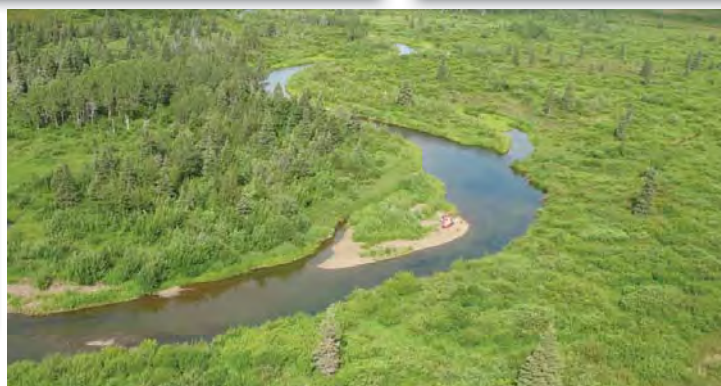
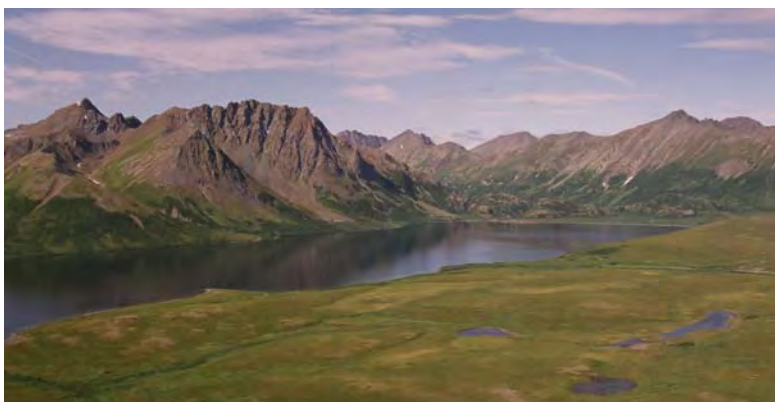


Bristol Bay Area Plan for State Lands

Adopted April 2005
Revised September 2013



Alaska Department of Natural Resources
Division of Mining, Land & Water
Resource Assessment & Development Section

Bristol Bay Area Plan for State Lands

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Revised September 2013



Alaska Department of Natural Resources
Division of Mining, Land & Water
Resource Assessment & Development Section

Cover photos courtesy of
Marla Carter
Stacia Schwanke
Alaska Department of Fish & Game

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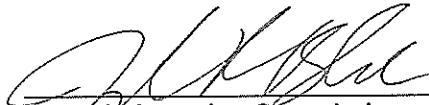
THE STATE
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Department of Natural Resources

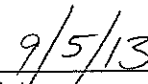
Office of the Commissioner
550 West 7th Avenue, Suite 1400
Anchorage, Alaska, 99501-3650
Phone: 907.269.8431
Fax: 907.269.8918

**ADOPTION OF 2013 PLAN AMENDMENT
TO THE 2005 BRISTOL BAY AREA PLAN (BBAP)**

The Commissioner of the Department of Natural Resources adopts the 2005 Bristol Bay Area Plan as amended by the 2013 Determination of Reclassification and Plan Amendment, and finds that the Amended Plan meets the requirements of AS 38.04.065 and 11 AAC 55.010-.280. This Plan Amendment supersedes applicable portions of the 2005 Bristol Bay Area Plan. Except as modified by the 2013 Plan Amendment, all other aspects of the 2005 Bristol Bay Area Plan remain unchanged. The Department of Natural Resources will manage state land within the planning area consistent with this plan, as amended.



Joe Balash, Acting Commissioner
Department of Natural Resources



Date

STATE OF ALASKA

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER

FRANK H. MURKOWSKI, GOVERNOR

400 WILLOUGHBY AVENUE
JUNEAU, ALASKA 99801-1796
PHONE: (907) 465-2400
FAX: (907) 465-3886

550 WEST 7TH AVENUE, SUITE 1400
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99501-3650
PHONE: (907) 269-8431
FAX: (907) 269-8918

The Commissioner of the Department of Natural Resources adopts the revised Bristol Bay Area Plan (2005) and finds that it meets the requirements of AS 38.04.065 and 11 AAC 55.010-55.030 for land use plans. The Department of Natural Resources will manage state land within the planning boundaries consistent with this plan.


Tom Irwin, Commissioner
Department of Natural Resources

4/19/05
Date

STATE OF ALASKA

DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER

FRANK H. MURKOWSKI
GOVERNOR

P.O. BOX 25526
JUNEAU, AK 99802-5526
PHONE: (907) 465-4100
FAX: (907) 465-2332

The Alaska Department of Fish and Game assisted the Alaska Department of Natural Resources in preparing the revision of the Bristol Bay Area Plan for State Lands and the revision of the Nushagak and Mulchatna Rivers Recreation Management Plan. We appreciate the opportunity to represent fish and wildlife habitat, harvest, and public use values during the development of the plan. The Department will use the plan as guidance when reviewing proposed uses of state lands in the planning area.

for 
McKie Campbell, Commissioner
Alaska Department of Fish and Game

10/24/05
Date

Preface

Background and Acknowledgements (2005 Planning Process)

This revision of the Bristol Bay Area Plan was completed by the Alaska Department of Natural Resources with assistance from a number of representatives from agencies within and outside of the Department. The following representatives and contacts variously contributed text, edited, reviewed, and assisted in resolving issues with regard to the area plan. The project staff greatly appreciates their help and assistance. We are also indebted to Chester Murphy and Robin Carlson for preparation of the final maps and to Ruth Booth for checking, formatting, and indexing the text in preparation for printing.

DNR Mining, Land, and Water Project Staff

Bruce Phelps, Manager of Planning, Rick Fredericksen, Project Manager for the Bristol Bay Area Plan Revision, Monica Alvarez, Natural Resource Specialist, Ray Burger, Natural Resource Specialist, and Elizabeth West, Natural Resource Specialist.

DNR Division of Forestry

Marty Freeman

DNR Division of Mining

Stan Foo, Kerwin Krause, Ed Fogels, Steve McGroarty

DNR Division of Oil and Gas

Tom Bucceri, Pat Galvin, Marie Crosley

DNR Division of Parks and Outdoor Recreation

Peter Panarese, Judith Bittner, Joan Dale, Dave McMahan

DNR Division of Water

Kellie Westphall, Gary Prokosch

DNR Land Sales

Kathy Means

DNR Office of Project Management and Permitting

Kim Kruse, Randy Bates

DNR Office of Habitat Management and Permitting

Stewart Seaberg

DNR Southcentral Regional Office

Mike Sullivan, Dave Kelley

Department of Fish and Game

Ellen Simpson

Department of Transportation and Public Facilities

Mike McKinnon, Allen Kemplen, Jennifer Witt

U.S. Department of the Interior, Fish and Wildlife Service

Shawn Stephensen, Rick Poetter, Patrick Walsh, Phil Schempf, and others in Region 7

Aleutians East Borough

Robert Juettner

Bristol Bay Borough

John Alder

Lake and Peninsula Borough

Jeff Currier, Marv Smith

Table of Contents

Chapter 1 - Introduction

Introduction and Background.....	1 - 1
Summary of Purpose of the Plan.....	1 - 1
Description of the Planning Area.....	1 - 1
Submerged Lands, Tidelands, Uplands and Shorelands as Described in This Plan	1 - 1
Planning Area.....	1 - 2
How the Plan is Organized.....	1 - 3
Why This Plan was Developed and Why the Plan was Revised.....	1 - 4
The Mandate.....	1 - 5
2013 Plan Amendment and Determination of Classification.....	1 - 6
What the Plan Will Do	1 - 6
How This Plan is Used	1 - 7
Public Participation as Related to the Planning Process	1 - 7
Process of Plan Preparation.....	1 - 8
Who Developed the Plan?.....	1 - 9
Uses and Resources Within the Planning Area.....	1 - 9
What the Plan Won't Do	1 - 11
Planning Period	1 - 12
Summary of Plan Actions	1 - 12
Management Intent.....	1 - 12
Land Use Designations.....	1 - 12
Management Guidelines.....	1 - 13
Classifications	1 - 13
Summary of Plan Implementation and Modification.....	1 - 13

Chapter 2 - Goals, Management Intent, and Guidelines

Introduction	2 - 1
Definitions.....	2 - 1
Goals.....	2 - 1
Management Intent.....	2 - 2
General Framework of the Plan	2 - 2
Guidelines by Activity or Resource Value.....	2 - 3
General	2 - 3
Other State Land.....	2 - 4
Aquatic Farming.....	2 - 5
Management Guidelines.....	2 - 6
Coordination and Public Notice	2 - 8
Management Guidelines.....	2 - 8

Fish and Wildlife Habitat and Harvest Areas.....	2 - 9
Management Guidelines: Habitat Areas	2 - 9
Management Guidelines: Harvest Areas.....	2 - 16
Management Guidelines: Special Management Areas – Tidelands & Submerged Lands; Other.....	2 - 18
Floating Facilities.....	2 - 20
Management Guidelines.....	2 - 21
Forestry.....	2 - 24
Management Guidelines.....	2 - 24
Heritage Resources.....	2 - 28
Management Guidelines.....	2 - 29
Instream Flow.....	2 - 32
Management Guidelines.....	2 - 32
Materials Resources	2 - 33
Management Guidelines.....	2 - 33
Mineral Resources.....	2 - 35
Management Guidelines.....	2 - 37
Oil and Gas.....	2 - 42
Management Guidelines.....	2 - 43
Public Access Easements, Neighborhood Trails, and Public Access.....	2 - 45
Management Guidelines: Public Access – General	2 - 45
Management Guidelines: Access Corridors	2 - 45
Management Guidelines: Public Access	2 - 47
Recreation, Tourism, and Scenic Resources	2 - 50
Management Guidelines.....	2 - 51
Settlement.....	2 - 58
Management Guidelines.....	2 - 61
Shorelines, Stream Corridors and Coastal Areas	2 - 67
Management Guidelines.....	2 - 67
Transportation	2 - 74
Management Guidelines.....	2 - 75

Chapter 3 - Land Use Designations and Management Policies for Planning Regions and Management Units

Introduction.....	3 - 1
Organization of Chapter 3	3 - 1
Land Use Designations and Management Intent Planning Tools	3 - 2
Designations Used in This Plan	3 - 3
Land Use Designations and Minerals.....	3 - 6
Management Intent.....	3 - 6
Management Guidelines.....	3 - 8
Duration and Flexibility of Plan.....	3 - 8
Glossary.....	3 - 8

Plan Structure	3 - 9
Plan Regions.....	3 - 9
Management Units	3 - 9
Region Descriptions	3 - 10
Region Plan Maps	3 - 11
Land Status Depicted In Plan Maps	3 - 11
Resource Allocation Table	3 - 12
Description of the Planning Area	3 - 16
Background	3 - 16
State Lands	3 - 16
Acreage.....	3 - 18
Access.....	3 - 19
Physical Features: Uplands	3 - 19
Hydrology.....	3 - 20
Resources and Uses: Uplands	3 - 22
Physical Features: Tidelands	3 - 24
Local and Federal Plans	3 - 25
Local Comprehensive Plans and District Coastal Zone Management Plans	3 - 25
State Management Plans	3 - 26
Federal Management Plans: National Wildlife Refuges, Katmai National Park and Preserve, and Aniakchak National Monument and Preserve	3 - 26
Management Summary	3 - 27
Uplands.....	3 - 27
Tidelands	3 - 29
Region 2: Kuskokwim, Kanektok, and Goodnews	3 - 33
Resource Allocation Table for Upland Management Units - Region 2	3 - 44
Resource Allocation Table for Tideland Management Units - Region 2.....	3 - 46
Region 3: Togiak, Igushik	3 - 49
Resource Allocation Table for Upland Management Units - Region 3	3 - 60
Resource Allocation Table for Tideland Management Units - Region 3.....	3 - 62
Region 5: Dillingham, Snake Lake, Nushagak Bay.....	3 - 65
Resource Allocation Table for Upland Management Units - Region 5	3 - 78
Resource Allocation Table for Tideland Management Units - Region 5.....	3 - 86
Region 6: Nushagak, Mulchatna	3 - 89
Resource Allocation Table for Upland Management Units - Region 6	3 - 101
Region 7: Upper Mulchatna and Upper Hoholitna	3 - 115
Resource Allocation Table for Upland Management Units - Region 7	3 - 123
Region 8: Lake Clark, Newhalen	3 - 129
Resource Allocation Table for Upland Management Units - Region 8	3 - 137
Region 9: Eastern Iliamna Lake	3 - 139
Resource Allocation Table for Upland Management Units - Region 9	3 - 146
Region 10: Western Iliamna Lake, Kvichak River	3 - 149
Resource Allocation Table for Upland Management Units - Region 10	3 - 159

Region 11: Bristol Bay Borough Area	3 - 163
Resource Allocation Table for Upland Management Units - Region 11	3 - 173
Resource Allocation Table for Tideland Management Units - Region 11	3 - 176
Region 12: Egegik, Becharof	3 - 177
Resource Allocation Table for Upland Management Units - Region 12	3 - 187
Resource Allocation Table for Tideland Management Units - Region 12	3 - 188
Region 13: Ugashik Lakes	3 - 191
Resource Allocation Table for Upland Management Units - Region 13	3 - 197
Region 14: Ugashik Bay Area	3 - 199
Resource Allocation Table for Upland Management Units - Region 14	3 - 205
Resource Allocation Table for Tideland Management Units - Region 14	3 - 207
Region 15: Cinder River, King Salmon River	3 - 209
Resource Allocation Table for Upland Management Units - Region 15	3 - 218
Resource Allocation Table for Tideland Management Units - Region 15	3 - 220
Region 16: Port Heiden	3 - 223
Resource Allocation Table for Upland Management Units - Region 16	3 - 230
Resource Allocation Table for Tideland Management Units - Region 16	3 - 232
Region 17: Chignik, Perryville	3 - 233
Resource Allocation Table for Upland Management Units - Region 17	3 - 241
Resource Allocation Table for Tideland Management Units - Region 17	3 - 242
Region 18: Cape Seniavin, Seal Islands	3 - 245
Resource Allocation Table for Upland Management Units - Region 18	3 - 252
Resource Allocation Table for Tideland Management Units - Region 18	3 - 254
Region 19: Herendeen Bay, Port Moller and Shumagin Islands	3 - 257
Resource Allocation Table for Upland Management Units - Region 19	3 - 265
Resource Allocation Table for Tideland Management Units - Region 19	3 - 266
Region 21: Nelson Lagoon, Moffet Lagoon	3 - 269
Resource Allocation Table for Upland Management Units - Region 21	3 - 278
Resource Allocation Table for Tideland Management Units - Region 21	3 - 280
Region 22: Lower Alaska Peninsula – Unimak & Krenitzin Islands	3 - 283
Resource Allocation Table for Upland Management Units - Region 22	3 - 291
Resource Allocation Table for Tideland Management Units - Region 22	3 - 292
Navigable Rivers and Lakes	3 - 297
Management Intent of Navigable Waterbodies	3 - 297
Management Intent: Specific Rivers and Lakes	3 - 299

Chapter 4 - Implementation and Recommendations

Introduction	4 - 1
State Land Classification	4 - 1
Relationship of Land Use Designations in the Plan to State Land Classifications	4 - 4
Public Trust Doctrine	4 - 7
Surface Leasing	4 - 8
Classification Order	4 - 8

Special Use Designations	4 - 10
Applicability of Plan Designations/Classifications to State Lands not Identified in the Plan Text or Plan Maps	4 - 10
Survivor Designations and Classifications.....	4 - 11
Alaska Coastal Management Program	4 - 11
Municipal Entitlement.....	4 - 11
State Land Selections, ANILCA Topfiled Lands, and Public Land Orders	4 - 14
State Land Selections	4 - 14
ANILCA Topfiled Lands	4 - 14
Public Land Orders.....	4 - 14
Coordination with Federal Land Management.....	4 - 16
Mineral and Leasehold Location Orders	4 - 17
Proposed Additions to the State Park System	4 - 17
Coordination with Nushagak & Mulchatna Rivers Recreation Management Plan.....	4 - 17
Types of Plan Changes	4 - 18

Appendices

Appendix A	A - 1
Glossary.....	A - 1
Appendix B	B - 1
Land Classification Order No. SC-04-002A02	B - 1
Land Classification Order No. SC-04-002	B - 2
Appendix C	C - 1
Municipal Selections in the Planning Area	C - 1
Appendix D	D - 1
Index	D - 1

Maps

Map 3-1: Planning Area with Map Extents.....	3 - 13
Map 3-2: Region 2.....	3 - 311
Map 3-3: Region 3.....	3 - 313
Map 3-5: Region 5.....	3 - 315
Map 3-6: Region 6.....	3 - 317
Map 3-7: Region 7.....	3 - 319
Map 3-8: Region 8.....	3 - 321
Map 3-9: Region 9.....	3 - 323
Map 3-10: Region 10.....	3 - 325
Map 3-11: Region 11.....	3 - 327
Map 3-12: Region 12.....	3 - 329
Map 3-13: Region 13.....	3 - 331

Map 3-14: Region 14.....	3 - 333
Map 3-15: Region 15.....	3 - 335
Map 3-16: Region 16.....	3 - 337
Map 3-17: Region 17.....	3 - 339
Map 3-18: Region 18.....	3 - 341
Map 3-19: Region 19.....	3 - 343
Map 3-21: Region 21.....	3 - 345
Map 3-22: Region 22.....	3 - 347

Figures

Figure 1.1: Submerged lands, tidelands, uplands, and shorelands as described in this plan	1 - 2
Figure 1.2: General Land Status.....	1 - 15
Figure 2.1: Historical and Archeological Sites	2 - 31
Figure 2.2: Mineral Closure Orders, Leasehold Location Orders, and Mineral Opening Orders.....	2 - 40
Figure 2.3: Mineral Resources: Deposits, Prospects, and Occurrences	2 - 41
Figure 2.4: Oil & Gas and Coal Basins	2 - 44
Figure 2.5: Transportation Corridors	2 - 78

Tables

Table 2.1: Mineral Closing, Opening, and Leasehold Location Orders.....	2 - 38
Table 2.2: Nushagak & Mulchatna Rivers Recreational Management Guidelines (same as Table 3.1 in the RRMP).....	2 - 56
Table 2.3: Application Requirements for Easements and Buffers Along Waterbodies and Related Environmental Features.....	2 - 72
Table 3.1: Some Navigable Waters – Bristol Bay Area Plan.....	3 - 300
Table 4.1(A): Acreages Associated with Upland Designations – Management Units	4 - 5
Table 4.1(B): Acreages Associated with Tideland, Submerged Land, and Shoreland Designations – Management Units.....	4 - 6
Table 4.2(A): Upland Designations – Conversion to Classifications	4 - 7
Table 4.2(B): Tideland, Submerged Land, and Shoreland Designations – Conversion to Classifications	4 - 7
Table 4.3: Acres of State Lands Classified	4 - 9
Table 4.4: Significant Public Land Orders in the Planning Area.....	4 - 15
Table C.1: Municipal Selections for Aleutians East Borough	C - 1
Table C.2: Municipal Selections for Lake & Peninsula Borough, Priority 1.....	C - 2
Table C.3: Municipal Selections for Lake & Peninsula Borough, Priority 2.....	C - 4

Chapter 1

Introduction

Introduction and Background.....	1
Summary of Purpose of the Plan.....	1
Description of the Planning Area.....	1
Submerged Lands, Tidelands, Uplands and Shorelands as Described in This Plan	1
Figure 1.1: Submerged lands, tidelands, uplands, and shorelands as described in this plan.....	2
Planning Area.....	2
How the Plan is Organized	3
Why This Plan was Developed and Why the Plan was Revised.....	4
The Mandate	5
2013 Plan Amendment and Determination of Classification	6
What the Plan Will Do.....	6
How This Plan is Used.....	7
Public Participation as Related to the Planning Process	7
Process of Plan Preparation	8
Who Developed the Plan?.....	9
Uses and Resources Within the Planning Area.....	9
What the Plan Won't Do.....	11
Planning Period.....	12
Summary of Plan Actions	12
Management Intent	12
Land Use Designations	12
Management Guidelines	13
Classifications	13
Summary of Plan Implementation and Modification.....	13
Figure 1.2: General Land Status.....	15

Chapter 1

Introduction

Introduction and Background

Summary of Purpose of the Plan

The role of state land use plans has been established by state statute (AS 38.04.005). It is the policy of the State of Alaska "...to establish a balanced combination of land available for both public and private purposes. The choice of land best suited for public and private use shall be determined through the inventory, planning, and classification processes...."

The plan determines management intent, land-use designations, and management guidelines that apply to all state lands in the planning area.

Description of the Planning Area

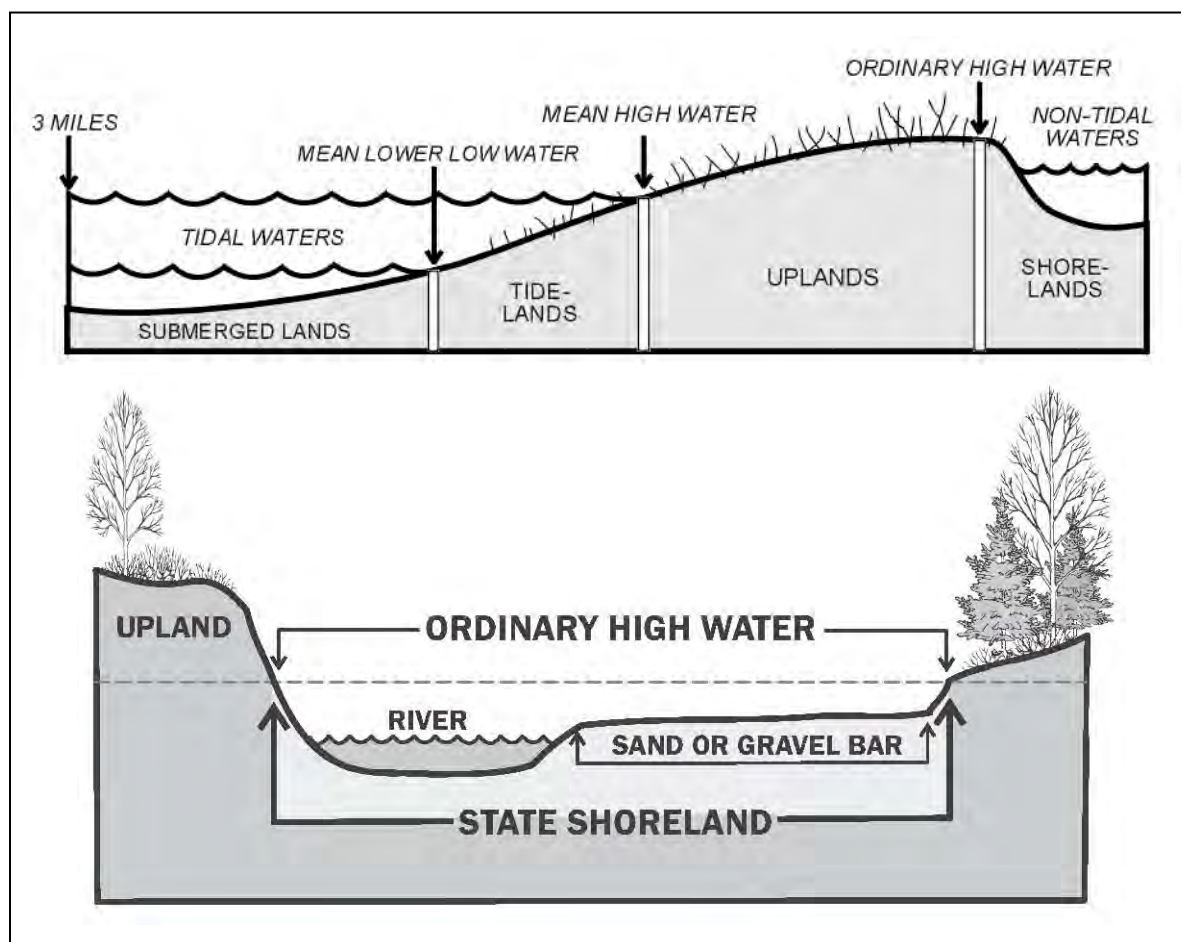
The Bristol Bay Area Plan (BBAP) directs how the Alaska Department of Natural Resources (DNR) will manage state uplands, shorelands, tidelands, and submerged lands within the planning boundary. The following is a summary of the acreage to which the plan will apply:

Land Category	Acres
State-owned uplands	10,330,454
State-selected uplands	1,585,459
State-owned tidelands	7,002,724
Total Acreage	18,918,637

Submerged Lands, Tidelands, Uplands and Shorelands as Described in This Plan

Tidelands span the area from mean high water to mean lower low water; submerged lands reach from mean lower low water to a line three miles seaward from mean lower low water. Shorelands include the lands below ordinary high water in non-tidal areas.

Figure 1.1: Submerged lands, tidelands, uplands, and shorelands as described in this plan



Planning Area

The planning boundary of the Bristol Bay Area Plan includes all state-owned and state-selected uplands, and all tidelands, submerged lands and shorelands within the area depicted in Figure 1.2. This very large planning area (48.8 million acres) extends from the Yukon Delta National Wildlife Refuge (NWR) in the northwest, east to Lake Clark National Park, and south to Akutan Island on the Aleutian Island chain. All of the Alaska Peninsula is included in the planning area except for areas within Katmai National Park and Preserve and the Alaska Peninsula and Becharof NWRs that are part of the Kodiak Area Plan. Within this large area are three boroughs (Bristol Bay, Aleutians East, and Lake and Peninsula), eleven cities, as well as numerous communities. The largest concentrations of state-owned and state-selected land occupy large portions of the Nushagak and Mulchatna River drainages, the

area of Wood-Tikchik State Park, areas near Lake Iliamna, as well as most of the north side of the Alaska Peninsula. Numerous federal conservation system units occur within the planning area, including five National Wildlife Refuges, two National Parks, and one National Monument and Preserve¹. Two state wildlife refuges (Cape Newenham and Izembek) and five state critical habitat areas (Egegik, Pilot Point, Cinder River, Port Heiden, and Port Moller) also occur there. Tide and submerged-lands owned by the state adjoin these federal conservation system units. State shorelands occur within federal conservation units as well as private lands.

How the Plan is Organized

The plan has four chapters:

Chapter 1 includes a summary of the purpose of the plan, description of the planning area, how and why the plan was developed, what the plan covers and does not cover, and a summary of plan actions.

Chapter 2 includes goals of the plan and guidelines that apply throughout the planning area. Guidelines are listed in fourteen resource and land-use categories. Guidelines are specific management statements that will be applied to land and water management decisions as resource use and development occur.

Chapter 3 includes a description of the land use designations used in the plan, the general management intent for state land, the duration and flexibility of the plan, and an explanation of plan organization and structure. In addition, each planning region is described in terms of a regional summary that presents information on land ownership, acreage, physical features, access, resources and uses. This section also provides a summary of management constraints and considerations based on existing plans, legislative designations, and other management constraints that significantly affect resource management, and a description of a tideland resource management zone.

The bulk of this Chapter, however, consists of descriptions of background information on land status, natural resources, and the uses of state land for each of the twenty regions. A management summary is also included that provides an overview of the management direction within each region; this is augmented by a description of specific management considerations that apply to development authorizations. The land use designation and management directions for individual units of state land, called ‘management units’, are also

¹ National Wildlife Refuges: Togiak, Becharof, Alaska Peninsula, Izembek, and Alaska Maritime. National Parks: Katmai National Park and Preserve, Lake Clark National Park and Wilderness. National Monument: Aniakchak National Monument and Preserve.

presented². A Resource Allocation Table exists for each region, which lists all of the upland and tideland management units and identifies the land use designation and management intent for each management unit. The last section of this chapter addresses navigable waters.

Chapter 4 discusses specific actions necessary to implement the plan. These include a description of how land use designations convert into classifications, proposed additions to the state park system, procedures for withdrawn public land orders and top-filed federal lands determined to be conveyable, and a land classification order. Procedures for changing the plan are also discussed.

Appendices include a glossary and a land classification order.

Why This Plan was Developed and Why the Plan was Revised

The planning area is rich in natural resources. There are many different ideas about how these resources should be used or protected. Although some proposed uses might be in conflict with each other, many different uses can occur throughout the planning area while protecting vital resources, providing the uses are properly managed.

This plan establishes the land use designation for state lands and describes their intended uses. The plan directs which state lands will be retained by the state and which should be sold to private citizens, used for public recreation, or used for other purposes. It also identifies general management guidelines for major resources and land uses within the planning area as well as more specific guidelines for the development and use of resources for specific management units.

Once an area plan has been adopted, state permit review processes become more efficient for the government and the public. The area plan guides DNR decisions for leases, sales, and permits that authorize use of state lands. Preparation of land use plans for state lands (except for State Park System lands) is required under Title 38 of Alaska Statutes. DNR's actions will be based on the area plan.

The original Bristol Bay Area Plan, developed during the early 1980's, focused on the issues and reflected the values and attitudes of the people of the planning area at that time. The decision to revise the initial plan resulted from a number of different factors. These included the fact that the original plan was more than 20 years old (and the Department tries to revise its plans every 15 to 20 years), and the need to address the outstanding municipal entitlements of the three boroughs within the planning area (Bristol Bay, Lake and Peninsula, and

² State land in this area plan is divided into spatial units called 'management units'. These may either be tidelands or uplands and may consist both of small areas of state land, like a lot or tract within a state subdivision, as well as very large areas that have common locational, access, use, or resource characteristics. There are 222 upland management units and 46 tideland management units. Each management unit has a unique identification number that is used in the plan maps and resource allocation tables.

Aleutians East). It was also necessary to revise the Bristol Bay tideland designations and create new tideland designations on the southeast side of the Alaska Peninsula, and address regional economic changes and changing land use patterns. The original plan was ultimately revised and this version was adopted in 2005.³

The BBAP was substantially revised, again, in 2013. Litigation against the 2005 BBAP was initiated in 2008 and was primarily focused on the perceived loss of protection provided to important habitat and recreation areas when much of the plan area was re-designated for General Use. The latter is a multiple use land use designation that often is applied where there are large tracts of land where development is limited by access, there is little economic demand for land, or where a number of complementary uses may occur without adversely affecting each other. In units designated for General Use important resources and values are protected through the use of management intent statements. DNR undertook to revise the 2005 BBAP in response to an agreement with the plaintiffs in Nondalton Tribal Council et al. v. State of Alaska, which dismissed the litigation in exchange for DNR's agreement to address the issues raised in the lawsuit through the existing administrative process for amending area land use plans and reclassifying land. DNR went through an extensive public and agency review process in 2013, which resulted in significant changes to the 2005 BBAP. These changes are reflected in this document.

The Mandate

The state is responsible for the management of those lands it owns and the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) is that agency specifically responsible for this management. There are over 10.5 million acres of state-owned uplands within the planning boundary and approximately 7.0 million acres of tidelands and submerged lands. Alaska Statute (AS) 38.04.065 requires that the Commissioner of the Department of Natural Resources “adopt, maintain, and, when appropriate, revise regional land use plans that provide for the use and management of state-owned land.” To ensure that these lands are properly managed, the Department of Natural Resources has developed this plan for all state lands – uplands, shorelands, tide and submerged lands – in the planning area.

The planning process provides a means of openly reviewing resource information and public concerns before making long-term decisions about public land management. The planning process resolves conflicting ideas on land use and informs the public about what choices were made and why. Decisions are made on a comprehensive basis, rather than case-by-case, providing consistency and consideration of the wide diversity of resources and uses within the planning area. This process provides for more efficient use and protection of the area's resources.

³ Referred to as the 2005 Bristol Bay Area Plan or 2005 BBAP.

2013 Plan Amendment and Determination of Classification

With DNR's agreement to reevaluate the 2005 BBAP, the agency initiated a Determination of Reclassification and Plan Amendment process in 2012, as described in 11 AAC 55.270. Under this process, DNR assesses the reasonability of the requested change in classification (in this instance the majority of requested change was from Resource Management Land (General Use designation) to Wildlife Habitat and Public Recreation Land). If determined to be appropriate, DNR then amends the plan through a Plan Amendment whereas if determined to be not appropriate, no action is taken. Applying this process, DNR determined that some of the requested changes were warranted while others were not. This evaluation⁴ resulted in moderate increases to the Habitat and Dispersed Recreation designations as well as other changes of significance, including agreeing to designate all stream affected by Mineral Closing Order 393 as Habitat⁵.

The Determination of Reclassification and its associated Plan Amendment were then subject to public review, which involved the submission of written comments and public meetings held by DNR throughout much of the planning area in early 2013. In large part, the public thought that the changes made by DNR to the 2005 BBAP did not go far enough in protecting sensitive habitats and fisheries. Over 500 public comments were received and certain of the commenters developed what was termed the 'Citizens Alternative', the purpose of which was to provide an alternative to then proposed amendments to the 2005 BBAP. These comments and recommended changes were subsequently evaluated in an Issue Response Summary prepared by DNR in September, 2013. This review determined that additional areas of state land were appropriate for designation as Habitat, Dispersed Recreation, or Water Resources, with corresponding decreases in the General Use, Settlement, and Minerals designations. The revisions made to the 2005 BBAP, which are incorporated herein, include both the recommendations of the January Determination of Reclassification and Plan Amendment as well as those contained in the Issue Response Summary, issued in September 2013. The Commissioner approved these changes on September 5, 2013. The effect of these changes has been to increase the amount of state land designated Habitat or Dispersed Recreation by nearly 3.6 million acres from that in the 2005 BBAP. Most of this increase came from areas previously designated General Use.

What the Plan Will Do

The plan will help ensure that state resource management takes into account the sustained yield of renewable resources, that development is balanced with environmental concerns, and that public access to state land is provided. The plan encourages cooperation with other

⁴ Public Review Draft Determination of Reclassification and Plan Amendment – 2005 Bristol Bay Area Plan (January 2013).

⁵ MCO 393 affects the stream, stream bed, and 100' of riparian area measured 100' from Ordinary High Water on either side of a stream. In some instances the width may be greater than 100'.

landowners to better address conflicts caused by checkerboard land ownership patterns. Finally, the plan documents the state's intent for land management so that both public and private interests know how the state plans to manage lands over the long term.

How This Plan is Used

This plan is intended to manage state lands and resources within the planning area, and is the expression of how DNR will pursue this management. Most activities governed by the plan are implemented by the Division of Mining, Land, and Water when it adjudicates authorizations or makes other decisions affected by the plan. Adjudicators use this plan when reviewing and making decisions on authorizations for use of state land, including permits, leases, sales, conveyances, and rights-of-way. The DNR Division of Forestry and Division of Parks and Outdoor Recreation also use this plan in the administration of certain aspects of their programs and activities.

Public Participation as Related to the Planning Process

This revision of the 2005 Bristol Bay Area Plan was the product of a two year planning process conducted by the Division of Mining, Land, and Water (DMLW) of the Department of Natural Resources; other divisions within DNR; state and federal agencies (primarily the Alaska Department of Fish & Game (ADF&G)); Native corporations and tribal groups; local government (cities and boroughs); interest groups; and the public. Public meetings were held in Anchorage, Naknek, King Salmon, Cold Bay, Sandpoint, Dillingham, New Stuyahok, and Newhalen. The first round of public meetings dealt with explaining the state's planning process and identifying local and regional concerns including both land use and resource management issues. In addition, a variety of meetings took place with local governments, Native corporations, state and federal agencies, and economic interests. The second round focused on the Public Review Draft of the plan and solicited public comment. The final plan reflects changes made to the Public Review Draft as a result of comments received from the public and agencies. It was presented as an "Intent to Adopt" version which consisted of the PRD and recommended changes as put forth in the Issue Response Summary.

The revision process that occurred in 2012-2013 involved a lengthy public review (120 days) of the Determination of Reclassification and Plan Amendment and an extensive round of public meetings held in nine of the communities of the Bristol Bay region.

Process of Plan Preparation

This revision⁶ of the Bristol Bay Area Plan builds upon much of the information and many of the recommendations used in the initial preparation of this Area Plan, which was first adopted in 1984. This revision, however, uses new information, applies Geographic Information System technology, and responds to a different set of economic and technological conditions that existed at the time of initial plan preparation. Changes in public attitudes towards development and economic growth were also considered. Much of this type of information was derived from recent discussions with agencies, municipalities, and the public.

DNR develops both entirely new area plans and revises existing area plans using a typical planning process. The components of that process used in the revision of the area plan are listed below.

The following process was used to develop this area plan:

- Identify issues in the planning area;
- map and analyze resources and uses;
- conduct public meetings to identify issues and reactions to preliminary designations;
- prepare an Agency Review Draft based upon the results of public discussions and meetings, information on resources provided by agencies, and is consistent with changes in state statute affecting the planning process since initial plan preparation;
- prepare the Public Review Draft (PRD) based in part on comments previously received from the public and from agencies;
- the public reviews the PRD;
- prepare an Issue/Response summary of all public comments on the PRD;
- based on the results of the Issue/Response Summary, prepare an Intent to Adopt (ITA) version of the plan and circulate for public review;
- prepare the final plan incorporating comments on the ITA; and
- the Commissioner signs the plan and adopts it as DNR's management intent for state lands in the planning area.

⁶ The following section describes the process used to revise the 1984 BBAP that culminated in the 2005 BBAP revision.

Who Developed the Plan?

The DNR planning staff directed the planning process, including land status research, resource collection and analysis, draft plan preparation, response to public and agency comments, and final plan preparation. A number of local, state, and federal agencies reviewed the preliminary draft of the PRD and provided land use and resource recommendations that were valuable in refining initial plan recommendations. The Commissioner of the Department of Natural Resources adopted the plan in April 2005. Revisions to the 2005 BBAP were adopted on September 5, 2013.

Uses and Resources Within the Planning Area

Uses of State Land. The plan outlines management objectives for state land. This includes describing what resources and valid existing uses should be protected, and what uses are most suitable for development or protection on state land during the planning horizon.

State-Selected Land. Some lands have been selected but not conveyed to the state. In some cases these lands may not be conveyed, but in most instances it is likely that they will be owned by the state in the future. In order to forestall the need to expend substantial time and resources to revise the plan at a later time when these conveyances occur, the plan makes decisions for these lands now. Another advantage to this approach is to be able to comprehensively plan for all state lands, both those owned currently and those that are likely to be acquired by the state in the future.

Navigable Waters. The state of Alaska obtained title to all navigable waters, which include shorelands, tidelands, and submerged lands out to a distance of three miles from the coast at the time of statehood under the Equal Footing Doctrine. Certain types of uses necessarily must utilize these waterbodies as part of their operation or function. The plan provides management direction as to what uses are appropriate on these waterbodies; it also identifies certain particularly sensitive areas that will require a high level of protection.

Land Sales. The state has offered land for sale to Alaskan citizens. The planning process reviewed the state land holdings to determine which undeveloped lands are suitable for settlement uses in the future. Certain of the areas designated Settlement were dropped during the 2013 Plan Amendment process.

Land Conveyance. The Lake and Peninsula, Aleutians East, and Bristol Bay boroughs all have remaining entitlements under the Municipal Entitlement Program. Areas designated Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed (Rd), Settlement (S), or General Use (Gu) may be considered for conveyance to municipalities under AS 29.65.010(10). In many instances, the Area Plan has made specific recommendations as to whether selections should be conveyed to a municipality. The actual decision as to whether land will be conveyed is the subject of a separate and subsequent DNR process, however.

Roads, Trails, and Access. The plan considers access across state lands, including existing and proposed roads, trails, easements, and rights-of-way.

Additions to State Park System. The recently revised Wood-Tikchik State Park Management Plan (2002) recommended the addition of state land to the state park. This includes large areas along the northwestern boundary of the park as well as a small area of state land west of the Agulowak River adjoining the park's southwestern boundary. These additions are included in the area plan. No other additions to the state park or marine park systems are recommended.

Waterfront Development. There are a number of areas that have been considered in the past for development on state tidelands or that encompass current residential, commercial and industrial uses. There are also pending applications for development on tidelands. The planning process reviewed these areas to see whether waterfront developments will be compatible with existing resources and uses, and designated certain areas within the various communities throughout the planning area appropriate for the various types of waterfront use. The designation of Waterfront Development (Wd) was used for tidelands adjacent to uplands with current or expected commercial or industrial development.

Minerals. The state generally owns the surface and subsurface (mineral) estate of its lands. In places where the state has disposed of (sold) the surface it commonly retains ownership of the subsurface estate. The plan reviews the mineral potential within the planning area, designates certain lands as Mineral Lands⁷, and describes the statutory authorities that affect mining use. Mineral Closing Orders (MCO) and Leasehold Location Orders (LLO) established during the initial Bristol Bay Area Plan (1984) are not affected by this revision⁸. These MCOs closed a large number of anadromous streams distributed throughout the planning area as well as areas of actual or potential settlement.⁹ The LLO affects the process of mineral development in large parts of the eastern and northeastern parts of the planning area (Regions 7, 8, and 9). This revision does not recommend additional MCOs or LLOs. Except for areas affected by the existing MCOs, all state-owned lands are open to mineral entry.

Oil and Gas Exploration and Development. The original Bristol Bay Area Plan (1984) included Oil and Gas as a primary land use co-designation on the vast majority of state-owned land on the Alaska Peninsula – Regions 12 through 21¹⁰. Although this land is still

⁷ The 2013 Plan Amendment process also co-designated certain mineral areas as Minerals and Habitat, to reflect the presence of important habitat areas within mineralized areas.

⁸ A number of Mineral Closing Orders were also adopted within the planning area subsequent to the adoption of the original BBAP. These MCOs are also retained and unaffected by this plan revision.

⁹ Not all of the streams designated Habitat in the original BBAP were retained in the 2005 BBAP. The 2013 revision clarified that all streams impacted by this MCO are designated Habitat.

¹⁰ Most of the land was designated "Fish and Wildlife/Recreation/Oil and Gas" while tracts in Regions 19 and 21 were designated "Fish and Wildlife/Minerals/Oil and Gas/Transportation" and "Fish and Wildlife/Oil and Gas", respectively.

considered to have high oil and gas development potential, the revised plan does not provide land use designations for oil and gas. AS 38.04.065 was amended in 1987 to recognize that oil and gas lease sales undergo a separate planning process.

Recreation. Recreation is a popular use of state land. The plan proposes designations to manage lands for recreation. Both uplands and tidelands are affected by recreation designations. In the case of uplands, this designation is used for popular public use sites and the upland corridors of the Nushagak and Mulchatna Rivers affected by the Nushagak & Mulchatna Rivers Recreation Management Plan (2005). Applied to tidelands, it is used as a co-designation with Habitat in the Tideland Resource Management Zone adjoining federal conservation units in the planning area.

Fish and Wildlife Habitat and Harvest. The plan documents fish and wildlife habitat and harvest areas and provides management intent and guidelines for these resources and uses.

Water Resources. The Division of Mining, Land and Water in DNR is responsible for allocating water resources on all lands within the State of Alaska. The plan designates areas to be managed for watershed values that include current and future community drinking water sources and describes management guidelines for instream flow reservations.

What the Plan Won't Do

The Bristol Bay Area Plan is not the only way in which land management goals are implemented. The area plan is coordinated with a variety of other programs and projects implemented by the Department of Natural Resources and other state agencies. There are some important issues that are not addressed in this plan:

Non-DNR Lands. This plan does not apply to federal, municipal, private, University of Alaska, Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities, or Mental Health Trust lands.

Fish and Wildlife. Allocation of fish and game stocks and regulating methods and means of harvest are the responsibility of the state boards of Fisheries and Game.

Generally Allowed Uses. The area plan does not regulate activities that do not require a written authorization on state land, such as hiking, camping, boating, hunting, and fishing. Generally allowed uses and applicable conditions are identified in 11 AAC 96. A summary fact sheet can be found on the web at:

http://www.dnr.state.ak.us/mlw/factsht/gen_allow_use.pdf

Legislatively Designated Areas. The plan does not apply to units of the state park system that are legislatively designated. It does apply to state game refuges, game sanctuaries, and critical habitat areas.¹¹

Decisions on Specific Applications. While this plan provides general management intent for state lands, the plan does not make decisions about specific land use authorizations. These decisions are made through the application review process. Land use authorizations must, however, be consistent with the plan, and existing laws and regulations.

Actions by Agencies Other Than DNR. The plan does not provide management intent prescribing actions and policies for agencies and governments other than DNR.

Planning Period

This plan reflects land management decisions and allocations based on the best available information on the demand for use of state land and resources projected over the next 20 years. It is also based on a specific set of social, environmental, economic, and technological assumptions. This plan guides land uses for the next twenty years or until the plan is revised by DNR.

Summary of Plan Actions

Management Intent

The planning area consists of the twenty unique regions, each representing major subparts within the planning area. In turn, each region is divided into upland and tideland management units. The plan presents management intent that explains the department's overall resource management objectives for each region and management unit, and provides resource and use information for land managers. This information is presented in Chapter 3.

Land Use Designations

Each unit identifies one or more designations representing the uses and resources for which the area will be managed. Plan designations are identified and described in the first part of Chapter 3. The Resource Allocation Table in the same Chapter contains the designations specific to individual management units and tideland resource management zones. Changes made by the 2013 Plan Amendment are reflected in this table.

¹¹ The original Bristol Bay Area Plan applied classifications to state game refuges, game sanctuaries, and critical habitat areas. This revision continues this practice; all such areas are designated Habitat.

Management Guidelines

According to the Alaska Constitution, state lands are to be managed for multiple use. When potentially conflicting uses are designated in a management unit, the plan provides guidelines to allow various uses to occur without unacceptable consequences. Management guidelines for specific management units are given in Chapter 3. Guidelines that apply to the entire planning area are identified in Chapter 2. Changes made by the 2013 Plan Amendment are reflected in this table.

Classifications

All state lands in the planning area will be classified consistent with the land use designations in this plan. Classifications made by the plan will be noted to the state's land status plats. A table that shows how designations convert to classifications is located in Chapter 4. The Land Classification Order (LCO) that was adopted with the 2005 BBAP is included as Appendix B. The revisions to the 2005 Land Classification Order are part of a LCO, SC-04-002A02. A LCO actually enacts and imposes the classifications that are identified as designations in the area plan. The 2013 LCO only supersedes the classifications of those management units that are affected by the 2013 Plan Amendment. All other classifications established under LCO SC-04-002 remain in effect.

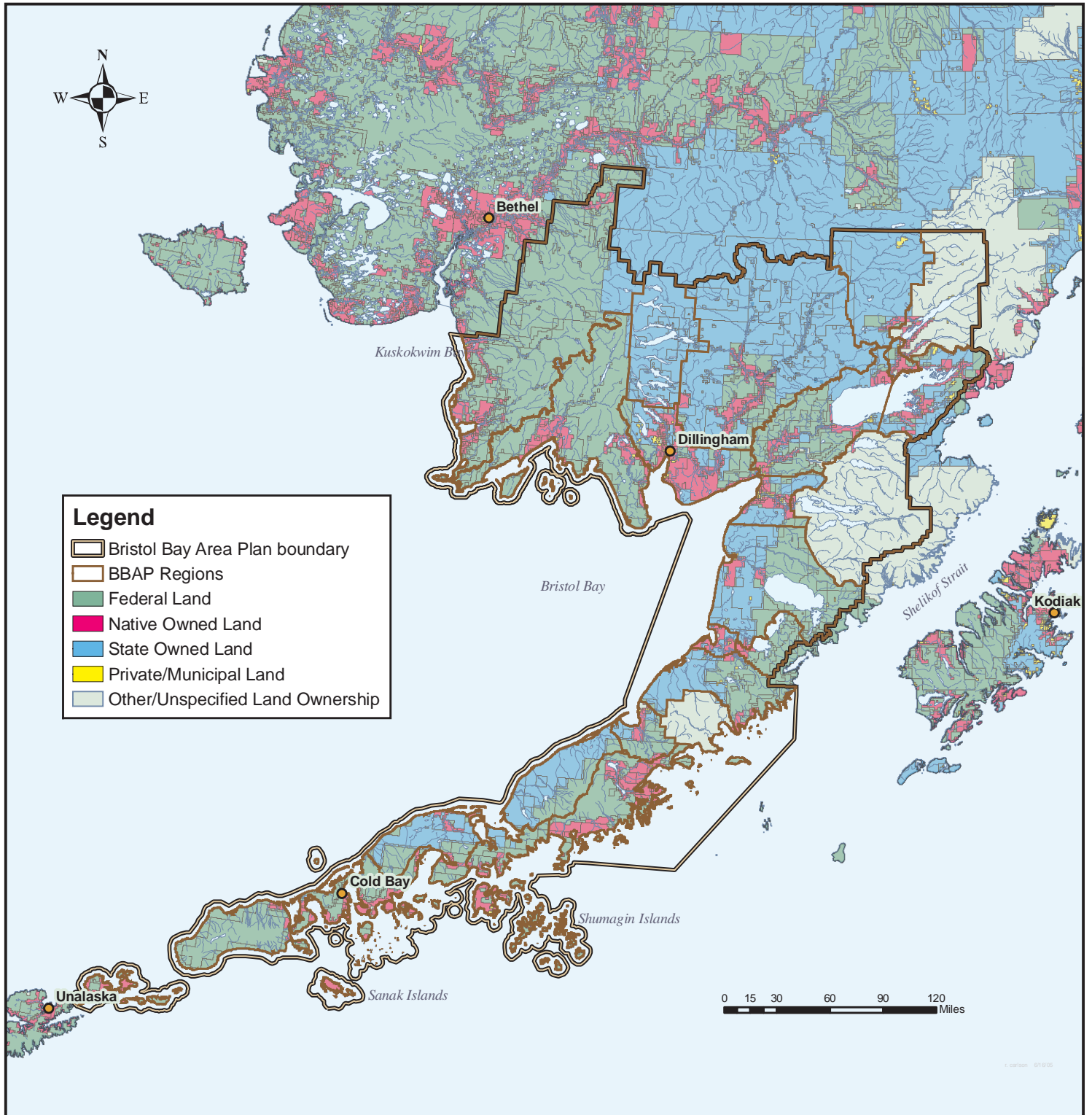
Summary of Plan Implementation and Modification

The plan is implemented through administrative actions such as leases, permits, land conveyances, classification orders, and mineral orders. Chapter 4 presents the details of plan implementation recommendations and procedures.

Economic and social conditions in Alaska and the planning area are sure to change and the plan must be flexible enough to change with them. The plan will be reviewed regularly to monitor progress in implementing the plan and to identify problems that may require amendment or modification.

Specific modifications may be made whenever conditions warrant them, though a request for these changes must follow certain procedures. The DNR Commissioner, following the review of public comments and consultation with appropriate agencies, may amend the plan after approval. Special exceptions and minor changes must follow certain procedures. See *Chapter 4* for a more detailed description of procedures for plan modifications, amendments, special exceptions, and minor changes.

Figure 1.2 Bristol Bay Area Plan - General Land Status



Chapter 2

Goals, Management Intent, and Guidelines

Introduction.....	1
Definitions.....	1
Goals	1
Management Intent	2
General Framework of the Plan	2
Guidelines by Activity or Resource Value	3
General.....	3
Other State Land	4
Aquatic Farming	5
Management Guidelines	6
Coordination and Public Notice.....	8
Management Guidelines	8
Fish and Wildlife Habitat and Harvest Areas	9
Management Guidelines: Habitat Areas	9
Management Guidelines: Harvest Areas	16
Management Guidelines: Special Management Areas – Tidelands & Submerged Lands; Other	18
Floating Facilities.....	20
Management Guidelines	21
Forestry	24
Management Guidelines	24
Heritage Resources	28
Management Guidelines	29
Figure 2.1: Historical and Archeological Sites	31
Instream Flow	32
Management Guidelines	32
Materials Resources	33
Management Guidelines	33
Mineral Resources	35
Management Guidelines	37
Table 2.1: Mineral Closing, Opening, and Leasehold Location Orders	38
Figure 2.2: Mineral Closure Orders, Leasehold Location Orders, and Mineral Opening Orders	40
Figure 2.3: Mineral Resources: Deposits, Prospects, and Occurrences.....	41
Oil and Gas	42
Management Guidelines	43
Figure 2.4: Oil & Gas and Coal Basins.....	44
Public Access Easements, Neighborhood Trails, and Public Access	45
Management Guidelines: Public Access – General	45
Management Guidelines: Access Corridors.....	45
Management Guidelines: Public Access.....	47

Recreation, Tourism, and Scenic Resources	50
Management Guidelines	51
Table 2.2: Nushagak & Mulchatna Rivers Recreational Management Guidelines (same as Table 3.1 in the RRMP)	56
Settlement	58
Management Guidelines	61
Shorelines, Stream Corridors and Coastal Areas	67
Management Guidelines	67
Table 2.3: Application Requirements for Easements and Buffers Along Waterbodies and Related Environmental Features	72
Transportation	74
Management Guidelines	75
Figure 2.5: Transportation Corridors	78

Chapter 2

Goals, Management Intent, and Guidelines

Introduction

This chapter presents land management policies for each of the major resources affected by the plan: fish and wildlife; forestry; materials; mineral resources; recreation and tourism; and water. The chapter also presents management policies for several specific land management concerns: protection of fish and wildlife habitat; public and private access; settlement; shoreline and stream corridors; trail management; public recreation and tourism; oil and gas; etc. In addition, this chapter addresses types of land uses including: aquatic farming; forestry; fish and wildlife harvest; floating facilities; settlement; transportation and trails management; and shoreline use and waterfront development. Note: This chapter was partly revised in 2013 in order to incorporate those revisions associated with the 2013 plan amendment and to reflect changes in organizational structure and/or statute that were changed subsequent to the approval of the 2005 BBAP.

These policies apply to state land throughout the planning area regardless of the land use designation.

This chapter consists of goals and management guidelines. Goals are the general condition the department is trying to achieve, and guidelines are specific directives that will be applied to land and water management decisions as resource use and development occurs.

Definitions

For definitions of terms commonly used in this chapter and others, please see Appendix A, Glossary.

Goals

The following are goals for state lands in the planning area. Goals are general conditions that DNR attempts to achieve through management actions. The goals are listed alphabetically. No single goal has a priority over the others.

Economic Development. Provide opportunities for jobs and income by managing state land and resources to support a vital, self-sustaining local economy.

Fiscal Costs. Minimize the needs for, and the fiscal cost of, providing government services and facilities such as schools and roads.

Public Health and Safety. Maintain or enhance public health and safety for users of state lands and resources.

Public Use. Provide and enhance diverse opportunities for public use of state lands, including uses such as hunting, fishing, boating, and other types of recreation.

Quality of Life. Maintain or enhance the quality of the natural environment including air, land and water, and fish and wildlife habitat and harvest opportunities; protect heritage resources and the character and lifestyle of the community.

Settlement. Provide opportunities for private ownership and leasing of land currently owned by the state.

Sustained Yield. Maintain the long-term productivity and quality of renewable resources including fish and wildlife, and timber.

Management Intent

Management intent for state land is expressed through statements of management emphasis identified on a management unit specific basis. These statements are based on resource and use inventory, existing and potential trends, existing authorizations, existing plans, and public participation.

General Framework of the Plan

A. State land within the planning area will be managed to allow for multiple use unless legislatively designated or a management unit of state land is less than 640 acres and managed under a management agreement by another state agency. It is the intent of the plan to provide land use designations for all state-owned and state-selected lands in the planning area. Any lands inadvertently missed or any state lands, lacking a land use designation, situated in gaps between this plan and adjoining plans are designated using the guidelines in Chapter 4 under 'Applicability of Plan Designations/Classifications to State Lands not Identified in the Plan Text or Plan Maps'.

B. State land will also be managed to protect access and public resources. Types of resources to be protected include, but are not limited to habitat, recreation, water quality, anchorages, watersheds, scenery, and trails.

C. State land will remain open to mineral entry unless specifically closed. This plan does not recommend any new areas be closed to mineral entry nor to be managed under a leasehold location order. Consequently, all land within the planning area is open to entry, except for those areas closed in previous mineral closing orders by DNR.

D. In management units where a primary use has been designated, activities and authorizations pertaining to that primary designated use may take precedence over other uses. Although there may be a priority for use in certain management units, other uses may also be allowed if they do not foreclose the area for its priority use. This plan emphasizes minimizing land use conflicts through plan guidelines and management intent rather than through prohibitions. All other uses are initially presumed compatible with the primary use. However, if DNR determines that a use conflict exists and that the proposed use is incompatible with the primary use, the proposed use shall not be authorized or it shall be modified so that the incompatibility no longer exists (11 AAC 55.040 (c)).

E. This plan designates state lands in categories that are generally consistent with current use patterns and the most significant resource values in the planning area.

F. This plan honors the intent of existing settlement agreements with the Mental Health Trust Authority and the University of Alaska. These settlement agreements shall prevail over the area plan if inconsistencies exist.

Guidelines by Activity or Resource Value

The following guidelines are specific directives that will be applied to management decisions. DNR will use these guidelines when considering issuing authorizations and conveyances or making management decisions on state lands. These guidelines will also apply to lands that are currently state selected and ANILCA filed when they are tentatively approved or patented into state ownership.

Chapter 2 guidelines apply to all state land covered by the Bristol Bay Area Plan unless the plan explicitly exempts some management units or designations from a guideline or the resource or use for which a guideline is intended does not exist in the unit in question.

General

A. All authorizations for use of state land within the planning area will be consistent with the management intent in this plan.

B. In considering authorizations for use of state land, DNR will adjudicate applications to:

- 1.** minimize damages to streambeds, fish and wildlife habitat, vegetation, trails, anchorages, and other resources;

2. minimize conflicts between resources and uses; and
3. protect the long-term value of the resource, public safety, and the environment.

C. If authorizations from other agencies are required, DNR will consider issuing a permit or lease contingent upon issuance of these other authorizations.

Other State Land

Management units that are donated or acquired after the plan is adopted will be designated for the uses for which they were acquired or donated without an amendment to the plan. Lands that come into state ownership through other means will be classified Resource Management Land, or another land use classification following consultation with other state resources departments, without an amendment to the plan.

Aquatic Farming

Background

Currently, there are no aquatic farms within the planning area. However, experimentation is being conducted and as market conditions, technology, and the economics of this industry change, aquatic farms can be expected in the planning area during the next twenty years. Management guidelines for their siting and operation follow.

Goal

Economic Opportunities and Community Development. Provide opportunities to increase income and diversify the state's economy through the use of state tidelands and submerged lands for aquatic farming.

General Conditions. Alaska Statute (AS 38.05.083) provides that state tidelands and submerged lands may be used, under lease, for aquatic farming or related hatchery operations. It also mandates regulations that: 1) require the Department to establish application siting guidelines; 2) specify the criteria for the approval or denial of lease applications; 3) consider limiting the number of sites to be leased within an area in order to reduce cumulative impacts on the environment and natural resources; and 4) protect the public's right of access and use of navigable waters and the land beneath them for navigation, commerce, fishing, and other purposes, as required under the Public Trust Doctrine.

DNR is required to provide siting guidelines for potential farmers during the application process. The siting guidelines include state regulatory agencies' requirements and federal laws that provide for the protection of fish and wildlife. Other guidelines are provided that assist in selecting sites that may enhance production or operations, such as areas with good water circulation that provide for abundant food sources and adequate flushing to remove wastes generated from the species being cultured. The state regulatory agencies involved in authorizing farmsites include DNR, the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, and the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation. If the applicant follows these guidelines, their chances of obtaining the necessary authorizations are greatly improved.

State and Federal Review Processes. Regulations at 11 AAC 63 require the Department to make a best interest finding before issuing a lease. The proposed operation must be in the overall best interest of the state before an authorization may be issued. Factors that are to be considered in this decision are identified in 11 AAC 63.050 (b). These factors include: whether the proposed aquatic farm will conflict with other uses; whether it is compatible with land management policies in adopted federal, state, and local plans at the proposed location and nearby uplands; how public access, including the adjacent upland owner's right of reasonable access, and the public's rights under the Public Trust Doctrine will be protected;

and whether the proposed aquatic farm will have any significant social, economic, and environmental effects. The Preliminary Best Interest Finding is subject to a public and agency review under AS 38.05.945. This review includes localities/boroughs/communities, Native organizations, Fish and Game Advisory committees, adjacent upland owners, and affected valid third party interests.

Concurrent with this review is a review under the Alaska Coastal Management Program (ACMP).¹ All aquatic farm proposals must be consistent with ACMP statewide standards and the enforceable policies of local coastal district plans, if applicable, in order to be authorized. Federal authorizations that have previously undergone a coastal consistency review may also be required in aquatic farming operations and include the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' General Permit 91-7N for aquatic farm structures within navigable waters and Nationwide Permit (NWP 4) which pertains to fish and wildlife harvesting, enhancement, and attraction devices and activities. Aquatic farm proposals that do not meet the requirements of these permits must undergo a separate individual review and authorization process conducted by the U.S. Corps of Engineers. As stated previously, all aquatic farm requests must meet the requirements of 11 AAC 63.050 and the current joint-agency application guidelines provided by DNR.

State Authorizations for Aquatic Farms. Should the aquatic farm proposal be found to be in the state's best interest, an Aquatic Farm Lease will be approved by the Department. The lease specifies operation, siting, environmental and habitat criteria that must be satisfied during the lease term. An Aquatic Farm Operation Permit must also be acquired from the Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) in order to ensure that the proposal is technically and operationally feasible, the physical and biological suitability of the area can support the operation, and habitat and public uses of fish and wildlife are protected (AS 16.40.105). ADF&G also requires a transport and acquisition permit in order to obtain and transport seed and/or broodstock between a hatchery and the farmsite and to be able to sell their product. In addition, the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (ADEC) requires that the water quality in the growing area meet both the state water quality standards and the requirements of the National Shellfish Sanitation Program, incorporated by reference in 18 AAC 34.200, to ensure the product is safe for human consumption. Product may only be sold from within areas classified by ADEC.

Management Guidelines

The combination of state and federal review and authorization requirements provides a comprehensive basis for the approval of proposed aquatic farm operations. Additional operational, siting, habitat, or environmental requirements in this plan are therefore generally unnecessary in order to effectively manage aquatic farming operations within the planning area. The subsequent management guidelines delineate standards for the approval of aquatic

¹ The Alaska Coastal Management Program was terminated on July 1, 2011, pursuant to AS 44.66.030.

farm operations and the factors that are to be considered in the siting of these operations next to sensitive uses and resources, and adjacent to federal or state land managed its scenic, recreation, wildlife, or other natural values.

A. General Management Approach. Aquatic farming will be allowed on state tidelands or submerged lands unless there is significant conflict with other uses of the immediate area or it is inconsistent with the requirements of 11 AAC 63.050 or this management plan. The siting of aquatic farming facilities may be more difficult on tidelands designated for: log transfer or storage; mineral transfer or access; critical or crucial fish and wildlife habitat or harvest; anchorages; or developed recreation. In addition, siting of aquatic farm facilities may be more difficult on tidelands adjacent to proposed land sales or existing residential areas, legislatively designated areas such as state critical habitat areas or game refuges/sanctuaries, and federal conservation system units such as national parks, monuments, preserves, or wildlife refuges where the upland management objective is to retain a natural environment. Specific stipulations related to siting, operations, and maintenance may be imposed by the Department in addition to those otherwise required in order to achieve site and use compatibility.

B. Tidelands Adjacent to State Legislatively Designated Areas or Federal Conservation System Units. The Department will consider adjacent upland resource management goals and objectives when granting authorizations on tidelands and submerged lands adjacent to management units subject to state legislatively designated areas or federal conservation units. When an aquatic farm request is received, the Department will review applicable state or federal management plans for compatibility. Aquatic farming operations that are not compatible with the management intent for uplands set forth in these plans and cannot be made compatible through mitigation measures will usually not be authorized. If however, there is an overriding state interest, there is no feasible or prudent alternative site, and all the other conditions of the local, state and federal permits or authorities are met, then an aquatic farming operation can be authorized.

Generally, aquatic farming operations involving the presence of caretaker facilities, structures used for storage or other operational needs, or the presence of personnel on a frequent basis are incompatible adjacent to uplands where the management intent is to retain land in an undeveloped state. The Department will consult the appropriate upland agency when determining compatibility of aquatic farm activities in these areas.

C. Other Guidelines Affecting Aquatic Farming. Other guidelines will affect aquatic farming management practices. See other sections of this chapter.

Coordination and Public Notice

Goals

Coordination with Other Landowners. Coordinate the use of state land with that of private and other public landowners to provide for the optimal use, development, and protection of area resources.

Public Participation. Provide local governments, state and federal agencies, adjacent landowners, and the general public with meaningful opportunities to participate in the process of making significant land use decisions.

Management Guidelines

A. Notice for Decisions Requiring Public Notice (Under AS 38.05.945). As required by statute, public notice will be given for decisions involving the sale, lease, or disposal of (or interests in) land, property, or resources. Actions not involving a disposal of interest will require public notice in accordance with Division of Mining, Land and Water (DMLW) procedures. Notice will be given to parties known or likely to be affected by an action proposed by the state or an applicant to the state, including upland property owners of adjoining state tidelands or submerged lands.

B. Coordination with Local Planning. The enforceable policies of district coastal management plans as well as the comprehensive plans and zoning map/ordinances of communities should be reviewed by DNR prior to issuing permits, leases, or other forms of use authorizations. See <http://www.alaskacoast.state.ak.us/>² for information on the enforceable policies of district coastal management plans.

C. Avoiding Conflicts with Adjacent Upland Owners. Before DNR issues a land use authorization on tidelands, submerged lands, or shorelands, DNR will require applicants to use areas that will reduce the likelihood of possible land use disagreements with upland owners. DNR will consider comments from private landowners and others before making a decision. DNR will retain the right to issue a land use authorization over the objection of adjacent landowners.

D. Other Guidelines Affecting Coordination or Public Notice. Several other guidelines may affect coordination or public notice. See other sections of this chapter.

² The Alaska Coastal Management Program was terminated on July 1, 2011, pursuant to AS 44.66.030.

Fish and Wildlife Habitat and Harvest Areas

Goals

Ensure Access to Public Lands and Waters. Ensure access to public lands and waters to promote or enhance the responsible public use and enjoyment of fish and wildlife resources.

Mitigate Habitat Loss. When resource development projects occur, avoid or minimize reduction in the quality and quantity of fish and wildlife habitat.

Contribute to Economic Diversity. Contribute to Alaska's economy by protecting the fish and wildlife resources that contribute directly or indirectly to local, regional, and state economies through commercial, subsistence, sport, and non-consumptive uses.

Maintain and Protect Publicly Owned Habitat Base. Maintain in public ownership and protect habitat for fish and wildlife resources. The aim is to supply sufficient numbers and a diversity of species to support commercial, recreational, or traditional uses on an optimum sustained yield basis, or protect a unique or rare assemblage of a species of regional, state, or national significance.

Management Guidelines: Habitat Areas

A. Mitigation. When issuing permits and leases or otherwise authorizing the use or development of state lands, DNR will recognize the requirements of the activity or development and the effects to habitat when determining stipulations or measures needed to protect fish, wildlife, or their habitats. The costs of mitigation relative to the benefits to be gained will be considered in the implementation of this policy. The underlying integrity of the ecological system and traditional way of life in this region is to be maintained to the maximum extent practicable.

All land use activities will be conducted with appropriate planning and implementation to avoid or minimize adverse effects on fish, wildlife, or their habitats.

The Department will enforce stipulations and measures, and will require the responsible party to remedy any significant damage to fish, wildlife, or their habitats that may occur as a direct result of the party's failure to comply with applicable law, regulations, or the conditions of the permit or lease.

When determining appropriate stipulations and measures, the department will apply, in order of priority, the following steps. Mitigation requirements listed in other guidelines in this plan will also follow these steps:

1. Avoid anticipated, significant adverse effects on fish, wildlife, or their habitats through siting, timing, or other management options.
2. When significant adverse effects cannot be avoided by design, siting, timing, or other management options, the adverse effect of the use or development will be minimized.
3. If significant loss of fish or wildlife habitat occurs, the loss will be rectified by repairing, rehabilitating, or restoring the affected area to a useful state.
4. DNR will consider requiring replacement or enhancement of fish and wildlife habitat when steps 1 through 3 cannot avoid substantial and irreversible loss of habitat. The ADF&G will identify the species affected, the need for replacement or enhancement, and the suggested method for addressing the impact. Replacement with or enhancement of similar habitats of the affected species in the same region is preferable. DNR will consider only those replacement and enhancement techniques that have either been proven to be, or are likely to be, effective and that will result in a benefit to the species impacted by the development. Replacement or enhancement will only be required by DNR if it is determined to be in the best interest of the state either through the AS 38.05.035 (e) or permit review process.

B. Allowing Uses in Fish and Wildlife Habitats (Ha). These habitats are defined as Areas that serve as a concentrated use area for fish and wildlife species during a sensitive life history stage where alteration of the habitat and/or human disturbance could result in a permanent loss of a population or sustained yield of the species. Fish and wildlife categories used to identify “Ha” (Habitat) designations in this plan include the following:

- Anadromous fish spawning and rearing areas in fresh water or brackish intertidal zones
- Estuaries important for rearing or schooling of anadromous fish
- Kelp beds covering large areas that are important marine nurseries
- Pacific herring spawning and rearing concentrations areas
- Eel grass beds that are important marine nurseries
- Waterfowl and/or shorebird concentration areas
- Seabird breeding habitat within each colony area of 500 birds and a two-mile radius around major breeding colonies (more than 20,000 birds)
- Bald eagle nest sites or nest site areas, and known concentrations
- Sea lion haulouts and rookeries
- Harbor seal haulouts and rookeries
- Walrus haulouts and rookeries
- Sea otter pupping areas
- Bear concentration areas (including concentrations by season)

- Important wildlife migration corridors, including nearshore migration routes
- Caribou and moose rutting, wintering and calving concentration areas.

The areas designated Habitat (Ha) in Chapter 3 of the plan were defined using the best available information when the plan was written. Most of the areas designated “Ha” are tidelands, shorelands, and submerged land areas; few upland management units were given this designation. It should be noted that many of the large, interior upland management units contain areas of sensitive habitat but were not assigned a Habitat designation. Instead, these large management units were assigned the designation of General Use, reflecting the large size, lack of dominance of any one resource, or absence of known or anticipated development. In these instances, information about the sensitive resource(s) as well as management intent language has been provided. The management intent indicates the kind and level of protection to be afforded the resource(s). It should be emphasized that the use of the Habitat designation does not preclude compatible human uses.

In the designation of habitat areas on tidelands, data sources were sometimes of a generalized nature. Because of this and in order to be conservative in the delineation of habitat areas, large tideland areas were identified. The wildlife and fishery information identified for specific management units in Chapter 3 occupy either part or all of the area of a management unit. The resource that was used to determine that an area should be designated “Ha” is identified in the management unit descriptions contained in Resource Allocation Tables in Chapter 3 under the column, “Resources and Uses”. In some cases, there is only a single resource but in other instances, several resources exist, with these resources sometimes occupying different portions of the management unit. The spatial distribution of habitat resources is described in the management intent language, if known. Management units are to be managed to protect the resource identified in these tables. Areas of sensitive habitat in management units designated General Use are, similarly, to be managed to protect the resource that is identified.

Since there is a distinct seasonality associated with the critical life periods of certain terrestrial or marine mammals and fish, seasonality shall be taken into consideration during project review and approval. Seasonality and critical life cycle stages are identified in various publications³. Thus, it may be possible that uses and facilities may be appropriate within areas designated “Ha” if the seasonality criteria are satisfied by including mitigating measures in project design.

Tideland and upland uses that are not consistent with the approved designation, not authorized in the management intent statement for a specific management unit, and, if permitted, *would* result in the degradation of the resource(s) associated with areas designated “Ha”, are to be considered incompatible with the plan’s management intent and, specifically, with the “Ha” designation. Degradation of the resource might result from actions involving

³ These publications include, but are not limited to the following: ADF&G Regional Habitat Guides and NOAA Oil Spill Response Atlas. Consult ADF&G for further information.

one or more of the following factors: dredging, filling, significant compaction of vegetation and sediment, alteration of flow patterns, discharge of toxic substances, or disturbance during sensitive periods. If there is a question as to whether a use would be appropriate or whether it would degrade a listed resource, DNR shall consult with ADF&G in making the determination of initial incompatibility.

Non-designated uses that cause significant adverse impacts to the resources identified within a given “Ha” management unit *can* be allowed *if*:

- ADF&G or the DNR Office of Habitat Management and Permitting determines through new information or more detailed analysis that the area is not “Ha” as defined in the plan; or
- If DNR in consultation with ADF&G or the DNR Office of Habitat Management and Permitting determines that the non-designated use can be made compatible, and significant adverse impacts to the “Ha” area can be avoided with appropriate design, siting, and operating stipulations; or
- Within areas where the ACMP⁴ policies are not in effect, the use (project) is determined to be in the best interest of the state.

C. Allowing Uses Outside of Designated Fish and Wildlife Habitat Areas. Outside of areas designated Habitat, habitat-altering uses will be sited consistent with the management guidelines in this chapter, and the management intent and guidelines in Chapter 3.

D. Habitat Manipulation. Habitat restoration through water control, timber management practices, removal of pollution sources, or other measures may be used to improve habitat for certain fish and wildlife species where ADF&G determines it is beneficial to the species or habitat and DNR determines that it is compatible with other primary uses.

E. Hatchery and Aquatic Farm Source Waters. To preserve the quality of an existing hatchery’s water supply, uses should not be located on state land where they would risk reducing water quality or quantity below that needed by the hatchery or aquatic farm.

F. Water Intake Structures. When issuing water rights for waters providing fish habitat, DNR will require that practical water intake structures be installed that do not result in entrainment or impingement of fish and will maintain instream flows needed to sustain existing fish populations. The simplest and most cost-effective technology may be used to implement this guideline.

Water intake structures should be screened, and intake velocities will be limited to prevent entrapment, entrainment, or injury to fish. The structures supporting intakes should be designed to prevent fish from being led into the intake. Other effective techniques may also

⁴ The Alaska Coastal Management Program was terminated on July 1, 2011, pursuant to AS 44.66.030.

be used to achieve the intent of this guideline. DNR’s DMLW and Office of Habitat Management and Permitting should be consulted to determine screen size, water velocity, and intake design if the intake structure is in fish habitat.

G. Alteration of the Riverine Hydrologic System. To the extent feasible, channelization, diversion, or damming that will alter the natural hydrological conditions and have a significant adverse impact on important riverine habitat will be avoided.

H. Threatened and Endangered Species. All land use activities will be conducted consistent with state and federal Endangered Species Acts to avoid jeopardizing the continued existence of threatened or endangered species of animals or plants, to provide for their continued use of an area, and to avoid modification or destruction of their habitat. Specific mitigation recommendations should be identified through interagency consultation for any land use activity that potentially affects threatened or endangered species. Within the planning area, ten species are under the jurisdiction of the U.S. National Marine Fisheries Service, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, or Alaska Department of Fish and Game as threatened (T) or endangered (E) in accordance with the state and federal Endangered Species Acts, as amended. Ten species are identified by the federal government as either Threatened or Endangered, while the state identifies two of these ten as either Threatened or Endangered. The table, below, identifies the species identified by the federal government as Threatened or Endangered. The two species identified as Threatened or Endangered by the state are noted.

Species	Status
Short-tailed albatross (<i>Diomedea albatros</i>)*	E
Eskimo curlew (<i>Numenius borealis</i>)	E
Humpback whale (<i>Megaptera novaeangliae</i>)*	E
Blue whale (<i>Balaenoptera musculus</i>)	E
Fin whale (<i>Balaenoptera physalus</i>)	E
North Pacific right whale (<i>Eubalaena japonica</i>)	E
Sperm whale (<i>Physeter macrocephalus</i>)	E
Stellar sea lion (<i>Eumetopias jubatus</i>)	E (western population)
Spectacled eider (<i>Somateria fischeri</i>)	T
Steller’s eider (<i>Polysticta stelleri</i>)	T

* Also included on the State’s Threatened and Endangered list.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Division of Ecological Services or the National Marine Fisheries Service will be consulted on questions that involve endangered species.

I. Eagles. Authorizations or disposals that potentially affect bald eagles will be consistent with the state and federal Endangered Species Acts and the Bald Eagle Protection Act of 1940 as amended. Applicable standards are drawn from a cooperative agreement signed by the U.S. Forest Service and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), or such subsequent standards that may be promulgated. However, the USFWS may not determine them to be

adequate in all circumstances. In addition, meeting the guidelines does not absolve the party from the penalty provisions of the Bald Eagle Protection Act. Therefore, the USFWS should be consulted when activities may affect bald or golden eagles.

- 1. Siting Facilities to Avoid Eagle Nests.** Facilities determined by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to cause significant disturbance to nesting eagles will not be allowed within 330 feet of any bald eagle nest site, whether the nest is currently active or not.
- 2. Activities Disturbing Nesting Eagles.** Activities the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service determines likely to cause significant disturbance to nesting eagles will be prohibited within 330 feet of active bald eagle nests between March 15 and August 31. Temporary activities and facilities that do not alter eagle nesting habitat or disturb nesting eagles, as determined by the USFWS, may be allowed at other times.

J. Sea Lion and Walrus Haulouts and Rookeries, and Seabird Colonies. Seabird colonies and walrus, sea lion, and seal haulouts and rookeries shall not be physically altered. Structures or activities that would preclude or significantly interfere with the continued use of these areas should not be authorized and should be situated at least one-half mile distant from haulouts or seabird colonies, except as noted. Uses with high levels of acoustical or visual disturbance should not be allowed within: one mile of seabird colonies from April 15 through August 31; one-half mile of walrus haulouts from May 1 through December 1; and one-half mile of seal or sea lion haulouts from May 1 through July 31. Consult with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and ADF&G prior to granting authorizations to identify marine mammal haulout, rookery and seabird colony locations more specifically, and to define minimum distance separation requirements and specific use restrictions. Consult the 'Resources & Uses' section of tideland management units in the Resource Allocation Tables to determine haulouts, rookeries, or seabird colonies likely to be present in an area.

Individual sea lion and walrus haulouts and rookeries and seabird colonies⁵ not contained within specific tideland management units or state protected tideland areas⁶ are designated Habitat (Ha) and are to be managed according to Management Guideline B, 'Allowing Uses in Fish and Wildlife Habitats (Ha)' and the restrictions described above.

K. Caribou and Moose Rutting, Wintering, and Calving Areas. Large portions of the planning area contain areas important for caribou and moose calving, wintering, and rutting. Calving typically occurs from May through June, depending upon location. Uses that are likely to produce levels of acoustical or visual disturbance sufficient to disturb calving, rutting, or post-calving aggregations that cannot be seasonally restricted should not be authorized in these areas. Uses may be authorized in these areas at other times of the year. DNR authorizations should include seasonal restrictions on activities that would produce significant acoustical or visual disturbance during sensitive periods.

⁵ Defined as 500 or more seabirds.

⁶ The term 'state protected areas' includes state game refuges, state game sanctuaries, and state critical habitat areas.

Caribou and moose calving, wintering, and rutting areas change over time. In particular, caribou wintering areas show no particular concentration and, in fact, there is a fairly widespread distribution of these habitats throughout the planning area. The location of caribou wintering varies throughout this range from year to year and within years and does not exhibit the same concentrated pattern that is characteristic of moose wintering areas. ADF&G should be consulted prior to issuing an authorization in order to better determine: 1) the location of calving, wintering, and rutting areas; 2) when activities within these areas should be avoided; and 3) identify appropriate mitigation measures if no feasible or prudent alternative site exists. Refer to an upland management unit's 'Uses and Resources' section in the Resource Allocation Tables to determine whether the presence of a rutting, wintering, or calving area is likely.

L. Tundra Swan Nesting Areas. In tundra swan nesting areas, uses that would disturb nesting swans or detrimentally alter the nesting habitat should be avoided. The siting of permanent facilities, including roads, material sites, storage areas, and other forms of permanent structures should be avoided within one-quarter mile of known nesting sites. Surface entry should also be avoided within one-quarter mile of nesting sites between April 1 and August 31. Leases or permits may require seasonal restrictions on activities to avoid disturbance to swans. Consult with ADF&G to identify current or potential nesting habitat and to determine guidelines to follow and activities to avoid. The standards of Guideline M, 'Activities in Important Waterfowl Habitat', also apply. Refer to an upland management unit's 'Resources and Uses' section in the Resource Allocation Tables to determine if the presence of a nesting area is likely.

M. Activities in Important Waterfowl Habitat. In important waterfowl habitat, activities requiring a lease, permit, or development plan, and producing high levels of acoustical or visual disturbance from sources such as boat traffic, blasting, dredging, and seismic operations, will be avoided during sensitive periods such as nesting, staging, or brood-rearing periods. Where it is not feasible and prudent to avoid such activities, other mitigation measures will consider avoiding significant adverse impacts. Consult with ADF&G to identify areas of important waterfowl in addition to those identified in the tidelands management units in this plan and to determine appropriate mitigation or avoidance measures.

N. Dredge and Fill in Important Waterfowl Habitat. Permits for dredging and filling in important waterfowl habitat, including permits for gravel extraction and construction of roads and pads, should not be granted unless it is determined that the proposed activity will not cause significant adverse impacts to important waterfowl or that no feasible and prudent alternative exists. Where dredging or filling occurs, other mitigation measures are to be used to avoid significant adverse impacts.

O. Eel Grass Beds. Development activities, structures, and facilities should not significantly disturb eel grass beds or interfere with the exchange of nutrients or waters between estuarine lagoons and the marine environment.

P. Soil Erosion. Soil erosion will be avoided by restricting soil disturbance along waterbodies and by stabilizing disturbed soil as soon as possible.

Q. Fish and Wildlife Enhancement on State Lands. Fish and wildlife enhancement activities on state lands, whether by ADF&G or other parties, will be consistent with the management intent for those lands. Enhancement activities likely to attract significant public use, including sport fishing use, will be designed and located to minimize the impact of additional public use on the existing recreation resources, including anchorages, campsites, and existing and intended natural values.

R. Grounding of Floating Facilities. Floating tideland facilities will not ground at any tide stage unless the ADF&G determines there will be no significant impact to the habitat values, or the applicant demonstrates to the satisfaction of DNR that there is no feasible and prudent alternative and DNR determines it is in the state's best interest.

S. Protection of Fish and Wildlife Resources - Transportation Facilities. Important fish and wildlife habitats such as those described as riparian areas, wildlife movement corridors, important wintering areas, and threatened or endangered species habitat should be avoided in siting transportation routes unless no other feasible and prudent alternatives exist. Location of routes and timing of construction should be determined in consultation with the ADF&G and DNR, Office of Habitat Management and Permitting, as appropriate.

T. Conflicts with Traditional Uses of Fish and Game. Decisions to authorize land use activities will consider the effect on and minimize significant conflicts with traditional uses of fish and wildlife resources.

Management Guidelines: Harvest Areas

A. Allowing Uses Within Designated Harvest Areas (Hv). Considerations similar to those identified in the Habitat portion above apply to areas designated Harvest (Hv). Only tideland management units are affected by the Harvest designation. These Harvest areas are defined as areas of intense fish and wildlife harvest (compared to the rest of the planning area) where the level of harvest has reached, or is projected to reach, the harvestable surplus for the resource, or discrete fish and wildlife harvest areas historically important to a community for the harvest of a species where alteration of habitat could permanently limit sustained yield for traditional uses:

- important areas for human use of fish and wildlife,
- areas with multiple uses of fish and wildlife,
- localized areas of subsistence or community harvest,
- localized, very intense, harvest areas,
- intensive sport/personal use fishing areas,

- intensive commercial use fishing areas,
- intensive commercial crab or shrimp harvest areas,
- intensive hunting or trapping areas for a game or furbearer species.

The areas designated “Hv” in Chapter 3 of the plan were defined using the best available information at the time of plan preparation. In the designation of these areas, data sources were of a generalized nature, oftentimes at the 1:250,000 scale. In order to be conservative in the delineation of harvest areas, large tideland areas were identified. In some cases, there is only a single harvest resource, but in other instances several resources exist, with these resources sometimes occupying different portions of the management unit. The spatial distribution of harvest resources is described in the management intent language, if known. The resource(s) used to make the determination that an area should be designated Harvest are identified in the management unit descriptions contained in the Resource Allocation Tables in Chapter 3 under the column, “Resources and Uses”.

Management units designated Harvest will be managed to ensure minimal disturbance to the harvest resources identified for a given area. Since there is a distinct seasonality associated with the critical life periods of certain marine mammals and fish, seasonality shall be taken into consideration during project review and approval. Seasonality and critical life cycle stages are identified in various publications⁷. Thus, it may be possible that uses and facilities may be appropriate within areas designated Harvest if the seasonality criteria are satisfied by including mitigating measures in project design.

Tideland and upland uses that are not consistent with the approved designation, not authorized in the management intent statement for a specific management unit, and, if permitted, *would* result in the degradation of the resource(s) associated with areas designated Harvest or Ha/Hv, are to be considered incompatible with the plan’s management intent and with the Harvest and Ha/Hv designations. If there is a question as to whether a use would be appropriate or whether it would degrade a listed resource, DNR shall consult with the ADF&G, in making the determination of initial incompatibility.

Uses may be permitted if the proposed use avoids the resource or if, through stipulations, it can be made to have minimal adverse impact on the harvest activity for which the area was designated. In instances when the proposed use cannot avoid the harvest area or cannot mitigate significant impacts through design, siting, or operation stipulations, the use may be permitted if one of the following conditions is satisfied:

- ADF&G determines through new information or more detailed analysis that the area is not Harvest or Ha/Hv as defined in the plan;

⁷ These publications include, but are not limited to, the following: ADF&G Regional Habitat Guides and NOAA Oil Spill Response Atlas. Consult ADF&G for further information.

- The use is of sufficient public importance or lacks a feasible and prudent alternative consistent with the applicable management guidelines of this plan; or
- The significant adverse impacts of the use (project) are mitigated under Management Guideline A.

B. Allowing Uses in Other than Designated Harvest Areas. Within the plan boundary, essentially all tidelands and submerged lands are used for some form of subsistence, sport, or commercial harvest at some time during the year. The entire planning area is fully utilized by fisheries for one species or another. Even though only intensively used areas were designated Harvest, significant harvest areas often occur in areas designated General Use (Gu). Under that portion of the “Gu” definition (see Definitions, Chapter 3) applying to intertidal and submerged lands, some lands designated “Gu” are recognized to contain important resources for one or more subsistence, recreational and commercial harvest fisheries. Maps depicting the areas used for harvest (sport, subsistence, and commercial) are identified in the ADF&G publication, “Atlas to the Habitat Management Guide: Southwest Region (1985)”. More detailed information on harvest areas is included within ADF&G publications. These reports should be consulted for site-specific decisions.

C. Activities Adjacent to Designated Harvest Areas. To protect access, uses adjacent to intensively used commercial, recreation, community, or subsistence harvest areas will not preclude access for harvest activities during the harvest or use season.

Management Guidelines: Special Management Areas – Tidelands & Submerged Lands; Other

A. Activities in Intensive Purse Seine and Gill Net Areas. Tideland facilities should not be located where they would obstruct drift or set gill net or purse seine use of the shoreline in intensive fishery areas.

B. Activities in Traditional Use Commercial Herring Areas. Activities should avoid disruption of the harvest within traditional herring fishery areas including the sac roe and wild kelp harvest fishery areas.

C. Anchorages. See Management Guidelines for Floating Facilities.

D. Special Management Areas – Tidelands and Submerged Lands. Special management areas termed ‘Tideland Resource Management Zones’ for tidelands and submerged lands apply where large areas of tide and submerged lands should be managed in a coordinated manner. These areas are significantly larger than typical tideland management units, and do not properly fit into the definition of a “management unit” as used in this plan. There is a single Tideland Resource Management Zone (TRMZ) within the planning boundary. This TRMZ affects tideland and submerged lands adjacent to federal conservation units, including National Wildlife Refuges (Togiak, Alaska Maritime, Alaska Peninsula, Izembek, and

Becharof), and Aniakchak National Monument and Preserve. These areas are depicted on regional plan O-1 through O-4. Management intent language and guidelines are identified for TRMZs, similar to tidelands management units and are contained in Chapter 3. These management statements are contained in the section termed 'Management Summary, Tidelands' in the introduction for Chapter 3. Those parts of the TRMZ specific to a region are described and included as specific management subunits within the Resource Allocation Table for each region.

E. Other Guidelines Affecting Fish and Wildlife Habitat. Other guidelines may affect the protection and management of fish and wildlife habitat. See other sections of this chapter.

Floating Facilities

Background

There are few permitted floating facilities within the planning area. This is unlike areas of Southeast Alaska or Prince William Sound in Southcentral Alaska, that have a wide variety of residential, industrial (largely forestry), administrative, or commercial floating facilities (primarily commercial lodges). Floating facilities tend to occur near communities or at sites that support the fishing industry of Bristol Bay, and are intended to support the area's fishing industry. This type of use may grow during the planning period and thus the inclusion of standards for this type of use is prudent.

Goals

Economic Development Opportunities. Provide opportunities to increase personal income, diversify the state's economy, accommodate residential uses, in support of commercial and industrial developments, tourism, upland resource extraction, and provide services for community needs.

Public Access. Public access shall be maintained along the coastline in any authorization for floating facilities issued by the Department.

Definitions

Floating Facilities⁸. This is a general phrase used to encompass the types of "occupied" floating residential facilities further described below. These facility types do not include commercial fishing vessels engaged in commercial fishing activities. Residential floating facilities require an authorization if moored or anchored within a bay or cove in one location for a period of 14 days or more. Moving the floating facility at least two miles starts a new 14-day period. Commercial floating facilities require authorization before occupying state tidelands and submerged lands.

⁸ Not included in this definition are numerous other types of unoccupied facilities and structures authorized by DNR on state tidelands including but not limited to such things as floats, docks, floating docks, floating rafts used for gear storage, buoys, floating breakwaters, and barge ramps. Management guidelines for unoccupied floating structures are covered under Management Guideline L.

Facility Types	Definition
Floathomes	Floathouses, houseboats, barges and boats, powered or not, that are intended for non-commercial residential use. A floathome is generally for single family use and not associated with economic development activities.
Floatlodge	A floating residential facility providing overnight accommodations for commercial recreation services to the public.
Floating Camp, Floating Caretaker Facility	Single or multi-family floating residential facilities used as housing, or that are necessary to contain equipment or processing to support facilities for economic development activities such as commercial timber harvest, mineral exploration or aquatic farming operations, or associated with public activities.

Management Guidelines

A. Siting, Development, and Operational Standards: General. Floating facilities⁹ will be sited, designed and operated consistent with: 1) the requirements of the U.S. Corps of Engineers General Permit for floathomes (currently 89-4) and all successor general permits or with an individual Corps permit; 2) federal and state water quality standards; coastal zone standards under the ACMP regulations 6 AAC 80¹⁰; and 3) the management guidelines of this section. If necessary, DNR may impose additional stipulations to protect the environment or habitat; ensure use compatibility; or meet the objectives of this plan.

B. General Siting Criteria. Floathomes are not considered an appropriate use within the planning area unless authorized in an adopted local land use or coastal plan for specific locations. Other types of floating facilities may be authorized if it is determined that the permitting of a floating facility is in the best interest of the state, the use conforms to the management guidelines of this section, and the use is consistent with the standards of the Alaska Coastal Management Program⁹ and with local land use or coastal district management plans. Floating facilities should not be authorized where the use is considered inappropriate in the management intent statement for a particular management unit or tideland resource management zone.

C. Siting: Floating Facilities Inside Municipalities. Within the corporate boundaries of municipalities, DNR will regulate floating facility siting consistent with the Alaska Coastal Management Plan (ACMP)⁹, including the district coastal zone management plan, and local comprehensive plan or zoning.

⁹ This management guideline also applies to unoccupied floating facilities.

¹⁰ The Alaska Coastal Management Program was terminated on July 1, 2011, pursuant to AS 44.66.030.

D. Siting: Floathomes Adjacent to Residential Areas. Floating facilities should only be authorized adjacent to upland residential areas if these uses are allowed under a local land use or district coastal management plan¹¹. However, a short-term authorization, not to exceed two years, may be given on an individual basis to the upland owner if the floathome is to be occupied while the upland owner is constructing a residence on his/her upland management unit.

E. Siting: Floating Facilities⁵ within or near Sensitive Uses, Habitats, or Resources. To protect existing habitats, resources and uses, floating facilities should not be authorized in areas: 1) designated Habitat (Ha)¹², Harvest (Hv), Settlement (S), or Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed (Rd); 2) that adjoin an upland subdivision (except for those floathomes that are currently permitted, or as authorized under Guideline D, above); 3) would occur within important anchorages; 4) near an authorized aquatic farming operation (except for associated caretaker residences); or 5) near known cultural, historic sites or public use cabins. A floating facility may only be authorized in these areas if there is no other prudent and feasible alternative site, the facility will not impair the functions of the resources and uses identified above, and is determined in the permitting process to be in the overall best interest of the state.

F. Siting: Floating Facilities Adjacent to State Game Refuges, Sanctuaries, or Critical Habitat Areas, and National Wildlife Refuges, or Aniakchak National Monument and Preserve. Floating facilities are not considered appropriate adjacent to state game refuges or sanctuaries, state critical habitat areas, National Wildlife Refuges, or the Aniakchak National Monument and Preserve. Certain commercial, governmental or research facilities may be authorized if, at the discretion of DNR, the facility is determined to be of low impact, is compatible with the back-country or natural character of the adjoining uplands, other prudent and feasible alternative sites do not exist, and it is in the overall best interest of the state. Areas adjacent to a federal conservation unit are managed under a Tidelands Resource Management Zone (TRMZ) for tidelands and submerged lands. See the discussion of TRMZs under the Management Summary, Tidelands in Chapter 3 for a more complete description of management intent and allowed facilities and structures.

G. Area Occupied by Floating Facility. All floating facilities, including attached floats and anchors, shall occupy the smallest area of tideland or submerged land practicable, consistent with the requirements of the proposed use.

H. Form of Authorization of Floating Structures. Floating facilities may be authorized through the use of a permit. Permits are currently issued for a five-year duration and may be renewed. Renewal may be authorized by DNR for another like duration if the floating structure meets the requirements of the initial permit and any other stipulations that DNR

¹¹ The Alaska Coastal Management Program was terminated on July 1, 2011, pursuant to AS 44.66.030.

¹² Where it would be inconsistent with the resources that are to be managed for a particular parcel as given in the Resource Allocation Tables in Chapter 3.

may impose to conform the use to the current standards or regulations. Commercial structures may also be allowed by, or be converted to, a lease when the use is of a permanent nature in the opinion of the Department.

I. Authorization of Temporary Floating Camps. Floating camps and related facilities should be temporary, with full occupancy restricted to the time when resource development is occurring. To the extent practicable, camps and associated facilities should be consolidated to minimize impacts and limit their proliferation. Temporary floating camps shall not be sited in sensitive habitat, resource, or use areas described more specifically in Management Guidelines E and F, and may not be sited in other areas unless they are for a designated use or support a designated use in the plan. Authorizations for floating camps should terminate when the upland use, which created the need for the floating camp, has ended or when the need for the floating facility ends. Authorization for this type of use should be by permit.

J. Public Notice. The adjacent upland owner(s) shall be notified by DNR during permit review of a proposed floating facility. This shall be in addition to the general public notice requirements of the department.

K. Anchoring of Floating Facilities. In order to protect public access to and along public tidelands, shore ties that would conflict with public access should not be authorized if floating facilities can be safely moored through the use of anchors or rock bolts. In addition, shore ties above Mean High Water will not be used unless authorized by the upland owner.

L. Siting: Unoccupied Floating Structures. In order to protect certain uses and resources, unoccupied floating facilities, including but not limited to floats, docks, floating docks, rafts used for gear storage, floating breakwaters, buoys, and barge ramps, should not be authorized within anchorages, areas designated Public Recreation and Tourism-Public Use Site, or near public use cabins. Unoccupied floating facilities may be authorized in these areas by DNR if it is determined that the permitting of such facilities is in the best interest of the state, the use conforms to the applicable management guidelines of this section, and the use is found consistent with the Alaska Coastal Management Program¹³.

M. Other Guidelines Affecting Floating Facilities. Other guidelines will affect floating facilities. See other sections of this chapter.

¹³ The Alaska Coastal Management Program was terminated on July 1, 2011, pursuant to AS 44.66.030.

Forestry

Background

Most of the area within the Bristol Bay plan boundary has little timber value. There are areas of timber on state lands along the Nushagak and Wood Rivers, within Wood-Tikchik State Park, and on the eastern side of Lake Iliamna. Since Wood-Tikchik State Park is a legislatively designated area, timber harvest is precluded. Other isolated areas of timber exist but due to remoteness of these areas, and distance to any market, there are no planned timber sales in the planning area. The Division of Forestry (DOF) is responsible for the implementation of the Forest Practices Act on any harvest on private lands including Native corporations. Very little commercial harvest has occurred in the area and little is expected in the future.

Goals

Personal Use Timber. Provide timber to meet the needs of Alaskans. This program will be limited in scope and provided on a demand basis when the operational costs of administering this program are satisfactory.

Economic Opportunities. Provide for economic opportunities and stability in the forest products industry by allowing the use of state tidelands and submerged lands for log storage and transfer sites, and beach log salvage.

Support Timber Industry. Perform reviews of private timber harvest should they occur for adherence to the Forest Practices Act. Provide information and technical expertise in the management of forest resources if and when it may be needed by the industry.

Wildland Fire Suppression. DOF shall continue to provide wildland fire suppression within the planning area consistent with the requirements of the Alaska Interagency Fire Management Plan.

Management Guidelines

A systematic program of scheduled timber harvests is not appropriate within the planning area at the present time; however, a few sales may be possible on an opportunistic basis. Should this occur they are likely to be small, isolated sales associated with the development of a subdivision, disposal of state land, or some other form of intensive land use. Harvest for personal use or salvage from disease or other destructive agents is likely at some time during

the planning period. Timber management activities are subject to the following management guidelines in addition to the requirements of the state Forest Practices Act and any Forest Land Use Plan (FLUP) for a specific area.

