

State of Alaska
ALASKA RETIREMENT MANAGEMENT BOARD
Relating to Timberland Investment Guidelines

Resolution 2023-15

WHEREAS, the Alaska Retirement Management Board (Board) was established by law to serve as trustee to the assets of the State's retirement systems; and

WHEREAS, under AS 37.10.210-220, the Board is to establish and determine the investment objectives and policy for each of the funds entrusted to it; and

WHEREAS, AS 37.10.071 and AS 37.10.210-220 require the Board to apply the prudent investor rule and exercise the fiduciary duty in the sole financial best interest of the funds entrusted to it and treat beneficiaries thereof with impartiality; and

WHEREAS, the Board contracts an independent consultant to provide experience and expertise in asset allocation and other investment matters to come before the Board; and

WHEREAS, the Board has established an asset allocation for the funds that considers earnings and liabilities on a current as well as a future basis; and

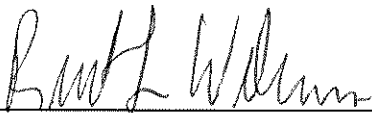
WHEREAS, the Board has authorized investment in timberland assets for the Public Employees' Retirement System, Teachers' Retirement System, and Judicial Retirement System, including investments for those systems in the State of Alaska Retirement and Benefit Plans Trust; and

WHEREAS, the Board establishes and from time to time as necessary, modifies investment policies, procedures and guidelines for timberland;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE ALASKA RETIREMENT MANAGEMENT BOARD adopt the Timberland Investment Guidelines, attached hereto and made a part hereof.


This resolution repeals and replaces Resolution 2022-14.

DATED at Anchorage, Alaska this 15th day of September, 2023.



Chair

ATTEST:



Secretary

Timberland

ARMB Investment Guidelines

Section 1. Investment Objective

To develop a diversified portfolio of Timberland Investments with a focus on total return which will seek to produce a net-of-fee total return between public equities and fixed income over rolling six-year periods. Portfolio risk shall reflect, in each ARMB Timberland Advisor's (as defined in Section 2 below) judgment, the lowest expected risk profile required to achieve the return objectives. Each ARMB Timberland Advisor will place an emphasis on the preservation of capital and diversify the Timberland Investments to minimize risk. To the extent return objectives can be met, current income shall be given preference over appreciation.

Section 2. ARMB Timberland Advisor Selection

ARMB will select qualified investment managers who have the discretion to invest in Timberland ("ARMB Timberland Advisors). In order for entities to be considered, the entity must demonstrate that it is able to add value through its Timberland knowledge, experience and strategy; evaluate the risks of each Timberland Investment which is contemplated; and, comply with these ARMB Timberland Investment Guidelines (the "ARMB Investment Guidelines").

Each ARMB Timberland Advisor will provide services according to an agreed upon investment management agreement (contract) and the ARMB Investment Guidelines. ARMB will endeavor to allocate specific funds to each ARMB Timberland Advisor on a separate account basis (each a "Separate Account"). ARMB Timberland Advisors will invest funds on a discretionary basis in Timberland Investment opportunities to the extent of its specific allocation and Separate Account.

Compensation for investment management services will be done on a fee basis that is competitive. The preferred method of calculating ARMB Timberland Advisor fees will be based upon a formula, which considers 1) the cost basis of assets under management and 2) market value of the assets under management.

Section 3. Allocation

ARMB's allocation to Timberland Investments shall be determined by the Board of Trustees and reviewed annually.

Reinvestment of allocation by the investment manager shall require approval by the Chief Investment Officer (CIO). The CIO has discretion in determining the reinvestment amount to authorize. Amounts may reflect the original allocation or may recognize some portion of any realized gains or losses.

CIO Discretionary Investment Authority – The CIO shall have the following discretionary investment authority:

- a) To increase or decrease existing separate account allocations and investments in open-end funds;
- b) To commit to new investment funds up to \$100 million for each fund; and,

- c) To engage consultants and take other action as may be necessary to ensure sufficient due diligence is performed on all investments under consideration.

The CIO shall exercise this discretion within Board approved asset allocations, investment plans, and guidelines as they may apply.

The CIO will provide prior notification to the Chair of ARMB before committing to any investments under this authority. All discretionary CIO investment actions shall be reported to the Board.

Section 4. Advisor Performance Benchmark

NCREIF Timberland Index

Section 5. Investment Constraints

(a) Each property underlying a Timberland Investment will be commercial timberland in accordance with the standards and customs of the region in which the property is located. Although commercial attributes vary significantly across regions and among forest types, generally, properties will be characterized by adequate timber stocking, sufficient productivity, established timber markets, and ready access.

