaskool.org/projects/ancsa/well-being/arsec_84.html


A close examination of ANCSA and subsequent court cases by two Native American Rights Fund attorneys to establish that ANCSA did not extinguish sovereignty. It “only established corporations—it did not terminate the tribes or tribal sovereignty.”


An overview of the provisions of ANCSA followed by a catalog and analysis of legal issues unresolved or arising from the act.
A profile of Al Ketzler, Sr. of Nenana with information about his long career as a land claims activist and an illumination of the role of the Association on American Indian Affairs in Alaska Native land claims and related issues before and after ANCSA.

Caps an overview of the Act and resultant court cases with a focus on the importance of the Native regional corporations as top business that need amending rather than replacement.

The author, a Washington State attorney, served on Sealaska Corporation's board of directors.

https://ancsa.lbblawyers.com/day-life-native-corporate-leader
Author was executive officer of the regional Sealaska Corporation.

Heavily involved in the passage of ANCSA and the creation of the Sealaska Corporation, Mallott sees the benefits that the corporations brought but expresses anxiety about what the corporate structure cannot do.

www.jstor.org/stable/42869735
Chronicles the obstacles and challenges that arose in the law’s first twenty years.

https://scholarship.law.duke.edu/alr/vol14/iss2/2/
Examines the application of the concept of Indian Country status in the Alaska context and in view of ANCSA.

https://doi.org/10.1017/S0032247400010792
Facing opposition from federal authorities, Alaska’s U.S. senators, the State of Alaska, non-Native political interest groups, and Native leaders of the ANCSA corporations, tribal movement leaders tried with no success to use the 1987 ANCSA amendments to strengthen their political power and recognition by the federal government.


Explores the sometimes confusing consequences as a result of ANCSA for younger generation “at large” descendants through a profile of Hallie Bissett, who went from having vague associations with her regional corporation in her youth and trouble enrolling in a college that required tribal enrollment to being an executive for the Alaska Native Village Corporation Association and the youngest CIRI board member.

A critical view of ANCSA from a younger generation Alaska Native leader.


Explores the changing status of Russian heritage Creoles and tensions over their standing as the ANCSA was implemented.

Ramos examines the history of early land claims and how that legal battle affected the formula for land settlements under ANCSA for southeast villages while excluding Wrangell, Petersburg, Tenakee Springs, Haines, and Ketchikan.

Argues for the enactment of legislation to allow Benefit Corporations in Alaska, a corporate format that is described as better suited to Alaska Native corporations’ ability to pursue public benefits instead of shareholder returns alone.

An argument that an as-yet-unpassed ANCSA amendment to provide land for Alaska Natives in Ketchikan, Wrangell, Petersburg, Haines, and Tenakee Springs, who were not recognized under ANCSA, should not receive land into Alaska Native corporation holding, but instead through an alternative arrangement that would convey it to them in some sort of trust arrangement.
Schneider, William. “When a Small Typo Has Big Implication.” *Alaska History*, 36, no.1 (Spring 2021): 1-30. Going back to 1867 when the U.S. obtained Alaska, the author recounts the actions that created the conflict between state and federal management of subsistence and presents three options that could resolve the conflict.

https://scholarship.law.duke.edu/alr/vol33  
https://scholarship.law.duke.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1515&context=alr/iss2/4/  
The resource and revenue sharing provisions of Section 7(i) are reviewed and compared to other countries’ settlements of aboriginal land claims. The 1982 settlement of issues arising from the section resulted in continuing litigation, albeit reduced compared to the contentious first decade after the passage of ANCSA.

Reviews the 1982 settlement pertaining to regional corporations’ land development under Section 7(i) of ANCSA that ended a decade of litigation amongst the regional and village corporations, and argues that the settlement continues to need to be amended.

Argues that Alaska Native corporations should learn from sovereign wealth funds in order to put more resources and emphasis on their corporate structures, limited as they are by both ANCSA special conditions and the natural lifespan of corporations.

An interview with Tlingit activist Marlene Johnson, who was one of the Alaska Native lobbyists in Washington during the Congressional deliberations over ANCSA.

ANCSA and the Canadian land claims agreement in 1984 are identified as the culmination of a century of environmental transformation and colonial intervention.

“We now must be brave enough to truly ask ourselves: is what we’re doing working well?” asks Yup’ik activist Hurley.


Series examines the complexities of identity left in the wake of the Native claims settlement 50 years ago.


The Senator points to the many amendments to the original ANCSA legislation over the last 50 years and sees more improvements through future amendments.


Congress created the reservation in the 1800s. It is the only reserve in Alaska considered a reservation similar to those in other states, and as such was excluded from ANCSA. How its unique history compares and contrasts with other Alaska Native villages is the focus here.


This article reviews the previous installments in the ANCSA 50 series and previews future articles.


ANCSA completely ignored the concept of tribal sovereignty, and conveyed land to Native corporations rather than tribal entities. In 1991, the federal government recognized over 200 tribes in Alaska. The relationship between these Alaska Native institutions has been tangled and complicated ever since. This article addresses this challenge and introduces the concept of federal land trust under consideration by some entities.


Here is a look at the complicated question of the over 650 toxic waste sites, artifacts of World War II and the Cold War, that are located on land conveyed to Alaska Natives under ANCSA. In 2018, the villages and corporations were absolved of the responsibility of cleaning up these sites, but there remains the question of who will clean these hazardous sites that are linked to devastating health consequences for some villagers.