The central focus of the state forestry program within the planning area is fire management. A management guideline is included that describes the broad aspects of this program. The implementation of the state fire management program is identified and controlled in detail by the Alaska Interagency Fire Management Plan.

A. Timber Harvest Guidelines

1. All timber harvest activities must be compatible with the management guidelines of this section and with the management intent statements and land use designations identified in specific management units of this plan found in Chapter 3. Most of the management units of state land that are not part of a state park or a designated Habitat area are designated General Use, Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed, or Settlement. The management guidelines for the management units with the latter designations do not preclude forest harvest. Forest harvest may be an appropriate use, consistent with the management intent and management guidelines of specific management units. Forest harvest operations conducted on a management unit of state land intended for subdivision development by DNR can precede actual construction. However, these operations must be consistent with the subdivision plan for the management unit. Consultation with DMLW is required before commencing operations.
2. All timber harvest operations will be conducted in accordance with the stipulations in the Forest Land Use Plan, the Alaska Forest Resources and Practices Act (AS 41.17 & 11 AAC 95), the Alaska Land Act (AS 38.05 & 11 AAC 71), and other pertinent state guidelines and laws. The Forest Practices Act provides statewide guidance and policy for managing forestry related activities. The specific layout and other site-specific requirements of a timber sale are addressed through a FLUP, which is prepared prior to any commercial timber harvest or sale (AS 38.05.112).

FLUPs developed for timber sale or harvests in the planning area are to be consistent with the Forestry Management Guidelines of this Chapter and the Management Guidelines specified for particular management units in Chapter 3. FLUPs shall consider sensitive resources, wildlife, or any other significant factors identified in the Management Guidelines for a management unit.

3. Land conveyed out of state ownership for the purpose of settlement, or another form of active land use, shall not be used for commercial timber harvest and sale. Such disposals of state land by DNR shall preclude the sale of merchantable timber harvested on lots or management units conveyed out of state ownership. The format used to impose this restriction is at the discretion of the Regional Manager, Southcentral Office. This guideline is not intended to preclude the cutting of trees or other vegetation as part of the process of land clearing or site development.

B. Log Transfer Facilities and Sort Yards. Sort yards and log transfer facilities (LTF) will be constructed, sited, operated, and monitored in order to minimize the impact on state land and resources. The design, development, and use of these facilities shall be consistent with the *Log Transfer Facility Siting, Construction, Operation, and Monitoring/Reporting Guidelines (October 1985)*, or successors to these standards that may be approved by DNR and ADF&G.

C. Beach Log Salvage. Although beach log salvage may be categorically consistent with the Alaska Coastal Management Program¹⁴, a license is required from the Department before salvage commences. Beach log salvage administered under the provisions of AS 45.50 and 11 AAC 71 shall be consistent with standards developed by the DOF and GC-10 (General Permit) of the ACMP¹⁴.

D. Timber Salvage from Rights-of-Way. Timber with commercial or personal use value should be salvaged from lands that are to be cleared for other uses such as roads, transmission lines, material sites, mining, and habitat enhancement projects (AS 41.17.083). The Regional Manager of the Southcentral Region of DMLW shall determine the amount and kind of material that is to be salvaged.

E. Personal Use Wood Harvest. When forested lands are available near communities and where personal use harvest is consistent with other purposes for which the land is being managed, DOF may consider providing wood products for personal use. This program will only be undertaken, however, if it can be effectively and efficiently administered by DOF. Only limited use of this program is expected given the relatively low demand for personal use wood, the absence of a good supply, the high administrative costs of a small personal use wood supply program, and the difficulty of managing such a program from a distance.

F. Sustained Yield of Forest Resources. Forestland will be managed to guarantee perpetual supplies of renewable resources to serve the needs of all Alaskans for the many products, benefits, and services obtained from them. The annual allowable harvest will be calculated using the area control method.

G. Salvage of Damaged Trees. Trees damaged due to wind throw, insect, or disease conditions may be salvaged on all land use designations unless management intent statements for specific management units in Chapter 3 specifically prohibit salvage harvest. A FLUP, if required, will provide the rationale for conducting the salvage harvest and describe how the action will not conflict with the management intent for each management unit.

H. Fire Disturbance. The intent of fire management is to identify where wildland fire can be allowed or management ignited fires can be used to reduce costs of fire suppression, reduce the risk of damaging fires, and maintain the natural diversity and productivity of forest stands. Fire suppression will be a priority near residential areas or other forms of

¹⁴ The Alaska Coastal Management Program was terminated on July 1, 2011, pursuant to AS 44.66.030.

active land use, high value recreation use areas, and areas with infrastructure development. Consistent with AS 41.15.010 and AS 41.15.020, DOF will protect forest resources from destructive agents commensurate with the values needing protection. However, where feasible, wildland fires will be allowed to burn and suppression will be limited to decrease the long-term risk of damaging fires and to maintain the natural diversity of forest stands, stand ages, and habitat types. Where allowing wildland fire is not feasible, timber harvest, management ignited fires, and habitat enhancement techniques will be used to disturb the forest and maintain a natural range of forest types and stand ages. Specific fire suppression levels are identified in the Alaska Interagency Fire Management Plan.

I. Other Guidelines Affecting Forestry. Other guidelines will affect management practices for timber development support facilities and forestry. See other sections of this chapter.

Heritage Resources

Background

This diverse and culturally complex area is known, archaeologically, as an area of Pacific Eskimo co-traditions. In late prehistoric times, the population of this extensive region fell into two major linguistic divisions, Aleutian and Eskimoan, with the dividing line between them falling on the Alaska Peninsula, near 159 degrees west longitude. Both groups shared many traits as they were derived from a common Eskaleutian language. Cultural influences from the Bering Sea coast can be seen on the Peninsula in Paleoarctic sites at Ugashik Lake and at the mouth of the Kvichak River on Bristol Bay. The Northern Archaic tradition appeared in the area about 5,000 BP (before present), with sites at Kvichak River and in Katmai National Park.

By 7,000 years ago, maritime hunters were living on the Alaska Peninsula and probably throughout the Pacific area. This culture is referred to as the Takli Alder phase (of Ocean Bay tradition) on the Pacific Coast of the Peninsula. At the base of the Alaska Peninsula, the 4,500 year old Pedro Bay site shows variations from the Ocean Bay II tradition as does the Brooks River Strand phase on the Bering Sea slope of the Peninsula. At the Brooks River site, the arrival of Arctic Small Tool people from the Bristol Bay region is evident by 3,800 BP and lasted until 3,100 BP.

The next wave of influence from the north shows up around 2,300 BP in the Norton culture, which was resident until 1,000 BP and marked a shift to an economy based on coastal resources. Norton appears to have shared this marine orientation with the developing Kachemak or Kodiak tradition on the Pacific Coast. They shared many characteristics but Norton doesn't seem to have ever firmly established itself on Kodiak or the Pacific Coast.

The last centuries of the first millennium AD were ones of fusion of ideas and cultures of the Bering Sea and Pacific traditions. This period is seen as the time of the development of the historically known Yup'ik Eskimo. The triggering event for this growth was the florescence of the Thule Eskimo culture to the north and its rapid spread to the east and the south from its origins around the northern Bering Strait. By around 1,100 AD, the ancestors of the historically known Pacific Eskimo may have been present on the Alaska Peninsula.

A long series of events, and the ongoing operation of cultural processes tending to obliterate cultural differences was involved in the formation of the Yup'ik Eskimo culture. The Norton influences and possible migrations of the late first millennium of the Christian era, the subsequent Thule influences transformation on the Alaska Peninsula at the beginning of the second millennium, or the ongoing local development cannot explain fully the later prehistoric and ethnographic cultures of the region. Ethnographically and archeologically, there also is an impressive body of material and nonmaterial culture with a distinctive North Pacific cast variously shared by the Yup'ik Eskimo, Aleut, Eyak, and other Northwest Coast peoples.

By 1500 AD, in Cook Inlet and on the upper Alaska Peninsula, Dena'ina Athabascans were expanding from the east, establishing themselves as far south as Lake Iliamna and Lake Clark. In Prince William Sound and on the western coast of the Gulf of Alaska, Kachemak influences were little impacted despite expanding contact with the Athabascans. By European contact times, their descendants, the Chugach Eskimo, inhabited the area and were expanding their territory.

On the Aleutian Islands, the Aleutian Tradition of maritime hunters developed and remained strong until the invading Russians disrupted that area. It is possible that the Aleuts ventured as far east and north as the lower Alaska Peninsula to Aniakchak.

Although the prehistory archeological database for the planning area remains limited and sketchy, evidence indicates a record of the first entries of humans into North America in the post-Pleistocene era, approximately 11,500 years ago. Sites vary in age from around 7,000 BP to the age of first European contact – 1750. Archeological sites associated with the historic past also abound. The earliest are those associated with the Russian colonization of Alaska. The gold rush era also created a large number of sites. The state Office of History and Archeology lists approximately 1,207 sites within the boundaries of the Bristol Bay Area Plan and more sites are being discovered every year. The National Register of Historic Places lists approximately two dozen sites in the planning area.

Goals

The Alaska Historic Preservation Act establishes the state's basic goal: to preserve, protect, and interpret the historic, prehistoric, and archaeological resources of Alaska so that the scientific, historic, and cultural heritage embodied in these resources may pass undiminished to future generations.

Management Guidelines

A. Heritage Resources Identification. Identify and determine the significance of all heritage resources on state land through the following actions:

1. Cooperative efforts for planned surveys and inventories between state, federal, and local or Native groups;
2. Heritage resources surveys conducted by the Department of Natural Resources personnel; and
3. Research about heritage resources on state land by qualified individuals and organizations.

B. Heritage Resources Protection. Protect significant heritage resources through the following actions:

1. Review of construction projects or land uses for potential conflict with heritage resources.
2. Cooperation with concerned government agencies, Native corporations, statewide or local groups, and individuals to develop guidelines and recommendations on how to avoid or mitigate identified or potential conflict.

C. Cultural Surveys Prior to Land Offerings. Cultural surveys or inventories should be conducted prior to the design of land offerings in areas the state Office of History and Archaeology determines have high potential to contain important heritage sites and for which information is inadequate to identify and protect these sites.

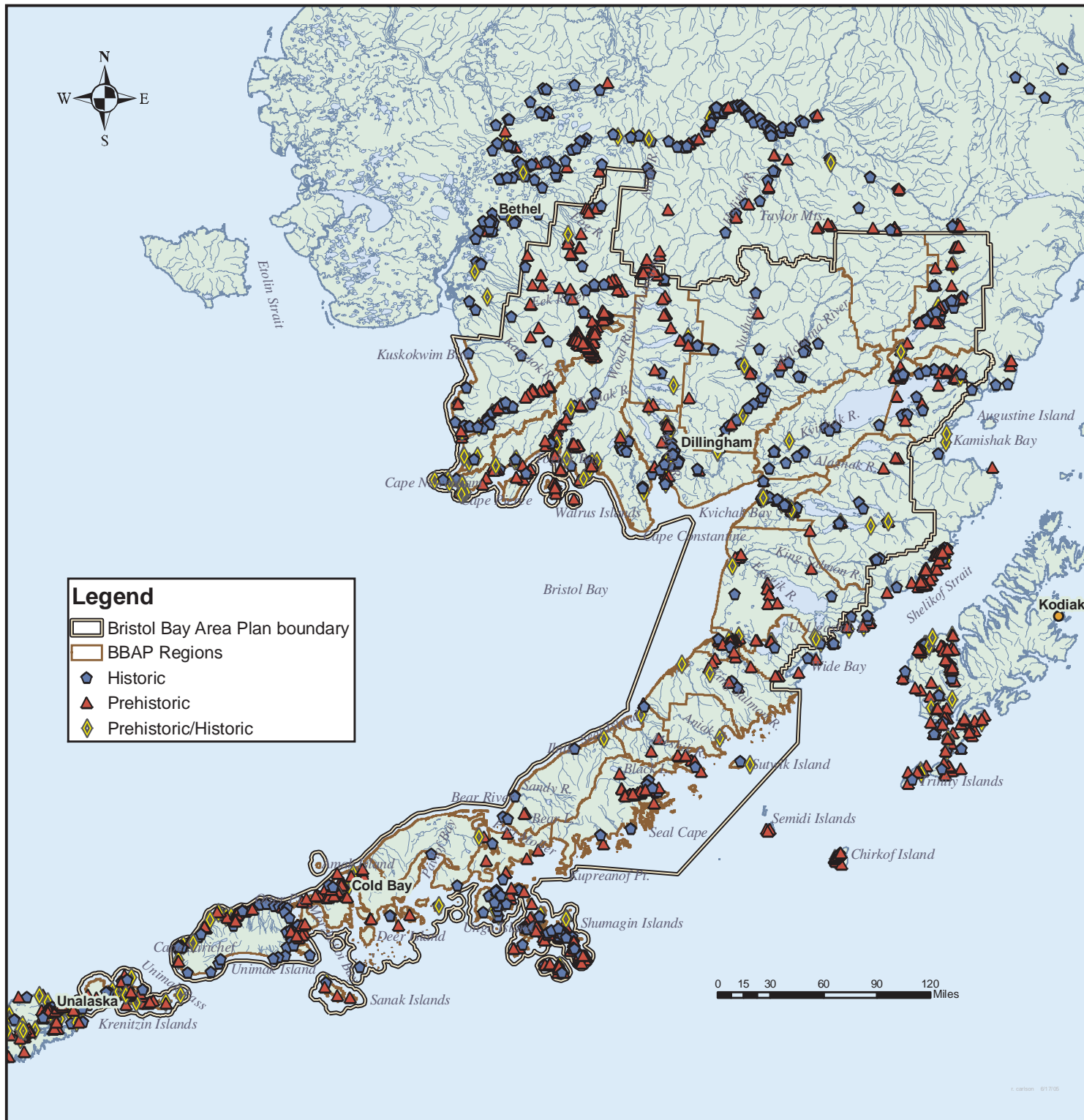
D. Heritage Resources and Municipal Conveyances. The Office of History and Archaeology will review plans for land conveyance and notify the Division of Mining, Land and Water if there are known sites in the area being considered for conveyance. DNR will consider retaining heritage sites in state ownership, especially if they are on the National Register of Historic Places.

E. Heritage Resources in Timber Management Areas. The Division of Parks and Outdoor Recreation Office of History and Archaeology (OHA) will review proposals for timber management activities through the interagency review processes for the Five-Year Schedule of Timber Sales and Forest Land Use Plans for individual sales. Areas of reported significant historic, archaeological, or paleontological sites should not be disturbed. Timber operations shall not occur within 300 feet from the boundaries of known sites unless the OHA determines, in consultation with the Division of Forestry, that certain activities can occur without significantly impacting the heritage resource. The OHA shall assess the extent and significance of the heritage resource and work with the Division of Forestry to develop site-specific mitigation measures to protect the heritage sites while allowing timber management.

F. Heritage Resources Adjacent to Recreation Facilities. Recreation facilities that might subject heritage sites to vandalism because of increased public use should not be placed adjacent to the heritage sites.

G. Heritage sites should be reported when found. The Alaska Heritage Resources Survey (AHRS) is an inventory of all reported historic and prehistoric sites within the State of Alaska and is maintained by the Office of History and Archaeology (OHA). The AHRS is used to protect heritage resource sites from unwanted destruction. Knowledge of possible heritage remains prior to construction can aid in avoidance of project delays and can prevent unnecessary destruction of heritage sites. While over 22,000 sites have been reported within Alaska, this is probably only a very small percentage of the sites that may actually exist but are as yet unreported. The AHRS is not complete or static, so heritage sites, when found, should be reported to the OHA.

Figure 2.1 Bristol Bay Area Plan - Historical & Archaeological Sites



Instream Flow

Goal

Instream Flow. Maintain water quantity and quality sufficient to protect the human, fish, and wildlife resources and uses of the region.

Management Guidelines

A. Stream Uses to Consider for In-stream Flow Reservation (General). Streams and other waterbodies may be considered for instream flow reservations under AS 46.15.145.

Such reservations are intended to maintain a specified instream flow or level of water at a specified point on a stream or body of water, or a specified part of a stream, throughout the year or for specified times. The purposes of the reservation (defined in the statute) include: 1) protection of fish and wildlife habitat, migration, and propagation; 2) recreation and park purposes; 3) sanitary and water quality purposes; and 4) navigation and transportation purposes.

B. Priorities. No additional in-stream reservations of water are recommended within the planning area. The need for such reservations should be reevaluated should the plan be revised in the future. Proposals for major new developments requiring substantial water use or uses of water that will negatively impact instream flows needed to produce fish, sustain water quality, provide for navigation, and/or recreation should include an evaluation of the need for an instream water reservation or other forms of instream flow protection.

C. Process for Determining Reservations. Requests for instream water reservations will be adjudicated by the Department following the procedures identified in 11 AAC 93.141-147. In general, these procedures require establishing the management objectives of the waterbody, estimating the quantity of water seasonally available, determining the amount of water already appropriated, and projecting the instream flow requirements for the uses and resources to be protected.

D. Other Guidelines Affecting In-stream Flow. Several other guidelines will affect instream flow. See other sections of this chapter.

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.

Mineral Resources

Background

Mineral resources in the Bristol Bay planning area include metallic base, precious, platinum-group, rare earth, and the industrial rocks and minerals. The minerals occur in a wide range of deposit types. The metallic mineral deposits can be divided into placers and lodes.

Almost all state land within the planning area is managed for multiple use and is open to mining. The state selected much of the land in the planning area because of its mineral potential, as well as its potential for oil and gas, agriculture, and its recreation and wildlife values. Exploration and development of mineral resources involves considerable investment of time and monetary resources. A small fraction of prospects that are investigated actually result in identification of a site that is economic to develop. If a deposit proves economic for development, state and federal regulations and additional stipulations determined through the permitting process, will ensure that other resource values are protected.

The area has not been a significant producer of placer gold, compared with other areas of the state. The most significant placer gold district is the Nyac district, located in the extreme northwest portion of the planning area. The district has produced approximately 500,000 ounces gold and active placer mining continues to the present; due to the number of placers at Nyac, it is speculated that significant lode sources may be present. Placer gold has also been produced as a byproduct or co-product from the platinum placers in the Goodnews district. This district has produced a significant amount of platinum and for many years was the only domestic platinum producer in the U.S. The area has been the focus of a number of exploration programs to locate the lode source or sources of the platinum and gold. Some consider the tide and submerged lands to contain significant additional reserves of platinum and gold. Lastly the Bonanza Hills area has produced a modest amount of placer gold from reworked glacio-fluvial deposits.

Lode deposits of the area can be divided into several deposit types: 1) mesothermal gold deposits¹⁵, 2) epithermal gold deposits¹⁶, 3) porphyry copper¹⁷ systems with related skarns¹⁸, 4) magmatic segregation deposits, and 5) greisens¹⁹. The most significant mesothermal gold system found to date is perhaps that in the Shotgun Hills; a drill indicated resource of

¹⁵ Gold deposit formed at intermediate depths and temperatures; commonly with good continuity and a distinct alteration sequence.

¹⁶ Precious metal deposits formed at shallow depths and formed at low temperatures; commonly in volcanic terranes.

¹⁷ Large tonnage and low-grade copper deposits associated with granitic plutons; gold, silver, and molybdenum commonly occur as byproducts or co-products.

¹⁸ Deposits formed in the wall rocks adjacent to a pluton such as a granite.

¹⁹ An altered granitic rock composed of quartz and mica (muscovite) and rich in fluorine; usually associated with tin and topaz.

approximately one million ounces has been estimated. Epithermal gold deposits can be divided into two separate types based on location and associated pathfinder elements. A group of mercury-gold epithermal deposits occurs in a wide belt trending northeast in the uplands areas west of the Nushagak basin. The other epithermal system is of a low-sulfur, gold-silver dominant variety that occurs in Tertiary and younger volcanic rocks on the Alaska Peninsula. The porphyry copper deposits consist of intrusive related copper±molybdenum±gold±silver systems and associated skarn (wall rock-hosted) deposits with base and precious metals. These are part of a complex magmatic terrane which extends down the Alaska Peninsula; many prospects are known. The most significant and well documented of these deposits is the Pebble Copper deposit, 19 miles northwest of Iliamna, which is currently being considered for development; a very large (a billion tons or more) low-grade copper-gold-molybdenum resource has been outlined by drilling at Pebble Copper. The Kemuk deposit, located sixteen miles west of Koliganek, is a magmatic segregation deposit of iron and titanium hosted in a pyroxenite; an inferred resource of 2.4 billion tons is present. The Kemuk deposit has potential to contain platinum group metals. Nearby Sleitat Mountain contains a tin-tungsten-silver-bearing topaz-quartz greisen. An inferred resource of 29 million tons is indicated. It is anticipated that exploration activities will intensify on the large block of state lands in the north central portion of the planning area due to the perceived attractiveness of working on state-owned lands, especially during periods of rising metal prices.

The planning area, in general, has large quantities of sand, gravel, and quarry materials. There has been little need for these materials except in the vicinity of communities that require them for airport and road construction or upgrades.

There has been little study of the occurrence of the industrial rocks and minerals. Because the region contains a number of young volcanic rocks, zeolites, a group of minerals used as filter media and produced from the alteration of vitreous volcanic rocks, are abundant locally. Notable zeolite occurrences are found in the Lake Iliamna area. Asbestos minerals form from the alteration of olivine-rich ultramafic rocks. Potential for asbestos occurs wherever these ultramafic rocks are found, especially in the Goodnews mafic-ultramafic belt where some asbestos minerals have been identified.

Goals

Mineral Resources. Make metallic and non-metallic minerals available to contribute to the mineral inventory and independence of the United States and Alaska.

Economic Development. Contribute to Alaska's economy by making subsurface resources available for development, which will provide job opportunities, stimulate economic growth, and establish a source of state revenue.

Environmental Quality and Cultural Values. Protect the integrity of the environment and affected cultures when developing subsurface resources.

State Support of Mining. Aid in the development of infrastructure such as ports, roads, railroads, and continue to provide geologic and geophysical mapping and technical support to the mining industry.

Management Guidelines

A. Access. Access to and across public lands for mineral exploration and development is to be ensured. Land disposals and other authorizations are to be cognizant of access and road corridors proposed by the DNR and ADOT/PF and should not be allowed where such disposals or authorization would conflict with access considerations.

B. Mineral Exploration. By statute, exploration for locatable minerals is allowed on all state lands except those specifically closed to location. A land use permit is required under most circumstances. Hand prospecting and exploration activities which involve no significant surface disturbance generally do not require a permit. The DNR may determine that some forms of access will not be allowed in specific areas to avoid resource damage.

C. Open to Mineral Location. By statute, all state lands are open to mineral location unless specifically closed. Where an area is open to mineral location, a miner has the right to stake a mining location regardless of the surface use designation or classification. Any adverse effects of mining on surface resources or uses will be managed through compliance with state laws and regulations and borough ordinances and management intent and guidelines in this plan. Reclamation activities are regulated under the Mining Reclamation Act (AS 27.19) and state regulations (11 AAC 97).

D. Mining in Fish Habitat. When the DNR issues a permit for mining in or adjacent to a fish stream, conditions of the permit will require any necessary measures such as levees, berms, seasonal restriction, and settling ponds that will allow the operation to meet water quality standards, and statutes and regulations governing the protection of fish. Mining in fish streams requires permits from the ADEC and ADF&G. Such permits are not required in tide and submerged lands or estuarine areas outside of the intertidal channel exposed at mean low water. The intertidal channel is that portion of the bed and banks below the mean high water level. However, a Special Area Permit issued by ADF&G is required if the project is located within a legislatively designated area, including uplands, estuaries or tidelands.

E. Offshore Prospecting Permits (OPP). Under AS 38.05.250 an exclusive right to prospect for deposits of minerals offshore may be granted through authorizations issued by DNR. DNR determines what areas will be offered for offshore prospecting. No areas within the plan boundary are currently open for permits. If workable mineral deposits are found offshore, the permittee must apply for a lease in order to develop the mineral deposit. Units designated Habitat because of high fish or wildlife habitat values are areas of significant surface use by fish or wildlife. The ADF&G has stated that it has initially determined mining

in estuarine areas designated Habitat to be a nonconforming use under the ACMP²⁰. The ACMP procedures will be used to determine whether mining can be made a conforming use and if mitigation is possible, impose the appropriate mitigating measures needed to protect fish and wildlife resources.

F. Mineral Closing and Leasehold Location Orders. No new mineral closing orders have been adopted as part of this plan. Users should check for any closure orders that may be in effect for areas in which they intend to work. One mineral closing order, adopted with the original (1984) Bristol Bay Area Plan closed a large number of streams to mineral entry; Mineral Closing Order 393 closed a large number of streams in the Nushagak-Mulchatna river drainage as well as some on the Alaska Peninsula. The 2005 BBAP inadvertently changed the designation of Habitat in the 1985 BBAP to another designation for certain streams. The 2013 BBAP revision corrects this unintended change and all streams, including their adjacent riparian area, are designated Habitat that are affected by this MCO²¹. A number of other mineral closing and opening orders affect settlement lands in the Dillingham, Aleknagik, and the Nunavaugaluk Lake area. Mineral Leasehold Location Order 1 affects large acreages of state land in the upper Mulchatna drainage as well as state lands around the eastern portion of Lake Iliamna. As of the date of this plan, the following mineral orders are in effect:

Table 2.1: Mineral Closing, Opening, and Leasehold Location Orders

<i>Mineral Order</i>	<i>General Vicinity</i>	<i>Acreage</i>
Mineral Closing Order 393	Nushagak-Mulchatna R. and AK Peninsula	213,697
Mineral Closing Order 562	Aniak River portion of this plan	-----
Mineral Closing Order 304	Nunavaugaluk Lake	2,360
Mineral Closing Order 305	Weary R.-Snake River Settlement Area	13,393
Mineral Closing Order 196	Warehouse Mountain Area	10,386
Mineral Closing Order 443	East Side of Aleknagik Road	2,368
Mineral Closing Order 570	Nelson Lagoon Reconveyance	3,840
Mineral Closing Order 249	Jack Rabbit Hills	22,831
Mineral Closing Order 552	Various University Lands in Alaska	N/A
Mineral Closing Order 754	Ekuk	5
Mineral Closing Order 650	King Cove	185
Mineral Closing Order 598	Balboa Bay (north of Sand Point)	52
Mineral Closing Order 644	Sand Point	59

²⁰ The Alaska Coastal Management Program was terminated on July 1, 2011, pursuant to AS 44.66.030.

²¹ Note to adjudicators: The riparian area affected by MCO 393 may be greater than 100'. Consult the case-file to determine the actual width. USGS quadrangle maps are included that indicate specific widths and these may be greater than 100'.

<i>Mineral Order</i>	<i>General Vicinity</i>	<i>Acreage</i>
Mineral Closing Order 622	Sand Point	2
Mineral Closing Order 521	Morzhovoi Bay	4
Mineral Closing Order 642	False Pass	27
Mineral Closing Order 239	North end of Upper Ugashik Lake (Univ.)	N/A
Mineral Closing Order 733	Egegik	3
Mineral Opening Order 702	Warehouse Mountain Area	1,112
Leasehold Location Order 1	Upper Mulchatna R.-East Iliamna Lake	1,920,327
Leasehold Location Order 6	Aniak River portion of this plan	-----

Leasehold Location Order 1 (1984) restricted mining over large areas of Regions 7, 8, and 9 to leasing. Rights to locatable minerals on lands owned by the State of Alaska are obtained by making a mineral discovery, staking the boundaries of the location, and recording the certificate of location in the designated time period. In most areas, such a location is a “mining claim”, which gives the owner an immediate property right to mine the deposits. However, in areas of the state that have been restricted to leasing, the location is a “leasehold location”, not a mining claim. The leasehold location must be converted to an upland mining lease before mining begins. No mining of minerals on leasehold locations may take place, except for limited amounts necessary for sampling or testing until a mining lease has been obtained. The leasing process includes the exclusive right to convert the leasehold location to a noncompetitive lease. There is no lease sale or open bidding.

G. Coal Leasing. Those lands that are currently available for coal leasing will continue to be available under this plan.

Figure 2.2 Bristol Bay Area Plan - Mineral Closure Orders, Leasehold Location Orders, & Mineral Opening Orders

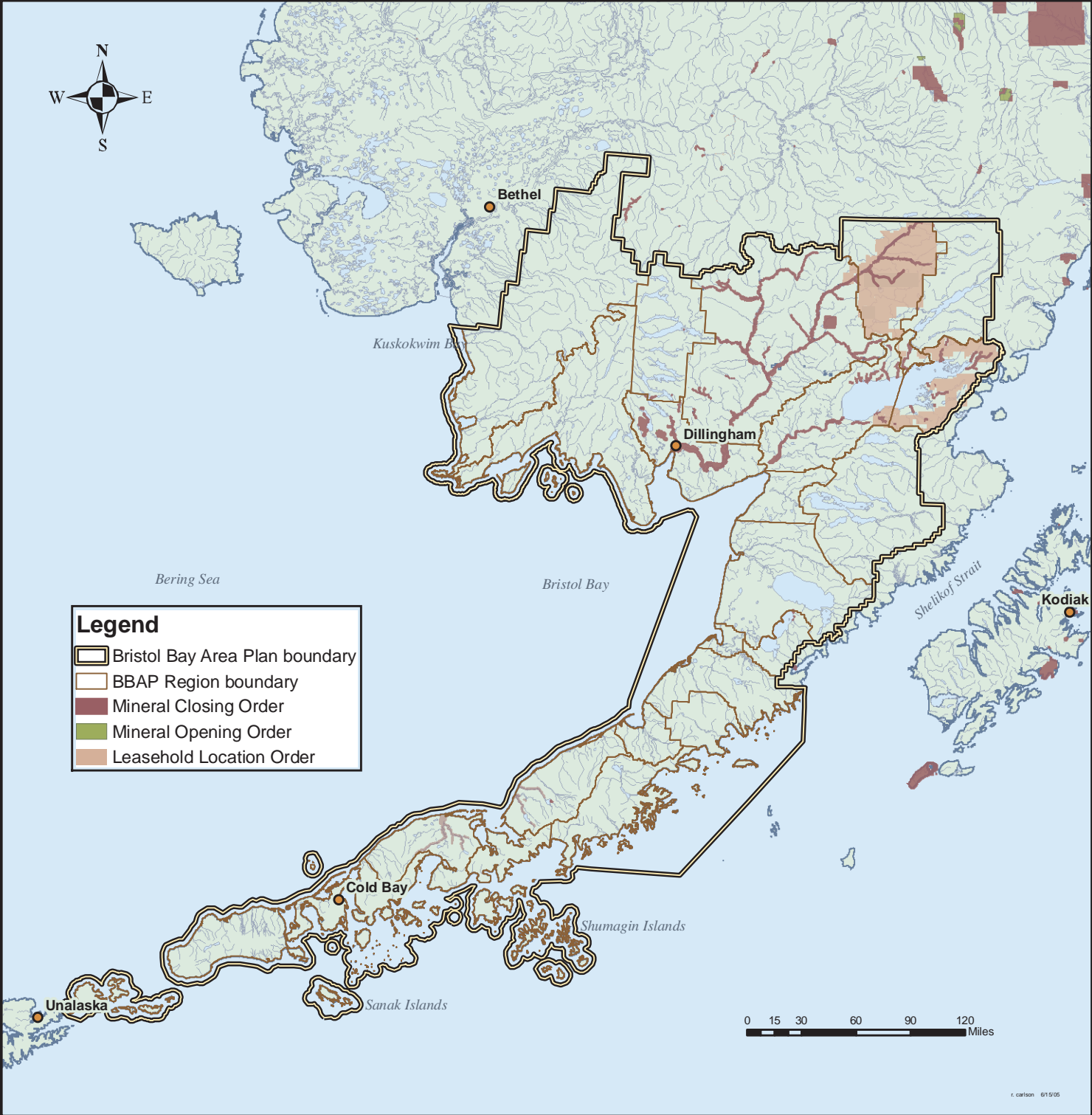
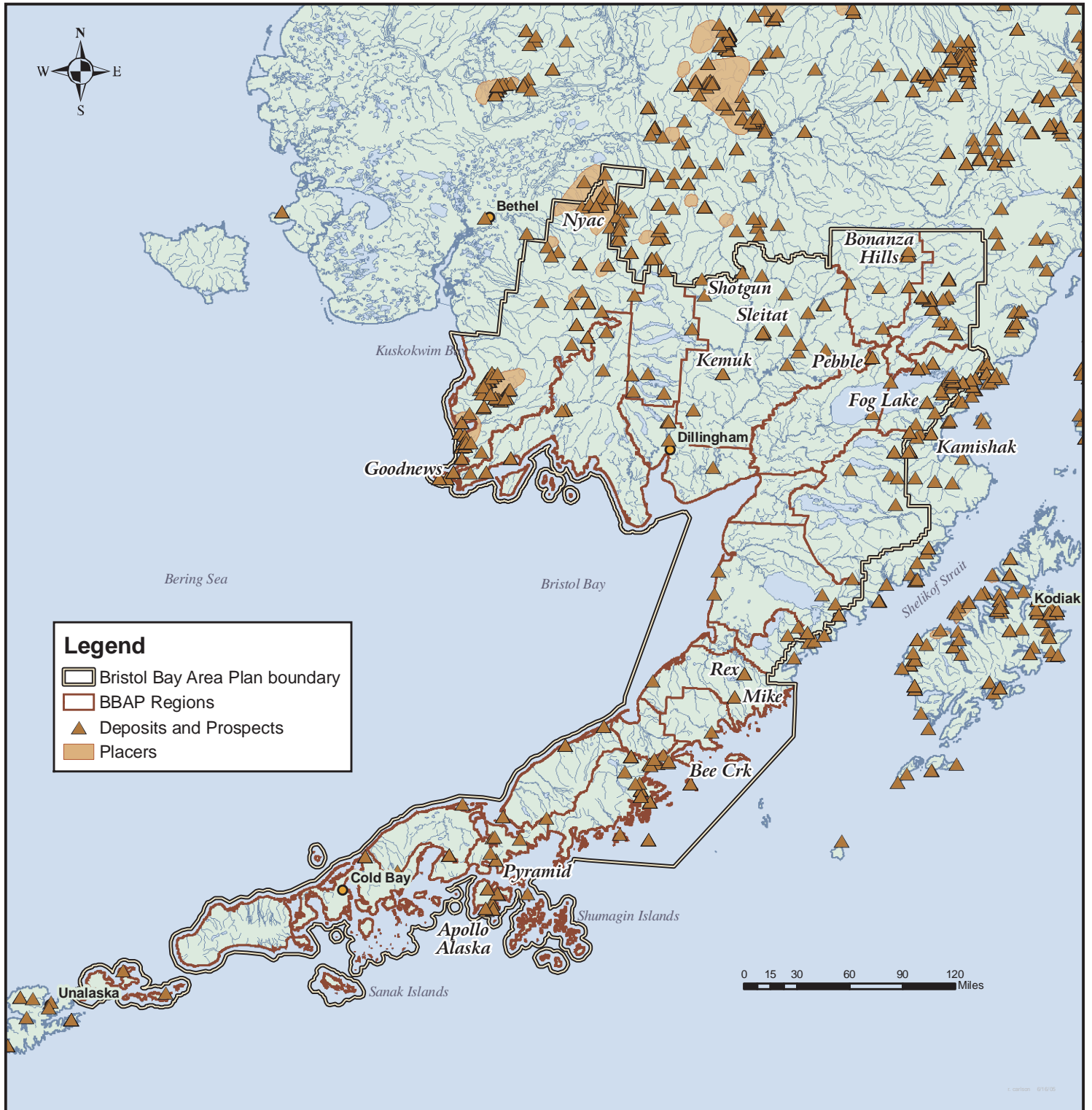


Figure 2.3. Bristol Bay Area Plan - Mineral Resources: Deposits, Prospects, and Occurrences



Oil and Gas

It is probable that significant oil and gas resources are present in the Bristol Bay region. The planning and decision making processes for oil and gas lease sales occur under a separate section of Alaska Statutes (AS 38.05.180) and these processes are not included as part of area plans. For this reason, the Area Plan does not make development decisions related to these resources. Nonetheless, surface facilities related to oil and gas development are recognized as appropriate where oil and gas potential is present.

Background

The area encompassed by the Bristol Bay Area Plan contains high potential for oil and gas reserves. It contains parts of, or is on the margin of, major sedimentary basins which are believed permissive of hydrocarbon formation since naturally occurring oil seeps are found in the region. The northwest side of the Alaska Peninsula is underlain by a major sedimentary basin that trends sub-parallel to the Peninsula. This basin, variously referred to as the North Aleutians basin, the Bristol Bay basin, or the Alaska Peninsula basin has an offshore axis (Figure 2.4). The extreme northern portion of the basin is sometimes referred to as the Nushagak basin. The basin thickens to the southwest and thus is shallowest in the lower Nushagak-Dillingham area. Considering the great size of the area, only a small number of exploratory or stratigraphic wells have been drilled onshore and offshore. A number of these have contained oil and gas showings.

Two other small unexplored offshore basins are on the southeast (Pacific Ocean) edge of the Bristol Bay planning area; these are known as the Shumagin basin and the Sanak basin. Little is known of the potential for these two basins and they would require offshore exploration and production facilities.

The highest potential for discoveries of economically recoverable oil and gas on state land is probably that area of the western Alaska Peninsula on the margin of the North Aleutians (Bristol Bay) basin. The potential for substantial gas reserves may be higher than the potential for oil.

The Bristol Bay Basin is comprised of sedimentary and volcanoclastic rocks that range in age from Jurassic to Holocene. However, the thickest portion of the stratigraphy, and that which will be of interest to those exploring on state lands, is the thick Tertiary section and portions of the Cretaceous. Important Cretaceous and Tertiary formations, i.e. those that have yielded oil and gas shows, include the Milky River, Bear Lake, Stepovak, Tolstoi, and Chignik formations. These rock units show the proper thermal maturity to host petroleum resources. The greatest unknown factor is the effect that clays which are derived from altered volcanic

rocks may have played on limiting the large scale migration of oil to suitable traps. Approximately nineteen wells have been drilled on the uplands of the Alaska Peninsula in an area extending from Egegik to Cape Leontovitch. A number of these wells have showings of oil and gas.

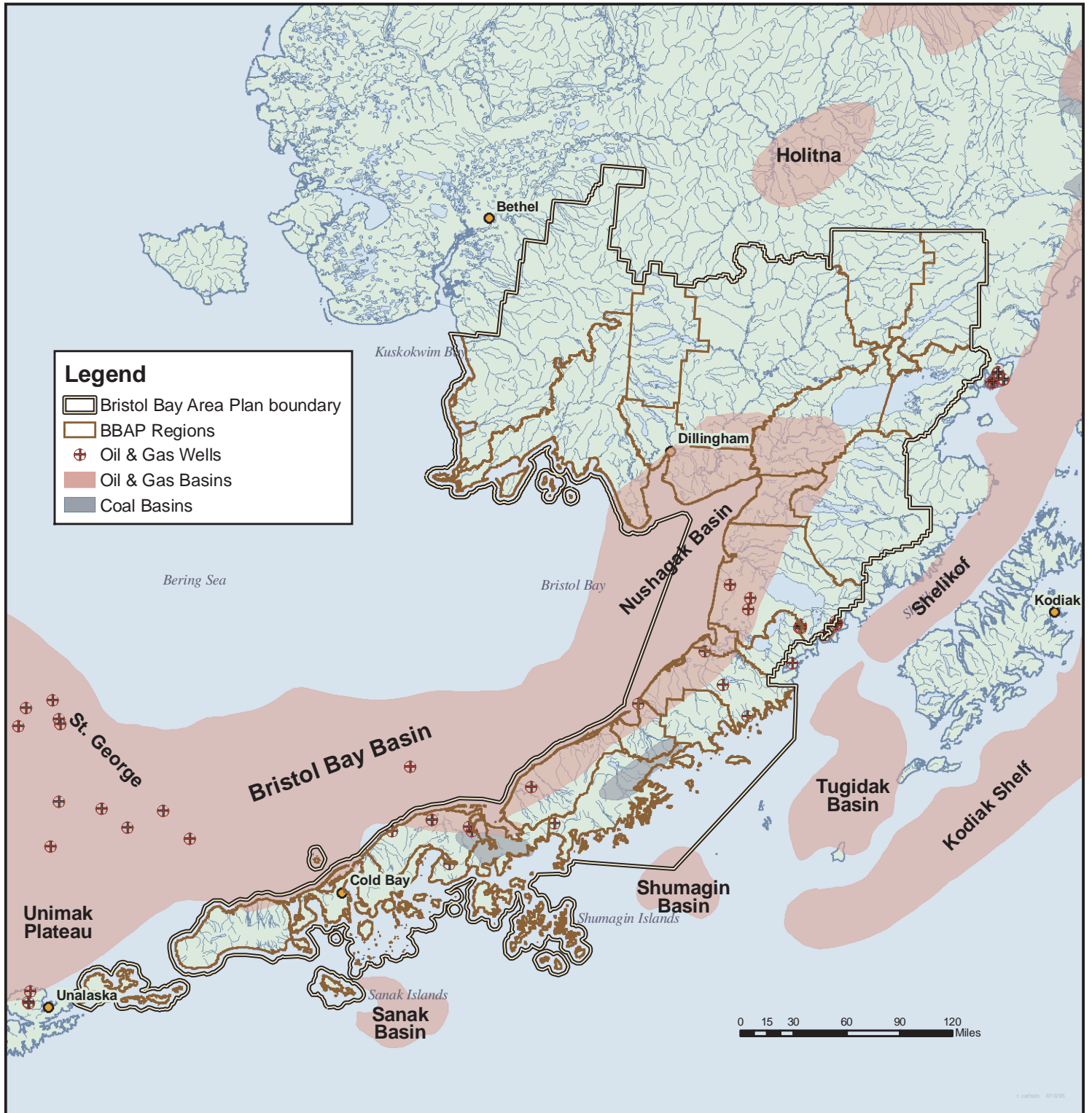
The Alaska Division of Oil and Gas, has proposed an exploration licensing and exploration leasing program for the Bristol Bay onshore area that generally encompasses the Dillingham-King Salmon and Alaska Peninsula areas of state land. The program is currently supported by a range of regional Native corporations, communities, and borough governments. This is largely part of an effort by the various entities to bring about economic diversification to an area that has been heavily dependent upon commercial salmon fishing, an industry which in recent times has struggled with low commodity prices and unpredictable returns. The Alaska Department of Natural Resources, Lake and Peninsula, Bristol Bay, and Aleutians East Boroughs have signed a memorandum of understanding (MOU) in support of oil and gas lease sales and licensing of state land in the Bristol Bay and Alaska Peninsula region (March 17, 2004). Similar MOUs are in effect between the DNR and The Aleut Regional Native Corporation (December 18, 2003) and the DNR and Bristol Bay Native Corporation (July 10, 2003).

The 1984 Bristol Bay Area Plan designated or co-designated most state lands on the Alaska Peninsula as Oil and Gas Lands. Oil and gas lease planning is however, no longer part of the purview of area land plans. Changes in state statutes (AS 38.05.180) created a separate planning and permitting process for oil and gas exploration and development that is coordinated by the DNR's Division of Oil and Gas. The exploration licensing program for Bristol Bay and the leasing program for the Alaska Peninsula onshore areas will be the subject of a future Best Interest Finding by the Alaska Division of Oil and Gas.

Management Guidelines

This plan defers any decisions regarding licensing or leasing of oil and gas to the DNR's existing licensing and leasing process. Oil and gas sales are not subject to the regional land planning process, but follow the planning process established under AS 38.05.180. The land use designations of the plan are multiple-use in character (primarily General Use) and do not preclude oil and gas development.

Figure 2.4 Bristol Bay Area Plan - Oil & Gas and Coal Basins



Public Access Easements, Neighborhood Trails, and Public Access

Goals

Trails. Maintain, enhance, or provide adequate access within areas of development and between areas of current or future development.

Public Access. Maintain, enhance, or provide adequate access to public and private lands and resources. Provide for future trail and access needs. Protect or establish trail corridors to ensure continued public access.

Management Guidelines: Public Access – General

Before selling, leasing, or otherwise disposing of the land estate, DNR will reserve public use easements pursuant to the requirements of 11 AAC 51.015. This section of administrative code establishes when public access easements are to be reserved and the widths of these easements. Specific standards for section-line easements are identified in 11 AAC 51.025 and for easements along, and to and along navigable and public waters, in 11 AAC 51.045. These sections of Administrative Code shall be used as the basis for the reservation of public access easements in authorizations granted by DNR.

Management Guidelines: Access Corridors

A. General. The following guidelines pertain to the access corridors²² provided by trails within developed or developing areas, trails between these areas, and trails of regional or statewide significance. This is a more specific application of the general public use easement. Access corridors provide movement areas for people and wildlife. They include the area of movement and, as appropriate, a buffer area adjacent to the corridor sufficient to provide separation from other uses. The width and siting of trail corridors depends upon their function and location. Easements are used to create an access corridor, similar to the more general public use easements described previously.

²² Access corridors differ from public use easements in that they apply to the trail but may also include a buffer area. Access corridors can be created by the imposition of a public use easement for the trail or through the creation of a buffer, which is usually an area of transition space between different and often conflicting uses. Where it is an easement, a single public use easement is created; it would include both the trail and the buffer area adjacent to the trail. Where a buffer is used, a separate easement would be formed for the area of the buffer, reflecting the distinct use of a buffer in addition to the public use easement for the purpose of movement.

B. Requirement for Access Corridors. The Department shall assess the need for public access before selling, leasing, or otherwise disposing of the land estate. If local access needs are identified through the adjudication and agency or public review process, access corridors shall be reserved. This will occur through the retention of state land in public ownership or through the creation of a public use easement. Under either approach, the public is to have the right of access within the area of state land or the public use easement.

C. Ownership Considerations. The following factors shall be considered by DNR in making the decision to retain the access corridor under state ownership or to provide for public access through a public use easement:

1. If the access (usually a trail within a developed or developing area) is used as a neighborhood collector trail that connects to a public open space system or a trail of regional significance, access should be retained in public ownership.
2. If a trail is used as access by neighborhood residents, it should be dedicated to local government or established as an easement to an entity willing to accept maintenance and management responsibility. This would typically occur when the purpose is to establish access between lots or to improve pedestrian circulation within a subdivision.
3. If the access provides a connection to other areas and is considered of regional or statewide significance, it should be retained in public ownership.

D. Width of Trail Corridors. The width of the access corridor²³ shall be determined according to its function and location:

1. Within developed or developing areas, access corridors shall not be less than 20 feet in width for pedestrian movement and not less than 40 feet if motorized movement (other than car or truck) can be expected in addition to pedestrian travel. In areas where topographic or other conditions restrict development, reduced widths may be considered if public safety and the movement function provided by the trail are adequately maintained.²⁴
2. In all other areas, the width shall vary with terrain, function, and the need for separation from other uses, but shall not be less than 50 feet.
3. Trails or other access facilities of statewide or regional significance shall not be less than 100 feet in width.

²³ An access corridor includes the tread of the trail and an area immediately adjacent to the tread.

²⁴ Note: These standards apply to motorized uses other than cars or trucks, or similar sizes and types of vehicles. If a public use easement is to be established for use by cars or trucks, then the standards of 11 AAC 51.015 apply and the width of this easement is not less than 60 feet.

E. Buffers. The widths of an access easement may be increased to include an area for a buffer. This area is in addition to the minimum access widths described above in item D. Buffers may be necessary to minimize land use and ownership conflicts, to allow the future siting of public facilities, allow flexibility in routing, provide an adequate area for wildlife movement, or to adapt a trail to specific public uses or aesthetic or environmental concerns. Where buffers are authorized, they will be maintained in their natural condition unless enhancement is required because of existing site degradation. If the buffer is to function as a wildlife movement corridor, then DNR shall consult with ADF&G in the design of the buffer.

The width of the buffer will depend upon the function of the access corridor and consideration of the above factors. However, there shall be a minimum of an additional fifteen feet on either side of the access corridor when DNR requires buffers.

F. Trail Rerouting. Standards for the vacation and modification of trails are identified in 11 AAC 51.065. Rerouting of trails may be permitted to minimize land use conflicts, reduce duplication in trail routings, or minimize habitat destruction. If trails are rerouted, provision should be made for construction of new trail segments if warranted by type and intensity of use. Rerouting trails shall be done in consultation with affected private users and public agencies. Rerouted trails should allow the same uses and activities as the original trail.

G. Alignment with Crossings. When it is necessary for power lines, pipelines or roads to cross trail buffers, crossings should be at a 90-degree angle to the buffer. Vegetative screening should be preserved at trail crossings.

H. Access to Trailheads. Coastal access across state tidelands to designated trail corridors that begin at the shoreline will be protected.

Management Guidelines: Public Access

A. Retain access: General. Improve or maintain public access to areas with significant public resource values by retaining access sites and corridors in public ownership; reserving rights of access when state land is sold or leased; or identifying, managing and legally validating RS 2477 (Revised Statute Section 2477) rights-of-way. Standards for the vacation of easements are contained in 11 AAC 51.065. Information regarding RS 2477 rights-of-way easements can be found at the DNR web site: <http://dnr.alaska.gov/mlw/trails/index.cfm> or is available in DNR's Bristol Bay Easement Atlas.

B. Retain Access: Road Corridors. Retain state land situated within proposed road corridors, as identified in maps 3-1 to 3-22. The Alaska Department of Transportation has identified a variety of road routes necessary to support community expansion, access

between communities, and industrial/mineral development²⁵. These routes are identified on maps 3-1 to 3-22. DNR should avoid disposing of state land situated within these corridors. Prior to undertaking disposals or authorizations that would create permanent and substantial uses, DNR shall consult with ADOT/PF on route placement. Disposals or authorizations within these road corridors are only appropriate if it is determined that a proposed use would not be situated within a road corridor, ADOT/PF determines that the proposed use would not be inconsistent with the intended road, or ADOT/PF determines it is unlikely that the final road route would encompass the proposed use. See also the Resource Allocation Tables in Chapter 3 for specific management intent for management units containing portions of a proposed road corridor.

C. Access to Non-State Lands. Reasonable access will be provided across state lands to other public and private lands. Existing legal access will not be precluded unless equivalent access is available.

D. Management of ANCSA 17(b) Easements. The state will identify and assert 17(b) easements in order to provide access to federal and state land. Generally, DNR will not accept management of 17(b) easements unless the state already actively manages a portion of the trail or easement, or state management will best protect public access to state lands. Information regarding ANCSA 17(b) easements can be found at the DNR web site: <http://dnr.alaska.gov/mlw/trails/index.cfm> or is available in DNR's Bristol Bay Easement Atlas.

E. Access for Development. When an access route is constructed for resource development over state land, public access to mineralized areas, recreation, fish, wildlife, or other public resources should be retained. If the new resource facility is likely to be of limited duration and provides superior access to the current means of access, the state should retain the new facility for public access. If the new facility will not or should not provide public access, the current means of public access should be retained.

F. Limiting Access. Access to state lands may be curtailed at certain times to protect public safety, provide for the remediation of public use areas, allow special uses, and prevent harm to the environment, fish, and wildlife. Public access may be limited because of the presence of fire management operations, timber harvest, high soil moisture content when vehicular traffic may cause damage to the base or sub-base, and sensitive populations of fish or wildlife.

G. Siting and Constructing Temporary and Permanent Roads or Causeways.

Temporary and permanent roads or causeways will, to the extent feasible and prudent, be routed to avoid vegetated tidal flats, avoid streams and minimize alteration of natural

²⁵ Southwest Alaska Transportation, Alaska Dept. of Transportation and Public Facilities, 2002. These routes include the following: Williamsport to Pile Bay Road, Pebble Copper Road, Alaska Peninsula Road Corridor, King Cove to Cold Bay, Ekuk to Clarks Point Road, and Iliamna to Nondalton Road. These routes adjoin a combination of private, state, Native, and federal lands.

drainage patterns, and avoid long-term adverse effects on water quantity or water quality. If a temporary road is routed through vegetated tidelands, clean fill will be required and construction methods that facilitate removal of the fill will be required.

H. Joint Use and Consolidation of Surface Access. Joint use and consolidation of surface access routes and facilities should be encouraged wherever it is feasible and prudent to do so²⁶. Surface access also should be sited and designed to accommodate future development and avoid unnecessary duplication.

I. Anchorages. Activities within anchorages²⁷ are allowed if they will not significantly diminish the public's continued ability to use the anchorage. This policy is to be interpreted conservatively, particularly if the anchorage has been historically used (or can be expected to be used) as a safe harbor for vessels from storms. Aquatic farms and floating facilities should not be sited in anchorages necessary to, and used for, the anchoring of vessels, and are not to be authorized if the anchorage has been historically used as a safe harbor. The effect upon anchorage capacity should be considered when adjudicating authorizations for uses and facilities, to ascertain that continued public use of the anchorage can occur.

J. Other Guidelines Affecting Public or Trail Management. A number of other guidelines may affect public and trail access management. See other sections of this chapter.

²⁶ Note: There are instances where access routes should not be consolidated; their purposes may be at odds with one another or one consolidated route cannot effectively provide access to resources required by the public.

²⁷ The Bristol Bay Area Plan does not identify anchorages on its plan maps. There are many potential anchorages but these are not identified in official sources. Therefore, in adjudication decisions affecting tidelands, whether the tideland area is used as an anchorage must be established.

Recreation, Tourism, and Scenic Resources

Background

The Bristol Bay area is known for its world class fishing, hunting and other outdoor recreation opportunities. In part to support these activities, many federal and state parks, refuges, preserves, monuments, and recreation sites have been created. The largest state park in Alaska, the 1.6 million acre Wood-Tikchik State Park, is a major recreational asset of the region. Other significant sites include: Lake Clark National Park, Aniakchak National Monument and Preserve, Katmai National Park and Preserve (Brooks Camp and the Valley of 10,000 Smokes), the Alaska Peninsula, Alaska Maritime, Izembek, Togiak, and Becharof National Wildlife Refuges, as well as several National Wild and Scenic Rivers: the Alagnak, Chilikadrotna, Mulchatna, and Tlikakila Rivers. There are also many private camps and lodges that provide support for recreational users. While many of these private operations are in or adjacent to the public lands mentioned above they also serve other areas. Notable concentrations outside of these dedicated public lands are found in the Iliamna Lake, Naknek Lake, lower Nushagak and Alagnak drainages.

Goal

Recreation Opportunities. Lands will be provided for accessible outdoor recreational opportunities with recreational facilities where the demand warrants such facilities. In addition, undeveloped lands should be provided for recreation pursuits that do not require developed facilities. These opportunities shall be realized by:

- providing recreation opportunities on less developed land and water areas that serve multiple purposes such as habitat protection or mineral resource extraction;
- assisting communities through cooperative planning, conveyance of state lands, and grants-in-aid for parks and trails within population centers;
- encouraging commercial development of recreational facilities and services through concession contracts, land sales, leases, and permits where public recreation needs can most effectively be provided by private enterprise, while minimizing environmental impacts and conflicts with the existing users of an area; and
- protecting recreation resources including public access, viewsheds, quiet, fish and wildlife important for recreation, and the unique natural characteristics of the planning area.

Management Guidelines

A. Coordination with Other Landowners and Users of an Area. Recreation management, including the location and management of recreation facilities, will take into account the current, and likely, management of lands managed by local governments, Native corporations and other private landowners, and compatibility with the existing uses of an area.

B. Roles of Different Public Land Owners in Providing Public Recreational Opportunities. Generally, the state's role is to retain and manage land supporting recreational opportunities of regional or statewide significance. State and federal governments are most capable of providing recreational opportunities that require large land areas, while local government is generally best suited for providing and managing community recreation opportunities. To recognize local government's role in providing community recreation needs, the state may transfer state land including those designated General Use (Gu), Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed (Rd) or Public Recreation and Tourism-Public Use Sites (Rp) within or near existing communities, if this action is in the overall best interest of the state (AS 38.05.810). The selection of these sites shall be agreed to by local government and the state, and shall be contingent on the local government's commitment to develop and maintain the recreation uses, facilities, and values of these areas.

In areas where the state is retaining public use sites (management units designated Public Recreation and Tourism-Public Use Site (Rp) the state may consider cooperative management with local government if this would improve management of the resource. Entering into a management agreement with an entity with more direct presence in the area should result in better protection of the resource and enjoyment by the public. This management agreement to operate the public use site should fulfill all of the obligations that the state would normally bear (protecting public safety, habitat, etc.) but will gain the efficiency of having more local control of the site.

C. Public Use Sites. Uses that adversely affect public use sites or areas should not be authorized. Uses that are made available to the public, are recreational or other sites (such as airstrip development or docks) may be authorized if consistent with the management intent for the public use site or area, and if there is a demonstrated public need. Specific requirements relating to the siting and development of public use sites exist in the Nushagak & Mulchatna Rivers Recreation Management Plan (DNR, April 2005) (RRMP). Consult this plan when authorizing activities at public use sites within the planning area of the RRMP. See also Management Guideline J, which defines the area of application of the RRMP.

D. Public Recreation Facilities

- 1. Public Use Cabins.** A system of public use cabins should be established in state parks. Generally, such facilities should not be provided on general state land, which is the focus of this plan.

2. Location of Recreation Facilities

a. Preferred Locations. Recreation facilities, including public use cabins, minimum development campsites, mooring buoys and other low intensity facilities for the general public (i.e. not private commercial facilities), are appropriate at sites that encourage public use at a particular location, direct public use away from inappropriate locations, accommodate competing or conflicting uses, and minimize damage to the environment.

b. Inappropriate Locations. Recreation facilities are not appropriate where the management intent of this plan is to maintain the natural condition of the area free from additional concentrations of recreation users or significant evidence of human use. In addition, recreation facilities should not be placed adjacent to cultural resource and archaeological sites that might subject these sites to vandalism or disturbance because of increased public use.

E. Private Commercial Recreation Facilities and Operations on State Land. Lodges (including floating lodges), tent camps, floats, or other private commercial facilities and operations designed to be run as or to support private commercial recreation facilities may be authorized if the facility or operation fulfills the conditions outlined in this section, conforms to the requirements of AS 38.05.070-.075, AS 38.05.850, or conforms to a management plan prepared in accordance with AS 41.21.302(c) authorizing the facility. The Nushagak & Mulchatna Rivers Recreation Management Plan, April 2005, also has restrictions on structures related to commercial recreation.

1. Siting, Construction, and Operation. The facility or operation should be sited, constructed, and operated in a manner that creates the least conflict with natural values and existing uses of the area. The commercial facility and the use it generates should avoid significant adverse impacts on fish and wildlife habitat and existing uses of an area. To the extent practical, floatlodges should be visually and acoustically hidden from main travel routes, frequently used anchorages, regionally important campsites, and frequently used recreation areas.²⁸ For facilities supporting recreational fish and wildlife harvest, ADF&G should be consulted on the possible effects of increased harvest on fish and wildlife resources, and on established commercial, recreation, and subsistence users.

To protect existing habitats, resources, and uses, floating private commercial recreation facilities should not be authorized in the following areas: designated habitat or harvest areas, anchorages, areas designated recreation (Rp or Rd), or areas adjacent to an upland residential subdivision. In addition, they should not be permitted near an authorized aquatic farming operation, known cultural or historic sites, public use cabins, or where the use is prohibited in the management intent statement for a specific management unit in this plan.

²⁸ See the Floating Facilities section in this chapter for additional standards on this use.

Private commercial recreation facilities may be authorized in these areas by DNR if it is determined that the permitting of a floating facility is in the best interest of the state and the use is found consistent with the Alaska Coastal Management Program²⁹.

2. **Upland Access to Floatlodges.** Where the need for upland access to a floatlodge is anticipated, the floatlodge should be anchored or tied where there is legal upland access to the site.
3. **Authorizations for Floatlodges.** Floatlodges shall also meet the requirements for these structures under *Floating Facilities*.

F. Commercial Recreation Leasing Processes. There are two processes for leasing state land for commercial recreational facilities – one process is described by AS 38.05.073, the other by AS 38.05.070 and .075. Unless Chapter 3 specifically requires the .073 commercial leasing process, applications may be adjudicated under either process. DNR will determine the appropriate process on a case-by-case basis. ADOT/PF has its own leasing process that applies to land it manages in rights-of-way, airports, materials sites, and other lands and facilities it manages.

1. **The .070 / .075 Process.** The .070 / .075 process is simpler and faster, but it offers the state less flexibility in choosing the lessee and in structuring lease payments. It is generally suited to small projects with few anticipated impacts. The management intent for the management unit need not specifically state that this type of leasing is an allowed use for it to be authorized under this process.
2. **The .073 Process.** The .073 process is longer, but it allows submission of alternative proposals for a particular lease, requires more public involvement in reviewing a proposed lease, and offers the state more choices for structuring payments on the lease. The .073 process is generally suited to large projects that are likely to have significant impacts on surrounding areas. Under the .073 process, DNR will give public notice that it intends to solicit proposals for a lease. DNR will then prepare a “request for proposals” that must include specific information on the lease and must be advertised in state and local newspapers. Once a prospective lessee has been chosen, DNR must give public notice and hold public meetings on the preliminary decision to issue the lease.

For a .073 lease to be considered in a management unit, the plan must specifically allow for this type of leasing in a given unit before it can be authorized. Since no management units are identified in this area plan specifically for commercial recreation leasing under the .073 process, a plan amendment will be required to accommodate this use.

DNR may impose eligibility standards, including proof of the developer’s financial backing and capability, experience in this type of development, ability to meet bonding or insurance requirements, and ability to comply with resource and environmental analysis requirements.

²⁹ The Alaska Coastal Management Program was terminated on July 1, 2011, pursuant to AS 44.66.030.

The .073 process requires that potential economic, social, and environmental impacts of the proposed project must be evaluated. DNR may require the prospective developer to fund additional studies; the studies must involve the appropriate state agencies, and ADF&G must approve any studies involving fish and game.

G. Tideland Permits and Leases Adjacent to Recreation Facilities. Tideland activities may be allowed adjacent to public recreation facilities, including public use cabins, lodges, or fuel stops if the land manager determines that the two uses can be made compatible by design, siting or operating guidelines, or if the land manager determines there is no feasible and prudent alternative for the activity. This guideline also applies to sites reserved for future recreation facilities. The land manager's determination will be made after consultation with the facility manager.

H. Scenic Resources. Facilities on state-owned uplands and tidelands in areas designated Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed (Rd) or Public Recreation and Tourism-Public Use Site (Rp) should be located and designed to blend in with the natural surroundings. Stipulations to accomplish this guideline may be attached to a development plan to address location, size, color, materials, requirements for vegetative or topographic screening, or other measures as appropriate.

I. Municipal Selections. Some areas of state land that are designated Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed (Rd) or Public Recreation and Tourism-Public Use Site (Rp) may be suitable for selection under the Municipal Entitlement Act. The Resource Allocation Tables in Chapter 3 specify if a management unit is considered suitable for municipal conveyance. In order to protect the public values in these recreational lands, the state may attach stipulations to the conveyance. This may include easements to preserve access (trails and campsites), habitat, wildlife, scenic and other values associated with the recreation resources.

State land designated Rd or Rp affected by a municipal selection considered appropriate for conveyance will maintain a protected area adjacent to anadromous streams or lakes. This protected area, which will be established by an easement, will extend 100 feet upland from the ordinary high water mark. In areas where the river provides a significant corridor for wildlife movement, the size of this easement may be increased to 200 or 300 feet. The intent of this type of easement is to maintain habitat and public use values, including public access. Within the easement there should be no permanent structures or significant alteration of vegetation. See Table 2.3.

J. Nushagak & Mulchatna Rivers Recreation Management Plan. The original Nushagak & Mulchatna Rivers Recreation Management Plan (RRMP) was developed by DNR and other entities to provide the basis for the management of recreation uses and

structures on state land within the Nushagak and Mulchatna drainage basin. It was originally adopted in 1990 as an element of the Bristol Bay Area Plan and as an Area Meriting Special Attention in the District Coastal Plan of the Bristol Bay Coastal Resource Service Area³⁰.

This plan revision continues the use of the RRMP as an element of the Bristol Bay Area Plan within the navigable waters of the Nushagak-Mulchatna drainage basin and those adjacent uplands designated in the Area Plan as General Use, Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed (Rd), Recreation and Tourism-Public Use Site (Rp), or areas co-designated Habitat (Ha) for specific types of recreation activities and facilities. The Revised RRMP is to be used as the basis for decision making for the following types of recreation and related uses: Permanent Facilities, Temporary Facilities, Trapping Cabins, Boat Storage, Airstrip Development, Docks, and 'Other Uses', as more fully described in Chapter 3 of the Revised RRMP.³¹ These definitions are also included in the Glossary.

There are a number of restrictions in the application of the Revised RRMP to DNR decision making. It does not apply to areas designated Settlement and Mining in the BBAP, and it does not affect decisions related to municipal entitlement selections, mining or other forms of subsurface use, or oil and gas development. All other types of uses other than those specifically related to recreation are also managed under the auspices of the BBAP. DNR adjudicators should therefore review the management guidelines for specific management units in the BBAP in addition to the listing of allowed and prohibited uses identified in the RRMP.

K. Other Guidelines that Affect Recreation, Tourism, and Scenic Resources. Other guidelines will affect recreation, tourism, and scenic resources. See the other sections of this chapter.

³⁰ The Alaska Coastal Management Program was terminated on July 1, 2011, pursuant to AS 44.66.030.

³¹ The RRMP only covers certain types of activities related to short-term and long-term uses. These are listed in Tables 2.1 and 3.1 of the RRMP. Table 3.1 of the RRMP, for convenience, is also included as Table 2.2 in this Plan; however, adjudicators should read the entire section on allowed uses in Chapter 2 of the RRMP as well as the specific requirements for particular river segments.

Table 2.2: Nushagak & Mulchatna Rivers Recreational Management Guidelines (same as Table 3.1 in the RRMP)

Amended Plan (2005) for Nushagak & Mulchatna Rivers Recreation Units				Management Guidelines Related to Recreation Uses and Structures							
<i>RRMP Unit</i>	<i>BBAP Unit</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Management Intent</i>	<i>Perm. Facilities</i>	<i>Temp. Facilities</i>	<i>Trapping Cabins</i>	<i>Boat Storage</i>	<i>Airstrip Development</i>	<i>Docks - Perm.</i>	<i>Docks - Temp.</i>	<i>Other Uses</i>
1	5-20	Lower Nushagak River, Keefer Cutoff to Wood River	Semi-developed	Prohibited	Prohibited	Prohibited	May be Allowed	May be Allowed	May be Allowed	May be Allowed	May be Allowed
2	5-22, 6-49	Iowithla River Corridor	Primitive	Prohibited	Prohibited	Prohibited	Prohibited	Prohibited	Prohibited	Prohibited	May be Allowed
3	6-26	Lower Nushagak River, Ekwok Vicinity	Semi-developed	Prohibited	Prohibited	Prohibited	May be Allowed	May be Allowed	May be Allowed	May be Allowed	May be Allowed
4	6-35	Kokwok River Corridor	Semi-primitive	Prohibited	May be Allowed	May be Allowed	May be Allowed	May be Allowed	Prohibited	May be Allowed	May be Allowed
5	6-26	Lower Nushagak and Mulchatna River Corridors, New Stuyahok Vicinity	Semi-developed	Prohibited	Prohibited	Prohibited	May be Allowed	May be Allowed	May be Allowed	May be Allowed	May be Allowed
6	6-42	Lower Nushagak Uplands	Semi-primitive	Prohibited	May be Allowed	May be Allowed	May be Allowed	May be Allowed	Prohibited	May be Allowed	May be Allowed
7	6-26, 6-33	Middle Nushagak River Corridor, Koliganek Vicinity	Semi-developed	Prohibited	Prohibited	Prohibited	Prohibited	Prohibited	May be Allowed	May be Allowed	May be Allowed
8	6-25	Nuyakuk River Corridor	Primitive	Prohibited	Prohibited	Prohibited	Prohibited	Prohibited	Prohibited	Prohibited	Prohibited
9	6-26	Middle Nushagak Corridor, Harris Creek to Nuyakuk River	Semi-primitive	Prohibited	Prohibited	Prohibited	May be Allowed	May be Allowed	May be Allowed	May be Allowed	May be Allowed
10	6-02	Middle Nushagak Corridor, Chichitnok River to Harris Creek	Semi-primitive	Prohibited	May be Allowed	May be Allowed	May be Allowed	May be Allowed	Prohibited	May be Allowed	May be Allowed
11	6-13	Middle Nushagak Uplands	Semi-primitive	May be Allowed	May be Allowed	May be Allowed	May be Allowed	May be Allowed	May be Allowed	May be Allowed	May be Allowed
12	6-02	King Salmon River Corridor	Primitive	Prohibited	Prohibited	Prohibited	Prohibited	Prohibited	Prohibited	Prohibited	May be Allowed

Chapter 2 - Recreation, Tourism, and Scenic Resources

RRMP Unit	BBAP Unit	Name	Management Intent	Perm. Facilities	Temp. Facilities	Trapping Cabins	Boat Storage	Airstrip Development	Docks - Perm.	Docks - Temp.	Other Uses
13	6-02	Upper Nushagak and Chichitnok Rivers Corridor	Primitive	Prohibited	Prohibited	Prohibited	Prohibited	May be Allowed	Prohibited	Prohibited	May be Allowed
14	6-01	Nushagak Hills	Semi-primitive	May be Allowed	May be Allowed	May be Allowed	May be Allowed	May be Allowed	May be Allowed	May be Allowed	May be Allowed
15	6-09	Lower Mulchatna River Corridor	Semi-primitive	Prohibited	May be Allowed	May be Allowed	May be Allowed	May be Allowed	Prohibited	May be Allowed	May be Allowed
16	6-09, 6-41	Stuyahok River Corridor	Primitive	Prohibited	Prohibited	Prohibited	Prohibited	Prohibited	Prohibited	Prohibited	May be Allowed
17	6-09, 6-24, 6-30	Koktuli River Corridor	Primitive	Prohibited	Prohibited	Prohibited	Prohibited	Prohibited	Prohibited	Prohibited	May be Allowed
18	6-09	Middle Mulchatna River Corridor, Keefer Creek to Koktuli River	Semi-primitive	Prohibited	May be Allowed	May be Allowed	May be Allowed	May be Allowed	Prohibited	May be Allowed	May be Allowed
19	6-05	Lower Mulchatna Uplands	Semi-primitive	May be Allowed	May be Allowed	May be Allowed	May be Allowed	May be Allowed	May be Allowed	May be Allowed	May be Allowed
20	6-07, 6-09, 7-06	Middle Mulchatna River Corridor, Chilikadrotna River to Keefer Creek	Semi-primitive	Prohibited	May be Allowed	May be Allowed	May be Allowed	May be Allowed	Prohibited	May be Allowed	May be Allowed
21	7-06	Chilchitna River and Tutna Lake	Semi-primitive	Prohibited	May be Allowed	May be Allowed	May be Allowed	May be Allowed	Prohibited	May be Allowed	May be Allowed
22	7-06	Upper Mulchatna River Corridor	Semi-primitive	Prohibited	May be Allowed	May be Allowed	May be Allowed	May be Allowed	Prohibited	May be Allowed	May be Allowed
23	7-06	Chilikadrotna River Corridor	Primitive	Prohibited	Prohibited	Prohibited	Prohibited	Prohibited	Prohibited	Prohibited	May be Allowed
24	7-04	Half Cabin Lakes Area	Semi-developed	May be Allowed	May be Allowed	May be Allowed	May be Allowed	May be Allowed	May be Allowed	May be Allowed	May be Allowed
25	7-02	Upper Mulchatna Uplands	Semi-primitive	May be Allowed	May be Allowed	May be Allowed	May be Allowed	May be Allowed	May be Allowed	May be Allowed	May be Allowed

Settlement

Background

Some state lands within the planning area are designated Settlement (Se) or Settlement-Commercial (Sc).³² Settlement areas are primarily found in the northern part of the planning area within Regions 6, 7, 8, and 9. Fewer settlement areas occur on the Alaska Peninsula, due to that area's more remote location, limited accessibility, and suitable areas for settlement. The Settlement designation of a particular management unit is based on whether it has reasonable access by road, water, or air, includes topography that would be suitable for development, and poses minimal conflict with recreation, scenic values, important fish and wildlife resources, or resource development. A summary of the plan's settlement evaluation follows.

Region 5 – Dillingham Area. Past state land sales in the Dillingham area have shown a demand for more private land in proximity to this, the largest community in the Bristol Bay region. State lands in the area of Lake Nunavaugaluk (Snake Lake) and along the road corridor leading north from Dillingham remain in their prior Settlement classification with minor expansion to add some equally suitable land and to allow more flexibility in land disposal design.

Region 6 – Nushagak Drainage. Much of the land in the lower drainage is privately owned. There are some lands on the upper Nuyakuk River with suitable terrain and access to be designated Settlement. There are extensive state lands in the remainder of this region, but they are further removed from any population centers, and have higher value for habitat, harvest and recreation.

Region 7 – Upper Mulchatna and Chulitna. A former Settlement area at Half Cabin Lakes was maintained in the Mulchatna River drainage. A new block of Settlement land was designated in the Tutna Lake area because of its suitable terrain and the access provided via the lake and other waterbodies. In the Chulitna drainage, a block of state land around the Nikabuna Lakes is designated Settlement because of its suitable terrain and the access provided via the lakes and other waterbodies.

Region 8 – Newhalen River. A former block of Settlement land on the west side of the Newhalen River has been expanded into equally suitable adjacent lands. This land is close to the communities of Nondalton, Iliamna and Newhalen and is along a proposed overland

³² There is only one area within this area plan that is designated Settlement-Commercial. This designation is used where state land is to be used for a variety of purposes, including commercial, industrial, or residential development, and few areas exactly fit this need. Once state land is conveyed out of state ownership local zoning, if applicable, controls its use. Use restrictions in state patent are rare.

transportation corridor. Most of the lands are state-selected and cannot be used for Settlement until conveyed from the federal government. Three sections of land near Nondalton are state-owned lands suitable for Settlement.

Region 9 – Eastern Iliamna Lake. A former block of Settlement land around Chekok Lake has been expanded into suitable adjacent lands. A block of land along the Pile River is designated Settlement due to its suitable terrain and access. Both of these blocks are close to the community of Pedro Bay and are located along a proposed overland transportation corridor. Another former block of Settlement land around Kakhonak Lake has been expanded into equally suitable adjacent land.

Region 11 – Naknek River. An area of state-owned and state-selected land along King Salmon Creek is designated Settlement due to its gentle terrain and suitable access. This land is close to the communities of King Salmon and Naknek.

Region 12 – Egegik. A small block of land north of the mouth of the Egegik River is designated Settlement due to its suitable terrain and access. This land is close to the community of Egegik and can be utilized for community expansion. There is also a small block of land around the Jensen Airstrip, west of Becharof Lake, that is designated Settlement.

Region 14 – Ugashik Bay. A small block land north of Ugashik Bay is designated Settlement due to its suitable terrain and access. This land is close to the community of Pilot Point.

Region 16 – Port Heiden. A block of land around Barbara Creek is designated Settlement. This land has suitable terrain, nearby access, and is located close to the community of Port Heiden.

Region 18 – Cape Seniavin/Port Moller. A small block of land, formerly classified Settlement along the coast north of Port Moller will remain so designated. Another block of land around the north shore of Bear Lake is designated Settlement. Though remote from any existing community, this land has suitable terrain and good air access.

Region 19 – Herendeen Bay. A block of land at the head of Herendeen Bay has suitable terrain, marine access, and is designated Settlement.

Region 21 – Pavlof Bay, Salt Water Lagoon, and David River. A small parcel of land at the head of Pavlof Bay is designated Settlement. Though remote from any community, terrain and access are suitable, and this area may be appropriate for a marine related transportation facility. Other areas designated Settlement include a small tract near Salt Water Lagoon on the Bristol Bay coast and a fairly large area near the David River containing many lakes and streams.

Other Regions. Because of other values, such as habitat and harvest, and low suitability for settlement due to terrain and access issues, there are no other major blocks of state land designated for Settlement. However, there are large areas of state land, especially in the Nushagak drainage and on the north side of the Alaska Peninsula, that are designated General Use, a multiple use designation which allows settlement if indicated in the management intent of a management unit. Areas designated General Use are usually even more inaccessible and remote and are generally unsuitable for settlement because of adverse topography, poor drainage, and the presence of extensive wetlands. Thus areas designated General Use in the planning area may be less likely to be used for settlement purposes. It is not intended that these areas will be developed for settlement during the planning period.

Goals

Private Land Ownership. Provide suitable public land for transfer to private ownership for settlement purposes. Significant portions of the state land suitable for settlement have been or will be selected by the present or future boroughs within the planning area; however, some of the land suitable for settlement will remain in state ownership. With these remaining lands, DNR will attempt to satisfy three settlement categories in the planning area:

- 1. Seasonal residences for recreation (remote recreation).** DNR will offer land suitable for seasonal recreation use. This land will be provided as demand warrants, subject to the availability of funding. This category of land disposal is intended to provide land, often in remote locations, for recreational needs. No public facilities or services are intended to be provided. Most of the areas designated Settlement are intended to provide residential uses of this type.
- 2. Year-round residences for community expansion (subdivisions).** DNR will offer accessible land suitable to meet the needs of existing communities. This category serves people whose principal place of residence and work is, or will be, in the area of the disposal. It also includes land disposals of commercial and industrial land to accommodate the expansion needs of communities. This land will be provided as demand warrants, subject to the availability of funding.
- 3. Industrial or commercial development.** DNR will sell, lease, or protect for future use suitable land for private commercial and industrial uses. If DNR sells the land, the timing of this disposal will depend on market demand and adequate funding.

Community, Social, and Aesthetic Values. In designing future disposals, DNR will maintain compatibility with the cultural lifestyle and aesthetic values of residents and users, and minimize undesirable impacts on those values while considering the needs and demands of all state residents.

Fiscal Impacts. Land disposals should be sited and planned to minimize the costs of infrastructure and other services resulting from settlement. Disposals should be focused on areas of existing settlement, areas along the road system or areas that can be easily accessed by water or air transport, and/or areas where service requirements may be provided by local government or community organizations.

Coordination with Local Governments and Landowners. Coordinate state land offering programs with similar programs of local governments, Native corporations and other major landowners to best achieve common objectives.

Management Guidelines

A. Planning and Coordination

- 1. Competition.** The state may compete with the private sector or local governments if necessary to satisfy demand, provide market choice, or moderate unreasonably high prices.
- 2. Local Plans.** DNR will comply with provisions of local comprehensive plans and zoning ordinances regarding the location and density of land development except to the extent that local requirements are inconsistent with a major overriding state interest.
- 3. Coordination with Local Governments and Native Corporations.** Where DNR and either a municipality or Native corporation both have land, state land offering programs should be coordinated with similar programs of local government or Native corporations to best achieve common objectives. To this end, DNR would consider developing a joint disposal plan for state and municipal or Native lands with any entity that is interested. This plan would consider the fiscal planning for road extension priorities and plans for levels of services in different areas. If a municipality has a comprehensive land use plan, that plan will provide direction for settlement areas.
- 4. Pacing.** Settlement offerings may be phased over the life of this plan. The timing and extent of disposals will depend upon anticipated demand, availability of funding, the rate of community expansion, and the particular land requirements of such expansion. Another factor may be whether the disposal will generate a demand for services that cannot be reasonably expected to be met by local government or community organizations. The pacing of land disposals should also consider the effect on subsistence activities, including fish and wildlife resources.
- 5. Areas Designated General Use.** The areas of state land designated General Use allow for settlement if this use is indicated as appropriate in a management unit's management intent statement. Most general use areas are inaccessible and remote and generally unsuitable for development because of adverse topography, drainage,

and the presence of extensive areas of wetlands. Settlement during the planning period in areas designated General Use is considered generally inappropriate except in those areas that adjoin management units designated Settlement and/or that are necessary to the development of a residential land disposal.

6. **Areas Affected by Municipal Selections.** Areas designated Settlement or Settlement-Commercial and selected by the Bristol Bay, Lake and Peninsula, or Aleutians East Borough are considered appropriate for conveyance, subject to a separate and subsequent state Best Interest Finding. Such areas are likely to be conveyed out of state ownership and will be subject to local zoning requirements, if applicable, once conveyed.

B. Types of Settlement Land and Land Offerings. The nature of state land available for private ownership is influenced by both the characteristics of land designated for settlement and the type of land sales program that makes it available. The Bristol Bay Area Plan designates certain lands for settlement and provides guidelines for land sales, but does not develop or require a specific land sales program.

1. **Settlement Land.** Various types of state lands are identified for settlement in order to accommodate a broad range of options for Alaskans to acquire land. In determining the location and extent of lands to be designated for settlement, the state must balance settlement needs with other resource values and land uses. Once an area has been identified for settlement, the size and location of the area may make it more suitable for a certain type of sales program, but that does not necessarily preclude other types of sales.

Two types of settlement areas are identified and designated in this plan:

- a. **Community Settlement Areas.** These areas are relatively small, usually closer to communities or existing settlements, and are accessible from the road system or by water. They are generally suitable in meeting potential needs for community expansion, public facilities, or other purposes that do not require a large amount of acreage. Areas of this type are designated Settlement and concentrate in the vicinity of Dillingham.
- b. **Remote Settlement Areas.** These settlement areas are further away from communities and the road system, are accessed by water or air, and can be small or large in size. Generally, they are more challenging to access and develop than other types of management units, and are most suitable for residential or recreational use. Areas of this type are designated Settlement and include management units R05-14 in the lower Nushagak drainage, R06-03 along the Nuyakuk River, R07-01 near Half Cabin Lakes, R07-02 near Tutna Lake, R07-03 around the Nikabuna Lakes, R 07-04 along the Chulitna River, R09-05 near Chekok Lake, R09-06 along the Pile River, R09-07 in the vicinity of Meadow and Moose Lakes, R10-08 near Big Mountain, R12-03 around the Jensen airstrip southwest of Becharof Lake, R16-03 around Barbara Creek near Port Heiden, R18-03 around Bear Lake near Port Moller, R19-01 in Herendeen Bay, and R21-05 in the area of the David River.

2. Land Offerings. Specific types of state land offerings are established by the legislature, and are subject to change. Since statehood, there have been many different land sales programs, and it is possible that new programs will be developed in the future. Generally, land offerings can be categorized by the way that the parcels are established. Both types of land offerings should be made available as follows:

a. Presurveyed Parcels. In this type of land offering, the state identifies an area of suitable land, surveys and plats parcels, and then offers them for sale. These are also referred to as “subdivision” sales. They can include a large number of parcels or just a few, and the size of the parcels, sometimes called “lots,” can vary. This type of land offering is usually more suitable for smaller, Community Settlement Areas, but may also occur in large Remote Settlement Areas where appropriate. The decision on which type of parcel to create, large or small, is to be made at the time of subdivision design and development.

b. Staked Parcels. In this type of land offering, eligible applicants are allowed to identify a parcel of land within a specified area by staking it, and the parcel is surveyed prior to actual sale. Staking is usually subject to certain restrictions such as parcel size limits and setbacks from sensitive areas in order to protect other resources within the staking area. Staking areas generally coincide with the areas designated as ‘Remote Community Areas.’

C. Isolated Parcels of State Land. The state has acquired and will continue to acquire isolated parcels of land through foreclosure, escheat, and other methods. The following guidelines apply to management and possible disposal of these parcels. See also the section on Applicability of Plan Designations/Classifications to State Lands not Identified in the Plan Text or Plan Maps in Chapter 4.

- 1. In or Near Existing Communities.** If the parcel is in or immediately adjacent to an existing community or past state land offering, the parcel can be offered for settlement unless it is appropriate as a site(s) for schools, material sites, roads, parks, or other public facilities.
- 2. Parcels Near Other State Land.** If the parcel adjoins or is surrounded by other state land, it should be managed according to the management intent and guidelines applicable to the adjacent lands.
- 3. Parcels Not Near Other State Land.** Parcels, such as mining claims acquired by foreclosure in the middle of a federal conservation system unit, may be considered for exchange or sale to the adjacent property owner.

D. Protection, Management, and Enhancement of Other Resources.

- 1. Protect Life and Property.** DNR will retain public lands and coordinate with local governments to discourage development in areas of flooding, unstable ground, or other hazards. Public lands within a 100-year floodplain should remain in public ownership. The 100-year floodplain area is that area designated “100 Year

Floodplain” in FEMA floodway/floodplain management mapping, or the area designated as a 100 year floodplain in detailed hydrologic studies prepared by other government agencies or prepared by a hydrologist or other competent professional.

2. **Protect and Manage Valuable Environmental Areas.** In land disposals, the state will provide a publicly owned open-space system to preserve important fish and wildlife habitats and natural areas such as shorelands, freshwater wetlands, and riparian lands. These areas should be designed to provide the necessary linkage and continuity to protect or increase values for human uses and wildlife movements. In some places, large areas may be protected to provide adequate terrestrial habitat.
3. **Priority of Public Uses in Stream Corridors.** Within stream corridors, DNR will set a higher priority on protecting public use values than on providing opportunities for private ownership of land. Disposals near streams with important recreation value will be designed to protect riparian habitat and protect access to and along the stream for fishing, hiking, camping, and other recreational activities. Disposals near streams that have important fish or wildlife habitat or wildlife value will be designated to insure the protection of the habitat or wildlife. A minimum distance of 100 feet measured each along each side of an anadromous fish stream or a stream with high value resident fish is to be protected. See also the standards governing the retention of state land adjacent to waterbodies (Management Guideline D in the Shorelines, Stream Corridors, and Coastal Areas section of this Chapter).

In certain limited cases, it may be appropriate to provide land for private use, but such an action must be in the overall best interests of the state. Before lands are disposed of in stream corridors, DNR will assess existing and projected public use needs associated with the stream corridor in consultation with other affected agencies and the public.

4. **Protect and Enhance Scenic Features.** The state generally will retain in public ownership unique natural features such as cliffs, bluffs and waterfalls, and foreground open space for panoramic vistas. Public access to such amenities will be preserved. Such lands include islands in bays unless land disposals can be designed to prevent negative effects on the scenic and recreational values of the area.
5. **Mineral Closing Orders.** Generally, state upland management units designated Settlement do not coincide with patterns of historical or potential mining activity in the planning area. Since little potential conflict can be expected to exist, this plan does *not* propose any new Mineral Closing Orders or Leasehold Location Orders. However, Mineral Closing Orders are recommended for use at the time that an area is being considered for disposal for purposes of settlement or other forms of development that would be inconsistent with mining activity. The timing of the closure is at the discretion of the Department, but should be early enough in the process to avoid the inadvertent staking of mining claims. The current Mineral Closing Orders affecting existing areas of settlement or proposed settlement will be retained. See discussion on mineral closing orders in the Mineral Resources section of this Chapter for more detail.

6. **Timber Harvest.** Timber harvests are considered appropriate in areas designated Settlement if intended to support the costs of subdivision development, provide access to the subdivision, or support ancillary facilities subject to the other requirements of the Forestry standards in this Chapter. Selective harvesting of timber before construction of the subdivision is considered appropriate, if authorized by the Regional Manager, DMLW. Land conveyed out of state ownership for the purpose of settlement, or another form of active land use, shall not be used for commercial timber harvest and sale. Subdivisions or disposals of state land by DNR shall preclude the sale of merchantable timber harvested on lots or parcels conveyed out of state ownership. The format used to impose this restriction is at the discretion of the Regional Manager, DMLW. This guideline is not intended to preclude the cutting of trees or other vegetation as part of the process of site development.
7. **Protect and Enhance Recreational, Educational, and Cultural Opportunities.** DNR should determine the need for and retain appropriate areas for outdoor recreation, hunting, fishing, trails, campsites, boat launches, cultural sites, and scientific study. Areas for both intensive and dispersed use will be preserved.

E. Design.

1. **Provide State Land for Important Environmental and Resource Development Purposes.** DNR, as a general policy, will retain appropriate green belts, public-use corridors, water supply areas, riparian and coastal buffer areas, material sites, roads and other public facilities, as well as other open space to create a desirable land use pattern in developing areas.
2. **Cost of Public Services.** In accordance with AS 38.04.010, DNR will focus year-round settlement to areas where services exist or can be provided with reasonable efficiency. State land that is located beyond the range of existing schools and other necessary public services or that is located where development of sources of employment is improbable will be sited and designed to encourage seasonal use with sufficient separation between residences so that public services will not be necessary or expected. Wildfire management costs that result from settlement will be considered and minimized to the extent feasible.
3. **Ensure Access.** DNR shall ensure that legal, practical public access (roads, trails, or other options most appropriate to the particular situation) is identified and reserved within land offerings. However, the state is not legally obligated to construct roads. The location of access points onto the road system should be coordinated with ADOT/PF. DNR will ensure actual physical access is available or can be developed (road, air, or water) to each new state land offering. Section line or other easements should not be relied on for access without field inspection of the practicality of such routes, where topography or other conditions might make the practicability of the section line location suspect. Identified access routes should be described in the land-offering brochure. Where needed to reduce the likelihood of conflicts with existing private owners, DNR may brush or flag public access routes to land offering projects.

- 4. Subdivision Design.** Subdivisions will be designed to preserve and enhance the quality of the natural setting and the recreational opportunities that make an area attractive to potential buyers. State subdivision design will take account of site limitations and opportunities such as slope, drainage, soils, erosion, riparian zone and coastal buffer, and other features to ensure that sites offered are buildable and can be developed without the need for extensive public infrastructure. DNR should review any applicable subdivision requirements of local government prior to the initiation of subdivision design.
- 5. Easements.** Easements will be used as one means to retain public use rights needed on privately owned lands. Easements generally will not be used to retain a public interest in lands within a subdivision. Instead, DNR will generally retain such lands in public ownership. Exceptions to this policy may be made where the interest protected is very limited, such as for local pedestrian access that is not part of an integrated neighborhood or community trail system.

F. Other Guidelines Affecting Settlement. Other guidelines will affect management practices for Settlement. See other sections of this chapter.

Shorelines, Stream Corridors and Coastal Areas

Goals

Recreation. Provide opportunities for a variety of recreational activities within publicly owned stream and tideland corridors, including both undeveloped and developed recreational activities.

Habitat. Protect fish and wildlife habitats along tidelands, lakeshores, stream corridors and wetlands.

Water Quality. Protect water quality to support domestic uses, fish and wildlife production, and recreational activities. Protect watersheds that supply community drinking water.

Provide for Water Dependent and Water Related Uses. Provide for needed water dependent and water related uses.

Coastal Use and Maintenance Area. Maintain areas within 500 feet of the coast for public use on lands to be retained by the state during the planning period for the purposes of public access, recreation, maintenance of scenic viewsheds, and the conservation of fisheries and wildlife habitat.

Management Guidelines

A. Alaska Clean Water Actions (ACWA). In accordance with the ACWA program, DNR will work with the departments of Fish and Game and Environmental Conservation to protect and improve water quality, water quantity and fish habitat.

B. Priority of Public Uses in Stream Corridors. DNR will place a higher priority on protecting public use values in stream corridors than on providing opportunities for private ownership or development of land. However, the department recognizes the demand for property along streams and will provide land for private purchase in some stream corridors. Prior to the disposal of stream corridor lands, DNR, in consultation with other affected agencies and the public, will assess existing and projected public use needs associated with the stream corridor. State land sales programs near streams having important recreation value will be designed to protect access to and along the stream for fishing, hiking, camping, and other recreational activities. Similarly, disposals near streams that have important fish or wildlife habitat or wildlife value will be designed to ensure the protection of the habitat or wildlife.

C. Public Access Adjacent to Waterbodies (see Table 2.3). Pursuant to AS 38.05.127, legal public access will be reserved in order to protect the public's right to travel to and along the shore of a waterbody without encouraging trespass. Permits, leases, and plans of operation for commercial and industrial uses, transportation facilities, pipelines and other water dependent uses may be authorized on state uplands adjacent to waterbodies if their activities are consistent with the management intent for the area; they maintain tideland and stream bank access; and protect important fish and wildlife habitat, public water supplies, and public recreation. Trails and other forms of non-motorized public access are generally considered to be appropriate within these areas, if they meet the conditions listed in 11 AAC 96.025.

Where feasible and prudent, there should be setbacks between these activities and adjacent waterbodies. The width of this setback may vary depending upon the type and size of the use, but must be adequate to maintain public access to and along riparian areas.

D. Retention of State Owned Buffers Adjacent to Waterbodies (see Table 2.3).

1. When the management intent for state land adjacent to waterbodies (including tidelands, streams, or lakes) is to permit recreation uses such as fishing, picnicking, hunting, camping, or other similar uses, the state should retain ownership of the adjacent uplands. This approach would also apply if the protection of important habitat or wildlife use area is intended. For anadromous and high value resident fish streams, a minimum of 100 feet landward from ordinary high water on each side of the stream must be retained.
2. In state subdivisions, buffers for streams with anadromous or high value resident fish should either be retained in state ownership or dedicated to a local government and managed to maintain important fish and wildlife habitat, public access, and recreation values.
3. State owned buffers or parcels adjacent to waterbodies may be retained along the full length of the waterbody or on segments of the waterbody determined to have high current or future use, public use, or to require habitat protection. If the intent is to provide forested wildlife habitat, the width and configuration of this buffer shall be determined prior to or during preliminary subdivision design by DNR in consultation with ADF&G.

E. Retention of Access Easements Adjacent to Waterbodies (see Table 2.3). For non-fish bearing streams, an easement should be used if the primary management intent is to protect the public's right to travel or provide access for utilities. The public rights retained in an easement shall be identified and noted in the DNR decision document and on the subdivision plat. In areas that may be sensitive to vehicular travel, the easement should be reserved for pedestrian access only. Access easements may be used in combination with

state land that is to be retained for public use or for the protection of environmental resources. In these situations, easements may be used to provide access to areas of state retained sensitive land, or provide access corridors between lots or parcels within the subdivision.

F. Protection Easements and Setbacks to Non-Fish Bearing Waterbodies (see Table 2.3). Easements or building setbacks may be used in those instances where public recreation use is moderate or where sensitive habitat or other environmental resources exist but are not of the same importance as described under Management Guideline C. The purpose of the easement should be noted in the Department decision document, and on the subdivision plat. Where a protection easement is to be applied, vehicular use within the area of the easement is inappropriate and should not be authorized. Building setbacks may be used in lieu of a protection easement in those instances where it is not appropriate or necessary for the state to retain any easement rights. Building setbacks may also be used in combination with buffers, access easements, and protection easements. Building setbacks used in this fashion provide an added level of protection, while allowing private ownership of the land within the area of the setback.

G. Buffer, Easement, and Building Setback Widths (see Table 2.3).

1. The width of state retained land, access and protection easements, and building setbacks adjacent to waterbodies (tidelands, lakes, streams) will vary, depending on whether the area is a retained parcel or imposed easement, and according to management intent and the specifics of the parcel under consideration. In addition, this width may vary along the area of the tideland, stream, or lake that is to be protected. Establishing widths, especially for publicly retained lands, will be based on the following considerations: recreational activities to be accommodated, habitat protection and management objectives, visual quality, use compatibility, prevention of erosion, or retention of a significant hydraulic resource (like a wetland).
2. Although these widths may vary, the following criteria are provided to establish the minimum width that can be expected on various types of buffers, easements, and setbacks. They are specified here in order to establish some consistency in application and ensure a minimum level of resource and habitat protection or public access. Distances are measured landward from ordinary high water along streams and other inland waterbodies and from the line of mean high water adjacent to coastal waters. Because of the linear nature of streams and certain other habitat or hydraulic features, these minimum dimensions will apply to both sides of the feature that is to be protected. For example, the total protected area along a stream with a 100 foot setback would be 200 feet (100 feet each side).

In nearly all instances involving retained state land, it will be preferable to retain a larger width, usually 300 feet on each side. Widths greater than 300 feet may also be warranted, depending on the specific site characteristics and the importance of the habitat or resources to be protected.

- a. Riparian buffers on retained public land along anadromous and high value resident fish streams and waters: 100 feet along each side of the anadromous stream or water. (Widths greater than this amount, up to 300 feet, should be authorized if, after consultation with ADF&G, it is determined that larger widths are necessary to protect fisheries, wildlife, or habitat).
- b. Buffers on other freshwater waterbodies on retained public land: 50 feet along each side of the stream or 50 feet along the shoreline of lakes.
- c. Protection easements used in areas of important environmental features: 50 feet on each side of important environmental features, such as high value wetlands. In instances where a protection easement is included as part of a disposal to a local unit of government under their Municipal Entitlement, this width is also 50 feet.
- d. Public access easements, including 'to and along' easements required under AS 38.05.127, or utility easements adjacent to tidelands, lakes, and streams: 50 feet.³³
- e. Building setbacks: refer to Table 2.3.

H. Standards Adjacent to Anadromous Fish Streams and Waterbodies and Coastal Areas (see Table 2.3).

1. **Riparian Protection Standard.** Activities which are or can be made compatible with the objectives of protecting, maintaining, or enhancing anadromous or high value resident fish habitat³⁴ will be authorized in the zone occurring within 300 feet of ordinary high water, measured from each stream bank. Riparian protection shall be provided on each side of the anadromous stream or waterbody whose purpose is the maintenance of fish and wildlife protection. Activities that are consistent with this policy are to be authorized by DNR in its issuance of permits, leases, or other types of development authorizations.
2. **Standards for Coastal Use/Maintenance Area.** A coastal use/maintenance area shall be provided within 500 feet from the mean high water on state uplands to be retained during the planning period. These areas shall be maintained in their existing natural condition for the purposes of providing public access, recreation, the protection of scenic viewsheds, and the conservation of fisheries and wildlife habitat. This area applies to areas designated Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed (Rd) or General Use (Gu). Limited, site specific development may be authorized in these areas by DNR but only if the objectives of this area, identified above, are maintained and after consulting ADF&G on fisheries and wildlife habitat issues.

