

Materials Resources

Background

The planning area has an abundance of sand, gravel, and quarry materials to meet the needs of construction. Of course, these resources are not always ideally suited or ideally located for a given project. Nonetheless, most needs can be met with local materials.

Goal

Land for State-Owned Material Sites. Maintain in state ownership and make available to public and private users. Assure that material sites are sufficient and suitably located to meet long-term economic needs of the area for materials resources.

Management Guidelines

A. Preferred Material Sites. When responding to a request for a material sale or identifying a source for materials, the highest priority should be given to using existing upland material sources. Using materials from wetlands, lakes, tidelands, and active or inactive floodplain rivers or streams should be avoided unless no feasible public upland alternative exists. As a general policy, sales or permits for gravel extraction will not be permitted in known fish spawning areas. Material sites shall be maintained in public ownership.

B. Maintaining Other Uses and Resources When Siting and Operating Material Sites. Before materials are extracted, the manager will ensure that the requirements of the permit or lease adequately protect other important resources and uses. The disposal of materials should be consistent with the applicable management intent statement and management guidelines of the plan.

C. Land Sales in Areas of High Material Potential. Generally, if a settlement area contains sand and gravel deposits, rock sources or other similar, high value material resources, a pit area should be identified during subdivision design and retained in state ownership for future use.

D. Screening and Rehabilitation. Material sites should be screened from roads, residential areas, recreational areas, and other areas of significant human use. Sufficient land should be allocated to the material site to allow for such screening. Rehabilitation of the site shall follow the requirements of AS 27.19.020 and 11 AAC 97.250.

E. Coordination with Local Governmental Bodies. Prior to granting authorization for materials sales, the DNR should coordinate with the appropriate borough and/or city to determine the applicable zoning requirements.

F. Other Guidelines Affecting Materials. Other guidelines will affect the use of material resources. See other sections of this chapter.