Sullivan introduces three key ANCSA figures, Tom Richards Jr., John Borbridge Jr., and Joe Upicksoun, who did not live to see ANCSA at 50. She offers excerpts of interviews of the three by Willie Templeton for the 30th anniversary of the act. The complete interviews and others are available on LitSite Alaska ([http://www.litsitealaska.org/index.cfm?section=History-and-Culture&page=ANCSA%20at%2030&cat=Interviews](http://www.litsitealaska.org/index.cfm?section=History-and-Culture&page=ANCSA%20at%2030&cat=Interviews))


One of ANCSA’s legacies was the creation of a class of Alaska Natives who did not become shareholders in Native corporations after the bill was passed. Those born after the signing of the bill on December 18, 1971, were deemed by the act to be ineligible as shareholders. The question of the so-called “afterborns,” blood quantum requirements, and how some corporations are now handling these thorny issues are central here. A video accompanies this web article.


A young voice from Emmonak, Jenkins sees successes in the last 50 years, but still worries, among other concerns, that young leaders need to be formally taught about the settlement act.


An initiative from the First Alaskans Institute seeks to increase collaboration between tribes and Alaska Native corporations, on the face a natural alliance, but in reality a complicated relationship in the five decades after ANCSA.


A Koyukon Athabascan law student, Velaise describes ANCSA as a still-evolving experiment and suggests that Alaska Native corporations in the next 50 years should turn their focus to investing in village economies.


Acknowledging ANCSA’s role in preserving some of Alaska Native’s traditional land, Morris of Hydaburg looks to education in traditional values and history as an antidote to the greed she associates with ANCSA.


A young Inupiaq shareholder sees a challenge for Native corporations in addressing the blood quantum stipulations under ANCSA and how to handle the situation of Alaska Natives who are less than one-quarter Alaska Native.
More attention to settlement of subsistence issues and active management of natural resources by Alaska Native people are driving forces for Shawaan Jackson-Gamble of Lingit and Xaadaas heritage.

Entrepreneur Blanchett hopes to foster entrepreneurial opportunities for Indigenous women and more social justice through culturally based arts.

Gwich’in university administrator Stern delineates the difference between being a tribal member and being an Alaska Native corporation shareholder as she points to the collectivist focus of the tribes as opposed to the individual-centric corporate focus.

A useful glossary of relevant terms and organizations.

The article examines the failure of the curriculum in schools around the state to include adequate coverage of ANCSA and Alaska Native history, despite their importance in Alaska history. It includes a profile of Paul Ongtooguk’s career-long efforts to offer students a better understanding of the passage and impact of ANCSA.

Salmine, Alutiiq from Kodiak and Anchorage, sees ANCSA’s success in the fact that the corporations have never moved to making shares available for sale at large.

A profile of a young attorney from Utqiaġvik, grandniece of Charlie Etok Edwardsen, Jr., as she reflects on the future challenges, including the need for economic development in village communities.

The veteran journalist and *Tundra Times* reporter highlights the important role that the little newspaper and its editor, Howard Rock, played in the movement toward a land settlement.

The Haida journalist looks for more indigenous voices in the newsroom.

An overview of the history of ANCSA and its impact from a fiftieth-year perspective.

The veteran activist looks at the Alaska Federation of Natives, ANCSA’s 7(i) provisions, and subsistence issues through the lens of 50 years.

Schimmel, of Siberian Yup’ik and Kenaitze heritage, has become at a young age a climate activist and would like to see the resources of Native corporations invested into subsistence activities.

Hiratsuka gives his views of the present and future of ANCSA and expresses concern that there needs to be more widely broadcast information about the relations between the corporations and tribes.

Tlingit journalist Mason calls for more indigenous journalists to tell a more complete story.

The post-ANCSA tangle of state and federal regulations concerning subsistence practices are outlined, and possible solutions to address the conflicting regulations of traditional hunting and fishing practices are raised: an amendment to ANCSA?, an amendment to ANILCA?, co-management of subsistence resources?

Elder activist Hensley reflects on the historical context at the time of the passage of ANCSA and looks to continuing refinements of the act in the future.

Discusses the major problems associated with the act.

Updates author’s 1986 article in view of the federal amendments to the original act.

Argues that ANCSA perpetuated a historical pattern of indigenous exploitation by western economic interests, and employed corporate accounting policies and techniques to further the interests of the U.S. government and large corporations at the expense of Native Alaskans.

Discusses entrusting land to Alaska Native corporations instead of tribal governments and the recasting of Alaska Native peoples into shareholders as ideological invasions.

Highlights the Alaska Legislature’s 2015 failed attempt to pass H.B. 49, which would have recognized B Corporations and thereby allowed Alaska corporations particularly Alaska Native ones to add pursuit of social betterment to profit maximization as a legal corporate purpose. Provides an analysis of the pros and cons of such legislation.


Addresses the concern that the original provisions of ANCSA would allow the alienation of ANCSA granted land from Alaska Native hands.
An overview of how the various independent indigenous groups came together in the 1960s to form the Alaska Federation of Natives and the organization’s political activism.

An overview of federal Indian law and of ANCSA itself.

Examines the concept of sovereignty from an indigenous world view and its relation to subsistence in the Alaska context with reference to federal laws including ANCSA and ANILCA.