³³ Other types of utility easements may be less than this width, depending on the purposes of the easement.

³⁴ As used here, 'habitat' refers to areas of migration, spawning and rearing (only).

I. Application Requirements for Easements and Buffers Along Waterbodies and Related Environmental Features. Table 2.3 specifies widths and other requirements for easements, buffers and public access in order to ensure consistency between authorizations along waterbodies and related environmental features. On a case-by-case basis, widths may be wider, in order to accommodate floodplain width, bank characteristics, size of the waterbody, extent of present or expected future public use, the need to protect important environmental features, or other relevant factors.

Widths can be narrower on a case-by-case basis if it is determined that the harm intended to be avoided by the requirement is not likely to occur because of site-specific circumstances. However, the strip of land must be of sufficient width to allow for public access as well as to screen the waterbody from development, where possible, with an undisturbed strip of vegetation.

J. Filling or Leasing of Tidelands for Residential Uses or Structures. No filling or leasing for residential uses or structures shall be allowed. Access improvements on state tidelands and submerged lands for residential uses and structures, such as docks and boat haul outs, shall also not involve the use of fill.

K. Filling or Leasing of Tidelands for Non-Residential Uses and Structures. If consistent with the requirements of the Alaska Coastal Management Program³⁵ or a Coastal District Plan, authorizations may be granted for the filling of state tidelands and submerged lands for those non-residential uses or structures that are water-related or water-dependent.

L. Other Guidelines for Shorelines and Stream Corridors. Other guidelines will affect management practices for shorelines, stream corridors, and coastal areas. See other sections of this chapter.

³⁵ The Alaska Coastal Management Program was terminated on July 1, 2011, pursuant to AS 44.66.030.

Table 2.3: Application Requirements for Easements and Buffers Along Waterbodies and Related Environmental Features

Guideline/ Description	Minimum Width/Measured from	Where it Applies	Primary Purpose	Guidelines
1. Public Access (To and Along Easement) Adjacent to all navigable waters ³⁶	50 feet * Landward from ordinary high water line ** Landward and seaward from mean high water line	Along: * Lakes * Streams ** Tidelands	Provide public access along navigable and other waterbodies.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prohibited: Residential structures, fences, and other non-water-dependent structures that will obstruct passage. 'Along' portion of 'To and Along' easement is to be continuous unless topography or land status prevents a continuous easement. The 'To' portion of the 'To and Along' easement has a minimum width of 50 feet but may be increased to 60 feet if DNR determines that the need for increased public access to navigable and public waters may justify construction of a road along an easement. A section line easement under AS 19.10.010 can function as a 'To' easement to the extent that the section line easement runs on state land and if the section line easement provides a practical route to the shore or river.
2. Riparian Buffers	100 feet * Landward from ordinary high water line ** Landward and seaward from mean high water line	Along: * Retained public land * Public use easements * Municipal Entitlements * Anadromous and high value resident fish streams and lakes.	Protect riparian areas adjacent to anadromous and high value resident fish streams and lakes.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prohibited: Residential structures, fences, and other non-water-dependent structures that will obstruct passage. Widths up to 300 feet may be authorized if, after consultation with ADF&G, it is determined that larger widths are necessary to protect fisheries, wildlife, or habitat. See also 'Riparian Protection Standard'. The 'Riparian Protection Standard' applies in instances where necessary to control the types of uses and structures adjacent to anadromous and high value resident fish streams in order to achieve the objectives of protecting, maintaining, or enhancing anadromous fish streams or lakes. Consult with ADF&G prior to imposing the requirements of the 'Riparian Protection Standard'.
3. Freshwater Waterbodies	50 feet * Landward from ordinary high water line along streams and lakes that are not covered in item #2 or from the edge of the waterbodies, including wetlands, that are to be protected.	Freshwater waterbodies.	Protect areas adjacent to freshwater waterbodies that are not important riparian areas but that may be important for other public purposes.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prohibited: Residential structures, fences and other non-water dependent structures. Imposed as a public easement with the previous prohibitions. Can be imposed in instances where the To and Along Easement is not applicable.

³⁶ See 11 AAC 51.035 for determination of Navigable and Public Water. See also 11 AAC 51.045 for easements 'To and Along Navigable and Public Water'. Other waters may be considered on a case-by-case basis.

Guideline/ Description	Minimum Width/Measured from	Where it Applies	Primary Purpose	Guidelines
4. Sensitive Environmental Features	50 feet *** Measured from edge of sensitive environmental feature.	Areas of important environmental features.	Protect sensitive environmental features not otherwise protected under Public Access, Riparian Buffers, or Freshwater Waterbodies.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sensitive environmental features may include wetlands, important upland habitat, prominent scenic features, and the like. • Prohibited: Residential (or other) structures and associated out buildings but not including utilities or minor accessory structures. • Imposed as a public easement with the previous prohibitions. • Where this easement is imposed as part of a municipal entitlement action, this width is also 50 feet.
5. Building setback Adjacent to all waters except anadromous and high-value resident fish waters (see guideline 6 below)	50 feet * Landward from ordinary high water ** Landward from mean high water	Non-anadromous and non-high-value resident fish: * Lakes * Streams ** Tidelands	Protect public values, including access, recreation, and water quality along all waterbodies.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Where feasible and prudent, and necessary to protect public values along the stream. • Does not apply to exceptions listed at bottom of table.
6. Building setback Adjacent to anadromous and high-value resident fish waters	100 feet * Landward from ordinary high water ** Landward from mean high water	Anadromous and high-value resident fish: * Lakes * Streams ** Tidelands	Protect riparian habitat, water quality, and recreation values along anadromous and high value resident fish waters.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Where feasible and prudent. • Applies only to non-water-dependent uses. Does not apply to exceptions listed at bottom of table. • Existing vegetation shall not be disturbed. The setback shall remain vegetated to maintain habitat values and stream stability. Incorporate measures to prevent adverse changes including erosion, turbidity, sedimentation, and temperature differences within the waterbody or adjacent wetlands.
7. Coastal Use/Maintenance Area	500 feet ** Landward from mean high water.	Areas of state land to be retained during the planning period.	Maintain the existing conditions of retained state lands for the purpose of providing public access, recreation, scenic resources, and the conservation of fisheries and wildlife habitat.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This standard only applies to areas of retained state land during the planning period of the BBAP. • This standard, in addition, only applies to uplands and only those uplands designated General Use, Habitat, or Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed. • Certain types of uses may be authorized within the 500-foot area. See ‘Standards for Coastal Use/Maintenance Area’ in the Shorelines, Stream Corridors, and Coastal Areas section of Chapter 2 for a listing of these uses.

Where widths apply: * Freshwater areas ** Tidally-influenced areas *** Sensitive Environmental Features

For the definition of *anadromous waters* and *high-value resident fish waters* (derived from AS 41.17.950) see the Glossary in Appendix A. Exceptions that apply to items 5 and 6 above: a) Structures such as docks, bridges, and culverts whose purpose is access to or across the stream or lake; b) Uses that must be in or adjacent to the waterbody in order to function, such as placer mining activities, fish culturing, water supply intakes, and similar uses.

Transportation³⁷

Background

Infrastructure. The Bristol Bay Area is not accessible to the rest of the state by road. The area is heavily dependent upon marine and air transportation and this is likely to continue during the planning period. The existing road network is discontinuous and limited to the areas surrounding various communities. For example, there are small road networks at Dillingham, King Salmon-Naknek, Iliamna-Newhalen, Williamsport-Pile Bay, and Cold Bay. The Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities has completed a Southwest Alaska Transportation Plan (November 2002) which defined a number of potential regional and community ground transportation improvements. These include:

- Regional Transportation Corridors
 - Cook Inlet to Bristol Bay Transportation Corridor
 - Dillingham/Bristol Bay Transportation Corridor
 - Alaska Peninsula Transportation Corridor
- Community Transportation Projects
 - Chigniks Road Intertie
 - King Cove-Cold Bay Connection
 - Newhalen River Bridge
 - Iliamna-Nondalton Road Intertie
 - Naknek-South Naknek Bridge and Intertie

In addition to the above projects this plan also recognizes three Trans-Peninsula transportation corridors (Figure 2.5) along routes which have potential to serve as road corridors or routes for oil and gas pipelines or other utilities. Such corridors could prove important should oil and gas development on the Alaska Peninsula prove successful. A fourth corridor is possible that would extend from the David River area to Pavlof Bay; this is the only locale on the Alaska Peninsula where state-owned uplands extend from one side of the peninsula to the other.

The transportation corridors depicted in the plan are primarily those currently identified by the state Department of Transportation and Public Facilities' Southwest Alaska Transportation Plan. Other transportation corridors are possible and may become necessary

³⁷ Also see the Trails and Access section in this Chapter.

as need arises. This plan in no way intends to limit such corridors; it seeks to ensure that land disposals do not take place on or adjacent to the transportation corridors without consultation with the ADOT/PF.

Goals

Support Plan Designations. Through coordination with other state agencies and local governments, devise transportation routes that integrate areawide transportation needs.

Minimize Costs. A transportation system, where appropriate, should have the lowest possible long-range costs, including construction, operations, and maintenance. Avoid unnecessary duplication of transportation facilities.

Minimize Adverse Effects. The transportation system vehicle uses should have minimal adverse impacts on local residents, the environment, fish and wildlife resources, and aesthetic and cultural features.

Promote Efficiency. A transportation system should have land and energy resources efficiently and encourage compact, efficient development patterns.

Ensure Public Safety. The transportation system should have a high standard of public safety.

Management Guidelines

A. Access Plans for Land Offerings or Resource Development Projects. Before a land offering or the start of a resource development project, DNR will work with ADOT/PF to identify appropriate locations, if any are needed, for access and will also identify responsibilities for design, construction, and maintenance of any proposed transportation facilities. Access plans will be developed in consultation with affected local governments.

B. Joint Use and Consolidation of Surface Access. Joint use and consolidation of surface access routes and facilities will be encouraged wherever it is feasible and prudent to do so. Surface access also should be sited and designed to accommodate future development and avoid unnecessary duplication. The feasibility of using an existing route or facility should be evaluated before the use of a new route or facility is authorized.

C. Protection of Hydrologic Systems. Transportation facilities will, to the extent feasible and prudent, be located to avoid significant effects on the quality or quantity of adjacent surface water resources or detracting from recreational use of the waterway. The following guidelines apply:

- 1. Minimize Stream Crossings.** Stream crossings should be minimized. Crossings in specified anadromous fish streams or construction of a structure crossing a specified anadromous stream require permits from the Office of Habitat Management and Permitting. Where stream crossings are planned, they should be located within a stable reach of the stream. All crossings should be located so that they intersect the stream channel at a right angle and be sited to avoid adverse grades on either approach to prevent runoff from entering the stream. Bridges are the preferred alternative to culverts and should be designed and constructed so that abutments, fill, or other materials are not located below the ordinary high water line (OHW) of the stream and do not constrict the floodplain of the stream.
- 2. Minimize Construction in Wetlands.** Construction in wetlands, floodplain, and other poorly drained areas should be minimized and existing drainage patterns maintained. Culverts should be installed where necessary to enable free movement of fluids, mineral salts, and nutrients.
- 3. Rehabilitate Disturbed Stream Banks.** Disturbed stream banks should be recontoured, restored and revegetated employing bio-engineering techniques, or other protective measures taken to prevent soil erosion into adjacent waters.

D. Rehabilitating Disturbed Stream Banks. Disturbed stream banks shall be restored and revegetated employing bio-engineering techniques to adequately stabilize banks and prevent soil erosion into adjacent waters.

E. Winter Stream, Lake and Wetland Crossing. During winter, snow ramps, snow bridges, or other methods should be used to provide access across frozen rivers, lakes, wetlands, and streams to avoid cutting, eroding, or degrading of banks. These facilities should be removed immediately after final use.

F. Protection of Fish and Wildlife Resources. Important fish and wildlife habitats such as riparian areas, wildlife movement corridors, important wintering or calving areas, and threatened or endangered species habitat or other important habitat areas should be avoided in siting transportation routes unless no other feasible and prudent alternatives exist. Location of routes and timing of construction shall be determined in consultation with ADF&G. OHMP should be consulted for any projects that may affect anadromous or resident fish habitat.

G. Road Pullouts. Where road corridors intersect streams, habitat corridors, or other areas of expected recreational use and tourism, sufficient acreage should be retained in public ownership to accommodate public access, safety requirements, and expected recreational and tourism use. The size and location of pullouts should be determined in consultation with the Division of Parks and Outdoor Recreation, ADOT/PF, and ADF&G.

H. Timber Salvage from Rights-of-Way. All timber having high value for commercial or personal use should be salvaged on rights-of-way to be cleared for construction.

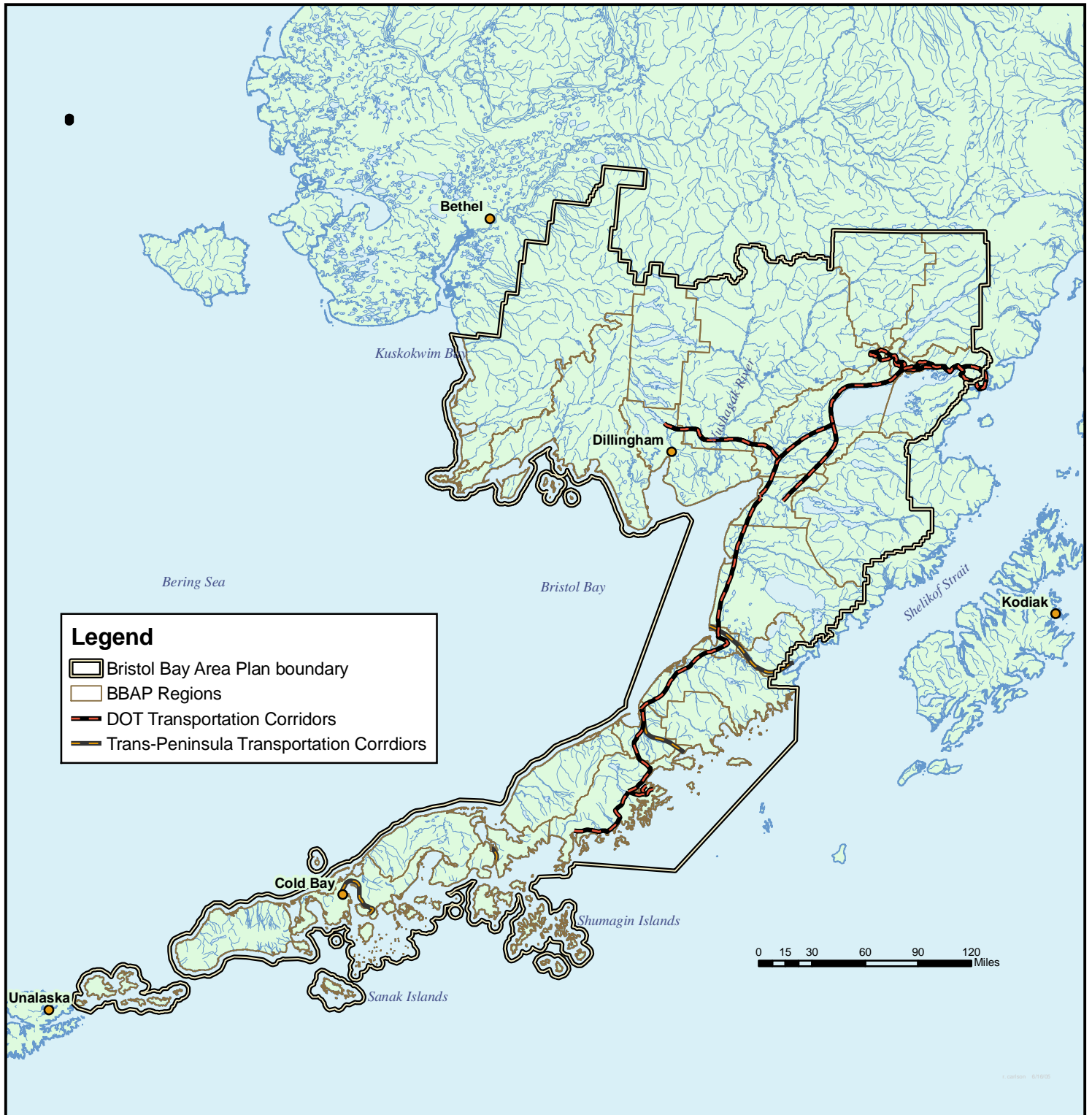
I. Roadless Areas. Some areas may be designated by the state or future local governments as roadless and managed to exclude construction of new roads to protect particular resources or forms of resource use. Settlement projects may be included in roadless areas. Roadless areas would be designated during transportation planning, the disposal project review process, or other interagency decision process conducted with public participation.

J. Roads near Wetlands. To minimize impacts on riparian areas or wetlands, summer use roads that do not use fill shall be located away from riparian zones and wetlands to discourage the formation of parallel trails and very wide river crossings. Riparian and wetland zones are defined in Table 2.4 in the *Shorelines, Stream Corridors and Coastal Areas* section in this chapter. DNR may authorize trails or roads across wetlands if it is determined that the proposed activity will not cause significant adverse impacts to important fish and wildlife habitat, important ecological processes, or scenic vistas, a feasible and prudent alternative does not exist, and it is determined to be in the state's best interest.

K. Section-line Easements. See this guideline under the Public Access Easements, Neighborhood Trails, and Public Access section in this chapter.

L. Other Guidelines for Transportation. Other guidelines affect transportation. See other sections of this chapter.

Figure 2.5. Bristol Bay Area Plan - Transportation Corridors



Chapter 3

Land Use Designations and Management Policies for Planning Regions and Management Units

Introduction	1
Organization of Chapter 3	1
Land Use Designations and Management Intent Planning Tools	2
Designations Used in This Plan	3
Land Use Designations and Minerals.....	6
Management Intent.....	6
Management Guidelines.....	8
Duration and Flexibility of Plan.....	8
Glossary.....	8
Plan Structure	9
Plan Regions.....	9
Management Units	9
Region Descriptions	10
Region Plan Maps	11
Land Status Depicted In Plan Maps	11
Resource Allocation Table	12
Map 3-1: Planning Area with Map Extents.....	13
Description of the Planning Area	16
Background	16
State Lands	16
Acreage.....	18
Access.....	19
Physical Features: Uplands	19
Hydrology.....	20
Resources and Uses: Uplands	22
Physical Features: Tidelands	24
Local and Federal Plans	25
Local Comprehensive Plans and District Coastal Zone Management Plans	25
State Management Plans	26
Federal Management Plans: National Wildlife Refuges, Katmai National Park and Preserve, and Aniakchak National Monument and Preserve	26
Management Summary	27
Uplands.....	27
Tidelands	29
Region 2: Kuskokwim, Kanektok, and Goodnews	33
Resource Allocation Table for Upland Management Units - Region 2	44
Resource Allocation Table for Tideland Management Units - Region 2.....	46
Region 3: Togiak, Igushik.....	49
Resource Allocation Table for Upland Management Units - Region 3	60
Resource Allocation Table for Tideland Management Units - Region 3.....	62

Region 5: Dillingham, Snake Lake, Nushagak Bay	65
Resource Allocation Table for Upland Management Units - Region 5	78
Resource Allocation Table for Tideland Management Units - Region 5	86
Region 6: Nushagak, Mulchatna	89
Resource Allocation Table for Upland Management Units - Region 6	101
Region 7: Upper Mulchatna and Upper Hoholitna	115
Resource Allocation Table for Upland Management Units - Region 7	123
Region 8: Lake Clark, Newhalen	129
Resource Allocation Table for Upland Management Units - Region 8	137
Region 9: Eastern Iliamna Lake	139
Resource Allocation Table for Upland Management Units - Region 9	146
Region 10: Western Iliamna Lake, Kvichak River	149
Resource Allocation Table for Upland Management Units - Region 10	159
Region 11: Bristol Bay Borough Area	163
Resource Allocation Table for Upland Management Units - Region 11	173
Resource Allocation Table for Tideland Management Units - Region 11	176
Region 12: Egegik, Becharof	177
Resource Allocation Table for Upland Management Units - Region 12	187
Resource Allocation Table for Tideland Management Units - Region 12	188
Region 13: Ugashik Lakes	191
Resource Allocation Table for Upland Management Units - Region 13	197
Region 14: Ugashik Bay Area	199
Resource Allocation Table for Upland Management Units - Region 14	205
Resource Allocation Table for Tideland Management Units - Region 14	207
Region 15: Cinder River, King Salmon River	209
Resource Allocation Table for Upland Management Units - Region 15	218
Resource Allocation Table for Tideland Management Units - Region 15	220
Region 16: Port Heiden	223
Resource Allocation Table for Upland Management Units - Region 16	230
Resource Allocation Table for Tideland Management Units - Region 16	232
Region 17: Chignik, Perryville	233
Resource Allocation Table for Upland Management Units - Region 17	241
Resource Allocation Table for Tideland Management Units - Region 17	242
Region 18: Cape Seniavin, Seal Islands	245
Resource Allocation Table for Upland Management Units - Region 18	252
Resource Allocation Table for Tideland Management Units - Region 18	254
Region 19: Herendeen Bay, Port Moller and Shumagin Islands	257
Resource Allocation Table for Upland Management Units - Region 19	265
Resource Allocation Table for Tideland Management Units - Region 19	266
Region 21: Nelson Lagoon, Moffet Lagoon	269
Resource Allocation Table for Upland Management Units - Region 21	278
Resource Allocation Table for Tideland Management Units - Region 21	280
Region 22: Lower Alaska Peninsula – Unimak & Krenitzin Islands	283
Resource Allocation Table for Upland Management Units - Region 22	291
Resource Allocation Table for Tideland Management Units - Region 22	292

Navigable Rivers and Lakes.....	297
Management Intent of Navigable Waterbodies.....	297
Management Intent: Specific Rivers and Lakes.....	299
Table 3.1: Some Navigable Waters – Bristol Bay Area Plan.....	300
Maps of Planning Area, Regions, and General Land Status	309
Map 3-2: Region 2.....	311
Map 3-3: Region 3.....	313
Map 3-5: Region 5.....	315
Map 3-6: Region 6.....	317
Map 3-7: Region 7.....	319
Map 3-8: Region 8.....	321
Map 3-9: Region 9.....	323
Map 3-10: Region 10.....	325
Map 3-11: Region 11.....	327
Map 3-12: Region 12.....	329
Map 3-13: Region 13.....	331
Map 3-14: Region 14.....	333
Map 3-15: Region 15.....	335
Map 3-16: Region 16.....	337
Map 3-17: Region 17.....	339
Map 3-18: Region 18.....	341
Map 3-19: Region 19.....	343
Map 3-21: Region 21.....	345
Map 3-22: Region 22.....	347

Chapter 3

Land Use Designations and Management Policies for Planning Regions and Management Units

Introduction

This chapter presents specific land management policies for all state uplands, tidelands and submerged lands, and shorelands within the planning area. Information on these state lands is organized by region. There are twenty Regions and the numbering system from the 1984 Bristol Bay Area Plan has been retained for the convenience of the users. These twenty Regions include a total of 221 upland management units, 45 tideland management units, and 7 tideland resource management zones. Within the planning area, there are approximately 12 million acres of uplands and 7 million acres of tidelands and submerged lands. The management requirements of this area plan do not apply to non-state lands, which include University of Alaska lands and Mental Health Trust Authority lands, and state parks. The management requirements of this area plan also do not apply to other state-owned lands directly administered by the ADOT/PF and governed by a separate set of regulations.

Organization of Chapter 3

The chapter is organized into the following sections:

- **Land Use Designations and Management Intent.** This section describes land use designations, management intent and management guidelines, and policies pertaining to the disposal and retention of state land.
- **Plan Structure.** This section describes the regions and management units used in the area plan, the types of plan maps used and their limitations, and the attributes that are identified for management units in the Resource Allocation Tables of Chapter 3.
- **Description of the Planning Area.** This section provides a generalized description of the Bristol Bay Planning Area. State lands are described, to include their size (acreages), access, physical attributes, resources and uses. Both tidelands and uplands are discussed.
- **Local and Federal Plans.** This section describes relevant community, state, and Federal agency plans that were considered in developing this plan.
- **Management Summary.** This section describes how the state-owned and state-selected uplands and tidelands are to be generally managed in the future under the Area Plan.

- **Region Descriptions.** This section constitutes the bulk of Chapter 3 and provides a generalized description of each region within the planning area, general management intent for state uplands and tidelands, and specific land use designations and management intent requirements for each management unit within a region.
- **Navigable Rivers and Lakes.** This section explains the concept of the Public Trust Doctrine and describes the management intent and designations for navigable waters within federal conservation units and state-owned and state-selected land. A table listing the principal navigable waters within the planning area and their corresponding plan designations is also provided.

Land Use Designations and Management Intent Planning Tools

A land use **designation** recognizes uses or resources that are of major importance in a particular management unit. Management unit designations are based on current and projected future use patterns and the most significant resources identified in each management unit. DNR will manage activities in the management unit to encourage, develop, or protect the uses or resources for which the unit is designated.

When the plan assigns a designation to a management unit, the designation is accompanied by region-wide management guidelines and management intent specific to that unit. These three pieces of information – designations, management guidelines, and management intent – promote the most beneficial use and set conditions for allowing for non-designated uses.

Primary designated use. Many management units have a primary designated use (versus units designated General Use). Primary designated uses may take precedence over other uses. Generally, however, DNR allows multiple uses on state land. DNR initially presumes that all other uses are compatible with the primary use. However, if DNR determines that a use conflict exists and that the proposed use is incompatible with the primary use, the proposed use shall not be authorized or it shall be modified so that the incompatibility no longer exists (from 11 AAC 55.040(c)). The plan may assign a designation to ensure a future use that will best serve the public interest, even if that use is not imminent.

Co-designated use. Where a management unit has two or more designated uses, DNR will avoid or minimize conflicts between designated uses by applying the management intent statement and guidelines for the unit, the regional intent, and the Chapter 2 guidelines from this plan together with existing statutes, regulations, and procedures. Only those co-designations that are generally complementary to, or compatible with, each other are included in this plan. Co-designated uses should, therefore, be viewed as compatible unless, at the time the department is considering an authorization, specific conditions exist that indicate otherwise.

Designations Used in This Plan

The following land use designations are used in one or more management units in this Area Plan. Other types of land use designations exist but were not applied. The selected designations convey the intent of future state land management. Designations may be applied to uplands, shorelands, tidelands and submerged lands unless indicated otherwise.

Gu – General Use. This designation is applied to land that contains a variety of resources, none of which is sufficiently high value to merit designation as a primary use, or is large enough to accommodate a variety of uses with appropriate siting and design considerations. General use may also apply where there is a lack of resource, economic, or other information with which to assign a specific land use designation, and/or where there is a lack of current demand implying that development is unlikely within the planning period. Uplands with this classification are available for conveyance to municipalities, unless stated otherwise in the unit’s management intent, but cannot be sold to individuals. Land designated General Use is to be retained by the state during the planning period unless affected by a municipal entitlement selection, and is only to be conveyed to a municipality if the adjudicatory decision determines that this conveyance is consistent with the requirements of AS 29.65. Tidelands with this designation cannot be conveyed except to municipalities under AS 38.05.820 and AS 38.05.825.

The General Use designation would apply to tidelands, shorelands and submerged lands not designated in tideland management units or tideland resource management zones for specific habitat, harvest, economic, or recreation functions. These areas are generally considered appropriate for a wide variety of uses such as set net sites, mariculture facilities, or other typical uses of tidelands. Whether and how a tideland area designated General Use is to be managed will be decided through formal state and federal permitting procedures. Tidelands and submerged lands fall within the purview of the Alaska Coastal Management Program, and most development proposals require a Coastal Zone Consistency Determination before a use or facility can be authorized.¹ In instances where the Alaska Coastal Management Program does not apply, tideland use will be decided by DNR permitting actions. Most tidelands and submerged lands within the planning area are recognized to contain important subsistence, recreational, or commercial fisheries. Areas not specifically identified with a designation on the plan maps, not otherwise classified in this plan, or that are acquired by the state subsequent to the approval date of this plan, are designated General Use (unless circumstances of the acquisition dictate otherwise).

Ha – Habitat. This designation applies to areas of various size for fish and wildlife species during a sensitive life-history stage where alteration of the habitat or human disturbance could result in the permanent loss of a population or sustained yield of a species. Land designated Habitat is to be retained by the state unless affected by a municipal entitlement selection and may only be conveyed to a municipality if the adjudicatory decision determines that this

¹ The Alaska Coastal Management Program was terminated on July 1, 2011, pursuant to AS 44.66.030.

conveyance is consistent with the requirements of AS 29.65.060. If this occurs, the Habitat land classification converts to Public Recreation (or sometimes Settlement), but only for the area of the approved selection.

Hv – Harvest. Fish and wildlife harvest areas are subsistence, recreational and/or community harvest areas of varied size where alteration of habitat could permanently limit sustained yield to traditional users; or are areas of intense harvest where the level of harvest has reached, or is projected to reach, the harvestable surplus for the resource. This land will remain in state ownership.

Hr – Heritage Resources. Land designated Heritage Resources is land where there is active preservation of, or research for, significant historical, prehistoric, paleontological, or other cultural values or where there is reason to believe that these values exist.

Ma – Materials. Sites suitable for extraction of materials which include common varieties of sand, gravel, stone, peat, pumice, pumicite, cinders, clay, and sod. Management units designated Materials are closed to new mineral location at the time the plan is signed. This land will remain in state ownership until the material on the site is no longer required for state purposes (such as road construction and maintenance, materials storage, and public or state facilities) after which these lands may be conveyed to municipalities. These lands cannot be sold without redesignation and reclassification although some sites may be suitable for settlement after material resources are exhausted. This designation applies to uplands only.

Mi – Minerals. Areas considered to have mineral potential and for which mining is considered to be an appropriate use. Land designated Minerals is to be retained in state ownership.

Pr – Public Facilities-Retain. These sites are reserved for specific infrastructure to serve state interests. Land with this designation is to remain in state ownership except that it is selectable by municipalities under the special provisions of AS 38.05.810. This designation applies to uplands only.

Rd – Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed. This designation applies to those areas that offer or have a high potential for dispersed recreation or tourism and where desirable recreation conditions are scattered or widespread rather than localized. Developed facilities are generally not necessary other than trails, trail signs, primitive campsites, and other minor improvements. Land in this designation may be conveyed to municipalities depending on the management unit's management intent and the relative value of the recreation resources for which the unit was designated. These lands cannot be sold to individuals.

This designation can also apply to tidelands. If used as a tideland designation, it applies to areas that are widely used for recreation by either commercial recreation operators or the public, and are usually associated with the use of fisheries or the viewing of a unique or scenic area. Use patterns are dispersed over a fairly large area, and few public facilities are provided other than boat launches, docks, and mooring buoys. Tidelands can be conveyed to municipalities under certain conditions, but cannot be transferred to individuals.

Rp – Public Recreation and Tourism-Public Use Site. These are areas used by concentrations of recreationists or tourists compared to the rest of the planning area, or areas with high potential to attract concentrations of recreationists and tourists. These areas offer localized attractions, or ease of access, or developed facilities. Examples include camping sites, marinas, cabins, lodges, anchorages, scenic overlooks, and road-accessible shore locations that are used for picnicking, sports and fishing. The recreation and tourism uses for which these units are designated may be either public or commercial. The primary management intent is to protect the opportunity of the public to use these sites, and their resource values for recreation. This land will remain in state ownership unless otherwise noted in the management intent for the management unit.

Se – Settlement. This designation applies to state uplands suitable for sale, leasing, or permitting to allow private recreational or residential use. This designation will generally be used for areas appropriate for land offerings and for residential uses. Unsettled or unsold land in the management unit will be managed for uses compatible with settlement. This may include uses such as selling additional lots, laying out new subdivisions, identifying greenbelts through subdivisions, reserving materials sites for subdivision roads and building lots, placing easements on access routes, or reserving lots for community facilities and open space. Areas designated Settlement or Settlement-Commercial should be closed to mineral entry prior to sale. This land may be conveyed to municipalities and individuals.

Sc – Settlement-Commercial. This designation applies to uplands suitable for sale, leasing, or permitting of state lands to allow private commercial, industrial, recreational, or community use. Residential use may also be appropriate in portions of an area designated Settlement-Commercial. This designation will generally be used for areas appropriate for land offerings for industrial or commercial uses. Unsettled or unsold land in the management unit will be managed for uses compatible with eventual commercial or industrial activities. Areas designated Settlement-Commercial should be closed to mineral entry prior to sale. This land may be conveyed to municipalities and to individuals.

Wd – Waterfront Development. This designation applies to areas of tidelands, submerged lands, or shorelands for water-dependent or water-related facilities, usually for industrial or commercial purposes. Waterfront development includes: piers, wharves, harbors, mineral transfer facilities, seafood processing facilities, commercial recreation facilities, and other resource development support facilities except for activities related to forestry, which is covered by the Forestry designation. Approving authorizations in these areas will be conducted in compliance with the coastal development standards in the Alaska Coastal Management Act² (6 AAC 80.040). This land may be available for conveyance to municipalities under AS 38.05.820 and AS 38.05.825 but cannot be sold to individuals.

Wr – Water Resources. This designation applies to areas of important water sources, watersheds, or hydropower sites. In this plan it also includes important wetland areas, the intent of which is to maintain these in an undisturbed, natural state. This land will be retained in state

² The Alaska Coastal Management Program was terminated on July 1, 2011, pursuant to AS 44.66.030.

ownership in an undisturbed, natural state. Authorizations within areas designated Water Resources are not to be considered appropriate unless necessary for public health and safety. Utilities and roads may be appropriate with appropriate design if the integrity of wetland and water resource functions can be maintained essentially intact. Dispersed recreation is a recognized appropriate use. This designation converts to a land use classification of Water Resource Land.

Land Use Designations and Minerals

Except where state land is closed to mineral entry, DNR will treat mining as if it were a co-designated use. This is important to note because DNR plans do not always apply mineral resource designations to large areas. The problems in locating and measuring subsurface resources make it difficult and potentially misleading for a plan to apply designations to subsurface resources in the same way they are applied to surface resources. However, in a few locations, where drilling results and resource estimates are available, management units designated as Mineral Lands have been identified in this plan. Chapter 2, Mineral Resources, also includes additional guidelines and a summary of statutes regulating mining and reclamation activities.

Management Intent

The maintenance of the fishery resource and important habitat areas for subsistence and the maintenance of the ecological and physical systems that occur throughout the planning area is an overarching aspect of this plan. The people and economy of the BBAP are largely dependent on these resources and habitats, *and it is vital that DNR ensure in its decision making that these systems are not unduly compromised.*

DNR decisions are to carefully consider the effects of a proposed use upon these uses and resources, and all authorizations are to ensure that adverse impacts are avoided, minimized, or mitigated consistent with the requirements of Chapter 2.

The plan can provide management guidance for a resource without designating it. For example, the plan may address the resource by providing management intent for a specific area, or through area wide guidelines. In addition, other state, federal, or local regulations will determine the conditions for using undesignated resources.

In some cases, the management intent for a management unit discourages specific uses because these uses may create conflicts with designated uses. **Discouraged uses** may be allowed if DNR determines that the use does not conflict with the management intent, designated uses, and the management guidelines. Discouraged uses include activities that should not be authorized or will not be allowed if there are feasible and prudent alternatives. If DNR determines that the

discouraged use conflicts with the management intent or designated uses, and cannot be made compatible by following the management guidelines, DNR will allow it only through a plan amendment.

The plan also identifies **prohibited uses**. These are uses that have significant conflicts with other uses or resources and will not be permitted without a plan amendment. Prohibitions are rare because the plan seeks to minimize land use conflicts through plan guidelines and intent rather than through prohibitions.

Management intent statements for each management unit refer only to state management of state land. While these statements accommodate certain proposed uses on tidelands and submerged lands, there is no guarantee that other regulatory agencies will issue permits necessary for the proposed use. All proposed development uses referenced in the management intent statements are assumed to employ best management practices in siting and operating the proposed use.

Disposal or Retention in State Ownership. Certain land use classifications, by statute, allow land to be conveyed to municipalities under the Municipal Entitlement program. The same statute identifies those land classifications that may not be conveyed.³ Another portion of statute (AS 38.04.015) identifies the general public interests in retaining areas of state land in public ownership. These principles were applied in developing the recommendations for retaining of state land that are identified for specific management units.

In this plan, the land use designation and classification is the general indicator of whether land should be retained in state ownership or be made available for disposal. In some cases specific recommendations for the disposal of state land are identified in the management intent for a management unit. Also, some management units have management intent that precludes disposal although the designation and classification might otherwise allow disposal. This includes management units already under management by another state agency or that contain certain unique or sensitive uses or resources that merit retention by the state. In addition, management units already under management agreements with other state agencies are usually not available for conveyance. In no case can DNR convey the subsurface estate to municipalities or individuals. Submerged lands, tidelands, and shorelands must be retained in state ownership unless law requires conveyance or the conveyance is to a political subdivision of the state. These conveyances are subject to the Public Trust Doctrine, described in this chapter in the Navigability section.

Tidelands, Submerged Lands, and Shorelands. DNR will provide reasonable access across state tidelands to upland owners. Upland access across state tidelands, including developed access facilities, may be allowed within all land use designations where DNR determines the

³ AS 29.65.130 identifies those land use classifications that permit conveyance under the Municipal Entitlement Act. In this area plan, the designations of General Use, Settlement, and Settlement-Commercial are considered appropriate for the conveyance of lands out of state ownership. These convert to the classifications of Resource Management Land and Settlement Land, respectively.

proposed facilities are consistent with the management intent and applicable guidelines of the plan. However, state tideland use designations do not give the public access rights to adjacent private uplands.

Management Guidelines

Most state lands will be managed for multiple uses. Exceptions are lands that will be offered for private lease or ownership, and recreation sites that are less than 640 acres. For this reason, the plan establishes management guidelines that allow various uses to occur without serious conflicts. Management guidelines can direct the timing, amount, or specific location of different activities to make the permitted uses compatible. For example, the plan provides guidelines that require land disposals to be designed to protect public access and recreational opportunities.

Duration and Flexibility of Plan

This plan guides land uses for the next twenty years, subject to periodic review of designations involving settlement, industrial or commercial uses, mining, or other forms of economic or community development.

The land use designations shown on the maps and identified in the Resource Allocation Tables in this chapter are intended to be flexible. DNR may permit uses not originally designated if DNR determines they are consistent with the management intent for the management unit and consistent with applicable management guidelines.

This plan will not provide direct answers to many of the site-specific issues frequently encountered by state land managers. The plan can, however, clarify the general management objectives for the area and thereby provide the basis for a more informed decision.

Boundaries of land use designations shown on the following maps may be modified through implementation activities, such as site planning or disposal, as long as modifications adhere to the intent of the plan and follow the guidance in Chapter 4 under the section Types of Plan Changes.

Glossary

Definitions of terms used frequently in the plan are found in the Glossary, Appendix A.

Plan Structure

Plan Regions

Within the boundary of the Bristol Bay Area Plan are twenty planning Regions. Regions are typically large geographic areas with generally similar characteristics that occupy a defined spatial unit. This plan revision uses the same planning regions and numbering system as those employed in the original 1984 Area Plan; the boundaries of these Regions generally correspond with large drainage basins. These are numbered 2 through 19, and 21 and 22. However, this (current) plan revision includes both tidelands and submerged lands in addition to uplands within a region. Some lands within the Bristol Bay Area Plan are not part of any of the twenty planning Regions. These include certain lands in the northeastern part of the planning area covered by Lake Clark National Park and Preserve, some lands in the eastern part of the planning area within Katmai National Park and Preserve, and all lands within the Aniakchak National Monument and Preserve. These areas were added to the planning area in order to classify state-owned shorelands and tidelands. Neither the original Bristol Bay Area Plan (1984), the Kodiak Area Plan, nor the Kenai Area Plan include these areas within their planning boundaries.

Management Units⁴

In the area plan, portions of state uplands and tideland have been separated into smaller geographic units called management units. State resource management is specific to this level. Management units may be large or small but usually have generally similar attributes. They may be specific legal management units, like a tract within a residential subdivision, or they might be a discrete area of state land affected by a management agreement that is to be administered for a public purpose, like a port, vehicle storage facility or airport.

All management units have a discrete identifying number (i.e., unit number). These are depicted on the plan maps and are included in the Resource Allocation Tables specific to each region. Essentially this number provides a cross-reference between the plan maps and the tables containing information about the management unit. The Tables contain information on management unit designation, management intent, management guidelines, and management unit resources and uses.

Management unit numbers consist of a two-part identifier where the first part indicates the Region in which the unit is located and the second part is the unit number. Generally, management units are numbered from north to south and from west to east within the regions. Upland management unit identifiers start with “R” and are followed by the Region number; the final part is the specific management unit number (such as R06-22). With tideland management

⁴ Sometimes also referred to as “parcel”. Units affected by the 2013 Plan Amendment are noted in the Resource Allocation Table.

units, 'RT' is used in the first part of the identifier to indicate it is a tideland management unit (such as R03T-09). In some cases tidelands management units may incorporate upland areas if a particular resource is found in both tidelands and adjoining upland areas.

Region Descriptions

Each Region of the Bristol Bay Area Plan is described separately. The format is similar for each, with a description of the characteristics of the Region followed by a section on its resources and their uses, a section on land use management, and resource allocation tables. Maps 3-1 to 3-22 depict the Regions and management units. Components of each Region usually include:

Region Boundary. This part describes how the region's boundaries are defined and provides a general description of the region and its important features.

State Lands: Ownership and Acreage. The distribution of state lands within the region is explained in this part, including tideland management units. Estimated acreages are given for uplands and tidelands/submerged lands. Land status is also specified (Tentative Approval, Patent, or Selection status).

Physical Geography. The geography and physical characteristics of the Region are described along with important geographic features such as peaks, rivers, and lakes.

Climate. Characteristics of the Region's climate are described such as temperature averages and minimums and maximums, snowfall, etc.

Other. This section contains useful information such as the topographic quadrangles that contain the Region, and where the Region is situated with respect to the organized Boroughs and Regional Native corporations.

Access. This component describes how access is gained to the Region and the nature of the transportation and its infrastructure.

Resources and Uses. The current uses of state land, both uplands and tidelands, as well as their resources, are described. Descriptions of cultural and historic, economic, recreational, mineral, oil and gas, materials, forestry, and fish and wildlife resources and uses are provided, to the extent that they are present in the Region and information exists to adequately describe a resource or use.

Management Considerations – Local and State Plans. This component describes the local, state, and federal land and resource plans affecting each Region.

Municipal Entitlements. A general description of the location of any municipal selections is provided, should the Region be within an organized Borough that has selections pending adjudication.

Management of State Land. This section describes the way in which state uplands, tidelands, and submerged lands are to be generally managed. It also provides information on plan designation and management for certain categories of management units as well as specific management considerations.

Resource Allocation Tables. A table is included that provides detailed information on specific management units within the Region, to include land use designation, resources and uses, and management guidelines. If the Region contains coastal areas, a second similar table is provided for tideland management units.

Region Plan Maps

Plan maps (3-2 through 3-22) show land ownership, management unit numbers, and identify land use designations. The land use designations provide the general management intent for each management unit. However, they must be considered together with the statements of management intent and guidelines (management unit and area-wide) for a complete explanation of the management policy affecting particular units. This is essential in order to get a comprehensive understanding of the overall management intent of the area plan. The management guidelines contained in Chapter 2 are particularly critical and must be consulted in adjudication decisions affecting individual management units of state land.

Land Status Depicted In Plan Maps

The maps referred to in Chapter 3 (3-1 through 3-22) are not intended to be detailed land ownership maps. Instead, they are a representation of state and federal land records current to the time of the plan's formulation. Land status for management units is derived from the Department's land status records and Geographic Information System coverages. This information is generalized and for this reason the land status for a particular area can be misleading. In the category labeled "private", there may be lands of uncertain ownership. The Department has tried to depict general land status on the plan maps as accurately as possible, but the ownership patterns of non-state entities may not be correct. The location of state-selected land information comes from federal Master Title Plat records and the Department's land records. The plan attempts to accurately portray the status and spatial boundaries of these areas; but because state land status changes with time, caution should be used for these areas as well. For complete information, consult the land records of the Department of Natural Resources, Fish and Wildlife Service, National Park Service, Bureau of Land Management, Native corporations, and the boroughs.

The plan maps (3-1 through 3-22) show general patterns of land ownership by color. This includes the various types of federal ownership (National Wildlife Refuges, National Parks, Preserves, and Monuments, BLM, and military lands), the various types of state land (general grant and other state land, Legislatively Designated Areas, limited state holdings, and lands under management agreement to another state agency), as well as municipal, Native corporation, Native-selected, and private lands. Because of the way that GIS maps are created, which entails a decision hierarchy on what land status to represent in priority sequence, the colors that represent an ownership pattern may not coincide with the actual pattern of such ownership.

Resource Allocation Table

At the end of each Region write-up, a Resource Allocation Table provides information on specific upland and tideland management units. It follows the plan text and includes the land use designation and the management intent for each specific upland or tideland unit, and is directly related to the plan maps by the use of the management unit identifier. If present, a description of tideland management units follows that of the upland units. Essentially, the Table details the generalized description of state management intent included under “Region and Areas Summary”.

The 2013 Plan Amendment affected nearly 40 of the management units of the 240 units contained in the 2005 Bristol Bay Area Plan. The nature of the change varied by unit: in some instances, units were deleted that had been in selection status in 2005 and by 2013, had been conveyed to native entities. In other instances, a co-designation was applied where previously the unit had a single designation or the original designation was dropped entirely and replaced by another, more suitable designation. Moreover, it was not uncommon for units to be enlarged in size to accommodate new areas of habitat or for entirely new units to be formed, to reflect a better understanding of the characteristics of the unit and of the appropriate plan designation. Units affected by change are noted by unit in the Resource Allocation Table. Those that were unaffected by a change in size or designation are not noted. It is also important to recognize that streams (including their riparian area) affected by MCO 393 are designated Habitat and are classified Wildlife Habitat, and that this requirement applies to all management units included in the Resource Allocation Table – even when a management unit has a different designation. To identify the basis for and extent of change to affected units, consult the List of Approved Revisions to the Public Review Draft and Determination of Reclassification and Plan Amendment (2013); see <http://dnr.alaska.gov/mlw/planning/areaplans/bristol/amend/>.

For each management unit the table gives the unit identification number; general geographic name; general location by Meridian, Township, and Range (some sections); and size expressed in acreage. Also included is a description of the resources and uses of a management unit, the designation(s), management intent, and specific management guidelines.

Map 3-1: Planning Area with Map Extents

More specifically, the tables include:

Unit Identifier. Each management unit of state land has a unique identifier with characters that indicate the Region and unit number and contain a “T” if it is a tideland unit.

Management Unit Name. Each management unit has a unique name that is geographic in nature and can be used to identify it.

MTRS. The Meridian, Township, Range and Section is indicated if it is a small management unit; large management units refer to the map. In all cases the Seward Meridian applies. The data provide only information on the general location of the unit and it is not intended to constitute a legal description.

Acreage. The approximate acreage in each management unit is indicated.

Land Use Designation. Land use designations indicate the primary and co-primary uses and resources for each management unit. There may be only one designation (primary) for a given management unit although there may be two (termed “co-designations”). Where co-designations have been used, the uses reflected in the designations are believed to be generally compatible and complementary to each other. There are instances where various parts of a single management unit are given specific designations.

Management Intent. This column indicates the management direction for a specific management unit. It is consistent with the recommended designation, but includes more information on how state land is to be managed. In some small-sized management units, the management intent is likely to be brief since the designation itself is often sufficient to indicate the management intent. This is not the case with large management units, and, in these instances, the management intent statement is critical to an understanding of how the various resources within the management unit are to be managed. This section also indicates if the management unit is to be retained in state ownership, if it is appropriate for transfer to a city or borough, and those unit resources that must be taken into consideration for land disposals or other forms of development or use. In some instances the development of a management unit is not appropriate during the planning period, and this is identified.

Resources, Uses, and Additional Information. This column summarizes the resources and uses for which the management unit is designated and which are considered important in the management unit. It also provides a generalized description of the unit, and may indicate the presence (or absence) of certain other resources that are important to land management decisions. Typical among this type of information is whether the management unit contains a heritage site or significant concentration of wildlife, fisheries, or habitat(s), the current use of the management unit, adjacent land ownership, and applicable local zoning or comprehensive plan requirements, if known.

Description of the Planning Area

Background

The Bristol Bay area plan encompasses the Lake and Peninsula Borough, the Aleutians East Borough, the Bristol Bay Borough, and much of the Dillingham census area. It includes those drainage basins in southwest Alaska that flow into Kuskokwim Bay and Bristol Bay and all of the Alaska Peninsula. The planning area has been divided into twenty Regions that are based mostly on drainage boundaries and commonalities of habitat, and to a lesser extent on political boundaries. In the description that follows, state uplands and tidelands have been described in general along with those management requirements that apply to all Regions. This description is meant to be brief, focusing on general geographic themes, with general management strategy. More detailed information on state lands, including plan designations and management intent, is provided in the individual Region descriptions that follow in this Chapter.

State Lands

Uplands. State-owned and state-selected uplands in the Bristol Bay Area total approximately 12 million acres⁵. Although terrain varies greatly, the majority of these lands are not mountainous and consist of rolling hills and lowlands. State land occurs in two mostly contiguous blocks – a large block in the Nushagak-Mulchatna-Iliamna Lake drainage and a large swath of acreage along the Bristol Bay side of the Alaska Peninsula. These two areas are mostly in separate physiographic regions. The northern block of state land is part of the Bristol Bay Lowlands and Lime Hills ecoregions; the southern block of state land is part of the Bristol Bay lowlands and the Alaska Peninsula ecoregions. The uplands contain a broad range of resources and uses including fish and wildlife, minerals, recreation and tourism, oil and gas, cultural and historic, and settlement; they support an economy heavily dependent upon these natural resources.

The majority of lands in the Bristol Bay planning area are owned by the federal government and the vast majority of these are within federal conservation system units (19 million acres out of a total of 21 million acres). These include: the Yukon Delta NWR, Togiak NWR, Alaska Maritime NWR, Becharof NWR, Alaska Peninsula NWR, Izembek NWR, Lake Clark National Park and Preserve, Katmai National Park and Preserve, and Aniakchak National Monument and Preserve. The State of Alaska also has created a number of Legislatively Designated Areas, a status of protection established in Alaska Statute. These include: Wood-Tikchik State Park (the largest public State Park in the United States), several state game refuges (Cape Newenham and Izembek), the Walrus Islands State Game Sanctuary, the Bristol Bay Fisheries Reserve, and a number of critical habitat areas, including the Egegik, Pilot Point, Port Moller, Cinder River, Port Heiden, and Ugashik Bay. Accordingly, there exists a large amount of land dedicated to the protection of fish and wildlife as well as recreational resources.

⁵ Not including Wood-Tikchik State Park (1.6 million acres) or major lakes like Iliamna and Becharof.

Tidelands. The state owns the tide and submerged lands to three miles out from the mean high water line on the coast. State tidelands and submerged lands occur in those Regions that have coastlines along Kuskokwim Bay, Bristol Bay, or the Pacific and Gulf sides of the Alaska Peninsula. Many tideland areas front National Wildlife Refuges, Parks, Preserves, and Monuments⁶. Another significant concentration of tidelands occurs within protected state areas, including state game refuges, critical habitat areas, and state game sanctuaries, which are scattered throughout the planning area. There are over 270,000 acres of tidelands within protected state areas. Another significant amount of state tidelands occur in areas that adjoin private, municipal, Native, other federal and state land (about 6.7 million acres).

Most of the particularly sensitive and biologically productive tideland areas either occur adjacent to Federal Conservation Units or within protected state areas, found in state game refuges (SGR), state game sanctuaries (SGS), or critical habitat areas (CHA). There are nine state-owned or managed protected areas: the Egegik, Pilot Point, Cinder River, Port Heiden, and Port Moller CHAs; the Izembek and Cape Newenham SGRs; and the Walrus Island SGS. Both federal and state protected areas are depicted on Region plan maps. The purpose of the state protected areas is generally to “protect and preserve habitat areas especially critical to the perpetuation of fish and wildlife, and to restrict all other uses not compatible with that primary purpose.” Use of these areas may be permitted, but the submittal of plans and specifications of the proposed use and construction work is required, and the ADF&G Commissioner must approve all such plans or specifications. The Izembek and Cape Newenham SGRs are designated, under AS 16.20.030 as SGRs, to coincide with similar Federal National Wildlife Refuges; both lands and waters are included in the SGRs.

These tidelands provide habitat for walrus rookeries and haulouts, harbor seal and spotted seal haulout concentrations, sea otter pupping and rearing areas, seasonal concentrations of waterfowl, whale calving areas (beluga), Pacific herring spawning and rearing areas, and for a wide variety of pelagic, diving, and seabirds, many of which group in colonies of large size. Many of these tideland areas consist of shallow tidal flats, which contain significant concentrations of eel grass or salt marsh. Most kelp beds occur in offshore environments, typically adjacent to islands that are part of the Alaska Maritime NWR, the Izembek NWR, and the Port Moller CHA.

The distribution of these resources is uneven within these protected areas. Pacific herring spawning areas occur along northern Bristol Bay adjacent to the Togiak NWR and within the CHAs that occupy intertidal areas south of Pilot Point in Bristol Bay, and also on the Pacific side of the Alaska Peninsula adjacent to the Alaska Peninsula and Alaska Maritime NWRs. Sea otters collocate with kelp beds, and both are extensive around the offshore islands of the Alaska Maritime NWR and within the Izembek SGR and the various CHAs of southern Bristol Bay unaffected by winter ice scour, generally south of Port Moller. Walrus rookeries and haulouts concentrate within the Walrus Islands State Game Refuge south of Togiak and on the north side

⁶ Included are the Togiak, Becharof, Alaska Peninsula, Alaska Maritime, and Izembek National Wildlife Refuges, and Aniakchak National Monument and Preserve.

of the Alaska Peninsula at Amak Island, which is within the Alaska Maritime NWR. A significant concentration also occurs on state land at Cape Seniavin. Most seabird colonies, including the larger of these colonies, are situated along the southern Alaska Peninsula coast and its offshore islands within the Alaska Peninsula and Alaska Maritime NWRs. Another concentration of seabird colonies occurs on the islands south of the Togiak NWR within the Walrus Islands SGS. Other marine resources are somewhat more evenly distributed throughout the planning area. Harbor seal haulouts, waterfowl, and the various types of birds characteristic of tideland areas (shorebirds and diving) occur in the northern part of Bristol Bay adjacent to the Togiak NWR and within CHAs that occupy sheltered intertidal areas along southern Bristol Bay.

Other less sensitive areas exist that are not within these protected tideland areas, but they are more scattered and smaller in number. Whale calving (beluga) occurs in Kvichak and Nushagak Bays in northern Bristol Bay. Harbor seal haulout concentrations occur in eastern and central Kvichak Bay and in several protected embayments near CHAs in southern Bristol Bay (Port Heiden, Egegik, and Pilot Point). Harbor seal haulouts are also concentrated at the Seal Islands, situated south of the Port Heiden CHA in a protected lagoon. Spring brown bear concentrations occur south of the Port Heiden, Cinder River and Egegik CHAs and in the area of the Seal Islands. Seasonal concentrations of waterfowl are common throughout the planning area.

There are other sensitive areas, but these occupy comparatively small sites and are associated with walrus haulouts, particularly at Cape Seniavin and at several sites east of Port Moller.

A special management area [Bristol Bay State Fisheries Reserve [(AS 38.05.140(f))]] affects the waters of eastern Bristol Bay. No surface entry permit or tideland lease to develop an oil or gas lease or oil and gas exploration license may be issued on state-owned or controlled land until the legislature specifically finds that the entry will not constitute a danger to the fishery. Tideland resources within the federal and state protected areas vary, reflecting the extensive size of the planning region, the configuration and bathymetry of the coast, the presence of sea ice, and unique local conditions.

Acreage

Acreage estimates for the state upland and tideland management units are given below:

<u>Geographic Areas</u>	<u>Acreage</u>
Upland Management units – State-Owned	10,330,000
Upland Management units – State-Selected	1,585,000
Tidelands and Submerged Lands	7,003,000

Access

The Bristol Bay planning area is huge and distances between communities are great. For instance, the distance between Akutan and Port Alsworth is 600 miles; the distance between Quinhagak and Port Alsworth is 263 miles. This far flung region hosts forty-seven populated settlements, four have first class city status and sixteen are second class cities. The population fluctuates from summer to winter within the planning area but consists of approximately 10,600 residents. The majority of travel in or out of the area is by air from Anchorage. Important air transport facilities are located at King Salmon, Dillingham, and Cold Bay.

Air and marine transportation are the mainstays of access to the Bristol Bay Planning Area and this is likely to remain so for the foreseeable future. For those in coastal areas or on navigable waterways, travel between communities is usually accomplished by boat. In winter, snowmachines are utilized to range over wide areas and between settlements. Air transportation is the principal mode of year-round access to and between communities. The planning area has sixty-eight air transportation facilities recognized by the Department of Transportation and Public Facilities. Of these sixty-eight, fifty-six are landing strips, eleven are seaplane facilities, and one is a recognized heliport. The Alaska Marine Highway system provides access to Chignik, Sand Point, King Cove, Cold Bay, False Pass, and Akutan.

In general, except for management units situated in the vicinity of Dillingham, Naknek, and King Salmon, some of which can be reached by road, most other management units must be accessed by floatplane, wheeled aircraft, boat, off-road vehicles, or snowmachines.

There is a road that extends into the planning area from Cook Inlet – the Williamsport-Pile Bay road – which is used to transport Bristol Bay fishing boats and supplies to Iliamna Lake where the boats are off-loaded and ply the waters of the Lake and down the Kvichak River to Bristol Bay. This road is considered difficult to use. A combined road and hovercraft system began construction in 2004 to join King Cove and Cold Bay.

Physical Features: Uplands

The Bristol Bay area is quite varied, extending from the coastal lowlands of Kuskokwim Bay on the Bering Sea to the Kilbuck and Ahklun Mountains, whose summits rise to 2,000 to 5,000 feet. From these mountain ranges, which are separated by broad, flat valleys, lying in a northeast-southwest alignment, the Togiak River and its tributaries flow south into Bristol Bay, and the Kanektok and Goodnews Rivers flow west into Kuskokwim Bay.

The Wood-Tikchik Lakes system is composed of long, narrow glacial lakes separated by steep-walled mountains ranging in elevation from 3,000 to 5,000 feet. The lakes and rivers of the area drain into Bristol Bay via the Wood, Nuyakuk, and Nushagak Rivers.

The Nushagak Hills, Taylor Mountains, and Big River Hills comprise a low rolling terrain that forms the northern border of the area. These hills, and the Alaska-Aleutian Range within Lake Clark National Park and Preserve, surround the Nushagak and Kvichak River basins, which drain into Bristol Bay. The Nushagak River Basin is broad and relatively flat, containing many ponds and lakes that increase in number as they near the coast. The Kvichak River drains Iliamna Lake and all of its tributaries. Iliamna Lake is the largest lake in Alaska, 80 miles long by 20 miles wide, and the second largest in the United States.

The Alaska Peninsula consists of coastal lowlands, on the Bristol Bay side, from which the terrain rises into the Aleutian Mountains on the Pacific Ocean side. These coastal lowlands are dotted by thousands of small lakes and ponds and laced with meandering rivers that flow into extensive estuaries as they meet Bristol Bay. Naknek, Becharof, and Upper and Lower Ugashik Lakes are four large bodies of water on the northern peninsula. The peaks of the Aleutian Mountains generally average from 1,000 to 4,000 feet but may rise to volcanic peaks such as Mount Chiginagak (6,900 feet), Mount Veniaminof (8,225 feet), and Mount Pavlof (8,261 feet). Several other active and inactive volcanoes are also found along the Alaska Peninsula. The rivers and streams flowing into the Pacific Ocean are short and steep, emptying into small bays. The Pacific shoreline is imbricate, very rugged, and steep with many cliffs, offshore spires, and islets, in contrast to much of the Bristol Bay coastline which is smooth, of low relief, and characterized by wide beaches.

Unimak and the Krenitzin Islands are separated from the Alaska Peninsula – Unimak by the narrow and treacherous waters of False Pass. Unimak is dominated by five volcanoes including Shishaldin Volcano (9,387 feet) and Isanotski Peaks (8,025). Between Unimak Island and the Krenitzin Islands is Unimak Pass, a deep 10 to 20-mile wide strait between the Pacific Ocean and the Bering Sea, which provides passage for fish, marine mammals, waterfowl, and seabirds, as well as for commercial vessels.

Over 56% of the uplands in the Bristol Bay area are covered by various types of tundra – shrub/grass, open heath or grass, or lichen shrub tundra. Approximately 7% of the area is marsh-very wet bog or wet bog-meadow. Ten percent of the area is vegetated by miscellaneous deciduous vegetation such as birch, cottonwood, and tall, low, or dwarf willow. Forest comprises less than 5% of the uplands and occurs mostly along major lakes and rivers in the Nushagak-Wood River drainages and in the eastern Iliamna Lake and Lake Clark drainages. Common forest species include black spruce, white spruce, quaking aspen, balsam poplar, and white birch. There are essentially no trees south of the Naknek River. The remaining uplands are lichen covered, snow covered, or barren.

Hydrology

Latitude, position with respect to the ocean, and elevation play significant roles in determining climate. Most of the planning area is affected by maritime climatic influences, but transition zones in the northern parts of the planning area are impacted by continental influences. In

winter, as sea ice forms in northern Bristol Bay, the coastal areas are less influenced by marine climatic conditions and continental influences are felt.

Non-Marine Hydrology. The largest rivers in the planning area include the Nushagak, Togiak, Kvichak, Naknek, Egegik and Ugashik Rivers. The Nushagak is the largest with a drainage area of 14,100 square miles and a length of nearly 300 miles. Generally, rivers in the region are short to moderate in length, and often have a lake storage component within the basin. The lakes serve to store runoff and moderate runoff to streams. Although glaciers are present, outside of a few exceptions, regionally they do not significantly affect storage or runoff due to limited size and distribution. Streams without lakes in the drainage experience peak flows at spring breakup, a summer drop in flow, and a secondary peak during late summer and early fall in response to rainfall events. Streams with lakes usually have a spring flow peak during the late summer early fall rainy season. Local variations in this pattern are common due to differences in aspect, geology, and precipitation.

Mean annual runoff for the region varies but usually averages between 2 and 4 cfs/mi². Mean annual peak runoff averages 10 cfs/mi² in the lowland areas and up to 25-50 cfs/mi² in the more upland areas.

Most rivers and streams in the planning region freeze over by December and remain in the frozen state until April or May. Stream flow usually begins a steady decline in October after the rainy late summer-early fall period, and continues to decline until March or April, with discharges increasing dramatically with the onset of breakup in April or May. Peak annual flows generally occur in June when snowmelt is at its highest, with secondary peaks in response to high precipitation/runoff events in late summer and early fall. Winter flooding in upland streams is possible from extreme channel icing.

Storage provided by lakes is an important feature to many stream systems in the Bristol Bay region. Of the approximately 90 lakes in Alaska that exceed 10 square miles in size, 33 of them occur in the Bristol Bay area, including the state's two largest lakes – Iliamna and Becharof. Geomorphically, lakes in the Bristol Bay area are of three primary types. Most of the larger lakes are in glacially carved basins that may be dammed by glacial moraines; these are commonly elongated and deep such as the Wood River Lakes. The second type are lowland tundra lakes, which are usually small, shallow, and often unnamed. The third type of lakes, that display no inlet or outlet, are present but uncommon.

Marine Hydrology. Southwest Alaska is bordered by the Bering Sea, the North Pacific Ocean, and the Gulf of Alaska. Ocean basin topography, current, the extent of sea ice, water temperature and other factors greatly influence the marine ecosystem. Currents in the Gulf of Alaska are driven by the counterclockwise flow of the Alaska Current. Currents from the North Pacific move through passes in the Aleutian Chain into the Bering Sea creating a complex but generally counterclockwise pattern.

Ocean basin topography consists of three principal features: 1) a shallow expanse of the continental shelf (<5,000 feet deep) extending from east of Kodiak, across Bristol Bay and including the Bering Sea and down the Aleutian Chain; 2) south of the Aleutians the topography deepens until dropping into the Aleutian Trench which has depths greater than 13,000 feet; and 3) north of the Aleutians the Bering Sea drops into the enormous Aleutian Basin with depths ranging between 5,000 and 13,000 feet.

Sea ice in the Bering Sea advances into Bristol Bay, arcing from Goodnews Bay to just south of Egegik. The maximum winter advance of sea ice historically extended as far south as Unimak Island. Recent fluctuations in the advance of sea ice have been difficult to predict.

Tidal action and variation is not as great in Southwest Alaska as it is in other regions of Alaska. The highest mean tidal variations occur in the Naknek River area (18.5 feet); Port Moller has a mean of 7.6 feet whereas the mean tidal variation is only 3.2 feet at Izembek Lagoon. Tidal variations tend to be greatest at river outlets and at a minimum on the Aleutian Islands.

Resources and Uses: Uplands

Forestry. There are no commercial forests in the planning area. The forests are largely a mix of spruce, birch, and aspen that occur along the major drainages north of the Naknek River. Uses are restricted largely to heating fuel although some trees are large enough for house logs.

Cultural and Historic. The Native people of Alaska have occupied coastal and river areas for millennia. The area has a complex and poorly understood history and over time cultures intermixed and expanded and contracted. The area contains Eskimoan, Athabascan, and Aleut influences. European contact came in the mid to late 1700's and the area still shows the cultural influences of its early Russian occupation. The planning area contains approximately 1,207 cataloged archeological and historic sites, a number that continues to grow as new sites are discovered and reported. The majority of the sites are in coastal areas and along the major rivers.

Economic. Economic resources are several, including: commercial fishing, tourism and recreation, government, subsistence, and transportation. Historically, use of fish and wildlife resources has been the economic mainstay of the area through commercial fishing, trapping, and subsistence. In recent times the commercial fishing industry has suffered from unpredictable returns and declining fish prices. Public recreation and tourism is a growing sector of the economy and has assumed a greater relative importance in local economies.

Recreation, Tourism, and Scenic. Use of these resources is primarily related to outdoor activities. Fishing and hunting are perhaps the most significant but others such as river rafting, flight-seeing, and wildlife viewing are growing in importance. Most of the recreation and tourism activities occur in the north central and central part of the area and are related to Wood-Tikchik State Park, Katmai National Park and Preserve, and Lake Clark National Park and

Preserve. Commercial sport fishing is especially concentrated in the Dillingham, King Salmon, and Iliamna regions. Recreational river use is most prevalent in the major drainages to Kuskokwim Bay, the Wood River drainage, and the Nushagak-Mulchatna drainage basin.

Minerals. Historically, significant mineral production has come from gold placers in the Nyac district and platinum-gold placers in the Goodnews Bay district. However, the area has experienced exploration success at a number of sites. Important deposits include the Pebble Copper copper-gold-molybdenum deposit, the Shotgun gold deposit, and the Kamishak prospect. Others include the Kemuk iron-titanium deposit, which may have significant platinum potential and the Sleitat tin-tungsten deposit. The Pebble Copper deposit is presently undergoing advanced exploration and studies are underway to ascertain the economic viability of developing the resource, which is estimated to contain one of the world's largest low-grade copper-gold concentrations. Mineral sands occur on beaches along the northwest side of the Alaska Peninsula at a number of locations. Important occurrences, prospects, and deposits occur elsewhere on private lands including the Fog Lake gold prospect. Interest in developing mineral resources in the planning area has increased in recent years, especially on the large areas of state-owned lands in the northwest portion of the area.

Coal. Coal bearing stratigraphy is present beneath large areas on the northwest side of the Alaska Peninsula and in the lower Nushagak area. Two coal basins with estimated reserves and modest historical production occur in the central portion of the Alaska Peninsula – the Herendeen Bay and Chignik coal basins.

Oil and Gas. The lower Nushagak and western Alaska Peninsula have significant hydrocarbon potential related to the north Aleutian-Bristol Bay-Nushagak Basins. A thick sequence of Tertiary and Mesozoic sedimentary rocks occurs in the subsurface and scattered drilling on the Peninsula indicates showings of gas and oil. DNR is currently initiating a program of oil and gas licensing and leasing for on-shore lands with oil and gas potential.

Fish and Wildlife. The area is richly endowed with fish and wildlife resources. These resources are well protected in a series of state and federal conservation units that total approximately 20 million acres. All anadromous fish species found in the state are present here. The Bristol Bay region supports one of the largest sockeye salmon runs in the world. Salmon support subsistence, commercial, and sports fisheries. Caribou occur throughout most of the planning area and five herds are recognized; the Mulchatna/Kilbuck Herd is largest and was estimated at 150,200 animals in 2000. Moose have been expanding their range in the area for decades both southward and westward. Brown bear are numerous especially so in the eastern and northeastern portion of the Alaska Peninsula. The Bristol Bay Lowlands and northwest side of the Alaska Peninsula have extensive areas replete with lakes, ponds, and marshes, which provide important habitat for a wide variety of waterfowl.

Physical Features: Tidelands

Tidelands in the Bristol Bay planning area are rich in habitat and marine resources making this a desirable area for commercial and subsistence harvest as well as public recreational activities. The tidelands along the entire coastline within the planning area are utilized in some manner for marine harvest. However, commercial harvest occurs more frequently in the vicinity of bays and lagoons that support the densest population of marine life.

Bristol Bay. In the Bristol Bay area commercial harvest consists almost entirely of all varieties of salmon, with some harvest of herring roe, which occurs in and around major bays and estuaries, and to the greatest extent throughout Nushagak and Kvichak Bays. Public and commercial docks, boat harbors, seaplane bases and other tideland facilities in support of the fishing industry are prevalent near the communities where the most extensive commercial harvest occurs. Tideland facilities also provide for shipping and transportation. The communities of Dillingham and King Salmon serve as the transportation and service center for the salmon industry and also serve recreational visitors to the area. Sport fishing occurs frequently around the mouths of the Nushagak and Kvichak Rivers. Subsistence harvest in Bristol Bay occurs most often in the areas around communities and villages. However, residents often migrate long distances to summer fish camps. Salmon is by far the most common subsistence staple, but residents also subsist on other fish such as herring, smelt or cod. In addition, subsistence harvest includes sea mammals (seal, sea lion, walrus, and occasionally whale) and waterfowl or waterfowl eggs. Clams are also harvested in the Egegik Bay area.

Alaska Peninsula and Offshore Islands. The Alaska Peninsula and offshore islands are sparsely populated so commercial harvesting ranges over longer distances than in Bristol Bay. Concentration of resources is also more scattered. Along the northern coast of the Alaska Peninsula, commercial fishing includes salmon, yellowfin sole, cod, herring, and herring roe. Subsistence harvesting concentrates around the few communities on the peninsula and includes salmon and other fish, seals, and waterfowl and eggs. Clams are harvested in the Port Heiden area, King Cove and False Pass.

Along the Pacific coast of the Alaska Peninsula commercial harvest of fish includes salmon, halibut, herring, herring sac roe (food/bait), cod, pollock, and bottomfish. Fishing fleets are extensive and range long distances. Commercial crab harvest takes place all along this coastline as well and includes red king, tanner and dungeness crab. The highest concentrations of crab occur in bays and lagoons. The richest crab harvest of red king crab and dungeness crab occurs around the Krenitzin Island group and the southern shores of Unimak Island. Shrimp is harvested in Chignik Bay and Mitrofanina Bay. Fishing Fleets are based in only a few major processing or service centers: Chignik, Sand Point, King Cove, Cold Bay and Akutan. Public and commercial docks, boat harbors, seaplane bases, and other tideland facilities in support of the fishing industry, are prevalent near these communities. Tideland facilities also support shipping and water transportation. These communities serve recreational visitors, in addition to the fishing industry, and serve as ferry stops on the Alaska Marine Highway. Sport fishing occurs in the Pacific Coast tidelands and around the various Pacific islands adjacent to the Alaska Peninsula.

The few communities on the Pacific side of the Alaska Peninsula depend almost exclusively on commercial fishing for their livelihood and only engage in a small amount of subsistence harvest in the off-season. Subsistence harvest where it occurs, consists almost exclusively of salmon, but in some areas includes small amounts of halibut, clams, seal and waterfowl (birds and eggs).

Local and Federal Plans

A variety of state, local, and federal plans exist that affect all or parts of the planning area. The authority of each is specific to the jurisdiction to which it applies, except for the two coastal district plans, which affect private, local, state, and federal actions in those instances when a permit is required for some type of federal action.

Local Comprehensive Plans and District Coastal Zone Management Plans

Local plans consist of the comprehensive plans of a number of communities and those of the boroughs. The following cities have local comprehensive plans, but all are quite old: Sand Point (published 1981), King Cove (1981), Akutan (1982), and Dillingham (1985). The Aleutians East Borough has a comprehensive plan and the Bristol Bay Borough, an economic development plan that also serves as a comprehensive land use plan. Both plans were consulted during plan preparation. These plans, plus recommendations from the municipalities within the planning boundary, were used extensively in the formulation of tideland management and tideland designations for tideland management units in and near these municipalities.

District Coastal Zone Management Plans exist for extensive areas within the planning area, coinciding in area with the jurisdictions having such plans: Aleutians East Borough, Lake and Peninsula Borough, Bristol Bay Borough, and the two CRSAs – Bristol Bay and Cenaliulriit. The Enforceable Policies of these District Plans are extensive and typically include policies pertaining to anadromous streams, marine mammal haulout sites, sea bird colonies, bald eagle nests, oil and gas development, mining and material extraction, settlement, geotechnical hazards, wetlands and water quality, as well as other resource features. The Enforceable Policies of these plans were consulted during the preparation of the Area Plan and formed the basis for certain of the management standards in Chapter 2. Please see the web site www.alaskacoast.state.ak.us/⁷ for more information on Enforceable Policies and for the coastal zone boundaries of the various District Plans.

⁷ The Alaska Coastal Management Program was terminated on July 1, 2011, pursuant to AS 44.66.030.

State Management Plans

There are two primary state management plans that affect resource use and development: the Bristol Bay Area Plan (1984, 2005) and the Nushagak & Mulchatna Rivers Recreation Management Plan (1990, 2005). There are a wide variety of fisheries management plans for the management of the Bristol Bay fisheries, and DNR has also prepared a number of Site Specific Plans that affect small geographic areas. Neither the site specific nor fisheries management plans are relevant to large-scale, diverse resource and land use management.

The Bristol Bay Area Plan affects all state lands in the planning area, which includes uplands, shore lands, tidelands, and submerged lands, and navigable waters (rivers and lakes). This plan is, and has been, the basis for the management of state land since its adoption in 1984. The large planning area is broken up into 22 regions. Land use designations and management standards are identified for each Region; in addition, the plan provides management standards for the variety of resources that the Department administers in this planning area. This plan can be viewed at <http://dnr.alaska.gov/mlw/planning/>. The Nushagak & Mulchatna Rivers Recreation Management Plan guides state land management in the Nushagak and Mulchatna drainages and guides coastal consistency review by serving as an AMSA plan for the Bristol Bay CRSA. As such, it provides management direction for the 25 management units and public use sites in these drainages, and identifies specific management policies for long-term uses (over 14 days). This plan was adopted as an element of the Bristol Bay Area Plan and serves as the management plan for the drainage areas encompassed by the Rivers Recreation Management Plan.

Federal Management Plans: National Wildlife Refuges, Katmai National Park and Preserve, and Aniakchak National Monument and Preserve

The management of National Wildlife Refuges occurs through a Comprehensive Conservation Plan (CCP), which provides broad policy guidance and establishes management direction. Each of the NWRs are to be managed consistent with the purposes of ANILCA, which include, as primary purposes, conservation of fish and wildlife populations and habitats in their natural diversity, provision of the opportunity for continued subsistence of local residents, maintenance of water quality and quantity, and satisfaction of international treaty obligations. All of these plans were reviewed for applicability. The Alaska Peninsula and Becharof National Wildlife Refuge (NWR) Comprehensive Conservation Plan (CCP) applies to lands along the Alaska Peninsula within the Becharof NWR and the Alaska Peninsula NWR. This CCP, which is in the process of revision, recommends 'Wilderness' and 'Minimal Management' as the principal management themes; these emphasize the protection of existing fish and wildlife populations and habitats. The Alaska Maritime NWR is administered under a CCP, which manages the islands and islets of the NWR to protect habitat values and fish and wildlife resources. The Togiak CCP is in the process of being revised; the current management plan recommends a similar type of resource management as used in the other CCPs. The Izembek NWR is administered according to a CCP that emphasizes the maintenance of the Refuge in an

undeveloped state. This CCP is to be revised beginning in year 2004. A tidelands management zone, which identifies those uses of state tidelands that are consistent with ANILCA requirements, affects the tidelands adjacent to these national wildlife refuges.

The Katmai National Park Resource Management Plan (1994) and its General Management Plan (1986) are used to provide guidance to federal management of this National Park. Federal policy toward the management of state tidelands and submerged lands is described in the General Management Plan. It states that the National Park Service will work cooperatively with the state to ensure that existing and future activities occurring in the areas adjacent to the park boundary “are compatible with the purposes for which the park was established.”

Management Summary

Uplands

Uplands are to be managed according to the specific land use designations and management intent in the Resource Allocation Tables that follow, and according to the Areawide Management Policies in Chapter 2.

Areas with Specific Designations

General Use (Gu). Most upland management units situated in remote, mountainous terrain or adverse soil conditions (usually associated with wetlands), and generally inaccessible areas are designated General Use (Gu), a multiple use designation. Large portions of almost every Region contain areas of this type designated General Use. Management units for which there was insufficient information, or for which there was no apparent economic use or need, or where a number of uses could satisfactorily exist because of management unit size, were also designated General Use. These areas are to be managed to allow for a variety of uses, consistent with the management intent statement for a specific management unit and with the specific requirements for habitat protection, land disposals, and subdivision development identified in Chapter 2. Areas that are identified as having important wildlife, fisheries, or habitat values in the management intent statement of a management unit description are to be managed to protect and maintain these resources. Lands affected by the General Use designation are to be retained by the state during the planning period unless affected by a municipal entitlement selection and are only to be conveyed to a municipality if the adjudicatory decision determines that conveyance is consistent with the requirements of AS 29.65.030.

Habitat (Ha). These areas are to be managed to protect the fisheries, wildlife, and habitat values that are associated with a particular management unit. Areas designated Habitat occur at Cape Seniavin, an important walrus haulout, and within the Muklung Hills situated in the far southwestern part of Region 6. If known, the resource values are identified for each management unit designated Habitat in the Resource Allocation Tables.

It is the policy of DNR that the Bristol Bay area fisheries, wildlife and their associated habitats be maintained throughout the planning period. These areas are essential to the commercial fishery, maintenance of the traditional subsistence lifestyle, public recreation and the commercial recreation industry. DNR decisions are to carefully consider the effects of a proposed use upon these uses and resources, and all authorizations are to ensure that adverse impacts are avoided, minimized, or mitigated consistent with the requirements in Chapter 2

Minerals (Mi). Areas designated Minerals are to be managed to accommodate activities related to mineral exploration, development, and operation. The four areas that are designated Minerals are associated with known subsurface resources. Areas designated Minerals are recognized to include uses and structures associated with mineral development, including settlement directly related to mining operations. In those areas that are co-designated Minerals and Habitat both subsurface resources and significant habitat features exist.

Public Facilities-Retain (Pr). This designation is applied to areas of small size that perform or may perform public functions, including but not limited to airports, airstrips, and community schools. Areas affected by this designation are to be retained in state ownership and managed consistent with the Management Agreement or ILMA that governs their use. Land from this designation may leave state ownership if a reverter clause exists and is exercised.

Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed (Rd). Areas designated Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed (Rd) are to be managed to provide continued opportunities for dispersed recreation by the public. Other uses may occur in these areas, but only to the extent that they are compatible with the principal use of dispersed recreation. Large portions of state uplands and shoreland are affected by this designation. River systems used by the public for both personal and commercial use are designated Rd, including the Mulchatna, Nushagak, Alagnak, and Kvichak Rivers. The areas of state land recommended for inclusion in the state park system (Wood-Tikchik State Park), as well as upland areas with extensive dispersed recreation use, particularly that area of intensive sport fishing adjacent to and northwest of Iliamna Lake, are designated Rd. Major lakes within federal conservation units as well as many lakes adjoining state land are also designated Rd, reflecting this use. Although other areas of state land accommodate public recreation, they have other uses and are designated General Use.

Settlement (Se) and Settlement-Commercial (Sc). Areas designated Settlement are appropriate for development or disposal for the purposes of settlement during the planning period. Areas designated Settlement are distributed throughout the planning area with concentrations occurring in the central northern part of this area in Regions 5, 6, and 9. Certain of these management units are affected by municipal entitlement selections of the Lake and Peninsula, Bristol Bay, and Aleutians East Borough. Such areas are considered appropriate for conveyance to a borough, subject to a separate, subsequent DNR Best Interest Finding.

Water Resources (Wr). Areas designated Water Resources are to be managed to protect the water resources within a given area. This designation applies to areas of important water sources and watersheds, and in this plan also includes important wetland complexes. Such areas

are usually co-designated with Habitat and sometimes Dispersed Recreation. In these instances state land is to be managed for each of these purposes, which are generally complementary in character. Dispersed recreation is a recognized appropriate use.

Tidelands

State tidelands and submerged lands will be managed according to the designation and management intent given in the Resource Allocation Table or as part of a specific tidelands and submerged lands resource management zone. These areas are also subject to Alaska coastal management standards and to the state permitting system that is used to apply these standards.

Areas with Specific Plan Designations

State tidelands are to be managed to: 1) protect sensitive tideland resources; 2) maintain opportunities for commercial, recreational, and subsistence harvest; and 3) ensure the continuation of important recreational activities. They will also be managed to allow for shoreline development in areas adjacent to communities where residential or commercial/industrial uses are considered appropriate by the local unit of government or appropriate land manager, or at specific sites where some form of development occurs or is planned.

Habitat (Ha). State tidelands designated Habitat (Ha) will be managed to protect sensitive habitats and areas important as fish and shellfish habitat, marine mammal concentration sites, wildlife movement corridors, and subsistence areas. Habitat designations are often applied to estuarine areas, the mouths of anadromous streams, special management areas that contain a rich diversity and concentration of fishery and wildlife resources, and to certain rocks and islands used for marine mammal rookeries and haulouts. They are also used as a co-designation with Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed in the Tideland Resource Management Zones for tidelands and tide and submerged lands adjacent to federal conservation system units. The Habitat designation is also applied to areas within CHAs. Development authorizations may be granted in areas designated Habitat, but their sensitive fisheries or wildlife resources must be protected. Development authorizations within CHAs must meet the specific standards identified in AS 16.20.530.

Harvest (Hv). State tidelands are also to be managed to ensure the continuation of recreational and commercial harvest and subsistence uses. Many submerged and tideland areas within the Bristol Bay region are important at some time during the year for harvest activities. Individual tideland management units that are designated Habitat (Ha) are also co-designated as Harvest (Hv) if some form of harvest activity takes place. Development authorizations issued on tidelands affected by the Harvest designation must consider impacts to the various forms of harvest and are to mitigate impacts from this activity. This requirement pertains to individual tideland management units designated Harvest, management units co-designated Harvest with another designation, and to areas designated General Use where some form of harvest occurs.

Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed (Rd). State tidelands important for some public recreational purposes have been designated Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed (Rd). This designation is applied as a co-designation with Habitat in the Tideland Resource Management Zone that adjoins federal conservation units. Development authorization may be granted in areas designated Rd but must ensure that public trust doctrine resources and public recreation values are maintained. Prior to issuing an authorization, DNR should consult with federal agency staff.

Waterfront Development (Wd). State tidelands adjacent to communities will be managed to accommodate that development considered appropriate in local land use plans or zoning maps and are designated Waterfront Development (Wd). The Wd designation is applied in tidelands with intensive commercial or industrial uses, where such uses can be expected, or where tidelands are adjacent to uplands with a residential land use pattern, or where such uses can be anticipated.

General Use (Gu). Tidelands and submerged lands not included within a tideland management unit or a Tideland Resource Management Zone are designated General Use (Gu). Large areas of state tidelands and submerged lands are affected by this designation, since all areas that are not identified as important for specific habitat, harvest, or recreation protection, included in tideland resource management zones, or intended for development, are affected by the Gu designation. The state coastal zone permitting system is used to determine which uses are appropriate within these areas and is to establish any particular site or operational requirements.

Areas Affected by Tideland Resource Management Zone

A Tideland Resource Management Zone (TRMZ) applies to tideland and submerged lands adjacent to federal uplands under some form of protected status. The TRMZ consists of the tide and submerged lands adjacent to five National Wildlife Refuges (Togiak, Izembek, Becharof, Alaska Peninsula, and Alaska Maritime), and the Aniakchak National Monument and Preserve. The TRMZ extends one half-mile from mean high water from the coast and is co-designated Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed and Habitat. These designations convert, respectively, to the classifications of Public Recreation Land and Wildlife Habitat Land. Plan maps for the regions fronting Bristol Bay or the Pacific Ocean depict the TRMZ.

A Tideland Resource Management Zone is used if there is a concentration of significant marine resources or public uses within a specific area, or if individual tideland management units cannot capture the diversity and intensity of these resources within a contiguous area. It is also used when there is common upland property ownership, usually of a large area that is under a protected status, such as a state or national wildlife refuge, national park, or state park. The TRMZs of the Bristol Bay Area Plan are all of the latter type. The management objectives of this zone are to protect the habitats and wildlife that characterize this area and allow certain consumptive uses, which would include foraging, and the taking of fish and wildlife for personal, recreational, commercial, and subsistence purposes. The management intent is twofold: 1) to protect sensitive fisheries habitat, marine mammal concentration areas, shorebird

and waterfowl concentration areas, anadromous streams and areas of estuarine wetlands, kelp or eel grass areas, as well as intertidal areas important for brown bears; and 2) to limit those uses and structures on tide and submerged lands to those that would generally be consistent with upland uses. Management plans exist for nearly all the upland areas and should be consulted to determine management standards. For more information on special management areas, refer to item 'D'; 'Management Guidelines: Special Management Areas – Tidelands & Submerged Lands; Other' in the Fish and Wildlife Habitat and Harvest Areas section of Chapter 2.

National Wildlife Refuges and National Monuments. The areas of state tide and submerged lands adjacent to the National Wildlife Refuges and the National Monument affected by the TRMZ will be managed for uses and structures that support subsistence, personal, recreational, and commercial activities that are consistent with these management objectives or that are authorized under ANILCA. ANILCA provides for temporary structures and facilities directly and necessarily related to the taking of fish and wildlife and for the construction of new permanent cabins and maintenance or replacement of existing cabins. Temporary structures and facilities include temporary subsistence, commercial and personal campsites, tent platforms, shelters and other temporary facilities. Permanent structures include public use cabins, commercial set net cabins, subsistence cabins, and other commercial cabins. ANILCA also allows for the construction of new cabins that are necessary for the protection of public health and safety. DNR may also authorize, with appropriate siting and design, docks in support of commercial, recreation and subsistence activities, floatplane bases, onshore support facilities for offshore oil and gas development, and other structures and facilities consistent with the basic management objective of a TRMZ.

Uses that DNR should not authorize include residential float homes, float lodges, or floating camps, or other types of residential, commercial or industrial uses of the tidelands inconsistent with the types of uses allowed under the ANILCA subsistence provisions. Certain types of mariculture facilities may be authorized if consistent with the management objectives of this zone and the management guidelines for these facilities in Chapter 2; see Management Guideline B under 'Aquatic Farming'. In addition, certain types of governmental, commercial, or research floating facilities may be authorized if consistent with these objectives and the management guideline for these facilities in Chapter 2; see Management Guideline F under 'Floating Facilities'. In general however, the intent is to minimize the number of authorizations, limit any authorizations to those that are allowed under the Management Guidelines noted above, and avoid the siting of all other structures on state tide and submerged lands if they are visually intrusive or are inconsistent with the management objectives of the TRMZ. DNR shall consult with federal agency staff before authorizing uses on state tidelands and submerged lands.

Region 2: Kuskokwim, Kanektok, and Goodnews

Summary of Resources and Uses in the Region

Region Boundary

Region 2 is the largest of the regions in the area plan but it contains a relatively small amount of state land. Most of the land in the Region is in federal ownership and located within the Togiak, Yukon Delta, and Cape Newenham National Wildlife Refuges. See Map 3-2.

The boundaries of Region 2 are defined on the southwest by the Bering Sea, on the northwest and north by the Kuskokwim Area Plan, on the northeast by Wood-Tikchik State Park, and on the southwest and south by the drainage divide between the Kanektok and Togiak River systems. The boundaries are nearly the same as the original (1984) Bristol Bay Area Plan.

Region 2 includes coastal lands along Kuskokwim Bay from Cape Newenham to the Kanetok River encompassing the Ahklun Mountains and portions of the Kilbuk Mountains. This includes all or major portions of the drainages of the westerly flowing Goodnews, Kanektok, Kwethluk, Eek, Kisaralik, Kasigluk, and Tuluksak/Fog Rivers. Elevations range from sea level to 4,068 feet. Major settlements in Region 2 include Quinhagak (pop. 567) and Goodnews Bay (pop. 263); settlements in the Region are all coastal and the interior portion of the Region is largely unpeopled. The population of Region 2 is approximately 871.

State Lands: Ownership and Acreage

State-owned lands are contained mostly within approximately 368,640 acres in sixteen townships in the central west portion of Region 2. Blocks of state-selected lands occur in the northern Kilbuk Mountains, in the vicinity of Nyac, and in a block northeast of Goodnews Bay. The plan applies to 775,619 acres of state-owned and state-selected uplands and 261,064 acres of state-owned tidelands in this region. The plan also applies to state-owned shorelands (acreages of shorelands have not been calculated).

Physical Geography

Several mountain systems, part of the greater Kuskokwim Mountains, extend from southwest to northeast through the Region; these include the Ahklun, Eek, and Kilbuk Mountains. The drainage pattern reflects the southwest to northeast structural grain of the mountains, and rivers flow generally from southeast to northwest to the Kuskokwim River or southwest towards Kuskokwim Bay. The greatest relief is found in the northeastern portion of the region; VABM Gravel is at an elevation of 4,068 feet and the valleys below it containing the Kisaralik River are at elevations of approximately 1,200 feet – providing almost 2,900 feet of relief. This area

shows enough elevation to display some lingering effects of Pleistocene glaciation – U-shaped valleys, hanging valleys, and cirque lakes. Considerable relief also occurs in the Kilbuk Mountains in the vicinity of the old mining center of Nyac. Mount Hamilton attains an elevation of 3,645 feet and Marvel Dome peaks at 3,768 feet; the surrounding valleys are at an elevation of only a few hundred feet, making for relief of 3,500 feet.

The Region displays a variety of landscapes, including mountain crags, fast-flowing rivers, deep lakes, tundra, marshy lowlands, ponds, estuaries, coastal lagoons, and sea cliffs. The broad glacial valleys of the Ahklun Mountain range cut the tundra uplands, opening into coastal plains. Trees are largely restricted to a few major river valleys such as the Tuluksak, Kisaralik, Kwethluk, and Kanektok Rivers. The sea coast north of Goodnews Bay has little relief, whereas to the south headlands and cliffs extend to the sea; significant headlands occur at Cape Newenham and Red Mountain.

Climate

Climate conditions are variable depending upon proximity to the ocean. The settlements of Quinhagak, Goodnews Bay, and Platinum have a marine climate with annual precipitation of 22 inches with 43 inches of snowfall; summer high temperatures average 41° to 57° and winter lows average from 6° to 24°. Extremes are from 82° to -34°. Interior conditions are commonly somewhat drier and with greater differences in temperature extremes. At Nyac the average annual precipitation is 23 inches but with 70 inches of snowfall. The Region is underlain by ground with either discontinuous permafrost or ground with isolated masses of permafrost. The areas with discontinuous permafrost are generally those with elevations greater than 500 to 1,000 feet. North facing slopes are more likely to be underlain by permafrost than south facing mountain slopes.

Other

Region 2 is within the Russian Mission, Bethel, Goodnews, and Hagemeister Island Quadrangles. It lies almost entirely within the boundaries of the Calista Regional Native Corporation Boundary. The boundary between the Calista and the Bristol Bay Native Corporations is somewhat similar to the eastern boundary of Region 2.

Access

The settlements are highly dependent upon air transportation. There are six gravel airstrips in the Region at Quinhagak (2,600'), Goodnews Bay (2,850'), Nyac (3,650'), Cape Newenham (3,950'), Platinum (3,640'), and the private strip at the Platinum mine (2,000' gravel). Although coastal, there are no significant port facilities although a harbor and dock exist at Quinhagak. There is no road access to the Region; a number of trails extend from and between settlements. Trails extend into the Nyac portion of the Region from Tuluksak and Aniak paralleling the

Tuluksak and Aniak Rivers. Many of these are old mining trails which were used to transport personnel and equipment into the Nyac camp to support gold mining activities. A coastal trail connects Platinum with Goodnews Bay and Quinhagak and extends northward to Bethel. Goodnews Bay is connected to Togiak by a trail, which extends overland between the two communities. Short sections of road extend south from Platinum for 6.8 miles to the platinum ore fields of the Salmon River and to the northeast from Goodnews Bay for 12.6 miles. A trail also extends from the north shore of Goodnews Bay across the upper reaches of Carter Creek, Indian River, and Jacksmith Creek to the Faro and Keno Creek area of the Arolik River.

Resources and Uses

Cultural and Historic. Archaeological evidence indicates that areas within the Region have been continuously occupied for at least 2,000 years. Historically the Region was peopled by the Kukowogamiut, who occupied the area from the Kuskowkim River south to Chagvan Bay and to perhaps some extent by the Togiagamiut who lived in the area from Nanvak Bay east to Cape Constantine. The people of Nanvak, Osviak, and Chagvan Bay were known as Chingigumiut or Cape people, and are considered a branch of the Togiagamiut. The present Native peoples are collectively known as Yup'ik.

The first European contact with the Native peoples of the Region took place during the expedition of Captain James Cook when his group encountered a group of Natives in kayaks north of Cape Newenham on July 16, 1778. The Russians established a fur trading business in this fur-rich area centered around a fort at Nushagak which handled up to 4,000 pelts annually. The discovery of gold in Alaska in the 1890's brought a significant influx of people and a discovery in the vicinity of Goodnews Bay brought a stampede of miners from Nome in 1900-1901. Reindeer herding was established at Goodnews and Quinhagak in 1904-1905 but a series of extreme conditions in the mid-1940's exterminated most of the reindeer. In 1926 platinum was first discovered in the valley of the Salmon River and bucket-wheel dredging took place there until 1975.

The state Office of History and Archeology lists 245 sites in Region 2 – 181 prehistoric, 47 historic, and 17 of mixed origin; however, new sites are discovered periodically and added to the Alaska Heritage Resource Database as reported. The majority of the prehistoric sites are situated along the major river drainages, especially the Goodnews, upper Kanektok, and Kwethluk Rivers.

Economic. Most of the employment is with the school, government services or commercial fishing. Trapping, basket weaving, skin sewing and ivory carving also provide income. Subsistence remains an important part of the livelihood; subsistence upon salmon, seal, walrus, birds, berries, moose and bear is an integral part of the lifestyle. In Quinhagak and Goodnews Bay many residents hold commercial fishing permits for salmon net and herring roe fisheries. A sea food processing plant is located in Quinhagak and processes halibut and salmon. Platinum

has been a major supplier of gravel to area villages; the community desires to develop a marine repair facility and dry dock, a seafood processing plant, specialty sea foods venture, or herring roe aquaculture project.

Recreation. Recreation in the Region is primarily related to outdoor activities such as hunting and sport fishing, wildlife viewing, photography, hiking and backpacking, river rafting and kayaking, as well as flightseeing. Sport fishing is especially prevalent on the Kisaralik, Kanektok, Arolik, and Goodnews Rivers. Data from the Alaska Department of Fish and Game show that in 2001 approximately 14,357 days were spent on fishing in fresh waters of the Region. The Kanektok drainage shows the most fishing pressure with 9,063 days fished. Recreational fishing lodges in the Region include the Alaska West facilities near Quinhagak and Goodnews River Lodge near Goodnews Bay. Recreational float trips on the rivers in Region 2 are gaining in popularity. Charter Services for these trips are available at Aniak, Bethel, and Dillingham. Trips vary in length from three to seven days. Difficulty varies from novice to intermediate with the most difficult stretches typed as Class III rapids (on the Kisaralik River).

Minerals. The Region encompasses portions of the Goodnews Bay, Bethel, Aniak, and Bristol Bay mining districts and has been an important producer of platinum and gold. From 1928 to 1975 the Goodnews Bay area was the United State's only primary producer of platinum, mostly from placer deposits dredged from the Salmon River; the district produced at least 650,000 troy ounces of platinum group metals and 72,600 ounces of gold. A number of Offshore Prospecting Permit applications have been filed on Goodnews Bay and outside waters on the basis of potential for platinum and gold in the marine sediments. Placer gold has also been produced from dredges in the Nyac area where total production exceeds 500,000 ounces of gold. State-owned land in Region 2 contains a number of placer and lode metal occurrences including the Rocky Creek gold and mercury placers and the Kisaralik placer gold and tin occurrence. Lode occurrences of gold and silver are known at Gold Lake, as well as a nearby unnamed prospect, in the upper reaches of the Kisaralik River drainage. Calista Corporation has selected considerable acreage in the Nyac district with the aim of developing precious metal deposits. Nyac Mining Company has been (2003) placer mining on Spruce Creek under a lease agreement with Calista Corporation. The state has selected approximately 332 sections (212,480 acres) in the district.