(b) Location: Timberland Investments will be located inside the United States of America.

(c) Diversification and Concentration: Each ARMB Timberland Advisor will undertake to ensure that the Timberland Investments under its control are adequately diversified. While each ARMB Timberland Advisor will seek to invest across the primary timberland regions of the United States as defined by the National Council of Real Estate Investment Fiduciaries (NCREIF) Timberland Index, geographic diversification will ultimately depend on the availability of attractive investment opportunities, as well as potential diversification by species, age classes of trees and suitability for a variety of end products.

(d) Leverage: The total amount of leverage placed on the aggregate Separate Accounts allocated to all ARMB Timberland Advisors for investment will not exceed ten percent (10%) of the total market value of all such Timberland Investments at the time such leverage is incurred. The purchase or refinance of Timberland Investments with debt and borrowing against Timberland Investments shall be permitted only with the prior consent of ARMB's Chief Investment Officer. The Advisor will not cause the Account to incur indebtedness without ARMB's prior consent.

(e) Allocation: Each ARMB Timberland Advisor may exceed its Separate Account Allocation by up to 5% for the purposes of capital expenditures on existing assets and/or the completion of an acquisition.

(f) Non-Routine Activity: Each ARMB Timberland Advisor will seek the prior approval of ARMB's Chief Investment Officer before entering into any arrangements which provide ancillary income activity from the Timberland which are not routinely associated with Timberland Investments. Examples include mining, wind farms, and utility infrastructure.

Section 6. ARMB Timberland Advisor Annual Portfolio Review

Annually, each ARMB Timberland Advisor will submit an annual portfolio review to ARMB staff (“Staff”) which shall include an annual business plan addressing each Timberland Investment in the portfolio in its Separate Account and an annual portfolio level strategic plan. The objective of this effort is to facilitate Staff’s monitoring of the Timberland Investments to ensure existing investments and future strategy are consistent with ARMB’s objectives and to recognize any program changes, which may require ARMB approval, to facilitate the efficient operation of the investment program. Each ARMB Timberland Advisor will collaborate with Staff to identify the specific content of the business plan and strategic plan for the Timberland Investments in its Separate Account, but should consider the following:

Annual business plans will focus on past performance and future performance expectations for existing assets in the portfolio. Information should include performance analysis, hold/sell analysis, and investment budgets including explanations for future capital budget items.

Annual portfolio level strategic plans will focus on overall portfolio and market performance, portfolio diversification, market conditions, and strategy for acquisitions and disposition for the upcoming year. The strategic plan should also include any recommendations to improve the ARMB Investment Guidelines and/or ARMB’s Timberland investment strategy.

Section 7. Ownership Structure

Timberland Investments will be owned in a structure designed to limit ARMB’s liability to the amount of its capital commitment to such Timberland Investment and, where feasible, to recognize and preserve tax-exempt status.

Section 8. Reporting System

Staff will develop and implement a comprehensive and responsive reporting and monitoring system for all Timberland Investments and each ARMB Timberland Advisor. In order to facilitate active portfolio management, Staff will develop a reporting and monitoring system which will endeavor to identify underperforming investments, control portfolio diversification deficiencies and manage inherent conflicts of interest. A cash-based internal rate of return (IRR) will be used when evaluating the long-term performance of a Timberland Investment. Time-weighted returns will be used to measure comparative performance.

Section 9. Lines of Responsibility

The Timberland investment program will be implemented and monitored through the coordinated efforts of the ARMB, Staff, and the ARMB Timberland Advisors. A description of the program participants and their general responsibilities are as follows:

ARMB – The statutorily created board which is the fiduciary for the retirement trust funds, comprised of trustees appointed by the Governor to represent the beneficiaries’ interest. ARMB hires qualified ARMB Timberland Advisors and consultants; approves the ARMB Investment Guidelines and revisions to them; and approves the Annual Investment Plan prepared by Staff.

Staff- Investment professionals on staff at the Department of Revenue assigned to ARMB Timberland Investments, who will assist in the Timberland investment program's design, policy implementation, and administration. Staff coordinates program and guidelines compliance among all participants and communicates the investment policies, objectives, and performance criteria to the ARMB Timberland Advisors; monitors diversification compliance on a quarterly basis; and coordinates the receipt and distribution of capital. Staff will review and approve each ARMB Timberland Advisor's annual business plan, including revisions to the investment budgets in accordance with Section 13 hereof, and annual portfolio level strategic plan. Staff will recommend, to ARMB, revisions to the Timberland Investment Guidelines as may be necessary from time to time.