The unique and complicated issues of Alaska Native land claims, sovereignty, and subsistence were only made more complex with the passage of ANCSA and the introduction of regional corporations and their overtly assimilationist intent. The authors see the tension of the corporate economic values with traditional values, but also an adaptation of the corporate structure to community and cultural service as well as a reassertion of sovereignty.

https://dansrd.community.uaf.edu/2021/12/18/reflections-on-the-impacts-of-ancsa-over-the-past-50-years-by-dansrd-director-emeritus-miranda-wright/
Wright spotlights Athabascan land claims from the first gathering of Tanana chiefs with federal officials in 1915 to the formation of the Tanana Chiefs Conference in 1962 that sought to protect land rights in the years before ANCSA.
Newspapers, Magazines, Journals


*Anchorage Daily News.* In partnership with Alaska Public Media and *Indian Country Today.* Nathaniel Herz and Loren Holmes (photographer) traveled to Utqiaġvik, Shungnak, Ambler, Kotzebue, and Juneau. The intent of the series is to reflect on ANCSA’s impacts, the future, and the tensions built into the settlement. The special 50th anniversary series included:


Reports (policy and economic analysis, legal reviews)


Joint federal-state commission on policies and programs affecting Alaska Natives created in 1990 at the request of the Alaska Federation of Natives. Commission members included Perry Eaton, Mary Jane Fate, Johne Binkley, Edgar Paul Boyko, Father Norman Elliott, Beverly Masek, Martin Moore, Sr., Frank Pagano, John Schaeffer, Jr., Father James Sebesta, Walter Soboleff, Morris Thompson, and Sam Towarak.

Extensive examination of U.S. federal Indian policy including ANCSA.

“Impact of the Alaskan Native Claims Settlement Act (ANCSA) on Alaskan Natives, particularly at village levels, is the focus of a joint task force report on Alaskan Native issues.” [ERIC summary]

An example of an Alaska Regional Corporation’s communication to its shareholders and the public about the history and utilization of its land holdings from the pre-ANCSA period to 2013. [4 parts]


The author held 20 forums around Alaska and in Washington, D.C., and concluded that ANCSA created new areas of conflict in communities, government agencies had changed more than the villages and Native people, and only a few Native people had become extensively involved in corporations and state politics.


Instigated by Senator Henry “Scoop” Jackson and executed by the Federal Field Committee for Development Planning in Alaska headed by Joseph H. Fitzgerald, this mammoth, oversize publication, also known as the “Fitzgerald Report,” provided background on then-current socio-economic conditions of Alaska Natives as well as historic settlement patterns, land use, and land claims for members of Congress who would debate ANCSA. This report is often cited by ANCSA leaders as influential in writing the legislation.


A study of the social and economic conditions of Alaska Natives commissioned by the Alaska Federation of Natives.


Composed of Alaska Native and state officials and a federal Department of Interior representative, the task force was chaired by Willie Hensley and proposed a settlement of 40 million acres, money, and insurance of traditional hunting and fishing land use as well as specified royalties and surface land use rights.


History and analysis of the act with background information on “the reservation question” in Alaska and aboriginal claim as a judiciable issue. Legislative history of the original act appended.


Uses Stevens Village to exemplify many of the problems that confronted Alaska’s Native villages.
https://www.nps.gov/parkhistory/online_books/norris1/index.htm

History of subsistence management in Alaska, particularly in the national parks. Chapter 4 centers on land claims.


Economic study intended to assist Alaskan Natives, particularly the new regional corporations, to utilize the settlement terms to their advantage. Population estimates and the Act itself included in the appendices.


A study of the impacts of ANCSA on the Natives of interior Alaska.


Reports on the state of the 12 regional corporations, notes differences in their reporting requirements and oversight, and raises questions about ANCSA ambiguities of reporting requirements, the appropriate role of the federal government in regard to the corporations, and the issue of who should be shareholders, but makes no recommendations.

https://babel.hathitrust.org/cgi/pt?id=uc1.31210024735985&view=1up&seq=4&skin=2021

Mandated by the act, this study was to report on the implementation of ANCSA and the impact on the well-being of Alaska Natives, but concludes that, during its first 14 years, the economic well-being of Alaska Natives was probably more influenced by the general economic growth in Alaska than as a result of the regional corporations.


The GAO responds to Stevens’ request for information on “the financial viability of Alaska Native Corporations, the cost of administrative appeals and litigation and their impact on the corporations” as well as the possible impact of the then potential sale of stocks to non-Natives after 1991.
Selected Congressional Hearings


U.S. Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources. Subsistence: hearing before the subcommittee on Energy and Natural Resources, United States Senate, One Hundred Thirteenth Congress, first session, to examine wildlife management authority within the state of Alaska under the Alaska National Interest Lands [Conservation] Act and the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act, September 19, 2013. 
https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/CHRG-113shrg85769/pdf/CHRG-113shrg85769.pdf
First hearing on subsistence under ANILCA and ANCSA by the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources. Testimony by Senator Lisa Murkowski; Gene Peltola, Assistant Regional Director, Office of Subsistence Management, Fish And Wildlife Service, Alaska Region, Department of the Interior; Beth Pendleton, Regional Forester for the Alaska Region, U.S. Forest Service; Craig Fleener, Deputy Commissioner of the Alaska Department of Fish and Game; Ana Hoffman, President/CEO, Bethel Native Corporation; Robert T. Anderson, Professor of Law, Director, Native American Law Center, University of Washington School of Law; Rosita Worl, President, Sealaska Corporation; Jerry Isaac, President, Tanana Chiefs Conference.
U.S. Senate Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs. Hearings on Alaska Native Land Claims. 90th Congress, 2nd sess. (February 8-10, 1968). Hearings on S.B. 2906 to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to grant certain lands to Alaska Natives and settle the Alaska Native land claims. Also referenced are Senate bills 1964, 2690 and 2020. At the hearings, held at the Sydney Laurence Auditorium in Anchorage, Alaska, 111 individuals made statements. Additional individuals submitted written comments and a number of reports from task forces along with William Hensley's paper are included in the report. Senator committee members included Henry Jackson (Washington), George McGovern (South Dakota), Mark Hatfield (Oregon) and Frank Church (Idaho).
Statements and Speeches


Notti explains the history and basis for Alaska Native land claims to a gathering of Washington tribes as he seeks to enlist their support. In addressing the challenges, he offers a provocative solution: if Congress does not move on a reasonable and fair settlement, he proposes an independent Native nation in western Alaska.