Most of the mineral potential in Region 2 is for the precious, base, and platinum group metals. The potential for rare, industrial minerals, mineral sands, oil, gas, or coal is not known. However, narrow seams of lignite coal have been reported along the banks of the upper Kanektok River.

Materials. There are active material sites in the vicinity of Quinhagak.

Forestry. Only a few percent of the Region is forested. Narrow bands of riparian, black spruce-hardwood, mixed black spruce-balsam poplar, and balsam poplar woodlands extend along the major rivers and their tributaries. None of the wooded areas contain commercially harvestable timber. Lightning-caused wildfires occur every year in the Region, but the vast majority of the land is low-lying tundra interspersed with lakes and rivers. Fires rarely exceed a

few acres. Forestry resources are generally insufficient to provide a dependable fuel source for year round residents. Some local residents harvest driftwood, which is particularly abundant in the Kuskokwim Bay area due to large quantities of driftwood coming from the Kuskokwim River.

Fish and Wildlife. Fish and Wildlife resources are very important and support a mix of subsistence, recreational, and commercial economies. Species of major importance include caribou, bear, beaver, anadromous fish, and trout. Furbearing species considered most important include wolf, red fox, marten, beaver, lynx, wolverine, river otter, coyote, and mink. Important habitat for seabirds, shorebirds, and waterfowl also occur in the Region.

Fish and wildlife habitat in Region 2 is largely protected by inclusion in the Togiak and Yukon Delta National Wildlife Refuges. The Cape Newenham State Game Refuge is also found here, focusing on the protection of resources within Chagvan Bay. The refuges provide some of the nation's most productive sub arctic goose habitat. Although most noted for waterfowl and other migratory bird habitat, the refuges also support musk ox, caribou, brown and black bears, wolves, and moose. These species are harvested by subsistence hunters.

A large portion of the Region is a vast, flat wetland/tundra complex dotted by countless ponds, lakes, and meandering rivers. The most productive wildlife habitat is the coastal region bordering the Bering Sea. This narrow strip of land is highly productive goose nesting habitat. The refuges support one of the largest aggregations of water birds in the world. Over one million ducks and half a million geese breed here annually and in some summers, up to a third of the continent's Northern Pintails can be found on the refuges. In addition, nearly 40,000 loons, 40,000 grebes, 100,000 swans and 30,000 cranes return to the Togiak NWR each spring to nest. Millions of shorebirds use the refuge for both breeding and staging. In terms of both density and species diversity, the delta is the most important shorebird nesting area in the country, and the vast intertidal zone is the most important wetland for post-breeding shorebirds on the west coast of North America.

The refuges host approximately 80% of the continental breeding population of black brant and nearly all emperor geese. Cackling Canada and Pacific greater white-fronted geese number over 175,000 and 420,000, respectively. Principal species of ducks that occur on the refuges include northern pintail, greater scaup, and wigeon. Harlequin ducks breed in many of the watersheds draining the Kuskokwim Mountains, as well as other suitable habitats. Common eiders are locally "common" in the vicinity of some brant colonies. The formerly abundant spectacled eiders have declined precipitously over the last 25 years.

Nineteen species of raptors have been recorded on the refuges, including golden eagles, bald eagles, and peregrine falcons. The Kisaralik River is among the most important of areas for nesting raptors, and supports one of the densest populations of breeding golden eagles in North America.

Region 2 is mostly within the range of the Mulchatna and Kilbuck Caribou Herds, estimated in 2000 at 150,200 animals, although as of 2011 has decreased to an estimated 30,000.

Historically, caribou occurred in large numbers and were the most abundant ungulate. Numbers peaked in the 1860's and during this period, caribou ranged over much of the area. Caribou subsequently disappeared from the region with the exception of small, remnant herds in the Kilbuck and Andreafsky Mountains. In recent years, up to 40,000 animals from the Mulchatna Caribou Herd have migrated into the Region during the fall and winter period.

Including the Bering Sea, the waters provide habitat for at least 40 species of fish. The Yukon and Kuskokwim rivers support significant salmon fisheries. Other important freshwater resident species include several species of whitefish, sheefish, Alaska blackfish, burbot, northern pike, Dolly Varden, rainbow trout, grayling, and Alaska blackfish.

Bering Sea marine mammals provide a vital subsistence resource for coastal villages.

Trapping is an important part of the culture and economy of the residents of southwest Alaska. Trapping was one of the main sources of cash income before prices paid for commercially caught salmon increased during the early 1980's. Furbearers still provide an important source of income for trappers and many furs are used domestically in the production of garments and handicrafts. Additionally, the meat from some species, particularly beaver, is highly valued as food. Commonly trapped furbearers include: beaver, red fox, river otter, wolf, wolverine, and Arctic ground (parka) squirrel. Little trapping effort is directed at the other furbearers occurring such as: mink, muskrat, Arctic fox, coyote, lynx, marten, short-tailed weasel, least weasel, red squirrel, and hoary marmot. Trapping seasons generally reflect the period of pelt primeness and typically begin in early November and finish at the end of February or March. Most trappers access their areas via snowmachines. Open water or lack of adequate snow may prohibit access and thus reduce trapping effort.

Management Considerations: Local and State Plans and Special Use Area

A number of local, state, and federal management plans were considered in the development of this plan. Local plans include the Cenaliulriit CRSA Coastal Management Plan and the Bristol Bay CRSA Coastal Management Plan. The Bristol Bay Area Plan is the only state plan affecting this Region although a Special Use Designation is used to manage certain land uses within the planning area. Federal plans include the Togiak National Wildlife Refuge Comprehensive Conservation Plan.

Region 2 is situated partly within the Cenaliulriit CRSA CMP and the Bristol Bay CRSA CMP. State-owned land falls within each of these coastal management plans. The Enforceable and Administrative Policies of these Coastal Management Plans are extensive; policies affecting anadromous fish streams, bald eagle nests, oil and gas development, material extraction, and mining can be applicable, under certain circumstances, to state land. Please see the web site

www.alaskacoast.state.ak.us/⁸ for more information on enforceable policies. These policies should be consulted by the DNR prior to issuing an authorization.

The Bristol Bay Area Plan (1984) affected all state lands in the Region. This plan stated that Region 2 was to be managed for two co-designated land uses – a combination of fish and wildlife-recreation-minerals and a combination of fish and wildlife-recreation. The management intent for state lands in the Upper Kisaralik/Kwethluk River drainages was for production of fish and wildlife and for recreation. This revision supersedes the original Area Plan.

The State of Alaska has designated a Special Use Area (SUA) for the Togiak National Wildlife Refuge and the Lower Goodnews River (May 10, 1991; ADL 226851). It applies to those lands generally described as shorelands within Togiak National Wildlife Refuge and lower Goodnews River as described in the Togiak National Wildlife Refuge Public Use Management Plan and Environmental Assessment. Setting up and using a camp is allowed as provided in 11 AAC 96.020(a)(4)(A), except that the period of use is limited to three consecutive days at any one site. The period of use may be extended by permit. As part of the current collaborative Togiak NWR planning process, the state has agreed to review the existing SUA and has proposed several alternatives to the current three day camping limit. The alternatives only address length of stay and will be labeled as State of Alaska alternatives for management of the shorelands. The proposed State of Alaska alternatives will be incorporated into the table of alternatives presented in the Public Review Draft CCP text. The state will determine if the current SUA needs to be revised based on public comment, resource issues, and management goals.

Region 2 is within the Togiak and Yukon Delta National Wildlife Refuges. Both of these refuges have Comprehensive Conservation Plans and the Togiak Refuge plan is in the process of revision.

Management Summary: Uplands

State land in Region 2 is to be managed for a variety of multiple uses, including the maintenance of sensitive wildlife habitats, dispersed public recreation, minerals exploration and development, oil and gas development, materials extraction, and public facilities development. The majority of state-owned land in Region 2 is designated General Use (Gu). In addition, all state-selected lands in Region 2 are designated as General Use. Five townships (management unit R02-03) located adjacent to Wood-Tikchik State Park are designated Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed (Rd); these areas have been recommended for inclusion in the Park by the DNR's Wood-Tikchik State Park Management Plan (2002). Anadromous fish streams on state-owned land are co-designated Habitat (Ha) and Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed (Rd). Navigable waters in Federal lands are designated either Habitat (Ha), Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed (Rd), General Use (Gu), or are co-designated Habitat and Public Recreation

⁸ The Alaska Coastal Management Program was terminated on July 1, 2011, pursuant to AS 44.66.030.

and Tourism-Dispersed (Ha, Rd). A few small management units of land at the public airports are designated Public Facilities-Retain (Pr). No state lands are designated for Settlement in Region 2.

Plan Designations and Management Intent

The plan designations that are used within this Region have the following management intent. The policies and management intent guidelines described in Chapter 2 affect all DNR authorizations. Refer especially to those guidelines relating to Fish and Wildlife Habitat and Harvest Areas. See also the descriptions of the plan designations in the first part of this Chapter; this section indicates which lands can be conveyed out of state ownership and those that must be retained.

- **General Use (Gu).** Within this Region, lands that contain one or more resource values, none of which is of sufficiently high value to merit designation as a primary use, and areas that are unlikely to be developed during the planning period, are designated General Use. This land is to be managed for a variety of uses including protection of fish and wildlife habitat and harvest, dispersed public recreation, minerals, oil and gas exploration and development, and protection of heritage resources. It is anticipated that state-selected land in the Nyac area (management unit R02-01) may be the locus of mineral exploration and development activities during periods of lucrative precious metal prices. Similarly, lands selected by the state (management unit R02-05) in the Goodnews Bay area are likely to receive minerals interest when platinum prices are elevated. Mineral exploration and development are considered appropriate uses within areas designated General Use. It is expected that little development will occur in these areas during the planning period, and it is not intended as a matter of policy that intensive forms of development occur in these areas other than occasionally and at specific sites and these lands are to be retained during the planning period. Areas designated General Use may, however, be conveyed to a borough, should one be formed, under the Municipal Entitlement program.
- **Habitat (Ha).** Generally, this designation applies to areas of varied size that are important for fish and wildlife species during a sensitive life-history stage where alteration of the habitat or human disturbance could result in a permanent loss of a population or sustained yield of a species. In Region 2 this designation is applied to streams and shorelands cataloged by the Alaska Department of Fish and Game as anadromous (<http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/sf/SARR/AWC/index.cfm?ADFG=main.interactive>). These lands are to be retained in state ownership.
- **Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed (Rd).** Lands with the designation of Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed are to be managed so that their public recreation values are protected and maintained. Within these areas the primary surface uses are intended to be those related to hiking, hunting, fishing, wildlife viewing, and the like. A

small tract of state land adjoining the Wood-Tikchik State Park is recommended for inclusion in this Park and is designated Rd (Wood-Tikchik State Park Management Plan, October 2002, p. 11-3 and Map 11-1).

- **Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed and Habitat (Co-designation).** Certain navigable waterbodies (lakes and streams) are co-designated Habitat (Ha) and Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed (Rd). Authorizations within these waterbodies should not interfere with important habitat or public recreation values. See Table 3.1 in the Navigability section of this Chapter for a listing of these streams. Note: Certain waterbodies may be (only) designated Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed (Rd), Habitat (Ha), or General Use (Gu).
- **Public Facilities-Retain (Pr).** This designation applies to sites that are reserved for a specific public infrastructure requirement. They are to be retained in state or public ownership. In this Region, this designation applies to lands containing public facilities, commonly airports or schools. Only a small amount of acreage is affected by this designation.

Specific Management Considerations

- **Generally Allowed Uses.** The Generally Allowed Uses in 11 AAC 96.020 can occur throughout the Region except for the area affected by a Special Use Designation. The Togiak National Wildlife Refuge and Lower Goodnews River are a special use area. Setting up and using a camp is allowed as provided in 11 AAC 96.020(a)(4)(A), except that the period of use is limited to three consecutive days at any one site. The period of use may be extended by permit. For users going to the Kanektok River, there is a one day limit at the outlet of Pegati Lake due to its frequent use.
- **Addition to State Park.** Management unit R02-03, which includes five townships adjacent to Wood-Tikchik State Park, is to be managed for the purposes of dispersed recreation and is designated Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed (Rd). This management unit is part of a larger package of land that the DNR recommended for inclusion into the Park in the Wood-Tikchik State Park Management Plan. This management unit is to be managed consistent with that of the adjoining parkland as provided for in the Wood-Tikchik State Park Management Plan (October 2002, p. 11-3 and Map 11-1).
- **Mineral Closing Orders.** Except for areas closed to mineral entry under existing Mineral Closing Orders, all state lands within the Region are open to mineral entry. No additional MCOs are recommended. No leasehold location orders are recommended. See the Minerals section in Chapter 2 for more detail on subsurface management requirements.
- **Retained Lands.** Several small management units that are designated Public Facilities-Retain are designated to be retained. Also, lands designated Ha and General Use (with the exception of municipal selections as noted) are to be retained.

- Municipal Selections. Areas designated General Use within this Region are considered appropriate for conveyance to a Borough in the event that one is formed.

See the Resource Allocation Table for more details on the upland management units.

Management Summary: Tidelands and Submerged Lands

Tidelands within this area either adjoin federal lands administered by BLM, federal lands within the Togiak National Wildlife Refuge (NWR), or private (Native) lands, many of which adjoin Goodnews Bay. Sensitive tideland resources concentrate in three areas: Goodnews Bay, Chagvan Bay, and along the coastal promontory called Cape Newenham.⁹ These areas contain a wide variety of wildlife and coastal resources, including pelagic birds, waterfowl and shorebirds, seabird colonies, and Pacific herring spawning and rearing areas. Less sensitive areas, primarily associated with spawning areas of Pacific herring and waterfowl concentrations (spring and fall concentrations) and occasional seabird colonies, are situated along the coast throughout the Region.

At Quinhagak and Goodnews Bay a high percentage of residents are engaged in commercial fishing for salmon and herring roe, but only a small number are so engaged in the community of Platinum. Subsistence harvest occurs around these three communities consisting of marine mammals (seal and walrus), salmon, and some waterfowl and eggs. Marine mammals provide a vital resource. Pacific walruses, spotted seals, ringed seals and Pacific bearded seals are hunted on the ice in spring and some seal hunting continues during summer in bays and estuaries.

Plan Designations and Management Intent

Coastal Tidelands. The coast in that part of the Region not adjacent to the Togiak NWR consists of mixed sand and gravel beaches interspersed with areas of gravel beaches. Pacific herring spawning areas and waterfowl concentrations occur along this coast. Pelagic birds are also present. This area is designated General Use (Gu). Development authorizations are considered appropriate in these tidelands subject to the protection of sensitive resources and areas. There are a number of offshore prospecting permits along the coast south of Goodnews Bay that were located for platinum and gold deposits. Tideland authorizations to support mineral exploration and development in this area are considered appropriate. Tideland authorizations for material sites (gravel extraction) are also appropriate in this area.

Tidelands adjacent to Togiak National Wildlife Refuge (R02T-01). The area north of Goodnews Bay that is part of the Togiak NWR is less productive than the Cape Newenham area to the south. Pacific herring spawning areas and waterfowl concentrations occur along this part of the coast. The Cape Newenham area provides habitat for seals, sea lions, walruses and a

⁹ Private and Native lands adjoin Goodnews Bay. Chagvan Bay is included within both the National Wildlife Refuge and Cape Newenham State Game Refuge. Cape Newenham lies completely within the NWR.

variety of birds, such as pelagic and diving birds, seabirds, and waterfowl. A concentration of bird colonies is present at Bird Rock. Sea lion and walrus haulouts occur at scattered sites. Tidelands adjacent to the Togiak NWR are affected by a Tideland Resource Management Zone (TRMZ). TRMZs are designated Habitat and Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed and extend one-half mile from the coast. See Management Summary, Tidelands in Chapter 3 for a description of these zones.

Tidelands within Goodnews Bay (R02T-02, R02T-03). The tidelands within Goodnews Bay (R02T-02) provide a rich and varied habitat for Pacific herring spawning, seabird colonies, and waterfowl concentrations. The bay mainly consists of mud and sand with areas of sheltered tidal flats containing a high biomass. The management unit is designated Habitat (Ha) except for areas adjacent to the community of Goodnews Bay and sites that may be required for mineral transfer.

The area adjacent to the Goodnews Bay community is designated Waterfront Development (R02T-03). Mineral development of areas to the south of Goodnews Bay may require a transshipment site. Such a facility is considered appropriate and, when ultimately sited, is designated Waterfront Development. The management intent within areas designated Habitat is to protect Pacific herring spawning areas, seabird colonies, and waterfowl concentrations. Authorizations to support community or mineral development are considered appropriate within areas designated Waterfront Development and may also be appropriate within areas designated Habitat, subject to the protection of sensitive resources and areas.

Tidelands within Chagvan Bay (R02T-04). This bay is included within the Cape Newenham State Game Refuge. Chagvan Bay consists of mud and sand with areas of sheltered tidal flats having a high biomass. Eel grass is present throughout the bay. The bay provides habitat for Pacific herring spawning areas and is known for its waterfowl concentrations. Waterfowl concentrations occur during the spring and fall and include an area of molting concentration. This area is designated Habitat and development authorizations are prohibited unless authorized under AS 16.20.060. ADF&G shall be consulted before any authorizations are issued.

See the Resource Allocation Table for more detail on the tideland management units.

Resource Allocation Table for Upland Management Units - Region 2

Unit # / Name	Acres / Designation(s)	MTRS	Management Intent	Resources, Uses, Additional Info
R02-01 Nyac	169,968 Gu - General Use	Map 3-2	If these lands are conveyed by the Federal government they are to be managed for a variety of uses including mineral exploration and development, oil and gas exploration and development, the protection of anadromous fish and other fish and wildlife resources, and dispersed recreation and tourism. Development authorizations may be appropriate subject to the protection of these resources and the requirements of Chapter 2. See specific management requirements for anadromous streams as well as caribou calving and wintering, and moose wintering areas in this Chapter. Because of its remote location and lack of accessibility, it is not intended that intensive development occur within this unit during the planning period except occasionally and at specific locations, although mineral development is considered appropriate. The unit is not considered suitable for settlement. This is considered a high to medium priority selection.	This unit is comprised of various areas of state-selected land. The lands are situated in and around the Nyac mining district which is an important producer of placer gold. The lands have significant mineral potential for both lode and placer gold deposits. The area is mountainous and cut by the Tuluksak, Fog, and upper reaches of the Aniak Rivers; moist tundra and shrubs are the main vegetation types present. The area is also utilized for hunting and fishing and contains anadromous fish streams, as well as caribou and moose wintering areas. The unit is accessed by a number of established trails including the Marvel Creek Cat trail, the Bear Creek-Saw Pit Creek trail, the Ophir Creek-Bear Creek trail, and the upper landing-Bear Creek trail.
R02-02 Kisaralik River	252,314 Rd - Public Recreation and Tourism- Dispersed Ha - Habitat	Map 3-2	This unit is to be managed for its recreation and scenic values and for the protection of fish and wildlife resources and their associated habitat, although potential mineral development is considered an appropriate use. It is to be retained in state ownership. Development authorizations may be appropriate subject to the protection of these resources and the requirements of Chapter 2 but must avoid or mitigate impacts to Wood Tikchik State Park, situated to the east. See specific management requirements for bald eagles, anadromous streams, and caribou calving areas in this Chapter. Because of its remote location and lack of accessibility, and because of the unit's management intent, it is not intended that development occur within this unit during the planning period except occasionally and at specific locations, although mineral development is considered appropriate. The unit is not considered suitable for settlement.	This unit occupies a fairly mountainous area drained by the west-flowing anadromous Kisaralik and Kwethluk Rivers. It is bounded by Bulldog Creek and the Cripple Mountains to the north, Crooked Mountain and Milk Creek to the south, unit R02-03 to the east, and the Kilbuck Mountains to the west. Vegetation is primarily tall and low shrubs as well as alpine tundra. This scenic area has significant mineral potential, is utilized for recreation, and is used for hunting and fishing. The Kisaralik River is a popular river to float. Numerous nesting sites for raptors are reported on the western margin of the area and caribou are reported to calve on the eastern margins of the unit. Bears utilize anadromous fish streams in the drainages of the Kisaralik and Kwethluk Rivers. The Alaska Heritage Resources Survey (AHRS) reports many heritage sites in this unit.
R02-03 Kisaralik Lake	114,561 Rd - Public Recreation and Tourism- Dispersed	Map 3-2	This unit is designated Rd and is to be managed, generally, for the purposes of dispersed recreation and the protection of fish and wildlife, see specific management requirements for caribou calving areas in Chapter 2. This unit is to be retained by the state and is recommended for eventual inclusion in the Wood-Tikchik State Park. DNR authorizations should be limited to those that are consistent with the eventual use of this area as part of the State Park. The management of this unit should be similar to that of the adjoining area of the State Park. Consult the management requirements of Management Unit 2 (Upper Tikchik Lakes) in the State Park Plan for specific guidance.	This unit is comprised of five townships adjacent to Wood-Tikchik State Park. The unit occupies a fairly scenic, mountainous area that extends from the North Fork Lakes and the North Fork of the Kisaralik River south to Milk Creek and Cascade Lake. It is primarily vegetated in tall shrubs and alpine tundra. The unit is reported to contain caribou calving areas. Bears utilize anadromous fish streams in the drainages of the Kisaralik and Kwethluk Rivers. The unit contains Kisaralik Lake which is used by floatplanes and recreationists that float the Kisaralik River. The Wood-Tikchik State Park Management Plan (2002) recommended that the area encompassed by this unit be retained by the state and eventually added to the State Park.
R02-04 Quinhagak Airport	77 Pr - Public Facilities- Retain	Map 3-2 S005S074W Sec. 9	This unit is to be managed by ADOT/PF according to the conditions of the Management Right (ADL 221550) and retained in state ownership as a limited state holding (LSH 237).	This unit contains public airport facilities adjacent to the community of Quinhagak and is managed by ADOT/PF according to the conditions of ADL 221550 and LSH 237.

Unit # / Name	Acres / Designation(s)	MTRS	Management Intent	Resources, Uses, Additional Info
R02-05 Goodnews River	175,192 Gu - General Use	Map 3-2	This unit is designated General Use (Gu). If these lands are conveyed by the Federal government they are to be managed for a variety of uses including mineral exploration and development, the protection of anadromous fish and other fish and wildlife resources, and dispersed recreation and tourism. Development authorizations may be appropriate subject to the protection of these resources and the requirements of Chapter 2. See specific management requirements for anadromous streams in this Chapter. Because of its remote location and lack of accessibility, it is not intended that intensive development occur within this unit during the planning period except for occasionally and at specific locations, although mineral development is considered appropriate. This is considered a medium to high priority selection.	This state-selected unit is located generally north and northwest of Goodnews Bay with a portion of the Goodnews River and the headwaters of the Arolik River flowing through the unit. The lands are in an area with significant mineral potential for platinum group metals and gold with modest potential for chromite and asbestos. The greater area has had significant past production of platinum and gold from placer deposits. For many years the Goodnews district was the only platinum producing area in the United States. The area is also utilized for commercial recreation along the anadromous Arolik and Goodnews Rivers and for hunting and fishing. The Alaska Heritage Resources Survey (AHRS) reports a number of heritage sites in this unit. The unit is accessible by the Goodnews-Arolik trail.
R02-06 Goodnews Bay Airport	91 Pr - Public Facilities- Retain	Map 3-2 S012S073W Sec. 21,22,28	This unit is to be managed by ADOT/PF according to the guidelines in the Management Agreements (ADLs 22380 and 22381) and is to retained in state ownership as limited state holdings (LSHs 269 and 270).	This unit contains public airport facilities adjacent to Goodnews Bay and the community situated there. It is managed by ADOT/PF under management agreement (ADLs 22380 and 22381) and limited state holding (LSHs 269 and 270).

Resource Allocation Table for Tideland Management Units - Region 2

Unit # / Name	Acres / Designation(s)	MTRS	Management Intent	Resources, Uses, Additional Info
R02T-01 Tidelands adjacent to Togiak NWR	17,894 Ha - Habitat Rd - Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed	Map 3-2	Tidelands adjacent to the Togiak National Wildlife Refuge (NWR) are affected by a Tideland Resource Management Zone (TRMZ). TRMZs are designated Habitat and Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed and extend one half mile from the coast. See "Management Summary, Tidelands" in Chapter 3 for a description of these zones.	<p>Most of the tidelands in Region 2 adjoin the Togiak National Wildlife Refuge. Areas north of Goodnews Bay that adjoin the Togiak NWR consist of mixed sand and gravel beaches interspersed with areas of gravel beaches. Pacific herring spawning areas and waterfowl concentrations occur along this coast. Pelagic birds are also present. The Cape Newenham area, situated in the southern part of this region, is an especially significant coastal habitat and is associated with a rocky headland. This area, which consists of exposed rocky headlands and wave cut platforms, provides habitat for seals, sea lions, walruses, and bird colonies at Bird Rock, as well as a variety of other birds. Pelagic and diving birds, seabirds, and waterfowl are present. Sea lion and walrus haulouts occur at scattered sites.</p> <p>Harvest: A limited amount of commercial fishing and subsistence harvest occurs along this coastline. The exception is the area around Quinhagak where the residents are engaged in commercial fishing for salmon and herring roe. The village of Quinhagak provides a harbor and docking facilities for fishing boats. Subsistence harvest in this area consists of salmon, seal, walrus and some waterfowl and their eggs.</p>
R02T-02 Goodnews Bay	35,056 Ha - Habitat Hv - Harvest	Map 3-2 S013S075W, S013S074W, S013S073W	<p>Because of the varied and widespread resources of Goodnews Bay, this unit is designated Habitat and Harvest except for areas that may be required in the future for possible mineral transfer. Mineral development of areas to the south of Goodnews may require a transshipment site; such a facility is considered appropriate and, when ultimately sited, is designated Waterfront Development.</p> <p>Management Intent: Within areas designated Habitat and Harvest, protect Pacific herring spawning areas, seabird colonies, and waterfowl concentrations. Protect areas of estuarine wetlands and anadromous streams. Authorizations to support community or mineral development is considered appropriate within areas designated Waterfront Development.</p>	<p>The tidelands within Goodnews Bay provide a rich and varied habitat for Pacific herring spawning, seabird colonies, and waterfowl concentrations that occur in the spring and fall. Numerous anadromous streams empty into the bay. The bay mainly consists of mud and sand with areas of sheltered tidal flats having a high biomass. Estuarine wetlands occur in some areas.</p> <p>Harvest: Commercial fishing occurs throughout Goodnews Bay for salmon and herring roe. Subsistence harvest in this area consists of salmon, seal, walrus and some waterfowl and waterfowl eggs.</p>
R02T-03 Goodnews Bay Community (Goodnews)	197 Wd - Waterfront Development	Map 3-2	This area, adjacent to the small community of Goodnews, is designated Waterfront Development. Authorizations to support community or mineral development is considered appropriate within areas designated Waterfront Development.	This is a small tideland Unit intended to accommodate tideland structures necessary for commercial, industrial, or other forms of intensive development.
R02T-04 Chagvan Bay	8,265 Ha - Habitat	Map 3-2 S016S075W, S016S074W	<p>This unit is designated Habitat. Development authorizations are prohibited unless authorized under AS 16.20.060. Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) shall be consulted prior to granting any authorizations.</p> <p>Management Intent: Protect habitat for Pacific herring spawning, areas of waterfowl concentration, and areas of eel grass. These resources are extensive throughout the unit and any authorization that may be considered must take into account effects upon each resource.</p>	Chagvan Bay is included within the Cape Newenham State Game Refuge. Chagvan Bay consists of mud and sand with areas of sheltered tidal flats having a high biomass. Eel grass is present throughout the bay. The bay provides habitat for Pacific herring spawning areas and is known for its waterfowl concentrations. Waterfowl concentrations occur there during the spring and fall, including an area for molting concentration.

Unit # / Name	Acres / Designation(s)	MTRS	Management Intent	Resources, Uses, Additional Info
R02T-05 Offshore Submerged Lands	87,415 Gu - General Use	Map 3-2	Manage for a variety of uses and resources. Protect important concentrations of pelagic birds, sea birds, and waterfowl. Maintain opportunities for commercial harvest.	This tideland unit covers the area between the three mile seaward limit of state-owned submerged land and the Tideland Resource Management Zone (R02T-01). There are very few such gaps; consult Plan Map 3-2. See the "Resources, Uses, and Additional Information" of R03T-01 for an indication of the resources that may exist in these areas, which are believed to be primarily associated with pelagic birds, sea birds, and waterfowl. There may be limited harvest of the resources described in R02T-01.

Region 3: Togiak, Igushik

Summary of Resources and Uses in the Region

Region Boundary

The boundaries of Region 3 are defined on the south by the shores of Bristol Bay, on the west, northwest, and north by the drainage divide between the Kuskokwim and Kuskokwim Bay drainages and those of Bristol Bay. The eastern boundary is defined partly by the drainage divide between the Igushik and Weary River Systems and the western boundary of Wood-Tikchik State Park. The boundaries are nearly the same as the original (1984) Bristol Bay Area Plan. Region 3 includes coastal lands along northwest Bristol Bay from Cape Newenham to the Snake River encompassing portions of the Ahklun Mountains and of Wood Mountains. This includes all of the southerly flowing Togiak and Igushik Rivers as well as smaller drainages such as the Osviak, Matogak, Quigmy, Negukthlik, Ungalikthluk, Kulukak, Kanik, and Tunuing Rivers. This Region encompasses the Nushagak Peninsula and the uplands of Hagemeister and the Walrus Islands. Elevations range from sea level to 4,795 feet (Crooked Mountain). Major settlements in Region 3 include Togiak (pop. 762) with nearby Twin Hills (pop. 59) and Manokotak (pop. 387). Togiak is a coastal community whereas Manokotak is situated approximately twelve miles inland on the Igushik River. For the most part, the interior portion of the Region is largely unpeopled. The population of Region 3 is approximately 1,208. Almost all of the land in the Region is in federal ownership and located within the Togiak National Wildlife Refuge as well as the Alaska Maritime National Wildlife Refuge, which encompasses Hagemeister Island. The boundaries of Region 3 also include the Walrus Islands State Game Sanctuary. See Map 3-3.

State Lands: Ownership and Acreage

State-owned lands comprise a very small part of the Region and are contained mostly within portions of four townships in the northern portion of the Region, adjacent to the Wood-Tikchik State Park, and a portion of a township approximately eight miles north of Manokotak. The state also has ownership of the Walrus Islands, which are within Walrus Island State Game Sanctuary. There are no significant blocks of state-selected land in the Region. The plan applies to 58,727 acres of state-owned uplands and 732,004 acres of state-owned tidelands in this region. The plan also applies to state-owned shorelands (acreages of shorelands have not been calculated).

Physical Geography

Several mountain systems, part of the greater Kuskokwim Mountains, extend from southwest to northeast through the Region; these include the Ahklun, and Wood River Mountains. The

drainage pattern reflects the southwest to northeast structural grain of the mountains and rivers flow generally from south or southwest towards Bristol Bay. The greatest relief is found in the northern portions of the region; Crooked Mountain is at an elevation of 4,795 feet and the valleys below it, containing Heart Lake and Milk Creek, are at elevations of approximately 1,430 feet – providing almost 3,400 feet of relief. This area shows enough elevation to display some lingering effects of Pleistocene glaciation – U-shaped valleys, hanging valleys, and cirque lakes. Considerable relief also occurs in the area around Togiak Lake. VABM Wanda is at an elevation of 2,975 feet and Pistuk Peak tops out at 4,305 feet; the surrounding valleys are at an elevation of only a few hundred feet making for relief of over 4,000 feet.

The Region displays a variety of landscapes, including mountain crags, fast-flowing rivers, deep lakes, tundra, marshy lowlands, ponds, estuaries, coastal lagoons, and sea cliffs. The broad glacial valleys of the Ahklun Mountain Range cut the tundra uplands, opening into coastal plains. Tree covered areas occur only sparingly and are largely restricted to patches in the Togiak River valley. Most of the uplands are vegetated with low to tall shrubs and low lying areas with low shrub and lichen tundra. At the highest elevations, mostly above 3,000 feet, vegetation is lacking or consists of a thin cover of alpine tundra. The sea coast is not rugged, however, significant headlands occur at Cape Newenham and where the Wood River Mountains meet Bristol Bay in the vicinity of Right Hand Point and Kulukak Bay. The Nushagak Peninsula and lower Igushik River area is low-lying marshes, lakes, and wetlands as is much of the central and lower valley of the Togiak River.

Climate

Climate conditions are variable depending upon proximity to the ocean. The communities of Togiak and Twin Hills have a marine climate with annual precipitation of 20 to 26 inches with 52 inches of total snowfall; summer temperatures range from 37° to 66° and winter temperatures average from 4° to 30°. Extremes are from 82° to -34°. Fog and high winds are prevalent during the winter, and Togiak Bay is ice-free from June through mid-November. The Region is underlain by ground with either discontinuous permafrost or ground with isolated masses of permafrost. The areas with discontinuous permafrost are generally those with elevations greater than 500 to 1,000 feet. Of course, north facing slopes are more likely to be underlain by permafrost than south facing mountain slopes.

Other

Region 3 is within the Bethel, Goodnews, Hagemeister Island, and Togiak Quadrangles. It lies almost entirely within the boundaries of the Bristol Bay Regional Native Corporation. The boundary between the Calista and the Bristol Bay Native Corporations is somewhat similar to the western boundary of Region 3.

Access

The settlements are highly dependent upon air transportation and, to a lesser extent, boat. There are three major state-owned, lighted, gravel airstrips in the Region at Togiak (4,400'), Twin Hills (3,000'), and Manokotak (2,720'); Manokotak also boasts a 5,000-foot-long seaplane base. Although coastal, there are no significant port or dock facilities. In summer months, supplies brought by boat or barge can be lightered ashore. There is no road access to the Region and ground transportation is largely served by snowmachines and ATVs. A number of trails extend from and between settlements. Togiak, Twin Hills, and Manokotak are linked to the Goodnews-Togiak and Togiak-Nushagak Trails, which extend east-west from Dillingham to Goodnews Bay. Air taxis based in Dillingham provide daily air service to each of the principal communities.

Resources and Uses

This region supports important herring and salmon fisheries that provide for commercial and subsistence users. The Togiak River also provides salmon for sports users. Waterfowl is an important wildlife resource for subsistence users in the area; there are also many seabirds in the Region. Recreational resource potential is high along the Togiak River, Togiak Lake, Amanka Lake, and the Igushik River for fishing and float trips. The Nushagak Peninsula has modest potential for shallow oil and gas as well as coalbed methane. The Region also provides important habitat for beluga whales; calving grounds are present in the vicinity of the mouth of the Igushik River.

Cultural and Historic. Archaeological evidence indicates that areas within the Region have been continuously occupied for at least 2,000 years. Historically the Region was peopled by the Togiagamiut who lived in the area from Nanvak Bay east to Cape Constantine and to perhaps some extent by the Kukowogamiut and who occupied the area from the Kuskowkim River south to Chagvan Bay. The people of Nanvak, Osviak, and Chagvan Bay were known as Chingigumiut or Cape people, and were considered a branch of the Togiagamiut. The present Native peoples are collectively known as Yup'ik.

The first European contact with the Native peoples of the Region took place during the expedition of Captain James Cook when his group encountered a group in kayaks north of Cape Newenham on July 16, 1778. The Russians established a fur trading business in this fur-rich area centered around a fort at Nushagak which handled up to 4,000 pelts annually. The discovery of gold in Alaska in the 1890's brought a significant influx of people to Alaska and a discovery in the vicinity of Goodnews Bay brought a stampede of miners from Nome in 1900-1901. Reindeer herding was established at Togiak and Nushagak in 1904-1905 but a series of extreme conditions in the mid-1940's exterminated most of the reindeer. In 1926 platinum was first discovered in the valley of the Salmon River and bucket-wheel dredging took place until 1975.

The state Office of History and Archeology lists 123 sites in Region 3 – 74 prehistoric, 27 historic, and 22 of mixed origin; however, new sites are discovered periodically and added to the Alaska Heritage Resource Database as reported. The majority of the prehistoric sites are situated along the main branch of the Togiak River, the upper Igushik River, and along the coast. Sites are also known on the Walrus Islands and on northern Hagemeister Island.

Economic. Steady employment is restricted to a few government jobs. The economic base is primarily commercial salmon and herring fisheries. Many residents hold commercial fishing permits; fishermen use flat-bottom boats for the shallow waters of Togiak Bay. There is one onshore fish processor and several floating processing facilities near Togiak. Most people depend heavily on subsistence activities. Salmon, herring, seal, sea lion, whale, walrus, moose and caribou are among the species harvested. A few residents trap. Togiak Fisheries and other cash buyers provide a market for fishermen. The community depends heavily on subsistence activities for various food sources. Seal, sea lion, walrus, whale, salmon, clams, geese, and ducks are harvested. Most villagers leave Manokotak during the fishing season; people depend heavily on fishing and subsistence activities, and usually move to Igushik or Ekuk each summer. An exchange relationship exists between Twin Hills, Togiak and Manokotak. Seal oil is exchanged for Alaska blackfish, and handicrafts also supplement incomes.

Recreation. Recreation in the Region is primarily related to outdoor activities such as hunting and sport fishing, wildlife viewing, photography, hiking and backpacking, river rafting and kayaking, as well as flightseeing. Sport fishing is especially prevalent on the Togiak River drainage. Recent (2002) estimates show the Togiak drainage with approximately 2,193 days fished; this would be considered moderate for the Bristol Bay area. By comparison the Naknek and the Kvichak drainages show approximately 24,401 and 12,461 fishing days, respectively, for the same period. Some of the finest salmon and trout sport fishing waters in Alaska are on Togiak National Wildlife Refuge. The coastal portion of the refuge provides excellent opportunities for photography and wildlife viewing. River rafting is popular on several rivers. Non-guided and commercially guided opportunities are available for sport fishing, hunting, flightseeing, river rafting, and wildlife viewing.

Minerals. Region 3 contains no known major mineral deposits. Placer gold occurs on the upper Togiak River drainage on Trail Creek, which had a small amount of production. Formation of placers on Trail Creek has been disrupted by glaciation and the deposits proved discontinuous and difficult to work. Placer gold is also reported on the lower Togiak River and on the lower reaches of the Slug River. Base metals, principally copper, occur at Togiak Lake and associated with nickel in the ultramaphics of the Newenham Peninsula. Asbestos is also known in this area. Occurrences of chromite, gold, manganese, and copper are reported along Hagemeister Strait at a location four miles southwest of the mouth of the Osviak River.

Oil and Gas. Three potentially important oil and gas provinces are found in the greater Bristol Bay area: 1) the Nushagak Basin, including the northwestern lowlands of the Alaska Peninsula; 2) the extension of the Cook Inlet Mesozoic Province extending along the southeastern region of the Peninsula; and 3) the Bristol Bay or Northern Aleutians Basin on the northwest side of the Peninsula. This bodes well for the oil and gas potential of the Nushagak Peninsula. In addition,

the minerals terrain map of Alaska suggests that the Nushagak Peninsula has potential for coal or coal-bearing units. As such, the area also has modest potential for shallow gas or coalbed methane. State and Native landowners are currently pursuing a new hydrocarbon exploration licensing and leasing program. The Alaska Department of Natural Resources, Lake and Peninsula, Bristol Bay, and Aleutians East Borough have signed a memorandum of understanding (MOU) in support of oil and gas lease sales and licensing of state land in the Bristol Bay and Alaska Peninsula region (March 17, 2004). Similar MOUs are in effect between the DNR and The Aleut Regional Native Corporation (December 18, 2003) and the DNR and Bristol Bay Native Corporation (July 10, 2003).

Materials. There are no active material sites in Region 3.

Forestry. Only a minor percentage of the Region is forested. Narrow bands of riparian, black spruce-hardwood, mixed black spruce-balsam poplar, and balsam poplar woodlands extend along the major rivers and their tributaries. None of the wooded areas contain commercially harvestable timber. The two major stands of noncommercial forest occur in the middle section of the Togiak River drainage, including Togiak Lake, and in the area around Manokotak. The Togiak area forest resources are considered to have a very low suitability for personal use; those around Manokotak vary from low to high suitability.

Fish and Wildlife. Fish and wildlife resources are very important in this region as they support a mix of subsistence, recreation, and commercial economies. Species of major importance include caribou, moose, bear, beaver, and anadromous and resident fish species. Furbearers considered the most important species include wolf, red fox, marten, beaver, lynx, wolverine, river otter, coyote, and mink. Important habitat for seabirds, shorebirds, and waterfowl also occur in the Region.

Togiak National Wildlife Refuge, which occupies most of Region 3, conserves habitat for at least 214 staging, migrating, or breeding bird species. Bird species groups include land birds, shorebirds, seabirds (including common murre), raptors, and waterfowl. Birds from the North American Pacific Flyway and several Asiatic routes funnel through the area.

The Togiak River drainage contains five species of Pacific salmon – chinook (king), sockeye (red), coho (silver), pink (humpy), chum (dog) – as well as rainbow trout, Dolly Varden, Arctic char, and Arctic grayling. The sport fishery, however, primarily targets king and coho salmon. Peak use of the river takes place from the first part of July (king season), and all of August through mid-September (coho season).

Caribou are an important resource in the area. The Mulchatna Caribou Herd has been increasing in size and expanding its range since the 1930's. Serious efforts to conduct a census of the herd have taken place since 1973; between 1981 and 1996, the Mulchatna Caribou Herd increased from 19,000 to 200,000. In recent years the herd has peaked in size, and has decreased to what is presently estimated at approximately 30,000 individuals (<http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=species.main>). Caribou were reintroduced to the Nushagak Peninsula in February 1988, largely to re-establish caribou in an area where they had

been an important subsistence resource for local residents. The herd grew rapidly from 146 to over 1,200 animals following their reintroduction, due largely to excellent habitat conditions and the cooperation between interested parties. The herd has since declined and stabilized at approximately 700 caribou. A limited federal subsistence hunt was initiated in 1995 for residents of six local villages.

Moose are relatively new to the Bristol Bay area, possibly moving into the area from the middle Kuskokwim drainages during the last 100 years. During the previous twenty years, moose numbers have increased and moose are now common along the Nushagak/Mulchatna Rivers and all of their major tributaries. They also occur throughout the Wood/Tikchik Lake area and have extended their range westward into the Togiak and Kulukak River drainages where a viable population has established itself since 1994 (<http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=species.main>).

Brown bears are common in the Region and most sightings occur during the summer in conjunction with salmon spawning season, especially in the Togiak drainage. There is no objective data on the status of the brown bear population. Black bears are fairly rare with most sightings along the northern edge of Togiak Refuge.

Trapping has been an important part of the economy and culture of northern Bristol Bay and at one time was the main supplier of cash to many local people prior to the growth of commercial fishing. Historically beaver have been the most important furbearer in the Region. Population trends of furbearers in the Region are favorable – either stable or increasing. This is true for important species found in Region 3 such as land otter, wolverine, and red fox, although populations of the latter can fluctuate greatly due to outbreaks of rabies.

Management Considerations: Local and State Plans and Special Use Area

Region 3 is situated partly within the Bristol Bay CRSA CMP. Most state-owned land falls within the CRSA but is on land outside the coastal zone. The Enforceable and Administrative Policies of these Coastal Management Plans are extensive; policies affecting anadromous fish streams, bald eagle nests, oil and gas development, material extraction, and mining can be applicable, under certain circumstances, to state land. Please see the web site <http://www.alaskacoast.state.ak.us/>¹⁰ for more information on enforceable policies. These policies should be consulted by the DNR prior to issuing an authorization.

The Bristol Bay Area Plan (1984) affected all state lands in the Region. This plan stated that Region 3 was to be managed for two co-designated land uses – a combination of fish and wildlife-recreation-minerals and a combination of fish and wildlife-recreation. The management intent for state lands in the Upper Togiak-Wood-Tikchik River drainages was for protection of fish and wildlife and for recreation. This revision (2005) supersedes the original Area Plan.

¹⁰ The Alaska Coastal Management Program was terminated on July 1, 2011, pursuant to AS 44.66.030.

Region 3 is largely within the Togiak National Wildlife Refuge. The refuge has a Comprehensive Conservation Plan (CCP) which is in the process of revision. The State of Alaska has designated a Special Use Area (SUA) for the Togiak National Wildlife Refuge and the Lower Goodnews River (May 10, 1991; ADL 226851). It applies to those lands generally described as shorelands within Togiak National Wildlife Refuge and lower Goodnews River as described in the Togiak National Wildlife Refuge Public Use Management Plan and Environmental Assessment. Setting up and using a camp is allowed as provided in 11 AAC 96.020(a)(4)A, except that the period of use is limited to three consecutive days at any one site. The period of use may be extended by permit. As part of the current collaborative Togiak NWR planning process, the state has agreed to review the existing SUA and has proposed several alternatives to the current three day camping limit. The alternatives only address length of stay and will be labeled as State of Alaska alternatives for management of the shorelands. The proposed State of Alaska alternatives will be incorporated into the table of alternatives presented in the Public Review Draft CCP text. The state will determine if the current SUA needs to be revised based on public comment, resource issues, and management goals.

Management Summary: Uplands

State land in Region 3 is to be managed for a variety of multiple uses, including the maintenance of sensitive wildlife habitats, dispersed public recreation, minerals exploration and development, oil and gas exploration and development, materials extraction, and public facilities development. There is very little state land in Region 3 but the majority of it is designated Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed (Rd). A strip of land, approximately three miles wide and twenty-four miles long (management unit R03-01) located adjacent to Wood-Tikchik State Park is to be managed for dispersed public recreation; these lands have been recommended for inclusion in the Park by the DNR's Wood-Tikchik State Park Management Plan (2002). Approximately four sections of state land (management unit R03-05), eight miles north of Manokotak, are designated General Use (Gu). Anadromous fish streams on state-owned land are co-designated Habitat (Ha) and Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed (Rd). Navigable waters in Federal lands are designated either Habitat (Ha), Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed (Rd), General Use (Gu), or are co-designated Habitat and Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed (Ha, Rd). A few small management units of land at the public airports are designated Public Facilities-Retain (Rp). No state lands are designated for Settlement in Region 3.

Plan Designations and Management

The plan designations that are used within this Region have the following management intent. The policies and management intent guidelines described in Chapter 2 affect all DNR authorizations. Refer especially to those guidelines relating to Fish and Wildlife Habitat and

Harvest Areas, and Recreation, Tourism, and Scenic Resources. See also the description of plan designations in the first part of this Chapter; this section explains aspects of resource management and defines when state lands can be conveyed out of state ownership.

- **General Use (Gu).** Within this Region, lands that contain one or more resource values, none of which is of sufficiently high value to merit designation as a primary use, and areas that are unlikely to be developed during the planning period are designated General Use. The land is to be managed for a variety of uses including protection of fish and wildlife habitat and harvest, dispersed public recreation, minerals, oil and gas exploration and development, and protection of heritage resources. It is expected that little development will occur in these areas during the planning period, and it is not intended as a matter of policy that intensive forms of development occur in these areas other than occasionally and at specific sites. These areas are to be retained in state ownership during the planning period. Areas designated General Use may be conveyed, however, to a borough, should one be formed, under the Municipal Entitlement program.
- **Habitat (Ha).** Generally, this designation applies to areas of varied size that are important for fish and wildlife species during a sensitive life-history stage where alteration of the habitat or human disturbance could result in a permanent loss of a population or sustained yield of a species. In Region 3 this designation is applied to streams and shorelands cataloged by the Alaska Department of Fish and Game as anadromous (<http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/sf/SARR/AWC/index.cfm?ADFG=main.interactive>). These lands are to be retained in state ownership.
- **Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed (Rd).** Lands with the designation of Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed are to be managed so that their public recreation values are protected and maintained. Within these areas the primary surface uses are intended to be those related to hiking, hunting, fishing, wildlife viewing, and the like. A management unit (R03-01) of state land adjoining the Wood-Tikchik State Park is recommended for inclusion in this Park and is designated Rd (Wood-Tikchik State Park Management Plan, October 2002, p. 11-3 and Map 11-1).
- **Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed and Habitat (Co-designation).** Certain navigable waterbodies (lakes and streams) are co-designated Habitat (Ha) and Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed (Rd). Authorizations within these waterbodies should not interfere with important habitat or public recreation values. See Table 3.1 in the Navigability section of this Chapter for a listing of these streams. Note: Certain waterbodies may only be designated Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed (Rd), Habitat (Ha), or General Use (Gu).
- **Public Facilities-Retain (Pr).** This designation applies to sites that are reserved for a specific public infrastructure requirement. They are to be retained in state or public ownership. In this Region, this designation applies to lands containing public facilities, commonly airports or schools. Only a small amount of acreage is affected by this designation.

Specific Management Considerations

- **Generally Allowed Uses.** The Generally Allowed Uses in 11 AAC 96.020 can occur throughout the Region. The Togiak National Wildlife Refuge and Lower Goodnews River are a special use area. Setting up and using a camp is allowed as provided in 11 AAC 96.020(a)(4)(A), except that the period of use is limited to three consecutive days at any one site. The period of use may be extended by permit. For users going to the Kanektok River, there is a one day limit at the outlet of Pegati Lake due to its frequent use.
- **Addition to State Park.** Management unit R03-01, five townships adjacent to Wood-Tikchik State Park, is to be managed for the purposes of dispersed recreation and is designated Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed (Rd). This management unit is part of a larger package of land that the DNR has recommended for inclusion into the Park. This management unit is to be managed consistent with that of the adjoining park land as provided for in the Wood-Tikchik State Park Management Plan (October 2002, p. 11-3 and Map 11-1).
- **It is intended that all uplands in the Walrus Islands State Game Sanctuary (SGS) be managed for the protection of fish and wildlife resources consistent with the sanctuary's management plan.** Development authorizations are prohibited within the SGS (AS 16.20.096) except for the exploration and development of oil and minerals. State land may only be leased as mineral land (AS 16.20.098). See also tideland management unit R03T-02; this management unit provides management intent for the waters surrounding these islands.
- **Mineral Closing Orders.** Except for those areas closed to mineral entry under existing Mineral Closing Orders, all state lands within the Region are open to mineral entry. No additional MCOs are recommended. No leasehold location orders are recommended. See the Minerals section in Chapter 2 for more detail on subsurface management requirements.
- **Mineral Order No. 791 is an interim order (as of July 11, 2003) that precludes shallow natural gas leasing and oil and gas exploration licensing.** This order has no effect on locatable or leaseable minerals other than shallow natural gas leasing and oil and gas exploration licensing. The order affects portions of the Nushagak Peninsula.

See the Resource Allocation Table for more detail on the uplands management units.

Management Summary: Tidelands and Submerged Lands

Tidelands within this Region are extensive, stretching from Cape Newenham in the west to Nushagak Bay in the east. Several important offshore islands are also included within this Region. Most tidelands adjoin federal lands within the Togiak National Wildlife Refuge¹¹ and

¹¹ The exception is Hagemeister Island, which is within the Alaska Maritime NWR.

Native-owned land at and near the community of Togiak. Although a diverse set of tideland marine resources exist throughout the Region, the several offshore islands (Hagemeister and Walrus Islands) contain, by far, the richest concentration of marine mammals within the planning area.

The geomorphology of the coast consists of several rocky headlands, marshlands at the mouths of major streams, and extensive stretches of curvilinear coast. Rocky headlands occur at Cape Newenham, Cape Pierce, and Right Hand Point. Spits with accompanying enclosed waters, often containing extensive wetlands, occur at the principal rivers, Osviak, Kulukak, and Togiak. Sheltered tidal flats with a high biomass content occur at some river mouths. Other portions of the coast are characteristically curvilinear in form and consist primarily of mixed sand and gravel beaches or gravel flats.

This is an area of diverse and high biological productivity. Pelagic birds, seabirds, waterfowl, and diving birds are common throughout large parts of the Region. Pacific herring spawning areas occur at a number of isolated locations west of Togiak Bay, but are extensive on the east side of Togiak Bay and the east side of Kulukak Bay. Marine mammals, primarily harbor seals, are present throughout the Region. The largest concentration of walruses within the planning area occurs at Summit, Crooked, High, and Round Islands, situated within the Walrus Islands State Game Sanctuary. This Sanctuary includes adjacent tidelands as well as the islands themselves. An important walrus haulout occurs at Round Island (other important haulouts in Bristol Bay include Cape Newenham, Cape Pierce, and Cape Seniavin). A sea lion haulout also occurs on Round Island.

Sac roe harvest occurs along the entire coast of this region from the beginning of Hagemeister Strait and including Togiak Bay and Kulukak Bay. Offshore leases for set net harvest occur along the northern coastline in Hagemeister Strait and along the eastern coastline of Togiak Bay for pink, chum, sockeye, coho and chinook salmon. A smaller number of set net leases are situated around Togiak. Set net harvest occurs along the west coastline of Kulukak Bay and drift (gill) net harvest occurs throughout the bay for pink, chum, sockeye, coho and chinook salmon. Subsistence harvest occurs throughout Togiak Bay for salmon, herring, seal, sea lion, whale and walrus.

Plan Designation and Management Intent

Coastal Tidelands. This area includes those tidelands adjacent to Native-owned or private lands, and not within the Togiak NWR or Alaska Maritime NWR (R03T-01), or the Walrus Islands State Game Sanctuary (R03T-02). These tidelands are designated General Use, and are intended to accommodate a variety of residential, commercial, and industrial uses. Authorizations are considered appropriate in areas designated General Use, subject to the protection of sensitive resources and areas.

Tidelands adjacent to Togiak or Alaska Maritime NWR (R03T-01). The Tideland Resource Management Zone affects these areas. TRMZs are designated Habitat and Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed and extend one half-mile from the coast. See Management Summary, Tidelands in Chapter 3 for a description of these zones. Except for Hagemeister Island, which is included within the Alaska Maritime NWR, all other areas affected by the TRMZ adjoin the Togiak NWR.

Tidelands Adjacent to Walrus Islands State Game Sanctuary (R03T-02). This critical sea lion and walrus haulout area (as described in AS 16.20.092) is designated Habitat. Development authorizations are prohibited within the State Game Sanctuary (AS 16.20.096) except for the exploration and development of oil and minerals. State land may only be leased as mineral land (AS 16.20.098). Consult with ADF&G prior to issuing tideland authorizations in the SGS.

See the Resource Allocation Table for more detail on the tideland management units.

Resource Allocation Table for Upland Management Units - Region 3

Unit # / Name	Acres / Designation(s)	MTRS	Management Intent	Resources, Uses, Additional Info
R03-01 Wood River Mountains	45,601 Rd - Public Recreation and Tourism- Dispersed	Map 3-3 S001S058W- S004S058W, W 1/2 of each township	This unit is designated Rd and is to be managed, generally, for the purposes of dispersed recreation and the protection of fish and wildlife. See specific management requirements for caribou calving areas in Chapter 2. This unit is to be retained by the state and is recommended for eventual inclusion in the Wood-Tikchik State Park. DNR authorizations should be limited to those that are consistent with the eventual use of this area as part of the State Park. The management of this unit should be similar to that of the adjoining area of the State Park. Consult the management requirements of Management Unit 3 (Lower Tikchik Lakes) in the State Park Plan for specific guidance.	This mountainous unit is bounded by Wood-Tikchik State Park on the east, Togiak National Wildlife Refuge on the west, the Chikuminuk Glacier to the north, and the northern edge of Mount Waskey to the south. It is an area vegetated primarily in tall and low shrubs. The unit is reported to contain caribou calving areas on the northern edge. The area is recommended for inclusion in the State Park by the Wood-Tikchik State Park Management Plan (2002). It contains significant scenic values and contains the headwaters of streams draining east into Wood-Tikchik State Park into Lake Kulik, Nuyakuk Lake, and Chauekuktuli Lake.
R03-02 Twin Hills Airport	65 Pr - Public Facilities- Retain	Map 3-3 S013S066W Sec. 3,10	This land is to be retained by the state and managed by ADOT/PF consistent with FAA standards and stipulations in the conveyance documents (OSL 1103).	This unit is comprised of state land (OSL 1103) owned and managed by ADOT/PF at the Twin Hills public airport. The special warranty deed from the Twin Hill Native Corporation conveyed (only) the surface estate to ADOT/PF.
R03-03 Togiak Airport	227 Pr - Public Facilities- Retain	Map 3-3 S013S067W Sec. 12	This unit is to be managed by ADOT/PF consistent with the FAA standards and the requirements of the Management Agreements (ADLs 221532 and 221549) and limited state holdings (LSH 241).	This unit contains airport facilities adjacent to the community of Togiak. Much of the state land is owned by ADOT/PF (OSL 923) and/or managed by them under arrangement agreement (ADLs 221532 and 221549) and a limited state holding (LSH 241) for the purposes of administering the airport facility. The Alaska Heritage Resources Survey (AHRS) reports several heritage sites in the vicinity of this unit.
R03-04 Togiak erosion control	2.33 Pr - Public Facilities- Retain	Map 3-3 S013S067W Sec. 11,12,13,14	Unit is designated Pr, is to be retained by the state for public purposes, and is to be managed consistent with the requirements of the existing easement.	This small unit of state land (OSL 1033) is adjacent to Nushagak Bay and near the Togiak airport. The unit is affected by an easement held by the City of Togiak for a wooden sheet pile wall (ADL 221444) that is intended to control erosion.
R03-05 Weary River	3,178.34 Ha - Habitat Rd - Public Recreation and Tourism- Dispersed	Map 3-3 S012S058W	This unit is to be managed for its habitat and recreation values. It is to be retained in state ownership. Other than utilities, communication, roads/bridges, and similar facilities providing a public service, development is not appropriate within this unit. Any authorizations that may be issued will need to avoid impacts or mitigate impacts to wetlands and sensitive habitats.	This small unit is situated approximately eight miles north of Manokotak, adjacent to the Togiak NWR just east of Amanka Lake. It is an area of tall shrub vegetation. The area is west of the divide between the Weary River and Amanka Lake drainages.
R03-06 Manokotak Airport	254 Pr - Public Facilities- Retain	Map 3-3 S014S058W	This unit is to be retained by the state and is to be managed by ADOT/PF consistent with the FAA standards and with the conditions of the Management Agreements (ADLs 220566 and 220567) and conveyance documents (OSLs 817 and 818).	This unit contains the airport facility adjacent to the community of Manokotak. The state land is owned by ADOT/PF (OSLs 818 and 817) and/or managed by them under management agreement (ADLs 220566 and 220567) for the purposes of administering an airport facility.
R03-07 Manokotak townsite	2.83 Pr - Public Facilities- Retain	Map 3-3 S014S058W	This unit is designated Pr and is to be managed by the Department of Education for the purposes of the Manokotak school site consistent with the requirements of the Management Agreement (ADL 200426) and limited state holding (LSH 129).	This small unit of land is located within the community of Manokotak and is comprised of other state land (OSL 697) and a limited state holding (LSH 129). This area is dedicated for a school site and is managed by the Department of Education under a Management Right (ADL 200426).

Unit # / Name	Acres / Designation(s)	MTRS	Management Intent	Resources, Uses, Additional Info
R03-08 Walrus Islands	9,354 Ha - Habitat	Map 3-3	The State Game Sanctuary is to be managed by ADF&G consistent with the purposes described in AS 16.20.090, which focus on the protection of fish and wildlife resources and their associated habitat. Development authorizations are prohibited within the SGS (AS 16.20.096) except for the exploration and development of oil and minerals. State land may only be leased as mineral land (AS 16.20.098). Consult with ADF&G and USFWS prior to issuing any authorization. The tidelands adjacent to the islands are included as a unit (RT-02) and are to be managed in a similar manner.	This unit includes all uplands in the Walrus Islands State Game Sanctuary, a Legislatively Designated Area under AS 16.20.090. The Walrus Islands State Game Sanctuary, a group of seven craggy islands and their adjacent waters located in northern Bristol Bay, is world famous for its unique summer concentrations of walrus. Red foxes are regularly seen on Round Island, often feeding on seabirds, eggs, chicks, voles, shrews, and beach-cast carcasses. Each summer, thousands of seabirds also return to the islands to nest and raise their young. This includes common murre, blacklegged kittiwakes, pelagic cormorants, parakeet auklets, horned and tufted puffins, pigeon guillemots, and glaucouswinged gulls. Development authorizations are prohibited within the SGS (AS 16.20.096) except for the exploration and development of oil and minerals. State land may only be leased as mineral land (AS 16.20.098).

Resource Allocation Table for Tideland Management Units - Region 3

Unit # / Name	Acres / Designation(s)	MTRS	Management Intent	Resources, Uses, Additional Info
R03T-01 Tidelands adjacent to Togiak NWR	87,803 Ha - Habitat Rd - Public Recreation and Tourism- Dispersed	Map 3-3	Tidelands adjacent to the Togiak National Wildlife Refuge (NWR) are to be managed to protect sensitive habitat values, fisheries and wildlife resources, and the public recreation resources of the National Refuge. A Tideland Resource Management Zone (TRMZ) affects these tidelands. Hagemeister Island is included in the Alaska Maritime NWR and the tidelands around this island are also affected by a TRMZ. See "Management Summary, Tidelands" in Chapter 3 for a more detailed description of TRMZs and the management intent and requirements for such zones. Consult with Togiak NWR, US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), and National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) prior to issuing authorizations. Ensure that authorizations within the portions affected are consistent with the requirements of the Bristol Bay Fisheries Reserve.	<p>Most of the tidelands in this Region adjoin the Togiak National Wildlife Refuge. Tidelands around the Nushagak Peninsula from just east of Right Hand Point on the west coast of the peninsula to the Snake River on the east side of the peninsula are affected by the Bristol Bay Fisheries Reserve.</p> <p>The geomorphology of the coast consists of several rocky headlands, marshlands at the mouths of major streams, and extensive stretches of curvilinear coast. Rocky headlands occur at Cape Pierce and Right Hand Point. Spits with accompanying enclosed waters, often containing extensive wetlands, occur at the principal rivers -- Osviak, Kulukak, and Togiak. Sheltered tidal flats with a high biomass content occur at some river mouths. Other portions of the coast are characteristically curvilinear in form and consist primarily of mixed sand and gravel beaches or gravel flats.</p> <p>This is an area of diverse and high biological productivity. Pelagic birds, seabirds, waterfowl, and diving birds are common throughout many parts of the tideland unit. Pacific herring spawning areas occur at a number of isolated locations west of Togiak Bay, but are extensive on the east side of Togiak Bay and the west side of Kulukak Bay. Marine mammals, primarily harbor seals, are present. There are no known concentrations of sea lion or walrus haulouts in the tideland unit; most of these occur on offshore islands, particularly associated with the Walrus Island State Game Sanctuary. There are a large number of sea bird colonies, with principal concentrations occurring at Hagemeister Island and along the coast east and west of Right Hand Point, in the eastern part of this tideland unit.</p> <p>Harvest: Sac roe harvest occurs along the entire coast of this region from the western extent of Hagemeister Strait and throughout Togiak Bay and Kulukak Bay; offshore leases for set net harvest occur along the northern coastline in Hagemeister Strait and the eastern coastline of Togiak Bay for pink, chum, sockeye, coho and chinook salmon. Subsistence harvest occurs throughout Togiak Bay for salmon, herring, seal, sea lion, whale and walrus.</p>
R03T-02 Walrus Islands State Game Sanctuary (SGS)	153,424 Ha - Habitat	Map 3-3 S017S066W, S017S067W, S017S068W	The (SGS) is designated Habitat. Development authorizations are prohibited within the SGS (AS 16.20.096) except for the exploration and development of oil and minerals. State land may only be leased as mineral land (AS 16.20.098). Consult with ADF&G prior to issuing tideland authorizations in the SGS.	This critical sea lion and walrus haulout area is legislatively designated a State Game Sanctuary (under AS 16.20.092) and has a use designation of Habitat.

Unit # / Name	Acres / Designation(s)	MTRS	Management Intent	Resources, Uses, Additional Info
R03T-03 Offshore Submerged Land	732,004 Gu - General Use	Map 3-3	Manage for a variety of uses and resources. Protect important concentrations of pelagic birds, sea birds, and waterfowl. Maintain opportunities for commercial harvest.	This tideland unit covers the area between the three mile seaward limit of state-owned submerged land and the Tideland Resource Management Zone (R03T-01). There are very few such gaps; consult Plan Map 3-3. See the "Resources, Uses, and Additional Information" of R03T-01 for an indication of the resources that may exist in these areas, which are believed to be primarily associated with pelagic birds, sea birds, and waterfowl. There may be limited harvest of the resources described in R03T-01. There is a moderate amount of harvest for salmon and herring in this unit and it is governed by the requirements of the Bristol Bay Fisheries Reserve.

Region 5: Dillingham, Snake Lake, Nushagak Bay

Summary of Resources and Uses in the Region

Region Boundary

Region 5 encompasses a portion of the southeastern Wood River Mountains including the lake system of the Weary and Snake Rivers and much of the Wood River. The boundaries of the Region are defined by the drainage divide of the Wood River on the west, Wood-Tikchik State Park on the north, the divide of the Nushagak and the Kvichak Rivers on the east, and the shores of Kvichak and Nushagak Bays on the south (Map 3-5). Elevations range from sea level to slightly in excess of 2,800 feet. The Region includes the southern two lakes of the Wood River lake system and the lower portion of the Nushagak River. It is the most populous Region in the Bristol Bay Area Plan. This includes the major settlement of Dillingham (pop. 2,252) as well as Aleknagik (pop. 226); approximately 60% of the inhabitants are Natives. The total population of the Region is approximately 2,600, but this increases greatly during the summer fishing season. The boundary of Region 5 is virtually the same as that of the original (1984) Bristol Bay Area Plan.

State Lands: Ownership and Acreage

Most of the state-owned land in Region 5 is located in the northwest part, south of Wood-Tikchik State Park, and in the central northern part. The majority of land in Region 5 is Native-owned. The plan applies to 409,552 acres of state-owned and state-selected uplands and 165,568 acres of state-owned tidelands in this region. The plan also applies to state-owned shorelands (acreages of shorelands have not been calculated).

Physical Geography

The northwestern portion of the Region lies within the Ahklun Mountains Physiographic Province and the remainder is in the Bristol Bay Lowlands. The northwest portion of the Region, especially the western part that encompasses the Wood River Mountains, is mostly mountainous and rugged. The drainage system in the northwest is dominated by the Snake and Wood Rivers and the high country displays the results of alpine glaciation which produced a series of east-west trending valleys and ridges having considerable relief (2,800 feet). Two large lakes, Lake Aleknagik and Nunavaugaluk Lake occupy major valleys. The Bristol Bay Lowlands portion of the Region is dominated by the meandering Nushagak River, which is subject to tidal influences for forty miles upstream from its mouth at Kakanak. Relief in the Bristol Bay lowlands is very modest – only a couple of hundred feet. In the Wood River Mountains portion of the Region the peaks are between two and three thousand feet high. The

greatest relief is found south of Ice Creek where an unnamed peak has an elevation of 2,802 feet. Twelve miles southwest is Mable Mountain at 2,426 feet. Major drainages include the Weary River, a tributary to the Snake River, the Muklung and Little Muklung Rivers, the Wood River, and the Lower Nushagak River, which includes Portage Creek and Clark Slough.

The Region displays a variety of landscapes, including mountain crags, fast-flowing rivers, deep lakes, tundra, marshy lowlands, and ponds. The broad glacial valleys of the Ahklun Mountain Range cut the tundra uplands, opening into coastal plains. Forested areas occur only sparingly such as along the south shore of Aleknagik Lake and the upper reaches of the Snake River. Most of the uplands are vegetated with low to tall shrubs and low lying areas with low shrub and lichen tundra. The Nushagak valley is covered by low shrubs and lichen tundra.

Climate

The climate of Region 5 is transitional from the maritime influence of Bristol Bay to more continental weather to the northwest. As distance from the coast increases, temperature variations increase, whereas cloudiness, humidity, and precipitation tend to decrease. The weather is generally cool and moist with relatively persistent cloud cover and occasional periods of fog. At Dillingham, summer temperatures range from 37° to 66° and average winter temperatures range from 4° to 30°; annual precipitation is 26 inches with 65 inches of snow. Heavy fog is common in July and August. Winds of up to 60-70 miles per hour may occur between December and March. The Nushagak River is ice free from June through November. Aleknagik Lake and River are also ice-free from June through mid November. The Region is predominantly underlain by ground with isolated masses of permafrost; the northwest portion of the Region is underlain by discontinuous permafrost and the valley of the Nushagak River is generally free of ground ice. The areas with discontinuous permafrost are generally those with elevations greater than 1,000 feet. North facing slopes are more likely to be underlain by permafrost than south facing mountain slopes. Winds throughout the area are usually moderate, prevailing from the southwest in summer and from the north and east in winter.

Other

Region 5 is within the Goodnews, Dillingham, Naknek, and Nushagak Bay Quadrangles. It is entirely within the boundaries of the Bristol Bay Regional Native Corporation.

Access

Settlements in the Region include Dillingham, Aleknagik, Clarks Point, Ekuk, and Portage Creek. Access to Region 5 is predominantly through air transportation via Dillingham. There are eleven facilities that support air transport – two seaplane bases, a heliport, and eight airports. Dillingham has a state-owned airport that provides a 6,404-foot paved runway and has regular jet flights from Anchorage. A privately owned seaplane base is available three miles west of

Dillingham at Shannon's Pond. A heliport is available at Kanakanak Hospital. Dillingham is also reached by sea. There is a City-operated small boat harbor with 320 slips, a dock, barge landing, two boat launches, and boat haulout facilities. The harbor is a tidal harbor and only used seasonally. Two barge lines make scheduled trips from Seattle. The state Department of Transportation maintains a paved road that covers the 23 miles to Aleknagik. Winter trails extends west to Manokotak as well as east to Portage Creek and thence Naknek.

Resources and Uses

The Nushagak and Wood Rivers support a large salmon run that provides for commercial fishing and fish processing and subsistence use. The lakes and streams are intensively used for recreation. Good access throughout the Region adds to its high recreational resource potential. The Region has moderate potential for oil and gas development. Agricultural uses are primarily for small gardens around inhabited areas. An important forest resource occurs north and northeast of Dillingham. Community expansion potential is high due to the presence of services, infrastructure, and industry in the area surrounding Dillingham.

Cultural and Historic. Archaeological evidence indicates that areas within Region 5 have been continuously occupied for at least 2,000 years. Traditionally a Yup'ik Eskimo area, the area is now a highly mixed population of non-Natives and Natives. The outstanding commercial fishing opportunities in the Bristol Bay area are the focus of the local culture. The area was inhabited by both Eskimos and Athabascans and became a trade center when Russians erected the Alexandrovski Redoubt (Post) in 1818. Local Native groups and Natives from the Kuskokwim Region, the Alaska Peninsula, and Cook Inlet mixed together as they came to visit or live at the post. See footnote for additional details on community history.¹² The state Office of History and Archaeology lists 108 sites in Region 5 – 10 prehistoric, 89 historic, and 9 of mixed origin. The majority of these sites are situated along the east shore of Nushagak Bay and along the Wood River. New sites are discovered periodically and added to the Alaska Heritage Resource Database when reported.

Economic. The Dillingham district is the economic, transportation, and public service center for western Bristol Bay. Commercial fishing, fish processing, cold storage and support of the fishing industry are the primary activities. Icicle, Peter Pan, Trident and Unisea operate fish processing plants. Many residents hold commercial fishing permits. During spring and summer, the population of Dillingham doubles; the city's role as the regional center for government and services helps to stabilize seasonal employment. Many residents depend on

¹² The community was known as Nushagak by 1837, when a Russian Orthodox mission was established. In 1881 the U.S. Signal Corps established a meteorological station at Nushagak. In 1884 the first salmon cannery in the Bristol Bay region was constructed by Arctic Packing Co., east of the site of modern-day Dillingham. Ten more were established within the next seventeen years. The post office at Snag Point and town were named after U.S. Senator Paul Dillingham in 1904, who had toured Alaska extensively with his Senate subcommittee during 1903. The 1918-19 influenza epidemic struck the region, and left no more than 500 survivors. A hospital and orphanage were established in Kanakanak after the epidemic, 6 miles from the present-day City Center. The Dillingham townsite was first surveyed in 1947 and the city was incorporated in 1963.

subsistence activities, and some trap beaver, otter, mink, lynx and fox to provide additional cash income. Salmon, grayling, pike, moose, bear, caribou, and berries are harvested. In the more remote Portage Creek area, everyone depends to some extent on subsistence activities for various food sources. Most Portage Creek families have fish camps at Ekuk or Lewis Point. Salmon, moose, caribou, duck, geese and berries are harvested. An exchange relationship exists between Portage Creek and the coastal communities; walrus, seal, and herring roe are sought. The Portage Creek General Store and Lodge operate during the summer months. The Nushagak commercial fishery is one of the important fisheries in Bristol Bay. In 2002 the Nushagak fishery had an actual run of 4,538,000 sockeye salmon. The commercial harvest was 2,816,000 fish or approximately 26% of the Bristol Bay harvest; the 1982-2001 annual average harvest for the Nushagak fishery is 3,836,000 sockeye.

Recreation. Region five contains significant recreation resources, primarily for outdoor activities related to fishing, hunting, boating, camping, hiking, and wildlife viewing. The state manages the Lake Aleknagik State Recreation Site, located at the lower end of Lake Aleknagik, which boasts a boat launch, parking area, and ranger station. The management plan for the recreation site is found within the Wood-Tikchik State Park Management Plan (October 2002). In many respects, Dillingham is the gateway to Wood-Tikchik State Park, and many users travel to Dillingham to take charters to the interior of the Park.

At least half a dozen recreation lodges are located in the lake district northwest of Dillingham. By comparison, more than four times that many seasonal commercial sport fishing camps are located along the lower Nushagak River on Native lands. Many of these camps support fly-in day use. The Nushagak & Mulchatna Rivers Recreation Management Plan (2005) identifies five public use sites (no. 1-5) along the lower Nushagak River in Region 5. Caribou hunting is also an important component of the recreation scene. Current (1999-2000) estimates show that just over one half (56%) of the reporting hunters in the greater Bristol Bay area are nonresidents of Alaska. Alaska residents from outside the region comprise a little over one third (35%) of the hunters and residents are 8% of those reporting.

Minerals. Bedrock in the area is mostly interbedded, very fine- to very coarse-grained graywacke, calcareous graywacke, and siltstone. These rocks are probably correlative with Jurassic clastic sedimentary rocks like those in the southeast part of Hagemeister Island.

Region 5 contains at least five mineral prospects. Most of these are clustered in the Marsh Mountain area and are dominated by mercury occurrences and mines. These mercury deposits developed after Mesozoic clastic rocks of the area had been deformed and intruded by Cretaceous or Tertiary granitic plutons. The most significant of the mercury deposits is the Red Top Mine. The Red Top mercury mine is located on the top of the southern peak of Marsh Mountain 3.1 miles east of the village of Aleknagik. The mine has a small amount of production from veins which host cinnabar; production probably totals about 100 flasks of mercury. Mercury also occurs six miles west of the Red Top Mine; this location represents an area of occurrences on the southwest shore of Lake Aleknagik, including occurrences at the mouth of Yako Creek.

Minor placers are associated with the mercury deposits. The Iris placer gold prospect is located near the Red Top Mine on the flanks of Marsh Mountain. Mercury has also accumulated in placer deposits on the Wood River at the Wood River occurrence located approximately four miles below the confluence of the Wood and Muklung Rivers. Placer gold also occurs on the Nushagak River, notably near Portage Creek at a location known as Keffer's Bar.

Oil and Gas. Much of Region 5 is underlain by the Bristol Bay (Nushagak) Basin, which is one of two basins in the Bristol Bay Area (along with the North Aleutians-Alaska Peninsula basin). The Alaska Peninsula-Bristol Bay oil and gas basin form a region 500 miles long and up to 100 miles wide. In Region 5 (the northwestern part of the peninsula) the basin is underlain by up to 18,000 feet of Tertiary sediments that thicken to the south and thin to the north. The offshore Bristol Bay basin is a sediment-filled structural depression that underlies the northern continental shelf of the Alaska Peninsula. No oil and gas drilling has been conducted in Region 5. Oil seeps north of Dillingham are reported by local inhabitants.

On a regional basis, northern coastal plain hydrocarbon potential is moderate to locally high for gas and low to moderate for oil, in structural and stratigraphic traps. Oil and gas seeps occur along the Alaska Peninsula's southeastern flank, some along large anticlinal crests. Source rock data indicate that the Tertiary organic shales are prone to carry gas. Oil may be derived from deeper Mesozoic strata. Tertiary and Mesozoic sandstone reservoir characteristics are locally conducive to hydrocarbon production.

State and Native land owners are currently pursuing a new hydrocarbon exploration licensing and leasing program. The Alaska Department of Natural Resources, Lake and Peninsula, Bristol Bay, and Aleutians East Borough have signed a memorandum of understanding (MOU) in support of oil and gas lease sales and licensing of state land in the Bristol Bay and Alaska Peninsula region (March 17, 2004). Similar MOUs are in effect between the DNR and The Aleut Regional Native Corporation (December 18, 2003) and the DNR and Bristol Bay Native Corporation (July 10, 2003).

Materials. There are at least thirty active and inactive materials sites located in the Region, principally along the Dillingham-Aleknagik road.

Forestry. Only a minor percentage of the Region is forested. However, local forestry resources north and northeast of Dillingham are an important source of house logs, saw logs, and fuel. Region 5 contains three types of forest resources – 1) bottomland spruce-poplar (along the Nushagak River); 2) upland spruce-hardwood (mostly north of Dillingham); and 3) lowland spruce-hardwood (northeast of Dillingham at elevations above the Nushagak River floodplain).

Upland mixed forests occur to the north of Aleknagik. These mixed forests are primarily open spruce and birch forests with numerous interspersed bogs. The most valuable of these forest resources for local use are located between Dillingham and Aleknagik.

Fish and Wildlife. All five species of Pacific salmon – chinook (king), sockeye (red), coho (silver), pink (humpy), and chum (dog) – spawn in the Wood River and Tikchik systems. Sockeye are the most important commercially. Freshwater sport fish are generally prolific throughout the area. Rainbow trout, Arctic grayling, lake trout, Arctic char, Dolly Varden, and northern pike abound. Whitefish are an important subsistence species in the area.

Caribou are an important resource in the area. The Mulchatna Caribou Herd has been increasing in size and expanding its range since the 1930's. Serious efforts to conduct a census of the herd have taken place since 1973; between 1981 and 1996, the Mulchatna Caribou Herd increased from 19,000 to 200,000. In recent years the herd has peaked in size, and has decreased to what is presently estimated at approximately 30,000 individuals (<http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=species.main>).

Moose are relatively new to the Bristol Bay area, possibly moving into the area from the middle Kuskokwim drainages during the last 100 years. During the previous twenty years, moose numbers have increased and moose are now common along the Nushagak/Mulchatna Rivers and all of their major tributaries. They also occur throughout the Wood/Tikchik Lake area and have extended their range westward.

Brown bears are common throughout the north Bristol Bay area and are seasonally abundant along salmon spawning areas in the Nushagak, Mulchatna River drainages as well as long the Wood River Lakes. These bears are also observed near aggregations of the Mulchatna Caribou Herd.

Birds nesting in the area include a wide variety of waterfowl, gulls, bald eagle, golden eagle, Arctic tern, various loons, spotted and least sandpipers, semi-palmated plover, willow ptarmigan, and spruce grouse. Numerous transients pass through as well.

Trapping has been an important part of the culture and economy of the northern Bristol Bay area and provided a ready means to acquire cash prior to development of the commercial fishing industry. Until recently, large numbers of trappers from around the area would come to Dillingham to tag and sell pelts at the annual "Beaver Roundup" in March. Fur buyers purchased thousands of pelts during the weeklong rendezvous and celebration. Historically beaver have been the most important furbearer in the Region. Population trends of furbearers in the Region are favorable – either stable or increasing. Reported harvests in recent years are only a fraction of the past, largely due to less harvest activity than in earlier years.

Management Considerations: Local and State Plans and Special Use Area

A number of local, state, and federal management plans were considered in development of this plan. Local plans include the Bristol Bay Coastal Zone Management Plan, the Nushagak & Mulchatna Rivers Recreation Management Plan, the Southwest Alaska Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy 2003-2008, and the City of Dillingham Comprehensive Plan. State plans include the Bristol Bay Area Plan, the Wood-Tikchik State Park Management Plan,

the Lake Aleknagik State Recreation Site Plan, the Nushagak & Mulchatna Rivers Recreation Management Plan, the Southwest Alaska Transportation Plan, and a state Special Use Area for the Togiak NWR. Federal plans include the Togiak National Wildlife Refuge Comprehensive Conservation Plan.

Region 5 is within the Bristol Bay CRSA Coastal Management Plan. Most state-owned land falls within the CRSA but is outside the coastal zone. The Enforceable and Administrative Policies of these Coastal Management Plans are extensive; policies affecting anadromous fish streams, bald eagle nests, oil and gas development, material extraction, and mining can be applicable, under certain circumstances, to state land. Please see the web site <http://www.alaskacoast.state.ak.us/>¹³ for more information on enforceable policies. These policies should be consulted by the DNR prior to issuing an authorization.

The Bristol Bay Area Plan (1984) affected all state lands in the Region; this plan was amended in 1990 by adoption of the Nushagak & Mulchatna Rivers Recreation Management Plan. The 1984 Area Plan stated that Region 5 was to be managed to accommodate increased development while maintaining fish and wildlife habitats. The other DNR plan affecting this Region is the Nushagak & Mulchatna Rivers Recreation Management Plan (RRMP) (2005), which manages recreational uses and identifies a number of public use sites. In this (current) revision of the Bristol Bay Area Plan, the requirements of the RRMP continue to apply in Region 5. This revision (2005) supercedes the original (1984) Bristol Bay Area Plan.

The State of Alaska has designated a Special Use Area for the Togiak National Wildlife Refuge and the Lower Goodnews River (May 10, 1991; ADL 226851). It applies to those lands generally described as shorelands within Togiak National Wildlife Refuge and lower Goodnews River as described in the Togiak National Wildlife Refuge Public Use Management Plan and Environmental Assessment. Setting up and using a camp is allowed, as provided in 11 AAC 96.020(a)(4)(A), except that the period of use is limited to three consecutive days at any one site. The period of use may be extended by permit.

The Southwest Alaska Transportation Plan (ADOT/PF, November 2002) identified a Dillingham/Bristol Bay Area Transportation Corridor, which in general extends from Levelock to Dillingham, connecting with the communities of Ekwok and Aleknagik. It includes a crossing of the Wood River at Aleknagik and a major crossing of the Nushagak River. There are several possible tie-in locations to the Bristol Bay to Cook Inlet corridor. The plan also considers a corridor from Aleknagik to Igiugig via Levelock.

The western portion of Region 5 encompasses part of the Togiak National Wildlife Refuge. The refuge has a Comprehensive Conservation Plan, which is in the process of revision.

¹³ The Alaska Coastal Management Program was terminated on July 1, 2011, pursuant to AS 44.66.030.

Management Summary: Uplands

State land in Region 5 is to be managed for a variety of multiple uses, including settlement, materials extraction, public facilities development, dispersed public recreation, mineral exploration and development, and maintenance of sensitive wildlife habitats. Oil and gas exploration and development, although only of moderate potential, is also appropriate within the Region. The majority of lands are designated General Use (Gu) and Settlement (Se). Because of the generally good topographic conditions and relatively good accessibility of certain of these lands, large tracts of state land have been designated Settlement (Se). Much of this Settlement land is intended to facilitate the expansion of the Dillingham community. Other, more remote and generally less desirable areas, are designated General Use (Gu). Areas near the Wood-Tikchik State Park, and Lake Aleknagik State Recreation Site are designated Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed. Public Use Sites, used for recreation, have been designated Public Recreation and Tourism-Public Use Sites (Rp). A large number of small management units associated with facilities are designated Public Facilities-Retain (Pr). A management unit adjacent to the Togiak NWR is designated Habitat (Ha). Active materials sites are designated Materials (Ma).

Plan Designations and Management

The plan designations that are used within this Region have the following management intent. The policies and management intent guidelines described in Chapter 2 affect all DNR authorizations. Refer especially to those guidelines relating to Fish and Wildlife Habitat and Harvest Areas, and Settlement. See also the descriptions of the plan designations in the first part of this Chapter; this section indicates which lands can be conveyed out of state ownership and those that must be retained.

- **General Use (Gu).** Within this Region, lands that contain one or more resource values, none of which is of sufficiently high value to merit designation as a primary use, and areas that are unlikely to be developed during the planning period are designated General Use. The land is to be managed for a variety of uses including protection of fish and wildlife habitat and harvest, dispersed public recreation, minerals, oil and gas exploration and development, and protection of heritage resources. It is expected that little development will occur in these areas during the planning period, and it is not intended as a matter of policy that intensive forms of development occur in these areas other than occasionally and at specific sites. These lands may be appropriate for conveyance to a Borough should one be formed in the Region. Units designated General Use are to be retained in state ownership unless affected by a municipal entitlement selection and may only to be conveyed to a municipality if the adjudicatory decision determines that this conveyance is consistent with the requirements of AS 29.65.
- **Habitat (Ha).** Generally, this designation applies to areas of various size that are important for fish and wildlife species during a sensitive life-history stage where alteration of the habitat or human disturbance could result in a permanent loss of a

population or sustained yield of a species. In Region 5 this designation is applied to streams and shorelands cataloged by the Alaska Department of Fish and Game as anadromous

(<http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/sf/SARR/AWC/index.cfm?ADFG=main.interactive>).

Lands with this designation should be retained.

- **Materials (Ma).** Lands designated materials are those where active or inactive materials sites are present. These can include common varieties of sand, gravel, and stone or are sites associated with materials extraction that contain conveyors, crushing, sizing, and other processing equipment. Until the materials have been exhausted, material sites are to be retained in state ownership; thereafter, other forms of authorizations or disposals may be appropriate. Authorizations or disposals should be done in consultation with the Department of Transportation and Public Facilities.
- **Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed (Rd).** Lands with the designation of Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed are to be managed so that their public recreation values are protected and maintained. Within these areas the primary surface uses are intended to be those related to hiking, hunting, fishing, wildlife viewing, and the like. A small tract of state land adjoining the Wood-Tikchik State Park is recommended for inclusion in this Park and is designated Rd (Wood-Tikchik State Park Management Plan, October 2002, p. 11-3 and Map 11-1).
- **Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed and Habitat (Co-designation).** Certain navigable waterbodies (lakes and streams) are co-designated Habitat (Ha) and Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed (Rd). Authorizations within these waterbodies should not interfere with important habitat or public recreation values. See Table 3.1 in the Navigability section of this Chapter for a listing of these streams. Note: Certain waterbodies may only be designated Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed, (Rd), Habitat (Ha), or General Use (Gu). This co-designation is applied to the river corridors within the Nushagak & Mulchatna Rivers Recreation Management Plan. In Region 5 this includes a portion of the corridor of the Iowithla River.
- **Public Facilities-Retain (Pr).** This designation applies to sites that are reserved for a specific public infrastructure requirement. They are to be retained in state or public ownership. In this Region, this designation applies to lands containing public facilities, commonly airports or schools. Only a small amount of acreage is affected by this designation.
- **Public Recreation and Tourism-Public Use Site (Rp).** This designation applies to areas with a concentration of recreational users or tourists or that are likely to have such concentrations. Within this Region this designation applies to specific recreation sites – the Aleknagik State Recreation Site and the public use sites identified in the Nushagak & Mulchatna Rivers Recreation Management Plan. Unless otherwise indicated in the Resource Allocation Table, these sites are to be retained by the state. In some instances they may be conveyed to the Bristol Bay Borough, subject to the Borough retaining them in public ownership and ensuring that they remain available for public use.

- Settlement (Se). This designation applies to state uplands suitable for sale, leasing, or permitting to allow private recreational or residential use. Within this Region four large areas of state land are considered appropriate for settlement and have been designated as such. These occur between the Nushagak River and Iowithla Creek, in the vicinity of Etolin Point, in an area along and east of the Wood River, and in the vicinity of Snake Lake and the Snake River. These areas are intended for Community Settlement; see Chapter 2 for specific requirements for this form of settlement. Settlement lands are appropriate for conveyance to a Borough should one be formed in the Region.

Specific Management Considerations

- Generally Allowed Uses. The Generally Allowed Uses in 11 AAC 96.020 can occur throughout the Region.
- Proposed Transportation Corridor. The area identified on the Region Map as a “Potential Transportation Corridor” should be retained by the state during the planning period. Authorizations granted by DNR within or adjacent to this corridor should not preclude the future development of transportation access. Authorizations or disposals within and adjacent to this corridor should only be allowed after consultation with ADOT/PF.
- Addition to State Park. State land adjacent to Wood-Tikchik State Park (R05-01) is recommended for inclusion in Wood-Tikchik State Park. Until included within the Park, this land is to be managed for dispersed public recreation and is designated Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed (Rd).
- Except for areas closed to mineral entry under existing Mineral Closing Orders, all state lands within Region 5 are open to mineral entry. No additional MCOs are recommended; the only exception applies to the areas to be disposed of by DNR for purposes of Community Settlement. Closure to mineral entry is recommended at or before plat adoption. No leasehold location orders are recommended. See the Subsurface section in Chapter 2 for more detail on subsurface management requirements.
- Mineral Closing and Opening Orders. This revision of the Bristol Bay Area Plan retains the mineral closing and opening orders largely implemented by DNR at the time of original plan adoption. These MCOs either close a proposed settlement area or close a number of major streams to mineral location. These include the following:
 - MCO 304 – Snake Lake Settlement Area
 - MCO 305 – Weary River Settlement Area
 - MCO 196 – Warehouse Mountain Settlement Area
 - MCO 443 – Wood River-Aleknagik Road
 - MOO 702 – Warehouse Mountain Settlement Area (Mineral Opening Order)

- Mineral Order. Mineral Order No. 791 is retained by this revision as an interim order (as of July 11, 2003) that precludes shallow natural gas leasing and oil and gas exploration licensing. This order has no effect on locatable minerals or leaseable minerals other than shallow natural gas leasing and oil and gas exploration licensing. The order affects portions of the Nushagak Peninsula and the vicinity of Etolin Point.
- Retained Lands. Lands within this Region that are designated to be retained are those that are recommended for inclusion in the Wood-Tikchik State Park, those reserved as a 'Potential Transportation Corridor', and those designated Public Facilities-Retain (Pr) or Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed (Rd). Note: Certain management units that are designated Rd may be conveyed out of state ownership to a borough, should one be formed, as part of the Municipal Entitlement Act - providing the land conveyed remains public land and the public retains access to the public use site.
- Navigable Waters. Shorelands (rivers and lakes) that are believed to be navigable are listed in Table 3.1 in the Navigability section of this Chapter. Authorizations in these waters must ensure the continued use of a waterway by the public for purposes of trade, travel, and commerce. Note: These waterbodies are assigned a plan designation of Habitat or a co-designation of Habitat and Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed. Authorizations issued by DNR are to maintain the habitat and public recreation values of these waterbodies.

See the Resource Allocation Table for more detail on the upland management units.

Management Summary: Tidelands and Submerged Lands

Tidelands in this Region are extensive, extending from the Snake River on the east side of Nushagak Bay to the Kvichak River, situated at the head of Kvichak Bay. The community of Dillingham is situated at the head of Nushagak Bay, a little more than six miles from the mouth of the Nushagak River. Although not part of a tideland area proper, the Nushagak River is tidally influenced at the location of Dillingham and normally this area would be treated, in terms of designation and management intent, in this section. However, the Dillingham community is fronted by privately owned tidelands and additional tideland designations are not required. Natives own, for the most part, the uplands that adjoin the coast. Small portions of the uplands are owned by the state.

Marshes are common on the east side of Nushagak Bay, while mixed sand and gravel beaches are typical between Nushagak Bay and Kvichak Bay. Eroding peat scarps, sheltered tidal flats (high biomass content) and marshes are common along the west side of Kvichak Bay. Waterfowl and shorebirds are common as are whales (beluga) and other marine mammals. These other marine mammals are almost entirely harbor seals, although there are some spotted seals as well. There are no major sea bird colonies, sea otter concentrations, or either walrus or sea lion haulouts in this Region. A small harbor seal haulout occurs in a portion of Kvichak Bay

and the central portion of Nushagak Bay is a harbor seal/spotted seal haulout concentration area. Both Kvichak and Nushagak Bays are known beluga whale calving areas. The Bristol Bay Fisheries Reserve affects Nushagak and Kvichak Bays.

The commercial harvest of pink, sockeye, chinook, chum and coho salmon occurs throughout Nushagak Bay (purse seine and drift net). Offshore leases for set net harvesting form an almost continuous line along both the east and west coastlines of Nushagak Bay, concentrating south of Dillingham and around Clarks Point and Ekuk, and continuing south of Ekuk on the eastern side of the bay. Drift (gill) net harvest occurs throughout the bay for pink, chum, sockeye, coho and chinook salmon. Chinook salmon are harvested (drift net) at Etolin Point. Subsistence harvest of fish around Dillingham consists primarily of salmon, but grayling and pike are harvested to a lesser extent. Clarks Point residents range long distances, if necessary, for subsistence harvest which includes salmon smelt and some waterfowl. A number of Bristol Bay residents migrate to Ekuk during the summer for subsistence harvest of salmon.

The commercial harvest of pink, sockeye, chinook, chum and coho salmon occurs throughout Kvichak Bay (purse seine and drift net). Set net permits occur all along the upper Kvichak Bay, on both the east and west coastlines. The densest concentrations of set net permits occur along the eastern coastline near the mouth of the Naknek River and south of Naknek. The subsistence harvest of red salmon as a food staple in Kvichak Bay is intensive.

Plan Designations and Management Intent

Coastal Tidelands. These tidelands¹⁴ are designated General Use. Development authorizations are considered appropriate subject to the protection of sensitive resources and areas.

Nushagak Bay (R05T-01). This tideland management unit is designated Habitat. Beluga whale feeding and calving occur throughout most of Nushagak Bay (R05T-01). The Habitat designation also includes the areas of harbor seal haulout concentration at the mouth of Nushagak Bay around Nichols Spit and Protection Point. Development authorizations may be appropriate in this tideland management unit, but must avoid or minimize impacts to the beluga whale population during the calving life-cycle stage and to the harbor seal/spotted seal haulout concentration areas.

Kvichak Bay, (R05T-02)¹⁵. Kvichak Bay borders on both Region 5 and Region 11, but is being addressed as one management unit (R05T-02) so it can be managed as one unit. Both the Kvichak and the Naknek Rivers flow into this bay at it's head. The area around the river mouths consists of extensive shallow and exposed tidal flats having high biomass content. Large areas of exposed tidal flats are also common south of the Naknek River. This bay provides feeding concentration areas for Beluga whales, and is also an important beluga whale

¹⁴ Tidelands along the coast not included in R05T-01 or R05T-02.

¹⁵ The tideland unit for Kvichak Bay consists of only one management unit (R05T-02) but the description of the eastern portion of this tideland unit is provided again in Region 11 to ensure that the tideland resources of Kvichak Bay are properly understood.

calving habitat. Harbor seals are common at Graveyard Point near the mouth of the Kvichak River. Shorebirds occur near the mouths of the Kvichak and Naknek Rivers, and both shorebirds and waterfowl are present along the coast south of the Naknek River. The headwaters of the Naknek River support particularly high densities of staging swans and geese during the spring. Development authorizations may be considered appropriate, but must avoid or minimize impacts to the beluga whale population during that part of their life-cycle involving calving and to the area of the harbor seal haulout at 'Deadman Sands'. See also, Region 11.

See the Resource Allocation Table for more detail on the tideland management units.

