

# Alaska State Publications Program

(Compiled by Daniel Cornwall, Alaska State Library, March 2007)

The Alaska State Publications Program, known by state law as the State Library Distribution and Data Access Center was established in 1970 in order to acquire, describe, preserve and provide permanent no-fee public access to publications produced or funded by Alaska state agencies regardless of format. It has the further mission of providing geographically dispersed copies of state publications to assure access by all Alaskans. The Program is authorized under AS 14.56.090-180.

When agencies publish documents in tangible formats (Usually paper or CD), the Program tries to obtain eight copies and sends them to the libraries in the Alaska State Depository System:

- Alaska State Library, Juneau (ADL 1 and 5)
- UAF's Elmer E. Rasmuson Library, Fairbanks (ADL 2 and 7)
- UAA Consortium Library , Anchorage (ADL 3)
- Z.J. Loussac Public Library, Anchorage (ADL 6)
- Library of Congress, Washington, D.C. (ADL 4)
- Alaska Resources Library and Information Service, Anchorage (ADL 8)

Some exceptions to the eight copies rule are made for very expensive or very esoteric publications. The first copy of any tangible document received by the Program is sent to the Alaska Historical Collections section of the Alaska State Library.

When agencies post a publication to the Internet without a tangible counterpart, the Alaska State Publications Program harvests a copy from the agency web site, catalogs it, and places it on our library's web server to protect it from URL changes or being dropped from the agencies servers. This last step has been done for documents from July 2005 through the present. A preservation copy is printed as well and added to the Alaska Historical Collections section of the Alaska State Library. All Internet-posted publications are searchable through our catalog and listed in our monthly shipping lists at <http://www.library.state.ak.us/asp/shippinglists/shippinglists.html>. In addition to posting cataloged state agency publications to our web server, the Alaska State Library is using the LOCKSS ([www.lockss.org](http://www.lockss.org)) technology to continue the practice of geographically dispersed state documents collections as an aid to preservation and access. As of March 2007, electronic Alaska State Documents were held by 30 LOCKSS institutions, including the Alaska State Library.

Further information about the Alaska State Publications Program can be found at <http://library.state.ak.us/asp/asp.html>.

Further information on preserving digital documents and records can be found at [http://www.library.state.ak.us/pdf/checklists/checklist\\_164.pdf](http://www.library.state.ak.us/pdf/checklists/checklist_164.pdf).

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