As a veteran of the fight for civil and land rights for Alaska Natives, Paul addressed AFN in opposition to endorsement of ANCSA. His concerns about loss of subsistence rights and the amount of land given up are still issues.


Upicksoun and Edwardsen, representing the Arctic Slope Native Association, urged the President to veto ANCSA as they argued it violated provisions of the Alaska Statehood Act, extinguished their aboriginal ownership to their traditional lands, and distributed the settlement land and money unfairly amongst the Alaska Native groups.
Lectures and Webinars


Emil Notti and Sam Kito discuss their roles and those of other Alaska Native leaders in advocating for Alaska Natives in the passage of ANCSA, moderated by journalist Meghan Sullivan.

Willie Hensley and Oliver Leavitt recount the formative years in the movement toward ANCSA and the impact of the law, moderated by Patuk Glenn.

ANCSA at Forty Lecture Series, University of Alaska Fairbanks, October 5-6, 2011. https://vimeo.com/showcase/1658218
John Borbridge, Jr., Willie Hensley, Emil Notti, John Sackett, Tim Wallis, Jim Dodson, Wanetta Ayers, Shauna Hughes, Senator Fred Harris, John Shively, Tiel Smith, Jimmy Stotts, Alice Petrivelli, Betty Huntington, Lisa Jaeger, Mike Williams, Bernice Joseph, Gordon Pullar, Andy Teuber, Byron Mallott, Governor Sean Parnell, Brian Rogers, Valerie Davidson, April Kaktonen Counceller, Dr. Sven Haakanson, Jr., Agatha John-Shields, Rosita Worl, Dr. John Weise, and Wayne Don were speakers on topics related to the economic, environmental, social, cultural, and governmental impacts of ANCSA.
Blatchford provides his personal view of the Native corporation model and explains how he, originally from Nome and ethnically Inupiaq and Yup’ik, came to be a shareholder of Chugach, a southcentral regional corporation, as well as his experiences on the corporate board.

Contrasts the success, economic contribution, and general acceptance of the Alaska Native corporations to the discriminatory attitudes and treatment of Alaska Native efforts to control and govern their traditional lands in Alaska’s territorial and early statehood years.

Hensley speaks to University of Alaska and RAHI high school students about her personal journey to become a lawyer and urges the students to work to address the questions that were not settled with the passage of ANCSA in regard to tribal governance without land title and to subsistence issues.

Hensley recounts how his arrival at the University of Alaska in Fairbanks in 1966 sparked his land claims activism and provides political context for the Act.

Hensley describes his background and his involvement in the passage of ANCSA. Along with the accomplishments, he addresses some criticisms of ANCSA. After the keynote, he joins a discussion with two Alaska Native youths.


Mallott acknowledges the mixed legacy of ANCSA and looks to the development of tribes and tribal leadership as the push for the future.


Attorney and consultant McNeil, former president of Sealaska Corporation and board member, and leader of the Central Council of the Tlingit and Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska, takes a close look at the recent court cases that ended in a recent U.S. Supreme Court decision that Alaska Native corporations qualify for federal funds extended to tribes in the case of COVID relief aids, an important precedent in defining the corporations in a tribal context and also the resulting mammoth financial settlement as a result.


A look at the father and son activist lawyers and their relationship based on extensive research in the Pauls’ archival collections in Alaska and Washington.


Notti describes events that led up to his AFN tie-breaking vote that allowed Sealaska to be included in the Alaska Native land claims settlement.


Notti reflects on the atmosphere of the days before and during the campaign to pass ANCSA and recounts his provocative speech proposing an Indian nation in a 1971 talk.


The executive director of the ANCSA Regional Association provides a basic overview of the 12 regional corporations
and 165 village corporations, with explanations of open versus closed enrollment of regional corporations, the differences between the land holdings of regional and village corporations, and notes the economic impact and social and cultural benefits of the corporations.


A discussion on the 45th anniversary of ANCSA featuring Native leaders from most regions of the state including Jake Adams, Cynthia Ahwinona, Nelson Angapak, Roy Ewan, Willie Hensley, Al Ketzler, Sr., Sam Kito, Jr., Oliver Leavitt, Byron Mallott, Marie Nash, Emil Notti, John Shively; moderated by Kristina Woolston.


In this virtual presentation, Willie Hensley recounts the indigenous view of ANCSA’s sagas as well as his considerable personal role. Also featured are Guy Martin, whose involvement began as an assistant to Congressman Nick Begich and continued through a number of state and federal positions, and Barbara “Bobbie” Kilberg, who had a ringside seat at the development of President Richard Nixon’s Native American policy including ANCSA while she served as a White House Fellow on Domestic Policy. Kilberg provides a glimpse behind White House doors as she describes a cast of key executive players, particularly Brad Patterson and John Erlichman. (Includes a screening of the film *50 Years of Promise: The Beginning of ANCSA.*


Wight offers a contrarian view to the conventional depiction of the relation of the pipeline and ANCSA as developments interdependent and inevitable, and uses his research in British Petroleum archives to support his conclusions.


Cosponsored by the ANCSA Regional Association and Alaska Native Village Association. Fifty years after the passage of ANCSA, women head nearly half of the regional corporations and hold leadership roles in many more. Speakers include Senator Lisa Murkowski; Gail Schubert, President, Bering Straits Regional Corporation; Liz Qaulluq Cravalho, Vice-President, NANA Regional Corporation; and Rosita Worl, President, Sealaska Heritage Institute.


Cosponsored by the ANCSA Regional Association, speakers include: Kim Reitmeier, ANCSA Regional Association; Raina Thiele, Department of Interior; Jaeleen Kookesh, Sealaska Corporation; Jason Metrokin, Bristol Bay Corporation; and Nathan McCowan, St. George Tanaq Corporation.