Resource Allocation Table for Upland Management Units - Region 5

Unit # / Name	Acres / Designation(s)	MTRS	Management Intent	Resources, Uses, Additional Info
R05-01 Upper Aleknagik Lake	10,883 Rd - Public Recreation and Tourism- Dispersed Ha - Habitat	Map 3-5 S009S058W Sec. 2-13	This unit is co-designated Rd and Ha and is to be managed, generally, for the purposes of dispersed recreation and the protection of fish and wildlife. It is to be retained by the state and is recommended for eventual inclusion in the Wood-Tikchik State Park. DNR authorizations should be limited to those that are consistent with the eventual use of this area as part of the State Park. The management of this unit should be similar to that of the adjoining area in the State Park. Consult the management requirements of Management Unit 7 (Lake Nerka) in the State Park Plan for specific guidance. Refer also to the specific management requirements for calving areas in the Fish and Wildlife Habitat and Harvest Areas section of Chapter 2.	This unit of approximately 12 sections of state land is situated south of Wood-Tikchik State Park, along the southwest shores of Lake Aleknagik, and is bisected by Youth Creek. It is an area vegetated in tall shrub. This unit has been recommended for inclusion into Wood-Tikchik State Park by the Wood-Tikchik State Park Management Plan. The unit includes moose rutting and wintering areas, bear denning sites, and anadromous fish streams and areas utilized for recreation. The unit is affected in part by MCO 718.
R05-02 Nunavaugluk Lake	61,438 Gu - General Use	Map 3-5	This unit is General Use and is to be managed for a variety of resources, including dispersed recreation, fish and wildlife protection, and habitat protection. Development authorizations may be appropriate subject to the protection of these resources and the requirements of Chapter 2. Because of its somewhat remote location and lack of accessibility, it is not intended that intensive development occur within this unit during the planning period except occasionally and at specific locations. It is also intended that this land will be retained in state ownership during the planning period. The unit is not considered suitable for settlement. Instead, settlement should be directed to nearby areas designated Settlement or in areas already conveyed to private individuals or Native corporations.	This unit is a large noncontiguous area of land that includes Ice Creek and Nunvak Mountain in its northern extent, the Weary River along the western and southern extents, and Lake Aleknagik and Nunavaugluk Lake on the eastern side. The area is vegetated mostly in tall shrubs. The unit contains moose wintering areas, and several anadromous fish streams, which are utilized by bear during the spawning season. Parts of the unit are affected by MCO 305.
R05-03 Table Mountain	32,477 Gu - General Use	Map 3-5	This unit is designated General Use (Gu). These lands should be managed for a variety of uses including the protection of fish and wildlife and their associated habitat, anadromous fish streams, and dispersed recreation and tourism. Development authorizations may be appropriate subject to the protection of these resources and the requirements of Chapter 2. Intensive development is not expected within this unit during the planning period except occasionally and at specific locations. It is also intended that this land will be retained in state ownership during the planning period. The unit is not considered suitable for settlement.	This is a unit comprised of state land and state-selected land. It is a fairly mountainous area with tall and low shrub vegetation. Jackknife Mountain makes up the very western extent of the unit with Table Mountain to the south, Lake Nerka and Wood-Tikchik State Park to the north, and the Muklung river on the eastern boundary. The unit contains anadromous fish streams and supports moose calving and wintering areas. The eastern part of the unit is affected by MCO 393.
R05-04 Snake Lake	28,361 Se - Settlement	Map 3-5	The unit is designated Settlement (Se) and is considered appropriate for disposal during the planning period. Development is to conform to the Management Guideline pertaining to Remote Settlement in the Settlement section and to those of the Caribou and Moose Rutting and Calving Area Management Guideline in the Fish and Wildlife Habitat and Harvest Areas section, both of which are found within Chapter 2.	This unit mostly surrounds Nunavaugluk Lake and is in turn encompassed by unit R05-02. The area includes hills and lowlands vegetated in tall shrub types. The state has offered and patented various land units in this area through the land sales program. The area is used for recreation, hunting and fishing, and contains anadromous fish streams, bear denning sites, and moose. Portions of this unit, along Nunavaugluk Lake are affected by MCO 304.
R05-05 Lake Aleknagik	981 Se - Settlement	Map 3-5 S001S056W Sec. 18,28,29	If conveyed by the Federal government, these lands are considered suitable for Settlement and are appropriate for disposal during the planning period. Disposals should conform to the requirements of a Community Settlement Area in the Settlement section of Chapter 2. Buffers along anadromous fish streams should conform to the management guidelines in Chapter 2. This is considered a high priority selection.	This unit is comprised of two noncontiguous portions of state-selected land on the southwest shore of Lake Aleknagik. One unit is situated east of Mable Mountain and the other, northeast of Mable Mountain. Both occupy areas of level terrain with tall shrubs, and are considered suitable for settlement. The northern unit has lake front access and is close to Aleknagik. Anadromous fish streams, Bear Creek and Yake Creek, exist

Unit # / Name	Acres / Designation(s)	MTRS	Management Intent	Resources, Uses, Additional Info
R05-06 Lake Aleknagik 2	981 Rp - Public Recreation and Tourism-Public Use Site	Map 3-5 S001S056W Sec. 25,36	If these lands are conveyed by the Federal government they are to be managed for public recreation and tourism. Authorizations related to commercial recreation uses may be appropriate subject to the protection of these resources and the requirements of Chapter 2. Intensive development is not intended during the planning period except occasionally and at specific locations. If conveyed, the unit is to be retained in state ownership. This is considered a high priority selection.	between and south of the units. Bears use these streams when salmon are spawning. This unit is comprised of two noncontiguous portions of state-selected land along the eastern shore of the lower end of Lake Aleknagik. It is an area of level terrain and tall shrub vegetation. The area is utilized for public recreation, hunting, and fishing and is adjacent to the Aleknagik State Recreation Site. The Alaska Heritage Resources Survey (AHRs) reports several heritage sites in or near this unit.
R05-07 Aleknagik Airport	67.90 Pr - Public Facilities-Retain	Map 3-5 S001S055W Sec. 19,30	This unit is to be managed by ADOT/PF consistent with FAA standards and the conditions of the Management Agreements (ADLs 220386 and 220387) and limited state holdings (LSHs 178 and 179).	This unit contains airport facilities situated near the community of Aleknagik. It is managed by ADOT/PF under Management Agreement (ADLs 220386 and 220387) and limited state holding stipulations (LSHs 178 and 179).
R05-08 Lake Aleknagik	1.02 Rp - Public Recreation and Tourism-Public Use Site	Map 3-5 S001S055W Sec. 31	This small unit is adjacent to the Aleknagik Lake State Recreation Area and is to be managed consistent with the management plan for the recreation area as provided for in the Wood-Tikchik State Park Management Plan (2002). The unit is to be retained in public ownership. See also the Management Guideline for "Public Use Sites" in the Recreation, Tourism, and Scenic Resources section of Chapter 2.	This land (OSL 1170) is located on the south shore of the east end of Lake Aleknagik adjacent to Aleknagik Lake State Recreation Area. It is an area of tall shrub vegetation and level terrain. The area has important recreational values.
R05-08a Aleknagik State Recreation Site	5.75 Rp - Public Recreation and Tourism-Public Use Site	Map 3-5 S001S056W Sec. 36	This unit is to be managed as Lake Aleknagik State Recreation Area by DPOR under the stipulations of the ILMA (ADL 227395) and in accordance with provisions in the Wood-Tikchik State Park Management Plan (2002). The unit is to be retained in public ownership. See also the Management Guideline for "Public Use Sites" in the Recreation, Tourism, and Scenic Resources section of Chapter 2.	This land (OSL 1112) is located on the south shore of the east end of Lake Aleknagik. Along with the shorelands of the lake, it forms Aleknagik Lake State Recreation Area under an ILMA issued to DPOR (ADL 227395). It is an area of level terrain and tall shrub vegetation.
R05-09 Aleknagik Research Station	5.61 Pr - Public Facilities-Retain	Map 3-5 S001S055W Sec. 32	This unit is to be retained in state ownership and managed to accommodate a field research station. Public access to the river is to be maintained by way of a 50-foot stream access buffer and a building set back of 150 feet is to be maintained.	This state-selected unit is located at the east end of Lake Aleknagik situated on the south bank of the Wood River, an anadromous fish stream. There is an ANILCA 906(k) concurrence (ADL 17883) issued to ADF&G for the site to be utilized as a Bristol Bay Fisheries field research station. The Alaska Heritage Resources Survey (AHRs) reports several heritage sites in or near this unit.
R05-10 Weary River	16,062 Se - Settlement	Map 3-5	The unit is designated Settlement (Se) and is considered appropriate for disposal during the planning period. Development is to conform to the requirements of Remote Settlement and those for the Caribou and Moose Rutting and Calving Area, both of which are described in the Settlement and Fish and Wildlife sections, respectively, of Chapter 2. Buffers along anadromous fish streams must also conform to the management guidelines in Chapter 2.	This unit occupies an area of rolling hills and lowlands between the Weary River on the west and Nunavaugaluk Lake to the east. This area is considered suitable for settlement and the state has offered and patented portions of the unit through the land sales program. The area is utilized for recreation including hunting and fishing. The unit includes anadromous portions of Eagle Creek and is close to the anadromous Weary and Snake Rivers. Bear utilize the anadromous fish streams during the salmon runs. Much of this unit is affected by MCO 305; also see MCO 304.
R05-11 Nuyakuk	1,266 Se - Settlement	Map 3-5 S011S056W Sec. 19,20	The unit is designated Settlement (Se) and is considered appropriate for disposal during the planning period. Development shall conform to the requirements of Chapter 2, particularly those found in the Settlement section.	This unit consists of two sections of land immediately east of the Otter Creek drainage and two to four miles east of Nunavaugaluk Lake. The terrain is vegetated primarily in tall shrub-type plants. The land contains both level and steep components. Otter Creek is cataloged as anadromous downstream from the unit.

Unit # / Name	Acres / Designation(s)	MTRS	Management Intent	Resources, Uses, Additional Info
R05-11a Silver Salmon Creek	2,513 Se - Settlement	Map 3-5 S011S056W Sec. 1,2,15,23, 34,35	If conveyed by the Federal government, the unit may be appropriate for settlement and may be considered for disposal during the planning period. Development is to conform to the requirements of Remote Settlement in Chapter 2. Buffers along anadromous fish streams must also conform to the management guidelines in Chapter 2. This is considered a high priority selection.	This unit is made up of several portions of state-selected land located south of Silver Salmon Creek and north of Otter Creek. The Aleknagik-Dillingham road passes through the east part of the unit. It is an area of fairly level terrain, low and tall shrub, and moist tundra vegetation that is considered suitable for settlement.
R05-12 Wood River- Aleknagik Road	33,651 Se - Settlement	Map 3-5	The unit is designated Settlement (Se) and is considered appropriate for disposal during the planning period. Disposals should conform with the Management Guideline Community Settlement Area in Chapter 2. The Bristol Bay transportation corridor transects the unit; the actual position of the road alignment has yet to be determined. No authorizations or disposals should be considered that are within or near the corridor until the road alignment is known or without consultation with the ADOT/PF. See specific management requirements for caribou calving areas in Chapter 2.	This is a large unit of state-owned and state-selected land situated east of the Dillingham-Aleknagik Road. It is a level lowland area vegetated in low shrub and moist tundra types along the Wood and Muklung Rivers that is suitable for settlement. The City of Dillingham has been conveyed land by the state and established a landfill (ADL 227310) adjacent to the lower southwest corner of this unit. The Wood and Muklung Rivers are cataloged as anadromous fish streams. They are utilized by bear when the salmon are spawning. Caribou are also known to calve in portions of this unit. The unit has good access along the rivers, is near the road system, and has high recreation values. The Alaska Heritage Resources Survey (AHRs) reports several heritage sites in or near this unit. The unit is affected in part by MCO 443 and in part by MCO 393.
R05-13 Muklung Hills	6,401 Gu - General Use	Map 3-5 S011S054W Sec. 11,15,24, 25,36; S012S054W Sec. 1,12,13, 14,23	This unit is designated General Use (Gu). These lands should be managed for a variety of uses including protection of fish and wildlife, protection of fish and wildlife habitat, minerals exploration and development, and dispersed recreation and tourism. The unit is not suitable for Settlement. Development authorizations may be appropriate subject to the protection of these resources and the requirements of Chapter 2. Intensive development is not intended within this unit during the planning period except occasionally and at specific locations. The Bristol Bay transportation corridor transects the unit; the actual position of the road alignment has yet to be determined. No authorizations or disposals should be considered that are within or near the corridor until the road alignment is known or without consultation with the ADOT/PF. The unit is to be retained in state ownership during the planning period.	This unit is made up of state-owned and state-selected land along the border with Region 6, one to four miles west of the Little Muklung River. It is a lowland area of wet tundra along the edge of the Muklung Hills. The Little Muklung River is not cataloged as anadromous and few fish and wildlife resources are identified on the unit. The unit has low scenic and recreational values. The area is utilized for caribou and moose hunting.
R05-14 Dillingham Road	628 Se - Settlement	Map 3-5 S012S056W portions of Sec. 1,12,13,24,25	The unit is designated Settlement (Se) and is considered appropriate for disposal during the planning period. Because of its proximity to the Dillingham-Aleknagik Road the unit may have potential for a variety of uses. The potential for other uses than residential should be evaluated prior to creating a land disposal. Disposals should conform to the requirements for Community Settlement Area in the Settlement section of Chapter 2.	This unit is comprised of three noncontiguous areas located along the west side of the Dillingham-Aleknagik road. This area of rolling lowlands is vegetated primarily in shrub tundra types. It is considered suitable for settlement. This unit has relatively good access and portions may be of high value and are potentially suitable for commercial property or subdivision. It contains a materials potential, and could be developed for a variety of uses, including commercial, industrial, and/or residential. The Alaska Heritage Resources Survey (AHRs) reports a heritage site in or near this unit.
R05-15 Snake River	15,963 Se - Settlement	Map 3-5	The unit is designated Settlement (Se) and is considered appropriate for disposal during the planning period. Development is to conform to the requirements of Remote Settlement and those under management guideline K for Caribou and Moose Rutting, Wintering, and Calving Areas, which are described in the Settlement, and Fish and Wildlife Habitat and Harvest Areas sections, respectively, of Chapter 2. Buffers along anadromous fish streams must also conform to the management guidelines in Chapter 2.	This land is located generally south of Nunavaugaluk Lake with the Snake River flowing through the northeastern portion of the unit and the Weary River flowing through the very southwestern corner of the unit. The area is vegetated in tall and low shrubs and considered suitable for settlement. Both the Weary and Snake Rivers are cataloged as anadromous and bears utilize these streams during the salmon run. Moose over winter in the Snake River drainage and near the outlet to Nunavaugaluk (Snake) Lake.

Unit # / Name	Acres / Designation(s)	MTRS	Management Intent	Resources, Uses, Additional Info
R05-16 Warehouse Mountain	15,963 Se - Settlement	Map 3-5	The unit is designated Settlement (Se) and is considered appropriate for disposal during the planning period. Development is to conform to the requirements of Remote Settlement and under management guideline K for Caribou and Moose Rutting, Wintering, and Calving Areas, which are described in the Settlement, and Fish and Wildlife Habitat and Harvest Areas sections, respectively, of Chapter 2. Buffers along anadromous fish streams must also conform to the management guidelines in Chapter 2.	This land is located generally between the Snake River and the Dillingham-Aleknagik road in terrain drained by Otter Creek. The unit, vegetated in tall and low shrub types, is comprised of state land and state-selected lands. Because of its topography and proximity to the road system and river, it is considered suitable for settlement. The state has offered and patented many areas within the unit through the land sales program. The Snake River is cataloged as an anadromous fish stream, and the area is utilized by both bear and moose (especially for wintering). This unit is affected by MCO 196 and by MOO 702.
R05-17 Lower Wood River/Dillingham	2,272 Gu - General Use	Map 3-5 S013S055W Sec 7,15,16; S013S056W Sec. 13	This unit is designated General Use (Gu). If these lands are conveyed by the Federal government they are to be managed for a variety of uses including mineral exploration and development, the protection of anadromous fish and other fish and wildlife resources, and dispersed recreation and tourism. Intensive development is not intended during the planning period except occasionally and at specific locations related to minerals or commercial recreation. This is considered to be a high value selection. The unit is to be retained in state ownership during the planning period.	This unit consists of several areas of state-selected land near the City of Dillingham. They are approximately one mile northwest and east of the Dillingham airport. The areas are flat to rolling terrain dotted with small lakes and creeks with low shrub and moist tundra vegetation. The Alaska Heritage Resources Survey (AHRS) reports several heritage sites in or near this unit. The unit is affected in part by MCO 393.
R05-18 Dillingham Airport	84 Pr - Public Facilities-Retain	Map 3-5 S013S055W Sec. 17,18,19	Unit is to be managed by ADOT/PF consistent with FAA standards and the conditions given in the Management Agreement (ADL 17963), conveyance documents (OSL 36), and limited state holdings (LSH 46). Unit is to be retained in state ownership.	This unit of land contains airport facilities situated adjacent to the City of Dillingham. It is comprised of a limited state holding (LSH 46) and state land (OSL 36) managed by ADOT/PF under ILMT (ADL 17963) and the stipulations of the LSH and OSL.
R05-19 Downtown Dillingham	9.92 Pr - Public Facilities-Retain	Map 3-5 S013S055W Sec. 16,21	This land is designated as Public Facilities-Retain (Pr). A portion of this unit is to be managed by ADF&G under a Management Agreement (ADL 224662). Another portion is to be managed by ADOT/PF under an ILMT (ADL 61051) for a maintenance camp site. The remainder of the unit is to be managed by DNR as commercial property for lease or rent. A portion of this unit may be transferred to the City of Dillingham under title 38.05.810 without reclassification. A portion of lands covered by ADL 61051 and ADL 224662 are considered appropriate for conveyance to another governmental entity for public purposes.	This unit is comprised of state land (OSLs 72, 165, 115 and 312) located in Dillingham. A portion of the unit has an ILMT (ADL 61051) issued to ADOT/PF for the purposes of a maintenance camp site. A portion of this unit is to be managed by ADF&G under management agreement (ADL 224662).
R05-20 Nushagak River	23,187 Wr - Water Resources Rd - Public Recreation and Tourism- Dispersed	Map 3-5 S013S054W; S013S053W Sec. 18,19,20,25	The unit is co-designated Water Resources (Wr) and Dispersed Recreation (Rd) and is to be managed for the protection of fish and wildlife resources and their associated habitats, wetlands and water resources, , and dispersed recreation. It is to be retained in state ownership. Dispersed recreation is considered an appropriate use in this unit. Some forms of recreation use, including commercial recreation, may be appropriate if these recreational uses are found to be compatible with the management intent for adjacent river corridors designated Ha-Rd or Rd in the Area Plan. Development authorizations may be appropriate subject to the protection of these resources, consistency with the recreation uses specified in the RRMP, and the specific requirements of Chapter 2; see particularly the requirements for Management Guideline J, "Nushagak & Mulchatna Rivers Recreation Management Plan", in the Recreation, Tourism and Scenic Resources section of Chapter 2. For convenience, Table 2.2 contains a listing of allowed, prohibited, and conditional (recreational) uses	This unit is made up of areas of state-owned and state-selected land straddling the Nushagak River east of Dillingham. The area north of the Nushagak River is drained by the Little Muklung River and by Black Slough. It is a flat wetland area vegetated in low shrub and lichen tundra types. Caribou are known to winter in this unit. Wetland complexes cover the majority of the unit and dispersed recreation use is prevalent. The unit is affected by MCO 393 which closes the Nushagak River to mineral location. The unit can be accessed by the Dillingham-Lewis Point trail which extends across the unit from west to east. The Togiak-Nushagak trail also extends into the unit.

Unit # / Name	Acres / Designation(s)	MTRS	Management Intent	Resources, Uses, Additional Info
			by RRMP Management Unit. Management Guideline J in the Recreation, Tourism and Scenic Resources section of Chapter 2 specifically defines the relationship between the RRMP and the BBAP, and must be consulted in adjudication decisions. Intensive development is not expected within this unit during the planning period, except occasionally and at specific locations associated with recreation uses and mineral exploration and development. Settlement is not considered an appropriate use	
R05-21 Scandinavian Slough	59,607 Ha - Habitat Rd - Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed	Map 3-5	Manage unit for its habitat and recreation values. Retain in state ownership. Other than utilities, communication, roads/bridges, and similar facilities providing a public service, development is not appropriate within this unit. Any authorizations that may be issued will need to avoid impacts or mitigate impacts to wetlands, riverine areas, and sensitive bear, caribou and moose habitat.	This unit of state-owned and state-selected land located north of the Nushagak River and Scandinavian Slough and south of the Iowithla River occupies an area of fairly flat to rolling terrain vegetated in low shrub and moist tundra that is suitable for settlement. Trails extend to the unit from Dillingham, and a number of lakes are navigable. The northern part of this unit is important for moose wintering and calving as well as caribou wintering and calving. Lands not part of the unit, along the Nushagak and Iowithla Rivers are used by moose for calving; both rivers are anadromous. This unit was designated Settlement in the 2005 BBAP. Research during the 2013 Plan Amendment determined that the utilization of this land for settlement would be inappropriate. Research indicated the presence of extensive wetlands and problems with access to the site, especially in the summer months.
R05-22 Corridor of the Iowithla River	4,960 Rd - Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed Ha - Habitat	Map 3-5	This unit, which consists of the navigable portions of the Iowithla River and its adjoining uplands as depicted in Map 3-5, is co-designated Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed (Rd) and Habitat (Ha). Unit is to be retained by the state and managed to maintain the recreational uses of the Iowithla River and the adjoining upland corridor, its fish and wildlife resources, and public recreation values. The management requirements of the Nushagak & Mulchatna Rivers Recreation Management Plan (RRMP) are to be followed by DNR in the granting of authorizations related to certain types of recreational uses and structures. See the Management Intent and Management Guidelines in the RRMP for Management Unit 2. For convenience, Table 2.2 contains a listing of allowed, prohibited, and conditional uses by RRMP management unit. Management Guideline J in the Recreation, Tourism and Scenic Resources section of Chapter 2, which more specifically defines the relationship between the RRMP and the BBAP, also applies and should be consulted in adjudication decisions. In general, authorizations should not be issued for non-recreational uses that are incompatible with the management intent of this unit and the management objectives of the RRMP. Oil, gas, and mineral exploration and development are considered appropriate uses if compatible with the management intent for this unit or if in the best interest of the state.	The unit is the corridor of the Iowithla River as depicted in the Nushagak & Mulchatna Rivers Recreation Management Plan (RRMP). The unit consists of that portion of RRMP Management Unit 2 within state-owned lands in Region 5. The width of the corridor varies, and may be up to four miles wide, measured from each side of the river system. Vegetation consists of lichen tundra and low shrub. The Iowithla River is cataloged as an anadromous fish stream and is utilized by brown bear, especially during the salmon spawning season. The river corridor is used as a calving area by moose. Note: This corridor is continued in Region 6.
R05-23 Portage Creek	42,242 Gu - General Use	Map 3-5	The unit is designated General Use (Gu) and is to be managed for a variety of uses, including the protection of fish and wildlife resources and their associated habitats, the maintenance of wetland complexes, mineral exploration and development, and dispersed recreation. Some forms of recreation use, including commercial recreation, may be appropriate if these recreational uses are found to be compatible with the management intent for	This unit, comprised of several noncontiguous pieces of state-owned and state-selected land, occupies an area from Keefer Cutoff and the Nushagak River to the west, north to the southern boundary of Region 6 and south beyond Portage Creek. It is flat to rolling terrain vegetated in low shrub and moist tundra types with a winter trail that passes through the unit just north of Portage Creek. Wetlands are scattered throughout the unit. This unit also

Unit # / Name	Acres / Designation(s)	MTRS	Management Intent	Resources, Uses, Additional Info
			adjacent river corridors designated Ha-Rd or Rd in the Area Plan. Development authorizations may be appropriate subject to the protection of these resources, consistency with the recreation uses specified in the RRMP, and the specific requirements of Chapter 2; see particularly the requirements for Management Guideline J, "Nushagak & Mulchatna Rivers Recreation Management Plan", in the Recreation, Tourism and Scenic Resources section of Chapter 2. For convenience, Table 2.2 contains a listing of allowed, prohibited, and conditional (recreational) uses by RRMP Management Unit. Management Guideline J in the Recreation, Tourism, and Scenic Resources section of Chapter 2 specifically defines the relationship between the RRMP and the BBAP, and must be consulted in adjudication decisions. Intensive development is not expected within this unit during the planning period except occasionally and at specific locations associated with recreation uses and mineral exploration and development. Settlement is not considered an appropriate use. The unit is to be retained in state ownership during the planning period.	contains areas of moose and caribou wintering and calving habitat.
R05-24 Kvichak River	10,003 Gu - General Use	Map 3-5	This unit is designated General Use (Gu). If conveyed by the Federal government, this unit is to be managed for a variety of uses including mineral exploration and development, the protection of fish and wildlife resources and their associated habitat, the maintenance of wetland complexes, and dispersed recreation and tourism. Intensive development is not expected within this unit during the planning period except occasionally and at specific locations related to minerals or recreation. If conveyed, the unit is to be retained in state ownership during the planning period. This is considered a high priority selection.	This unit of state-selected land is located west of the Kvichak River on the eastern margin of planning Region 5 on level terrain vegetated primarily in low shrub and lichen tundra. There is a winter trail that bisects the unit at its southern end near Squaw Creek and King Salmon Creek. The unit has been utilized as a rutting area by moose, and is used by both moose and caribou as wintering habitat. The Lewis Point-Naknek trail extends across the southern part of the unit. Wetlands are scattered throughout the unit. This unit was affected by the 2013 Plan Amendment and part of the original unit in the 2005 BBAP is now part of Unit R10-06A.
R05-26 PU1/ Blood Beach	240 Rp - Public Recreation and Tourism-Public Use Site	Map 3-5 S014S052W Sec. 27,34	This unit is designated Public Recreation and Tourism-Public Use Site (Rp) and is to be managed for public recreation and tourism. The unit is to be retained in state ownership. See also the Management Guideline for "Public Use Sites" in the Recreation, Tourism, and Scenic Resources section of Chapter 2.	This unit is located along the southern shore of the Nushagak River just west of the Scandinavian Slough and is primarily used for angling. It is identified in the Nushagak & Mulchatna Rivers Recreation Management Plan, April 2005, as a public use site (PU1).
R05-27 PU5/Keefer Cutoff	80 Rp - Public Recreation and Tourism-Public Use Site	Map 3-5 S014S051W Sec. 25	This unit is designated Public Recreation and Tourism-Public Use Site (Rp) and is to be managed for public recreation and tourism. The unit is to be retained in public ownership. See also the Management Guideline for "Public Use Sites" in the Recreation, Tourism, and Scenic Resources section of Chapter 2.	This is a shoreland area on Keefer Cutoff and the Nushagak River north of Portage Creek used for camping and angling. It is identified in the Nushagak & Mulchatna Rivers Recreation Management Plan, April 2005, as a public use site (PU5).
R05-28 PU3/Keefer Cutoff	41 Rp - Public Recreation and Tourism-Public Use Site	Map 3-5 S014S051W Sec. 25	This unit is designated Public Recreation and Tourism-Public Use Site (Rp) and is to be managed for public recreation and tourism. The unit is to be retained in public ownership. See also the Management Guideline for "Public Use Sites" in the Recreation, Tourism, and Scenic Resources section of Chapter 2.	This is a shoreland area on Keefer Cutoff and the Nushagak River north of Portage Creek. It is identified in the Nushagak & Mulchatna Rivers Recreation Management Plan, April 2005, as a public use site (PU3).
R05-29 PU4/N. Portage Creek	41 Rp - Public Recreation and Tourism-Public Use Site	Map 3-5 S014S051W Sec. 25	This unit is designated Public Recreation and Tourism-Public Use Site (Rp) and is to be managed for public recreation and tourism. The unit is to be retained in public ownership. See also the Management Guideline for "Public Use Sites" in the Recreation, Tourism, and Scenic Resources section of Chapter 2.	This is a shoreland area adjacent to an upland site designated by Choggiung Ltd as a public camping site. It lies north of Portage Creek on Keefer Cutoff and the Nushagak River. It is identified in the Nushagak & Mulchatna Rivers Recreation Management Plan, April 2005, as a public use site (PU4).

Unit # / Name	Acres / Designation(s)	MTRS	Management Intent	Resources, Uses, Additional Info
R05-30 PU2/ Keefer Cutoff	120 Rp - Public Recreation and Tourism-Public Use Site	Map 3-5 S015S051W Sec. 2	This unit is designated Public Recreation and Tourism-Public Use Site (Rp) and is to be managed for public recreation and tourism. The unit is to be retained in public ownership. See also the Management Guideline for "Public Use Sites" in the Recreation, Tourism, and Scenic Resources section of Chapter 2.	This unit is located along the Nushagak River in a braided section west of the Portage Creek airport, primarily used for angling. It is identified in the Nushagak & Mulchatna Rivers Recreation Management Plan, April 2005, as a public use site (PU2).
R05-31 Portage Creek Airport	85 Pr - Public Facilities-Retain	Map 3-5 S015S051W Sec. 1	This unit is to be managed by ADOT/PF consistent with FAA standards and the conditions given in Management Agreements (ADLs 221494, 221495 and 224242) and limited state holdings (LSHs 231, 234 and 309). The land is to be retained in state ownership.	This unit of land hosts the airport facilities located near the community of Portage Creek. The unit is located on land managed by ADOT/PF under the stipulations of limited state holdings (LSHs 231, 234 and 309) and management agreements (ADLs 221494, 221495 and 224242).
R05-32 Scandinavian Slough	1,920 Gu - General Use	Map 3-5 S015S052W Sec. 23,24,25	The unit is designated General Use (Gu) and is to be managed for a variety of uses, including the protection of fish and wildlife resources and their associated habitats, mineral exploration and development, and dispersed recreation. Some forms of recreation use, including commercial recreation, may be appropriate if these recreational uses are found to be compatible with the management intent for adjacent river corridors designated Ha-Rd or Rd in the Area Plan. Development authorizations may be appropriate subject to the protection of these resources, consistency with the recreation uses specified in the RRMP, and the specific requirements of Chapter 2; see particularly the requirements for Management Guideline K, "Caribou and Moose Calving and Rutting Areas", in the Fish and Wildlife Habitat and Harvest Areas section and with Management Guideline J, "Nushagak & Mulchatna Rivers Recreation Management Plan", in the Recreation, Tourism, and Scenic Resources section of Chapter 2. For convenience, Table 2.2 contains a listing of allowed, prohibited, and conditional (recreational) uses by RRMP Management Unit. Management Guideline J in the Recreation, Tourism, and Scenic Resources section of Chapter 2 specifically defines the relationship between the RRMP and the BBAP, and must be consulted in adjudication decisions. Intensive development is not expected within this unit during the planning period except occasionally and at specific locations associated with recreation uses and mineral exploration and development. Settlement is not considered an appropriate use. The unit is to be retained in state ownership during the planning period.	This land consists of three sections of state-selected lands south of the Nushagak River and southeast of Portage Creek. The unit occupies an area of level terrain and low shrub and lichen tundra vegetation. The unit is in an area used by moose for calving, and used by both moose and caribou as wintering habitat.
R05-33 Clarks Point Airport	70 Pr - Public Facilities-Retain	Map 3-5 S015S055W Sec. 25,26,36	This unit is to be managed consistent with the stipulations of the limited state holding (LSH 265) and is to be retained in state ownership.	This unit of land contains the public airport facilities adjacent to the community of Clarks Point. It is to be managed by ADOT/PF under the stipulations of a limited state holding (LSH 265) for the purposes of administering an airport facility. The Alaska Heritage Resources Survey (AHRS) reports several heritage sites in or near this unit.
R05-34 Etolin Point	36,166 Wr - Water Resources Rd - Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed	Map 3-5 S017S054W; S018S054W; S018W053W	Manage unit for its dispersed recreation and water resource values. Retain in state ownership. Dispersed recreation is considered an appropriate use in this unit. Other than utilities, communication, roads/bridges, and similar facilities providing a public service, development is not appropriate within this unit. Any authorizations that may be issued will need to avoid impacts or mitigate impacts to wetlands and riverine areas, and caribou habitat.	This unit extends north from the shores of Nushagak and Kvichak Bays and includes Etolin Point to the west. It is an area of fairly flat terrain and low shrubs that is not considered suitable for settlement. There are numerous wetlands and lakes scattered throughout the unit, and it contains several large navigable lakes and opens onto Nushagak and Kvichak Bay. Caribou are known to winter in this unit. The area is largely surrounded by Native-owned lands; some of these are 12b village pool lands that have been designated for development purposes by the Bristol Bay Native Association. The unit is heavily used for subsistence by the native community and is

Unit # / Name	Acres / Designation(s)	MTRS	Management Intent	Resources, Uses, Additional Info
				<p>considered to be an important food resource area.</p> <p>This unit was designated Settlement in the 2005 BBAP. Research during the 2013 Plan Amendment process determined that the utilization of this land for settlement would be inappropriate, largely because of the presence of extensive wetlands and subsistence use. Access to the site from the adjoining bay (Nushagak Bay) would also be difficult because of the presence of extensive tidal flats (Flounder Flats) and the abrupt cliff at the coastline.</p>

Resource Allocation Table for Tideland Management Units - Region 5

Unit # / Name	Acres / Designation(s)	MTRS	Management Intent	Resources, Uses, Additional Info
R05T-01 Nushagak Bay	82,425 Ha - Habitat Hv - Harvest	Map 3-5 S014S056W, S016S056W, S017S055W-058W, S018S055W-058W	Nushagak Bay, with its numerous and varied marine and fishery resources, is designated Habitat. Management intent: Tideland development authorizations are considered appropriate, but must avoid or minimize impacts to the beluga whale population during the calving life-cycle stage. Consult with NMFS before issuing authorizations. Ensure that any authorizations are consistent with the requirements of the Bristol Bay Fisheries Reserve.	This large bay includes calving areas for beluga whales and is used by waterfowl as a concentration area. Commercial harvest of pink, sockeye, chinook, chum and coho salmon occurs throughout Nushagak Bay (purse seine and drift net). Offshore leases for set net harvesting are continuous along both the east and west coastlines of Nushagak Bay, concentrating south of Dillingham, around Clarks Point to Ekuk and extending south of Ekuk on the eastern side of the bay. Drift net harvest occurs throughout the bay for pink, chum, sockeye, coho and chinook salmon. Chinook salmon are harvested (drift net) at Etoin Point. Subsistence harvest of fish around Dillingham consists of primarily salmon, but grayling and pike are harvested to a lesser extent. Clarks Point residents range long distances, if necessary, for subsistence harvest which includes salmon, smelt and some waterfowl. A number of Bristol Bay residents migrate to Ekuk for subsistence harvest of salmon. The western coastal tidelands of Nushagak Bay are adjacent to the Togiak NWR and are affected by a TRMZ (See R02T-01). All of Nushagak Bay is affected by the Bristol Bay Fisheries Reserve.
R05T-02 Kvichak Bay	269,719 Ha - Habitat Hv - Harvest	Map 3-5 S016S047W, S017S047W-050W, S018S048W-053W	Kvichak Bay is designated Habitat. Although the eastern part of Kvichak Bay contains extensive areas of sheltered tidal flats and is only considered moderately productive biologically, the remainder of the bay is a sensitive habitat area. Tideland development authorizations may be appropriate but must avoid or minimize impacts to the beluga whale population during the calving life cycle stage and to harbor seal haulout concentration areas. Consult with the NMFS and USFWS before issuing authorizations. Management Intent: Protect beluga whale population, harbor seal haulout concentrations, anadromous streams, areas of estuarine wetlands, and areas of waterfowl concentration. Ensure that any authorizations are consistent with the requirements of the Bristol Bay Fisheries Reserve.	Habitat: Kvichak Bay fronts on both Regions 5 and 11. Eroding peat scarps, sheltered tidal flats, and marshes are common along the west side of the Bay. The eastern part, extending from its mouth to the mouth of the Naknek River, consists of extensive shallow areas of exposed tidal flats having high biomass content. Large areas of exposed tidal flats are also common south of the Naknek River, but are considered to be of only moderate biomass. Both the Kvichak and Naknek Rivers empty into the Bay; the communities of King Salmon and Naknek are situated on the Naknek River. See Region 11 for descriptions of these communities. The Kvichak River is an important anadromous stream, provides habitat for waterfowl during the spring and fall, is used by belugas for both feeding and calving, and contains numerous harbor seal haulout concentrations. Kvichak Bay merges imperceptibly into this river. The bay provides somewhat similar habitat to Kvichak River and is important as a beluga whale feeding and calving concentration area, the belugas arriving in the bay in May. While in this area, some feed in shallow tidal flats while others ascend the rivers, traveling as far as 10-20 miles inland. They depart Kvichak Bay in August. This bay also contains areas important for harbor seal haulouts and spring waterfowl concentrations. The area of 'Deadman Sands', situated in the central part of Kvichak Bay generally within or near sections 1, 2, 11, 12, 13, 14, 23, and 24 of T17SR50W, is especially important as a harbor seal haulout concentration. Another harbor seal haulout concentration area occurs west of Graveyard Point on the east side of the bay. The highest density of shorebirds and diving and dabbling ducks on the north coast of the Alaska Peninsula occurs in this bay. Kvichak Bay is affected by the Bristol Bay Fisheries Reserve.

Unit # / Name	Acres / Designation(s)	MTRS	Management Intent	Resources, Uses, Additional Info
R05T-03 Tidelands and Offshore Submerged Lands	165,569 Gu - General Use	Map 3-5	Manage for a variety of uses and resources. Protect areas with concentrations of seabirds and waterfowl. Consult with NMFS to determine if whales or other marine mammals are present prior to issuing an authorization. Maintain opportunities for personal and commercial harvest. This unit is included within the Bristol Bay Fisheries Reserve.	<p>Harvest: Commercial harvest of pink, sockeye, chinook, chum and coho salmon occurs throughout Kvichak Bay (purse seine and drift net). Set net permits occur all along the upper Kvichak Bay, on both the east and west coastlines. The densest concentration of set net permits exist along the eastern coastline near the mouth of the Naknek River and south of Naknek. There is intense subsistence harvest of red salmon as a food staple in Kvichak Bay.</p> <p>This tideland unit occupies the area between Nushagak and Kvichak Bays. The more sensitive resources within this Region are associated with these bays and are to be managed according to the requirements listed for tideland units R05T-01 (Nushagak Bay) and R05T-02 (Kvichak Bay). The tidelands in this unit as well as R05T-01 and -02 are governed by the restrictions of the Bristol Bay Fisheries Reserve.</p> <p>The area encompassed by this tideland unit is characterized by mixed sand and gravel beaches. Eroding peat scarps, some sheltered tidal flats, and marshes occur near Kvichak Bay, and marshes occur near Nushagak Bay. Waterfowl and shorebirds are common throughout the unit, and both whales and marine mammals are known to be present, but not at the concentration levels experienced in either R05T-01 or R05T-02.</p> <p>The commercial harvest of pink, sockeye, and chinook, chum, and coho salmon occurs within parts of this unit by purse seine and drift net. Set nets are present as well. There is also some subsistence harvest of salmon and herring in this unit.</p>

Region 6: Nushagak, Mulchatna

Summary of Resources and Uses in the Region

Region Boundary

Region 6 is the second largest of the planning regions in the Bristol Bay Plan and encompasses the most state-owned land. See Plan Map 3-6. The Region includes much of the Nushagak and Mulchatna River drainages. The boundaries of the Region are defined by Wood-Tikchik State Park on the west, the drainage divide to the Kuskokwim (Holitna and Aniak Rivers) on the north, and the divide between the Nushagak River system and the Kvichak on the southeast. The eastern boundary is somewhat arbitrary and attempts to separate the upper Mulchatna River drainage from the Region. Elevations range from less than 200 feet in the south to over 3,000 feet in the Shotgun Hills. However, the Region is not very mountainous; it encompasses the southern portion of the Shotgun Hills and Nushagak Hills in the north and the Muklung Hills in the southwest. There are few settlements in the Region; the largest is New Stuyahok (pop. 452). The boundary of Region 6 is virtually the same as that of the original (1984) Bristol Bay Area Plan.

State Lands: Ownership and Acreage

The majority of land within Region 6 is owned by the State of Alaska. Much of the land along the middle and lower Nushagak River is Native-owned, flanked by Federal lands. The plan applies to 4,340,384 acres of state-owned and state-selected uplands.

Physical Geography

The Region is within four physiographic provinces: the central and southern portion is dominated by the Bristol Bay Lowlands; the northwest portion is within the Ahklun Mountain Province; the north part is within the Kuskowkim Mountain physiographic province; and the northeast portion is part of the Lime Hills province. The Nushagak-Mulchatna drainage basin is large and incorporates the east flowing rivers from Wood-Tikchik State Park such as the Iowithla, Kokwok, Nuyakuk, Klutuspak, and King Salmon Rivers. Northern tributaries include the Klutapak Creek, and the Chichitnok and Mosquito Rivers. Eastern and Southeastern tributaries include the Swan, Kaktuli, and Stuyahok Rivers. Topographic relief is modest with most of it developed in the west and north. The highest elevations occur in the glaciated Shotgun Hills where over 2,000 feet of relief is present. Most other mountainous areas of the Region show relief of less than 1,500 feet.

The Region displays a variety of landscapes, including mountains, fast-flowing rivers, tundra, marshy lowlands, and ponds. The glacial valleys of the Wood River Mountains and the Shotgun Hills open into the broad rolling Bristol Bay lowlands. Forested areas occur only sparingly; they are found at restricted locales in the western margins of the Region, near the border with Wood-Tikchik State Park and in the eastern-southeastern portion of the Region at higher elevations near the drainage divide which separates Region 6 and Region 10. Most terrain above 1,000 feet in elevation is vegetated with tall shrubs. Terrain below 1,000 feet is largely covered by low shrub and or lichen tundra with low lying areas marked by wet sedge tundra.

Climate

The climate of Region 6 is transitional from the maritime influence of Bristol Bay to the continental influences to the north. As distance from the coast increases, temperature variations increase whereas cloudiness, humidity, and precipitation tend to decrease. The settlement of New Stuyahok is located in a climatic transition zone. The primary influence is maritime, although a continental climate affects the weather. Average summer temperatures range from 37° to 66°; winter temperatures average 4° to 30°. Annual precipitation ranges from 20 to 35 inches. Fog and low clouds are common during the summer and strong winds often preclude access during the winter. The Nushagak River at New Stuyahok is generally ice-free from June through mid-November. Most of the Region is underlain by isolated masses of permafrost. Generally the areas immediately under or adjacent to the main course of the Nushagak and Mulchatna Rivers are free of permafrost.

Other

Region 6 is within the Dillingham, Taylor Mountains, Lake Clark, and Iliamna Quadrangles. It is entirely within the boundaries of the Bristol Bay Regional Native Corporation. The eastern portion of the Region is within the Lake and Peninsula Borough.

Access

Settlements in Region 6 include Ekwok, New Stuyahok, and Koliganek. Access to the Region is predominantly through air or river transportation. Region 6 contains airstrips at each of the three settlements: a state-owned 1,800-foot lighted gravel airstrip at New Stuyahok; a new 3,000-foot state-owned runway at Koliganek; and a state-owned 2,720-foot-long gravel strip at Ekwok. A new runway at New Stuyahok was under construction in 2004. During summer months, goods can be lightered to all three communities from Dillingham but no good docking facilities are present. Skiffs, ATV's, and snowmachines are prevalent forms of local transportation. There are no improved trails linking the settlements.

Resources and Uses

The Nushagak and Mulchatna River drainages support a major salmon resource for subsistence and recreational harvest. Caribou, moose, and some brown bear are also used heavily by subsistence and recreational hunters. Over one quarter of the caribou harvested annually in Alaska are taken from the Mulchatna Caribou Herd. Exploration by mining companies has brought about the development of significant metal resources at Pebble Copper and Shotgun; the Region contains significant mineral potential for base, precious, rare, and strategic minerals. Part of the Nushagak oil and gas basin extends into the southern part of the area; it is currently the locus of renewed interest in oil and gas exploration. Recreation use is heaviest along the Nushagak, Mulchatna, Koktuli, Nuyakuk, King Salmon, Stuyahok, and Mosquito Rivers. There is little in the way of agricultural resources within the Region except for village gardens. There are no commercial forestry activities but the resource does support uses for house logs and fuel. In the past, sawmills were located at Ekwok, New Stuyahok, and Nondalton.

Cultural and Historic. Hunting and fishing camps along the Naknek River date from 3,000 to 4,000 B.C. In 1818, the first Russian traders arrived. The Russians explored and maintained dominance of the area until the U.S. purchase of Alaska in 1867. U.S. interests were directed primarily at the fur and fishery potential of the region. In 1883, the first salmon cannery in Bristol Bay was opened which brought an influx of non-Native fishermen and cannery workers. A flu epidemic in 1918 was tragic to the Native population. Reindeer were introduced to assist the survivors, but the experiment eventually failed. The state Office of History and Archeology lists 71 sites in Region 6 – 33 historic, 24 prehistoric, and 14 of mixed origin. The majority of these sites are located along the Nushagak and Mulchatna Rivers.

New Stuyahok is located on the Nushagak River, about 12 miles upriver from Ekwok and 52 miles northeast of Dillingham. The present location is the third site that villagers can remember. The village moved downriver to the Mulchatna area from the “Old Village” in 1918. During the 1920s and 30s, the village was engaged in herding reindeer for the U.S. government. However, by 1942 the herd had dwindled to nothing; the village had been subjected to flooding; and the site was too far inland even to receive barge service. So in 1942, the village moved downriver again to its present location. Stuyahok appropriately means “going downriver place.” The first school was built in 1961.

Koliganek is located on the left bank of the Nushagak River, and lies 65 miles northeast of Dillingham. It is an Eskimo village first listed in the 1880 Census as “Kalignak.” The name is local, recorded by the U.S. Geological Survey in 1930. Since that time, the village has moved four miles downstream from the original site.

Ekwok is the oldest continuously occupied Yup'ik Eskimo village on the river. During the 1800s, the settlement was used in the spring and summer as a fish camp, and in the fall as a base for berry-picking. By 1923, it was the largest settlement along the river. In 1930, a BIA school was constructed. Mail was delivered by dog sled from Dillingham until a post office opened in

1941. Many of the earliest homes in Ekwok were located in a low, flat area near the riverbank. After a severe flood in the early 1960s, villagers relocated on higher ground, to the current location.

Economic. The primary economic base is the salmon fishery; many residents hold commercial fishing permits. Many people trap as well. The entire community relies upon subsistence foods and subsistence items are often traded between communities. Salmon, moose, caribou, rabbit, ptarmigan, duck and geese are the primary sources of meat and fowl.

Recreation. Recreation and tourism is experiencing modest growth in the Region. In general, southwest Alaska shows the lowest level of tourism compared to all other areas of the state. Approximately 17% of Alaska visitors report traveling to Southwest and only 3% report that southwest Alaska is their sole destination; the majority of these visits are to Katmai National Park and Preserve and Wood-Tikchik State Park. Tourism in Region 6 is primarily related to sport hunting and fishing. Most recreational or back-country lodges and camps are located on the lower Nushagak River below Ekwok. This lower stretch of the Nushagak River experiences the most commercial recreational activity of the Region. One commercial lodge site is located on the upper Mulchatna River. In general, most recreational activity in Region 6 is concentrated along the major drainage corridors and is primarily related to river rafting and floating or sport fishing activities.

Minerals. Region 6 geology consists of several tectonic-stratigraphic terranes. The northern portion of the Region is underlain by Cretaceous flysch of the Kuskokwim Group. The southeast portion of the Region is underlain by a mixture of Late Cretaceous to Tertiary granitic rocks and middle Tertiary volcanics. Much of the central and southern portions of the Region are underlain by Tertiary clastic sedimentary rocks, which thicken southwards as part of the Bristol Bay oil and gas basin. Region 6 contains a significant mineral endowment. It has a number of important base and precious metal deposits and prospects; these include deposits such as the Shotgun gold deposit, which has in excess of one million ounces of contained gold, and the Pebble Copper deposit which contains over a billion tons of low-grade copper-gold mineralization. Other significant mineral potential occurs at Kemuk Mountain for iron, titanium, and platinum group metals and Sleitat Mountain for tin and tungsten with associated arsenic and zinc.

The Shotgun prospect is located in the south part of the Shotgun Hills, a rugged, glaciated upland at the divide between the King Salmon and Kogruklu/Holitna River drainages. A large granitic pluton makes up the core of the Shotgun Hills and Shotgun is located in hornfels adjacent to the granitic rocks. Novagold Resources Inc. (2000) made the following resource estimates: using a cutoff pf 0.018 ounce of Au per ton, the resource is 32,765,000 tons grading 0.033 ounce of Au per ton; using a cutoff of 0.026 ounce of Au per ton, the resource is 16,550,000 tons grading 0.045 ounce of Au per ton; using a cutoff of 0.035 ounce of Au per ton, the resource is 11,650,000 tons grading 0.05 ounce of gold per ton.

Pebble Copper is located in the extreme eastern part of Region 6 in hills drained by the upper reaches of the Koktuli River. The Pebble porphyry copper-gold-molybdenum deposit was discovered and generally outlined by Cominco American through drilling on the property to 1997. Recent geochemical and geophysical surveys have substantiated that the Pebble deposit is only part of a much larger series of metal-rich, coalescing hydrothermal sulfide systems¹⁶. The mineralized zone is approximately 1.7 kilometers by 1.3 kilometers in size. A recently-completed (2003) independent mineral resource estimate has established the Pebble deposit as one of the world's largest gold and copper resources, containing 13.1 million ounces of gold and 6.8 billion pounds of copper¹⁷.

The Kemuk deposit is located 12 miles east-northeast of the summit of Kemuk Mountain. The site is at the south end of the boundary between sections 19 and 20, T5SR49W, (Seward Meridian). This is an area of extensive surficial deposits with few conspicuous topographic features. Buried below 90 to 140 feet of unconsolidated Quaternary deposits, the deposit consists of a large, composite ultramafic and mafic pluton. This prospect is believed to contain 2.6 billion tons averaging 15 to 17 percent total iron. The average grade is 10.5 to 12 percent magnetic iron and 15 to 17 percent total iron. The platinum-group metal (PGM) potential of this prospect is unknown but may be significant.

The Sleitat prospect is centered on a saddle at an elevation of 1,725 feet, between the two high peaks of Sleitat Mountain (1,979 and 1,903 feet elevation). Sleitat Mountain is the highest part of northeast-southwest trending uplands between the valleys of Harris Creek and the Nushagak River. The occurrence of granite and peripheral gold-bearing quartz gash veins was reported as early as 1938, but subsequent exploration has shown that the principal mineral deposit is a tin-, tungsten-, and silver-bearing sheeted greisen system. A bulk sample contained 0.37 percent tin, 0.04 percent tungsten, and 17 ppm silver; the Sleitat deposit is estimated to contain a total of 28.6 million tons with the average grade of this bulk sample. This size and grade is consistent with that found in other large cassiterite-bearing greisen deposits around the world.

Oil and Gas. The southwestern portion of Region 6 is underlain by the Nushagak Basin, which is one of two basins in the Bristol Bay Area (along with the Bristol Bay basin). The Alaska Peninsula-Bristol Bay basin is 500 miles long and up to 100 miles wide. In Region 5 (the northwestern part of the peninsula) the basin is underlain by up to 18,000 feet of Tertiary sediments that thicken to the south and thin to the north. The offshore Bristol Bay basin is a sediment-filled structural depression that underlies the northern continental shelf of the Alaska Peninsula. Northern coastal plain hydrocarbon potential is moderate to locally high for gas and

¹⁶ The deposit consists of disseminated chalcopyrite and molybdenite, accompanied by minor to trace galena, sphalerite, and arsenopyrite in a stockwork vein system. This mineralization is hosted in early Tertiary granodiorite porphyry that intrudes Tertiary dacite tuffs, lahars, and breccia.

¹⁷ The mineral inferred resources include 1.0 billion tonnes grading 0.61% copper-equivalent (0.40 grams gold per tonne, 0.30% copper, and 0.015% molybdenum above a cut-off grade of 0.30% copper-equivalent). Importantly, Snowden estimates that the Pebble deposit contains significant amounts of high-grade resources: 141 million tonnes of 0.67 grams gold per tonne, 0.48% copper and 0.019% molybdenum, or 0.97% copper-equivalent above a cut-off grade of 0.80% copper-equivalent. The resource estimate is based on approximately 18,353 meters of drilling in 110 core holes. During 2003 North Dynasty Minerals conducted an additional 30,000 feet of drilling in 18 holes at Pebble and other nearby prospects.

low to moderate for oil; both are believed to occur in structural and stratigraphic traps. Oil and gas seeps occur along the peninsula's southeastern flank; some along large anticlinal crests. Source rock data indicate gas prone Tertiary organic shales. Oil may be derived from deeper Mesozoic strata. Tertiary and Mesozoic sandstone reservoir characteristics are locally conducive to hydrocarbon production.

The Alaska Department of Natural Resources, Lake and Peninsula, Bristol Bay, and Aleutians East Boroughs have signed a memorandum of understanding (MOU) in support of oil and gas lease sales and licensing of state land in the Bristol Bay and Alaska Peninsula region (March 17, 2004). Similar MOUs are in effect between the DNR and The Aleut Regional Native Corporation (December 18, 2003) and the DNR and Bristol Bay Native Corporation (July 10, 2003).

Materials. There are few active materials sites in the Region except for those found near villages such as New Stuyahok.

Forestry. Region 6 and 7 contain most of the forest resources of the Bristol Bay Area. These non commercial forests are found primarily in the Nushagak-Mulchatna drainages. The trees are largely concentrated in the river valleys and consist of spruce, birch, and aspen. Some are large enough for house and saw logs. Most resources are for personal use to meet some modest building needs and for fuel. Upland mixed forests occur in the Muklung Hills and east of the Wood River Mountains. The most valuable of the forest resources for local use are located in the lower Nushagak area near New Stuyahok, Ekwok, and Portage Creek; in the Nushagak and Nuyakuk River above Koliganek; and the Mulchatna River.

Fish and Wildlife. All five species of Pacific salmon – chinook (king), sockeye (red), pink, coho (silver), pink (humpy), and chum (dog) – spawn in the Nushagak-Mulchatna River systems. Sockeye are the most important commercially. Freshwater sport fish including rainbow trout, Arctic grayling, lake trout, Arctic char, Dolly Varden, and northern pike are generally prolific throughout the area.

Caribou are an important resource in the area. The Mulchatna Caribou Herd has been increasing in size and expanding its range since the 1930's. Serious efforts to conduct a census of the herd have taken place since 1973; between 1981 and 1996, the Mulchatna Caribou Herd increased from 19,000 to 200,000. In recent years the herd has peaked in size, and has decreased to what is presently estimated at approximately 30,000 individuals (<http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=species.main>). Important areas for Caribou include the calving area which extends from the upper Koktuli drainage south to Iliamna Lake and from Kemuck Mtn. east to the Nushagak River.

Moose are relatively new to the Bristol Bay area, possibly moving into the area from the middle Kuskokwim drainages during the last 100 years. During the last twenty years, moose numbers have increased and moose are now common along the Nushagak/Mulchatna Rivers and all of their major tributaries. They also occur throughout the Wood/Tikchik Lake area and have extended their range westward.

Brown bears are common throughout the north Bristol Bay area and are seasonally abundant along salmon spawning areas in the Nushagak, Mulchatna River drainages as well as long the Wood River Lakes. These bears are also observed near aggregations of the Mulchatna Caribou Herd. Important denning areas occur in the Muklung Hills and the Shotgun Hills.

Birds nesting in the area include a variety of waterfowl, gulls, bald eagle, golden eagle, Arctic tern, various loons, willow ptarmigan, and spruce grouse. Numerous transients pass through as well. Eagle nests occur only sporadically along the Nushagak River; nesting sites for eagles and other raptors are slightly more abundant on the Mulchatna and lower Koktuli Rivers.

Trapping has been an important part of the culture and economy of the Northern Bristol Bay area and provided a ready means to acquire cash prior to development of the commercial fishing industry. Historically beaver have been the most important furbearer in the Region. Population trends of furbearers in the Region are favorable – either stable or increasing. This is true for important species found in Region 6 such as land otter, wolverine, and red fox, although populations of the latter can fluctuate greatly due to outbreaks of rabies.

Management Considerations: Local and State Plans and Special Use Area

A number of local, state, and federal management plans were considered in development of this plan. Local plans include the Bristol Bay CRSA Coastal Zone Management Plan, the Lake and Peninsula Borough Coastal Zone Management Plan, the Lake and Peninsula Borough Comprehensive Plan, the Nushagak & Mulchatna Rivers Recreation Management Plan, and the Southwest Alaska Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy 2003-2008. State plans include the Bristol Bay Area Plan, the Wood-Tikchik State Park Management Plan, the Nushagak & Mulchatna Rivers Recreation Management Plan, and the Southwest Alaska Transportation Plan. Federal plans include the Nushagak and Wood Rivers Flood Plain Management Study.

Region 6 is within the Bristol Bay CRSA Coastal Zone Management Plan. Most state-owned land falls within the CRSA but is on land outside the coastal zone. The Enforceable and Administrative Policies of these Coastal Management Plans are extensive; policies affecting anadromous fish streams, bald eagle nests, oil and gas development, material extraction, and mining can be applicable, under certain circumstances, to state land. Please see the web site www.alaskacoast.state.ak.us¹⁸ for more information on enforceable policies. These policies should be consulted by the DNR prior to issuing an authorization.

The eastern portion of Region 6 is located within the boundaries of the Lake and Peninsula Borough. Both the Comprehensive Plan and the District Coastal Management Plan of the Lake and Peninsula Borough apply to this portion of Region 6. The Comprehensive Plan focuses on economic and infrastructure development issues and does not contain specific land use standards or a land use map. The Enforceable Policies of the District Coastal Management Plan

¹⁸ The Alaska Coastal Management Program was terminated on July 1, 2011, pursuant to AS 44.66.030.

are extensive; policies affecting anadromous streams, bald eagle nests, oil and gas development, material extraction and mining can be applicable, under certain instances, to state lands. See www.alaskacoast.state.ak.us¹⁹ for more information on enforceable policies. These policies should be consulted by DNR prior to issuing an authorization.

Region 6 is also subject to the Nushagak & Mulchatna Rivers Recreation Management Plan (RRMP; April 2005). This plan treats recreation uses on the two river systems and was adopted as an amendment to the Bristol Bay Area Plan (1984) and as part of the Coastal Zone Management Plan. The RRMP provides the basis for the management of recreation use in areas co-designated Habitat and Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed within the Nushagak-Mulchatna drainage.

Region 6 is also within the area covered by the Southwest Alaska Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy 2003-2008, which was developed for the U.S. Department of Commerce Economic Development Administration by the Southwest Alaska Municipal Conference (July 2003). This document developed a number of goals, objectives, and strategies to facilitate and support efforts that retain and grow the region's wealth, including diversifying the economic base.

The Bristol Bay Area Plan (1984) affected all state lands in the Region. This version of the area plan stated that Region 6 was to be managed in conjunction with Region 7 for fish and wildlife habitat and harvest and for recreation. Land use designations in Region 7 included fish and wildlife habitat, minerals, and recreation. This revision supersedes the 1984 area plan. The Area Plan (2005) provides the basis for the management of all state land within the Region except for recreational uses, which are managed under the auspices of the RRMP.

The Southwest Alaska Transportation Plan (ADOT/PF, November 2002) identified a Dillingham/Bristol Bay Area Transportation Corridor, which in general extends from Levelock to Dillingham, connecting with the communities of Ekwok and Aleknagik. It includes a crossing of the Wood River at Aleknagik and a major crossing of the Nushagak River. There are several possible tie-in locations to the Bristol Bay to Cook Inlet transportation corridor. The plan models a corridor from Aleknagik to Igiugig via Levelock.

The State of Alaska has issued a Special Use Area (ADL 226852) defining three Public Use sites on the Nushagak River at the mouth of the Iowithla River (PU6), near Ekwok (PU9), and at New Stuyahok (PU21). These public use sites limit uses not requiring a permit to seven consecutive days.

Municipal Selections

Municipal selections by the Lake and Peninsula Borough occur along the Mulchatna River, in the upper Koktuli drainage, and at an unnamed lake in the upper Stuyahok River drainage. These selections total approximately 11,705 acres in Region 6 and are distributed along streams

and lakes with attractive recreation and development features. See Maps 3-2 to 3-22, Appendix C, and the Municipal Entitlement section of Chapter 4.

Management Summary: Uplands

State land in Region 6 is to be managed for a variety of multiple uses, including settlement, materials extraction, public facilities development, dispersed public recreation, mineral exploration and development, and maintenance of sensitive wildlife habitats. Oil and gas potential, although only moderate to low, may lead to exploration and development in the future, and is considered appropriate within the Region. The majority of lands in Region 6 are designated General Use (Gu). Most of the major river corridors have been co-designated Habitat (Ha) and Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed (Rd); they mostly correspond to the river corridors as defined in the Nushagak & Mulchatna Rivers Recreation Management Plan. The Minerals (Mi) land use designation (or co-designation with Habitat) has been applied to four areas where mineral resources are known and activity is expected during the planning period. A management unit adjacent to the Wood-Tikchik State Park in the Muklung Hills is designated Habitat (Ha). The corridor of the Mulchatna River, within the Lake and Peninsula Borough, is co-designated habitat (Ha) and dispersed recreation (Rd). Public Use Sites (identified in the Nushagak & Mulchatna Rivers Recreation Management Plan and used for recreation) have been designated Public Recreation and Tourism-Public Use Sites (Rp). A large number of small management units associated with airport or other such facilities are designated Public Facilities-Retain (Pr). Active materials sites are designated Materials (Ma).

Plan Designations and Management

The plan designations that are used within this Region have the following management intent. The policies and management intent guidelines described in Chapter 2 affect all DNR authorizations. Refer especially to those guidelines relating to Fish and Wildlife Habitat and Harvest Areas, and Settlement. See also the descriptions of the plan designations in the first part of this Chapter; this section indicates which lands can be conveyed out of state ownership and those that must be retained.

- General Use (Gu). Within this Region, lands that contain one or more resource values, none of which is of sufficiently high value to merit designation as a primary use, and areas that are unlikely to be developed during the planning period are designated General Use. The land is to be managed for a variety of uses including protection of fish and wildlife habitat and harvest, dispersed public recreation, minerals, oil and gas exploration and development, and protection of heritage resources. It is expected that little development will occur in these areas during the planning period, and it is not intended as a matter of policy that intensive forms of development occur in these areas other than occasionally and at specific sites. Municipal land selections, under the Municipal Entitlement program, are conveyable to the municipality subject to a Best Interest Finding by the State. The Lake and Peninsula Borough has made a small land

selection on General Use lands in the vicinity of the south fork of the Koktuli River. Except for lands that may be conveyed to the Borough, lands with this designation are to be retained by the state.

- **Habitat (Ha).** Generally, this designation applies to areas of various size that are important for fish and wildlife species during a sensitive life-history stage where alteration of the habitat or human disturbance could result in a permanent loss of a population or sustained yield of a species. In Region 6 this designation is applied to waterbodies cataloged by the Alaska Department of Fish and Game as anadromous (<http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/sf/SARR/AWC/index.cfm?ADFG=main.interactive>) and to an area important for caribou, moose calving, and brown bear denning in the Muklung Hills. The designation is to be retained in state ownership. This designation is also applied as a co-designation with Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed in certain areas affected by the Nushagak & Mulchatna Rivers Recreation Management Plan.
- **Materials (Ma).** Lands designated materials are those where active or inactive materials sites are present. These can include common varieties of sand, gravel, and stone or are site associated with materials extraction that contain conveyors, crushing, sizing, and other processing equipment. Until the materials have been exhausted, material sites are to be retained by the state; thereafter, other authorizations or disposals may be appropriate. Authorizations should be done in consultation with the Department of Transportation and Public Facilities.
- **Minerals (Mi).** Areas associated with significant resources, either measured or inferred that may experience minerals exploration or development during the planning period are designated Minerals. Some areas are also important as habitat areas, and these units are co-designated Minerals and Habitat. Land designated Minerals are to be retained in state ownership. This designation (or co-designation) has been applied at the Shotgun, Kemuk, and Pebble Copper deposits.
- **Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed (Rd).** Lands with the designation of Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed are to be managed so that their public recreation values are protected and maintained. Within these areas the primary surface uses are intended to be those related to hiking, hunting, fishing, wildlife viewing, and the like. Selections on these lands may be appropriate for conveyance to a Borough under the Municipal Entitlement program (subject to a Best Interest Finding by the state). This designation is applied to a specific section of the Mulchatna River that is affected by a municipal selection of the Lake and Peninsula Borough.
- **Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed and Habitat (Co-designation).** Certain navigable waterbodies (lakes and streams) are co-designated Habitat (Ha) and Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed (Rd). Authorizations within these waterbodies should not interfere with important habitat or public recreation values. See Table 3.1 in the Navigability section of this Chapter for a listing of these streams. Note: Certain waterbodies may (only) be designated Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed (Rd), Habitat (Ha), or General Use (Gu). This co-designation is applied to the river corridors

within the Nushagak & Mulchatna Rivers Recreation Management Plan. In Region 6 this includes the corridors of the Iowithla, Kokwok, Nuyakuk, upper Nushagak, and Mulchatna drainages.

- **Public Facilities-Retain (Pr).** This designation applies to sites that are reserved for a specific public infrastructure requirement. They are to be retained in state or public ownership. In this Region, this designation applies to lands containing public facilities, commonly airports or schools. Only a small amount of acreage is affected by this designation.
- **Public Recreation and Tourism-Public Use Site (Rp).** This designation applies to areas with a concentration of recreational users or tourists or that are likely to have such concentrations. Within this Region this designation applies to specific recreation sites – such as the public use sites identified in the Nushagak & Mulchatna Rivers Recreation Management Plan. Unless otherwise indicated in the Resource Allocation Table, these sites are to be retained by the state. In some instances they may be conveyed to a Borough, subject to the Borough retaining them in public ownership and ensuring that they remain available for public use.

Specific Management Considerations

- **Generally Allowed Uses.** The Generally Allowed Uses in 11 AAC 96.020 can occur throughout the Region.
- **Proposed Transportation Corridor.** The area identified on the Region Map as a “Potential Transportation Corridor” should be retained by the state during the planning period. Authorizations granted by DNR within or adjacent to this corridor should not preclude the future development of transportation access. Authorizations or disposals within and adjacent to this corridor should only be allowed after consultation with ADOT/PF.
- **Except for areas closed to mineral entry under existing Mineral Closing Orders, all state lands within Region 6 are open to mineral entry. No additional MCOs are recommended; the only exception applies to the areas to be disposed of by DNR for purposes of Community Settlement. Closure to mineral entry is recommended at or before plat adoption. No leasehold location orders are recommended. See the Minerals section in Chapter 2 for more detail on subsurface management requirements.**
- **Mineral Closing and Opening Orders.** This revision of the Bristol Bay Area Plan retains the mineral closing and opening orders largely implemented by DNR at the time of original plan adoption. These MCOs either close a proposed settlement area or close a number of major streams to mineral location. These include the following:
 - MCO 393 – Major streams in the Nushagak and Mulchatna drainage basin
 - MCO 294 – Jack Rabbit Hills (T1R, R40W, Seward Meridian)

- Leasehold Location Orders. Leasehold Location Order No. 1 covers small portions of Region 6, much of Region 7, portions of Region 8, and 9. Under this order, rights to locatable minerals may be acquired only under the Leasehold Location System, AS 38.05.205, and may not be acquired by locating a mining claim under AS 38.05.195. In the affected area, an approved Plan of Operations for a mineral lease takes the place of a Land Use Permit required for unleased land. If the proposed lease activities are minor, a plan of operations is not required (11 AAC 86.800). The Plan of Operations must show how the operator proposes to comply with the lease stipulations and other pertinent guideline in this plan.
- Retained Lands. There are no state lands within this Region that are designated to be retained except for those that are reserved as a ‘Potential Transportation Corridor’, and those designated Public Facilities-Retain (Pr), Mineral (Mi), or Habitat (Ha). Note: Certain management units designated Pr in the Resource Allocation Table may be conveyed out of state ownership and to a Borough, should one be formed as part of the Municipal Entitlement Act, providing the land conveyed remains public land and the public retains access to the public use site. State lands not conveyed to the Borough under the Municipal Entitlement Program are to be retained in state ownership.
- Navigable Waters. Shorelands (rivers and lakes) that are believed to be navigable are listed in Table 3.1 in the Navigability section of this Chapter. Authorizations in these waters must ensure the continued use of a waterway by the public for purposes of trade, travel, and commerce. Note: These waterbodies are assigned a plan designation of Habitat or a co-designation of Habitat and Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed. Authorizations issued by DNR are to maintain the habitat and public recreation values of these waterbodies.

See the Resource Allocation Table for more detail on the upland management units.

Resource Allocation Table for Upland Management Units - Region 6

Unit # / Name	Acres / Designation(s)	MTRS	Management Intent	Resources, Uses, Additional Info
R06-01 RRMP 14	754,087 Gu - General Use	Map 3-6	The unit is designated General Use (Gu) and is to be managed for a variety of uses, including the protection of fish and wildlife resources and their associated habitats, mineral exploration and development, and dispersed recreation. Some forms of recreation use, including commercial recreation, may be appropriate if these recreational uses are found to be compatible with the management intent for adjacent river corridors designated Ha-Rd or Rd in the Area Plan. Development authorizations may be appropriate subject to the protection of these resources, consistency with the recreation uses specified in the RRMP, and the specific requirements of Chapter 2; see particularly the requirements for Management Guideline K, "Caribou and Moose Calving and Rutting Areas", in the Fish and Wildlife Habitat and Harvest Areas section and with Management Guideline J, "Nushagak & Mulchatna Rivers Recreation Management Plan", in the Recreation, Tourism, and Scenic Resources section of Chapter 2. For convenience, Table 2.2 contains a listing of allowed, prohibited, and conditional (recreational) uses by RRMP Management Unit. Management Guideline J in the Recreation, Tourism, and Scenic Resources section of Chapter 2 specifically defines the relationship between the RRMP and the BBAP, and must be consulted in adjudication decisions. Intensive development is not expected within this unit during the planning period except occasionally and at specific locations associated with recreation uses and mineral exploration and development. The unit is to be retained in state ownership during the planning period. Settlement is not considered an appropriate use.	The unit encompasses uplands in the upper Nushagak River, King Salmon River, and Chichitnok River drainages and coincides with that of Management Unit 14 of the Nushagak & Mulchatna Rivers Recreation Management Plan. Vegetation consists primarily of tall shrublands. These major drainages are cataloged as anadromous and contain moose rutting areas (although not part of the unit) and brown bear denning areas (in the Shotgun Hills). Caribou and moose calving and wintering are also known to occur within this unit. The management of this unit is governed by the requirements of the Bristol Bay Area Plan. (Previous to this revision, DNR authorizations relating to recreation uses and structures were guided by the Nushagak & Mulchatna Rivers Recreation Management Plan (RRMP).) The requirements of the RRMP have been carried over except for prohibitions on structures, trapping cabins, boat storage and docks.
R06-02 Corridor of the Nushagak River system	316,313 Rd - Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed Ha - Habitat	Map 3-6	This unit, which consists of the navigable portions of the Nushagak River and its adjoining uplands as depicted in Map 3-6, is co-designated Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed (Rd) and Habitat (Ha). Unit is to be retained by the state and managed to maintain the recreational uses of the Nushagak River and the adjoining upland corridor, its fish and wildlife resources, and public recreation values. The management requirements of the Nushagak & Mulchatna Rivers Recreation Management Plan (RRMP) are to be followed by DNR in the granting of authorizations related to certain types of recreational uses and structures. See the Management Intent and Management Guidelines in the RRMP for Management Units 10, 12, and 13. For convenience, Table 2.2 contains a listing of allowed, prohibited, and conditional uses by RRMP management unit. Management Guideline J in the Recreation, Tourism, and Scenic Resources section of Chapter 2, which more specifically defines the relationship between the RRMP and the BBAP, also applies and should be consulted in adjudication decisions. In general, authorizations should not be issued for non-recreational uses that are incompatible with the management intent of this unit and the management objectives of the RRMP. Oil, gas, and mineral exploration and development are considered appropriate uses if compatible with the management intent for this unit or if in the best interest of the state.	This unit is the corridor of the upper Nushagak River as depicted in the Nushagak & Mulchatna Rivers Recreation Management Plan (RRMP). The unit consists of that portion of RRMP Management Units 10, 12, and 13 within state-owned lands in Region 6. The RRMP calls for these management units to be managed for either a 'primitive' or 'semi-primitive' experience. The RRMP also specifies those recreational uses that are appropriate. It includes the Nushagak, King Salmon, and Chichitnok River corridors as well as that of lower Vukpalik Creek. The width of the corridor varies, and may be up to four miles wide. Vegetation consists of lichen tundra and low and tall shrublands. The corridors contain streams cataloged as anadromous; these are utilized by brown bear, especially during the salmon spawning season. Moose use the corridors as calving areas. The Alaska Heritage Resources Survey (AHRS) reports many heritage sites in this unit. The unit is partly affected by MCO 393. This corridor does not include the specific public use sites identified in the RRMP. These are specific, individual units.

Unit # / Name	Acres / Designation(s)	MTRS	Management Intent	Resources, Uses, Additional Info
R06-03 Shotgun	35,437 Mi - Minerals Ha - Habitat	Map 3-6 S004N051W; S003N051W	The land is co-designated Minerals (Mi) and Habitat (Ha), and is to be managed for the exploration and development of mineral deposits, subject to state permitting requirements and the protection of sensitive habitats. Any mineral development must consider effects on brown bear denning areas and shall follow the requirements of Management Guidelines A and B in the Fish and Wildlife section of Chapter 2. The unit is to be retained in state ownership. The Nushagak & Mulchatna Rivers Recreation Management Plan does not apply within this unit (p. 1-2; p.2-11). Refer to the Recreation, Tourism, and Scenic Resources section of Chapter 2 for a listing of allowed and prohibited uses. However, permanent facilities related to commercial recreation are prohibited in this unit.	This land is located in the Shotgun Hills. Vegetation is primarily tall shrubs and barren land. The unit encompasses the Shotgun Hills mineral district, which consists of a number of known prospects, occurrences, and the Shotgun gold deposit. The Shotgun deposit has a drill measured resource of approximately 979,660 ounces of gold. Areas along the main valley of the King Salmon River, immediately south of the unit, are used by moose for calving. The area is utilized by brown bear for denning. Exploration and other mining related activities are permitted throughout the DNR's Annual Placer Mining Permit. This unit was affected by the 2013 Plan Amendment process.
R06-04 PU20/Chichitnok River	202 Rp - Public Recreation and Tourism-Public Use Site	Map 3-6 S003N046W	This unit is designated Public Recreation and Tourism-Public Use Site (Rp) and is to be managed for public recreation. It is to be retained in public ownership. See also the Management Guideline for "Public Use Sites" in the Recreation, Tourism, and Scenic Resources section of Chapter 2.	The unit consists of a campsite at the mouth of the Chichitnok River. It is identified in the Nushagak & Mulchatna Rivers Recreation Management Plan, April 2005, as a public use site (PU20).
R06-05 RRMP 19	1,076,848 Gu - General Use	Map 3-6	The unit is designated General Use (Gu) and is to be managed for a variety of uses, including the protection of fish and wildlife resources and their associated habitats, mineral exploration and development, and dispersed recreation. Some forms of recreation use, including commercial recreation, may be appropriate if these recreational uses are found to be compatible with the management intent for adjacent river corridors designated Ha-Rd or Rd in the Area Plan. Development authorizations may be appropriate subject to the protection of these resources, consistency with the recreation uses specified in the RRMP, and the specific requirements of Chapter 2; see particularly the requirements for Management Guideline K, "Caribou and Moose Calving and Rutting Areas", in the Fish and Wildlife Habitat and Harvest Areas section and with Management Guideline J, "Nushagak & Mulchatna Rivers Recreation Management Plan", in the Recreation, Tourism, and Scenic Resources section of Chapter 2. For convenience, Table 2.2 contains a listing of allowed, prohibited, and conditional (recreational) uses by RRMP Management Unit. Management Guideline J in the Recreation, Tourism, and Scenic Resources section of Chapter 2 specifically defines the relationship between the RRMP and the BBAP, and must be consulted in adjudication decisions. Intensive development is not expected within this unit during the planning period except occasionally and at specific locations associated with recreation uses and mineral exploration and development. The unit is to be retained in state ownership during the planning period. Settlement is not considered an appropriate use.	The unit encompasses uplands in the lower Mulchatna drainage basin and coincides with Management Unit 19 of the Nushagak & Mulchatna Rivers Recreation Management Plan. The unit contains anadromous fish streams which include Keefer Creeks and the Swan River. This unit also contains areas of moose wintering, and caribou wintering and calving habitat. Vegetation consists of scattered spruce woodlands and tall shrublands at higher elevations and low shrub and lichen tundra. The unit contains some moose calving areas, and tundra swans in the general vicinity of the Swan River. Considerable mineral potential is present and a large block of claims has been staked on state land east of the mouth of the Mulchatna River. The management of this unit is governed by the requirements of the Bristol Bay Area Plan. (Previous to this revision, DNR authorizations relating to recreation uses and structures were guided by the Nushagak & Mulchatna Rivers Recreation Management Plan (RRMP).) The requirements of the RRMP have been carried over except for prohibitions on permanent facilities and docks. Parts of the unit are affected by MCOs 393 and 249. The configuration of this unit changed appreciably with the revisions under the 2013 Plan Amendment. See unit R06-05A.
R06-05A Wetlands adjacent to Mulchatna River	23,452 Wr - Water Resources	Map 3-6	Manage unit to protect and maintain habitat and wetlands as well as wetland hydrologic connections to adjacent streams and wetlands. Retain in state ownership. Dispersed recreation is considered an appropriate use in this unit. Other than utilities, communication, roads/bridges, and similar facilities providing a public service, development is not appropriate within this unit. Any authorizations that may be issued will need to avoid impacts or mitigate impacts to wetlands, riverine areas, and moose habitat.	Unit consists of five separate subunits, with a northern concentration area at the intersection of the Mulchatna River with the Moose and Portage Creeks and the Mosquito River. A separate subunit, situated to the south, connects wetland areas between the Mulchatna and Kaktuli Rivers. Extensive wetlands exist throughout each of the subunits. This unit was created during the 2013 Plan Amendment process in order to encompass wetland complexes of significant size. The northern concentration area abuts streams contained in units R06-57 and R06-58.

Unit # / Name	Acres / Designation(s)	MTRS	Management Intent	Resources, Uses, Additional Info
R06-06 PU33/Upper Mulchatna River	161 Rp - Public Recreation and Tourism-Public Use Site	Map 3-6 S004N037W	This unit is designated Public Recreation and Tourism-Public Use Site (Rp) and is to be managed for public recreation and retained in public ownership. See also the Management Guideline for “Public Use Sites” in the Recreation, Tourism, and Scenic Resources section of Chapter 2. Conveyance of the unit to the Lake and Peninsula Borough is appropriate with the stipulation that the unit remain in public ownership as a Public Use Site.	Unit consists of a campsite and floatplane and wheeled plane landing area on the upper Mulchatna River 5 miles downstream from Springway Creek. It is identified in the Nushagak & Mulchatna Rivers Recreation Management Plan (April 2005) as a public use site (PU33). The unit is part of a land selection by the Lake and Peninsula Borough under its municipal entitlement.
R06-07 Corridor Middle Mulchatna River	19,851 Rd - Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed Ha - Habitat	Map 3-6	<p>This unit, which consists of the navigable portions of the Mulchatna River and its adjoining uplands as depicted in Map 3-6, is designated Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed (Rd). Except for those areas that may be conveyed under the Municipal Entitlement program, the unit is to be retained by the state and managed to maintain the recreational uses of the Mulchatna River and the adjoining upland corridor, its fish and wildlife resources, and public recreation values. The management requirements of the Nushagak & Mulchatna Rivers Recreation Management Plan (RRMP) are to be followed by DNR in the granting of authorizations related to certain types of recreational uses and structures. See the Management Intent and Management Guidelines in the RRMP for Management Unit 20. For convenience, Table 2.2 contains a listing of allowed, prohibited, and conditional uses related to recreational facilities by RRMP Management Unit. Management Guideline J in the Recreation, Tourism, and Scenic Resources section of Chapter 2, which more specifically defines the relationship between the RRMP and the BBAP, also applies and should be consulted in adjudication decisions. If the adjudicatory decision of a municipal entitlement selection determines that it is appropriate to convey state land, the classification of the selection converts to Rd (Dispersed Recreation).</p> <p>In general, authorizations should not be issued for non-recreational uses that are incompatible with the management intent of this unit and the management objectives of the RRMP. Oil, gas, and mineral exploration and development are considered appropriate if consistent with these management objectives or if in the best interest of the state. The municipal selections affecting this unit are considered appropriate for conveyance, subject to a separate and subsequent Best Interest Finding by DNR. If conveyed to the Borough, neither the requirements of the RRMP or the Area Plan will apply.</p>	This unit consists of the uplands corridor adjacent to either side of the Mulchatna River upstream of the boundary of the Lake and Peninsula Borough and within Region 6. Its outer boundary corresponds to that of Management Unit 20 of the Nushagak & Mulchatna Rivers Recreation Management Plan (RRMP). The width of the corridor, adjacent to the streams, varies, and may be up to four miles wide, measured from each side of the river system. Vegetation consists of lichen tundra and low shrub, tall shrub, and scattered spruce-birch-alder woodlands. The river is cataloged as an anadromous fish stream and is utilized by brown bear, especially during the salmon spawning season. Moose and caribou are known to winter in this unit, and moose also utilize the area for calving. Raptors nest along the river. The unit is partly affected by MCO 393 and LLO 1. This corridor does not include the specific public use sites identified in the RRMP. These are specific, individual units. The unit contains a large number of land selections by the Lake and Peninsula Borough under the Municipal Entitlement program.
R06-08 PU32/Mulchatna River	173 Rp - Public Recreation and Tourism-Public Use Site	Map 3-6 S003N039W	This unit is designated Public Recreation and Tourism-Public Use Site (Rp) and is to be managed for public recreation and retained in public ownership. See also the Management Guideline for “Public Use Sites” in the Recreation, Tourism, and Scenic Resources section of Chapter 2.	Unit consists of a campsite on the north bank of the Mulchatna River, 2 miles southeast of Red Bluff. It is identified in the Nushagak & Mulchatna Rivers Recreation Management Plan (April 2005) as a public use site (PU32).
R06-09 Corridor of the Lower Mulchatna River Note: The Stuyahok and Lower Kaktuli Rivers are included	255,566 Rd - Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed Ha - Habitat	Map 3-6	This unit, which consists of the navigable portions of the Mulchatna River and its adjoining uplands as depicted in Map 3-6, is co-designated Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed (Rd) and Habitat (Ha). Unit is to be retained by the state and managed to maintain the recreational uses of the Mulchatna River and the adjoining upland corridor, its fish and wildlife resources, and public recreation values. The management requirements of the Nushagak & Mulchatna Rivers Recreation Management Plan (RRMP) are to be followed by DNR in the granting of authorizations related to certain types of recreational uses and structures. See the Management Intent and	The unit is the corridor of the Lower Mulchatna River as depicted in the Nushagak & Mulchatna Rivers Recreation Management Plan (RRMP). The unit consists of that portion of RRMP Management Units 15, 18, and parts of 16, 17, and 20 within state-owned lands in Region 6. It includes the Mulchatna River up stream to the boundary of the Lake and Peninsula Borough and includes the corridors of the Stuyahok and lower Kaktuli Rivers. The width of the corridor varies, and may be up to four miles wide. Vegetation consists of lichen tundra and low shrub in the lower reaches and tall shrubland and scattered spruce woodlands in the upper reaches of the

Unit # / Name	Acres / Designation(s)	MTRS	Management Intent	Resources, Uses, Additional Info
in this unit.			<p>Management Guidelines in the RRMP for Management Units 15, 18, and 20. For convenience, Table 2.2 contains a listing of allowed, prohibited, and conditional uses by RRMP management unit. Management Guideline J in the Recreation, Tourism, and Scenic Resources section of Chapter 2, which more specifically defines the relationship between the RRMP and the BBAP, also applies and should be consulted in adjudication decisions.</p> <p>In general, authorizations should not be issued for non-recreational uses that are incompatible with the management intent of this unit and the management objectives of the RRMP. Oil, gas, and mineral exploration and development are considered appropriate uses if compatible with the management intent for this unit or in the best interest of the state.</p>	<p>river corridors. The rivers are cataloged as anadromous fish streams and utilized by brown bear for feeding, especially during the salmon spawning season. Moose utilize the river corridors as calving and winter concentration areas. Raptor nests occur along the main course of the Mulchatna River and especially along the lower reaches of the Koktuli River. The Alaska Heritage Resources Survey (AHRs) reports many heritage sites in this unit. The unit is partly affected by MCO 393. This corridor does not include the specific public use sites identified in the RRMP. These are specific, individual units.</p> <p>Note: This unit was enlarged from its previous extent during the 2013 Plan Amendment process to encompass extensive moose wintering areas.</p>
R06-10 PU18/King Salmon River	170 Rp - Public Recreation and Tourism-Public Use Site	Map 3-6 S002N051W	This unit is designated Public Recreation and Tourism-Public Use Site (Rp) and is to be managed for public recreation. It is to be retained in public ownership. See also the Management Guideline for "Public Use Sites" in the Recreation, Tourism, and Scenic Resources section of Chapter 2.	Unit consists of a campsite and floatplane landing area on unnamed lake near the headwaters of the King Salmon River. It is identified in the Nushagak & Mulchatna Rivers Recreation Management Plan (April 2005) as a public use site (PU18).
R06-11 PU19/Nushagak River	160 Rp - Public Recreation and Tourism-Public Use Site	Map 3-6 S002N046W	This unit is designated Public Recreation and Tourism-Public Use Site (Rp) and is to be managed for public recreation. It is to be retained in public ownership. See also the Management Guideline for "Public Use Sites" in the Recreation, Tourism, and Scenic Resources section of Chapter 2.	Unit consists of a campsite on the east bank of the Nushagak River 2 miles north of the mouth of the King Salmon River. It is identified in the Nushagak & Mulchatna Rivers Recreation Management Plan (April 2005) as a public use site (PU19).
R06-12 PU15/King Salmon River	161 Rp - Public Recreation and Tourism-Public Use Site	Map 3-6 S002N046W	This unit is designated Public Recreation and Tourism-Public Use Site (Rp) and is to be managed for public recreation. It is to be retained in public ownership. See also the Management Guideline for "Public Use Sites" in the Recreation, Tourism, and Scenic Resources section of Chapter 2.	Unit consists of a campsite and floatplane landing area at the mouth of the King Salmon River. It is identified in the Nushagak & Mulchatna Rivers Recreation Management Plan (April 2005) as a public use site (PU15).
R06-13 RRMP 11	580,615 Gu - General Use	Map 3-6	The unit is designated General Use (Gu) and is to be managed for a variety of uses, including the protection of fish and wildlife resources and their associated habitats, mineral exploration and development, and dispersed recreation. Some forms of recreation use, including commercial recreation, may be appropriate if these recreational uses are found to be compatible with the management intent for adjacent river corridors designated Ha-Rd or Rd in the Area Plan. Development authorizations may be appropriate subject to the protection of these resources, consistency with the recreation uses specified in the RRMP, and the specific requirements of Chapter 2; see particularly the requirements for Management Guideline K, "Caribou and Moose Calving and Rutting Areas", in the Fish and Wildlife Habitat and Harvest Areas section and with Management Guideline J, "Nushagak & Mulchatna Rivers Recreation Management Plan", in the Recreation, Tourism, and Scenic Resources section of Chapter 2. For convenience, Table 2.2 contains a listing of allowed, prohibited, and conditional (recreational) uses by RRMP Management Unit. Management Guideline J in the Recreation, Tourism, and Scenic Resources section of Chapter 2 specifically defines the relationship between the RRMP and the BBAP, and must be consulted in adjudication decisions. Intensive development is not expected within this unit during the planning period except occasionally and at specific locations associated with recreation uses and mineral exploration	The unit encompasses uplands east and west of the Nushagak River generally in the drainages of the Nuyakuk River as well as Klutuspak, Cranberry and Vukpalik Creeks. The unit coincides with that of Management Unit 11 of the Nushagak & Mulchatna Rivers Recreation Management Plan. Vegetation consists of tall shrub lands and lichen tundra. The unit contains moose and caribou calving and wintering areas, and waterfowl molting concentrations; the major streams, including Klutuspak Creek are cataloged as anadromous. The management of this unit is governed by the requirements of the Bristol Bay Area Plan. (Previous to this revision, DNR authorizations relating to recreation uses and structures were guided by the Nushagak & Mulchatna Rivers Recreation Management Plan (RRMP).) The requirements of the RRMP have been carried over except for prohibitions on permanent facilities and docks.

Unit # / Name	Acres / Designation(s)	MTRS	Management Intent	Resources, Uses, Additional Info
			and development. The unit is to be retained in state ownership during the planning period. Settlement is not considered an appropriate use.	
R06-14 PU16/Klutuspak Creek	197 Rp - Public Recreation and Tourism-Public Use Site	Map 3-6 S001N048W	This unit is designated Public Recreation and Tourism-Public Use Site (Rp) and is to be managed for public recreation. It is to be retained in public ownership. See also the Management Guideline for "Public Use Sites" in the Recreation, Tourism, and Scenic Resources section of Chapter 2.	Unit includes a wheeled airplane landing area on upper Klutuspak Creek. It is identified in the Nushagak & Mulchatna Rivers Recreation Management Plan (April 2005) as a public use site (PU16).
R06-15 PU17/Vukpalik Creek	239 Rp - Public Recreation and Tourism-Public Use Site	Map 3-6 S001N045W	This unit is designated Public Recreation and Tourism-Public Use Site (Rp) and is to be managed for public recreation. It is to be retained in public ownership. See also the Management Guideline for "Public Use Sites" in the Recreation, Tourism, and Scenic Resources section of Chapter 2.	Wheeled plane landing area in uplands 3 miles southeast of Vukpalik Creek. It is identified in the Nushagak & Mulchatna Rivers Recreation Management Plan (April 2005) as a public use site (PU17). Caribou are known to winter in portions of this unit.
R06-16 Upper Chulitna Area	107,151 Gu - General Use	Map 3-6	Unit is designated General Use (Gu) and is to be managed for a variety of uses, including the protection of fish and wildlife resources and their associated habitat, mineral exploration and development, wetlands, and dispersed recreation. Development authorizations may be considered appropriate subject to the protection of these resources and the specific requirements of Chapter 2. Intensive development is not expected within this unit during the planning period, and the unit is to be retained in state ownership during the planning period.	The unit encompasses portions of the upper Chulitna River in Region 6. Vegetation consists of tall and low shrublands and lichen tundra. Caribou are known to winter in portions of this unit. Wetlands are scattered throughout the unit. The unit is partly affected by LLO 1. Note: Area is not included as part of the Nushagak & Mulchatna Rivers Recreation Management Plan.
R06-17 PU14/Klutuspak Creek	205 Rp - Public Recreation and Tourism-Public Use Site	Map 3-6 S001S047W	This unit is designated Public Recreation and Tourism-Public Use Site (Rp) and is to be managed for public recreation and tourism. The unit is to be retained in public ownership. See also the Management Guideline for "Public Use Sites" in the Recreation, Tourism, and Scenic Resources section of Chapter 2.	Unit consists of a campsite on the Nushagak River at the mouth of Klutuspak Creek. It is identified in the Nushagak & Mulchatna Rivers Recreation Management Plan (April 2005) as a public use site (PU14).
R06-18 Sleitat	17,869 Mi - Minerals	Map 3-6	The land is designated Minerals (Mi) and is to be managed for the exploration and development of mineral deposits. The unit is to be retained in state ownership. The Nushagak & Mulchatna Rivers Recreation Management Plan does not apply within this unit (p. 1-2; p.2-11). Refer to the Recreation, Tourism, and Scenic Resources section of Chapter 2 for a listing of allowed and prohibited uses. However, permanent facilities related to commercial recreation are prohibited in this unit. Impacts to caribou wintering habitat are to be taken into consideration during mine permit review. Consult with ADF&G and other appropriate agencies to determine appropriate best management practices.	This land is located east of the Nushagak River in the vicinity of Sleitat Mountain and Harris Creek. Vegetation consists of low shrub and lichen tundra. Caribou are known to winter in this unit. The area is the locus of significant tin-tungsten-silver mineralization with peripheral gold. The Sleitat deposit has inferred resources of 64,000 to 106,000 tons of tin contained in 29 million tons of ore. One drill hole intercept contains 85 feet averaging 1.8% tin and 0.4% tungsten.
R06-19 Stuyahok	34 Hr - Heritage Resources	Map 3-6 S004S043W Sec. 16	This unit is designated Hr - Heritage Resources and is to be managed for the protection of the heritage resources present. Development authorizations are inappropriate except for those facilities related to the scientific examination or preservation of the site. No surface disturbance is authorized unless related to scientific inquiry. The site is to be retained in state ownership.	This unit is located at the former Eskimo village of Old Stuyahok (Stuyahok) near the confluence of the Stuyahok River with the Mulchatna River. The site is approximately 985 feet by 250 feet in a semicircular clearing. The foundations of ten to fifteen cabins are present. These cabins were probably dismantled when the village was abandoned in 1939-1940 due to persistent flooding. Two dilapidated cabins are also present.

