



**NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF STATE TRUST LANDS
RESOLUTION 2024-0001**

**ADVANCING ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
ON NATURAL & WORKING LANDS**

WHEREAS the National Association of State Trust Lands (“NASTL”) and its member states manage over 500 million acres of trust lands, minerals, and waterways that are interspersed with federal lands, with over 5.5 million acres being forested trust lands; and

WHEREAS members of NASTL have congressional and state constitutional mandates to manage millions of acres of lands for the multi-generational benefit of trust beneficiaries, including public education, through economic development, conservation, recreation, and other trust and public purposes as provided by their respective mandates; and

WHEREAS NASTL member states fulfill their mandates to support multi-generational trust beneficiaries through an ongoing commitment to the long-term economic viability of trust assets under their management through the sustainable management of those trust assets – forestlands, real property, and mineral interests; and

WHEREAS NASTL and its members proactively research, identify and develop innovative economic opportunities that would advance sustainable asset management practices on state trust lands, including renewable energy infrastructure projects such as project siting on state trust lands, easements and licenses for transmission and distribution rights-of-way, and power purchase agreements; and

WHEREAS NASTL and its members recognize that ecosystem services markets throughout the United States have potential to provide positive economic benefits through carbon capture, storage, and sequestration on trust land projects, and

WHEREAS NASTL believes its millions of acres of state trust lands are uniquely situated to advance climate solutions on state trust lands; and

WHEREAS NASTL members are investigating the viability of implementing ecosystem services projects on state trust lands, the existing market protocols, and the economic benefits of restoring degraded trust lands, storing carbon geologically and sequestering carbon in soils and forests; and

WHEREAS NASTL members understand that ecosystem services markets could enable state trust managers to advance climate solutions on its natural and working lands through engaging in business transactions in the various ecosystem service markets.

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED AS FOLLOWS:

1. NASTL respectfully requests the United States Congress to direct the United States Department of Agriculture, United States Department of Energy and United States Department of Interior to recognize that state trust lands offer myriad opportunities to leverage multiple co-benefits realized through ecosystem service projects on state trust lands.
2. NASTL respectfully requests the United States Congress to recognize that revenues, as well as restoration, storage, sequestration can be generated from compliance and voluntary program protocols on state trust lands.
3. NASTL respectfully requests the United State Congress to direct the United States Department of Agriculture, United States Department of Energy and United States Department of Interior to partner with NASTL members on mutually beneficial ecosystem services projects when state trust lands are commingled within a federal project area.
4. NASTL respectfully requests the United States Congress to enact legislation establishing the carbon neutrality of woody biomass.

Adopted the 25th day of August, 2024.



President, NASTL



Secretary, NASTL

*This Resolution will remain in effect through July 31, 2026
unless otherwise terminated, amended, or replaced by the Association.*