Anthropologist and Native leader Worl dispels the idea of Native people as passive receivers of assimilationist policies of the federal government. Suggests that William Paul, Sr., should be seen as the father of Alaska Native land claims.

2022 ANCSA Symposium, University of Alaska Fairbanks, April 12-13, 2022.

A series of lectures and panels cosponsored by the Department of Alaska Native Studies and Rural Development, Doyon Ltd., and the University of Alaska Fairbanks.

- Opening Prayer and Welcome. 18 min. 9 sec.
  https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=b4FADAH33AU&list=PLqen0Xdyc0b_6xVyoAuuY5E86peNACizY&t=48s
  Speakers: Tia Tidwell, Denakkanaaga; Chief Anna Frank; Dan White, UAF Chancellor; Aaron Schutt, CEO, Doyon Ltd.

- Keynote. 43 min. 18 sec.
  https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CVdEMBgS26A&list=PLqen0Xdyc0b_6xVyoAuuY5E86peNACizY&t=50s
  Speakers: Dr. Jessica Black; Anthony Mallott, CEO, Sealaska Corporation.

- Managing Lands. 2 hr. 4 min. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EDmxWmffAfw&list=PLqen0Xdyc0b_6xVyoAuuY5E86peNACizY&t=8s
  Speakers: Tisha Kuhns, Calista Corporation; Jamie Marunde, Doyon Ltd.; Liz Cravalho, NANA Regional Corporation; Richard Glenn, formerly of Arctic Slope Regional Corporation.

- Economic Impacts in Alaska. 1 hr. 23 min.
  https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gFi9jn12ccw&list=PLqen0Xdyc0b_6xVyoAuuY5E86peNACizY&t=3s
  Speakers: Aaron Schutt, Doyon Ltd.; Kim Reitmeier, ANCSA Regional Association; Sheri Buretta, Chugach Alaska; Andrea Gusty, Kuskokwim.

- Partnering between Alaska Native Organizations and Academic Institutions. 1 hr. 34 min.
  https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=C5DjNU8IfYg&list=PLqen0Xdyc0b_6xVyoAuuY5E86peNACizY&t=6s
  Speakers: Barbara Amarok, UAF Northwest Campus; Sharon Lind, Alaska Native Business Management, UAA; Jolene Nanouk, UAF graduate student; Herb Schroeder, ANSEP, UAA.

- Alaska Policy and ANCSA. 1 hr. 36 sec.
  https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZISzfAZRHKa&list=PLqen0Xdyc0b_6xVyoAuuY5E86peNACizY&t=1s
  Speakers: Raina Thiele, U.S. Department of Interior; Rex Rock, Jr., Arctic Slope Regional Corporation; Sarah Lukin, Cook Inlet Regional Corporation; Liz Saagulik Hensley, NANA Regional Corporation.

- Looking Ahead to the Next 50 Years. 2 hr. 6 min.
  https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_Dgwr7fQbw&list=PLqen0Xdyc0b_6xVyoAuuY5E86peNACizY
  Speakers: Curtis McQueen, Sealaska and Eklutna; Ethan Schutt, Bristol Bay; Tanya Kaquatosht, Doyon Ltd.; Bobbie Allen, law student; Jerry Isaac, Tanana Chiefs elder.
**Websites**

Alaskool. [www.alaskool.org](http://www.alaskool.org) This curriculum and teacher development project has a treasure chest of ANCSA-related materials, last updated 2002.

ANCSA Regional Association. [https://ancsaregional.com/about-ancsa/](https://ancsaregional.com/about-ancsa/) Provides an overview of ANCSA and a timeline of key events that led to the settlement.


Films, Video Productions, Oral Recordings, Oral Histories

Alaska Department of Education. *ANCSA* by the Alaska Native Knowledge Network. n.d. [between 1996 and 2009?] 2 DVDs. The first DVD presents an overview, history, and provisions of the Act, and the second addresses impacts since passage and a look at the future.

Alaska Federation of Natives. *Reflections of Change: A Tribute to ANCSA and AFN*. Video production. Sharon McConnell, narrator. 1996. The creation of the Alaska Federation of Natives, passage of ANCSA, and AFN’s subsequent advocacy on behalf of Alaska Natives including the crucial 1991 amendments to ANCSA. Includes a large list of people who worked on land claims and died before the film was made. Includes: John Borbridge, Jr., Harry Carter, Ramsey Clark, Ray Christiansen, Mary Jane Evans Fate, Willie Hensley, Julie Kitka, Sam Kito, Flore Lekanof, Sr., Emil Notti, Morris Thompson.


Alaska Federation of Natives. *Voices from the Passage*. 1991. www.nativefederation.org The story of the Alaska Native land claims movement told by leaders of the effort: John Borbridge, Jr. (Southeast), Harry Carter (Interior), Ray Christiansen (Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta), Mary Jane Evans Fate (Interior), Willie Hensley (Northwest), Sam Kito (Southeast), Flore Lekanof, Sr. (Pribilof Islands), Emil Notti (Interior).


and written summaries are available online by searching the title in the online catalog of Elmer E. Rasmuson Library, University of Alaska Fairbanks (https://library.uaf.edu/home).


Alaska Native leaders look back at the first 10 years of ANCSA and ponder the changes that 1991 would bring under the terms of the original legislation. Alaska State Senator Frank Ferguson addresses the unsettled issue of subsistence and threats to it; Lloyd Meeds delivers Senator Henry ‘Scoop’ Jackson’s challenge to the Alaska Native community to find a balance in the corporations between economic success and social welfare; Emil Notti reviews the context from which ANCSA arose; Spud Williams of Tanana Chiefs, Senator Ted Stevens, Congressman Don Young describe how it was made to work despite its failings; and Willie Hensley calls the act “insidious if you don’t understand it.” Young people ponder the Act’s provisions and the importance for them to take active roles in shaping the execution of the provisions.