Unit # / Name	Acres / Designation(s)	MTRS	Management Intent	Resources, Uses, Additional Info
R06-20 PU27/Koktuli River	29 Rp - Public Recreation and Tourism-Public Use Site	Map 3-6 S002S040W	This unit is designated Public Recreation and Tourism-Public Use Site (Rp) and is to be managed for public recreation and retained in public ownership. See also the Management Guideline for “Public Use Sites” in the Recreation, Tourism, and Scenic Resources section of Chapter 2.	Unit consists of a campsite on the Koktuli River at the mouth of the Swan River. It is identified in the Nushagak & Mulchatna Rivers Recreation Management Plan (April 2005) as a public use site (PU27).
R06-21 PU23/Mulchatna River	80 Rp - Public Recreation and Tourism-Public Use Site	Map 3-6 S003S042W	This unit is designated Public Recreation and Tourism-Public Use Site (Rp) and is to be managed for public recreation and retained in public ownership. See also the Management Guideline for “Public Use Sites” in the Recreation, Tourism, and Scenic Resources section of Chapter 2.	Unit consists of a campsite and floatplane landing area on the Mulchatna River at the mouth of the Koktuli River. It is identified in the Nushagak & Mulchatna Rivers Recreation Management Plan (April 2005) as a public use site (PU23).
R06-22 PU22/Mulchatna River	137 Rp - Public Recreation and Tourism-Public Use Site	Map 3-6 S003S042W	This unit is designated Public Recreation and Tourism-Public Use Site (Rp) and is to be managed for public recreation. The unit is to be retained in state ownership. See also the Management Guideline for “Public Use Sites” in the Recreation, Tourism, and Scenic Resources section of Chapter 2.	Unit consists of a campsite and floatplane landing area on the Mulchatna River 1.5 miles downstream from the mouth of the Koktuli River. It is identified in the Nushagak & Mulchatna Rivers Recreation Management Plan (April 2005) as a public use site (PU22).
R06-23 Pebble	31,735 Mi - Minerals	Map 3-6	<p>The general resource management intent for the Pebble Copper area is to consider mineral exploration and development and to allow DNR the discretion to make specific decisions as to how development may occur, through the authorization process. Also, see plan designations and management intent for the two units that border the area – R06-24 and R10-02.</p> <p>Mineral development in this unit may be authorized after a public process that is as extensive as this Area Plan, and with the benefit of site-specific data and design that is prepared for the development and not now available. For that reason, mineral development that is subject to an extensive public and agency process that involves public meetings and comment in the area, and that involves site-specific design may require different widths and habitat-protection measures than those specified in Chapter 2.</p> <p>The Pebble Copper road corridor transects the unit; the actual position of the road alignment has yet to be determined. No authorizations or disposals should be considered that are within or near the corridor until the road alignment is known or without consultation with the ADOT/PF. Notes: 1) The requirements of the Nushagak & Mulchatna Rivers Recreation Management Plan do not apply within this unit; the requirements of the Area Plan apply instead. Refer to Recreation, Tourism, and Scenic Resources Management Guideline J in Chapter 2 for a listing of allowed and prohibited uses. Permanent facilities related to commercial recreation are prohibited in this unit. 2) The habitat resources of the two stream corridors that traverse this unit (R06-24) are to be protected. (See management intent for R06-24.)</p>	<p>This land is located generally in the upper Koktuli River drainage in the area of Groundhog mountain and Sharp Mountain. The unit is adjacent to another minerals unit (R10-02) and is bisected by two stream corridors (R06-24). The terrain is of low to moderate relief and vegetation consists of low to tall shrub. The unit is host to several mineral deposits, prospects, and discoveries and hosts the Pebble Copper deposit. The Pebble deposit is a very large copper-gold resource; the drill indicated resource is estimated at over 2 billion tons. Upper portions of the Koktuli River support anadromous fish. Note to adjudicators: See units R06-24 and R10-02.</p> <p>The size and shape of this unit changed appreciably during the 2013 Plan Amendment process. Then new geophysical data provided the basis for these changes.</p>
R06-24 Pebble Streams	22,076 Mi - Minerals	Map 3-6	<p>The general resource management intent for the Pebble Copper area is to consider mineral exploration and development and to allow DNR the discretion to make specific decisions as to how development may occur, through the authorization process. Also, see plan designations and management intent for the two units that border the area – R06-23 and R10-02.</p> <p>Mineral development in this unit may be authorized after a public process</p>	The unit consists of the two separate stream corridors that adjoin units R06-23 and R10-02, the Pebble Copper deposit. The area of Upper Talarik Creek is utilized by moose as a wintering area. Talarik Creek is an anadromous fish stream and supports a recreational sports fishery for trout. Portions of the western part of the unit are used by moose for wintering. The unit is affected by MCO 393. The unit is part of the Pebble unit which contains the Pebble Copper copper-gold deposit -- a very large copper-gold resource; the

Unit # / Name	Acres / Designation(s)	MTRS	Management Intent	Resources, Uses, Additional Info
			<p>that is as extensive as this Area Plan, and with the benefit of site-specific data and design that is prepared for the development and not now available. For that reason, mineral development that is subject to an extensive public and agency process that involves public meetings and comment in the area, and that involves site-specific design may require different widths and habitat-protection measures than those specified in Chapter 2.</p> <p>Mineral development within R06-24 should be performed in such a manner as to ensure that impacts to the anadromous and high value resident fish streams are avoided or reduced to levels deemed appropriate in the state/federal permitting processes related to mineral deposit development. Specifically, such development is to ensure the protection of the streams affected by MCO 393 and their associated riverine habitats, which includes the area within 100' of OHW. Mineral entry and location within the two streams is not allowed pursuant to MCO 393. Impacts to moose wintering habitat are to be taken into consideration during mine permit review. Consult with ADF&G and other appropriate agencies to determine appropriate best management practices. This general management intent replaces and supersedes the management requirement of the Nushagak & Mulchatna Rivers Recreation Management Plan.</p>	<p>drill indicated resource is estimated at over 2 billion tons. Note to adjudicators: The requirements of the Area Plan apply to these corridors, not the RRMP. The requirements of the 2005 RRMP have been incorporated into the revised Area Plan.</p> <p>The size and shape of this unit changed appreciably during the 2013 Plan Amendment process. Then new geophysical data provided the basis for these changes.</p>
R06-25 Corridor of the Nuyakuk River	66,356 Rd - Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed Ha - Habitat	Map 3-6	<p>This unit, which consists of the navigable portions of the Nuyakuk River and its adjoining uplands as depicted in Map 3-6, is co-designated Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed (Rd) and Habitat (Ha). Unit is to be retained by the state and managed to maintain the recreational uses of the Nuyakuk River and the adjoining upland corridor, its fish and wildlife resources, and public recreation values. The management requirements of the Nushagak & Mulchatna Rivers Recreation Management Plan (RRMP) are to be followed by DNR in the granting of authorizations related to certain types of recreational uses and structures. See the Management Intent and Management Guidelines in the RRMP for Management Units 10, 12, and 13. For convenience, Table 2.2 contains a listing of allowed, prohibited, and conditional uses by RRMP management unit. Management Guideline J in the Recreation, Tourism, and Scenic Resources section of Chapter 2, which more specifically defines the relationship between the RRMP and the BBAP, also applies and should be consulted in adjudication decisions.</p> <p>In general, authorizations should not be issued for non-recreational uses that are incompatible with the management intent of this unit and the management objectives of the RRMP. Oil, gas, and mineral exploration and development are considered appropriate uses if compatible with the management intent for this unit or if in the best interest of the state.</p>	<p>The unit is the corridor of the Nuyakuk River as depicted in the Nushagak & Mulchatna Rivers Recreation Management Plan (RRMP). The unit consists of that portion of RRMP Management Unit 8 within state-owned lands in Region 6. The width of the corridor varies, and may be up to four miles wide, measured from each side of the river system. Vegetation consists of lichen tundra, tall and low shrublands, as well as scattered spruce woodlands. The river is cataloged as an anadromous fish stream. Brown bear use the corridor for feeding, especially during the salmon spawning season. Moose use the corridor as a calving and wintering area. It also functions as a caribou calving area. The Alaska Heritage Resources Survey (AHRS) reports a heritage site in this unit. The unit is partly affected by MCO 393.</p> <p>This unit was enlarged during the 2013 Plan Amendment to include certain moose calving and wintering areas, particularly in S002S050W and S001S050W.</p>
R06-26 Corridor of the Lower Nushagak River	10,055 Rd - Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed Ha - Habitat	Map 3-6	<p>This unit, which consists of the navigable portions of the Nushagak River and its adjoining state-selected uplands as depicted in Map 3-6, is co-designated Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed (Rd) and Habitat (Ha). Unit is to be retained by the state and managed to maintain the recreational uses of the Nushagak River and the adjoining upland corridor, its fish and wildlife resources, and public recreation values. The management requirements of the Nushagak & Mulchatna Rivers Recreation Management</p>	<p>The unit consists of a number of scattered, non-contiguous small land blocks of state-selected lands along the lower Nushagak and lower Mulchatna Rivers and within the river corridor of the Nushagak & Mulchatna Rivers Recreation Management Plan (RRMP). One small selection is located on the Kokwok River corridor. The scattered land units are parts of the RRMP Management Units 4, 5, 15, 7, and 9. The area contains moose calving areas, anadromous fish streams, raptor nesting sites, and streams utilized by</p>

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			<p>Plan (RRMP) are to be followed by DNR in the granting of authorizations related to certain types of recreational uses and structures. See the Management Intent and Management Guidelines in the RRMP for Management Units 1, 3, 5, and 7. For convenience, Table 2.2 contains a listing of allowed, prohibited, and conditional uses by RRMP management unit. Management Guideline J in the Recreation, Tourism, and Scenic Resources section of Chapter 2, which more specifically defines the relationship between the RRMP and the BBAP, also applies and should be consulted in adjudication decisions.</p> <p>In general, authorizations should not be issued for non-recreational uses that are incompatible with the management intent of this unit and the management objectives of the RRMP. Oil, gas, and mineral exploration and development are considered appropriate uses if compatible with the management intent for this unit or if in the best interest of the state.</p>	<p>brown bear. Some portions may be affected by MCO 393. Many cultural and historic sites are located along the river corridor.</p>
R06-27 PU21/Nushagak SUA	244 Rp - Public Recreation and Tourism-Public Use Site	Map 3-6 S004S043W	<p>This unit is designated Public Recreation and Tourism-Public Use Site (Rp) and is to be managed for public recreation, consistent with the requirements of the Special Use Designation. The unit is to be retained in state ownership. See also the Management Guideline for "Public Use Sites" in the Recreation, Tourism, and Scenic Resources section of Chapter 2.</p>	<p>This unit contains a campsite and floatplane landing area on the Mulchatna River at the mouth of the Stuyahok River. It is affected by a Special Use Area (ADL 226852), which limits use to personal, non-commercial uses for a period of seven consecutive days. It is identified in the Nushagak & Mulchatna Rivers Recreation Management Plan, April 2005, as a public use site (PU21). Includes Old Stuyahok site.</p>
R06-28 PU28/Koktuli River	161 Rp - Public Recreation and Tourism-Public Use Site	Map 3-6 S004S038W	<p>This unit is designated Public Recreation and Tourism-Public Use Site (Rp) and is to be managed for public recreation and retained in public ownership. See also the Management Guideline for "Public Use Sites" in the Recreation, Tourism, and Scenic Resources section of Chapter 2. Conveyance of the unit to the Lake and Peninsula Borough is appropriate with the stipulation that the unit remain in public ownership as a Public Use Site.</p>	<p>Unit consists of a wheeled plane landing area on the Koktuli River 1 mile downstream from the confluence of the north and south forks. The unit is part of a land selection by the Lake and Peninsula Borough under its municipal entitlement.</p>
R06-29 PU29/Koktuli River	43 Rp - Public Recreation and Tourism-Public Use Site	Map 3-6 S004S038W	<p>This unit is designated Public Recreation and Tourism-Public Use Site (Rp) and is to be managed for public recreation and retained in public ownership. See also the Management Guideline for "Public Use Sites" in the Recreation, Tourism, and Scenic Resources section of Chapter 2.</p>	<p>Unit consists of a campsite on the Koktuli River at the confluence of the north and south forks. It is identified in the Nushagak & Mulchatna Rivers Recreation Management Plan, April 2005, as a public use site (PU29).</p>
R06-30 Corridor Upper Koktuli River	37,560 Rd - Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed Ha - Habitat	Map 3-6	<p>This unit, which consists of the navigable portions of the Upper Koktuli River and its adjoining uplands as depicted in Map 3-6, is designated Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed (Rd) and Habitat (Ha). Except for those areas that may be conveyed under the Municipal Entitlement program, unit is to be retained by the state and managed to maintain the recreational uses of the Koktuli River and the adjoining upland corridor, its fish and wildlife resources, and public recreation values. The management requirements of the Nushagak & Mulchatna Rivers Recreation Management Plan (RRMP) are to be followed by DNR in the granting of authorizations related to certain types of recreational uses and structures. See the Management Intent and Management Guidelines in the RRMP for Management Unit 17. For convenience, Table 2.2 contains a listing of allowed, prohibited, and conditional uses related to recreational facilities by RRMP Management Unit. Management Guideline J in the Recreation, Tourism, and Scenic Resources section of Chapter 2, which more specifically defines the</p>	<p>This unit consists of the uplands corridor adjacent to either side of a portion of the Koktuli River. Its outer boundary corresponds to that of Management Unit 17 of the Nushagak & Mulchatna Rivers Recreation Management Plan (RRMP). The width of the corridor, adjacent to the streams, varies, and may be up to four miles wide, measured from each side of the river system. Vegetation consists of lichen tundra and low and tall shrublands. The river is cataloged as an anadromous fish stream, and moose use this area as wintering and calving habitat. The unit is partly affected by MCO 393. This corridor does not include the specific public use sites identified in the RRMP. These are specific, individual units. The unit contains a land selection by the Lake and Peninsula Borough under the Municipal Entitlement program.</p>

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			<p>relationship between the RRMP and the BBAP, also applies and should be consulted in adjudication decisions. If the adjudutory decision of a municipal entitlement selection determines that it is appropriate to convey state land, the classification of Habitat is extinguished and converts to Rd (Dispersed Recreation). See also the requirements for Management Guideline K, "Caribou and Moose Calving, Wintring, and Rutting Areas", in the Fish and Wildlife Habitat and Harvest Areas section of Chapter 2.</p> <p>In general, authorizations should not be issued for non-recreational uses that are incompatible with the management intent of this unit and the management objectives of the RRMP. Oil, gas, and mineral exploration and development are considered appropriate if consistent with these management objectives or if in the best interest of the state.</p>	
R06-31 PU30/Koktuli River	491 Rp - Public Recreation and Tourism-Public Use Site	Map 3-6 S004S037W	<p>This unit is designated Public Recreation and Tourism-Public Use Site (Rp) and is to be managed for public recreation and tourism. The unit is to be retained in public ownership. See also the Management Guideline for "Public Use Sites" in the Recreation, Tourism, and Scenic Resources section of Chapter 2 and the requirements for Management Guideline K, "Caribou and Moose Calving, Wintering, and Rutting Areas", in the Fish and Wildlife Habitat and Harvest Areas section. Conveyance of the unit to the Lake and Peninsula Borough is appropriate with the stipulation that the unit remain in public ownership as a Public Use Site.</p>	<p>This unit consists of a floatplane landing area on unnamed lake 1 mile south of the upper Koktuli River and campsite on the Koktuli River, connected by a trail. The unit is part of a land selection by the Lake and Peninsula Borough under its municipal entitlement. Moose are known to use portions of this unit for wintering habitat.</p>
R06-32 PU31/Upper Koktuli River	241 Rp - Public Recreation and Tourism-Public Use Site	Map 3-6 S004S035W	<p>This unit is designated Public Recreation and Tourism-Public Use Site (Rp) and is to be managed for public recreation and retained in state ownership. See also the Management Guideline for "Public Use Sites" in the Recreation, Tourism, and Scenic Resources section of Chapter 2. Conveyance of the unit to the Lake and Peninsula Borough is not appropriate since the preponderance of land surrounding the unit is designated Minerals (Mi).</p>	<p>This unit consists of a floatplane landing area on unnamed lake on the south side of the upper Koktuli River 2.5 miles northeast of Sharp Mountain. It is identified in the Nushagak & Mulchatna Rivers Recreation Management Plan, April 2005, as a public use site (PU31). The unit is part of a land selection by the Lake and Peninsula Borough under its municipal entitlement.</p>
R06-33 PU13/Nuyakuk Creek	359 Rp - Public Recreation and Tourism-Public Use Site	Map 3-6 S004S047W	<p>This unit is designated Public Recreation and Tourism-Public Use Site (Rp) and is to be managed for public recreation. The unit is to be retained in public ownership. See also the Management Guideline for "Public Use Sites" in the Recreation, Tourism, and Scenic Resources section of Chapter 2.</p>	<p>This unit consists of a campsite and floatplane landing area on shorelands on the Nushagak River at the mouth of Nuyakuk Creek. It is identified in the Nushagak & Mulchatna Rivers Recreation Management Plan, April 2005, as a public use site (PU13).</p>
R06-34 PU12/Kemuk Mountain	161 Rp - Public Recreation and Tourism-Public Use Site	Map 3-6 S006S053W	<p>This unit is designated Public Recreation and Tourism-Public Use Site (Rp) and is to be managed for public recreation. It is to be retained in public ownership. See also the Management Guideline for "Public Use Sites" in the Recreation, Tourism, and Scenic Resources section of Chapter 2.</p>	<p>Campsite and floatplane landing area on an unnamed lake 15 miles north of Okstukuk Lake. It is identified in the Nushagak & Mulchatna Rivers Recreation Management Plan, April 2005, as a public use site (PU12).</p>
R06-35 Corridor of the Kokwok River	149,611 Rd - Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed Ha - Habitat	Map 3-6	<p>This unit, which consists of the navigable portions of the Kokwok River and its adjoining uplands as depicted in Map 3-6, is co-designated Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed (Rd) and Habitat (Ha). Unit is to be retained by the state and managed to maintain the recreational uses of the Kokwok River and the adjoining upland corridor, its fish and wildlife resources, and public recreation values. The management requirements of the Nushagak & Mulchatna Rivers Recreation Management Plan (RRMP) are to be followed by DNR in the granting of authorizations related to certain</p>	<p>The unit is the corridor of the Kokwok River as depicted in the Nushagak & Mulchatna Rivers Recreation Management Plan (RRMP). The unit consists of that portion of RRMP Management Unit 4 within state-owned lands in Region 6. The width of the corridor varies, and may be up to four miles wide, measured from each side of the river system. Vegetation consists of lichen tundra and low shrub in the lower reaches and tall shrubland in the upper reaches of the river corridor. The drainage is cataloged as an anadromous fish stream. Brown bear utilize the upper reaches of the</p>

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			<p>types of recreational uses and structures. See the Management Intent and Management Guidelines in the RRMP for Management Unit 4. For convenience, Table 2.2 contains a listing of allowed, prohibited, and conditional uses by RRMP management unit. Management Guideline J in the Recreation, Tourism, and Scenic Resources section of Chapter 2, which more specifically defines the relationship between the RRMP and the BBAP, also applies and should be consulted in adjudication decisions.</p> <p>In general, authorizations should not be issued for non-recreational uses that are incompatible with the management intent of this unit and the management objectives of the RRMP. Oil, gas, and mineral exploration and development are considered appropriate uses if compatible with the management intent for this unit or if in the best interest of the state.</p>	<p>drainage for feeding during the salmon spawning season and moose use the upper reaches as a calving area. The Alaska Heritage Resources Survey (AHRs) reports a heritage site in this unit. The unit is partly affected by MCO 393. This corridor does not include the specific public use sites identified in the RRMP. These are specific, individual units.</p> <p>This unit was enlarged during the 2013 Plan Amendment to include certain moose calving and wintering areas, particularly in the northern extremity of the unit and, more specifically, in S005S052W and S005S053W.</p>
R06-35A Wetlands adjacent to Corridor of Kokwok River	96,100 Wr - Water Resources Ha - Habitat Rd - Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed	Map 3-6	<p>Manage unit to protect and maintain wetlands and wetland hydrologic connections to adjacent streams and wetlands, and to protect moose and caribou prime habitat. Retain in state ownership. Dispersed recreation is considered an appropriate use in this unit.</p> <p>Other than utilities, communication, roads/bridges, and similar facilities providing a public service, development is not appropriate within this unit. Any authorizations that may be issued will need to avoid impacts or mitigate impacts to wetlands, riverine areas, and moose/caribou habitat.</p>	<p>Unit consists of two subunits that adjoin the Kokwok River, unit R06-35. Both subunits occupy generally level terrain although there is some mild relief toward the extremities of the subunits. Wetland and shrub vegetation are characteristic of these central areas whereas a mixture shrub and evergreen forest occupy the remaining areas. The predominant feature of the unit is, however, its general flatness and presence of extensive wetland complexes. Both caribou calving and moose calving/wintering habitat occupy the western parts of the two subunits.</p> <p>This unit was created during the 2013 Plan Amendment process to include wetland complexes that are widespread throughout this unit.</p>
R06-36 Kemuk	78,426 Mi - Minerals Ha - Habitat	Map 3-6	<p>The land is designated Minerals (Mi) and is to be managed for the exploration and development of mineral deposits and to maintain important habitat areas, subject to state permitting requirements. Any mineral development must consider potential effects upon caribou calving and moose and caribou wintering areas and shall follow the requirements of Management Guidelines A and B in the Fish and Wildlife section of Chapter 2. Unit is to be retained in state ownership. The Nushagak & Mulchatna Rivers Recreation Management Plan does not apply within this unit (p. 1-2; p.2-11). Refer to the Recreation, Tourism, and Scenic Resources section of Chapter 2 for a listing of allowed and prohibited uses. However, permanent facilities related to commercial recreation are prohibited in this unit.</p>	<p>This land is located generally west of Koliganek and on the upper reaches of Napatoli and Klutuk Creeks, to the east of Kemuk Mountain. This land is the locus of a mafic-ultramafic hosted iron deposit with potential for titanium, platinum group metals, and chromium. A moose wintering area occupies the western part of this unit, and caribou wintering and calving are known to occur in this unit.</p> <p>This unit was affected by the 2013 Plan Amendment process.</p>
R06-37 Koliganek Airport	167 Pr - Public Facilities-Retain	Map 3-6 S005S047W Sec. 21,28	<p>This land is to be managed consistent with FAA and ADOT/PF guidelines for airport use and in accordance with the Management Right. Unit is to be retained in state ownership.</p>	<p>This unit is located at the Koliganek public airport and is managed by the Department of Transportation and Public Facilities (ADOT/PF) for airport use pursuant to Management Rights (ADLs 200348 and 200341).</p>
R06-38 PU24/Stuyahok River	400 Rp - Public Recreation and Tourism-Public Use Site	Map 3-6 S005S041W	<p>This unit is designated Public Recreation and Tourism-Public Use Site (Rp) and is to be managed for public recreation and tourism and retained in public ownership. See also the Management Guideline for "Public Use Sites" in the Recreation, Tourism, and Scenic Resources section of Chapter 2. See specific management requirements for caribou wintering areas in this Chapter.</p>	<p>Unit consists of a wheeled plane landing area on the Stuyahok River 20 miles southeast of old Stuyahok. It is identified in the Nushagak & Mulchatna Rivers Recreation Management Plan, April 2005, as a public use site (PU24). Caribou are known to use this unit as part of a wintering area.</p>

Unit # / Name	Acres / Designation(s)	MTRS	Management Intent	Resources, Uses, Additional Info
R06-39 PU25/Stuyahok River	440 Rp - Public Recreation and Tourism-Public Use Site	Map 3-6 S005S041W	This unit is designated Public Recreation and Tourism-Public Use Site (Rp) and is to be managed for public recreation and retained in public ownership. See also the Management Guideline for “Public Use Sites” in the Recreation, Tourism, and Scenic Resources section of Chapter 2. See specific management requirements for caribou wintering areas in this Chapter.	Unit consists of a floatplane and wheeled plane landing area near the Stuyahok River on an unnamed lake 21 miles southeast of old Stuyahok. It is identified in the Nushagak & Mulchatna Rivers Recreation Management Plan, April 2005, as a public use site (PU25). Caribou are known to use this unit as part of a wintering area.
R06-40 PU26/Unnamed Lake	671 Rp - Public Recreation and Tourism-Public Use Site	Map 3-6 S005S040W	This unit is designated Public Recreation and Tourism-Public Use Site (Rp), is to be managed for public recreation, and retained in public ownership. See also the Management Guideline for “Public Use Sites” in the Recreation, Tourism, and Scenic Resources section of Chapter 2. See specific management requirements for caribou wintering areas in this Chapter. Conveyance of the unit to the Lake and Peninsula Borough is appropriate with the stipulation that the unit remain in public ownership as a Public Use Site.	Unit consists of a campsite and floatplane landing area on an unnamed lake drained by the Stuyahok River 23 miles southeast of old Stuyahok. It is identified in the Nushagak & Mulchatna Rivers Recreation Management Plan, April 2005, as a public use site (PU26). The unit is part of a land selection by the Lake and Peninsula Borough under its municipal entitlement. Caribou are known to use this unit as part of a wintering area.
R06-41 Stuyahok Hills	2,129 Rd - Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed	Map 3-6 S005S040W	The unit is designated Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed (Rd). Land selections by the Lake and Peninsula Borough as part of its municipal entitlement are considered appropriate for conveyance. See specific management requirements for caribou wintering areas in Chapter 2.	This relatively small unit consists of state-owned land south of the Stuyahok River in the vicinity of Public Use Site 26 as identified in the Nushagak & Mulchatna Rivers Recreation Management Plan. The Public Use site itself is a separate unit. Vegetation consists of spruce woodland. The unit contains a land selection by the Lake and Peninsula Borough under the Municipal Entitlement program. Caribou are known to use this unit as part of a wintering area.
R06-42 RRMP 6	323,544 Ha - Habitat Rd - Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed	Map 3-6	Manage unit for its habitat and dispersed recreation values. Retain in state ownership. Other than utilities, communication, roads/bridges, and similar facilities providing a public service, development is not appropriate within this unit. Mineral development, including mining support, may also be appropriate within this unit. Any authorizations that may be issued will need to avoid impacts or mitigate impacts to wetlands, riverine areas, and sensitive moose and caribou wintering areas and caribou calving habitat.	The unit consists of a number of non-contiguous upland blocks of state-owned land in the lower Nushagak drainage that are part of Management Unit 6 in the Nushagak & Mulchatna Rivers Recreation Management Plan. Vegetation consists of tall and low shrub lands and lichen tundra. Scattered wetlands are present. The uplands are within the Kokwok and Klutuk drainages, which are tributaries to the Nushagak River. The unit includes moose calving and over wintering areas and caribou wintering areas. The management of this unit is governed by the requirements of the Bristol Bay Area Plan. (Previous to this revision, DNR authorizations relating to recreation uses and structures were guided by the Nushagak & Mulchatna Rivers Recreation Management Plan (RRMP).) The requirements of the RRMP have been carried over except for prohibitions on permanent facilities and docks. Moose and caribou are known to use this unit as wintering and calving habitat, and moose are known to rut in portions of this unit. Unit R6-42 was extensively revised during the 2013 Plan Amendment process. The part west of the Nushagak River, occupied by significant habitat areas, retained the R06-42 unit designation, while the area east of the Nushagak was assigned the R06-42A unit identifier. The latter does not contain the habitat areas to the same degree.
R06-42A Stuyahok Hills, East	260,040 Gu - General Use	Map 3-6	The unit is designated General Use (Gu) and is to be managed for a variety of uses, including the protection of fish and wildlife resources and their associated habitats, mineral exploration and development, and dispersed recreation. Some forms of recreation use, including commercial recreation, may be appropriate if these recreational uses are found to be compatible with the management intent for adjacent river corridors designated Ha-Rd or Rd	The unit consists of a number of non-contiguous upland blocks of state-owned and state-selected land in the lower Mulchatna drainage that are part of Management Unit 6 in the Nushagak & Mulchatna Rivers Recreation Management Plan. Portions of the western part of the unit include moose calving and over wintering areas (primarily in S010S048-049W). Vegetation is predominately shrub and dwarf shrub, although there are of

Unit # / Name	Acres / Designation(s)	MTRS	Management Intent	Resources, Uses, Additional Info
			in the Area Plan. Development authorizations may be appropriate subject to the protection of these resources, consistency with the recreation uses specified in the RRMP, and the specific requirements of Chapter 2; see particularly the requirements for Management Guideline K, “Caribou and Moose Calving, Wintring, and Rutting Areas”, in the Fish and Wildlife Habitat and Harvest Areas section and with Management Guideline J, “Nushagak & Mulchatna Rivers Recreation Management Plan”, in the Recreation, Tourism, and Scenic Resources section of Chapter 2. For convenience, Table 2.2 contains a listing of allowed, prohibited, and conditional (recreational) uses by RRMP Management Unit. Management Guideline J in the Recreation, Tourism, and Scenic Resources section of Chapter 2 specifically defines the relationship between the RRMP and the BBAP, and must be consulted in adjudication decisions. Intensive development is not expected within this unit during the planning period except occasionally and at specific locations associated with recreation uses and mineral exploration and development. Settlement is not considered an appropriate use. The unit is to be retained during the planning period.	deciduous forest as well as scattered wetlands. The management of this unit is governed by the requirements of the Bristol Bay Area Plan. (Previous to this revision, DNR authorizations relating to recreation uses and structures were guided by the Nushagak & Mulchatna Rivers Recreation Management Plan (RRMP).) The requirements of the RRMP have been carried over except for prohibitions on permanent facilities and docks. Unit R6-42 was extensively revised during the 2013 Plan Amendment process. The part west of the Nushagak River, occupied by significant habitat areas, retained the R06-42 unit designation, while the area east of the Nushagak was assigned the R06-42A unit identifier. The latter does not contain the habitat areas to the same degree.
R06-43 PU11/Okstukuk Lake	247 Rp - Public Recreation and Tourism-Public Use Site	Map 3-6 S008S053W	This unit is designated Public Recreation and Tourism-Public Use Site (Rp) and is to be managed for public recreation and tourism. The unit is to be retained in public ownership. See also the Management Guideline for “Public Use Sites” in the Recreation, Tourism, and Scenic Resources section of Chapter 2.	This unit contains a campsite and floatplane landing area near the outlet of Okstukuk Lake. It is identified in the Nushagak & Mulchatna Rivers Recreation Management Plan, April 2005, as a public use site (PU11).
R06-44 PU10/Kokwok River	161 Rp - Public Recreation and Tourism-Public Use Site	Map 3-6 S008S052W	This unit is designated Public Recreation and Tourism-Public Use Site (Rp) and is to be managed for public recreation and tourism. The unit is to be retained in public ownership. See also the Management Guideline for “Public Use Sites” in the Recreation, Tourism, and Scenic Resources section of Chapter 2.	This unit consists of a campsite on the Kokwok River near the Okstukuk Hills. It is identified in the Nushagak & Mulchatna Rivers Recreation Management Plan, April 2005, as a public use site (PU10).
R06-45 New Stuyahok Airport	71 Pr - Public Facilities-Retain	Map 3-6 S008S047W	The unit is to be managed consistent with FAA and ADOT/PF guidelines for airport use and in accordance with provisions of the Management Right (ADL 221465; OSL 900). The unit is to be retained in state ownership.	This unit of land is located at the New Stuyahok public airport and contains airport facilities managed by the ADOT/PF.
R06-46 New Stuyahok School	7.89 Pr - Public Facilities-Retain	Map 3-6 S008S047W Sec. 29	This land is to be managed consistent with the management right (ADL 201852; OSL 707) for a new school site. The unit is to be retained in state ownership.	This unit is located in New Stuyahok and is managed by the Department of Transportation and Public Facilities (ADOT/PF) and is a school site.
R06-47 New Stuyahok	41 Ma - Materials	Map 3-6 S008S048W Sec. 29	This unit is designated Materials (Ma) and is to be managed consistent with Alaska regulations and the management guidelines for materials sites specified in Chapter 2. See specific management requirements for caribou wintering areas in this Chapter. Unit is to be retained in state ownership.	This unit (ADL 23739) is located in New Stuyahok on shorelands of the Nushagak River and has been used for the production or staging of material extraction. Caribou are known to winter in this unit.
R06-48 Iowithla River	51,929 Ha - Habitat Rd - Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed	Map 3-6	The unit is designated Habitat (Ha) and Public Recreation (Rd) and is to be managed for the protection of fish and wildlife habitat and recreation resources. Development authorizations may be appropriate, subject to the protection of these resources and the requirements of Chapter 2. This is considered to be a low priority state selection.	This management unit is state-owned and state-selected land located generally in the Muklung Hills, both west and east of the Iowithla River. The Iowithla River is cataloged as an anadromous fish stream and is utilized by brown bear during the spawning season. Brown bear also use the area for denning. The area contains calving and wintering areas for moose and is used for subsistence and recreational fishing and hunting. This unit also

Unit # / Name	Acres / Designation(s)	MTRS	Management Intent	Resources, Uses, Additional Info
				contains waterfowl molting concentrations and caribou calving habitat. Note: This unit was enlarged in size at its northernmost part, particularly in S009S054W, S010S054W, and S010S053W in order to encompass areas of waterfowl molting concentrations, caribou calving, and moose calving and wintering areas.
R06-49 Corridor of the Iowithla River	44,940 Rd - Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed Ha - Habitat	Map 3-6	This unit, which consists of the navigable portions of the Iowithla River and its adjoining uplands as depicted in Map 3-6, is co-designated Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed (Rd) and Habitat (Ha). Unit is to be retained by the state and managed to maintain the recreational uses of the Iowithla River and the adjoining upland corridor, its fish and wildlife resources, and public recreation values. The management requirements of the Nushagak & Mulchatna Rivers Recreation Management Plan (RRMP) are to be followed by DNR in the granting of authorizations related to certain types of recreational uses and structures. See the Management Intent and Management Guidelines in the RRMP for Management Unit 2. For convenience, Table 2.2 contains a listing of allowed, prohibited, and conditional uses by RRMP management unit. Management Guideline J in the Recreation, Tourism, and Scenic Resources section of Chapter 2, which more specifically defines the relationship between the RRMP and the BBAP, also applies and should be consulted in adjudication decisions. In general, authorizations should not be issued for non-recreational uses that are incompatible with the management intent of this unit and the management objectives of the RRMP. Oil, gas, and mineral exploration and development are considered appropriate uses if compatible with the management intent for this unit or if in the best interest of the state.	The unit is the corridor of the Iowithla River as depicted in the Nushagak & Mulchatna Rivers Recreation Management Plan (RRMP). The unit consists of that portion of RRMP Management Unit 2 within state-owned lands in Region 6. The width of the corridor varies, and may be up to four miles wide, measured from each side of the river system. Vegetation consists of lichen tundra and low shrub in the lower reaches and tall shrubland in the upper reaches of the river corridor. The Iowithla River is cataloged as an anadromous fish stream and is utilized by brown bear, especially during the salmon spawning season. The river corridor is used as a calving area by moose. The unit is partly affected by MCO 393. This corridor does not include the specific public use sites identified in the RRMP. These are specific, individual units. Note: This corridor continues into Region 5.
R06-50 PU8/Muklung Hills	277 Rp - Public Recreation and Tourism-Public Use Site	Map 3-6 S010S053W	This unit is designated Public Recreation and Tourism-Public Use Site (Rp) and is to be managed for public recreation. It is to be retained in public ownership. See also the Management Guideline for "Public Use Sites" in the Recreation, Tourism, and Scenic Resources section of Chapter 2.	Unit contains a campsite and floatplane landing area on an unnamed lake near the Muklung Hills. It is identified in the Nushagak & Mulchatna Rivers Recreation Management Plan, April 2005, as a public use site (PU8).
R06-51 PU7/Iowithla River	345 Rp - Public Recreation and Tourism-Public Use Site	Map 3-6 S010S053W	This unit is designated Public Recreation and Tourism-Public Use Site (Rp) and is to be managed for public recreation. It is to be retained in public ownership. See also the Management Guideline for "Public Use Sites" in the Recreation, Tourism, and Scenic Resources section of Chapter 2.	This unit consists of wheeled plane landing area on the Iowithla River near the Muklung Hills. It is identified in the Nushagak & Mulchatna Rivers Recreation Management Plan, (April 2005) as a public use site (PU16).
R06-52 Ekwok Airport	103 Pr - Public Facilities-Retain	Map 3-6 S009S049W Sec. 35,36	This unit is to be managed consistent with FAA and ADOT/PF guidelines for airports and according to the Management Right and the Limited State Holding. It is to be retained in state ownership.	This land contains airport facilities at the Ekwok public airport and is managed by ADOT/PF under a Management Right (ADLs 220376 and 224131) and requirements of a Limited State Holding (LSH 268). (OSL 850)
R06-53 Ekwok School	5.66 Pr - Public Facilities-Retain	Map 3-6 S009S049W Sec. 35	Unit is to be managed for public purposes and retained in state ownership.	This land (OSL 496) is located at Ekwok and utilized by the public school system.

Unit # / Name	Acres / Designation(s)	MTRS	Management Intent	Resources, Uses, Additional Info
R06-54 PU9/Nushagak SUA	147 Rp - Public Recreation and Tourism-Public Use Site	Map 3-6 S001S049W Sec. 19	Unit is to be retained in state ownership and managed to support public recreation, consistent with the requirements of the Special Use Area. See also the Management Guideline for "Public Use Sites" in the Recreation, Tourism, and Scenic Resources section of Chapter 2.	This unit is located on the Nushagak River near the junction with the Kokwok River. This unit is a portion of a Special Use Area (ADL 226852). It is identified in the Nushagak & Mulchatna Rivers Recreation Management Plan, April 2005, as a public use site (PU9).
R06-55 PU6/Nushagak SUA	40 Rp - Public Recreation and Tourism-Public Use Site	Map 3-6 S005S005W Sec. 31	This unit is designated Public Recreation and Tourism-Public Use Site (Rp) and is to be managed for public recreation, consistent with the requirements of the Special Use Designation. The unit is to be retained in state ownership. See also the Management Guideline for "Public Use Sites" in the Recreation, Tourism, and Scenic Resources section of Chapter 2.	This unit is located on the Nushagak River near the junction of the Iowithla River. It contains a campsite and floatplane landing area on shoreland at the mouth of the Iowithla River and is affected by a Special Use Designation (ADL 226852). Personal, non-commercial use of the land is limited to seven consecutive days. The Nushagak & Mulchatna Rivers Recreation Management Plan (April 2005) identifies this unit as a public use site (PU6). (Note: The location of this land is improperly shown in some state records; but is shown correctly on Map 3-6.)
R06-56 Old Man Creek	21,186 Ha - Habitat Rd - Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed	Map 3-6 Various	Manage unit to protect and maintain wetlands and wetland hydrologic connections to adjacent streams; and habitat and recreation values. Retain in state ownership. Other than utilities, communication, roads/bridges, and similar facilities providing a public service, development is not appropriate within this unit. Any authorizations that may be issued will need to avoid impacts or mitigate impacts to wetlands, riverine areas, and moose habitat.	Unit encompasses the river and adjacent riverine area associated with Old Man Creek. Terrain is level and vegetation consists of a mixture of shrub and deciduous forest. A significant moose wintering, rutting, and calving area occupies this unit. This unit was affected (created) by the 2013 Plan Amendment process.
R06-57 Portage, Moose Creeks and Mosquito River	6,756 Ha - Habitat Rd - Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed	Map 3-6 S003N040W S004N040W	Manage unit to protect and maintain habitat and dispersed recreation values. Other than utilities, communication, roads/bridges, and similar facilities providing a public service, development is not appropriate within this unit. Any authorizations that may be issued will need to avoid impacts or mitigate impacts to wetlands, riverine areas, and moose habitat.	Unit encompasses the river and adjacent riverine areas associated with three proximate creeks – Portage and Moose Creeks and Mosquito River, which are tributaries to the Middle Mulchatna River. Each of these streams exhibit meandering and their floodplain contain a variety of remnant riverine features. Terrain is level and vegetation consists of a mixture of shrub, wetlands, and deciduous forest. A significant moose wintering, rutting, and calving area occupies this unit. Unit created through 2013 Plan Amendment.
R06-58 East Fork, Mosquito River	12,981 Ha - Habitat Rd - Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed	Map 3-6 S994N039W S005N038W	Manage unit to protect and maintain habitat and dispersed recreation values. Retain in state ownership. Other than utilities, communication, roads/bridges, and similar facilities providing a public service, development is not appropriate within this unit. Any authorizations that may be issued will need to avoid impacts or mitigate impacts to wetlands, riverine areas, and moose habitat.	Unit encompasses the river and adjacent riverine areas of the East Fork of Mosquito River, which is a tributary to the Middle Mulchatna River. It exhibits many of the characteristics of the adjacent creeks in unit R06-57. It exhibits extensive meandering and the floodplain contains a variety of remnant riverine features. Terrain is level and vegetation consists of a mixture of shrub, wetlands, and deciduous forest. A significant moose wintering, rutting, and calving area occupies this unit. Unit created through 2013 Plan Amendment.

Region 7: Upper Mulchatna and Upper Hoholitna

Summary of Resources and Uses in the Region

Region Boundary

Region 7 is situated in the northeastern part of the Bristol Bay planning area and encompasses the upper Mulchatna River basin (Map 3-7). The boundaries of the Region are defined on the north by the boundary of the Lake and Peninsula Borough and on the east by the boundary of the Lake Clark National Park and Preserve. The boundary is similar to that in the 1984 Bristol Bay Area Plan but has been modified to correspond to the Lake and Peninsula boundary on the north and thus encompasses slightly more land to the northwest than did the original area plan. Elevations range from less than 300 feet in the Nikabuna Lakes area in the south to over 4,200 feet in the Bonanza Hills. There are no settlements in the Region. The nearest settlement is Nondalton (pop. 221), a few miles to the south.

State Lands: Ownership and Acreage

The majority of land within Region 7 is owned by the State of Alaska. Approximately two townships are held by the Federal Government and approximately one and a half townships are in possession of the Bristol Bay Native Corporation. Conveyances to the Lake and Peninsula Borough total approximately 14,575 acres. The plan applies to 1,606,959 acres of state-owned and state-selected uplands.

Physical Geography

Region 7 is within the Lime Hills ecological province. The upper Mulchatna drainage basin includes the Chilikadrotna, Chilchitna, Chulitna, and Koksetna Rivers. Other significant drainages include Bonanza Creek, Ptarmigan Creek, and Black Creek. Due to the change in the northwest boundary of Region 7, also included are the upper portions of the Holitna drainage including the South Fork of the Hoholitna River, Gnat Creek, McKinley Creek, and Weasel Creek. Major lakes include Nikabuna, Long, Tutna, and Half Cabin Lakes. Named Mountains include Groundhog Mountain in the south, Mesa Mountain in the central area and Marys and Halfway Mountain in the north. Topographic relief is modest with most of it developed in the north and east. The highest elevations occur in the Bonanza Hills where over 2,800 feet of relief is present.

The Region displays a variety of landscapes, including mountains, fast-flowing rivers, tundra, marshy lowlands, and ponds. Higher elevations in the Bonanza Hills are marked by alpine tundra and barrens. Tree covered areas occur along the valleys of the Mulchatna and Holitna Rivers; these areas consist of spruce woodland and shrubs, or at some locales an open spruce

forest-shrub-bog mosaic. Most terrain in the low-lying country of the Long Lake-Nikabuna Lakes-Chulitna River area has cover consisting of low shrub and lichen tundra. At intermediate elevations the spruce woodland and tundra give way to tall shrub vegetation.

Climate

Region 7 lies in the transitional climatic zone. Average summer temperatures range from 42° to 62°; winter temperatures average 6° to 30°. The record high is 91° and the record low is -47°. Annual average rainfall is 26 inches, with 64 to 70 inches of snowfall. Most of the Region is underlain by isolated masses of permafrost. Generally the areas immediately under or adjacent to the main course of the Mulchatna and South Fork of the Hoholitna Rivers are free of permafrost.

Other

Region 7 is within the Lake Clark and Iliamna Quadrangles. It is within the boundaries of the Bristol Bay Regional and the CIRI Native Corporations. It is also within the Lake and Peninsula Borough.

Access

Access to Region 7 is quite limited. There are no airports in the Region and no roads. An unimproved trail, the Telaquana-Nondalton Trail (RST No. 291) extends through the southeast portion of this planning region and connects with the Telaquana Trail (No. 1508) five miles southwest of Twin Lakes within Lake Clark National Park and Preserve. Of course, floatplanes can access many waterbodies in the Region.

Resources and Uses

Cultural and Historic. There has been little in the way of excavation of prehistoric sites in the Region. However, archaeologists believe evidence suggests that people of the Paleoarctic Tradition were active in the Lake Clark area about 6,000 years ago, and perhaps earlier. A site near Twin Lakes and another along the Tazimina River suggest occupation as early as 8,000 B.C. Historically the principal native group in the area is the Tanaina Indians and evidence indicates an indigenous Na-Dene population in the Lake area prior to Russian contact. Fourteen historic and archaeological sites have been cataloged in Region 7 – three historic, four prehistoric, and seven of mixed origin.

Recreation. Most recreational uses in Region 7 are related to outdoor activities such as sport fishing, hunting, camping, river travel, and wildlife viewing. Since the region borders Lake Clark National Park and Preserve, recreational uses are similar to those of Park users. The

majority of activities are concentrated along the Mulchatna River. The upper reaches of the Mulchatna and the Chilikadrotna Rivers, within the National Park, are designated with Wild and Scenic River status; these extend partially into the Region and are the focus of recreational river use. Where the Mulchatna River flows through the Bonanza Hills, the shallow and rocky river channel is more suitable for rafts and kayaks than canoes; west of Bonanza Creek, where the valley broadens, the river is gentle. The Chilikadrotna is a swift, twisting, narrow river most suitable for rafts or kayaks.

Minerals. Region 7 is underlain by three principal rock packages: 1) Cretaceous sedimentary clastic rocks, chiefly deep marine shale and conglomerate, underlie the northwest portion of the Region; 2) the central portion of the Region is underlain by intermediate Early Tertiary and Late Cretaceous volcanic and associated plutonic rocks; and 3) the southeast portion of the Region is underlain by Middle Tertiary felsic volcanic rocks. The Alaska Resource Data Files compilation by the U.S.G.S. shows thirteen mines, prospects, and occurrences in Region 7 and the MILS database from the U.S. Bureau of Mines shows nine. Most of these locations indicate that gold is the principal commodity of interest with one being silver and copper with minor gold.

The Bonanza Hills are the locus of a number of important mineralized areas. One of the most significant mineral deposits is the Synneva (Scynneva) Creek placer gold mine located near the confluence of Bonanza Creek and Synneva Creek. Production began in 1957 in the valley alluvials; the principal commodity was gold but significant cassiterite and tungsten occur in the concentrates. The valley alluvials are mostly uniform gravels with some boulders, interpreted as reworked glacial deposits. The Bonanza Creek placer mine is located near the intersection of Bonanza Creek and Little Bonanza Creek and the deposit extends from Gill's camp at least 6 km upstream to above Cabin (or Cash) Creek and about 6 km downstream to Caribou Creek. Bonanza Creek is both a placer and a gold-quartz vein occurrence. The Bonanza Creek placers are also considered to be reworked glacial deposits. A number of quartz-veins and shear zones are present in the bedrock, at least some of which contain free gold, minor arsenopyrite, and 5 to 6 % pyrite. Seventy-four active mining claims and leasehold locations are on Little Bonanza Creek.

Other gold occurrences in the Region include the Finnbear lode, an unnamed placer west of Long Lake, Charlie Creek, Lambert's Bar (at the confluence of the Mulchatna and Chilikadrotna Rivers), and the Mulchatna River placer occurrences (where the southeast flowing Springway Creek enters the Mulchatna River).

Oil and Gas. Bedrock underlying Region 7 is composed chiefly of granitic rocks, metamorphic aureoles surrounding these intrusives, volcanics, and Cretaceous flysh. The oil and gas potential of these rocks is considered very low.

Materials. There are no active materials sites in Region 7.

Forestry. Regions 6 and 7 contain most of the forest resources of the Bristol Bay Area. These noncommercial forests are found primarily in the Nushagak-Mulchatna drainages. Along the Mulchatna River valleys are trees that can be used for house logs. Trees are largely concentrated in the river valleys and consist of spruce, birch, and aspen. The timberline is found at approximately 1,800 feet in Region 7. Spruce is the most common tree type and grows to heights of 30 to 40 feet and up to 10 or 12 inches in diameter. Birch is common and some trees attain thicknesses of 8 to 10 inches. Perhaps the most extensive spruce forest in the Region is in the Koksetna and Chulitna River drainages.

Fish and Wildlife. Region 7 contains important habitat for moose along the river valleys and for caribou. Many streams host returns of anadromous sockeye (red), chinook (king), and coho (silver) salmon. Eagles and other raptors nest along the Mulchatna River corridor and the lower reaches of the Chilchitna River. The subsistence harvest is moderate but important within the Chulitna River drainage. Native land within this area is preserved for subsistence, heritage, and cultural resources under a 39 ANCSA authority. There is also pressure on fish and game resources from sportsmen.

Moose are relatively new to the Bristol Bay area, possibly moving into the area from the middle Kuskokwim drainages during the last 100 years. During the previous twenty years, moose numbers have increased and moose are now common along the Nushagak/Mulchatna Rivers and all of their major tributaries.

Caribou are an important resource in the area. The Mulchatna Caribou Herd has been increasing in size and expanding its range since the 1930's. Serious efforts to conduct a census of the herd have taken place since 1973; between 1981 and 1996, the Mulchatna Caribou Herd increased from 19,000 to 200,000. In recent years the herd has peaked in size, and has decreased to what is presently estimated at approximately 30,000 individuals (<http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=species.main>). Region 7 contains significant numbers of caribou and contains areas that are important for calving. The area east of Tutna Lake and extending northeast to Turquoise Lake has been identified as calving grounds in the past. Recently calving has expanded throughout the upper Hoholitna River and northeastern Nushagak Hills.

Brown bear occur throughout the area and the density can be considered high. Bear streams include the Chilikadrotna drainage, the Mulchatna River, and the Chilchitna River. Spring habitat is found along the lowermost reaches of the Koksetna River.

Management Considerations: Local and State Plans

A number of local, state, and federal management plans were considered in development of this plan. Local plans include the Lake and Peninsula Borough Coastal Zone Management Plan, the Lake and Peninsula Borough Comprehensive Plan, and the Southwest Alaska Comprehensive

Economic Development Strategy 2003-2008. State plans include the Bristol Bay Area Plan, the Kuskokwim Area Plan, and the Nushagak & Mulchatna Rivers Recreation Management Plan. Federal plans include the Lake Clark National Park General Management Plan (1984).

Region 7 is located within the boundaries of the Lake and Peninsula Borough. Both the Comprehensive Plan and the District Coastal Management Plan of the Lake and Peninsula Borough apply to this portion of Region 7. The Comprehensive Plan focuses on economic and infrastructure development issues and does not contain specific land use standards or a land use map. The Enforceable Policies of the District Coastal Management Plan are extensive; policies affecting anadromous streams, bald eagle nests, oil and gas development, material extraction and mining can be applicable, under certain instances, to state lands. See <http://www.alaskacoast.state.ak.us/>¹⁹ for more information on enforceable policies. These policies should be consulted by DNR prior to issuing an authorization.

Region 7 is also subject to the Nushagak & Mulchatna Rivers Recreation Management Plan (RRMP; April 2005). This plan manages recreation uses on the two river systems and was adopted as an amendment to the Bristol Bay Area Plan (1984) and as part of the Coastal Zone Management Plan. The RRMP continues to provide the basis for the management of state lands affected by the designation of Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed within the river corridors of the Nushagak-Mulchatna system. The Area Plan forms the basis for the management of state lands with different designations.

Region 7 is also within the area covered by the Southwest Alaska Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy 2003-2008, which was developed for the U.S. Department of Commerce Economic Development Administration by the Southwest Alaska Municipal Conference (July 2003). This document developed a number of goals, objectives, and strategies to facilitate and support efforts that retain and grow the region's wealth, including diversifying the economic base.

The original Bristol Bay Area Plan (1984) affected all state lands in the Region. This plan stated that Region 7 was to be managed in conjunction with Region 6 for fish and wildlife habitat and harvest and for river-oriented recreation. The northwest portion of the Region, within the Holitna drainage basin, was previously covered by the Kuskokwim Area Plan (1988), which managed the area as general use and for wildlife resources. Mineral exploration and development was also permitted, subject to leasehold location. This revision supersedes the original Area Plan. The Nushagak & Mulchatna Rivers Recreation Management Plan is retained as an element of the Area Plan in this revision.

Municipal Selections

Region 7 contains a large number of municipal selections by the Lake and Peninsula Borough. The selections are distributed throughout the Region and total approximately 43,565 acres. A

¹⁹ The Alaska Coastal Management Program was terminated on July 1, 2011, pursuant to AS 44.66.030.

number of selections are clustered along the Mulchatna River, Tutna Lake, Nikabuna Lakes, and Weasel Creek.

Management Summary: Uplands

Plan Designations and Management

State land in Region 7 is to be managed for a variety of multiple uses, including settlement, materials extraction, public facilities development, dispersed public recreation, mineral exploration and development, and maintenance of sensitive wildlife habitats. Oil and gas exploration and development, although of only moderate to low potential, is also appropriate within the Region. The majority of lands in Region 7 are designated General Use (Gu). A relatively large amount of land has been designated Settlement (Se); this Settlement land is intended to facilitate recreation uses in the Nikabuna Lakes and Tutna Lake areas. Lands at Half Cabin Lakes, designated Settlement in the 1984 Bristol Bay Area Plan, remain designated Settlement in this (current) revision. Most of the major river corridors have been designated Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed (Rd); they mostly correspond to the major river corridors as defined in the Nushagak & Mulchatna Rivers Recreation Management Plan (RRMP) and include the Mulchatna and Chilikadrotna Rivers. Public Use Sites that were identified in the RRMP which are used for recreation have been designated Public Recreation and Tourism-Public Use Sites (Rp).

The plan designations that are used within this Region have the following management intent. The policies and management intent guidelines described in Chapter 2 affect all DNR authorizations. Refer especially to those guidelines relating to Fish and Wildlife Habitat and Harvest Areas, and Settlement.

- General Use (Gu). Within this Region, lands that contain one or more resource values, none of which is of sufficiently high value to merit designation as a primary use, and areas that are unlikely to be developed during the planning period are designated General Use. The land is to be managed for a variety of uses including protection of fish and wildlife habitat and harvest, dispersed public recreation, minerals, oil and gas exploration and development, and protection of heritage resources. It is expected that little development will occur in these areas during the planning period, and it is not intended as a matter of policy that intensive forms of development occur in these areas other than occasionally and at specific sites. Municipal land selections, under the Municipal Entitlement program, are conveyable to the municipality subject to a Best Interest Finding by the state. The Lake and Peninsula Borough has made a number of municipal selections of lands designated General Use; these are in Weasel Creek, the Tutna Lake vicinity, and adjacent to Lake Clark National Park and Preserve. Units designated General Use are to be retained in state ownership unless affected by a municipal entitlement selection and may only to be conveyed to a municipality if the adjudicatory decision determines that this conveyance is consistent with the requirements of AS 29.65.

- **Habitat (Ha).** Generally, this designation applies to areas of various size that are important for fish and wildlife species during a sensitive life-history stage where alteration of the habitat or human disturbance could result in a permanent loss of a population or sustained yield of a species. In Region 6 this designation is applied to streams and shorelands cataloged by the Alaska Department of Fish and Game as anadromous (<http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/sf/SARR/AWC/index.cfm?adfg=maps.interactive>). The land use designation Ha is to be retained in state ownership.
- **Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed (Rd).** Lands with the designation of Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed are to be managed so that their public recreation values are protected and maintained. Within these areas the primary surface uses are intended to be those related to hiking, hunting, fishing, wildlife viewing, and the like. Selections on these lands are considered appropriate for conveyance to a Borough under the Municipal Entitlement program (subject to a Best Interest Finding by the state). This designation is used along the corridor of the Mulchatna River, the Chilikadrotna River, and the Tutna Lake drainage.
- **Public Recreation and Tourism-Public Use Site (Rp).** This designation applies to areas with a concentration of recreational users or tourists, or that are likely to have such concentrations. Within this Region this designation applies to the specific recreation sites identified in the Nushagak & Mulchatna Rivers Recreation Management Plan. Unless otherwise indicated in the Resource Allocation Table, these sites are to be retained by the state. In some instances they may be conveyed to a Borough, subject to the Borough retaining them in public ownership and ensuring that they remain available for public use. The Lake and Peninsula Borough has made municipal selections on most of the public use sites in Region 7.
- **Settlement (Se).** This designation applies to state uplands suitable for sale, leasing, or permitting to allow private recreational or residential use. Lands designated Settlement occur at Half Cabin Lakes, the Tutna Lake vicinity, Nikabuna Lakes, and a unit of state-selected lands southeast of the Chulitna River. All are intended for remote recreational use. The Lake and Peninsula Borough has a number of municipal selections on land designated Settlement at Nikabuna Lakes and the Tutna Lake vicinity. Settlement lands are appropriate for conveyance to the Borough under the Municipal Entitlement program. See Chapter 2 for specific requirements for remote settlement.

Specific Management Considerations

The plan designations that are used within this Region have the following management intent. The policies and management intent guidelines described in Chapter 2 affect all DNR authorizations. Refer especially to those guidelines relating to Fish and Wildlife Habitat and Harvest Areas, and Settlement. See also the descriptions of the plan designations in the first part of this Chapter; this section indicates which lands can be conveyed out of state ownership and those that must be retained.

- Generally Allowed Uses. The Generally Allowed Uses in 11 AAC 96.020 can occur throughout the Region.
- Except for areas closed to mineral entry under existing Mineral Closing Orders, all state lands within Region 7 are open to mineral entry. No additional MCOs are recommended; the only exception applies to the areas to be disposed of by DNR for purposes of Community Settlement. Closure to mineral entry is recommended at or before plat adoption. No leasehold location orders are recommended. See the Minerals section in Chapter 2 for more detail on subsurface management requirements.
- Mineral Closing and Opening Orders. This revision of the Bristol Bay Area Plan retains the mineral closing and opening orders largely implemented by DNR at the time of original plan adoption. These MCOs either close a proposed settlement area or close a number of major streams to mineral location. This includes the following:
 - MCO 393 – Major streams in the Nushagak and Mulchatna drainage basin
- Leasehold Location Orders. Leasehold Location Order No. 1 covers small portions of Region 6, much of Region 7, and portions of Regions 8 and 9. Under this order, rights to locatable minerals may be acquired only under the Leasehold Location System, AS 38.05.205, and may not be acquired by locating a mining claim under AS 38.05.195. In the affected area, an approved Plan of Operations for a mineral lease takes the place of a Land Use Permit required for unleased land. If the proposed lease activities are minor, a plan of operations is not required (11 AAC 86.800). The Plan of Operations must show how the operator proposes to comply with the lease stipulations and other pertinent guidelines in this plan. See Chapter 2, section F.
- Municipal Selections. Those management units considered appropriate for conveyance to the Lake and Peninsula Borough are identified in the Resource Allocation Table.
- Retained Lands. There are no state lands within this Region that are designated to be retained except for those designated Habitat (Ha). Note: Certain management units that are designated Public Recreation and Tourism-Public Use Sites (Rp) may be conveyed out of state ownership and to the Borough as part of the Municipal Entitlement program – providing the land conveyed remains public land and the public retains access to the public use site. Unless conveyed to the Borough under the municipal entitlement program, land designated General Use are to be retained by the state.
- Navigable Waters. Shorelands (rivers and lakes) that are believed to be navigable are listed in Table 3.1 in the Navigability section of this Chapter. Authorizations in these waters must ensure the continued use of a waterway by the public for purposes of trade, travel, and commerce. Note: These waterbodies are assigned a plan designation of Habitat, Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed, or a co-designation of Habitat and Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed. Authorizations issued by DNR are to maintain the habitat and public recreation values of these waterbodies. Adjacent to Region 7, this also includes the navigable waters of Lake Clark National Park and Preserve.

See the Resource Allocation Table for more detail on the upland management units.

Resource Allocation Table for Upland Management Units - Region 7

Unit # / Name	Acres / Designation(s)	MTRS	Management Intent	Resources, Uses, Additional Info
R07-01 Hoholitna	342,351 Gu - General Use	Map 3-7	The unit is designated General Use (Gu) and is to be managed for a variety of uses, including the protection of fish and wildlife resources and their associated habitat, mineral exploration and development, and dispersed recreation. Development authorizations may be considered appropriate subject to the protection of these resources and the specific requirements of Chapter 2. Intensive development is not expected within this unit during the planning period. Land selections by the Lake and Peninsula Borough are considered appropriate for conveyance, subject to a separate and subsequent Best Interest Finding. Except for state lands that may be conveyed to the Borough, lands designated General Use are to be retained in state ownership.	This unit is located in the northwest portion of Region 7. It encompasses the headwaters of the South Fork of the Hoholitna River including Weasel Creek and McKinley Creek. This unit is in an area which was previously part of the Kuskokwim Area Plan. It has been included as part of the Bristol Bay Area Plan in order to address municipal entitlement selections by the Lake and Peninsula Borough in the general vicinity of upper Weasel Creek. Vegetation consists of spruce, birch, and aspen woodlands with tall shrub at higher elevations. The South Fork of the Hoholitna River, Weasel Creek, McKinley Creek, Gnat Creek, and lower Killae Creek are cataloged as anadromous fish streams. The Hoholitna-Hoholitna sub-basin is perhaps the largest producer of salmon in the Kuskokwim River drainage - predominantly chinook, chum, and coho. Spawning populations of sockeye and pink salmon are also present. Additionally, it is a popular system for recreational fishing for pike and sheefish. The area is used by sport fish and hunting guides. Caribou are known to winter in this unit, and calving occurs in the northern part of the unit. The Lake and Peninsula Borough has selected land in the unit as part of its municipal entitlement. Part of the unit is affected by LLO 1.
R07-02 RRMP 25	496,123 Gu - General Use	Map 3-7	The unit is designated General Use (Gu) and is to be managed for a variety of uses, including the protection of fish and wildlife resources and their associated habitats, mineral exploration and development, and dispersed recreation. Some forms of recreation use, including commercial recreation, may be appropriate if these recreational uses are found to be compatible with the management intent for adjacent river corridors designated Ha-Rd or Rd in the Area Plan. Development authorizations may be appropriate subject to the protection of these resources, consistency with the recreation uses specified in the RRMP, and the specific requirements of Chapter 2; see particularly the requirements for Management Guideline K, "Caribou and Moose Calving and Rutting Areas", in the Fish and Wildlife Habitat and Harvest Areas section and with Management Guideline J, "Nushagak & Mulchatna Rivers Recreation Management Plan", in the Recreation, Tourism, and Scenic Resources section of Chapter 2. For convenience, Table 2.2 contains a listing of allowed, prohibited, and conditional (recreational) uses by RRMP Management Unit. Management Guideline J in the Recreation, Tourism, and Scenic Resources section of Chapter 2 specifically defines the relationship between the RRMP and the BBAP, and must be consulted in adjudication decisions. Intensive development is not expected within this unit during the planning period except occasionally and at specific locations associated with recreation uses and mineral exploration and development. Settlement is not considered an appropriate use. Except for state lands conveyed to the Borough, lands designated General Use are to be retained in state ownership.	This unit is located in the upper Mulchatna River drainage and largely corresponds to Management Unit 25 from the Nushagak & Mulchatna Rivers Recreation Management Plan. The unit encompasses the uplands area drained by the Mulchatna River, Chilikadrotna River, Chilchitna River, and the Tutna Lake streams which are cataloged as anadromous. Two land selections by the Lake and Peninsula Borough occur within the unit that are located generally west and east of Tutna Lake. The unit is affected by LLO 1. The management of this unit is governed by the requirements of the Bristol Bay Area Plan. (Previous to this revision, DNR authorizations relating to recreation uses and structures were guided by the Nushagak & Mulchatna Rivers Recreation Management Plan (RRMP).) The requirements of the RRMP have been carried over except for prohibitions on permanent facilities and docks. Unit R07-02 was significantly changed during the 2013 Plan Amendment process. Those areas of the then R07-02 that contained significant concentrations of wetlands were allocated to R07-02A. Areas without such concentrations remained in R07-02. Caribou are known to winter in portions of this unit.

Unit # / Name	Acres / Designation(s)	MTRS	Management Intent	Resources, Uses, Additional Info
R07-02A Wetlands adjacent to Upper Chilikadrotna River	54,090 Wr - Water Resources	Map 3-7	<p>Manage unit to protect and maintain wetlands wetland hydrologic connections to adjacent streams and wetlands. Retain in state ownership. Dispersed recreation is considered an appropriate use in this unit.</p> <p>Other than utilities, communication, roads/bridges, and similar facilities providing a public service, development is not appropriate within this unit. Any authorizations that may be issued will need to avoid impacts or mitigate impacts to wetlands and sensitive habitats.</p> <p>There are several municipal selections within this unit. If the adjudutory decision determines that the conveyance of state land to the borough is appropriate, the Water Resource designation is extinguished and replaced by a designation of Dispersed Recreation.</p>	<p>Consisting of two subunits that are separated by the Chilikadrotna River and its riverine area, each is characterized by extensive concentrations of wetlands except for strips of evergreen forest adjacent to the two streams that traverse the unit (Big Bonanza Creek in the northern subunit and Duimmy Creek in the southern.) Terrain is generally flat. A number of municipal selections occur in this unit. Caribou are known to use this unit as wintering habitat, and moose rutting, wintering, and calving occur in the very eastern portions of the unit.</p> <p>Unit R07-02A was significantly changed during the 2013 Plan Amendment process. Those areas of the then R07-02 that contained significant concentrations of wetlands were allocated to R07-02A. Areas without such concentrations remained in R07-02.</p>
R07-03 PU38/Bonanza Creek	75 Rp - Public Recreation and Tourism-Public Use Site	Map 3-7 S008N033W	<p>This unit is designated Public Recreation and Tourism-Public Use Site (Rp) and is to be managed for public recreation and tourism. The unit is to be retained in public ownership. See also the Management Guideline for "Public Use Sites" in the Recreation, Tourism, and Scenic Resources section of Chapter 2. Conveyance of the unit to the Lake and Peninsula Borough is appropriate with the stipulation that the unit remain in public ownership as a Public Use Site.</p>	<p>Campsite on the Mulchatna River 5 miles upstream of the mouth of Bonanza Creek. It is identified in the Nushagak & Mulchatna Rivers Recreation Management Plan, April 2005, as a public use site (PU38). The area is affected by LLO 1. The unit is part of a land selection by the Lake and Peninsula Borough under its municipal entitlement.</p>
R07-04 Half Cabin Lake	12,649 Se - Settlement	Map 3-7	<p>The unit is designated Settlement (Se) and is considered appropriate for disposal during the planning period. Development is to conform to the requirements of Remote Settlement and those for the Caribou and Moose Rutting and Calving Area, both of which are described in the Settlement, and Fish and Wildlife Habitat and Harvest Areas sections, respectively, of Chapter 2. Buffers along anadromous fish streams must also conform to the management guidelines in Chapter 2.</p>	<p>This land consists of three blocks located on the upper Mulchatna River drainage in the vicinity of Half Cabin Lake, generally east of the river and west of the Bonanza Hills. The terrain is modest with vegetation of spruce woodland (spruce, birch, and aspen) and shrub. Lakes in the unit provide excellent sites for floatplane landings. The unit also enjoys access to the upper Mulchatna River. There is a campsite and floatplane landing area at the outlet of Half Cabin Lake, a campsite and floatplane landing area at the outlet of an unnamed lake west of Loon Lake (local name), and a campsite and floatplane landing area at the outlet of Loon Lake. The main valley of the Mulchatna River contains wintering areas for moose and caribou. Brown bear also utilize this stream, especially during the spawning season of anadromous fish. Raptors also nest along the Mulchatna River valley. The state may offer land for remote settlement in this area. The unit is affected in part by MCO 393 and LLO 1.</p>
R07-05 PU49/Bonanza Hills	40 Rp - Public Recreation and Tourism-Public Use Site	Map 3-7 S009N030W	<p>This unit is designated Public Recreation and Tourism-Public Use Site (Rp) and is to be managed for public recreation and retained in public ownership. See also the Management Guideline for "Public Use Sites" in the Recreation, Tourism, and Scenic Resources section of Chapter 2. Conveyance of the unit to the Lake and Peninsula Borough is appropriate with the stipulation that the unit remain in public ownership as a Public Use Site.</p>	<p>This unit contains a campsite and floatplane landing area on an unnamed lake in the northern margin of the Bonanza Hills. It is identified in the Nushagak & Mulchatna Rivers Recreation Management Plan, April 2005, as a public use site (PU49). The area is affected by LLO 1. The unit is part of a land selection by the Lake and Peninsula Borough under its municipal entitlement.</p>
R07-06 Corridor of the Upper Mulchatna River Note: This extensive	172,911 Rd - Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed Ha - Habitat	Map 3-7	<p>This unit, which consists of the navigable portions of the Mulchatna River and its adjoining uplands, as well as Chilidadrotna and Chilikadrotna Rivers and Nikadavna Creek, as depicted in Map 7-6, is designated Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed (Rd). Except for those areas that may be conveyed under the Municipal Entitlement program, the unit is to be retained by the state and managed to maintain the recreational uses of the Mulchatna</p>	<p>This unit consists of uplands adjacent to the rivers of the upper Mulchatna River drainage, including the Chilikadrotna River, and Tutna Lake drainage within Region 7 as depicted in the Nushagak & Mulchatna Rivers Recreation Management Plan (RRMP). The unit consists of RRMP Management Units 21, 22, 23 and part of 20. The width of the corridor, adjacent to the streams, varies, and may be up to four miles wide. Vegetation consists of lichen</p>

Unit # / Name	Acres / Designation(s)	MTRS	Management Intent	Resources, Uses, Additional Info
unit includes the Chilikadrotna and Chilchitna Rivers as well as the Mulchatna mainstem and Nikadavna Creek			<p>River and the adjoining upland corridor, its public recreation values, and to protect moose and caribou habitat. The management requirements of the Nushagak & Mulchatna Rivers Recreation Management Plan (RRMP) are to be followed by DNR in the granting of authorizations related to certain types of recreational uses and structures. See the Management Intent and Management Guidelines in the RRMP for Management Units 20, 21, 22, and 23. For convenience, Table 2.2 contains a listing of allowed, prohibited, and conditional uses related to recreational facilities by RRMP Management Unit. Management Guideline J in the Recreation, Tourism, and Scenic Resources section of Chapter 2, which more specifically defines the relationship between the RRMP and the BBAP, also applies and should be consulted in adjudication decisions. If the adjudicatory decision of a municipal entitlement selection determines that it is appropriate to convey state land, the classification of the selection converts to Rd (Dispersed Recreation).</p> <p>In general, authorizations should not be issued for non-recreational uses that are incompatible with the management intent of this unit and the management objectives of the RRMP. Oil, gas, and mineral exploration and development are considered appropriate if consistent with these management objectives or if in the best interest of the state. The municipal selections affecting this unit are considered appropriate for conveyance, subject to a separate and subsequent Best Interest Finding by DNR. If determined appropriate for conveyance, a public use easement of 200 feet, measured from OHW, shall be imposed. It is intended that this area shall remain vegetated and undisturbed, except for isolated sites necessary for public facilities or public recreation facilities. The purpose of this easement will be to protect resources and values of riverine areas, and provide for public access.</p>	<p>tundra and low shrub in the lower reaches and tall shrubland and scattered spruce-birch-aspen woodlands in the upper reaches of the river corridors. The corridors contain streams cataloged as anadromous; these are utilized by brown bear, especially during the salmon spawning season. Moose use the corridors as calving areas and over-winter in the upper reaches of the Mulchatna River. Raptors nest along the main valley of the Mulchatna. The unit is partly affected by MCO 393 and LLO 1. This corridor does not include the specific public use sites identified in the RRMP. These are specific, individual units. The unit contains a large number of land selections by the Lake and Peninsula Borough under the Municipal Entitlement program.</p> <p>This unit has been affected by the 2013 Plan Amendment process. It has been enlarged in size to include moose wintering and calving areas in the upper reaches of the Upper Mulchatna and Chilikadrotna river drainages. Caribou are also known to winter in this unit.</p>
R07-07 PU37/Mulchatna River	171 Rp - Public Recreation and Tourism-Public Use Site	Map 3-7 S007N034W	<p>This unit is designated Public Recreation and Tourism-Public Use Site (Rp) and is to be managed for public recreation and retained in public ownership. See also the Management Guideline for "Public Use Sites" in the Recreation, Tourism, and Scenic Resources section of Chapter 2. Conveyance of the unit to the Lake and Peninsula Borough is appropriate with the stipulation that the unit remain in public ownership as a Public Use Site.</p>	<p>This unit consists of a campsite on the Mulchatna River, 3 miles upstream of the mouth of Big Bonanza Creek. It is identified in the Nushagak & Mulchatna Rivers Recreation Management Plan, April 2005, as a public use site (PU37). The area is affected by LLO 1. The unit is part of a land selection by the Lake and Peninsula Borough under its municipal entitlement.</p>
R07-08 PU47/Ptarmigan Creek drainage	227 Rp - Public Recreation and Tourism-Public Use Site	Map 3-7 S007N030W	<p>This unit is designated Public Recreation and Tourism-Public Use Site (Rp) and is to be managed for public recreation and retained in public ownership. See also the Management Guideline for "Public Use Sites" in the Recreation, Tourism, and Scenic Resources section of Chapter 2. Conveyance of the unit to the Lake and Peninsula Borough is appropriate with the stipulation that the unit remain in public ownership as a Public Use Site.</p>	<p>Floatplane landing area on unnamed lake in the Ptarmigan Creek drainage. It is identified in the Nushagak & Mulchatna Rivers Recreation Management Plan, April 2005, as a public use site (PU47). The area is affected by LLO 1 and by a municipal selection of the Lake and Peninsula Borough under its municipal entitlement.</p>
R07-09 PU48/Big Bonanza Creek	84 Rp - Public Recreation and Tourism-Public Use Site	Map 3-7 S006N033W	<p>This unit is designated Public Recreation and Tourism-Public Use Site (Rp) and is to be managed for public recreation and retained in public ownership. See also the Management Guideline for "Public Use Sites" in the Recreation, Tourism, and Scenic Resources section of Chapter 2. Conveyance of the unit to the Lake and Peninsula Borough is appropriate with the stipulation that the parcel remain in public ownership as a Public Use Site.</p>	<p>Campsite and floatplane landing area on an unnamed lake drained by Big Bonanza Creek. It is identified in the Nushagak & Mulchatna Rivers Recreation Management Plan, April 2005, as a public use site (PU48). The area is affected by LLO 1. The unit is part of a land selection by the Lake and Peninsula Borough under its municipal entitlement.</p>

Unit # / Name	Acres / Designation(s)	MTRS	Management Intent	Resources, Uses, Additional Info
R07-10 PU35/Chilikadrotna River	160 Rp - Public Recreation and Tourism-Public Use Site	Map 3-7 S006N035W	This unit is designated Public Recreation and Tourism-Public Use Site (Rp) and is to be managed for public recreation and retained in public ownership. See also the Management Guideline for “Public Use Sites” in the Recreation, Tourism, and Scenic Resources section of Chapter 2. Conveyance of the unit to the Lake and Peninsula Borough is appropriate with the stipulation that the unit remain in public ownership as a Public Use Site.	This unit consists of a campsite on the upper Mulchatna River at the mouth of the Chilikadrotna River. It is identified in the Nushagak & Mulchatna Rivers Recreation Management Plan, April 2005, as a public use site (PU35). The area is affected by LLO 1. The unit is part of a land selection by the Lake and Peninsula Borough under its municipal entitlement.
R07-11 PU42/Chilikadrotna River	86 Rp - Public Recreation and Tourism-Public Use Site	Map 3-7 S006N034W	This unit is designated Public Recreation and Tourism-Public Use Site (Rp) and is to be managed for public recreation and retained in public ownership. See also the Management Guideline for “Public Use Sites” in the Recreation, Tourism, and Scenic Resources section of Chapter 2. Conveyance of the unit to the Lake and Peninsula Borough is appropriate with the stipulation that the unit remain in public ownership as a Public Use Site.	This unit consists of a campsite and floatplane landing area on the Chilikadrotna River at the mouth of an unnamed creek. It is identified in the Nushagak & Mulchatna Rivers Recreation Management Plan, April 2005, as a public use site (PU42). The area is affected by LLO 1. The unit is part of a land selection by the Lake and Peninsula Borough under its municipal entitlement.
R07-12 PU43/Chilikadrotna River	30 Rp - Public Recreation and Tourism-Public Use Site	Map 3-7 S006N032W	This unit is designated Public Recreation and Tourism-Public Use Site (Rp) and is to be managed for public recreation and retained in public ownership. See also the Management Guideline for “Public Use Sites” in the Recreation, Tourism, and Scenic Resources section of Chapter 2. Conveyance of the unit to the Lake and Peninsula Borough is appropriate with the stipulation that the unit remain in public ownership as a Public Use Site.	This unit consists of a campsite and floatplane landing area on the Chilikadrotna River at the mouth of Ptarmigan Creek. It is identified in the Nushagak & Mulchatna Rivers Recreation Management Plan, April 2005, as a public use site (PU43). The area is affected by LLO 1. The unit is part of a land selection by the Lake and Peninsula Borough under its municipal entitlement.
R07-13 PU44/Little Mulchatna River	38 Rp - Public Recreation and Tourism-Public Use Site	Map 3-7 S006N030W	This unit is designated Public Recreation and Tourism-Public Use Site (Rp) and is to be managed for public recreation and retained in public ownership. See also the Management Guideline for “Public Use Sites” in the Recreation, Tourism, and Scenic Resources section of Chapter 2. Conveyance of the unit to the Lake and Peninsula Borough is appropriate with the stipulation that the unit remain in public ownership as a Public Use Site.	Campsite on the Chilikadrotna River at the mouth of the Little Mulchatna River. It is identified in the Nushagak & Mulchatna Rivers Recreation Management Plan, April 2005, as a public use site (PU44). The area is affected by LLO 1. The unit is part of a land selection by the Lake and Peninsula Borough under its municipal entitlement.
R07-14 PU45/Chilikadrotna River	248 Rp - Public Recreation and Tourism-Public Use Site	Map 3-7 S006N030W	This unit is designated Public Recreation and Tourism-Public Use Site (Rp) and is to be managed for public recreation and retained in public ownership. See also the Management Guideline for “Public Use Sites” in the Recreation, Tourism, and Scenic Resources section of Chapter 2. Conveyance of the unit to the Lake and Peninsula Borough is appropriate with the stipulation that the unit remain in public ownership as a Public Use Site.	Campsite on the Chilikadrotna River at the mouth of the creek which drains Snipe Lake. It is identified in the Nushagak & Mulchatna Rivers Recreation Management Plan, April 2005, as a public use site (PU45). The area is affected by LLO 1. The unit is part of a land selection by the Lake and Peninsula Borough under its municipal entitlement.
R07-15 PU34/Chilchitna River	276 Rp - Public Recreation and Tourism-Public Use Site	Map 3-7 S005N036W	This unit is designated Public Recreation and Tourism-Public Use Site (Rp) and is to be managed for public recreation and retained in public ownership. See also the Management Guideline for “Public Use Sites” in the Recreation, Tourism, and Scenic Resources section of Chapter 2.	This unit consists of a campsite and floatplane landing area on the Mulchatna River below the mouth of the Chilchitna River. It is identified in the Nushagak & Mulchatna Rivers Recreation Management Plan, April 2005, as a public use site (PU34). The area is affected by LLO 1 and by a municipal selection of the Lake and Peninsula Borough.
R07-16 RRMP 19	40,389 Gu - General Use	Map 3-7	The unit is designated General Use (Gu) and is to be managed for a variety of uses, including the protection of fish and wildlife resources and their associated habitats, mineral exploration and development, and dispersed recreation. Some forms of recreation use, including commercial recreation, may be appropriate if these recreational uses are found to be compatible with the management intent for adjacent river corridors designated Ha-Rd or Rd in the Area Plan. Development authorizations may be appropriate subject to the protection of these resources, consistency with the recreation uses specified in the RRMP, and the specific requirements of Chapter 2; see particularly the requirements for Management Guideline J, “Nushagak &	This unit consists of state-owned uplands generally located to the west of Tutna Lake. It encompasses that portion of Management Unit 19 from the Nushagak & Mulchatna Rivers Recreation Management Plan that extends into Region 7. It mostly includes lands that form the headwaters of Keefer Creek and an unnamed large creek northwest of Keefer Creek. Vegetation consists primarily of tall shrublands. Anadromous fish streams occur within the unit, and caribou are known to use this unit as wintering habitat. The unit is affected by LLO 1. The management of this unit is governed by the requirements of the Bristol Bay Area Plan. (Previous to this revision, DNR authorizations relating to recreation uses and structures were guided by the

Unit # / Name	Acres / Designation(s)	MTRS	Management Intent	Resources, Uses, Additional Info
			<p>Mulchatna Rivers Recreation Management Plan”, in the Recreation, Tourism, and Scenic Resources section of Chapter 2. For convenience, Table 2.2 contains a listing of allowed, prohibited, and conditional (recreational) uses by RRMP Management Unit. Management Guideline J in the Recreation, Tourism, and Scenic Resources section of Chapter 2 specifically defines the relationship between the RRMP and the BBAP, and must be consulted in adjudication decisions. Intensive development is not expected within this unit during the planning period except occasionally and at specific locations associated with recreation uses and mineral exploration and development. Settlement is not considered an appropriate use. Except for state lands conveyed to the Borough, this unit is to be retained in state ownership.</p>	<p>Nushagak & Mulchatna Rivers Recreation Management Plan (RRMP).) The requirements of the RRMP have been carried over except for prohibitions on permanent facilities and docks.</p>
R07-17 PU36/Tutna Lake	360 Rp - Public Recreation and Tourism-Public Use Site	Map 3-7 S003N035W	<p>This unit is designated Public Recreation and Tourism-Public Use Site (Rp) and is to be managed for public recreation and retained in public ownership. See also the Management Guideline for “Public Use Sites” in the Recreation, Tourism, and Scenic Resources section of Chapter 2. Conveyance of the unit to the Lake and Peninsula Borough is appropriate with the stipulation that the unit remain in public ownership as a Public Use Site.</p>	<p>This unit consists of a campsite and floatplane landing area on the north side of Tutna Lake. It is identified in the Nushagak & Mulchatna Rivers Recreation Management Plan, April 2005, as a public use site (PU36). The area is affected by LLO 1. The unit is part of a land selection by the Lake and Peninsula Borough under its municipal entitlement.</p>
R07-18 PU46/Chilchitna River	82 Rp - Public Recreation and Tourism-Public Use Site	Map 3-7 S004N034W	<p>This unit is designated Public Recreation and Tourism-Public Use Site (Rp) and is to be managed for public recreation and retained in public ownership. See also the Management Guideline for “Public Use Sites” in the Recreation, Tourism, and Scenic Resources section of Chapter 2. Conveyance of the unit to the Lake and Peninsula Borough is appropriate with the stipulation that the unit remain in public ownership as a Public Use Site.</p>	<p>Floatplane landing area on unnamed lake drained by the Chilchitna River. It is identified in the Nushagak & Mulchatna Rivers Recreation Management Plan, April 2005, as a public use site (PU46). The area is affected by LLO 1. The unit is part of a land selection by the Lake and Peninsula Borough under its municipal entitlement.</p>
R07-19 Chulitna Area	246,220 Gu - General Use	Map 3-7	<p>This unit is designated General Use (Gu). These lands should be managed for a variety of uses including protection of fish and wildlife and their associated habitats, dispersed recreation and tourism, and minerals exploration and development. The unit is not suitable for Settlement. Development authorizations may be appropriate subject to the protection of these resources and the requirements of Chapter 2. Intensive development is not intended within this unit during the planning period except occasionally and at specific locations. Municipal selections are considered appropriate for disposal, subject to a separate and subsequent Best Interest Finding. Except for state lands conveyed to the Borough, this unit is to be retained in state ownership.</p>	<p>This unit consists of the majority of the state-owned uplands in the southern portion of Region 7. The terrain displays modest relief and is well dissected. Vegetation consists primarily of spruce, birch, and aspen woodlands, tall shrublands, and tundra at lower elevations. The unit encompasses most of the uplands of drainages flowing into the Lake Clark system including the Koksetna and Chulitna drainages. There are few anadromous streams. Many of the major drainages are used as wintering areas for moose. (Note: most of the moose wintering areas are now (2013) included with the unit R07-19A.) A large area east of Tutna Lake has been used as wintering areas by the Mulchatna Caribou Herd. The Lake and Peninsula Borough has made land selections in the unit, adjacent to Lake Clark National Park straddling the Koksetna River, as part of its municipal entitlement. The Telaquana-Nondalton trail passes through the eastern portion of the unit. The Alaska Heritage Resources Survey (AHRS) reports few sites within this unit, but this likely represents remoteness and lack of surveys. Much of the unit is affected by LLO 1.</p> <p>This unit has been affected by the 2013 Plan Amendment. The size of this unit has been somewhat diminished and two additional units, created. R07-19A was created to encompass areas of wetlands and areas within portions of the headwaters of the Chulitna River. R07-19B was established to encompass areas of moose wintering habitat that were not discretely identified in the original (2005) unit.</p>

Unit # / Name	Acres / Designation(s)	MTRS	Management Intent	Resources, Uses, Additional Info
R07-19A Chulitna River drainage	14,489 Wr - Water Resources	Map 3-7	<p>Manage unit to protect and maintain lakes, streams, wetlands, and wetland hydrologic connections to adjacent streams and wetlands. The intent is to maintain the natural character of the unit so that it can continue to function as a watershed for the Chulitna River. Retain in state ownership. Dispersed recreation is considered an appropriate use in this unit.</p> <p>Other than utilities, communication, roads/bridges, and similar facilities providing a public service, development is not appropriate within this unit. Any authorizations that may be issued will need to avoid impacts or mitigate impacts to wetlands and riverine areas or appreciably affect the streams in this unit.</p>	<p>This unit encompasses portions of the drainages important to the Chulitna River in its southern part. The Chulitna River drainage is considered particularly important for subsistence. There are scattered wetlands and a number of lakes in the unit and it is drained by two creeks, Groundhog and Rock Creeks. Terrain is generally flat to rolling, although there is a prominent knob in the center of the unit. Vegetation varies from that related to wetlands to, in areas with better soils and higher elevation, evergreen and mixed forest.</p> <p>This unit was affected by the 2013 Plan Amendment process; see note for unit R07-19, above.</p>
R07-19B Chulitna River Moose Wintering areas	80,370 Ha - Habitat Rd - Public Recreation and Tourism- Dispersed	Map 3-7	<p>Manage unit for its habitat and recreation values and, in particular, the protection of moose wintering habitat.</p> <p>Other than utilities, communication, roads/bridges, and similar facilities providing a public service, development is not appropriate within this unit. Any authorizations that may be issued will need to avoid impacts or mitigate impacts to wetlands and riverine areas or appreciably affect moose wintering habitat. Consult with ADF&G prior to issuing an authorization.</p> <p>There are several municipal selections that affect this unit. If the adjuditory decision determines that it is appropriate to convey state land, the Habitat designation is extinguished, leaving the Dispersed Recreation designation, which converts to a land use classification that is conveyable to the borough.</p>	<p>This unit encompasses moose wintering areas that occur in both uplands and river corridors, especially related to the Koksetna and Chulitna Rivers and to uplands immediately south of the Nikabuna Lakes. There are six separate subunits, corresponding to the distribution of moose wintering areas in this part of the region. Note: other wintering areas in this region (to the north) were encompassed by R07-06. Terrain and vegetation are related; lowland areas tend to be characterized by shrub and wetland vegetation while uplands, which occur at the end of river valley and especially south of the Nikabuna Lakes, are characterized by sub and evergreen forest. Several municipal entitlement selections of the Borough affect this unit.</p> <p>This unit was affected by the 2013 Plan Amendment process; see note for unit R07-19, above.</p>
R07-20 Tutna Lake	68,743 Se - Settlement	Map 3-7	<p>The unit is designated Settlement (Se) and is considered appropriate for disposal during the planning period. This land is considered appropriate for conveyance to the Lake and Peninsula Borough. Development is to conform to the requirements of Remote Settlement and those for moose wintering area described in the Settlement, and Fish and Wildlife Habitat and Harvest Areas sections of Chapter 2.</p>	<p>This management unit is located on the upper Mulchatna River drainage in the vicinity of Tutna Lake. The lands are located generally south of Mesa Mountain in the valley of Black Creek in terrain of low relief suitable for settlement. Vegetation consists of spruce woodlands and shrubs. Caribou are known to winter in this unit. Access is principally via waterways or floatplane. The area around Tutna Lake and Black Creek is used as a wintering area by moose. The Telaquana-Nondalton trail passes through the eastern part of the unit. The area is affected by LLO 1. Within the unit are four selections by the Lake and Peninsula Borough.</p>
R07-21 Nikabuna Lakes	57,079 Se - Settlement	Map 3-7	<p>The unit is designated Settlement (Se) and is considered appropriate for disposal during the planning period. This land is considered appropriate for conveyance to the Lake and Peninsula Borough. Development is to conform to the requirements of Remote Settlement and those for moose wintering area described in the Settlement, and Fish and Wildlife Habitat and Harvest Areas sections of Chapter 2.</p>	<p>This land is located on the upper Mulchatna River drainage in the vicinity of Nikabuna Lakes. The area is generally north and west of groundhog Mountain and west of Long Lake. The area has several large lakes that are accessible by floatplane. The area is used as a wintering area by moose. The Telaquana-Nondalton trail passes through the eastern part of the unit. The area is affected by LLO 1. Within this unit are three land selections by the Lake and Peninsula Borough.</p>
R07-22 Chulitna River	7,564 Se - Settlement	Map 3-7	<p>If these lands are conveyed by the Federal government, they are considered appropriate for settlement and for disposal during the planning period. Development is to conform to the requirements of Remote Settlement of Chapter 2 and the other requirements of Chapter 2. Development is to conform to the requirements of Remote Settlement and those for moose wintering area described in the Settlement, and Fish and Wildlife Habitat and Harvest Areas sections of Chapter 2.</p>	<p>This state-selected land is located generally south of the Chulitna River approximately four miles east of Long Lake and adjacent to Lake Clark National Park and Preserve. The terrain is moderate with tall shrub woodlands. The area is utilized by moose for wintering, and is near to a moose rutting area and a raptor nesting area. The area is affected by LLO 1.</p>

Region 8: Lake Clark, Newhalen

Summary of Resources and Uses in the Region

Region Boundary

Region 8 is the smallest of the planning regions in the Bristol Bay Area Plan and is situated in the area surrounding the Newhalen River encompassing the communities of Nondalton (pop. 221), Newhalen (pop. 177), and Iliamna (pop. 103). The boundaries are the same as the 1984 BBAP; it is largely defined by the drainage basin of the Newhalen River and the north shore of Iliamna Lake (see Map 3-8). Elevations range from 47 feet at Iliamna Lake to 3,170 at the summit of Roadhouse Mountain. Plan designations and management intent for state land in the adjacent Lake Clark National Park and Preserve are also included in this Region, for reasons of convenience.

State Lands

The majority of land within Region 8 is Native-owned. Approximately two townships are held by the state and 1.25 townships are in possession of the Federal Government. The plan applies to 55,992 acres of state-owned and state-selected uplands.

Physical Geography

Region 8 is within the Lime Hills and Alaska Peninsula ecological provinces. The drainage basin includes the Newhalen River, and Bear and Eagle Bay Creeks. Other significant waterbodies include Sixmile Lake as well as the much smaller Alexcy, Negro, and Roadhouse Lakes. Named Mountains include Roadhouse Mountain east of Iliamna and Groundhog Mountain north of Nondalton. Topographic relief is significant with over 3,100 feet from Iliamna Lake to the top of Roadhouse Mountain, all developed within about six miles of the shore.

The Region displays a variety of landscapes, including vistas overlooking Iliamna Lake, the largest lake in Alaska, mountains, fast-flowing rivers, tundra, marshy lowlands, and ponds. The higher elevations of Roadhouse Mountain show evidence of glaciation and are marked by alpine tundra and barrens; the summit of Groundhog basin is similarly barren. Tree covered areas occur along the valley of the Newhalen River; these areas consist of spruce woodland and shrubs or at some locales an open spruce forest-shrub-bog mosaic. Most terrain in the low-lying country of the Newhalen flood plain has cover consisting of low shrub and lichen tundra. At intermediate elevations the spruce woodland and tundra give way to tall shrub vegetation.

Climate

The climate of Region 8 lies in the transitional climatic zone. Average summer temperatures range from 42° to 62°; winter temperatures average 6° to 30°. The record high is 91° and the record low is -47°. Annual average rainfall is approximately 26 inches, with 64 inches of snowfall. Most of the Region is underlain by isolated masses of permafrost.

Other

Region 8 is within the Lake Clark and Iliamna Quadrangles. It is entirely within the boundaries of the Bristol Bay Regional Native Corporation. It is also within the Lake and Peninsula Borough.

Access

Access to Region 8 is good. Airports are located at Nondalton and Newhalen-Iliamna. A state-owned 4,800-foot runway is located five miles north of Newhalen, between Newhalen and Iliamna. A paved road connects these communities and the airport. Barges deliver bulk goods via the Kvichak River, which are lightered to shore. Nondalton is serviced by a state-owned 2,800-foot gravel runway. An unimproved trail, the Iliamna-Pile Bay Trail (No. 2173) extends along the north side of Iliamna Lake and connects the Newhalen and Iliamna communities with Pedro Bay and Pile Bay Village. Pile Bay Village is connected to the Cook Inlet by road. The following RS 2477 trails are partially or wholly within the Region:

- Newhalen River Portage (RST No. 1641)
- Iliamna-Pile Bay (RST No. 396)
- Telaquana-Nondalton (RST No. 291)

Resources and Uses

Cultural and Historic. There has been little excavation of prehistoric sites in the Region. However, archaeological evidence suggests that people of the Paleoarctic Tradition were active in the Lake Clark area about 6,000 years ago, and perhaps earlier. A site near Twin Lakes and another along the Tazimina River suggest occupation as early as 8,000 B.C. Historically the Tanaina Indians were the principal native group in the area but there also has been influence and occupation by the Ogulmiut Eskimo. There are two native settlements: Iliamna and Nondalton. The state Office of History and Archeology lists twenty-five sites in Region 8; eight of these are prehistoric, fifteen are historic, and two are of mixed origin. New sites are discovered periodically and added to the Alaska Heritage Resource Database when reported.

Prior to 1935, “Old Iliamna” was located near the mouth of the Iliamna River, a traditional Athabascan village. A post office was established there in 1901. Around 1935, villagers moved to the present location, approximately 40 miles from the old site. Iliamna’s current size and character can be attributed to the development of fishing and hunting lodges. The first lodge opened in the 1930s.

The 1890 census listed the Eskimo village of “Noghelingamiut,” meaning “people of Noghelin,” at the present site of Newhalen. The “Newhalen” is an anglicized version of the original. The village was established in the late 1800s due to the bountiful fish and game in the immediate area. The village was originally located on the north shore of Six Mile Lake, but in 1940, wood depletion in the surrounding area and growing mud flats caused the village to move to its present location on the west shore. Nondalton formed an incorporated city government in 1971.

Economic. Commercial fishing, sport fishing, and tourism are the major sources of income for the community. A number of residents hold commercial fishing permits, and many depart each summer to fish in Bristol Bay. Iliamna Lake is the second largest lake in the U.S., and tourism is increasing. Thousands of sport fishermen visit the area each summer for trophy rainbow trout fishing on the lake. However, most lodge employees are hired from outside Alaska. Many residents participate in subsistence hunting and fishing activities. Some families travel to fish camp each summer. Salmon, trout, grayling, moose, caribou, bear, Dall sheep, seal, porcupine and rabbits are utilized. Northern Dynasty Minerals Ltd. is evaluating the gold, copper and molybdenum potential of the Pebble Deposit, 15 miles from Iliamna.

Recreation. The Lake Clark-Newhalen River area is an important recreation corridor for outdoor recreation activities, especially sport fishing, river excursions, and wildlife viewing. The corridor contains at least half a dozen commercial recreation lodges with up to a dozen more located around Lake Clark itself. The Newhalen River is also utilized for commercial rafting and jetboat tours. The Newhalen River Gorge is Class V+ water and provides a thrilling experience for those interested in white water adventure. The clear turquoise-colored waters of the river contain all five species of anadromous Pacific salmon, trout, Arctic grayling, and Dolly Varden. The corridor is also used by wildlife such as eagles, other raptors, brown bear, moose, and caribou.

Minerals. Region 8 is underlain principally by middle Tertiary felsic volcanics overlain by Quaternary alluvium. One copper-gold-silver occurrence is known in the area – the Millet prospect, found near the shore of Iliamna Lake near the east boundary of the Region. Little is known of the occurrence. However, due to the proximity of significant mineral occurrences, the exploration potential for base and precious metals should be considered high.

Oil and Gas. The bedrock underlying Region 8 precludes a high potential for oil and gas.

Materials. There are no active materials sites in Region 8.

Forestry. Forestry resources are present in limited areas along Lake Clark; this resource is used for house logs and heating fuel by some of the villages. Most of the forestry resources in Region 8 are considered to have a very low, to low suitability for local personal use.

Fish and Wildlife. The Lake Clark drainage is a major sockeye salmon spawning area, and the fisheries resources are used locally by both subsistence and sport fishermen. The Newhalen River is noteworthy for its clear water and good habitat; the river and its tributaries are important sockeye spawning grounds, contributing to 16 percent of the world's commercial wild red salmon harvest. All five Pacific salmon species are found, as are rainbow trout, Dolly Varden, and Arctic grayling, caribou, moose, and brown bear are also important to subsistence and recreational users. Eagles and other raptors are found in the Region.

Management Considerations: Local and State Plans

A number of local, state, and federal management plans were considered in development of this plan. Local plans include the Lake and Peninsula Borough Coastal Zone Management Plan, the Lake and Peninsula Borough Comprehensive Plan, and the Southwest Alaska Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy 2003-2008. State plans include the Bristol Bay Area Plan. Federal plans include the Lake Clark National Park General Management Plan (1984).

Region 8 is located wholly within the boundaries of the Lake and Peninsula Borough. Both the Comprehensive Plan and the District Coastal Management Plan of the Lake and Peninsula Borough apply to this portion of Region 8. The Comprehensive Plan focuses on economic and infrastructure development issues and does not contain specific land use standards or a land use map. The Enforceable Policies of the District Coastal Management Plan are extensive; policies affecting anadromous streams, bald eagle nests, oil and gas development, material extraction and mining can be applicable, under certain instances, to state lands. See <http://www.alaskacoast.state.ak.us/>²⁰ for more information on enforceable policies. These policies should be consulted by the DNR prior to issuing an authorization.

Region 8 is also within the area covered by the Southwest Alaska Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy 2003-2008, which was developed for the U.S. Department of Commerce Economic Development Administration by the Southwest Alaska Municipal Conference (July 2003). This document developed a number of goals, objectives, and strategies to facilitate and support efforts that retain and grow the region's wealth, including diversifying the economic base.

The Bristol Bay Area Plan (1984) affected all state lands in the Region until this revision. Under the 1984 plan the Region was to be managed for fish and wildlife harvest and habitat. Lake Clark and the Newhalen River were to be managed for recreation and fisheries production.

²⁰ The Alaska Coastal Management Program was terminated on July 1, 2011, pursuant to AS 44.66.030.

Some community expansion is encouraged in the Iliamna, Nondalton, and Newhalen areas. The 1984 Bristol Bay Area Plan for Region 8 includes land use designations for Fish and Wildlife, Recreation, Minerals, and Remote Settlement. This revision supersedes the 1984 Area Plan.

The Southwest Alaska Transportation Plan (ADOT/PF, November 2002) identified a Cook Inlet to Bristol Bay Transportation Corridor which, in general, extends from Cook Inlet to South Naknek connecting with the communities of Pedro Bay, Iliamna, Newhalen, Igiugig, Levelock, King Salmon, and Naknek. The transportation plan would connect the rich seafood resources and communities in the Bristol Bay, as well as the Iliamna Lake communities, with resupply, support and market centers in the Alaskan railbelt. It consists of a marine segment (Cook Inlet), an intermodal transfer location at Williamsport or Iniskin Bay, and primarily overland and riverine routes along Iliamna Lake and the Kvichak River valley that terminate at the port town of Naknek on Bristol Bay. A tie-in to the Pebble Copper mine is also a possibility. The function of the route is primarily logistical. Transportation improvements along this corridor would lower the cost of transport, thus yielding benefits to the quality of life for residents and stimulating economic growth. Other ADOT/PF priorities in Region 8 include completion of the Nondalton to Newhalen road and construction of the Newhalen River Bridge. The Southwest Alaska Transportation Plan contains specific plans for the Nondalton-Newhalen River corridor including a bridge over the Newhalen River. The proposed road to the Pebble Copper deposit would branch from the Bristol Bay road in Region 8, but the exact location of a bridge across the Newhalen River that is capable of handling large trucks is not known. The Bristol Bay transportation corridor would transect Region 8 in the Iliamna-Newhalen area.

Municipal Selections

There are no municipal selections by the Lake and Peninsula Borough in Region 8.

Management Summary: Uplands

State land in Region 8 is to be managed for a variety of multiple uses, including settlement, materials extraction, public facilities development, dispersed public recreation, mineral exploration and development, and maintenance of sensitive wildlife habitats. Oil and gas exploration and development, although of low potential, is also appropriate within the Region. Although the majority of state lands are designated General Use (Gu), a large amount has been designated Settlement (Se). This Settlement land (predominantly state-selected land) is intended to facilitate recreation and community expansion in the area west of the Newhalen River. The Newhalen River, Sixmile Lake and other anadromous streams have been co-designated Habitat (Ha) and Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed (Rd). Several small management units associated with airport or other such facilities are designated Public Facilities-Retain (Pr).

Plan Designations and Management

The plan designations that are used within this Region have the following management intent. The policies and management intent guidelines described in Chapter 2 affect all DNR authorizations. Refer especially to those guidelines relating to Fish and Wildlife Habitat and Harvest Areas, and Settlement. See also the descriptions of the plan designations in the first part of this Chapter; this section indicates which lands can be conveyed out of state ownership and those that must be retained.

- **General Use (Gu).** Within this Region, lands that contain one or more resource values, none of which is of sufficiently high value to merit designation as a primary use, and areas that are unlikely to be developed during the planning period are designated General Use. The land is to be managed for a variety of uses including protection of fish and wildlife habitat and harvest, dispersed public recreation, minerals, oil and gas exploration and development, and protection of heritage resources. It is expected that little development will occur in these areas during the planning period, and it is not intended as a matter of policy that intensive forms of development occur in these areas other than occasionally and at specific sites. Any municipal land selections under the Municipal Entitlement program are conveyable to the municipality subject to a Best Interest Finding by the state. However, the Lake and Peninsula Borough has made no land selections on General Use lands in Region 8. Lands designated General Use are to be retained in state ownership during the planning period.
- **Habitat (Ha).** Generally, this designation applies to areas of various size that are important for fish and wildlife species during a sensitive life-history stage where alteration of the habitat or human disturbance could result in a permanent loss of a population or sustained yield of a species. In Region 8 this designation is applied to streams and shorelands cataloged by the Alaska Department of Fish and Game as anadromous (<http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/sf/SARR/AWC/index.cfm?ADFG=main.interactive>). The designation is to be retained in state ownership.
- **Public Facilities-Retain (Pr).** This designation applies to sites that are reserved for a specific public infrastructure requirement. They are to be retained in state or public ownership. In this Region, this designation applies to lands containing public facilities, commonly airports or schools. Only a small amount of acreage is affected by this designation.
- **Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed and Habitat (Co-designation).** Certain navigable waterbodies (lakes and streams) are co-designated Habitat (Ha) and Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed (Rd). Authorizations within these waterbodies should not interfere with important habitat or public recreation values. See Table 3.1 in the Navigability section of this Chapter for a listing of these streams. Note: Certain waterbodies may (only) be designated Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed, (Rd), Habitat (Ha), or General Use (Gu).