Annually, Staff will prepare an Annual Investment Plan after reviewing the annual business and annual portfolio level strategic plan prepared by the ARMB Timberland Advisors. This document will recommend, as appropriate, revisions to the overall Timberland Investment strategy, revisions to the Timberland Investment Guidelines, and make recommendations for additional allocations to the ARMB Timberland Advisors as may be desirable.

ARMB Timberland Advisors – Qualified entities selected by ARMB that provide institutional Timberland investment management services to ARMB. ARMB Timberland Advisors will invest and manage the Timberland Investment portfolios in accordance with their contracts.

Section 10. Property Management

The selection of on-site property management will generally be left to the discretion of the applicable ARMB Timberland Advisor. It is expected the ARMB Timberland Advisor will retain the highly qualified, market rate property management service either through a third party fee manager or the ARMB Timberland Advisor's affiliated property management division. This business relationship will be periodically reviewed by Staff and ARMB.

Section 11. Insurance Coverage

Each ARMB Timberland Advisor shall obtain insurance coverage with respect to the Timberland and the Timberland Investments in such amounts and against such risks as, in such ARMB Timberland Advisor's professional judgment, are in accordance with sound institutional practices applicable to Timberland Investments.

Section 12. Environmental Evaluations

As part of the pre-acquisition analysis for all prospective new Timberland Investments, each ARMB Timberland Advisor shall conduct a Phase 1 Environmental Site Assessment to identify the presence or likely presence of hazardous substances or petroleum products under conditions that indicate an imminent, existing or past release, or a material threat of a release into structures, or into the ground, groundwater or surface water.

Section 13. Delegation of Authority

ARMB shall delegate authority to Staff to approve the following:

- Annual business plans and annual portfolio strategic plans prepared by the ARMB Timberland Advisors;
- Revised investment budgets and variances in approved annual business plans for unanticipated activity; and
- Line item variances in approved capital expenditure budgets in amounts up to \$500,000 with a cumulative fiscal year maximum of \$3,000,000 per Advisor.

Section 14. Confidentiality

Pursuant to 15 AAC 112.770, ARMB shall withhold from other persons all information furnished to it by ARMB Timberland Advisor(s) or consultant(s) which is reasonably designated by ARMB Timberland Advisor(s) or consultant(s) as being confidential or proprietary, within the meaning of Alaska Statutes regarding rights to public information, except to the extent that the information is needed by ARMB in order to adequately report on the status and performance of the portfolio, or to comply with a court subpoena or with an official criminal investigation.

Those portions of reports provided pursuant to the Agreement with ARMB Timberland Advisor(s) shall be considered confidential pursuant to 15 AAC 112.770 to the extent that information is reasonably designated by ARMB Timberland Advisor(s) as being confidential or proprietary, or to the extent the disclosure of which would unfairly prejudice the ability of ARMB Timberland Advisor(s) or ARMB to manage, lease, market or sell such property or Assets.

Section 15. Unrelated Business Income Tax

Each ARMB Timberland Advisor will manage its respective Separate Account with a view toward minimizing the recognition of unrelated business taxable income (“UBTI”) to the extent consistent with the Investment Objective set forth in Section 1 above. Each ARMB Timberland Advisor will consult with ARMB prior to entering into any transaction that could reasonably be expected to result in the recognition of significant amounts of UBTI.

Section 16. Revisions

The ARMB Investment Guidelines are to be reviewed no less than annually and revised as appropriate.

Section 17. ARMB Timberland Advisors

The following entities have been selected and appointed as ARMB Timberland Advisors to acquire Timberland properties on a discretionary basis for the Alaska Retirement Management Board:

Timberland Investment Resources, LLC

115 Perimeter Center Place, Suite 940

Atlanta, GA 30346

Telephone: 404-848-2000

Fax: 404-848-2006

www.tirlc.com

Section 18. Definitions

(a) “Timber” means trees growing on Timberland, or trees which have been cut but not removed from Timberland.

(b) “Timberland” means real property which is to be planted with Timber or real property on which Timber is growing.

(c) “Timberland Investment” means, in general, all interests (including fee ownership, leasehold interests or management rights) in Timberland; timber deeds, timber cutting contracts and other rights, contracts or agreements relating to the ownership, cutting and/or use of Timber; options to acquire or sell Timber or Timberland or interests therein; mineral rights (including oil and gas rights), biomass or carbon credits attendant to the ownership of Timberland; and personal property, both tangible and intangible, directly associated or connected with the use of Timberland.