Hallie Bisset moderates a discussion with Gerard Godfrey of Afognak Corporation; Nathan McGowan, St. George Corporation; and Jeane Breinig, Kavilco, Inc. to illustrate the varying operations, shareholder relations, and histories of three ANCSA village corporations.


Produced with the support of twelve corporate sponsors, the film reviews the legacy of ANCSA through the voices of over two dozen young and old Alaska Native leaders.


Two younger Native corporation leaders, Dena Sommer-Pedebone, CEO of Gana’A’Yoo, Ltd, and Doug Fifer, a CIRI board vice-chair, give a picture of corporate activities.


Host Lori Townsend discusses the milestone anniversary with Paul Ongtooguk, Retired UAA Professor; Megan Alvanna-Stimpfle, Self-Governance Liaison, Norton Sound Health Corporation; Alex Cleghorn, Senior Legal and Policy Director, Alaska Native Justice Center; Rosita Worl, President, Sealaska Heritage Institute.


Host Lori Townsend’s guests are ANCSA activists Willie Hensley and Marlene Johnson.

  Speakers are executives Kim Reitmeier, ANCSA Regional Association; Hallie Bissett, Alaska Native Village Corporation Association; and Aaron Schutt, Doyon Ltd.

  Guests on the final installment of the series are Marina Anderson, Executive Director of the Organized Village of Kasaan; and Andrea Gusty, CEO & President, The Kuskokwim Corporation.

Distributed to high schools throughout Alaska to examine the amendments to the original act.

Seven-minute video features land rights leaders and documents ASNA’s opposition to early versions of ANCSA, its role in shaping the law, and development of its health care mission.

Interviews with individuals who helped craft the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act.

This film and *On Our Own* are based on recorded interviews by Dalee Sambo, Frank See, Randy Paddock, John Borbridge, Jr., Mike Zacharof, Chris McNeal, Willie Hensley, Perry Eaton, Lucy Carlo, John Sackett, Harvey Samuelson, and Sam Kito that are archived in the Alva I. Cox Jr. papers at the Yale University Library Divinity School Library in New Haven, CT.

Views on Native opportunities offered by Emil Notti at Anchorage, John Schaeffer at Kotzebue, Douglas Brown and Robert Newlin at Noorvik, Lincoln Bifelt and Catherine Atla at Huslia, Madeline Solomon at Bishop Mountain, Marlene Johnson at Hoonah, and Nelson Angapak at Anchorage.

Athapascan leaders remember the fight for land claims, ANCSA, and the formation of the interior Native corporation, Doyon Ltd. Featured are Emil Notti, Georgianna Lincoln, Jules Wright, Melvin Charlie, Michael C. Harper, Pat Frank, Samuel Demientieff, and Tim Wallis.


Early Minto lands claims leader talks about his early influences and his interest in land claims as early as the 1930s.

The story of the Tlingit and Haida tribes' fight for recognition of their land claims in southeast Alaska.


The former U.S. Senator reviews his time in the Senate from ANCSA to ANILCA and explains his relationship with Ted Stevens, the other Alaska Senator.

Henderson, Sally. *Sze bei (destructive wind).* Narrated by Wes Studi. Produced with the cooperation of the Stevens Village Tribal Council, the Native Village of Eyak, Mount Sanford Tribal Consortium, and the Native Village of Tatitlek. n.p. Imagi Nation Film, 2001. Film. 1 hr.

Studies the impact of ANCSA and the Trans-Alaska Pipeline.

The series is a collaboration of Alaska Public Media, the Anchorage Daily News, and Indian Country Today.

- Episode 1: “Was ANCSA Fair? Or Is That the Wrong Question?” [:38] Guest host: Maria Williams, University of Alaska Anchorage; and Aaron Leggett, Anchorage Museum and Eklutna tribal leader. An examination of the history of the Act and the question of its fairness through the lens of the time of the passage and through today’s views.
- Episode 2: “How ANCSA Reinforces and Clashes with Subsistence Traditions.” [:40] Guest host: Aaron Leggett, Anchorage Museum and Eklutna tribal leader, joined by Pete Schaeffer of the Native Village of Kotzebue and Mike Miller of the Sitka Tribe of Alaska. The hosts and guests discuss the tension between the regional corporations’ drive to develop natural resources and the effect of those extractive activities on traditional subsistence practices.
discussion of the original ANCSA definition of regional corporation shareholders as those born before the signing of the Act in 1971 and the subsequent work of some of the regional corporations to extend ownership of shares to the younger generations under the more open guidelines of the 1991 amendments.

- Episode 4: “What about the Tribes?” [:39] Guest host: Natasha Singh, attorney and advocate. A clear delineation of the ANCSA-generated tension between the tribes and the Alaska Native corporations and a look to the future evolution of these two entities that are essentially governed by and are meant to serve the same people.


Site has list of the programs and links to each. Broadcast over Alaska public radio stations over two years, the programs provide a mid-1980s view of the impact of the Act through Alaska Native voices. Most of these voices were recorded during the hearings conducted by Canadian jurist Thomas Berger as people grappled with the questions that arose from ANCSA: the appropriateness of the corporate structure, the question of the afterborns, continuing land issues, and ongoing subsistence questions. Indigenous land settlements in other countries are examined. In the final program Berger reflects on his resulting book *Village Journey* and his recommendations.