- **Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed (Rd).** Lands with the designation of Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed are to be managed so their public recreation values are protected and maintained. Within these areas the primary surface uses are intended to be those related to hiking, hunting, fishing, wildlife viewing, and the like. There are no lands in Region 8 with this designation, although a unit of state-selected land in the adjoining Lake Clark National Park and Preserve has been designated for dispersed Recreation.
- **Settlement (Se).** This designation applies to state uplands suitable for sale, leasing, or permitting to allow private recreational or residential use. Within this Region one area of state land is considered appropriate for settlement and has been designated Settlement. This occurs on the west side of the Newhalen River (on mostly state-selected land) and is intended for remote recreational use and community expansion; see Chapter 2 for specific requirements for this form of settlement. Settlement lands are appropriate for conveyance to the Borough.

Specific Management Considerations

- **Generally Allowed Uses.** The Generally Allowed Uses in 11 AAC 96.020 can occur throughout the Region.
- **Proposed Transportation Corridor.** The areas identified on the Region Map as a “Potential Transportation Corridor” should be retained by the state during the planning period. Authorizations granted by DNR within or adjacent to this corridor should not preclude the future development of transportation access. Authorizations or disposals within and adjacent to this corridor should only be allowed after consultation with ADOT/PF.
- **Except for areas closed to mineral entry under existing Mineral Closing Orders, all state lands within Region 8 are open to mineral entry. No additional MCOs are recommended; the only exception applies to the areas to be disposed of by DNR for purposes of Community Settlement. Closure to mineral entry is recommended at or before plat adoption. No leasehold location orders are recommended. See the Minerals section in Chapter 2 for more detail on subsurface management requirements.**
- **Mineral Closing and Opening Orders.** This revision of the Bristol Bay Area Plan retains the mineral closing and opening orders largely implemented by DNR at the time of original plan adoption. These MCOs either close a proposed settlement area or close a number of major streams to mineral location. These include the following:
 - MCO 393 – Newhalen River and tributaries to Iliamna Lake
- **Leasehold Location Orders.** Leasehold Location Order No. 1 covers small portions of Region 6, much of Region 7, and portions of Regions 8 and 9. Under this order, rights to locatable minerals may be acquired only under the Leasehold Location System, AS 38.05.205, and may not be acquired by locating a mining claim under AS 38.05.195. In the affected area, an approved Plan of Operations for a mineral lease takes the place

of a Land Use Permit required for unleased land. If the proposed lease activities are minor, a plan of operations is not required (11 AAC 86.800). The Plan of Operations must show how the operator proposes to comply with the lease stipulations and other pertinent guidelines in this plan.

- **Retained Lands.** There are no state lands within this Region that are designated to be retained except for those that are reserved as a ‘Potential Transportation Corridor’, and those designated Public Facilities-Retain (Pr) or Habitat (Ha). Note: Certain management units that are designated Rp may be conveyed out of state ownership and to a Borough as part of the Municipal Entitlement Act – providing the land conveyed remains public land and the public retains access to the public use site. Within this region, lands designated General Use are to be retained by the state during the planning period.
- **Navigable Waters.** Shorelands (rivers and lakes) that are believed to be navigable are listed in Table 3.1 in the Navigability section of this Chapter. Authorizations in these waters must ensure the continued use of a waterway by the public for purposes of trade, travel, and commerce. Note: These waterbodies are assigned a co-designation of Habitat and Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed. Authorizations issued by DNR are to maintain the habitat and public recreation values of these waterbodies.
- Three land management units are located outside of Region 8 and inside Lake Clark National Park and Preserve. They are denoted LC-01, LC-02, and LC-03 and described more fully in the Resource Allocation Table at the end of this section.

See the Resource Allocation Table for more details on the upland management units in Region 8.

Resource Allocation Table for Upland Management Units - Region 8

Unit # / Name	Acres / Designation(s)	MTRS	Management Intent	Resources, Uses, Additional Info
R08-01 Groundhog Mountain	23,337 Gu - General Use	Map 3-8	Unit is designated General Use (Gu) and is to be managed for a variety of uses, including the protection of fish and wildlife resources and their associated habitats, mineral exploration and development, and dispersed recreation. Some forms of recreation use, including commercial recreation may be appropriate. Development authorizations may be appropriate subject to the protection of these resources and the specific requirements of Chapter 2. See especially those requirements relating to "Mineral Resources". Intensive development is not expected within this unit during the planning period except occasionally and at specific locations associated with recreation uses and mineral exploration and development. Settlement may be considered appropriate. The Bristol Bay transportation corridor transects the unit; the actual position of the road alignment has yet to be determined. No authorizations or disposals should be considered that are within or near the corridor until the road alignment is known or without consultation with the ADOT/PF. State land selections in this unit are considered to be a high level selection priority. If conveyed, this unit is to be retained in state ownership.	The unit consists of state-owned and state-selected uplands in two noncontiguous blocks west of the Newhalen River in Region 8. Vegetation consists of tall shrubland. The area has moderate to high exploration potential for base and precious metals. The unit is partly affected by LLO 1. The proposed Pebble Copper road and transportation corridor extends through the unit.
R08-02 Nondalton	1,920 Se - Settlement	Map 3-8	The unit is designated Settlement (Se) and is considered appropriate for disposal during the planning period. Disposals are to conform to the requirements of Remote Settlement and other applicable management guidelines in Chapter 2.	The unit consists of approximately three sections of state-owned land and one section of state-selected land located west of Nondalton. The moderate terrain supports a tall shrub woodland. Nearby waters support anadromous fish, and raptors nest in the vicinity. The Newhalen River valley supports moose, caribou, and brown bear. The Alaska Heritage Resources Survey (AHRS) reports several heritage sites in or near this unit in the vicinity of Sixmile Lake. The Telquana-Nondalton trail extends through the unit.
R08-03 Nondalton Airstrip	82 Pr - Public Facilities- Retain	Map 3-8 S002S032W Sec. 19,20,29,30	This unit is to be managed by the ADOT/PF consistent with FAA and ADOT/PF guidelines for such use. The unit is to be retained in state ownership.	This unit of state land (OSL 1125) is located at the Nondalton public airport and managed by the Department of Transportation and Public Facilities (ADOT/PF). The area is affected by LLO 1.
R08-04 Nondalton	18.09 Pr - Public Facilities- Retain	Map 3-8 S002S032W Sec. 30,31	This unit is to be managed by the ADOT/PF for public purposes related to the airport and is to be retained in state ownership.	This management unit (OSL 686) is located near the Nondalton public airport and managed by the Department of Transportation and Public Facilities (ADOT/PF). The area is affected by LLO 1.
R08-05 Newhalen River	14,849 Se - Settlement	Map 3-8	If these lands are conveyed by the Federal government, they are considered suitable for settlement. The unit is designated Settlement (Se) and is considered appropriate for disposal during the planning period. Development is to conform to the requirements of Remote Settlement in the Settlement section of Chapter 2. The Pebble Copper road corridor transects the unit; the actual position of the road alignment has yet to be determined. No authorizations or disposals should be considered that are within or near the corridor until the road alignment is known, or without consultation with the ADOT/PF.	This unit consists of state-selected land west of the Nondalton River. The unit contains several lakes that are accessible by floatplane. The moderate terrain is suitable for settlement and supports a tall shrub woodland. The area is partly affected by Leasehold Location Order LLO 1.

Unit # / Name	Acres / Designation(s)	MTRS	Management Intent	Resources, Uses, Additional Info
R08-06 Roadhouse Mountain	9,889 Gu - General Use	Map 3-8	Unit is designated General Use (Gu) and, if conveyed by the Federal government, is to be managed for a variety of uses, including the protection of fish and wildlife resources and their associated habitats, mineral exploration and development, and dispersed recreation. Some forms of recreation use, including commercial recreation, may be appropriate. Development authorizations may be appropriate subject to the protection of these resources and the specific requirements of Chapter 2. Intensive development is not expected within this unit during the planning period except occasionally and at specific locations associated with recreation uses and mineral exploration and development. Settlement is not considered appropriate. The land selection is considered to be of moderate priority. If conveyed, this unit is to be retained in state ownership.	The unit consists of state-selected land in the Roadhouse Mountain area. Vegetation consists of tall shrubland. Moose overwinter in part of the unit. The unit is partly affected by LLO 1.
R08-07 Iliamna Airport	1,203 Pr - Public Facilities- Retain	Map 3-8 S005S033W Sec. 4,8,9,16,17,12	The unit is to be managed by ADOT/PF consistent with FAA and ADOT/PF guidelines for airport and ancillary facilities use. The land is to be retained in state ownership.	This land (OSL 321) is located at the Iliamna public airport and managed by the Department of Transportation and Public Facilities (ADOT/PF). This unit also includes land two miles east of the airport that is managed by ADOT/PF.
R08-08 Iliamna	300 Se - Settlement	Map 3-8 S005S032W Sec. 12,13	If these lands are conveyed by the Federal government, they are considered appropriate for settlement and disposal during the planning period. Development should follow the requirements of Remote Settlement in the Settlement section of Chapter 2.	The unit consists of small amounts of state-selected lands in the immediate vicinity of the community of Iliamna within sections 12 and 13. The unit has road access and may be appropriate for subdivision or other community expansion.
LC-01 Chulitna	8,544 Ha - Habitat Rd - Public Recreation and Tourism- Dispersed	Map 3-8 S002N031W Sec. 4,5,8,9, 16-21,28-33	Unit is to be managed to be compatible with the uses and resources of the land that surrounds it and are part of the Lake Clark National Park and Preserve (Park). Development authorizations may be issued if the adjudicatory decision determines that the proposed action is in the best interest of the state, however. Stipulations may need to be included to ensure that minimal impact to the Park occurs. The National Park Service is to be consulted prior to the issuance of an authorization or on any revisions to this plan that may affect this unit. Unit is to be retained in state ownership.	The unit consists of state-owned land within the boundaries of Lake Clark National Park and Preserve. It is located approximately six miles northwest of Chulitna Bay. The northern portion of the unit is in steep mountainous terrain and the southern part is within the flat valley of the Chulitna River. Vegetation is a mixture of tall and low shrub and wet sedge tundra. The unit contains areas utilized by caribou for calving and by moose for overwintering. It contains areas considered essential for brown bear spring use. This unit was affected by the 2013 Plan Amendment process.
LC-02 Pickerel Lake	7,602 Rd - Public Recreation and Tourism- Dispersed Ha - Habitat	Map 3-8	If conveyed by the federal government, this unit is to be managed to be compatible with the uses and resources of the land that surrounds it and are part of the Lake Clark National Park and Preserve (Park). Development authorizations may be issued if the adjudicatory decision determines that the proposed action is in the best interest of the state, however. Stipulations may need to be included to ensure that minimal impact to the Park occurs. The National Park Service is to be consulted prior to the issuance of an authorization or on any revisions to this plan that may affect this unit. Unit is to be retained in state ownership if conveyed.	The unit consists of state-selected land within Lake Clark National Park and Preserve. It is approximately twelve sections of land located south of Pickerel Lake and north of the Tazimina River. The unit contains little topographic relief and includes the south end of Pickerel Lake and several unnamed lakes. Vegetation consists of low shrub and lichen tundra. The outlet of Pickerel Lake and the lower Tazimina River are anadromous streams that are utilized by brown bear, especially during the spawning season. This unit was affected by the 2013 Plan Amendment process.
LC-03 Tazimina River	10 Pr - Public Facilities- Retain	Map 3-8 S003S032W	The unit is to be retained in state ownership (see ADL 226877).	This is a small unit of land within the boundaries of Lake Clark National Park and Preserve. It is located on the Tazimina River and contains a private easement to the Iliamna-Newhalen-Nondalton Electric Coop. for a channel control sill (ADL 226877).

Region 9: Eastern Iliamna Lake

Summary of Resources and Uses in the Region

Region Boundary

Region 9 encompasses the eastern portion of Iliamna Lake; the northern, eastern, and southern borders are largely defined by the boundary of Lake Clark National Park and Preserve, the boundary of the Lake and Peninsula Borough, and the boundary of Katmai National Park and Preserve. The Eastern Iliamna Lake Planning Region includes the communities of Pedro Bay (pop. 37), Kokhanok (pop. 168), and Pope-Vannoy Landing (pop. 5). See Map 3-9.

State Lands and Municipal Selections: Ownership and Acreage

The majority of land within Region 9 is state or Native-owned²¹. The Region contains some large land selections by the Lake and Peninsula Borough. State-owned and state-selected lands total 690,645 acres. Most state lands occur in areas of steep topography and are situated some distance away from Iliamna Lake. Borough-selected land (63,206 acres) coincides with important river drainages or lakes scattered throughout the Region. Map 3-9 depicts the boundaries of this Region, generalized land status, and the distribution of state-owned, state-selected, and borough-selected uplands.

Physical Geography

State land within Region 9 occurs in four large areas scattered throughout the Region. The Region displays a variety of landscapes, including mountains, fast-flowing rivers, tundra, marshy lowlands, and ponds. Most of this land is covered by, depending on elevation and location, alpine tundra, low or tall shrubs, or areas of mixed broadleaf and spruce trees.

The Region is characterized by steep and mountainous terrain except for the major river drainages and areas around the larger lakes. The drainage basins on the east end of Iliamna Lake include the Pile, Iliamna and Copper Rivers as well as Chekok, Canyon, Knutson, Chinkelyes, and Dennis Creeks. Major waterbodies include east Iliamna Lake and Gibraltar, Kokhanok, Meadow, Moose, and Upper and Lower Copper Lakes. Significant topographic relief is present; named peaks include Roadhouse, Knutson, Three Sisters Mountains as well as Big Hill. Topographic relief is significant with over 4,600 feet from Iliamna Lake to the summit of Three Sisters Mountain, all developed within about six miles of the shore. Vegetation cover consists of alpine tundra and barrens at elevation, and a mixture of short and tall shrub

²¹ Primarily the Bristol Bay Native Corporation.

throughout the remainder of the Region except for riverine areas where there tends to be a mix of spruce and broadleaf forest. Several broad bands of the latter occupy the flat areas next to the principal drainages east of Kakhonak Lake.

Climate

The climate of Region 9 is within the transitional climatic zone. Average summer temperatures range from 40° to 64°; winter temperatures average 3° to 30°. The record high is 84° and the record low is -47°. Annual precipitation is between 26 and 32 inches, with 64 to 89 inches of snowfall. Most of the Region is underlain only by isolated masses of permafrost.

Access

Access to Region 9 is relatively good compared to other parts of the planning area. Pedro Bay is accessible by air and water; there is a state-owned 3,000-foot gravel airstrip that is undergoing improvements. Barge service is available from Naknek via the Kvichak River. Goods are also sent by barge from Homer to Iliamna Bay, on the Cook Inlet side, and portaged over a fourteen-mile road to Pile Bay. Fishing vessels that fish the waters of Bristol Bay are commonly transported by truck over this Williamsport-Pile Bay road to Iliamna Lake where they travel across the Lake and down the Kvichak River to the waters of Bristol Bay. At Kakhonak the state owns a 4,400-foot gravel airstrip and a seaplane base. Skiffs, ATV's and trucks are common forms of local transportation.

Resources and Uses

Most uses in the Region are associated with subsistence by the locals and dispersed commercial recreation related to sport fishing during the summer. The population of the Region is concentrated at the two villages of Pedro Bay and Kakhonak. Settlement potential is considered relatively good because of the presence of attractions (streams, lakes, and recreation opportunities), relatively good access and building terrain. Many areas within the Region are affected by Municipal entitlement selections of the Lake and Peninsula Borough. There are no known areas of state land with grazing, agriculture, or commercial timber harvest potential.

Cultural and Historic. The Dena'ina Indians have occupied this area historically. The Dena'ina warred with Russian fur traders over trade practices in the early 1800s. There are a relatively large number of historic and prehistoric uses within the Region. Most of these occur along the shores of Iliamna Lake. There are 14 historic, 14 prehistoric, and 2 mixed historic/prehistoric sites within the Region.

Economic. Most residents obtain summer employment in the Bristol Bay fishery or in Iliamna Lake tourism services. Several backcountry lodges operate in Pedro Bay. Commercial fishing has declined since several limited entry permits were sold. Most families depend heavily on subsistence activities, utilizing salmon, trout, moose, bear, rabbit and seal.

Recreation. Recreation resources and uses are primarily related to use of Iliamna Lake for boating and fishing, and to commercial and noncommercial sport fishing and hunting. A number of sport fishing lodges are clustered in the Pedro Bay, Copper River, and Kakhonak areas.

Minerals. Mineral resources associated with mafic intrusives occur north of Pedro Bay and east of Kakhonak. A wide range of commodities is represented by the occurrences including copper, molybdenum, gold, silver, and arsenic. The most significant mineral occurrence within Region 9 is perhaps the Fog Lake (Fog Pond) gold prospect, considered to be a gold- and silver-bearing prospect with minor copper values. Significant amounts of exploration have been conducted on the Kamishak prospect on the southern boundary of Region 9. Seventeen drill holes totaling 3,755 feet of drilling has been completed on this porphyry copper-gold prospect.

Oil and Gas. The bedrock of the region consists predominantly of a mix of volcanic, intrusive, and metamorphic terranes. Thus, there is little oil and gas potential.

Materials. There are no active materials sites in the Region.

Forestry. The forest resources found on the eastern shores of Iliamna Lake and Lake Clark are the most concentrated, and the most extensive, in the Bristol Bay planning area. The forests around Kakhonak, Kakhonak Lake, Pedro Bay, and Pile Bay include extensive stands of conifers (white Spruce) and mixed forests (birch and white spruce) along the shoreline and extending far up major drainages.

Fish and Wildlife. This Region has significant moose and caribou populations and contains many waterbodies utilized by anadromous fish. Moose rutting areas occur near Kakhonak, on non-state lands, and moose calving areas occur along the Pile River and both Knutson and Chekok Creeks. The upper portions of these drainages occupy state land. Caribou frequent small portions of the far western part of the Region, but there are no known calving or rutting areas within the Region. All five species of Pacific salmon occur in the streams of the region; sockeye are the most important species commercially. Brown bears concentrate along streams throughout the Region during spawning periods. Freshwater sport fish are generally prolific and, along with sockeye salmon, provide the basis for the commercial sport fishing industry.

Management Considerations: Local and State Plans

Several local and state management plans affect this Region. These were reviewed during the preparation of the Area Plan.

Both the Comprehensive Plan and the District Coastal Management Plan of the Lake and Peninsula Borough apply to Region 9. The Comprehensive Plan focuses on economic and infrastructure development issues and does not contain specific land use standards or a land use map. The Enforceable Policies of the District Coastal Management Plan are extensive; policies affecting anadromous streams, bald eagle nests, oil and gas development, material extraction and mining can be applicable, under certain instances, to state land. See <http://www.alaskacoast.state.ak.us/>²² for more information on enforceable policies. These policies should be consulted by DNR prior to issuing an authorization.

The two state management plans affecting this Region include the Bristol Bay Area Plan and the Southwest Alaska Transportation Plan (SATP), prepared by ADOT/PF in 2002. The original Bristol Bay Area Plan has affected the management of state lands throughout the Region since its adoption in 1984. This revision replaces and supersedes the original plan. Many of the settlement areas identified in the 1984 area plan are continued in this revision. The SATP identifies needed access facilities, which include a Bristol Bay Transportation Corridor. This Corridor extends from Iniskin Bay in Cook Inlet over the Chigmit Mountains, and then continues westward, paralleling the north shoreline of Iliamna Lake until extending inland to the west with a spur eventually ending at the Pebble Copper deposit (Map 3-9).

Municipal Selections

Municipal selections by the Lake and Peninsula Borough occupy extensive areas of state uplands; these total approximately 63,206 acres and are distributed along streams and lakes with attractive recreation and development features. See Plan Map 3-9, Appendix C, and the Municipal Entitlement section of Chapter 4.

Management Summary: Uplands

Region 9 is to be managed for a variety of multiple uses, including: 1) the maintenance of sensitive habitats, wildlife, and fisheries; 2) dispersed public recreation; and, 3) in certain areas, remote settlement. Because of the extent of the state land, the absence of discernible economic patterns, and the potential to accommodate a variety of differing uses through siting and other development requirements, most state land is designated General Use. Smaller parts of the Region are designated Minerals, Settlement, and Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed.

Plan Designations and Management

The plan designations that are used within this Region have the following management intent. The policies and management intent guidelines described in Chapter 2 affect all DNR authorizations. Refer especially to those guidelines relating to Fish and Wildlife Habitat and Harvest Areas, Subsurface Resources, and Settlement.

²² The Alaska Coastal Management Program was terminated on July 1, 2011, pursuant to AS 44.66.030.

- General Use (Gu). Extensive areas throughout the Region (R09-01, R09-07) are designated General Use, for the reasons given above. Such areas are typically remote, inaccessible, and characterized by either steep or rolling terrain. Vegetation patterns are typically low and tall shrubs, or alpine adapted vegetation. These areas are less suitable for development than areas designated Settlement. Within areas designated General Use, a variety of uses may occur; nonetheless, because of the inherent limitations to development, it is expected that little development will occur during the planning period and as a matter of policy it is not intended that intensive forms of development occur in these areas other than occasionally and at specific sites, usually associated with mining, oil and gas exploration and development, or recreation. Except for lands conveyed to the Borough under the municipal entitlement program, state land is to be retained. The requirements of the section 'Caribou and Moose Rutting and Calving Areas' in the Fish and Wildlife Habitat and Harvest Areas section of Chapter 2 are to be followed in development authorizations.
- Settlement (Se). There are three separate areas of varying size that are designated Settlement. These areas are appropriate for remote settlement; see Chapter 2 for specific requirements on this form of settlement. Settlement areas occur near lakes and rivers that are surrounded with generally flat to moderately rolling terrain. Portions of these areas are affected by Municipal Entitlement selections. Areas designated Settlement are considered appropriate for conveyance to the borough, subject to a separate, subsequent DNR Best Interest Finding.
- Public Facilities-Retain (Pr). There are a number of small management units that are designated Public Facilities-Retain. These are either local or state structures or facilities of public importance (schools, airports, etc.). These management units are to be retained in state ownership.
- Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed (Rd). Islands within Iliamna Lake are designated Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed. These management units, because of their unique scenic and cultural values, are to be retained in state ownership. Development authorizations, if issued, must ensure that public recreation and scenic values be maintained.
- Habitat (Ha). Generally, this designation applies to areas of varied size that are important for fish and wildlife species during a sensitive life-history stage where alteration of the habitat or human disturbance could result in a permanent loss of a population or sustained yield of a species. In Region 9 this designation is applied to streams and shorelands cataloged by the Alaska Department of Fish and Game as anadromous (<http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/sf/SARR/AWC/index.cfm?adfg=maps.interactive>). The designation is to be retained in state ownership.
- Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed and Habitat – Co-designation. The designations of Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed (Rd) and Habitat (Ha) apply to Iliamna Lake. The navigable waters of this Lake are to be managed so that its public recreation and habitat values are maintained. Development authorizations within these waters may be appropriate insofar as essential habitat and public recreation values are

maintained. This co-designation also applies to the navigable rivers in this Region, which are listed in Table 3.1 in the Navigability section of this Chapter. Authorizations within these waterbodies should not interfere with navigability, important habitat values or recreational uses.

Consult the Resource Allocation Table for more information about these management units.

Specific Management Considerations:

- **Generally Allowed Uses.** The Generally Allowed Uses in 11 AAC 96.020 can occur throughout the Region; there are no areas affected by 11 AAC 96.010 requiring a permit before being authorized.
- **Mineral Closing Orders and Leasehold Location Orders.** Except for areas closed to mineral entry under Mineral Closing Order #393 or Leasehold Location Order No. 1, all lands within the Region are open to mineral entry. No additional MCOs are recommended; the only exception applies to areas to be disposed of by DNR for remote settlement purposes. In these instances, closure of the settlement area prior to sale is required. The MCOs in areas not selected for staking within three years of the land sale are to revert to 'open to mineral entry'. In addition, no additional leasehold location orders are recommended. See the Mineral Resources section in Chapter 2 for more details on subsurface management requirements.
- **Municipal Entitlement Selections.** The municipal selections within this Region are either designated General Use or Settlement, which convert to the classifications of Resource Management Land and Settlement Land, respectively. Both classifications are conveyable to municipalities under the Municipal Entitlement Act. All lands so designated are considered appropriate for disposal, subject to a separate and subsequent Best Interest Finding.
- **Proposed Transportation Corridors.** The area identified on the Region Map as 'Potential Transportation Corridor' shall be retained by the state during the planning period. Authorizations granted by DNR within the area of this corridor shall not preclude the opportunity for the development of access at some time in the future. Authorizations or disposals within and adjacent to this corridor should only be allowed after consultation with ADOT/PF.
- **Retained Lands.** There are few state lands within this Region that are designated by the area plan to be retained other than the islands in Iliamna Lake or the upland areas that are used as public facilities. Lands that are identified as a Proposed Transportation Corridor are not to be conveyed out of state ownership unless ADOT/PF determines that it is in excess of state needs. A reasonable portion of lands within management unit R09-13 are to be retained in state ownership to suit the needs of the public for recreation on the south shore of Iliamna Lake. Unless conveyed to the Borough, land designated General Use is to be retained in state ownership.

- **Navigable Waters.** Shorelands (rivers and lakes) that are believed to be navigable are listed in Table 3.1 in the Navigability section of this Chapter. Authorizations in these waters must ensure the continued use of a waterway by the public for purposes of trade, travel, and commerce. Note: These waterbodies are assigned a plan designation of Habitat, Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed, a co-designation of Habitat and Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed, and, sometimes, General Use. The 2013 Plan Amendment process clarified that the entirety of Iliamna Lake is co-designated Habitat and Dispersed Recreation. Table 3-1 has been revised to identify the entirety of Lake Iliamna under Region 9 in this table. Authorizations issued by DNR are to maintain the habitat and public recreation values of these waterbodies.

Resource Allocation Table for Upland Management Units - Region 9

Unit # / Name	Acres / Designation(s)	MTRS	Management Intent	Resources, Uses, Additional Info
R09-01 Knutson Creek- Three Sisters Mt.	144,280 Gu - General Use	Map 3-9	Unit is designated General Use (Gu) and is to be managed for a variety of uses, including the protection of fish and wildlife resources and their associated habitat, and dispersed recreation. Development authorizations may be considered appropriate subject to the protection of these resources and the specific requirements of Chapter 2. See particularly the requirements for “Caribou and Moose Calving and Rutting Areas” in this Chapter. Intensive development is not expected within this unit during the planning period except occasionally and at isolated sites, and the unit is to be retained in state ownership.	Unit largely consists of mountainous terrain between the Pile River and Chekok Creek drainages as well as similar terrain east of the Pile River. Vegetation consists of either alpine tundra and barrens or tall shrub in the less mountainous areas. Because of the steep topographic conditions, little development can be expected within this unit with the possible exception of the upper drainages of Knutson Creek. A moose rutting area occupies portions of this unit. Leasehold Location Order #1 affects parts of this unit. This unit was affected by the 2013 Plan Amendment process. A subunit (R09-01A) was created to encompass those areas within the original R09-01 that contain significant moose wintering, rutting, and calving areas. See below.
R09-01A Moose wintering Areas – NE Iliamna Lake	40,008 Ha - Habitat Rd - Public Recreation and Tourism- Dispersed	Map 3-9	Manage unit for its dispersed recreation and habitat values and, in particular, the protection of moose wintering, rutting, and calving habitat. Other than utilities, communication, roads/bridges, and similar facilities providing a public service, development is not appropriate within this unit. Any authorizations that may be issued will need to avoid or mitigate impacts to riverine areas or moose habitat. Consult with ADF&G prior to issuing an authorization.	This unit occupies a number of river valleys whose creeks drain to the northeast portion of Lake Iliamna. Terrain in the valley floors is generally level but quickly steepens with an increase in elevation to form mountainous terrain. Within the valleys, evergreen vegetation is predominating while shrub is typical on the side slopes. Depending on location, these valleys are important for moose rutting, calving, and/or wintering. This subunit was created to encompass those areas within the original unit R09-01 that contain significant moose wintering, rutting, and calving areas. These areas generally follow river valleys, including the drainages of Chekok, Knutson, and Riven Creeks as well as Pile River.
R09-02 Upper Chekok Creek	18,365 Se - Settlement	Map 3-9	The unit is designated Settlement and is considered appropriate for disposal during the planning period. Development is to conform to the requirements of Remote Settlement and those for the Moose Rutting Area, described in the Settlement, and Fish and Wildlife Habitat and Harvest Areas sections of Chapter 2.	This land is located in the general vicinity of Chekok Lake and valley, a fairly flat area near the lake and river but increasing in elevation to the west and east. Vegetation cover is predominantly tall shrub. Chekok Creek and Chekok Lake are anadromous. Portions of a moose rutting area occupy parts of the unit. Unit is affected by Municipal selections of the Lake and Peninsula Borough, some of which have already been conveyed in the northern part of the Upper Chekok Creek drainage. MCO 393 affects Chekok Creek.
R09-03 Pile River	13,770 Se - Settlement	Map 3-9	This land is designated Settlement and is considered appropriate for disposal during the planning period. Authorizations and disposals on land that is not conveyed to the Borough shall adhere to the requirements of Remote Settlement and Moose Calving and Rutting Areas in Chapter 2. The areas of municipal selection are considered appropriate for conveyance to the Lake and Peninsula Borough, subject to a separate and subsequent Best Interest Finding.	This unit is located in the valley of the Pile River, an anadromous stream with predominantly sockeye salmon. The terrain is gently rolling near the Pile River but increases quickly in elevation to the west and east. The vegetative cover is predominantly tall shrub. A moose calving area covers large portions of the unit. The lower portion of the Pile River drainage contains numerous ponds, lakes, and wetlands. MCO 393 affects the Pile River, and LLO 1 affects the entirety of the unit. Large portions of the unit are affected by municipal entitlement selections of the Lake and Peninsula Borough.
R09-04 Pedro Bay Airport	46 Pr - Public Facilities- Retain	Map 3-9 S004S028W Sec. 29,32	The unit is to be retained in state ownership and managed consistent with the requirements of the Management Right (ADL 221516).	This land (ADL 221516; OSL 915) is located at the Pedro Bay public airport and managed by the Department of Transportation and Public Facilities (ADOT/PF).

Unit # / Name	Acres / Designation(s)	MTRS	Management Intent	Resources, Uses, Additional Info
R09-05 Pedro Bay School	0.92 Pr - Public Facilities- Retain	Map 3-9 S004S028W Sec. 33	The unit is to be retained by the state and is to be managed consistent with the terms and conditions of the lease and Management Right.	This unit (ADL 221497) is located at Pedro Bay. The land is subject to a lease with the public school system and is affected by Management Right (ADL 221497).
R09-06 Iliamna Lake Islands	6,788 Rd - Public Recreation and Tourism- Dispersed	Map 3-9	These units are designated Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed, are to be managed for dispersed public recreation purposes, and for the protection of fish and wildlife resources and their associated habitat, and retained by the state.	This unit consists of over 10 islands in Lake Iliamna, all of which are vacant and undeveloped. They are of varying size, the largest being Tangle, Flat, and Porcupine Islands in the eastern part of Lake Iliamna. Moose wintering areas do occur in this area.
R09-07 Tommy Creek/ Chigmit	256,591 Gu - General Use	Map 3-9	Unit is designated General Use (Gu) and is to be managed for a variety of uses, including the protection of fish and wildlife resources and their associated habitat, and dispersed recreation. Development authorizations may be considered appropriate subject to the protection of these resources and the specific requirements of Chapter 2. See particularly the requirements for “Caribou and Moose Calving, Wintering, and Rutting Areas” in this Chapter. Intensive development is not expected within this unit during the planning period except occasionally and at isolated sites. Areas affected by Municipal selections of the Lake and Peninsula Borough are considered appropriate for conveyance, subject to a separate and subsequent Best Interest Finding. Unless conveyed to the Borough under the municipal entitlement program, state land is to be retained during the planning period.	This large unit consists of three separate parts: a mountainous area west of the Chigmit Mountains that is predominately covered by tall shrub, a similarly mountainous area centering on Tommy Creek south of Lake Iliamna, an area that occupies both fairly flat to rolling terrain near Big Mountain and an area of similar topography but with numerous lakes situated generally south of the Kakhonak River and Lake. Low or tall shrub predominates throughout the two latter areas except for a few sites in the far eastern part which are comprised of closed spruce forest. MCO 393 closes several streams to mineral entry. Portions of the unit are affected by Municipal selections of the Lake and Peninsula Borough. Unit was affected by 2013 Plan Amendment process.
R09-07A Moose wintering Habitat SE Iliamna Lake Uplands	55,206 Ha - Habitat	Map 3-9	Manage unit for its habitat values and, in particular, the protection of moose wintering habitat. Other than utilities, communication, roads/bridges, and similar facilities providing a public service, development is not appropriate within this unit. In any authorization that may be issued, avoid significant winter disturbances to moose calving and wintering or to activities that would significantly reduce the utility of the unit for moose habitat. Consult with ADF&G prior to issuing an authorization. Municipal selections exist within this unit. If the adjudicatory decision determines that conveyance to the borough is appropriate, the designation of Habitat is extinguished and replaced by the Dispersed Recreation (Rd) designation, which converts to a conveyable classification. This action only affects the area of the selection.	This unit encompasses moose wintering, rutting, and calving habitat. It was created during the 2013 Plan Amendment process to distinguish between areas within the 2005 BBAP unit (R09-07) that were important for habitat from those areas of the unit that reflected a land use pattern characteristic of a General Use designation. Portions of the unit are affected by Municipal selections of the Lake and Peninsula Borough. The 2013 Plan Amendment process affected this unit. See above.
R09-08 Kakhonak Lake	53,541 Se - Settlement Rd - Public Recreation and Tourism- Dispersed	Map 3-9 S006S028W- S008S028W; S007S029W- S008S029W	This unit is co-designated Settlement and Dispersed Recreation and is considered appropriate for disposal during the planning period. Development should conform to the requirements for Remote Settlement in the Settlement section of Chapter 2. Potential impacts to dispersed recreation uses are to be evaluated in the Preliminary Decision and particularly heavily used areas that are related to access are to be avoided or impacts reduced to the maximum practical extent. Avoid significant disturbances to moose calving and wintering habitats or to activities that would significantly reduce the utility of this unit as moose habitat. The lands selected by the Borough are considered appropriate for conveyance, subject	This large unit is situated south of Iliamna Lake and occupies lands around and near Boot, Moose, and Meadows, as well as portions of Kakhonak Lakes. Kokhanok Lake constitutes a recreation attraction and is used for that purpose by local and seasonal residents. Most of the land that adjoins this unit, as well as areas within the unit proper, are affected by Municipal selections of the Lake and Peninsula Borough and some of these selection have already been conveyed to the Borough. This area is considered suitable for remote settlement and has been designated Settlement since the original Bristol Bay Area Plan. Much of the land borders lakes or streams and is flat to gently rolling. Depending on location, the vegetation is either tall shrub

Unit # / Name	Acres / Designation(s)	MTRS	Management Intent	Resources, Uses, Additional Info
			to a separate and subsequent Best Interest Finding. The proximity of the Fog Lake gold prospect should be noted and authorizations should not be granted that will impede exploration or development efforts at Fog Lake. Authorizations shall be consistent with LLO 1.	or mixed spruce and broadleaf forest, the latter predominating in the eastern portions of the unit. There are relatively few wetlands. Anadromous streams are common in the northern part of the unit, and moose are known to use a portion of the unit as wintering habitat. LLO 1 affects portions of this unit. Unit was affected by 2013 Plan Amendment process.
R09-09 Copper River	331 Ha - Habitat Wr - Water Resources	Map 3-9 S007S029W	The unit is designated Habitat (Ha) and is to be managed for the protection of fish and wildlife habitat and protection of the watershed. Development authorizations may be appropriate, subject to the protection of these resources and the requirements of Chapter 2.	This management unit is located southeast of Iliamna Lake along the Copper River downstream of the falls. The Copper River is cataloged as an anadromous fish stream and has important fishery value. Brown bear also use the area. This unit is also significant as a watershed to Lake Iliamna. Unit was affected by 2013 Plan Amendment process.
R09-10				Unit deleted in 2013 Plan Amendment.
R09-11 Kakhonak School	4.94 Pr - Public Facilities- Retain	Map 3-9 S008S032W Sec. 32	The unit is to be retained by the state and is to be managed according to the terms and conditions of the lease or its successors.	This unit is located in the community of Kakhonak. The land is subject to a lease (ADL 221395) with the public school system.
R09-12 Kakhonak Airport/Road	111 Pr - Public Facilities- Retain	Map 3-9 S008S032W; S008S033W; S009S033W	The unit is to be retained by state and to is to be managed consistent with the Management Right (ADL 221396).	This unit (ADL 221396; LSH 200) is located at the Kakhonak public airport and managed by the Department of Transportation and Public Facilities (ADOT/PF) under a Management Right. Also included is a road, approximately 1.5 miles in length (ADL 221392; LSH 199).
R09-13 Dennis	1,109 Rd - Public Recreation and Tourism- Dispersed Ha - Habitat	Map 3-9 S009S034-035W	This unit is to be managed for dispersed recreation, subsistence, and the protection of fish and wildlife resources and their habitats. Because of the importance of the fishery, unit is also to be managed for its water resource values (watershed). DNR authorizations shall consider siting requirements that avoid or minimize impacts to principal recreational use areas and other recreation values as well as to moose wintering areas. Such authorizations shall also ensure that impacts to anadromous streams are minimized and are consistent with the requirements for such uses in Chapter 2. See Chapter 2 for guidelines dealing with moose wintering, rutting and calving areas.	The unit consists of state-owned land in the vicinity of Big Mountain, south of Iliamna Lake. Vegetation consists of low shrublands and tundra. The mouth of Dennis Creek, an anadromous fish stream, is within this unit. Streams are utilized by brown bear, especially during the salmon spawning season. Moose calving, wintering, and rutting areas occur in the unit, similar to what occurs in unit R09-07A. Raptors are located in or near the unit. The unit is partly affected by LLO 1 and MCO 393. Subsistence is an important use in this unit. This unit was affected by the 2013 Plan Amendment process.
R09-14 Kamishak	15,675 Ha - Habitat Wr - Water Resources	Map 3-9	The unit is co- designated Habitat and Dispersed Recreation and is to be managed for its water resources and habitat values and for compatibility with the McNeil River State Game Refuge. Development authorizations may be considered appropriate subject to the protection of these resources and the specific requirements of Chapter 2. The unit is not suitable for settlement and is to be retained by the state. Before issuing an authorization, consult with the ADF&G and the National Park Service.	The unit consists of a sliver of state-owned land between Katmai National Park and Preserve, and the McNeil River State Game Sanctuary. It is located in the headwaters region of Dream Creek and the Lake Fork of the Pain River. It is situated between Katmai national Park and the McNeil River State Game Refuge. The unit is within steep mountainous terrain but includes the valley of Lake Fork and several other lakes. The unit contains significant mineral potential; the Kamishak prospect occurs on the south edge of the unit and claims associated with the deposit overlap into the Bristol Bay Planning Area. The unit contains a number of other mineral prospects and occurrences. This unit was affected by the 2013 Plan Amendment process.

Region 10: Western Iliamna Lake, Kvichak River

Summary of Resources and Uses in the Region

Region Boundary

Region 10 encompasses the Western portion of Iliamna Lake and the Kvichak River to its mouth in Bristol Bay (Map 3-10). The eastern boundary is defined as a line from the point of land near VABM Newhalen southeast through the peak of Peters Plug; the southern boundary of the Region follows the boundary of Katmai National Park and Preserve and the drainage divide of the Alagnak River as well as the northern boundary of the Bristol Bay Borough. The western and northern boundary of the Region largely follows the drainage divide between the Kvichak and Nushagak-Mulchatna drainage basins. The communities of Igiugig (pop. 46) and Levelock (pop. 115) are within Region 10. The Region has little to moderate topographic relief.

State Lands: Ownership and Acreage

The majority of land within Region 10 is in Federal ownership; Native-owned holdings are extensive, largely along the Kvichak and lower Alagnak River as well as along the west and southern shores of Iliamna Lake. State-owned land is but a small part of the Region, mostly in the center and in the Big Mountain area; however, the state has a large number of land selections in the central part of Region 10. The plan applies to 783,904 acres of state-owned and state-selected uplands.

Physical Geography

The eastern portion of Region 10 is within portions of the Alaska Peninsula ecological provinces whereas the western portion is part of the Bristol Bay Lowlands. The drainage basins on the west end of Iliamna Lake include the southwesterly flowing Kvichak River, which discharges from Iliamna Lake, and the Alagnak River which flows from Kukaklik Lake in Katmai National Park and Preserve. Important tributaries to the Kvichak River include Kaskanak, Yellow, and Bear Creeks; Pecks Creek and Ole Creek are major tributaries to the Alagnak River. Drainages also within Region 10, that flow directly into Iliamna Lake include Lower and Upper Talarik Creek and Pete Andrews Creek, on the north side of the lake, and Belinda Creek on the south. Major waterbodies include east Iliamna Lake. The Region as a whole exhibits little topographic relief. However, the northeast portion of the region includes the southern slope of Groundhog Mountain (elev. 3,074) and a feature known as Big Mountain (elev. 2,161).

The Region displays a variety of landscapes, including vistas overlooking Iliamna Lake, mountains, rivers, tundra, marshy lowlands, and ponds. Iliamna Lake is a huge body of water – 75 miles long and 20 miles wide with a surface area of more than 1,000 square miles and a water depth exceeding 2,000 feet in places. The highest elevations in Region 10 are marked by tundra and barrens; elevations above 1,500 feet are sparsely vegetated.

Climate

The climate of Region 10 is mostly within the transitional climatic zone; however, it is maritime on the west. Average summer temperatures range from 30° to 66°; winter temperatures average 4° to 30°. The record high is 91° and the record low is -47°. Annual precipitation is 26 inches, with 70 inches of snowfall. The Kvichak River is ice-free from June through mid-November. Most of the Region west of Iliamna Lake is wetlands and underlain by isolated masses of permafrost; the floodplains of the lower Kvichak and Alagnak Rivers are generally free of permafrost.

Other

Region 10 is within the Dillingham, Iliamna, Naknek, and Mount Katmai Quadrangles. It is within the boundaries of the Bristol Bay Regional Native Corporation and the Lake and Peninsula Borough.

Access

Access to Region 10 is good, utilizing river, lake, or air transport. There are five airport facilities in the Region, and a number of others nearby. Airports are located at the communities of Igiugig and Levelock as well as at Big Mountain, Koggiung, and Kvichak/Diamond J. Of course floatplanes and amphibious aircraft can land throughout the area. The state owns and maintains a 3,000-foot gravel runway at Igiugig and a 1,900-foot lighted gravel runway with an 1,800-foot crosswind runway at Levelock. Barges negotiate the Kvichak River from Dillingham and Naknek, delivering bulk items. Trails are present along the Kvichak River and from the Big Mountain airstrip to the summit of Big Mountain. The Coffee Creek Channel-Kvichak River Trail and the Nakeen-Igiugig Winter Trail follow along the route of the Kvichak River. Skiffs and ATV's are common forms of local transportation. Bristol Bay boats ply the water across Iliamna Lake from Pile Bay and down the Kvichak River for delivery to Bristol Bay. The following RS 2477 designated trails are wholly or partially in the Region:

- Coffee Creek Channel-Kvichak River (RST No. 1215)
- Lewis Point-Naknek (RST No. 128)
- Nakeen-Igiugig Winter Trail (RST No. 90)

Resources and Uses

The Kvichak River System, including the Alagnak (Branch) River and Iliamna Lake, is the single most important source of salmon in the Bristol Bay area. This resource provides for commercial, subsistence, and sport users. Recreational potential is high; the Alagnak River is designated a Wild and Scenic River. Most of Region 10 is part of the Nushagak oil and gas basin and has recently been proposed for Exploration Licensing; the area has potential for oil and gas as well as coalbed methane. Other important resources include caribou, beaver, waterfowl, and brown bear.

Cultural and Historic. There have been little in the way of excavations of prehistoric sites in the Region. However, archaeologists believe that people of the Paleoarctic Tradition were active in the Lake Clark area about 6,000 years ago, and perhaps earlier. Cultural influences from the Bering Sea Coast can be seen in the presence on Paleoarctic sites at Ugashik Lake and at the mouth of the Kvichak River. The Northern Archaic tradition appeared in the area about 5,000 BP as indicated by archeological sites along the Kvichak River and in Katmai National Park and Preserve. There are two native settlements in the Region: Levelock, situated on the west bank of the Kvichak River, and Igiugig, located on the south shore of the Kvichak River. The state Office of History and Archeology lists fourteen sites in Region 10; two of these are prehistoric, eleven are historic, and one is of mixed origin. Most of the historic and archeological sites occur along the courses of the Kvichak and Alagnak Rivers. New sites are discovered periodically and added to the Alaska Heritage Resource Database when reported.

Igiugig is located on the south shore of the Kvichak River, which flows from Iliamna Lake. Kiatagmiut Eskimos originally lived on the north bank of the Kvichak River in the village of Kaskanak, and used Igiugig as a summer fish camp. At the turn of the century, these people moved upriver to the present site of Igiugig. Many locals can trace their roots back to the Branch River village.

Levelock is located on the west bank of the Kvichak River, 10 miles inland from Kvichak Bay. Early Russian explorers reported the presence of Levelock, which they called “Kvichak.” The smallpox epidemic of 1837 killed more than half of the residents of the Bristol Bay region, and left entire villages abandoned. A measles epidemic hit the region in 1900. A 1908 survey of Russian missions identified “Lovelock’s Mission” at this site. The worldwide influenza epidemic in 1918-19 again devastated area villages. Koggiung Packers operated a cannery at Levelock in 1925-26. A large fire at the cannery threatened the entire village in 1926, but residents dug fire lines, which saved their homes. The fire depleted the scarce wood resources used to heat homes.

Economic. As is typical for the area, salmon fishing is the mainstay of the economy. Many residents hold commercial fishing permits; people commonly travel to Naknek each summer to fish or work in the canneries. Subsistence is an important part of the residents’ lifestyle. Salmon, trout, whitefish, moose, caribou and rabbit are utilized. Some trapping occurs. Trophy rainbow trout attract sport fishermen. There are seven commercial lodges that serve sports fishermen and hunters seasonally in Igiugig.

Recreation. Sport fishing is an important seasonal resource in Region 10. Lower Talarik Creek is popular for trout fishing and the Alagnak River area is renowned for its stream fishing for salmon and trout. Lower Talarik Creek is known for its large rainbow trout and is a fly-fishing only stream. The Alagnak River is designated as a Wild and Scenic River. The Alagnak River rainbow trout fishery has a reputation of being a world-class fishery and therefore attracts large numbers of anglers. It is considered to be one of the most popular fly-in fishing destinations in southwest Alaska supporting important salmon (chinook, sockeye, pink, chum, and coho), Arctic grayling, Arctic char, and lake trout sport fisheries. About a dozen commercial recreation fishing lodges and camps are located on the Kvichak and Alagnak Rivers. Several lodges on the main stem of the Alagnak, at the outlet of Nonvianuk Lake, and one on the Kulik River provide guided fishing services. Together these lodges support the majority of the visitation for fishing. The amount of use is a cause of concern to some users and managers. The Alaska Department of Fish and Game reports that visitor use for fishing has increased from approximately 1,900 angler days per year (a 4-month fishing season) in 1981 to over 13,000 in 1995. This has since fallen to 10,614 in 2002.

Minerals. Region 10 is underlain principally by middle Tertiary volcanics and a Tertiary on-lap assemblage that is the northern extension (Nushagak basin) of the Bristol Bay basin. The U.S. Bureau of Mines MILS database lists but two mineral occurrences on opposite sides of Iliamna Lake. The Anelon gold prospect is located near VABM Newhalen on the north side of the lake and the Aukney gold prospect is located on the north flank of Big Mountain. Bedrock in these two areas is composed primarily of Tertiary volcanics. A large claim block has been staked in an area 26 miles west of Igiugig and 16 miles northeast of Levelock as part of a recent exploration effort. It is possible that a significant geophysical anomaly (airborne and ground) is present representing buried intrusive rocks. The exploration target at the Iliamna project is a gold-enriched porphyry deposit. Significant exploration potential occurs in the extreme northeast portion of Region 10 in the Sheep Mountain-Talarik Creeks area due to the proximity of the Pebble Copper deposit (see Region 6).

Oil and Gas. The Alaska Peninsula-Bristol Bay region is a frontier basin in southwest Alaska - 500 miles long and up to 100 miles wide. The northwestern part of the peninsula is underlain by up to 18,000 feet of Tertiary sediments that thicken northward into the Bristol Bay basin. Gently folded Mesozoic and Tertiary sedimentary rocks, and Quaternary volcanic rocks crop out on the southeastern peninsula. The offshore Bristol Bay basin is a sediment-filled structural depression that underlies the northern continental shelf of the Alaska Peninsula. The shallow portion of the basin, which underlies the western and southern portion of Region 10 has potential for coalbed methane and perhaps gas and oil. Most of the potential for oil and gas in Region 10 is in the area between Kvichak Bay and Iliamna Lake.

State and Native landowners are currently pursuing a new hydrocarbon exploration licensing and leasing program. The Alaska Department of Natural Resources, Lake and Peninsula, Bristol Bay, and Aleutians East Boroughs have signed a memorandum of understanding (MOU) in support of oil and gas lease sales and licensing of state land in the Bristol Bay and Alaska

Peninsula region (March 17, 2004). Similar MOUs are in effect between the DNR and The Aleut Regional Native Corporation (December 18, 2003) and the DNR and Bristol Bay Native Corporation (July 10, 2003).

Materials. There are no active materials sites in the Region.

Forestry. The forestry resources in Region 10 are located primarily along the Kvichak and Alagnak River valleys and along the side of Iliamna Lake. These are non-commercial forests and have very low suitability for local personal use. Most trees are too small for house logs but can be used as a source of fuel.

Fish and Wildlife. All five species of Pacific salmon – king, sockeye, pink, silver, and chum – spawn in the Kvichak and Alagnak river systems. Sockeyes are the most important commercially. However, king and silver salmon are important to the recreational sport fishing industry, as are trout and char. The Alagnak River corridor and Ole, Belinda, Dennis, and Kaskanak Creeks are heavily used by bears. The south side of Iliamna Lake and the Alagnak River drainage are moose calving and rutting areas.

Eagles and other raptors nest along the Alagnak River and on the west end of Iliamna Lake. The lowlands west of Iliamna Lake contain a plethora of lakes, ponds, and marshes that are used by waterfowl; high concentrations of red-breasted mergansers, black scoters, scaup, mallards, and tundra swans occur in this area.

Iliamna Lake is also home to this continent's sole population of freshwater seals. This phenomenon only occurs in one other lake in the world, Lake Baikal in Russia.

Management Considerations: Local and State Plans and Special Use Site

A number of local, state, and federal management plans were considered in development of this plan. Local plans include the Bristol Bay CRSA Coastal Zone Management Plan, the Lake and Peninsula Borough Coastal Zone Management Plan, the Lake and Peninsula Borough Comprehensive Plan, and the Southwest Alaska Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy 2003-2008. State plans include the Bristol Bay Area Plan and the Southwest Alaska Transportation Plan. Federal plans include the Katmai National Park and Preserve, Aniakchak National Monument and Preserve, and the Alagnak Wild River Compendium – 2003.

Most of Region 10 is located within the boundaries of the Lake and Peninsula Borough. Both the Comprehensive Plan and the District Coastal Management Plan of the Lake and Peninsula Borough apply to this portion of Region 10. The Comprehensive Plan focuses on economic and infrastructure development issues and does not contain specific land use standards or a land use map. The Enforceable Policies of the District Coastal Management Plan are extensive; policies affecting anadromous streams, bald eagle nests, oil and gas development, material extraction

and mining can be applicable, under certain instances, to state lands. See <http://www.alaskacoast.state.ak.us/>²³ for more information on enforceable policies. These policies should be consulted by DNR prior to issuing an authorization.

Region 10 is also within the area covered by the Southwest Alaska Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy 2003-2008, which was developed for the U.S. Department of Commerce Economic Development Administration by the Southwest Alaska Municipal Conference (July 2003). This document developed a number of goals, objectives, and strategies to facilitate and support efforts that retain and grow the region's wealth, including diversifying the economic base.

The Bristol Bay Area Plan (BBAP) affects all state lands in the Region. The original version of the Area Plan (1984) stated the Region is to be managed for fish and wildlife with an emphasis on fisheries production and public recreation on the Talarik Creeks and the Kvichak and Alagnak Rivers. This revision replaces and supercedes the 1984 BBAP.

The Southwest Alaska Transportation Plan (ADOT/PF, November 2002) identified a Cook Inlet to Bristol Bay Transportation Corridor, which in general extends from Cook Inlet to South Naknek connecting with the communities of Pedro Bay, Iliamna, Newhalen, Igiugig, Levelock, King Salmon, and Naknek. The transportation corridor connects the rich seafood resources and communities in Bristol Bay, as well as the Iliamna Lake communities, with resupply, support and market centers in the Alaskan railbelt. It consists of a marine segment (Cook Inlet), an intermodal transfer location at Williamsport or Iniskin Bay, and then primarily overland and riverine routes along Iliamna Lake and the Kvichak River valley to the port town of Naknek on Bristol Bay. A tie-in to the Pebble Copper mine is also a possibility. The function of the route is primarily logistical. Transportation improvements along this corridor would lower the cost of transport, thus yielding benefits to the quality of life of residents and helping to stimulate economic growth.

The Southwest Alaska Transportation Plan (ADOT/PF, November 2002) also identified a Dillingham/Bristol Bay Area Transportation Corridor, which in general extends from Levelock to Dillingham, connecting with the communities of Ekwok and Aleknagik. It includes a crossing of the Wood River at Aleknagik and a major crossing of the Nushagak River. There are several possible tie-in locations to the Bristol Bay to Cook Inlet corridor. The plan models a corridor from Aleknagik to Igiugig via Levelock.

The state DNR established the Lower Talarik Creek Special Use Area (ADL 227445) in 1999 in recognition that both the uplands and shorelands within the affected area of the SUA have a high value for fish and wildlife habitat and harvest as well as recreation. Commercial recreation activities are limited to day use only, if registration has been completed under 11 AAC 96.018. Between August 1 and October 31, setting up and using a camp for personal, noncommercial use is allowed without a permit but only in a designated area that is adjacent to the Department of Fish and Game cabin (in section 26) and for no more than five consecutive days.

²³ The Alaska Coastal Management Program was terminated on July 1, 2011, pursuant to AS 44.66.030.

Municipal Selections

Municipal selections by the Lake and Peninsula Borough occur along Lower Talarik Creek, the northwestern shore of Iliamna Lake, and Kvichak River. These selections total approximately 26,745 acres and are distributed along streams and lake with attractive recreation and development features. See Map 3-10, Appendix C, and the Municipal Entitlement section of Chapter 4.

Management Summary: Uplands

State land in Region 10 is to be managed for a variety of multiple uses, including settlement, materials extraction, public facilities development, dispersed public recreation, mineral exploration and development, and maintenance of sensitive wildlife habitats. Oil and gas potential, although only of moderate to low potential, is also appropriate within the Region. The majority of state-owned lands in Region 10 are designated Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed (Rd) and most of the state-selected land is designated (Rd) or General Use (Gu). Most of the state-owned or state-selected land along the river corridors has been designated Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed (Rd) and the anadromous streams and shorelands are co-designated Habitat (Ha) and Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed (Rd). Areas associated with the Pebble Copper deposit that overlap into Region 10 are designated Minerals (Mi). A small amount of land at Big Mountain remains designated Settlement (Se); this designation was utilized in the original (1984) BBAP and the designation is retained in this revision. The Lower Talarik Creek Special Use Area is designated Recreation and Tourism-Public Use Sites (Rp). A number of small management units associated with airports or other such facilities are designated Public Facilities-Retain (Pr). Active materials sites are designated Materials (Ma).

Plan Designations and Management

The plan designations that are used within this Region have the following management intent. The policies and management intent guidelines described in Chapter 2 affect all DNR authorizations. Refer especially to those guidelines relating to Fish and Wildlife Habitat and Harvest Areas, and Settlement. See also the descriptions of the plan designations in the first part of this Chapter; this section indicates which lands can be conveyed out of state ownership and those that must be retained.

- **General Use (Gu).** Within this Region, lands that contain one or more resource values, none of which is of sufficiently high value to merit designation as a primary use, and areas that are unlikely to be developed during the planning period are designated General Use. The land is to be managed for a variety of uses including the protection of fish and wildlife habitat and harvest, dispersed public recreation, minerals, oil and gas exploration and development, and the protection of heritage resources. It is expected that little development will occur in these areas during the planning period, and it is not

intended as a matter of policy that intensive forms of development occur in these areas other than occasionally and at specific sites. Lands designated General Use may be appropriate for conveyance to the Lake and Peninsula Borough under the Municipal Entitlement program, subject to a Best Interest Finding by the state. The Borough has made a large municipal selection on lands designated Gu in the vicinity of Big Mountain. Lands not conveyed to the Borough are to be retained by the state.

- **Habitat (Ha).** Generally, this designation applies to areas of varied size that are important for fish and wildlife species during a sensitive life-history stage where alteration of the habitat or human disturbance could result in a permanent loss of a population or sustained yield of a species. In Region 10 this designation is applied to streams and shorelands cataloged by the Alaska Department of Fish and Game as anadromous (<http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/sf/SARR/AWC/index.cfm?ADFG=main.interactive>).
- **Minerals (Mi).** Areas associated with significant resources, either measured or inferred, that may experience minerals exploration or development during the planning period are designated Minerals. This is a designation that includes surface uses in support of minerals exploration and development, including tailings deposition, waste rock disposal, mineral processing facilities, administrative facilities, and residential living quarters. Land designated Minerals is to be retained in state ownership. This designation has been applied to lands associated with potential developments at the Pebble Copper deposit, which overlap into Region 10.
- **Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed (Rd).** Lands with the designation of Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed are to be managed so that their public recreation values are protected and maintained. Within these areas the primary surface uses are intended to be those related to hiking, hunting, fishing, wildlife viewing, and the like.
- **Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed and Habitat (Co-designation).** Certain navigable waterbodies (lakes and streams) are co-designated Habitat (Ha) and Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed (Rd). Authorizations within these waterbodies should not interfere with important habitat or public recreation values. See Table 3.1 in the Navigability section of this Chapter for a listing of these streams. Note: Certain waterbodies may (only) be designated Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed, (Rd), Habitat (Ha), or General Use (Gu).
- **Public Facilities-Retain (Pr).** This designation applies to sites that are reserved for a specific public infrastructure requirement. They are to be retained in state or public ownership. In this Region, this designation applies to lands containing public facilities, commonly airports or schools. Only a small amount of acreage is affected by this designation.
- **Public Recreation and Tourism-Public Use Site (Rp).** This designation applies to areas with a concentration of recreational users or tourists, or that are likely to have such concentrations. Within this Region this designation applies to specific recreation sites, such as the Lower Talarik Special Use Area. Unless otherwise indicated in the Resource Allocation Table, these sites are to be retained by the state.

- Settlement (Se). This designation applies to state uplands suitable for sale, leasing, or permitting to allow private recreational or residential use. A single area of state land (R10-10) is considered appropriate for residential settlement and has been designated Settlement. This is an area near Big Mountain and is intended for either remote recreation use or subdivision development, the type to be determined at the time when these areas are considered for disposal by the DNR. See Chapter 2 for specific requirements for these forms of settlement. Settlement lands are appropriate for conveyance to the Lake and Peninsula Borough through the Municipal Entitlement program.

Specific Management Considerations

- Generally Allowed Uses. The Generally Allowed Uses in 11 AAC 96.020 can occur throughout the Region.
- Proposed Transportation Corridor. The area identified on the Region Map as a “Potential Transportation Corridor” should be retained by the state during the planning period. Authorizations granted by the DNR within or adjacent to this corridor should not preclude the future development of transportation access. Authorizations or disposals within and adjacent to this corridor should only be allowed after consultation with ADOT/PF.
- Except for areas closed to mineral entry under existing Mineral Closing Orders, all state lands within Region 10 are open to mineral entry. No additional MCOs are recommended; the only exception applies to the areas to be disposed of by the DNR for purposes of Community Settlement. Closure to mineral entry is recommended at or before plat adoption. No leasehold location orders are recommended. See the Mineral Resources section in Chapter 2 for more details on subsurface management requirements.
- Mineral Closing and Opening Orders. This revision of the Bristol Bay Area Plan retains the mineral closing and opening orders largely implemented by DNR at the time of original plan adoption. These MCOs either close a proposed settlement area or close a number of major streams to mineral location. These include the following:
 - MCO 393 – Kvichak River, Peck’s Creek, and others draining into Iliamna Lake
- Leasehold Location Orders. Leasehold Location Order No. 1 covers small portions of Region 10 within T9S535W, T9SR36W, T10SR35W, and T10SR36W (Seward Meridian). Under this order, rights to locatable minerals may be acquired only under the Leasehold Location System, AS 38.05.205, and may not be acquired by locating a mining claim under AS 38.05.195. In the affected area, an approved Plan of Operations for a mineral lease takes the place of a Land Use Permit required for unleased land. If the proposed lease activities are minor, a plan of operations is not required (11 AAC 86.800). The Plan of Operations must show how the operator proposes to comply with the lease stipulations and other pertinent guidelines in this plan.

- Retained Lands. There are no state lands within this Region that are designated to be retained except for those that are reserved as a ‘Potential Transportation Corridor’, and those designated Public Facilities-Retain (Pr), Mineral (Mi), or Habitat (Ha), and the Lower Talarik Special Use Area which is designated Public Recreation and Tourism-Public Use Site (Rp). Land designated General Use and not conveyed to the Borough are also to be retained by the state during the planning period. Note: Certain management units that are designated Rp may be conveyed out of state ownership and to the Borough as part of the Municipal Entitlement Act – providing the land conveyed remains public land and the public retains access to the public use site. Management unit R10-13 (Pr) is to be retained in state ownership.
- Navigable Waters. Shorelands (rivers and lakes) that are believed to be navigable are listed in Table 3.1 in the Navigability section of this Chapter. Authorizations in these waters must ensure the continued use of a waterway by the public for purposes of trade, travel, and commerce. Note: These waterbodies are assigned a plan designation of Habitat, Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed, a co-designation of Habitat and Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed, and, sometimes, General Use. Authorizations issued by DNR are to maintain the habitat and public recreation values of these waterbodies. The entirety of Iliamna Lake, a portion of which occurred in this region in the 2005 plan, is co-designated Habitat and Dispersed Recreation. For expediency, the entirety of this lake is included in region 9 in Table 3-1. Table 3-1 assigns designations to navigable waterbodies.

See the Resource Allocation Table for more detail on the upland management units.

Resource Allocation Table for Upland Management Units - Region 10

Unit # / Name	Acres / Designation(s)	MTRS	Management Intent	Resources, Uses, Additional Info
R10-01 Upper Talarik Creek	45,743 Gu - General Use	Map 3-10	<p>The unit is designated General Use (Gu) and is to be managed for a variety of uses including mineral exploration and development, public recreation and tourism, and protection of anadromous fish and wildlife resources and habitat. Upper Talarik Creek and its riverine area are to be protected, for its habitat, recreation, and water resource values.</p> <p>Development authorizations may be appropriate subject to the protection of these resources and the requirements of Chapter 2. See specific management requirements for anadromous streams and caribou calving areas in this Chapter. Authorization should include a 150' vegetated buffer from OHW of Talarik Creek. The proposed Pebble Copper transportation corridor transects the unit; the actual position of the road alignment has yet to be determined. No authorizations or disposals should be considered that are within or near the corridor until the road alignment is known, or without consultation with the ADOT/PF. Any proposed development will need to evaluate the potential effects on moose wintering habitat and either avoid or mitigate these impacts to the maximum extent practicable. State land selections in this unit are considered to be a high level selection priority. If conveyed, this land is to be retained by the state during the planning period.</p>	<p>This unit consists of state-owned and state-selected land in the eastern portion of Region 10, in the general vicinity of Upper Talarik Creek. It occupies uplands east and southeast of Groundhog Mountain. Upper Talarik Creek is cataloged as an anadromous fish stream and is noted for its good sport fishing. The area is used by moose for over-wintering. Brown bear utilize the stream for feeding during the salmon spawning season. The unit has high exploration potential for base and precious metals. The proposed Pebble Copper transportation and road corridor extend through the middle of the unit. The unit is affected in part by MCO 393.</p> <p>This unit was affected by the 2013 Plan Amendment process.</p>
R10-02 Pebble2	16,674 Mi - Minerals Ha - Habitat	Map 3-10	<p>The general resource management intent for the Pebble Copper area is to consider mineral exploration and development, while ensuring the protection of important habitat areas, and to allow DNR the discretion to make specific decisions as to how development may occur, through the authorization process. That portion of Talarik Creek and its riverine area (100' from OHW) within this unit are to be managed to maintain its habitat, water resources, and recreational values. Also, see plan designations and management intent for the two units that border the area – R06-23 and R06-24.</p> <p>Impacts to dispersed recreation along Talarik Creek should also be avoided. Permanent facilities related to commercial recreation are prohibited in this unit. The unit is to be retained in state ownership. Any proposed development authorization must consider potential impacts to moose wintering habitat and either avoid such areas or include stipulations that will reduce impacts to the maximum extent practicable.</p>	<p>This unit is the portion of the Pebble Copper unit that extends into Region 10 from Region 6. It includes a portion of Talarik Creek. The unit is adjacent to another minerals unit (R06-23). The terrain is of low to moderate relief and vegetation consists of low to tall shrub. The unit is host to several mineral deposits, prospects, and discoveries and hosts the Pebble Copper deposit. The Pebble deposit is a very large copper-gold resource; the drill indicated resource is estimated at over 2 billion tons. Talarik Creek supports anadromous fish. The area is also a winter concentration area for moose. The unit is partly affected by MCO 393, which requires the maintenance of a 100' riverine area adjacent to this creek. The Pebble Road Corridor transects the unit.</p> <p>This unit was affected by the 2013 Plan Amendment process.</p>
R10-03 Iliamna Lake NW	205,117 Rd - Public Recreation and Tourism- Dispersed Ha - Habitat Wr - Water Resources	Map 3-10	<p>This unit is to be retained in state ownership and managed to maintain the recreational, habitat, and water resource values and uses of this large area, although mineral exploration and development are considered appropriate within the unit. DNR authorizations shall consider siting requirements that avoid or minimize impacts to sensitive habitats, principal recreational use areas, and wetland complexes. Lower Talarik Creek is one such area. Such authorizations shall also ensure that impacts to anadromous streams, moose wintering areas, and waterfowl concentrations are minimized and are consistent with the requirements for such uses in Chapter 2. The Bristol Bay transportation corridor transects the unit; the actual position of the road</p>	<p>This large unit is situated on the northwest side of Iliamna Lake that includes the Lower Talarik Creek and Kaskanak Creek drainages. It contains many anadromous fish streams, includes a regionally important fishery, and raptor nesting areas; Lower Talarik Creek is noteworthy for its outstanding trout fishing. The recreational values of the unit are considered to be very high and are primarily related to sport fishing. This unit contains waterfowl molting areas, as a tundra swan concentration occurs in the central part of the unit. There are extensive areas of wetland and numerous lakes are scattered throughout the unit. The area also has significant mineral potential, indicated by the proximity to the Pebble Copper deposit and other nearby</p>

Unit # / Name	Acres / Designation(s)	MTRS	Management Intent	Resources, Uses, Additional Info
			<p>alignment has yet to be determined. No authorizations or disposals should be considered that are within or near the corridor until the road alignment is known, or without consultation with the ADOT/PF.</p> <p>Municipal selections exist within this unit. If the adjudicatory decision determines that conveyance to the borough is appropriate, the designations of Habitat, Dispersed Recreation, and Water Resources are extinguished, and a classification of Settlement is effected, which converts to a conveyable classification. This action only affects the area of the selection.</p>	<p>prospects. The unit is partly affected by MCO 393. It also functions as an important watershed for Lake Iliamna. A number of municipal selections occur within scattered portions of this unit.</p> <p>This unit was affected by the 2013 Plan Amendment process.</p>
R10-04 Lower Talarik	3,158 Rp - Public Recreation and Tourism-Public Use Site Ha - Habitat	Map 3-10 S006S037W Sec. 22,23,24,25,26,27	<p>The unit is designated Habitat and Public Recreation and Tourism-Public Use Site (Rp), and is to be managed consistent with the requirements of the Special Use Designation, and is to be retained in state ownership. It is also subject to the cooperative agreement between the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, the Department of Natural Resources, and The Nature Conservancy, and is to be managed in accordance with the conditions of the agreement. See also the Management Guideline for "Public Use Sites" in the Recreation, Tourism, and Scenic Resources section of Chapter 2.</p>	<p>This unit coincides with the Special Use Area (ADL 227445) located on Lower Talarik Creek on the north shore of Iliamna Lake. Lower Talarik Creek is an anadromous fish stream and is noted for its recreational trout fishing. Under the requirements of the Special Use Area, setting up and using a camp for personal, noncommercial use is allowed between August 1 and October 31 without a permit only in a designated area adjacent to the Alaska Department of Fish and Game Cabin located in Section 26 and for no more than five consecutive days. Between August 1 and October 31, commercial recreation activities are limited to day use only, if registration has been completed under 11 AAC 96.018. This unit is affected by a municipal selection of the Lake and Peninsula Borough.</p> <p>This unit was affected by the 2013 Plan Amendment process.</p>
R10-05 Lower Talarik Creek SUA	161 Rp - Public Recreation and Tourism-Public Use Site Ha - Habitat	Map 3-10 S006S037W	<p>This unit is subject to cooperative agreement between the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, the Department of Natural Resources, and The Nature Conservancy, and is to be managed in accordance with the conditions of the agreement. The land is subject to restrictions on camping as outlined in the Lower Talarik Creek Special Use Area. See also the Management Guideline for "Public Use Sites" in the Recreation, Tourism, and Scenic Resources section of Chapter 2. The unit is to be retained in state ownership.</p>	<p>This land (OSL 1285; LSH 419) is located at Lower Talarik Creek on the north shore of Iliamna Lake and within the Lower Talarik Creek Special Use Area (ADL 227445). This unit occupies the site of a former native allotment which was acquired for inclusion in the Special Use Area.</p> <p>This unit was affected by the 2013 Plan Amendment process.</p>
R10-06 Area N. of Kvichak River	180,208 Gu - General Use	Map 3-10	<p>This unit is to be managed for a variety of uses including mineral and oil and gas exploration and development, the protection of fish and wildlife resources and their habitats, dispersed recreation and tourism, wetland complexes, and potential development of a transportation access corridor to mineral and other resources. Intensive development is not intended within the unit during the planning period except occasionally and at specific locations unless related to mineral development, and the unit is to be retained by the state during the planning period. The Bristol Bay transportation corridor transects the unit; the actual position of the road alignment has yet to be determined. No authorizations or disposals should be considered that are within or near the corridor until the road alignment is known, or without consultation with the ADOT/PF.</p>	<p>The unit consists of state-owned lands north of the Kvichak River along a potential transportation route. The terrain is mostly low-lying with little relief and extensive wetlands. Vegetation consists of lichen tundra, low shrub, and moist herbaceous tundra. The unit contains anadromous fish streams including Yellow Creek. The unit contains significant mineral potential. A large number of claims have been staked in T009SR044W, T009SR043W, and T010SR044W (Seward Meridian).</p> <p>This unit is affected by the 2013 Plan Amendment process.</p>
R10-06A Moose Habitat, N. Kvichak River	40,240 Ha - Habitat	Map 3-10	<p>Manage unit for its wetland and habitat values and, in particular, the protection of moose rutting and wintering habitat.</p> <p>Other than utilities, communication, roads/bridges, and similar facilities providing a public service, development is not appropriate within this unit.</p>	<p>This unit was created during the 2013 Plan Amendment process in order to provide different management intent than that associated with the parent unit, R10-06, and this unit acknowledges this. This unit contains significant moose wintering and rutting habitat. The other characteristics of this unit are similar to R10-06. Numerous wetlands are present.</p>

Unit # / Name	Acres / Designation(s)	MTRS	Management Intent	Resources, Uses, Additional Info
			In any authorization that may be issued, avoid significant winter disturbances to moose calving and wintering or to activities that would appreciably reduce the utility of the unit for moose habitat. Consult with ADF&G prior to issuing an authorization.	
R10-07 Kvichak/Alagnak Rivers	150,261 Rd - Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed Ha - Habitat Wr - Water Resources	Map 3-10	This unit, consisting of upland adjoining the Kvichak and Alagnak Rivers, is co-designated Dispersed Recreation, Habitat, and Water Resources, and is to be managed to maintain the current recreational, habitat, and water resource values and uses of these uplands. The unit contains several municipal selections, which are considered appropriate for conveyance to the Lake and Peninsula Borough subject to a separate and subsequent Best Interest Finding. Development authorizations may be appropriate subject to the requirements of Chapter 2 and with the management intent given above. Such authorizations shall be limited to those uses that are related to commercial recreation, public facilities, or other economic activities that are of a recreation type and are consistent with the management intent given above. Leases or disposals should be limited to those uses that are related to commercial recreation, public facilities, or other economic activities that are of a recreation type. It is intended that these disposals and leases be confined to areas no greater than 5 acres in size and that there be distance separation of at least three miles, unless site conditions warrant a lesser distance. Settlement is not considered suitable in this unit. The Bristol Bay transportation corridor transects the unit; the actual position of the road alignment has yet to be determined. No authorizations or disposals should be issued within or near the corridor until the road alignment is known or without consultation with the ADOT/PF. If the adjudutory decision on municipal entitlement selections determines that conveyance to the Borough is appropriate, the designations of Habitat and Water Resources are extinguished, leaving the designation of Dispersed Recreation, which converts to a conveyable classification.	The unit consists mostly of state-owned land along the Kvichak and Alagnak Rivers. This low-lying country receives heavy use by commercial and non commercial recreationists and subsistence users. The Alagnak River is designated a Wild and Scenic River. Both rivers support large populations of anadromous fish and are important transit areas for anadromous fish as well. The Kvichak River is a navigable waterway utilized for shipping and barging. The area contains moose calving and rutting areas, caribou wintering areas, streams essential to brown bears and areas used by raptors for nesting and an extensive waterfowl concentration area (molting) in its upper reaches close to Lake Iliamna. The Alaska Heritage Resources Survey (AHRs) reports several heritage sites in or near this unit, primarily scattered along the Kvichak and Alagnak Rivers. The unit encompasses part of the Nakeen-Igiugig trail. There are extensive wetlands scattered throughout this unit. This unit was affected by the 2013 Plan Amendment process.
R10-07A Kvichak/Alagnak Rivers: Moose wintering habitat	23,466 Ha - Habitat Wr - Water Resources	Map 3-10	Manage unit for its wetland and habitat values. Retain in state ownership. Other than utilities, communication, roads/bridges, and similar facilities providing a public service, development is not appropriate within this unit. In any authorization that may be issued, avoid or mitigate impacts to wetland areas through stipulations.	This unit was created during the 2013 Plan Amendment process to encompass areas of wetlands that are situated adjacent to an anadromous stream (Yellow Creek) and within the watershed of Kvichak River. The terrain is flat and vegetation consists mostly of shrub, sedge, and woody wetlands. There are a large number of lakes and lakelets. A waterfowl concentration area (molting) exists immediately to the east of this unit.
R10-08 Big Mountain	57,145 Ha - Habitat Rd - Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed	Map 3-10	This unit is to be managed for its habitat and recreation values, and retained in state ownership, except for areas that are the subject of entitlement selections. See below. If the adjudutory decision on a municipal selection determines that it is appropriate to convey land to the Borough, the Habitat designation is extinguished and converts to the Settlement designation, which, in turn, converts to a conveyable land classification.	The unit consists of state-owned land in the general vicinity of Big Mountain, south of Iliamna Lake. Vegetation consists of low shrublands and tundra. Several anadromous fish streams are present, including Pecks Creek and Belinda Creek. These streams are utilized by brown bear, especially during the salmon spawning season. Extensive moose calving, wintering, and rutting areas occur in the unit. Raptors are located in or near the unit. The unit is partly affected by LLO 1 and MCO 393. Several municipal entitlement selections affect this unit.
R10-09 Eagle Bluff	3,896 Rd - Public Recreation	Map 3-10 S009S035W	This unit is to be managed for dispersed recreation and the protection of fish and wildlife resources and their habitats. DNR authorizations shall consider siting requirements that avoid or minimize impacts to principal recreational	The unit consists of state-owned land in the vicinity of Big Mountain, south of Iliamna Lake. Vegetation consists of low shrublands and tundra. Streams are utilized by brown bear, especially during the salmon spawning season.

Unit # / Name	Acres / Designation(s)	MTRS	Management Intent	Resources, Uses, Additional Info
	and Tourism- Dispersed Ha - Habitat		use areas and other recreation values. Such authorizations shall also ensure that impacts to anadromous streams are minimized and are consistent with the requirements for such uses in Chapter 2. See Chapter 2 for guidelines dealing with moose rutting and calving areas.	Moose calving, wintering, and rutting areas occur in the unit. Raptors are located in or near the unit. The unit is partly affected by LLO 1 and MCO 393.
R10-10 Big Mountain	1,455 Se - Settlement	Map 3-10 S009S036W	The unit is designated Settlement (Se) and is considered appropriate for disposal during the planning period. Development is to conform to the requirements of Remote Settlement and those for the Caribou and Moose Rutting and Calving Area, both of which are described in the Settlement, and Fish and Wildlife Habitat and Harvest Areas sections of Chapter 2. Buffers along anadromous fish streams must also conform to the management guidelines in Chapter 2.	This unit is located on the south shore of Iliamna Lake and on the west flank of Big Mountain. The unit is accessible by boat or floatplane from Iliamna Lake. The road from Big Mountain airstrip is also close to the south end of the unit. The unit is utilized by moose as a calving area. The unit is affected by LLO 1 and in part by MCO 393.
R10-11 Igiugig	171 Pr - Public Facilities- Retain	Map 3-10 S001S039W Sec. 7,8	The unit is to be managed consistent with FAA and ADOT/PF guidelines for public airport use.	This land (ADLs 221403 and 224031) is located at the Igiugig public airport and managed by the Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities (ADOT/PF). The unit also includes an easement (ADL 226067) on the Newhalen River to protect the aircraft approach and departure path, as well as the transitional slopes adjacent to the runway.
R10-12 Alagnak River	60,471 Gu - General Use	Map 3-10	This unit, if eventually conveyed by the Federal government, is to be managed for a variety of uses including mineral or oil and gas exploration and development, the protection of fish and wildlife resources and their habitats, and dispersed recreation. Intensive development is not intended within the unit during the planning period except occasionally and at specific locations. The Bristol Bay transportation corridor transects the unit; the actual position of the road alignment has yet to be determined. No authorizations or disposals should be considered that are within or near the corridor until the road alignment is known, or without consultation with the ADOT/PF. This is considered to be a high level selection priority. If conveyed, this land is to be retained by the state during the planning period.	The unit consists of two noncontiguous blocks of state-selected uplands generally north and south of the Kvichak River. Lands in the unit have little relief, and vegetation consists of tundra and low shrubland. This unit is known to contain caribou wintering habitat.
R10-13 Levelock Airport	78 Pr - Public Facilities- Retain	Map 3-10 S012S045W Sec. 21,22,27,28	This land is designated Public Facilities-Retain and is to be managed by the ADOT/PF according to FAA and ADOT/PF guidelines for public airport use and in accordance with the Management Right (ADL 221434). The unit is to be retained in state ownership.	This land (ADL 221434; OSL 889) is located at the Levelock public airport and managed by the Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities (ADOT/PF).

Region 11: Bristol Bay Borough Area

Summary of Resources and Uses in the Region

Region Boundary

Region 11 includes the entire uplands portion of the Bristol Bay Borough and also additional lands south and northeast of the Borough; it encompasses most of the Naknek River and King Salmon and Pauls Creek drainages (Map 3-11). The western boundary is Kvichak Bay and the eastern boundary in Katmai National Park and Preserve. The Principal communities are King Salmon (pop. 478), Naknek (pop. 640), and South Naknek (149). The Region has little topographic relief.

State Lands: Ownership and Acreage

The majority of land within Region 11 is state-owned, although Native land holdings are almost as great and are composed of the land surrounding the three principal communities. The southeast portion of the Region is Federally-owned and lies within the Becharof National Wildlife Refuge. The plan applies to 325,902 acres of state-owned and state-selected uplands and 69,615 acres of state-owned tidelands in this region. The plan also applies to state-owned shorelands (acreages of shorelands have not been calculated).

Physical Geography

Most of Region 11 is within the Bristol Bay ecological province; a portion of the northeast and southeast area of the Region are in hilly country classified as part of the Alaska Peninsula province. Drainage is generally westward towards Kvichak Bay and the principal watercourse is that of the Naknek River which flows out of Naknek Lake. Important tributaries of the Naknek River are the southwestward flowing King Salmon and Pauls Creeks as well as the northward flowing Smelt and Chimenchun Creeks. The Region as a whole exhibits little topographic relief. However, the northeast portion of the region includes hills of the upper King Salmon Creek drainage, which have peak elevations of 2,442 feet. Most of the Region west of Naknek Lake is wetlands and underlain by only isolated masses of permafrost. Most of the country is tundra covered, although some areas northeast of King Salmon support spruce woodland.

Climate

The climate of Region 11 is mostly maritime, characterized by cool, humid, and windy weather. Average summer temperatures range from 62° to 63°; winter temperatures average 29° to 44°.

The record high is 88° and the record low is -47°. Annual precipitation is 20 inches, with 45 inches of snowfall. Fog is common in the summer months. The River is ice-free from June through mid-November.

Other

Region 11 is almost entirely within the Naknek Quadrangle. It is within the boundaries of the Bristol Bay Native Corporation and includes the Bristol Bay Borough – Alaska’s first borough, formed in 1962.

Access

Access to Region 11 is very good since marine, river, road, and air transport are available. Despite the small size of the region, it contains seven airport facilities, and a number of others are nearby. King Salmon is a transportation hub for Bristol Bay. Formerly an Air Force Base, the state-owned airport offers an 8,500-foot paved and lighted runway, sports a 4,000-foot asphalt/gravel crosswind runway, and an FAA air traffic control tower. A 4,000-foot stretch of the Naknek River is designated for floatplanes. Four docks are available on the Naknek River. These docks are owned by the U.S. National Park Service, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Alaska State Troopers, and the Bristol Bay Borough. Cargo goods are delivered to Naknek by barge and trucked upriver to King Salmon via a fifteen-mile connecting road. During winter, an ice road provides access to South Naknek. Automobiles are the primary means of local transportation; skiffs are utilized during summer.

The Port of Bristol Bay, with the main facility in Naknek, remains the largest commercial freight dock in Bristol Bay and a “hub” for Southwestern Alaska cargo. It has maintained a steady growth since beginning operations in 1983. During 1995, the port’s cargo handling placed 10th in volume and 4th in dollars in exports (fish) out of all ports in the United States. Cargo operations have kept the port in the Top 25 Ports by volume and by dollars for at least the last decade.

A dirt road extends east of King Salmon to Lake Camp on the edge of Katmai National Park and Preserve. Lake Camp provides boat access to Naknek Lake. Trails extend northeast a few miles from King Salmon towards the King Salmon Creek drainage. Two RS 2477 trails extend north and south; this includes the following:

- Lewis Point-Naknek (RST No. 128)
- Naknek-Egegik (RST No. 148)

Resources and Uses

Cultural and Historic. This area was settled over 6,000 years ago by Yup'ik Eskimos and Athabascan Indians and was historically Sugpiaq Aleut territory. The Sugpiaqs traveled between Katmai and the Naknek River, pursuing seasonal food sources. In 1821, the original Eskimo village of "Naugeik" was noted by Capt. Lt. Vasiliev. By 1880, the village was called Kinuyak. It was later spelled Naknek by the Russian Navy. The Russians built a fort near the village and fur trappers inhabited the area for some time prior to the U.S. purchase of Alaska. South Naknek was settled permanently after the turn of the century as a result of salmon cannery development. Some villagers relocated from New and Old Savonoski, near the "Valley of Ten Thousand Smokes." South Naknek is one of the many villages along the coast where Laplanders were brought in to herd reindeer. The herds were purchased in the 1930s by the BIA for the local Native economy.

The first salmon cannery opened on the Naknek River in 1890. By 1900, there were approximately 12 canneries in Bristol Bay. The Homestead Act enabled canneries to acquire land for their plants, and also made land available to other institutions and individuals. The management unit, owned by the Russian Orthodox Church on the north bank of the River, was the first land recorded in Naknek. Squatters built shelters on the church property and were eventually sold lots in what became the center of Naknek. A post office was established in 1907.

In the 1930s, an air navigation silo was built at the site of present-day King Salmon. At the beginning of World War II, the U.S. built an Air Force base. It was maintained by the Federal Aviation Administration throughout the war. In 1949, a post office was established, and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers constructed a road to Naknek. Other government quarters, such as National Park Service, Fish & Game, and the weather bureau, were developed. The community has grown as a government, transportation, and service center for the commercial red salmon and recreational visitor industries. The air force base was closed in 1993.

The state Office of History and Archeology lists fifty-two sites in Region 11; thirty-five of these are historic, eight are prehistoric, and nine are of mixed origin. Most of the historic and archeological sites occur along the course of the Naknek River. New sites are discovered periodically and added to the Alaska Heritage Resource Database when reported.

Economic. Government jobs, transportation and fishing-related employment are the mainstays of the King Salmon area economy. Many residents hold commercial fishing permits. Air services employ an important segment of the community; King Salmon is a major air trans-shipment point for Bristol Bay salmon. The Bristol Bay red salmon fishery is the largest in the world, although there have been relatively poor seasons in recent years. Processed salmon are trucked over the Naknek-King Salmon road each summer, where jets transport the fish to the lower 48. King Salmon is also a departure point for the McNeil River State Game Sanctuary and Katmai National Park and Preserve, which includes Brooks Camp and the Valley of Ten Thousand Smokes. Fishing for all five species of salmon and rainbow trout are one of this area's top attractions. King Salmon airport is the summer hub for backcountry and fishing

adventures in the area. The Air Force Base has been closed, although it is maintained under contract by Chugach Development Corp. Trident Seafoods, North Pacific Processors, Ocean Beauty and other fish processors operate facilities in Naknek. Naknek is the seat of the Bristol Bay Borough and King Salmon is headquarters for the Lake and Peninsula Borough.

Recreation. The Bristol Bay Borough can be considered the “gateway” to Katmai National Park and Preserve. Most travelers to the park pass through King Salmon airport. The Katmai National Monument was first established in 1918 to preserve the Valley of Ten Thousand Smokes, an area of streaming ash flows created by Novarupta Volcano. The Park is famous for brown bear, fish, wilds, and is the site of the Brooks River National Historic Landmark with North America’s highest concentration of prehistoric human dwellings (approximately 900).

Sport fishing is a very important seasonal resource in Region 11. The Naknek River is host to a variety of sport fish including king, silver, and red salmon as well as large rainbow trout and Arctic char. A number of lodges and guides in the Naknek-King Salmon area cater to the recreational and commercial recreational sport fishing industry.

Minerals. The Region has no known mineral occurrences and most of the bedrock is covered by Quaternary alluvium.

Oil and Gas. Potential exists in the subsurface for both oil and gas resources. Because the Tertiary sedimentary on-lap assemblage contains some intercalations of subbituminous coal, there is also potential for coalbed methane production. The northern half of the Alaska Peninsula is geologically promising for oil and gas development, including most of Region 11.

State and Native landowners are currently pursuing a new hydrocarbon exploration licensing and leasing program. The Alaska Department of Natural Resources, Lake and Peninsula, Bristol Bay, and Aleutians East Boroughs have signed a memorandum of understanding (MOU) in support of oil and gas lease sales and licensing in the Bristol Bay and Alaska Peninsula region (March 17, 2004). Similar MOUs are in effect between the DNR and The Aleut Regional Native Corporation (December 18, 2003) and the DNR and Bristol Bay Native Corporation (July 10, 2003).

Materials. Most materials sites are located along the Naknek-King Salmon road. Several materials sites are present.

Forestry. Region 11 is at the southern extent of the treed areas of Bristol Bay. In general, there are no forested lands of significance south of Region 11; on a regional scale the Naknek River is commonly considered the southern extent of forested lands. The non-commercial forests in the Naknek-King Salmon area have a modest to very low suitability for human use.

Fish and Wildlife. All five species of Pacific salmon – king, sockeye, pink, silver, and chum – spawn in the Naknek River system. Sockeye are the most important commercially. Freshwater sport fish, including rainbow trout, Arctic char, Dolly Varden, and northern pike, are generally

prolific throughout the area. The Naknek drainage experiences some of the highest levels of sport fishing effort in the Bristol Bay area; in 2002 the drainage is estimated to have experienced 24,401 angler-days.

King Salmon Creek and Pauls Creek support moose and King Salmon Creek is noted as an important bear stream. The Region is within game management unit no. 9 which has the highest brown bear harvest in Alaska (682 in 2001-2002). Region 11 is within the range of both the Mulchatna Caribou Herd and the Northern Alaska Peninsula Herd.

Eagle nesting sites are concentrated along the middle and upper Naknek River as well as King Salmon Creek. The western two-thirds of Region 11 consists of low-lying, poorly drained land that contains an abundance of lakes, ponds, and marshes. This area, combined with the Naknek River, is good waterfowl habitat that supports mallards, gadwalls, teal, and some northern shovelers.

Management Considerations: Local and State Plans

A number of local, state, and federal management plans were considered in development of this plan. Local plans include the Bristol Bay Borough Coastal Zone Management Plan, the Lake and Peninsula Borough Coastal Zone Management Plan, the Lake and Peninsula Borough Comprehensive Plan, and the Southwest Alaska Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy 2003-2008. State plans include the Bristol Bay Area Plan and the Southwest Alaska Transportation Plan. Federal plans include the Katmai National Park and Preserve, Aniakchak National Monument and Preserve, and Alagnak Wild River Compendium – 2003.

Region 11 encompasses the Bristol Bay Borough and portions of the Lake and Peninsula Borough. Both the Comprehensive Plan and the District Coastal Management Plan of the Lake and Peninsula Borough and Bristol Bay Borough apply to portions of Region 11. The Comprehensive Plan focuses on economic and infrastructure development issues and does not contain specific land use standards or a land use map. The Enforceable Policies of the District Coastal Management Plan are extensive; policies affecting anadromous streams, bald eagle nests, oil and gas development, material extraction and mining can be applicable, under certain instances, to state lands. See <http://www.alaskacoast.state.ak.us/>²⁴ for more information on enforceable policies. These policies should be consulted by DNR prior to issuing an authorization.

Region 11 is also within the area covered by the Southwest Alaska Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy 2003-2008, which was developed for the U.S. Department of Commerce Economic Development Administration by the Southwest Alaska Municipal Conference (July 2003). This document developed a number of goals, objectives, and strategies to facilitate and support efforts that retain and grow the region's wealth, including diversifying the economic base.

²⁴ The Alaska Coastal Management Program was terminated on July 1, 2011, pursuant to AS 44.66.030.

The Bristol Bay Area Plan (1984) affected all state lands in the Region until this revision. The original Area Plan managed the Region for fisheries, including harvest and processing, wildlife harvest, recreation, community expansion and transportation, and oil and gas exploration and development in upland areas. This revision replaces and supersedes the 1984 Area Plan.

The Southwest Alaska Transportation Plan (ADOT/PF, November 2002) identified a Cook Inlet to Bristol Bay Transportation Corridor, which in general extends from Cook Inlet to South Naknek connecting with the communities of Pedro Bay, Iliamna, Newhalen, Igiugig, Levelock, King Salmon, and Naknek. The transportation corridor connects the rich seafood resources and communities in Bristol Bay, as well as the Iliamna Lake communities, with resupply, support and market centers in the Alaskan railbelt. It consists of a marine segment (Cook Inlet), an intermodal transfer location at Williamsport or Iniskin Bay, and then primarily overland and riverine routes along Iliamna Lake and the Kvichak River valley to the port town of Naknek on Bristol Bay. A tie-in to the Pebble Copper mine is also a possibility. The function of the route is primarily logistical. Transportation improvements along this corridor would lower the cost of transport, thus yielding benefits to the quality of life for residents and helping to stimulate economic growth.

The Southwest Alaska Transportation Plan (ADOT/PF, November 2002) also identified an Alaska Peninsula Transportation Corridor, which in general extends from South Naknek to the Chigniks connecting with the communities of Egegik, Pilot Point, Ugashik, and Port Heiden. The Alaska Peninsula Corridor is an overland route linking the communities of the Alaska Peninsula from Ivanof Bay to Naknek. The key facility in this corridor is the port at Chignik, from which fuel and supplies can be disbursed to other communities via road connection. From Chignik the corridor extends west along the Gulf of Alaska coast to Perryville and Ivanof Bay. It also extends from Chignik to Chignik Lake and Chignik Lagoon, then crosses the Alaska Peninsula to Port Heiden. From Port Heiden the corridor extends north, connecting Pilot Point, Ugashik, Egegik and South Naknek, and tying into the Cook Inlet to Bristol Bay Corridor at Naknek.

Municipal Selections

Most of the Bristol Bay Borough selections, under its municipal entitlement, have been satisfied. The Borough is still entitled to approximately 350 acres of state land.

Management Summary: Uplands

State land in Region 11 is to be managed for a variety of multiple uses, including settlement, materials extraction, public facilities, dispersed public recreation, mineral exploration and development, and maintenance of sensitive wildlife habitats. Oil and gas exploration and development is also appropriate within the Region. The majority of lands are designated General Use (Gu). Because of the generally good topographic conditions and relatively good accessibility of certain of these lands, several tracts of state land in the King Salmon Creek area

have been designated Settlement (Se) in order to allow for community expansion and make available additional lands for selection by the Bristol Bay Borough. Anadromous fish streams are co-designated Habitat (Ha) and Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed (Rd). A large number of small management units associated with public facilities and administration are designated Public Facilities-Retain (Pr). Active materials sites are designated Materials (Ma).

Plan Designations and Management

The plan designations that are used within this Region have the following management intent. The policies and management intent guidelines described in Chapter 2 affect all DNR authorizations. Refer especially to those guidelines relating to Fish and Wildlife Habitat and Harvest Areas, and Settlement. See also the descriptions of the plan designations in the first part of this Chapter; this section indicates which lands can be conveyed out of state ownership and those that must be retained.

- General Use (Gu). Within this Region, lands that contain one or more resource values, none of which is of sufficiently high value to merit designation as a primary use, and areas that are unlikely to be developed during the planning period are designated General Use. The land is to be managed for a variety of uses including protection of fish and wildlife habitat and harvest, dispersed public recreation, minerals, oil and gas exploration and development, and protection of heritage resources. It is expected that little development will occur in these areas during the planning period, and it is not intended as a matter of policy that intensive forms of development occur in these areas other than occasionally and at specific sites. Selections within these lands may be appropriate for conveyance to a Borough under the Municipal Entitlement program, subject to a Best Interesting Finding by the state. Lands not conveyed to the borough under the entitlement program are to be retained by the state.
- Habitat (Ha). Generally, this designation applies to areas of varied size that are important for fish and wildlife species during a sensitive life-history stage where alteration of the habitat or human disturbance could result in the permanent loss of a population or sustained yield of a species. In Region 11 this designation is applied to streams and shorelands cataloged by the Alaska Department of Fish and Game as anadromous (<http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/sf/SARR/AWC/index.cfm?adfg=maps.interactive>). The lands are to be retained in state ownership.
- Materials (Ma). Lands designated materials are those where active or inactive materials sites are present. These can include common varieties of sand, gravel, and stone or are sites associated with materials extraction that contain conveyors, crushing, sizing, and other processing equipment. Until the materials have been exhausted, these areas are to be retained in state ownership; thereafter, other forms of authorizations or disposals may be appropriate. Authorizations should be done in consultation with the Department of Transportation and Public Facilities.

- **Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed and Habitat (Co-designation).** Certain navigable waterbodies (lakes and streams) are co-designated Habitat (Ha) and Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed (Rd). Authorizations within these waterbodies should not interfere with important habitat or public recreation values. See Table 3.1 in the Navigability section of this Chapter for a listing of these streams. Note: Certain waterbodies may (only) be designated Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed, (Rd), Habitat (Ha), or General Use (Gu). Navigable waterbodies, stream and lakes, in Katmai National Park and Preserve, east of Regions 10 and 11 are designated for Habitat (Ha) and Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed (Rd).
- **Public Facilities-Retain (Pr).** This designation applies to sites that are reserved for a specific public infrastructure requirement. They are to be retained in state or public ownership. In this Region, this designation applies to lands containing public facilities, commonly airports or schools. Only a small amount of acreage is affected by this designation.
- **Settlement (Se).** This designation applies to state uplands suitable for sale, leasing, or permitting to allow private recreational or residential use. Within this Region one area of state land is considered appropriate for settlement and has been designated Settlement (Se). This area is generally located on the north and south sides of King Salmon Creek. These areas are intended for Community Settlement; see Chapter 2 for specific requirements for this form of settlement. Settlement lands are appropriate for conveyance to the Borough.

Specific Management Considerations

- **Generally Allowed Uses.** The Generally Allowed Uses in 11 AAC 96.020 can occur throughout the Region.
- **Proposed Transportation Corridor.** The area identified on the Region Map as a “Potential Transportation Corridor” should be retained by the state during the planning period. Authorizations granted by DNR within or adjacent to this corridor should not preclude the future development of transportation access. Authorizations or disposals within and adjacent to this corridor should only be allowed after consultation with ADOT/PF.
- **Except for areas closed to mineral entry under existing Mineral Closing Orders, all state lands within Region 11 are open to mineral entry.** No additional MCOs are recommended; the only exception applies to the areas to be disposed of by DNR for purposes of Community Settlement. Closure to mineral entry is recommended at or before plat adoption. No leasehold location orders are recommended. See the Mineral Resources section in Chapter 2 for more details on subsurface management requirements.
- **Mineral Closing and Opening Orders.** This revision of the Bristol Bay Area Plan retains the mineral closing and opening orders, largely implemented by DNR at the time of original plan adoption. No streams in Region 11 are affected by MCO 393.