Jackson, Barry and Jim Thomas. *University of Alaska Radio Forum.* Fairbanks: KUAC, n.d. Audio recording. 30 min. [http://oralhistory.library.uaf.edu/00/00-00-160.mp3](http://oralhistory.library.uaf.edu/00/00-00-160.mp3)

Transcript summary: Jim Thomas, public relations officer for the Alaska Federation of Natives, and Barry Jackson, Fairbanks lawyer and legislator, discuss legal of aspects of the land claims as ANCSA was being formulated and negotiated. The written transcript summary is detailed and helpful because another audio track is audible during the first half of the recording.


Provides an overview of federal law as it applies to Alaska with emphasis on ANCSA.


Largely consisting of interviews with federal Indian law experts and tribal legal scholars, this survey puts ANCSA in the context of the greater federal Indian policy. A 17-page supplement with text from the video is available online at: [https://opi.mt.gov/Portals/182/Page%20Files/Indian%20Education/Social%20Studies/6-8/Tribal%20Nations%20The%20Story%20of%20Federal%20Indian%20Law.pdf](https://opi.mt.gov/Portals/182/Page%20Files/Indian%20Education/Social%20Studies/6-8/Tribal%20Nations%20The%20Story%20of%20Federal%20Indian%20Law.pdf)

Respected Calista leader and educator Oscar Kawagley explores concerns about ANCSA’s impact with other Yup’ik leaders as they ponder the role of the federal government’s side of the ANCSA bargain, wonder about the 1985 federal report on ANCSA implementation, and support an alternative study to be conducted by Thomas Berger.


The podcasts are companions to an ANCSA 50th anniversary television broadcast of historical and original programs on ANCSA (listed below). The podcasts take the film casts at the point of departure for equally rich discussions.

  Paul Ongtooguk and Joaqlin Estus comment on Nellie Moore's *Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act* film and share their own ANCSA experiences.

  Paul Ongtooguk, Nellie Moore, and Joaqlin Estus on *Women Behind the Act*.

  A tribute to Emil Notti, who had just been inducted into the National Native American Hall of Fame, from Paul Ongtooguk, Nellie Moore, and Joaqlin Estus followed by reflections on the origins of regional and village corporations and their early struggles from Moore and Tim Bradner.

  Jim LaBelle and Joaqlin Estus discuss the impact of boarding schools and react to the film *A Matter of Trust*.

  Veteran journalists Nellie Moore and Joaqlin Estus react to historical film that may have never aired, but provides Governor Jay Hammond’s comments on the act, the words of a younger Congressman Don Young, and Spud Williams, a Fairbanks leader, reminds his audience in no uncertain terms that in ANCSA the federal government didn’t “give” Alaska Natives land, it took their land.

  Dr. Rosita Worl looks back on the 50th anniversary of ANCSA. According to the program guide, “Dr. Worl looks back on that moment, in which she not only had a front row seat on history, but also the eyes of a trained observer, who tracked the cultural changes that followed.”

http://ankn.uaf.edu/curriculum/ANCSA/TheCorporateWhale/whale1.html

“This 10-part series listens to some of the events leading to the lands claims settlement, the mechanisms that were employed to manage the act, government agencies,” and Native corporations and how Alaska leaders assess the first ten years and make predictions for the next ten years. Frank Ferguson, Charlie Johnson, John Sackett and others talk about challenges to subsistence legislation at the Alaska Federation of Natives convention in 1981.


- Part 1: History of the Act (23 min.);
- Part 2: Overview of the Act (16 min.);
- Part 3: Specific Provisions (16 min.);
- Part 4: Impacts of ANCSA (22 min.);
- Part 5: Future Issues and Options (30 min.).

Instructional video for high school and general audiences that covers the background and legislation with a look forward to 1991 and some of the then unanswered questions created by the Act.


https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Pb6Aum86nVY

Featured in this discussion moderated by Moore are Marlene Johnson, Sealaska Corporation; Brenda Itta-Lee, Arctic Slope Regional Corporation; and Frances Degnan, Bering Straits Native Corporation; who illuminate the sometimes-forgotten role of women in the land claims movement.

Part 2: (24 min, 14 sec.) https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2K1yyBR9rU

Part 3: (28 min., 11 sec.) https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YU9sJcYTH_E


In what Charlie Etok Edwardsen, Jr. called “the first time I saw Eskimo power in play,” the 1961 “Duck In” was a North Slope act of civil disobedience against federal control. The story is told by the elder activists looking back at their early assertion of subsistence rights.


At the age of 21, Sackett ran and was elected to the Alaska House. Contrasts rural life and needs in Interior Alaska.
villages before the activism that came with the formation of first the Fairbanks Native Association and then AFN. Worries that the regional corporations have still not fulfilled the promise of services for village people through their nonprofits, and credits Senator Gruening’s unpopular proposed Rampart Dam project for spurring Interior political activism pre-ANCSA.


The origins of ANCSA and its passage are remembered by key players or their offspring with emphasis on Ted Stevens’ role in the act’s passage. Among those voices are Willie Hensley, Don Young, Oliver Leavitt, Julie Fate Sullivan, Ron Birch, Marlene Johnson, Emil Notti, Ben Stevens, Marie Matsuno Nash, and Guy Martin. These are interwoven with historical footage that adds the voices of Richard Nixon, Stewart Udall, and Senator Stevens himself.


Iñupiaq whaling captain Adams, a leader in land claims and selections, international whaling commission activities, and the formation of the North Slope Borough and the Arctic Slope Regional Corporation is profiled in this biographical tribute. Features his cousin and lifelong friend Oliver Leavitt as well. Discussion guide available at: https://www.akhf.org/uploads/documents/CHANGING_TIMES_guide.pdf


Described as an “activist without the paraphernalia,” Kodiak elder Madsen was the first Alaska Native judge, a founder in the 1960s of the Kodiak Area Native Association (KANA) and AFN as well as the Koniag Incorporated regional corporation, among the many accomplishments of his long life.

**College Term Papers, Theses, and Dissertations**


Examines the pre-ANCSA Alaska Native land claims struggle in southeast Alaska.


Rather than focus on land claims, looks at governance, leadership, and rural development.

Cook, Corinna. “Letters as Literature: Semantics and Discursive Features on Irony in 'Letters to Howard.'” M.A. thesis, University of Alaska Fairbanks, 2011. [https://scholarworks.alaska.edu/handle/11122/11385](https://scholarworks.alaska.edu/handle/11122/11385)

The author interviewed Fred Bigjim for the work.


Oft-cited paper that launched Hensley’s activism in the land claims movement.


Comparison of Doyon Ltd. and Sealaska Corporation “wise practices” for opening shareholder enrollment to those born after the passage of ANCSA as allowed by the 1991 Amendments.

A brief overview of ANCSA with heavy use of historical photographs.

Explores Native corporations through several business models and makes recommendations in view of the goal of cultural continuations as opposed to liquidity value of the corporate shares.

A high school curriculum addressing federal Indian relations, ANCSA, sovereignty, and subsistence issues.
Bibliographies


A bibliography with very detailed annotations.


An annotated bibliography of the legal basis of ANCSA, ANILCA, and Native law on the pages indicated in the citation.
Major Archival Collections
(manuscripts, photographs, oral histories, films)

[For a detailed listing of ANCSA-related archival collections, see “Guide to Sources for the Study of the 1971 Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act: Volume 1: History and Archival Collections.”]

Alaska Federation of Natives Land Claims meetings video footage. 1967-1971. (More of this footage is in the estate of Chuck Imig, contractor for AFN). Includes footage of the December 18, 1971 special AFN convention at the Atwood Center, Alaska Pacific University, as the delegates heard by phone from President Richard Nixon that he had signed ANCSA into law.


The long-time U.S. Senator’s collection includes significant ANCSA-related materials, some of which are made available to the public at the UAA/APU Consortium Library.

http://ttrp.tuzzy.org/cgi-bin/ttimes.exe

https://libguides.consortiumlibrary.org/ANCSAcollections
Alaska and Polar Regions Collections & Archives, University of Alaska Fairbanks. Fairbanks. 
https://library.uaf.edu/aprca

Alaska Film Archives, Alaska and Polar Regions Collections & Archives, University of Alaska Fairbanks. Fairbanks. 
https://archives.library.uaf.edu/islandora/objects/eerl-film-archives

https://library.uaf.edu/aprca/oral-history  Includes its digital branch, Project Jukebox: https://jukebox.uaf.edu/
  • In Project Jukebox, there is a separate website for the Fairbanks Native Association Project Jukebox (https://jukebox.uaf.edu/fna) that has oral history interviews about the history of the association and many individuals speaking about land claims and ANCSA.
  • A new Project Jukebox website is the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act Project Jukebox (https://jukebox.uaf.edu/ancsa) that has oral history interviews with some of the early pioneers in the Native land claims movement whose stories are less well known.
Selected Educational Materials
(primary, secondary, post-secondary)

[For a detailed listing of additional ANCSA-related educational material, see “Guide to Sources for the Study of the 1971 Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act: Volume 3: Resources for Teaching ANCSA at 50”]


A booklet aimed at students in grades 7-12 that accompanied a museum exhibit, but can be used independently along with a teacher’s resource guide: https://www.anchoragemuseum.org/media/20964/teacher-guide-ancsa.pdf. And links to some primary resources at: https://www.anchoragemuseum.org/programs/for-educators/teaching-resources/a-moment-in-time-ancsa/


Produced under a grant from the U.S. Department of Education for use with the middle school curriculum.


An historical look at the amendments to the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act from their inception, through Congress and the President, and their impacts. The video received an award from the American Bar Association.


Video One: “Common Ground” 26 min. at: https://www.schooltube.com/media/ANCSAA+Caught+in+the+Act/1_y8obil0x

Print Teacher’s Guide at: https://library.alaska.gov/hist//hist_docs/docs/asl_0400_video_teachers_guide.pdf

An instructional video with a print guide in six parts:

- Video 1: “Common Ground” (25 minutes). A drama set in St. Mary’s for two young people to discuss the importance of land to rural people.
- Video 2: “Losing Ground” (16 minutes). A documentary, narrated by Jay Hammond, that traces the evolution of American policies toward Indian people with respect to their rights to the lands.
- Video 3: “The Struggle” (18 minutes). A documentary that presents the efforts of Alaska Native people to secure adoption of ANCSA by Congress.
• Video 4: “ANCSA Plain & Simple” (14 minutes). A documentary that highlights the major provisions of ANCSA—land, money, and a corporate structure.
• Video 5: “Beyond the Bottom Line” (17 minutes). A documentary that compares the experiences of two village corporations—one successful and one which has filed for bankruptcy. What decision had led to such different results?
• Video 6: “Land at Risk” (17 minutes). A documentary that explores perceptions about the future. ANCSA lands are at risk from bankruptcy, take-over and taxation. How do different people view solutions to these problems?


Five units on the history of the act, overview of the act, specific provisions, impacts, and future issues and options.


This 18-page educational booklet by the aide to the late Congressman Nick Begich explains the resistance to addressing environmental issues in the passage of ANCSA. Includes a glossary and study questions.


Includes articles by William Hensley, Byron Mallott, Paul Ongtooguk, and Thomas Berger, along with the Act annotated.


Includes 11 lesson plans. [https://secureservercdn.net/45.40.145.201/a0s.5cd.myftpupload.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/02/H.S.-ANCSA-Unit.pdf](https://secureservercdn.net/45.40.145.201/a0s.5cd.myftpupload.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/02/H.S.-ANCSA-Unit.pdf)


The 45-page indexed guide has print and media references suitable for high school students and helpful for teachers.