- Mineral Order No. 791 is an interim order (as of July 11, 2003) that precludes shallow natural gas leasing and oil and gas exploration licensing. This order has no effect on locatable or leaseable minerals other than shallow natural gas leasing and oil and gas exploration licensing. The order affects the southern two-thirds of Region 11.
- Retained Lands. There are no state lands within this Region that are designated to be retained except for those that are reserved as a 'Potential Transportation Corridor', and those designated Public Facilities-Retain (Pr) or Habitat (Ha). Note: Certain management units that are designated Rd may be conveyed out of state ownership and to the Borough as part of the Municipal Entitlement Act – providing the land conveyed remains public land and the public retains access to the public use site. Lands not conveyed to the Borough under the municipal entitlement program are to be retained by the state.
- Navigable Waters. Shorelands (rivers and lakes) that are believed to be navigable are listed in Table 3.1 in the Navigability section of this Chapter. Authorizations in these waters must ensure the continued use of a waterway by the public for purposes of trade, travel, and commerce. Note: These waterbodies are assigned a plan designation of Habitat, Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed, a co-designation of Habitat and Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed, and, sometimes, General Use. Authorizations issued by DNR are to maintain the habitat and public recreation values of these waterbodies.

See the Resource Allocation Table for more detail on the upland management units.

Management Summary: Tidelands and Submerged Lands

There are few tideland management units within Region 11, reflecting the relatively small size of the region itself. Tidelands adjoining this region occupy the eastern portion of Kvichak Bay, extending from its mouth to the mouth of the Naknek River where it flows into the bay. Naknek and South Naknek are situated on the north and south banks of the Naknek River near its mouth. King Salmon is situated on the river about 15 miles upstream from the river mouth. This portion of the Naknek River to King Salmon is tidally influenced, and the designation and management intent for this part of the river is covered in this section. Much of this area consists of extensive shallow and exposed tidal flats with high biomass content. Large areas of exposed tidal flats are also common south of the Naknek River, but are only of moderate biomass. Native and private lands adjoin these tidelands.

This region is the major commercial fisheries center for Bristol Bay, and the community of King Salmon is the central shipping point for the salmon industry. There are several canneries and fish processing facilities in and around Naknek. Commercial harvest consists almost entirely of salmon. Pink, sockeye, chinook, chum and coho salmon (purse seine and drift net) are harvested in large quantities at the mouth of the Naknek River around Naknek, South Naknek and Libbyville. The harvesting of fish and fish products is the primary subsistence activity

around Naknek and King Salmon, and consists almost exclusively of salmon, but occasionally other fish. Sea mammals and seabirds and their eggs are also harvested, to a lesser extent, as a food staple.

Plan Designations and Management Intent

Coastal Tidelands. These tidelands²⁵ are designated General Use. Development authorizations are considered appropriate subject to the protection of sensitive resources and areas.

Kvichak Bay (R05T-02).²⁶ Kvichak Bay borders on both Region 5 and Region 11, but is being addressed as one management unit (R05T-02) in order that it can be managed as one unit. Both the Kvichak and the Naknek Rivers flow into this bay at its head. Description of the eastern portion of this management unit is being discussed here to the extent it affects the management units in Region 11.

The eastern part of Kvichak Bay consists of extensive shallow and exposed tidal flats having high biomass content. Large areas of exposed tidal flats are also common south of the Naknek River. This bay provides feeding concentration areas for Beluga whales, and is also an important beluga whale calving habitat. Harbor seals are common at Graveyard Point near the mouth of the Kvichak River. Shorebirds occur near the mouths of the Naknek River, and both shorebirds and waterfowl are present along the coast south of the Naknek River. The headwaters of the Naknek River support particularly high densities of staging swans and geese during the spring. See also, Region 5.

Development authorizations may be considered appropriate but must avoid or minimize impacts to the beluga whale population during that part of their life-cycle involving calving and impacts to the area of the harbor seal haulout, which is situated in the central part of Kvichak Bay called 'Deadman Sands'.

Naknek Community (R11T-01) and King Salmon (R11T-02). The areas of the Naknek River near the community of Naknek (R11T-02) and King Salmon (R11T-02) are designated Waterfront Development, to accommodate the needs of the extensive fishery in this area, including its tideland support facilities. Development authorizations are considered appropriate subject to the protection of sensitive resources and areas.

See the Resource Allocation Table for more detail on tideland management units R11T-01 and R11T-02. See also, the Resource Allocation Table for Region 5 for more detail on tideland management unit R05T-02.

²⁵ Tidelands along the coast not included in R05T-02.

²⁶ The tideland management unit for Kvichak Bay consists of only one unit (R05T-02), but the description of the eastern portion of this tideland unit is provided in this region to ensure that the tideland resources of Kvichak Bay are properly understood.

Resource Allocation Table for Upland Management Units - Region 11

Unit # / Name	Acres / Designation(s)	MTRS	Management Intent	Resources, Uses, Additional Info
R11-01 North Region 11	128,224 Gu - General Use	Map 3-11	<p>This unit is designated General Use (Gu). These lands should be managed for a variety of uses including minerals, oil and gas exploration and development, protection of fish and wildlife and associated habitat, and dispersed recreation and tourism. The unit is not suitable for settlement. Development authorizations may be appropriate subject to the protection of these resources and the requirements of Chapter 2. Intensive development is not expected within this unit during the planning period except occasionally and at specific locations, and the unit is to be retained during the planning period.</p> <p>The Bristol Bay transportation corridor transects the unit; the actual position of the road alignment has yet to be determined. No authorizations or disposals should be considered that are within or near the corridor until the road alignment is known, or without consultation with the ADOT/PF.</p> <p>Lands crossed by the Pike Ridge Trail have been proposed for a land exchange. This trail, currently used by off-road vehicles (ORVs), follows a prominent ridge line. The stair-step boundary of Katmai National Park and Preserve crosses the ridgeline back and forth, thus alternating management of the trail between DNR and the National Park Service. The park boundary is difficult to identify in the field and differences between the two agencies' ORV regulations creates management problems and uncertainty for trail users. The intent of the exchange is to reconfigure the park boundary and land ownership through a land exchange that would generally place the park boundary along the ridgeline, excluding the trail, so the trail would no longer cross lands managed by the National Park Service. Those lands that come into state ownership will be managed consistent with intent for Unit R11-01. Lands that are within this unit can be traded to the Park Service without amending the plan.</p>	<p>This is a large unit of state-owned and state-selected land in the northern portion of Region 11. A variety of terrain is present from the hilly country in upper Salmon Creek to low-lying poorly drained lands west of King Salmon Creek. It is vegetated in low shrub and lichen tundra. King Salmon and Pauls Creek are cataloged as anadromous fish streams. Brown bear utilize these streams during the spawning season. Moose use the upper King Salmon and Pauls Creeks areas for rutting.</p> <p>Portions of the original (2005) unit were removed and redesignated Habitat. See unit R11-01A</p>
R11-01A Moose Calving areas North Region 11	43,501 Ha - Habitat	Map 3-11	<p>Manage unit for its habitat and dispersed recreation values. Retain in state ownership.</p> <p>Other than utilities, communication, roads/bridges, and similar facilities providing a public service, development is not appropriate within this unit. Any authorizations that may be issued will need to avoid or mitigate impacts to moose habitat.</p>	<p>Consisting of two subunits, this unit shares many of the characteristics of unit R11-01 but differs by virtue of location and the presence of important habitat areas. It occupies relatively level terrain adjacent to two creeks (Pauls and King) situated to the northeast of King Salmon and encompasses areas of important for moose rutting and wintering.</p> <p>This unit was created through the 2013 Plan Amendment process.</p>
R11-02 King Salmon Creek	14,271 Se - Settlement	Map 3-11 S017S044W, S017S045W	<p>The unit is designated Settlement (Se) and is considered appropriate for disposal during the planning period. Development is to conform to the requirements of Remote Settlement and those for the Caribou and Moose Rutting and Calving Area, both of which are described in the Settlement, and Fish and Wildlife Habitat and Harvest Areas sections of Chapter 2. Buffers along anadromous fish streams must also conform to the management guidelines in Chapter 2. Should the Bristol Bay Borough make land selections in the unit under the Municipal Entitlement program, such selections are appropriate for conveyance. The Bristol Bay transportation</p>	<p>This unit is made up of two areas of state-owned and state-selected land northeast of the community of King Salmon in the vicinity of Eskimo Creek. This area of level terrain is vegetated in tall and low shrubs or tundra and considered suitable for settlement. Trails from King Salmon extend into the unit. King Salmon Creek is an anadromous fish stream and the area is utilized by moose for rutting and moose and caribou wintering habitat.</p>

Unit # / Name	Acres / Designation(s)	MTRS	Management Intent	Resources, Uses, Additional Info
			corridor transects the unit; the actual position of the road alignment has yet to be determined. No authorizations or disposals should be considered that are within or near the corridor until the road alignment is known or without consultation with the ADOT/PF. Lands crossed by the Pike Ridge Trail have been proposed for a land exchange. This trail, currently used by off-road vehicles (ORVs), follows a prominent ridge line. The stair-step boundary of Katmai National Park crosses the ridgeline back and forth, thus alternating management of the trail between DNR and the National Park Service. The park boundary is difficult to identify in the field and differences between the two agencies' ORV regulations creates management problems and uncertainty for trail users. The intent of the exchange is to reconfigure the park boundary and land ownership through a land exchange that would generally place the park boundary along the ridgeline, excluding the trail, so the trail would no longer cross lands managed by the National Park Service. Those lands that come into state ownership will be managed consistent with intent for Unit R11-01. Lands that are within this unit can be traded to the Park Service without amending the plan.	
R11-03 North Naknek Airport	90 Pr - Public Facilities- Retain	Map 3-11 S017S047W Sec. 3	This unit is to be managed by ADOT/PF consistent with the FAA standards and the conditions given in conveyance documents, management agreements, and limited state holdings. The unit is to be retained in state ownership.	This unit is an airport facility adjacent to the community of Naknek. Much of the state land is owned by ADOT/PF (OSL 905) and/or managed by them under management agreement (ADLs 221493 and 18247) and limited state holding (LSH 223) for the purposes of administering an airport facility. The Alaska Heritage Resources Survey (AHRS) reports several heritage sites in or near this unit.
R11-04 Naknek Admin. Site	6.96 Pr - Public Facilities- Retain	Map 3-11 S017S047W Sec. 2	The unit is to be managed as public facilities for the administration of road and airport maintenance according to the provisions of the Management Right. The unit is to be retained in state ownership.	This small unit of state land (OSL 121) is located in the community of Naknek and is used as an administrative site for road and airport maintenance at the Naknek airport under a management agreement (ADL 221982).
R11-05 Naknek Materials Site	53 Ma - Materials	Map 3-11 S017S046W Sec. 4	The unit is to be managed as a materials site. Upon exhaustion of the resource, it is to be rehabilitated according to state reclamation standards and may eventually be appropriate for disposal.	This is a small unit between the communities of Naknek and King Salmon. This area had been used as a materials site under a sale agreement with the Moorcroft Construction Co. (ADL 226516) that has since closed.
R11-06 Naknek Road	57 Pr - Public Facilities- Retain	Map 3-11 S017S046W	This unit is to be retained by the state and managed as a public road.	This unit is the Naknek road that connects units R11-05 and R11-07. It is surrounded by land that has been conveyed to the municipality. The Alaska Heritage Resources Survey (AHRS) reports several heritage sites in or near this unit.
R11-07 Naknek DOT Sites	240 Ma - Materials	Map 3-11 S017S046W Sec. 1,2	The unit is to be managed as a materials site by the ADOT/PF. Upon exhaustion of the resource it is to be rehabilitated under state reclamation standards and may eventually be appropriate for disposal. No disposals should be authorized without consulting with the ADOT/PF.	This unit is comprised of two small areas between the communities of Naknek and King Salmon that are managed by ADOT/PF under an ILMT agreement (ADLs 19371, 19893, and 19380) and used as materials sites. The Alaska Heritage Resources Survey (AHRS) reports several heritage sites in or near this unit.

Unit # / Name	Acres / Designation(s)	MTRS	Management Intent	Resources, Uses, Additional Info
R11-08 South Naknek Airport	263 Pr - Public Facilities- Retain	Map 3-11 S017S047W Sec. 14,15	This unit is to be managed by ADOT/PF consistent with FAA standards and the conditions given in the management agreement and limited state holding. The unit is to be retained in state ownership.	This unit contains airport facilities adjacent to the community of South Naknek. Much of the state land is owned by ADOT/PF (OSL 921) and/or managed by them under management agreements (ADLs 33646 and 221506) and limited state holdings (LSH 298) for the purposes of administering an airport facility. The Alaska Heritage Resources Survey (AHRS) reports several heritage sites in or near this unit.
R11-09 King Salmon Airport	1,558 Pr - Public Facilities- Retain	Map 3-11 S017S045W Sec. 22-26	This unit is to be managed by ADOT/PF consistent with FAA standards and as conditioned by the conveyance (OSL 332). The unit is to be retained in state ownership.	This unit is an airport facility adjacent to the community of King Salmon. Much of the state land is owned by ADOT/PF (OSL 332) and managed by them for the purposes of running an airport facility. The Alaska Heritage Resources Survey (AHRS) reports several heritage sites in or near this unit.
R11-10 ADF&G Admin Site	13.21 Pr - Public Facilities- Retain	Map 3-11 S017S045W Sec. 23,26	This unit is to be managed by ADF&G consistent with the standards and the conditions given in management agreements and conveyance documents. The unit is to be retained in state ownership.	This unit is adjacent to the King Salmon Airport and the Naknek river on state-owned land (OSL 374). It is managed by ADF&G under an ILMT (ADL 41020) and is used as their King Salmon headquarters and office facility. There are easements on the property issued to the US Fish and Wildlife Service for a leach field for a sewer system (ADL 220685) and the Bristol Bay Borough for a right of way for the King Salmon City's sewer pipeline (ADL 225700).
R11-11 South Region 11	164,969 Gu - General Use	Map 3-11	This unit is designated General Use (Gu). These lands should be managed for a variety of uses including minerals and oil and gas exploration and development, protection of fish and wildlife and their associated habitat, and dispersed recreation. The unit is not suitable for settlement. Development authorizations may be appropriate subject to the protection of these resources and the requirements of Chapter 2. See particularly the requirements for tundra swans protection in this Chapter. Intensive development is not expected within this unit during the planning period except occasionally and at specific locations. The Alaska Peninsula transportation corridor transects the unit; the actual position of the road alignment has yet to be determined. No authorizations or disposals should be considered that are within or near the corridor until the road alignment is known or without consultation with the ADOT/PF. Unless conveyed to the Borough under the entitlement program, the unit is to be retained by the state.	This is a large unit of state-owned and state-selected land in the southern portion of Region 11. The terrain consists of low-lying lands vegetated with low shrub and lichen tundra. The unit contains many lakes, ponds, marshes and other wetlands. Several of the lakes are large enough to accommodate floatplane landings. Caribou use the unit for both wintering and rutting areas. Waterfowl concentrations are present, as tundra swans occur in the central portion of the unit. The unit has potential for discovery of oil and gas resources.

Resource Allocation Table for Tideland Management Units - Region 11

Unit # / Name	Acres / Designation(s)	MTRS	Management Intent	Resources, Uses, Additional Info
R11T-01 Naknek	45 Wd - Waterfront Development	Map 3-11 S017S047W	Unit is designated Waterfront Development. Manage unit to support commercial and industrial uses and structures.	Unit is situated on the Naknek River, near the mouth, at the community of Naknek. Unit consists of a number of subunits within the Naknek River, many of which are affected by tideland leases issued to seafood processors. Uplands are often occupied by industrial structures associated with the seafood processing industry. The river at Naknek contains a number of private facilities, which support the seafood industry.
R11T-02 King Salmon	260 Wd - Waterfront Development	Map 3-11 S017S045W	Unit is designated Waterfront Development. This unit is to be managed so as to accommodate commercial and industrial in-river uses.	<p>Unit is situated within the Naknek River adjacent to the community of King Salmon. Unit is affected by a number of tideland leases issued for in-river structures, principally seasonal docks.</p> <p>King Salmon is the air transportation and shipping center for all of the Bristol Bay commercial salmon industry. Scheduled jet service is provided at the state-owned upland airport and the in-river tidelands include an extensive floatplane landing area. King Salmon is also the transportation hub for wilderness, sport fishing and recreational excursions to the several parks, preserves and sanctuaries in the Bristol Bay area and on the Alaska Peninsula. Salmon is the primary subsistence staple for area residents.</p>
R11T-03 Kvichak Bay, South	69,615 Gu - General Use	Map 3-11	Manage for a variety of uses and resources. Protect important concentrations of pelagic birds, sea birds, and waterfowl. Consult with NMFS for the occurrence of whales and harbor seals within this tideland unit prior to issuing an authorization. Maintain opportunities for commercial and subsistence harvest. This unit is included within the Bristol Bay Fisheries Reserve.	<p>This unit occupies a very small part of the coast within Region 11; almost the entirety of the tide and submerged lands within this Region are contained within R05T-02, which occupies Kvichak Bay proper. This unit occupies a small area immediately south of R05T-02. Consult Plan Map 3-11.</p> <p>This unit is characterized by shallow areas consisting of either exposed or sheltered tidal flats, the latter are common south of the Naknek River. Shorebirds and waterfowl are present within this unit. Marine mammals (primarily harbor seals) and whales are common in R05T-02 and may also occur at times within this unit, although the highest concentration areas of both occur in R05T-02.</p> <p>There is a commercial and subsistence harvest of salmon in this unit.</p>

Region 12: Egegik, Becharof

Summary of Resources and Uses in the Region

Region Boundary

Region 12 includes the uplands and tidelands on a portion of the Alaska Peninsula, generally south of the Bristol Bay Borough, which contains most of the Egegik-Becharof Lake drainage and borders on the western shore of the Ugashik Lake system (Map 3-11). The Region is bounded on the northeast by the Katmai National Park and Preserve, the Lake and Peninsula Borough boundary, and the western shore of Ugashik Lake. The southern boundary is generally north of Pilot Point. The principal community is Egegik (pop. 127).

State Lands: Ownership and Acreage

State-owned land dominates the western one third of the Region while much of the eastern two-thirds is Federally-owned. Native ownership of land is concentrated around the community of Egegik and west of Becharof Lake. The eastern portion of the Region is within the Becharof and Alaska Peninsula National Wildlife Refuges. The Egegik Critical Habitat Area is contained within Region 12. The plan applies to 884,300 acres of state-owned and state-selected uplands and 127,229 acres of state-owned tidelands in this region. The plan also applies to state-owned shorelands (acreages of shorelands have not been calculated).

Physical Geography

The western portion of Region 12 is within the Bristol Bay Lowlands ecological province; the eastern portion of the Region is in the Alaska Peninsula ecological province. Drainage is predominantly westward towards Bristol Bay. The principal drainages are the King Salmon River, which flows westward from Katmai National Park and Preserve, and the Egegik River, which flows from Becharof Lake; also included is the upper section of the Ugashik River and the Kejulik River. The western two-thirds of the Region is low-lying country with abundant lakes, ponds, and marshes. The eastern one-third encompasses the spine of the Aleutian Range and has considerable relief. The greatest relief occurs around Mount Peulik (elev. 4,835) where over 4,921 feet of relief is present. In addition to this peak, other notable topographic and geographic features include Mount Simeon, Mount Burls, Mount Lees, and Mount Ugashik and The Gas Rocks, south of Becharof Lake, and Whale Mountain north of the lake. Blue Mountain is a notable topographic feature on the west side of Upper Ugashik Lake.

Climate

The climate of Region 12 is predominantly maritime, characterized by cool, humid, and windy weather. Average summer temperatures range from 44° to 65°; winter temperatures range from 24° to 40°. The record high is 88° and the record low is -47°. Annual precipitation is 20 to 26 inches, with 45 inches of snowfall. Fog is common in the summer months. The King Salmon River is usually ice-free from June through mid-November.

Other

Region 12 is primarily within the Naknek, Ugashik, Mt. Katmai, and Karluk Quadrangles. It is within the boundaries of the Bristol Bay Regional Native Corporation and the Lake and Peninsula Borough.

Access

Access to Region 12 is limited to marine, river, or air transport. Egegik is accessible by air and water. A new City-owned 5,600' long by 100' wide lighted gravel runway with crosswind airstrip is located 2 miles southwest of Egegik. Scheduled and charter flights are available. The Bartletts also maintain a private 2,800' airstrip across from Coffee Point. A new public dock was recently completed; the boat harbor accommodates up to 150 vessels. A boat haulout is available. Two privately-owned docks and marine storage are also available. Barge services are provided from Anchorage and Seattle. Skiffs, ATVs and snowmachines are the primary means of local transportation.

Numerous trails (RS 2477) extend from Egegik to other portions of the Region. Trails extend from Egegik to Becharof Lake and around both sides of the lake; trails also extend along the coast north from Egegik to South Naknek and south to Pilot Point. Trails wholly or partially in the Region include the following:

- Egegik-Cold Bay (RST No. 221)
- Egegik-Kanatak (RST No. 68)
- Egegik-Pilot Point-Ugashik (RST No. 1211)
- Island Bay-Salmon Creek Trail (RST No. 282)
- Kanatak-Becharof Lake Road (RST No. 1176)
- Naknek-Egegik (RST No. 148)
- Portage Bay-Mt. Demian Oil Camp (RST No. 367)

Resources and Uses

Cultural and Historic. According to anthropologists, settlement of the Bristol Bay region first occurred over 6,000 years ago. Yup'ik Eskimos and Athabascan Indians jointly occupied the area. Aleuts arrived in later years. The first recorded contact by non-Natives was with Russian fur traders between 1818 and 1867. Local people would travel each year from Kanatak on the Gulf coast through a portage pass to Becharof Lake, and hiked or kayaked on to the Egegik Bay area for summer fish camp. In 1895, an Alaska Packers Association salmon saltery was established at the mouth of Egegik River, and a town developed around the former fish camp. During the influenza outbreaks beginning in 1918, Natives from other villages moved to Egegik in an attempt to isolate themselves from the disease. During World War II, men from Egegik were enlisted to help build the King Salmon airport, with many subsequently serving in Dutch Harbor and elsewhere. Egegik later grew into a major salmon production port. Egegik incorporated as a second-class city in 1995.

The state Office of History and Archeology lists twenty-two sites in Region 12; fifteen of these are prehistoric, three are historic, and four are of mixed origin. Most of the historic and archeological sites occur near Egegik and along the western shore of Becharof Lake. Others are found along the major streams and near the connection between Upper and Lower Ugashik Lakes. New sites are discovered periodically and added to the Alaska Heritage Resource Database when reported.

Economic. The economy is based on subsistence harvest, commercial fishing and fish processing. During the commercial fishing season, the population swells by 1,000 to 2,000 fishermen and cannery workers. Forty-five residents hold commercial fishing permits. Five on-shore processors are located on the Egegik River, three on the north shore and two on the south shore, including Woodbine Alaska Fish Co., Big Creek Fish Co., Clark Fish Co. and Alaska General Seafoods. Numerous floating processors participate in the Egegik fishery. Subsistence hunting and fishing activities are an important part of the lifestyle and local diet. Seal, beluga, salmon, trout, smelt, grayling, clams, moose, bear, caribou, porcupine, waterfowl and ptarmigan are utilized. Locals also gather berries and wild greens each season.

Recreation. Sport fishing is a seasonal resource in Region 12. A few fishing lodges and hunting and fishing guides are centered in the Region. These occur in the vicinity of Egegik and near Blue Mountain. The area offers outstanding bear hunting and sport fishing for trophy-size Arctic char, Arctic grayling, and salmon. Commercial guide services are available for hunting and fishing activities. Other recreational opportunities include flightseeing, observing and photographing wildlife, hiking, boating, and camping.

Minerals. Mineral sands are known to occur along the beaches on the west side of the Alaska Peninsula and several have been sampled by U.S. Bureau of Mines personnel. One of the occurrences is on the beaches south of the Egegik Critical Habitat Area. The Egegik Iron-Titanium Beach placers occur on the west side of the Alaska Peninsula, ten miles southwest of the village of Egegik. The placer occurrences are located along approximately eight miles of beach, facing Bristol Bay. There are no active mining claims in the area. The beach varies in

width from a hundred yards to a mile or more. The only work of significance has been a sampling program by the U.S. Bureau of Mines (RI 6214) in 1963; during this program twenty-six auger and one shovel sample were collected and analyzed for iron and titanium. The deposits should be considered potentially economic since sampling was wide-spaced and some samples are within the range of grades being exploited in Australia and South Africa. Considerable work will be necessary to develop the resource. Another mineral sand occurrence (Azure prospect) is found along the beach approximately 14.3 miles south of the Egegik placer.

No lode occurrences have been identified on state lands in Region 12. However, a number of these as well as associated placer occurrences are on Federal and Native land along the spine of the Alaska Peninsula in the extreme eastern portion of the Region. Approximately one dozen prospects and occurrences are known. The majority of these are gold and copper prospects and some have associated placer occurrences; molybdenum, iron, silver, and uranium are also found and are commodities of interest.

Oil and Gas. Region 12 has high potential for the discovery of oil and gas. The western portion of the Region is underlain by Tertiary Milky River, Bear Lake, Stepovak, and Meshik formations. Elsewhere on the Alaska Peninsula the Milky River and Stepovak formations are known to contain oil and gas shows. Oil and gas seeps occur naturally in the Region, especially the eastern portion and the Gas Rocks are on Lake Becharof is a well known gas seep. Three widely spaced wells have previously been drilled on state land in Region 12: the Great Basins No. 2 well, drilled to 8,865 feet in 1959 by General Petroleum Corp.; Great Basins No. 1 well, drilled to 11,080 feet in 1959, also by General Petroleum Corp.; and the Becharof No. 1, drilled in 1985 to a depth of 9,023 feet by Amoco Production Company.

State and Native landowners are currently pursuing a new hydrocarbon exploration licensing and leasing program. The Alaska Department of Natural Resources, Lake and Peninsula, Bristol Bay, and Aleutians East Boroughs have signed a memorandum of understanding (MOU) in support of oil and gas lease sales and licensing of state land in the Bristol Bay and Alaska Peninsula region (March 17, 2004). Similar MOUs are in effect between the DNR and The Aleut Regional Native Corporation (December 18, 2003) and the DNR and Bristol Bay Native Corporation (July 10, 2003).

Geothermal. Two thermal springs occur in the Region – both are located near the Gas Rocks area near the south shore of Becharof Lake. West Ukinek Spring has a temperature of 178° F, and nearby Gas Rocks Hot Spring issues forth at 127° F. Both are too far from an inhabited location to be utilized.

Materials. There are no active materials sites in the Region.

Forestry. There are no significant forestry resources in Region 12.

Fish and Wildlife. The eastern portion of Region 12 encompasses the Becharof National Wildlife Refuge. It encompasses about 1.2 million acres. Landforms on the Refuge include volcanic mountains, sea cliffs, glacial lakes including Becharof Lake (second largest lake in

Alaska) and low tundra wetlands. The eastern one-third of the refuge is designated Wilderness. Important fish and wildlife resources include some of the densest concentrations of brown bears in the world. Barren-ground caribou are common, as are moose and wolves. Other mammals include wolverines, river otters, red fox and beaver. The western portion of the Region is low lying with many lakes, ponds, marshes and other waterbodies; waterfowl, seabirds and other migratory birds are abundant in the summer. Five species of Pacific salmon inhabit the Region, as do rainbow trout, Arctic char and Arctic grayling. Region 12 also encompasses the Egegik Critical Habitat Area. This legislatively designated area was created to protect habitat that supports migratory stopover areas for large number of ducks, geese, and shorebirds in the spring on their way to northern nesting grounds and in the fall on their return to southern wintering area.

Management Considerations: Local and State Plans

A number of local, state, and federal management plans were considered in development of this plan. Local plans include the Lake and Peninsula Borough Coastal Zone Management Plan, the Lake and Peninsula Borough Comprehensive Plan, and the Southwest Alaska Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy 2003-2008. State plans include the Bristol Bay Area Plan and the Southwest Alaska Transportation Plan. Federal plans include the Alaska Peninsula and Becharof National Wildlife Refuges Draft Comprehensive Conversation Plan.

Region 12 is located within the boundaries of the Lake and Peninsula Borough. Both the Comprehensive Plan and the District Coastal Management Plan of the Lake and Peninsula Borough apply to portions of Region 12. The Comprehensive Plan focuses on economic and infrastructure development issues and does not contain specific land use standards or a land use map. The Enforceable Policies of the District Coastal Management Plan are extensive; policies affecting anadromous streams, bald eagle nests, oil and gas development, material extraction and mining can be applicable, under certain instances, to state lands. See <http://www.alaskacoast.state.ak.us/>²⁷ for more information on enforceable policies. These policies should be consulted by DNR prior to issuing an authorization.

Region 12 is also within the area covered by the Southwest Alaska Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy 2003-2008, which was developed for the U.S. Department of Commerce Economic Development Administration by the Southwest Alaska Municipal Conference (July 2003). This document developed a number of goals, objectives, and strategies to facilitate and support efforts that retain and grow the region's wealth, including diversifying the economic base.

The original Bristol Bay Area Plan (1984) affected all state lands in the Region, and managed the Region for fish and wildlife habitat and harvest. Recreation and oil and gas activities were also recognized uses. This revision replaces and supercedes the 1984 Bristol Bay Area Plan.

²⁷ The Alaska Coastal Management Program was terminated on July 1, 2011, pursuant to AS 44.66.030.

The Southwest Alaska Transportation Plan (ADOT/PF, November 2002) identified an Alaska Peninsula Transportation Corridor, which in general extends from South Naknek to the Chignik connecting with the communities of Egegik, Pilot Point, Ugashik, and Port Heiden. The Alaska Peninsula Corridor is an overland route linking the communities of the Alaska Peninsula from Ivanof Bay to Naknek. The key facility in this corridor is the port at Chignik, from which fuel and supplies can be disbursed to other communities via road connection. From Chignik the corridor extends west along the Gulf of Alaska coast to Perryville and Ivanof Bay. It also extends from Chignik to Chignik Lake and Chignik Lagoon, then crosses the Alaska Peninsula to Port Heiden. From Port Heiden the corridor extends north, connecting Pilot Point, Ugashik, Egegik and South Naknek, and tying into the Cook Inlet to Bristol Bay Corridor at Naknek.

Municipal Selections

The Lake and Peninsula Borough has made several selections in Region 12 that total approximately 6,657 acres. Selections have been made on the coast northwest of Egegik and on the coast midway between Egegik and Pilot Point. Selections have also been made on the King Salmon and Egegik Rivers, and near the outlet to Lower Ugashik Lake.

Management Summary: Uplands

State land in Region 12 is to be managed for a variety of multiple uses, including settlement, materials extraction, public facilities development, dispersed public recreation, mineral exploration and development, and maintenance of sensitive wildlife habitats. Oil and gas exploration and development is also appropriate within the Region. The vast majority of lands are designated General Use (Gu). Because of the generally good topographic conditions and relatively good accessibility of certain of these lands, tracts of state land in the Egegik and Jensen Airstrip areas have been designated Settlement (Se) in order to allow for community expansion and remote recreation sites. Anadromous fish streams are co-designated Habitat (Ha) and Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed (Rd).

Plan Designations and Management

The plan designations that are used within this Region have the following management intent. The policies and management intent guidelines described in Chapter 2 affect all DNR authorizations. Refer especially to those guidelines relating to Fish and Wildlife Habitat and Harvest Areas, and Settlement. See also the descriptions of the plan designations in the first part of this Chapter; this section indicates which lands can be conveyed out of state ownership and those that must be retained.

- General Use (Gu). Within this Region, lands that contain one or more resource values, none of which is of sufficiently high value to merit designation as a primary use, and areas that are unlikely to be developed during the planning period are designated General

Use. The land is to be managed for a variety of uses including protection of fish and wildlife habitat and harvest, dispersed public recreation, minerals, oil and gas exploration and development, and protection of heritage resources. It is expected that little development will occur in these areas during the planning period, and it is not intended as a matter of policy that intensive forms of development occur in these areas other than occasionally and at specific sites. Land with this designation is to be retained during the planning period, except, potentially, for municipal entitlement selections. Selections within these lands may be appropriate for conveyance to the Lake and Peninsula Borough under the Municipal Entitlement program (subject to a Best Interesting Finding by the state).

- Habitat (Ha). Generally, this designation applies to areas of varied size that are important for fish and wildlife species during a sensitive life-history stage where alteration of the habitat or human disturbance could result in the permanent loss of a population or sustained yield of a species. In Region 12 this designation is applied to streams and shorelands cataloged by the Alaska Department of Fish and Game as anadromous (<http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/sf/SARR/AWC/index.cfm?adfg=maps.interactive>). The lands are to be retained in state ownership.
- Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed and Habitat (Co-designation). Certain navigable waterbodies (lakes and streams) are co-designated Habitat (Ha) and Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed (Rd). Authorizations within these waterbodies should not interfere with important habitat or public recreation values. See Table 3.1 in the Navigability section of this Chapter for a listing of these streams. Note: Certain waterbodies may only be designated Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed, (Rd), Habitat (Ha), or General Use (Gu). Navigable waterbodies, stream and lakes in Katmai National Park and Preserve, east of Regions 10 and 11 are designated for Habitat (Ha) and Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed (Rd).
- Settlement (Se). This designation applies to state uplands suitable for sale, leasing, or permitting to allow private recreational or residential use. Within this Region two areas of state land are considered appropriate for settlement and have been designated Settlement (Se). One tract of approximately three sections is located near the community of Egegik. The second tract is located in the Jensen airstrip area and is affected by land selections of the Lake and Peninsula Borough. These areas are intended for Community Settlement (Egegik) and Remote Recreation (Jensen airstrip); see Chapter 2 for specific requirements for this form of settlement. Settlement lands are appropriate for conveyance to the Borough.

Specific Management Considerations

- Generally Allowed Uses. The Generally Allowed Uses in 11 AAC 96.020 can occur throughout the Region.

- Proposed Transportation Corridor. The area identified on the Region Map as a “Potential Transportation Corridor” should be retained by the state during the planning period. Authorizations granted by DNR within or adjacent to this corridor should not preclude the future development of transportation access. Authorizations or disposals within and adjacent to this corridor should only be allowed after consultation with ADOT/PF.
- Except for areas closed to mineral entry under existing Mineral Closing Orders, all state lands within Region 12 are open to mineral entry. No additional MCOs are recommended; the only exception applies to the areas to be disposed of by DNR for purposes of Community Settlement. Closure to mineral entry is recommended at or before plat adoption. No leasehold location orders are recommended. See the Minerals section in Chapter 2 for more detail on subsurface management requirements.
- Mineral Closing and Opening Orders. This revision of the Bristol Bay Area Plan retains the mineral closing and opening orders largely implemented by DNR at the time of original plan adoption (1984). No streams in Region 12 are affected by MCO 393.
- Mineral Order No. 791 is an interim order (as of July 11, 2003) that precludes shallow natural gas leasing and oil and gas exploration licensing. This order has no effect on locatable or leaseable minerals other than shallow natural gas leasing and oil and gas exploration licensing. The order affects all state land in Region 12.
- Retained Lands. There are no state lands within this Region that are designated to be retained except for those that are reserved as a ‘Potential Transportation Corridor’ and Habitat (Ha). Unless conveyed to the Borough under the municipal entitlement program, state land designated General Use is to be retained.
- Navigable Waters. Shorelands (rivers and lakes) that are believed to be navigable are listed in Table 3.1 in the Navigability section of this Chapter. Authorizations in these waters must ensure the continued use of a waterway by the public for purposes of trade, travel, and commerce. Note: These waterbodies are assigned a plan designation of Habitat, Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed, a co-designation of Habitat and Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed, and, sometimes, General Use. Authorizations issued by DNR are to maintain the habitat and public recreation values of these waterbodies.

The Alaska State Legislature has designated the Egegik Critical Habitat Area, which consists of upland as well as tideland areas, for the protection of fish and wildlife habitat. Management of this area is the responsibility of the Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G). A special area permit is required for any habitat altering work, including any construction activity. A special area permit application form can be obtained from the ADF&G office in Anchorage. See also tideland management unit R12T-01.

See the Resource Allocation Table for more details on the upland management units.

Management Summary: Tidelands and Submerged Lands

Tidelands in this Region adjoin state-owned uplands, except for some Native-owned land in the northern part of the Region. Extensive tidal flats border the shoreline, although coarse sand beaches and mixed sand and gravel beaches characterize the near-shore area. Beluga whales are present in the northern part of this region, although Egegik Bay is not known to contain calving areas, as in Regions 5 and 11. Harbor seals, shorebirds, and waterfowl are common throughout the tidelands of this region. Pacific herring spawning areas occur at the mouth of Big Creek.

The community of Egegik is a major commercial salmon fishing area. Pink, chum, sockeye, coho and chinook salmon are harvested (drift net) commercially in Egegik Bay and at the mouth of the Egegik River. Set net permits line the coast from Big Creek along the northern coast of Egegik Bay to the mouth of the Egegik River. There is also a line of set net permits around the Community of Egegik. Subsistence harvesting includes salmon, trout, smelt, grayling, seal, beluga whale, clams, and waterfowl (birds and eggs).

Plan Designations and Management Intent

Coastal Tidelands. These tidelands²⁸ are designated General Use. Development authorizations are considered appropriate subject to the protection of sensitive resources and areas.

Egegik Bay (R12T-01, R12T-02). Although tideland areas adjacent to the coast are important for providing habitat to some species of birds as well as harbor seals, by far the most important and sensitive habitat area occurs at the mouth of the Egegik River within Egegik Bay. Because of the importance of this area, portions of the uplands that adjoin Egegik Bay as well as the tidelands within that bay are included within the Egegik Critical Habitat Area, a legislatively designated area (AS 16.20.565). All uplands and tidelands within the CHA (R12T-01) are designated Habitat. The remainder of Egegik Bay²⁹ is included within tideland management unit R12T-02 and contains extensive areas of eel grass, harbor seal haulouts, and waterfowl use. This management unit is also designated Habitat. Development authorizations are prohibited within the CHA unless the requirements of AS 16.20.530 and AS 16.20.520 are fulfilled. Development authorizations within tideland management unit R12T-02 may be considered appropriate if sensitive resources and areas are protected.

Egegik Community (R12T-03). Areas within Egegik Bay, not part of the CHA or tideland management unit R12T-02 and important to the industrial, commercial, and residential uses of the Egegik community, are designated Waterfront Development to accommodate fisheries activities and its tideland support industries. This area is encompassed by tideland management unit R12T-03. Development authorizations are considered appropriate in these areas subject to the protection of sensitive resources and areas.

²⁸ Tidelands along the coast not included in R12T-01 or R12T-02.

²⁹ Except for areas adjacent to the community of Pilot Point.

See the Resource Allocation Table for more details on the tideland management units.

Resource Allocation Table for Upland Management Units - Region 12

Unit # / Name	Acres / Designation(s)	MTRS	Management Intent	Resources, Uses, Additional Info
R12-01 West Region 12	824,901 Gu - General Use	Map 3-12	This unit is designated General Use (Gu). These lands should be managed for a variety of uses including minerals or oil and gas exploration and development, protection of fish and wildlife and their associated habitat, and dispersed recreation. The unit is not suitable for settlement. Development authorizations may be appropriate subject to the protection of these resources and the requirements of Chapter 2. See especially the requirements for the protection of tundra swans in this Chapter. Intensive development is not expected within this unit during the planning period except occasionally and at specific locations. The Alaska Peninsula transportation corridor transects the unit; the actual position of the road alignment has yet to be determined. No authorizations or disposals should be considered that are within or near the corridor until the road alignment is known or without consultation with the ADOT/PF. Unless conveyed to the Borough under the entitlement program, state land is to be retained.	This is a large unit that comprises most of the state-owned and state-selected land in Region 12. The unit is on mostly low-lying terrain that is poorly drained and contains numerous lakes. The unit contains several anadromous fish streams that are used by brown bear for feeding during the spawning season. Moose and caribou are known to use the unit as wintering and calving habitat. Waterfowl utilize the extensive wetlands and tundra swans concentrate at several locations in the southwest portion of the unit. The unit has significant potential for oil and gas and mineral sands. The combined Egegik-Kanatak and Egegik Cold Bay trail extends through the central portion of the unit. The Egegik-Naknek and Egegik-Pilot Point trails follow along the coastal portions of the unit.
R12-02 Egegik	1,904 Se - Settlement	Map 3-12 S022S050W	The unit is designated Settlement (Se) and is considered appropriate for disposal during the planning period. Development is to conform to the requirements of Remote Settlement, and requirements for caribou wintering and waterfowl molting habitat, which is described in Fish and Wildlife Habitat and Harvest Areas sections of Chapter 2.	This is a unit of land comprised of three sections just north of Egegik Bay situated on level terrain and vegetated in low shrub and lichen tundra. This area is considered suitable for settlement and to provide for community expansion. Brown bear utilize nearby anadromous fish streams, although these streams are not on the unit. Caribou are known to use the area as wintering habitat, and waterfowl concentrations are also present in this unit along the southern border.
R12-03 Egegik 2	0.84 Gu - General Use	Map 3-12 S023S049W Sec. 6	The unit is designated General Use (Gu) and is to be managed for a variety of uses. Prior to issuing an authorization or a disposal, review deed condition described in the next column.	This small piece of state land (OSL 1020) is situated adjacent to the community if Egegik on level terrain near the airport. The unit is subject to the following deed conditions: If the land ceases to be used for a public purpose, grantee will deed the land to the incorporated municipality established under state law, or if no municipality exists, grantee will deed the land to the trustee or her successor in interest.
R12-04 Jensen Airstrip	7,577 Se - Settlement	Map 3-12 S026S048W, S027S048W Sec.1-3,10-15, 22-24, 34-36	The unit is designated Settlement (Se) and is considered appropriate for disposal during the planning period. Development is to conform to the requirements of Remote Settlement described in Chapter 2. The unit contains land selections by the Lake and Peninsula Borough as part of its municipal entitlement (ADL 227027). The selections are considered appropriate for conveyance to the Borough, subject to a separate and subsequent Best Interest Finding. Development is to conform to the requirements of Remote Settlement, and requirements for caribou wintering habitat, which is described in Fish and Wildlife Habitat and Harvest Areas sections of Chapter 2.	This unit consists of approximately eighteen sections of land in areas of level terrain around and south of Jensen airstrip; the area is dotted with various small lakes, ponds, and marshes. It is vegetated in small shrubs and lichen tundra. The area is considered suitable for settlement. Caribou are known to winter in this unit.

Resource Allocation Table for Tideland Management Units - Region 12

Unit # / Name	Acres / Designation(s)	MTRS	Management Intent	Resources, Uses, Additional Info
R12T-01 Egegik Critical Habitat Area	5,730 Ha - Habitat	Map 3-12 S023S050W, S023S051W	Unit is designated Habitat. Unit is to be managed to protect the sensitive upland and tideland resources associated with this Critical Habitat Area. Only development authorizations that meet the requirements of AS 16.20.520 and AS 16.20.530 are appropriate. Applications must be submitted to ADF&G for review and approval. Consult with NMFS and USFWS prior to issuing authorizations. Ensure that authorizations are consistent with the requirements of the Bristol Bay Fisheries Reserve.	Tideland unit consists of the Egegik Critical Habitat Area, a Legislatively Designated Area (AS 16.20.565), established to protect sensitive habitat. Unit consists of both upland and tideland areas, generally coinciding with a spit at the mouth of the bay called 'South Spit', and tideland areas within the western portions of the bay. Tideland areas are rich in marine resources, including eel grass, waterfowl, and a brown bear spring concentration area. A beluga whale feeding area occurs in the eastern part of the unit and a harbor seal haulout concentration area occupies the northern part of the unit. Waterfowl concentrations occur in both the spring and fall and the unit is important as a waterfowl molting concentration area. Sandhill cranes use the bay as a staging area. The Bristol Bay Fisheries Reserve affects this unit. See also unit R12T-02, which adjoins this unit and contains similar sensitive resources.
R12T-02 Egegik Bay	20,432 Ha - Habitat Hv - Harvest	Map 3-12 S023S050W, S023S051W	Unit is designated Habitat. Unit is to be managed to protect sensitive resources and habitat areas. Development authorizations may be appropriate within this unit if these resources are protected. Most development authorizations should occur within or near the area of the Egegik community. ADF&G must be consulted if a tideland development application abuts the Critical Habitat Area. Consult with NMFS and USFWS prior to issuing authorizations. Ensure that development authorizations are consistent with the requirements of the Bristol Bay Fisheries Reserve.	Tideland unit is situated within Egegik Bay, generally north and east of the Egegik Critical Habitat Area. Sensitive resources within the unit include eel grass, waterfowl molting concentration areas, and an extensive area at the mouth of Egegik Bay that is used as a harbor seal haulout concentration area. Waterfowl concentrations during the spring and fall are also present. Portions of the unit are also used by beluga whales for feeding. The bay is an important staging area for sandhill cranes. This unit is included within the Bristol Bay Fisheries Reserve. Harvest: Pink, chum, sockeye, coho and chinook salmon are harvested (drift net) in Egegik Bay and at the mouth of the Egegik River. Set net permits occur along the northern coast of the bay from Big Creek to the mouth of the Egegik River, with concentrations around Egegik Community. Subsistence harvesting includes salmon, trout, smelt, grayling, clams, seal, whale and waterfowl and eggs.
R12T-03 Egegik Community	6 Wd - Waterfront Development	Map 3-12 S023S050W	Unit is designated Waterfront Development. Manage unit to accommodate commercial and industrial uses related to the fishery or to intensive forms of upland development. Development authorizations are to be consistent with the requirements of the Bristol Bay Fisheries Reserve.	Unit is situated at the Egegik community in Egegik Bay. The Bristol Bay Fisheries Reserve affects the unit. Seafood processing or related types of development occupy adjacent and nearby uplands. Egegik relies heavily on commercial salmon fishing. Tideland use includes private tideland facilities to support the fishing industry.

Unit # / Name	Acres / Designation(s)	MTRS	Management Intent	Resources, Uses, Additional Info
R12T-04 Tide and Submerged Lands, Bristol Bay	127,229 Gu - General Use	Map 3-12	Manage for a variety of uses and resources. Protect Pacific Herring spawning areas and minimize impacts upon shorebirds and waterfowl. Consult with NMFS prior to issuing authorizations, to determine if marine mammals are present. Maintain opportunities for commercial and subsistence harvest. This unit is governed by the restrictions of the Bristol Bay Fisheries Reserve.	<p>This unit consists of the tide and submerged lands occupying the coast along Region 12. The primary concentration of tideland resources occurs in Egegik Bay; see units R12T-01 and R12T-02 for the description of resources present in these units.</p> <p>Extensive tidal flats border the shoreline, although some nearshore areas are characterized by coarse sand beaches or mixed sand and gravel beaches. Pacific herring spawn at a number of locations, particularly at the mouth of Big Creek. Shorebirds, waterfowl, and some marine mammals (walrus) are present throughout the unit. Whales are reported in the northern part of the unit.</p> <p>Some harvest of pink, chum, sockeye, coho, and Chinook salmon occurs in the unit, largely at the mouths of anadromous streams, although most commercial harvest occurs in Egegik Bay and Egegik River. Set net permits occur along the northern coast of Bristol Bay from Big Creek to Egegik. There is some limited subsistence harvest, which probably concentrates at the mouth of Big Creek.</p>

Region 13: Ugashik Lakes

Summary of Resources and Uses in the Region

Region Boundary

Region 13 includes the uplands on a portion of the Alaska Peninsula that includes the Ugashik Lakes and the area eastwards to the boundary of the Lake and Peninsula Borough (Map 3-13). The Region is bounded on the west and north by Region 12, on the east by the Kodiak Island Borough. The southern boundary is generally along the Dog Salmon River corridor. There are no communities in the Region. Except for navigable waterbodies and three sections, there are no other state-owned or selected uplands in Region 13.

State Lands: Ownership and Acreage

State-owned navigable waterbodies, notably Upper and Lower Ugashik Lakes, dominate the western one-quarter of the Region. Much of the remainder is in Federal ownership and within the Alaska Peninsula National Wildlife Refuge. Native ownership of land is concentrated southwest of Lower Ugashik Lake between the Ugashik River and the Dog Salmon River. The plan applies to 1,541 acres of state-owned uplands. The plan also applies to state-owned shorelands (acreages of shorelands have not been calculated).

Physical Geography

Region 13 is within the Alaska Peninsula ecological province and encompasses some well dissected but rugged terrain. Drainage is predominantly westward towards Bristol Bay. The principal drainages are the Ugashik Lakes and tributaries including Ugashik, Crooked, Moore, Deer, and Black Creeks. The western portion of the Region rises to the spine of the Alaska Peninsula; thus the highest elevations are attained along the eastern boundary of the Region in the vicinity of Deer Mountain (elev. +3,000 ft.), Mount Shannon (elev. 2,055 ft.), and Mount Alai (elev. 2,850 ft.). The greatest relief occurs around Mount Peulik (elev. 4,835 ft.) where over 4,822 feet of relief is present.

Climate

The climate is characterized by cool, humid and windy weather. The average summer temperatures range from 41° to 60°; winter temperatures average 12° to 37°. Annual precipitation is 19 inches, with snowfall of 38 inches. The Ugashik Lakes are usually ice-free from June through mid-November.

Other

Region 13 is within the Ugashik Quadrangle. It is within the boundaries of the Bristol Bay Regional Native Corporation and the Lake and Peninsula Borough.

Access

Access to Region 13 is limited to river or air transport. An RS 2477 trail, the Chignik Lagoon-Aniakchak River trail (RST No. 394) extends from Chignik Lagoon northeast into the Aniakchak National Monument and Preserve.

Resources and Uses

Cultural and Historic. The state Office of History and Archeology lists nine sites in Region 13; six of these are prehistoric, one is historic, and two are of mixed origin. Most of the historic and archeological sites occur near the Ugashik Lakes. New sites are discovered periodically and added to the Alaska Heritage Resource Database when reported.

Economics. Subsistence activities provide food sources, including salmon, trout, grayling, moose, caribou, and bear. Region 13 also provides fish and wildlife resources for commercial hunting and fishing recreation.

Recreation. Sport fishing and hunting are seasonal resources in Region 13. A few fishing lodges and hunting and fishing guide sites occur in the Region on the Ugashik Lakes. The area offers outstanding bear hunting and sport fishing for trophy-size Arctic char, grayling, and salmon. Commercial guide services are available for hunting and fishing activities. Other recreational opportunities include flightseeing, observing and photographing wildlife, hiking, boating, and camping.

Minerals. Only a few mineral occurrences are found in Region 13. Placer gold prospects occur on a few Creeks in the eastern portion of the area. The geology is permissive for precious and base metal deposits.

Oil and Gas. Region 13 has modest potential for the discovery of oil and gas. The western portion of the Region is underlain by Tertiary Milky River, Bear Lake, Stepovak, and Meshik formations. Elsewhere on the Alaska Peninsula the Milky River and Stepovak formations are known to contain oil and gas shows. Oil and gas seeps occur naturally in the Ugashik Creek-Mount Demian area where at least half a dozen are known. Four wells have previously been drilled in the Mount Demian area. Standard Oil of California drilled three wells, the McNally No. 1 in 1,925 to 510 feet, the Lathrop No. 1 in 1,923 to 500 feet, and the Lee No. 1 in 1,923 to 5,034 feet. Associated Oil Company drilled the Alaska No. 1 in 1926 to a depth of 3,033 feet.

State and Native landowners are currently pursuing a new hydrocarbon exploration licensing and leasing program. The Alaska Department of Natural Resources, Lake and Peninsula, Bristol Bay, and Aleutians East Boroughs have signed a memorandum of understanding (MOU) to support oil and gas lease sales and licensing of state land in the Bristol Bay and Alaska Peninsula region (March 17, 2004). Similar MOUs are in effect between the DNR and The Aleut Regional Native Corporation and the DNR and Bristol Bay Native Corporation.

Materials. There are no active materials sites in the Region.

Forestry. There are no significant forestry resources in Region 13.

Fish and Wildlife. Most of Region 13 is within the Alaska Peninsula National Wildlife Refuge. Important fish and wildlife resources include some of the densest concentrations of brown bears in the world. Barren-ground caribou are common, as are moose and wolves. Other mammals include wolves, wolverines, river otters, red foxes and beavers. All five species of Pacific salmon inhabit the Region, as do rainbow trout, Arctic char and, Arctic grayling.

Management Considerations: Local and State Plans

A number of local, state, and federal management plans were considered in development of this plan. Local plans include the Lake and Peninsula Borough Coastal Zone Management Plan, the Lake and Peninsula Borough Comprehensive Plan, and the Southwest Alaska Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy 2003-2008. State plans include the Bristol Bay Area Plan and the Southwest Alaska Transportation Plan. Federal plans include the Alaska Peninsula and Becharof National Wildlife Refuges Draft Comprehensive Conversation Plan.

Region 13 is located within the boundaries of the Lake and Peninsula Borough. Both the Comprehensive Plan and the District Coastal Management Plan of the Lake and Peninsula Borough apply to portions of Region 13. The Comprehensive Plan focuses on economic and infrastructure development issues and does not contain specific land use standards or a land use map. The Enforceable Policies of the District Coastal Management Plan are extensive; policies affecting anadromous stream, bald eagle nests, oil and gas development, materials extraction and mining can be applicable, under certain instances, to state lands. See <http://www.alaskacoast.state.ak.us/> for more information on enforceable policies. These policies should be consulted by DNR prior to issuing an authorization.

Region 13 is also within the area covered by the Southwest Alaska Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy 2003-2008, which was developed for the U.S. Department of Commerce Economic Development Administration by the Southwest Alaska Municipal Conference (July 2003). This document developed a number of goals, objectives, and strategies to facilitate and support efforts that retain and grow the region's wealth, including diversifying the economic base.

The Bristol Bay Area Plan (1984) affected all state lands in the Region until this revision. Region 13 was to be managed for fish and wildlife habitat and harvest and recreation; it also provided for the development of a transportation corridor and a port site at Wide Bay.

The Southwest Alaska Transportation Plan (ADOT/PF, November 2002) identified an Alaska Peninsula Transportation Corridor, which in general extends from South Naknek to the Chignik connecting with the communities of Egegik, Pilot Point, Ugashik, and Port Heiden. The Alaska Peninsula Corridor is an overland route linking the communities of the Alaska Peninsula from Ivanof Bay to Naknek. The key facility in this corridor is the port at Chignik, from which fuel and supplies can be disbursed to other communities via road connection. From Chignik the corridor extends west along the Gulf of Alaska coast to Perryville and Ivanof Bay. It also extends from Chignik to Chignik Lake and Chignik Lagoon, then crosses the Alaska Peninsula to Port Heiden. From Port Heiden the corridor extends north, connecting Pilot Point, Ugashik, Egegik and South Naknek, and tying into the Cook Inlet to Bristol Bay Corridor at Naknek.

Municipal Selections

There are no municipal selections in Region 13.

Management Summary: Uplands

The few areas of state-owned uplands in Region 13 are to be managed for a variety of multiple uses, including dispersed public recreation, mineral exploration and development, and the maintenance of sensitive wildlife habitats. Oil and gas exploration and development is also appropriate within the Region. The vast majority of lands, because they are waterbodies, are co-designated Habitat (Ha) and Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed (Rd). The few areas of state-owned or state-selected uplands are designated General Use (Gu).

Plan Designations and Management

The plan designations that are used within this Region have the following management intent. The policies and management intent guidelines described in Chapter 2 affect all DNR authorizations. Refer especially to those guidelines relating to Fish and Wildlife Habitat and Harvest Areas, and Settlement. See also the descriptions of the plan designations in the first part of this Chapter; this section indicates which lands can be conveyed out of state ownership and those that must be retained.

- General Use (Gu). Within this Region, lands that contain one or more resource values, none of which is of sufficiently high value to merit designation as a primary use, and areas that are unlikely to be developed during the planning period are designated General Use. The land is to be managed for a variety of uses including protection of fish and wildlife habitat and harvest, dispersed public recreation, minerals, oil and gas

exploration and development, and protection of heritage resources. It is expected that little development will occur in these areas during the planning period, and it is not intended as a matter of policy that intensive forms of development occur in these areas other than occasionally and at specific sites. Land with this designation is to be retained in state ownership during the planning period.

- **Habitat (Ha).** Generally, this designation applies to areas of varied size that are important for fish and wildlife species during a sensitive life-history stage where alteration of the habitat or human disturbance could result in the permanent loss of a population or sustained yield of a species. In Region 13 this designation is applied to streams and shorelands cataloged by the Alaska Department of Fish and Game as anadromous (<http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/sf/SARR/AWC/index.cfm?adfg=maps.interactive>). The lands are to be retained in state ownership.
- **Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed and Habitat (Co-designation).** Certain navigable waterbodies (lakes and streams) are co-designated Habitat (Ha) and Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed (Rd). Authorizations within these waterbodies should not interfere with important habitat or public recreation values. See Table 3.1 in the Navigability section of this Chapter for a listing of these streams. Note: Certain waterbodies may (only) be designated Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed, (Rd), Habitat (Ha), or General Use (Gu).

Specific Management Considerations

- **Generally Allowed Uses.** The Generally Allowed Uses in 11 AAC 96.020 can occur throughout the Region.
- **Proposed Transportation Corridor.** The area identified on the Region Map as a “Potential Transportation Corridor” should be retained by the state during the planning period. Authorizations granted by DNR within or adjacent to this corridor should not preclude the future development of transportation access. Authorizations or disposals within and adjacent to this corridor should only be allowed after consultation with ADOT/PF.
- **Except for areas closed to mineral entry under existing Mineral Closing Orders, all state lands within Region 13 are open to mineral entry. No additional MCOs are recommended.**
- **Mineral Closing and Opening Orders.** This revision of the Bristol Bay Area Plan retains the mineral closing and opening orders largely implemented by DNR at the time of original plan adoption. No streams in Region 13 are affected by MCO 393.
- **Mineral Order No. 791 is an interim order (as of July 11, 2003) that precludes shallow natural gas leasing and oil and gas exploration licensing. This order has no effect on locatable minerals or leaseable minerals other than shallow natural gas leasing and oil and gas exploration licensing. The order affects all state uplands in Region 13.**

- **Retained Lands.** There are no state lands within this Region that are designated to be retained except for those that are reserved as a ‘Potential Transportation Corridor’; or designated for General Use (Gu) or Habitat (Ha).
- **Navigable Waters.** Shorelands (rivers and lakes) that are believed to be navigable are listed in Table 3.1 in the Navigability section of this Chapter. Authorizations in these waters must ensure the continued use of a waterway by the public for purposes of trade, travel, and commerce. Note: These waterbodies are assigned a plan designation of Habitat, Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed, a co-designation of Habitat and Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed, and, sometimes, General Use. Authorizations issued by DNR are to maintain the habitat and public recreation values of these waterbodies. Navigable waters in the Becharof and Alaska Peninsula NWR are co-designated (Rd, Ha).

See the Resource Allocation Table for more details on the upland management unit.

Resource Allocation Table for Upland Management Units - Region 13

Unit # / Name	Acres / Designation(s)	MTRS	Management Intent	Resources, Uses, Additional Info
R13-01 Ugashik	1,712 Gu - General Use	Map 3-13 S031S049W Sec. 5, 8, 9	The unit is to be managed for a variety of resources, including oil and gas exploration and development, dispersed recreation, and the protection of fish and wildlife, including their associated habitat. Development authorizations may be appropriate subject to the protection of these resources and the requirements of Chapter 2. See especially the requirements for the protection of caribou calving areas in this Chapter. Intensive development is not expected within this unit during the planning period except occasionally and at specific locations. Most development is anticipated either within the areas designated Settlement or in areas already conveyed to private individuals or Native corporations. Unit is to be retained by the state during the planning period.	This unit consists of approximately three sections of land (the only state land in Region 13). The unit is located in the southeast corner of the Region, three to five miles south of the Ugashik River in low-lying terrain vegetated with low shrub and tundra. Moose are known to use this unit as a calving and rutting area.

Region 14: Ugashik Bay Area

Summary of Resources and Uses in the Region

Region Boundary

Region 14 comprises areas of tidelands within Ugashik Bay and adjacent uplands, most of which are situated to the east and south (Map 3-14). The Pilot Point Critical Habitat Area (CHA) occupies the westernmost part of the Region. The Region is bordered on the west by Bristol Bay, on the north by Region 12, on the east by Region 13, and on the south by Region 15. Uplands are typically low and flat with extensive areas of wetlands, ponds, and lakes. Ugashik Bay consists largely of extensive sheltered tidal flats that extend inland along the Ugashik River to the community of Ugashik. The bay is a biologically productive habitat and much of it is used by waterfowl and as haulout areas for harbor seals. The small communities of Ugashik (pop. 12) and Pilot Point (pop. 70) are situated within the Region. There are relatively small amounts of state-owned uplands within this Region and no areas of state-selected uplands. There are no areas of municipal-selected land.

State Lands: Ownership and Acreage

Land ownership within this Region is primarily private or Native corporation, supplemented by holdings of state land in its northeastern and eastern parts of the Region adjacent to the Ugashik River. The plan applies to 52,648 acres of state-owned uplands and 56,300 acres of state-owned tidelands in this Region.

Physical Geography

Extensive areas of low, flat terrain consisting either of wetlands or low and dwarf shrub characterize this Region. There are relatively few areas of dry uplands; these occur near the community of Pilot Point and along the coast north of Smokey Point. The hydrology of the Region reflects the topographic differences. Numerous lakes, ponds, and extensive areas of wetlands, particularly south of Ugashik Bay and east along the Ugashik River, characterize lowland areas. Rivers are characteristically low gradient and meandering, and the principal drainages are associated with the Ugashik, Dog Salmon, and King Salmon Rivers.

Extensive areas of sheltered tidal flats characterize tideland areas. The central, western parts of these tidelands are situated within the Pilot Point CHA; some uplands are also situated within this CHA. Both the CHA and other tidelands are described in more detail in the 'Tidelands and Shorelands' section that follows.

Climate

Region 14 has a maritime climate characterized by cool, humid, and windy weather. Average summer temperatures range from 41° to 60°; average winter temperatures range from 20° to 37°. Low cloud cover and fog are common. Precipitation averages 19 inches per year, with 38 inches of snowfall. The Region is generally free of permafrost.

Access

This region is accessible by air and water. A state-owned gravel airstrip is available at Pilot Point and a gravel airstrip owned by BLM is available at Ugashik Bay. Air taxi service is provided on a regular basis. Barge service to Pilot Point is provided from Seattle in the spring and fall. Modes of local transport include ATVs, snowmachines, skiffs, and trucks. There are no roads except for those in and adjacent to the community of Pilot Point.

Resources and Uses

Most of the Region is used for subsistence and commercial fishing. There is limited subsistence and recreational hunting of moose and caribou, and some trapping for red fox, beaver, lynx, mink, and marten. There are few people within the region; most of these cluster around or near the community of Pilot Point since most use is associated with commercial fishing in offshore waters; see the use description in the section on ‘Tidelands and Shorelands’ that follows.

Cultural and Historic. These mixed Aleut and Eskimo communities of Pilot Point and Ugashik developed around a fish salting plant and canneries established in the 1880’s. Many different nationalities came to work in the canneries, such as Italians, Chinese and northern Europeans. Reindeer herding experiments at Ugashik helped to repopulate the area after the devastating 1918 flu epidemic, although the herding eventually failed. The deterioration of the harbor forced the cannery at Pilot Point to close in 1958. Numerous cultural resource sites exist within the region, reflecting the long history of human occupancy. There are four historic, 22 prehistoric, and four mixed historic/prehistoric sites. Most of these are concentrated at or near the communities of Ugashik or Pilot Point or along parts of the Ugashik River.

Economic. The residents of Pilot Point and Ugashik depend upon commercial fishing for the majority of their cash income. Many residents hold commercial fishing permits. Up to 700 commercial boats fish in the district. Subsistence is an important part of the community lifestyle and trapping is a source of income during the off-season. Salmon, caribou, moose, geese and porcupine are harvested.

Recreation. Recreation is primarily related to outdoor activities, especially fishing and hunting, wildlife viewing, hiking, and the like.

Minerals and Coal. There are no known mineral resources within the Region. Coal-bearing units are projected to occur in the subsurface.

Oil and Gas. The oil and gas potential of Region 14 is believed to be moderate to high based on wells drilled in adjoining Regions and the continuity of geology in the subsurface. State and Native landowners are currently pursuing a new hydrocarbon exploration licensing and leasing program. The Alaska Department of Natural Resources, Lake and Peninsula, Bristol Bay, and Aleutians East Boroughs have signed a memorandum of understanding (MOU) in support of oil and gas lease sales and licensing of state land in the Bristol Bay and Alaska Peninsula region (March 17, 2004). Similar MOUs are in effect between the DNR and The Aleut Regional Native Corporation (December 18, 2003) and the DNR and Bristol Bay Native Corporation (July 10, 2003).

Fish and Wildlife. The resources of this region are primarily those associated with fisheries and wildlife. Chum, coho and sockeye salmon exist in the three major streams that empty into Ugashik Bay – the Dog Salmon, King Salmon, and Ugashik Rivers. Moose are present and a portion of a moose calving area occurs east of the Ugashik River near the boundary with Region 13. Caribou are also present, but there are no known caribou rutting or calving areas. There are few raptors that frequent the uplands, and most shorebirds and waterfowl are associated with near-shore areas, particularly within and near Ugashik Bay. Marine resources are particularly significant and the section on ‘Tidelands and Shorelands’ should be consulted for a description of the type and distribution of these resources.

Management Considerations: Local, State, and Federal Plans

There are no local plans that affect this area except for the Lake and Peninsula Borough CZMP. This plan contains extensive enforceable policies and should be consulted by DNR prior to granting an authorization. See the web site <http://www.alaskacoast.state.ak.us/>³⁰ for more information on the enforceable policies of the Coastal District Plan.

The single state resource management plan that affects this Region is the DNR Bristol Bay Area Plan (1984). It affects all state lands in the planning area, which includes uplands, shorelands, tidelands, submerged lands, and navigable waters, and has been in force since its adoption. This revision supersedes and replaces the original (1984) Plan.

A regional transportation plan has recently been developed by ADOT/PF that identifies a number of transportation corridors. The Southwest Alaska Transportation Plan (November 2002) identifies an Alaska Peninsula Transportation Corridor, which in general extends from South Naknek to the Chignik connecting with the communities of Egegik, Pilot Point, Ugashik, and Port Heiden. This route coincides with areas of state land, including state land within Region 14.

³⁰ The Alaska Coastal Management Program was terminated on July 1, 2011, pursuant to AS 44.66.030.

Municipal Selections

There are no areas of municipal selections within the Region.

Management Summary: Uplands

Region 14 is to be managed for a variety of multiple uses, including the maintenance of sensitive habitats, the protection of sensitive wildlife and fisheries, and for the purpose of dispersed public recreation and harvest. Because of the absence of discernible economic patterns, generally unsuitable building topography, and the potential to accommodate a variety of uses, such as oil and gas exploration and development and others, through siting and other types of development stipulations, nearly all state land within this Region is designated General Use, except for the area of the Pilot Point Critical Habitat Area, which is designated Habitat in its upland areas. A few upland management units are designated for settlement or public use.

Plan Designations and Management

The plan designations that are used within this Region have the following management intent. The policies and management intent guidelines described in Chapter 2 affect all DNR authorizations. Refer especially to those guidelines relating to Fish and Wildlife Habitat and Harvest Areas, and Settlement. See the section on ‘Tidelands and Shorelands’ that follows for designations and management intent for these areas, which are quite extensive.

- General Use (R14-02) (Gu). Extensive areas throughout the Region are designated General Use. Areas designated General Use are typically remote, inaccessible, and, within this Region, are generally not considered suitable for development except in the case of site-specific uses, as may occur with oil and gas exploration and development. Within areas designated General Use, a variety of uses may occur. Nonetheless, because of the absence of demand and unfavorable building conditions, little development is likely to occur during the planning period and, as a matter of policy, it is not intended that intensive forms of development occur within this Region. Land with this designation is to be retained during the planning period.
- Settlement (R14-01) (Se). An area of fairly flat land along the coast north of Smokey Point, consisting of 1,545 acres, is considered suitable for development and is designated Settlement. The type of residential development (community or remote settlement) is to be determined at the time of disposal by DNR.
- Habitat (R14T-01) (Ha). Generally, this designation applies to areas of varied size that are important for fish and wildlife species during a sensitive life-history stage where alteration of the habitat or human disturbance could result in the permanent loss of a population or sustained yield of a species. This designation is applied to the upland

areas encompassed by the Pilot Point Critical Habitat Area and to streams and shorelands cataloged by the Alaska Department of Fish and Game as anadromous (<http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/sf/SARR/AWC/index.cfm?adfg=maps.interactive>).

Consult the Resource Allocation Table for Region 14 for more information on upland management units, which includes a number of small units intended for public use or potential settlement.

Specific Management Considerations

- **Generally Allowed Uses.** The Generally Allowed Uses in 11 AAC 96.020 can occur throughout the Region; there are no areas affected by 11 AAC 96.010 requiring a permit before being authorized except for the Pilot Point CHA.
- **Proposed Transportation Corridor.** The area identified on the Region Map as a “Potential Transportation Corridor” should be retained by the state during the planning period. Authorizations granted by DNR within this corridor should not preclude the future development of transportation access. Authorizations or disposals within and adjacent to this corridor should only be allowed after consultation with ADOT/PF.
- **Mineral Closing Orders and Leasehold Location Orders.** Except for areas closed to mineral entry under existing Mineral Closing Orders, all lands within the Region are open to mineral entry. (MCO 791 closes the Region to shallow oil and gas exploration and development.) No additional MCOs are recommended; the only exception applies to areas that may be disposed of by DNR for the purposes of settlement, should such areas be selected for this purpose in the future. In these instances, closure of the settlement area prior to sale is required. The MCOs in areas not selected for staking within three years of the land sale shall revert to ‘open to mineral entry’. No leasehold location orders are recommended. See also the Mineral Resources section in Chapter 2 for more details on subsurface management requirements.
- **Retained Lands.** There are no state lands that are designated to be retained by the state, except for those that serve a public purpose, are included within the Pilot Point Critical Habitat Area, are designated General Use, or are identified as a Proposed Transportation Corridor.
- **Navigable Waters.** Shorelands (rivers and lakes) that are believed to be navigable are listed in Table 3.1 in the Navigability section of this Chapter. Authorizations in these waters must ensure the continued use of the waterway by the public for purposes of trade, travel, and commerce. Note: These waterbodies are assigned a plan designation of Habitat, Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed, a co-designation of Habitat and Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed, and, sometimes, General Use. Authorizations issued by DNR are to maintain the habitat and public recreation values of these waterbodies.

Management Summary: Tidelands and Submerged Lands

The tidelands within this Region essentially encompass the area of Ugashik Bay. The bay consists largely of extensive tidal flats that extend inland up the Ugashik River to the community of Ugashik. Portions of the state tidelands and uplands are included within the Pilot Point CHA, although much of the central portion of the bay is not. Nonetheless, essentially the entirety of the Bay is a productive habitat, and is used in much of the western and central parts as a harbor seal haulout. Waterfowl use the entire Bay during the spring and fall; it is also a waterfowl molting concentration area. The Bristol Bay Fisheries Reserve affects Ugashik Bay. Sockeye, chinook, chum and pink salmon are harvested in Ugashik Bay (purse seine and drift net). Set net leases dot the coastline of the bay both north and south of Pilot Point and at the mouth of the Ugashik River, some within the Pilot Point CHA. Pilot Point residents depend heavily on commercial salmon fishing for their livelihood. Commercial harvest is processed at Ugashik. Subsistence harvest consists almost entirely of salmon and occasionally, waterfowl or geese.

Plan Designations and Management

Coastal Tidelands. These tidelands³¹ are designated General Use. Development authorizations are considered appropriate subject to the protection of sensitive resources and areas.

Ugashik Bay (R14T-01, R14T-02). Ugashik Bay is separated into two tideland management units; the area of the Pilot Point CHA (R14T-01), and that part of the Bay that is not included within the CHA (R14T-02). The tidelands in each management unit are designated Habitat, and the management intent is to protect the harbor seal haulouts and waterfowl concentration areas. Development authorizations are prohibited within the CHA unless the requirements of AS 16.20.520 and AS 16.20.530 are fulfilled. Development authorizations within tideland management unit R14T-02 may be considered appropriate if sensitive resources and areas are protected.

Pilot Point Community (R14T-03). Water dependent commercial or industrial activity to support the community of Pilot Point is considered appropriate, but authorizations issued by DNR shall ensure that the significant resource values of this area are protected.

See the Resource Allocation Table for more details on tideland management units.

³¹ Tidelands along the coast not included in R14T-01 or R14T-02.

Resource Allocation Table for Upland Management Units - Region 14

Unit # / Name	Acres / Designation(s)	MTRS	Management Intent	Resources, Uses, Additional Info
R14-01 Smokey Point	1,545 Se - Settlement	Map 3-14 S029S052W, S003S052W	The unit is considered appropriate for settlement and is designated Settlement. Development is to conform to the requirements of Remote Settlement and those for the Caribou Wintering Area, described in the Settlement, and Fish and Wildlife Habitat and Harvest Areas sections of Chapter 2. Disposal of this unit during the planning period is considered appropriate.	Unit occupies an area of generally low, flat terrain that appears to be reasonably well drained. It is situated adjacent to the coast and northwest of the community of Pilot Point. A cabin may occupy portions of Section 3 in S030S052W. Caribou are known to winter in this unit.
R14-02 Ugashik Bay Uplands	24,973 Gu - General Use	Map 3-14	The unit is to be managed for a variety of resources, including dispersed recreation and the protection of fish and wildlife, including their associated habitat. Development authorizations, such as oil and gas exploration and development, may be appropriate subject to the protection of these resources and the requirements of Chapter 2. Intensive development is not expected within this unit during the planning period except occasionally and at specific locations, and it is intended that this unit be retained in state ownership. Most development is anticipated either within the areas designated Settlement in the region or in areas already conveyed to private individuals or Native corporations. The Alaska Peninsula transportation corridor traverses the unit; the actual position of the road alignment has yet to be determined. No authorizations or disposals should be considered that are within or near the corridor until the road alignment is known or without consultation with ADOT/PF.	This unit consists of upland areas that are characterized by low, flat terrain consisting either of wetlands or low and shrub. There are numerous lake, ponds, and wetland areas. (The prevalence of wetlands in this unit is somewhat less than that present in the adjacent unit, R14-02A.) Little human use of these occurs, with the exception of subsistence hunting and fishing. This unit does contain waterfowl molting concentrations, and is used as moose calving and caribou wintering habitat. The Alaska Heritage Resources Survey (AHRS) reports several heritage sites in or near this unit, most notably in the vicinity of the Ugashik River. This unit was affected by the 2013 Plan Amendment process.
R14-02A Ugashik Bay Wetlands	23,351 Ha - Habitat Wr - Water Resources	Map 3-14 S031S051W S032S051W S032S052W	Manage unit for its habitat and wetland values. Retain in state ownership. Dispersed recreation is considered an appropriate use in this unit. Other than utilities, communication, roads/bridges, and similar facilities providing a public service, development is not appropriate within this unit. Any authorizations that may be issued will need to avoid impacts or mitigate impacts to wetlands, riverine areas, and sensitive moose habitat.	This unit consists of uplands adjoining and immediately south of the Ugashik River, and generally occupying an area between oxbows of this River and its tributaries. Terrain is flat and vegetation consists of grassland and wetlands. There are numerous lakes and remnant riverine features. A small portion of the southeastern part of the unit is occupied by a moose rutting and wintering area. This unit was created by the 2013 Plan Amendment process.
R14-03 Pilot Point North	298 Pr - Public Facilities- Retain	Map 3-14 S003S051W Sec. 20,21	The unit is to be managed by the ADOT/PF consistent with FAA and ADOT/PF guidelines for airports and ancillary facilities. The land is to be retained in state ownership.	The unit consists of OSL 1214 and LSH 452. It is the site of the new Pilot Point airport (the runway is 3,280 feet).
R14-04 Pilot Point Central	21.30 Gu - General Use	Map 3-14 S029S051W Sec. 29	The unit, if considered for disposal, should be carefully evaluated prior to making any decisions. Additional land title research is recommended in order to establish the degree and kind of ownership that is vested with the state. A similar caution exists for the granting of authorizations other than those of a temporary type not involving the construction of permanent facilities.	Unit consists of a 21.4 acre area of generally flat land in the community of Pilot Point adjacent to Ugashik Bay. The unit is situated to the northwest of the Pilot Point airstrip, R14-05. The land was acquired through foreclosure. The degree and kind of state ownership of this unit is somewhat uncertain.
R14-05 Pilot Point Airstrip	127 Pr - Public Facilities- Retain	Map 3-14 S003S051W Sec. 28,29	Retain the unit in state ownership and management consistent with the management right.	This unit consists of LSH 306 and OSL 917. A management right (ADL 221520) was issued to the ADOT/PF. It is the former location of the Pilot Point airport which is now located one mile to the north.

Unit # / Name	Acres / Designation(s)	MTRS	Management Intent	Resources, Uses, Additional Info
R14-06 Ugashik Airport	72 Pr - Public Facilities- Retain	Map 3-14 S031S005W Sec. 3,4	Retain the unit in state ownership and manage consistent with the requirements of the Management Agreement.	Unit is affected by a Management Right (ADL 221537) to ADOT/PF for the purpose of an airport lease for the community of Ugashik. Unit contains a state-owned 3,000' long gravel runway.

Resource Allocation Table for Tideland Management Units - Region 14

Unit # / Name	Acres / Designation(s)	MTRS	Management Intent	Resources, Uses, Additional Info
R14T-01 Pilot Point CHA	38,052 Ha - Habitat	Map 3-14 S030S051W, S030S052W	Unit is designated Habitat. Management Intent: Unit is to be managed to protect the sensitive upland and tideland resources associated with this Critical Habitat Area. Only development authorizations that meet the requirements of AS 16.20.520 and AS 16.20.530 are appropriate. Applications must be submitted to ADF&G for review and approval. Ensure that authorizations are consistent with the requirements of the Bristol Bay Fisheries Preserve.	This tideland unit consists of the Pilot Point Critical Habitat Area (CHA), a Legislatively Designated Area (AS 16.20.565), established to protect sensitive habitat. Unit consists of both upland and tideland areas, the upland areas generally coinciding with a spit at the head of the bay called 'South Spit' as well as areas northwest and south of the community of Ugashik. The tidelands portion generally consists of the western portion of Ugashik Bay, especially the area near Smoky Point. The resources of the CHA are principally associated with areas of sheltered tidelands and seasonal waterfowl concentrations. The latter occur in the spring and fall. The bay is also important as a waterfowl molting concentration area. The Bristol Bay Fisheries Reserve affects the CHA. See also unit R14T-02 which adjoins this unit and also contains sensitive resources.
R14T-02 Ugashik Bay	16,430 Ha - Habitat Hv - Harvest	Map 3-14 S030S052W	Unit is designated Habitat. Unit is to be managed to protect sensitive resources and habitat areas. Development authorizations may be appropriate within this unit if these resources are protected. Most development authorizations should occur within or near the area of the Pilot Point community, however. ADF&G must be consulted if a tideland development application abuts the Critical Habitat Area. Ensure that development authorizations are consistent with the requirements of the Bristol Bay Fisheries Reserve.	This tideland unit is situated within Ugashik Bay, generally north and east of the Pilot Point Critical Habitat Area. Sensitive resources within the unit include eel grass, a waterfowl molting concentration area, and an extensive area at the mouth of Egegik Bay which is used as a harbor seal haulout concentration area. Waterfowl concentrations during the spring and fall are also present. Harvest: Sockeye, chinook, chum and pink salmon are harvested in Ugashik Bay (drift net). Set net leases also occur in the coastal tidelands both north and south of Pilot Point and at the mouth of the Ugashik River. There are a few set net leases within the CHA. Several hundred fishing boats operate in, and in the vicinity of, Ugashik Bay. Pilot Point residents depend heavily on commercial salmon fishing for their livelihood. Commercial salmon harvest is transported upriver to the cannery at Ugashik for processing. Subsistence harvest consists almost entirely of salmon and occasionally geese.
R14T-03 Pilot Point Community	16 Wd - Waterfront Development	Map 3-14 S030S051W Sec. 20	Manage unit to be consistent with the requirements of the Management Agreement with ADOT/PF. Consult with Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities (ADOT/PF) prior to issuing a tideland application.	This tideland unit is located immediately west of the Pilot Point airstrip. It is affected by a Management Agreement with ADOT/PF (ADL 227429).
R14T-04 Tide and Submerged Lands, Bristol Bay	56,300 Gu - General Use	Map 3-14	Manage for a variety of uses and resources. Minimize impacts to shorebird and waterfowl concentrations. Maintain opportunities for commercial and subsistence harvest. This unit is included within the Bristol Bay Fisheries Reserve.	This unit consists of a small area of tide and submerged lands north of the Pilot Point Critical Habitat Area and Ugashik Bay. The primary concentration of tideland resources occurs in Ugashik Bay; see units R14T-01 and R14T-02 for the description of resources present in these units. The majority of the tidelands within Region 14 occur within these two units. Tidal flats border the southern part of the unit, although the northern nearshore areas may have mixed sand and gravel beaches. Shorebirds, waterfowl, and some marine mammals are present. Commercial and subsistence harvest occurs in R14T-01 and R14T-02, although there may be a limited amount of such activity in the southern part of the unit that borders R14T-02. See R14T-02 for a description of harvest activities.

Region 15: Cinder River, King Salmon River

Summary of Resources and Uses in the Region

Region Boundary

Region 15 includes the state uplands on a portion of the Alaska Peninsula generally southeast of Pilot Point and north of Port Heiden; it also includes tidelands on both the Bristol Bay side and the Pacific Ocean side of the Alaska Peninsula, northwest and southeast respectively (Map 3-15). The upland areas contain most of the Cinder River, and King Salmon drainage system. The Region encompasses portions of the Alaska Peninsula National Wildlife Refuge. There are no communities within the Region.

State Lands: Ownership and Acreage

State-owned land dominates the western one third of the Region while much of the eastern two-thirds is Federally-owned. Native-owned land is only a small percentage of the Region and is concentrated on the northern and southern boundaries. The Cinder River Critical Habitat Area is contained within Region 15. The plan applies to 513,061 acres of state-owned and state-selected uplands and 439,401 acres of state-owned tidelands in this region. The plan also applies to state-owned shorelands (acreages of shorelands have not been calculated).

Physical Geography

The western portion of Region 15 is within the Bristol Bay Lowlands ecological province; the eastern portion of the Region is in the Alaska Peninsula ecological province. Drainage flow is predominantly westward towards Bristol Bay and eastward toward the Pacific Ocean. The principal drainages are the Dog Salmon, King Salmon, and Cinder Rivers, which flow westward from the National Wildlife Refuge. Yantarni Creek flows eastward into Yantarni Bay. The two coastlines differ significantly – the Bristol Bay side is straight and has little protection while the Pacific side is indented with many bays. Notable embayments include Yantarni, Nakalilok, Chiginagak, and Agripina Bays. The western one-third of the Region is low-lying country with abundant lakes, ponds, and marshes. The eastern two-thirds encompasses the spine of the Aleutian Range and has considerable relief. The most significant feature is Mount Chiginagak, an active volcano that erupted last in 1971, with an elevation exceeding 6,800 feet. Adjacent to Region 15, in Aniakchak National Monument and Preserve, is Aniakchak caldera, which last erupted in 1931; the caldera holds Surprise Lake, the source of the Aniakchak River, which empties from the caldera eastwards through a 1,500-foot deep gorge.

Climate

The climate of Region 15 is predominantly maritime, characterized by cool, humid, and windy weather.

Other

Region 15 is primarily within the Ugashik, Bristol Bay, Sutwik Island, and Chignik Quadrangles. It is within the boundaries of the Bristol Bay Regional Native Corporation, and the Lake and Peninsula Borough.

Access

Access to Region 15 is limited to marine, river, or air transport. Skiffs, ATVs and snowmachines are the primary means of local transportation. Travel on the western beaches is possible with four-wheel drive vehicles.

The Southwest Alaska Transportation Plan (ADOT/PF, November 2002) identified an Alaska Peninsula Transportation Corridor, which in general extends from South Naknek to the Chigniks connecting with the communities of Egegik, Pilot Point, Ugashik, and Port Heiden. The Alaska Peninsula Corridor is an overland route linking the communities of the Alaska Peninsula from Ivanof Bay to Naknek. The key facility in this corridor is the port at Chignik, from which fuel and supplies can be disbursed to other communities via road connection. From Chignik the corridor extends west along the Gulf of Alaska coast to Perryville and Ivanof Bay. It also extends from Chignik to Chignik Lake and Chignik Lagoon, then crosses the Alaska Peninsula to Port Heiden. From Port Heiden the corridor extends north, connecting Pilot Point, Ugashik, Egegik and South Naknek, and tying into the Cook Inlet to Bristol Bay Corridor at Naknek.

Resources and Uses

Cultural and Historic. The state Office of History and Archeology lists eleven sites in Region 12; eight of these are prehistoric, two are historic, and two are of mixed origin. Most of the historic and archeological sites occur near Egegik and along the Dog Salmon River, the King Salmon River, and Mother Goose Lake.

Economic. Subsistence hunting and fishing activities are an important part of the lifestyle and local diet. Seal, beluga, salmon, trout, smelt, grayling, clams, moose, bear, caribou, porcupine, waterfowl and ptarmigan are utilized. Locals also gather berries and wild greens each season. Commercial recreational hunting and fishing occur sparingly in the region.

Recreation. Much of the recreational resources and uses are related to the Alaska Peninsula National Wildlife Refuge and the adjacent Aniakchak National Monument and Preserve. Recreational resource use along the Pacific Coast is limited because of inaccessibility.

Minerals. Mineral sands are known to occur along the beaches on the west side of the Alaska Peninsula. An unnamed beach placer enriched in gold, iron, and titanium occurs south of Hook Lagoon. A number of lode occurrences have been identified on Federal lands in the National Wildlife Refuge. Most of these are porphyry copper and polymetallic occurrences. Two porphyry copper prospects are notable – Mike and Rex. Mike is a porphyry molybdenum prospect of later Tertiary to Quaternary age with grades up to 0.21% Mo. There is potential for moderate reserves to be developed. Rex is a porphyry copper prospect with grades of up to 0.3% copper. The potential is similar to that at Mike.

Oil and Gas. Region 15 has high potential for the discovery of oil and gas. The western portion of the Region is underlain by Tertiary Milky River, Bear Lake, Stepovak, and Meshik formations. Elsewhere on the Alaska Peninsula the Milky River and Stepovak formations are known to contain oil and gas shows. Three widely spaced wells have been drilled in Region 15: Chevron USA Inc. drilled the Koniag Chevron USA No. 1, onshore between Yantarni and Nakalilok Bays, in 1981 to a depth of 10,907 feet; Cities Service Oil Co. drilled the Painter Creek No. 1, four miles southwest of Mother Goose Lake, in 1967 to a depth of 7,912 feet; and Great Basins Petroleum Co. drilled the Ugashik No. 1, eleven miles southwest of Pilot Point, in 1966 to a depth of 9,476 feet.

State and Native landowners are currently pursuing a new hydrocarbon exploration licensing and leasing program. The Alaska Department of Natural Resources, Lake and Peninsula, Bristol Bay, and Aleutians East Boroughs have signed a memorandum of understanding (MOU) in support of oil and gas lease sales and licensing of state land in the Bristol Bay and Alaska Peninsula region (March 17, 2004). Similar MOUs are in effect between the DNR and The Aleut Regional Native Corporation (December 18, 2003) and the DNR and Bristol Bay Native Corporation (July 10, 2003).

Geothermal. One thermal spring occurs in the Region east of Mother Goose Lake; it has a temperature of 138° F. A second thermal spring, Surprise Lake Hot Spring, occurs within Aniakchak National Monument and has been measured at 78° F. Neither spring is utilized for commercial or residential purposes.

Materials. There are no active materials sites in the Region.

Forestry. There are no significant forestry resources in Region 15.

Fish and Wildlife. Caribou, brown bear, waterfowl, and moose are the major wildlife resources in the Region. The Dog Salmon, Cinder, and King Salmon Rivers and Mother Goose Lake provide habitat for salmon, which are harvested by commercial, recreational, and subsistence users. This is also true for a number of streams on the Pacific side of the peninsula. The Region contains important brown bear habitat; the distribution of important and essential brown bear

habitat is mostly within the National Wildlife Refuge and the National Monument; on state land, this habitat is found between Aniakchak National Monument and Preserve and Port Heiden. Much of the lowlands provide calving grounds for caribou. Moose also tend to calve in much of the central portion of the Region and both rutting and wintering habitat exists in the lowlands east of Cinder Creek. The eastern portion of Region 15 encompasses the Alaska Peninsula National Wildlife Refuge. The Region supports a wide variety of wildlife including caribou, brown bear, river otter, wolves, wolverine, and moose. Moose are relative newcomers to the area, first observed on the peninsula in the early 1900's. The coastal portions of the region provide nesting areas for eagles and other raptors. Peregrine falcon occur on the eastern coast.

Region 15 also encompasses the Cinder River Critical Habitat Area, managed by the Alaska Department of Fish & Game. This legislatively designated area was created to protect habitat that supports migratory stopover areas for large number of ducks, geese, and shorebirds in the spring on their way to northern nesting grounds and in the fall on their return to southern wintering areas. In the fall, the Cinder River area is an important feeding and staging area for cackling Canada geese. The Cinder River shorelands support a nesting population of marbled godwits and sea ducks winter in the protected ice-free waters.

Management Considerations: Local and State Plans

A number of local, state, and federal management plans were considered in development of this plan. Local plans include the Lake and Peninsula Borough Coastal Zone Management Plan, the Lake and Peninsula Borough Comprehensive Plan, and the Southwest Alaska Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy 2003-2008. State plans include the Bristol Bay Area Plan and the Southwest Alaska Transportation Plan. Federal plans include the Alaska Peninsula and Becharof National Wildlife Refuges Draft Comprehensive Conservation Plan.

The Bristol Bay Area Plan (1984) affected all state lands in the Region until this revision. The 1984 Area Plan managed this area for fish and wildlife habitat and harvest, recreation, and oil and gas development. This revision supersedes the original Area Plan.

Region 15 is within the Lake and Peninsula Borough. Both the Comprehensive Plan and the District Coastal Management Plan of the Borough apply to Region 15. The Comprehensive Plan focuses on economic and infrastructure development issues and does not contain specific land use standards or a land use map. The Enforceable Policies of the District Coastal Management Plan are extensive; policies affecting anadromous streams, bald eagle nests, oil and gas development, material extraction and mining can be applicable, under certain instances, to state lands. See <http://www.alaskacoast.state.ak.us/>³² for more information on enforceable policies. These policies should be consulted by DNR prior to issuing an authorization.

³² The Alaska Coastal Management Program was terminated on July 1, 2011, pursuant to AS 44.66.030.

Region 15 is also within the area covered by the Southwest Alaska Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy 2003-2008, which was developed for the U.S. Department of Commerce Economic Development Administration by the Southwest Alaska Municipal Conference (July 2003). This document developed a number of goals, objectives, and strategies to facilitate and support efforts that retain and grow the region's wealth, including diversifying the economic base.

The Comprehensive Conservation Plan of the Alaska Peninsula National Wildlife Refuge guides the management of federal uplands within the Refuge. See the section on Local and Federal Plans in Chapter 3 for a description of these plans and how they apply to federal lands.

Municipal Selections

The Lake and Peninsula Borough has made several selections in Region 15. Selections have been made along the east side of the King Salmon River, on Old Creek, between the Cinder River and Mud Creek, and at a remote landing strip adjacent to Painter Creek. The selections total approximately 8,293 acres in Region 15.

Management Summary: Uplands

State land in Region 15 is to be managed for a variety of multiple uses, including public recreation and tourism, hunting and fishing, minerals exploration and development, oil and gas exploration and development, public facilities, and maintenance of sensitive wildlife habitats. Because of the difficulty associated with development and the absence of discernible demand, all state-owned and state-selected land is designated General Use – except for those uplands within tidelands management units that are designated Habitat (Ha).

Plan Designations and Management

The plan designations that are used within this Region have the following management intent. The policies and management intent guidelines described in Chapter 2 affect all DNR authorizations. Refer especially to those guidelines relating to Fish and Wildlife Habitat and Harvest Areas, and Settlement. See also the descriptions of the plan designations in the first part of this Chapter; this section indicates which lands can be conveyed out of state ownership and those that must be retained.

- **General Use (Gu).** Land that contains one or more resource values, none of which is of sufficiently high value to merit designation as a primary use. The land is to be managed for a variety of uses including protection of fish and wildlife habitat and harvest, dispersed public recreation, minerals, oil and gas exploration and development, and protection of heritage resources. It is expected that little development will occur in these areas during the planning period, and it is not intended as a matter of policy that

intensive forms of development occur in these areas other than occasionally and at specific sites. Except for land that may be appropriate for conveyance to municipalities, state land is to be retained during the planning period.

- **Habitat (Ha).** This designation applies to areas of varied size for fish and wildlife species during a sensitive life-history stage where alteration of the habitat or human disturbance could result in the permanent loss of a population or sustained yield of a species. This land will remain in state ownership except for areas where a tidelands conveyance to a municipality is allowed under AS 38.05.820 and AS 38.05.825. In Region 15 this designation is applied to streams and shorelands cataloged by the Alaska Department of Fish and Game as anadromous.
- **Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed and Habitat (Co-designation).** Certain navigable waterbodies (lakes and streams) are co-designated Habitat (Ha) and Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed (Rd). Authorizations within these waterbodies should not interfere with important habitat or public recreation values. See Table 3.1 in the Navigability section of this Chapter for a listing of these streams. Note: Certain waterbodies may (only) be designated Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed, (Rd), Habitat (Ha), General Use (Gu).

Specific Management Considerations

- **Generally Allowed Uses.** The Generally Allowed Uses in 11 AAC 96.020 can occur on state-owned land throughout the Region with the exception of the Cinder River Critical Habitat Area.
- **Proposed Transportation Corridor.** The area identified on the Region Map as a “Potential Transportation Corridor” should be retained by the state during the planning period. Authorizations granted by DNR within this corridor should not preclude the future development of transportation access. Authorizations or disposals within and adjacent to this corridor should only be allowed after consultation with ADOT/PF.
- **The Alaska State Legislature has designated the Cinder River Critical Habitat Area for the protection of fish and wildlife habitat.** Management of this area is the responsibility of the Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G). A special area permit is required for any habitat altering work, including any construction activity. A special area permit application form can be obtained from any Department of Fish and Game office and should be submitted to the Division of Sport Fish Regional Office in Anchorage representing the area in which the proposed activity will occur. See also tideland management unit R15T-01.
- **Mineral Closing Leasehold Location Orders.** There are no Mineral Closing Orders that affect this Region, and no MCOs or Leasehold Location Orders are recommended.

- Mineral Order No. 791 is an interim order (as of July 11, 2003) that precludes shallow natural gas leasing and oil and gas exploration licensing. This order has no effect on locatable or leaseable minerals other than shallow natural gas leasing and oil and gas exploration licensing. This order is retained and affects all state land in Region 15.
- Retained Lands. There are no state lands within this Region that are designated to be retained except for those that are reserved as a 'Potential Transportation Corridor' and those designated Habitat (Ha).
- Navigable Waters. Shorelands (rivers and lakes) that are believed to be navigable are listed in Table 3.1 in the Navigability section of this Chapter. Authorizations in these waters must ensure the continued use of a waterway by the public for purposes of trade, travel, and commerce. Note: These waterbodies are assigned a plan designation of Habitat, Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed, a co-designation of Habitat and Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed, and, sometimes, General Use. Authorizations issued by DNR are to maintain the habitat and public recreation values of these waterbodies.

See the Resource Allocation Table for more detail on these upland management units.

Management Summary: Tidelands and Submerged Lands

Region 15 includes tidelands in the northern part of the Region that adjoin Bristol Bay as well as tidelands that adjoin the Pacific Ocean in its southern part.

Bristol Bay Tidelands. The tidelands in this area consist almost uniformly of coarse sand beaches, although extensive areas of exposed and sheltered tide flats occur at the mouth of the Cinder River and in the extensive wetland areas that adjoin the Cinder River, especially to the south thereof. The most critical habitat area within this Region occurs at and within the Cinder River CHA (R15T-01). This CHA provides habitat for spring and fall concentrations of waterfowl (including tundra swans), waterfowl molting concentrations, spring concentrations of brown bear, and a harbor seal haulout concentration area at the mouth of the Cinder River. This biologically productive area extends south from the mouth of the Cinder River, including the area of Hook Lagoon (R15T-02), which is not within the Cinder River CHA. The Hook Lagoon management unit includes the area of the lagoon and coastal near shore area. These areas are important habitats for spring and fall brown bear concentrations, spring and fall waterfowl concentrations, and waterfowl molting concentrations.

Sockeye, pink and chum salmon are commercially harvested (purse seine) along the Bristol Bay coastline and coho salmon at mouth of Cinder River (purse seine). Seining for salmon is not currently allowed east of Cape Seniavin along the Bering Sea Coastline. Chinook, sockeye, and coho salmon are targeted by set gillnets and occasionally by drift gillnets in Cinder River Lagoon. Coho salmon are fished by drift gillnet gear outside of Cinder Lagoon after August 1.

Pacific Ocean Tidelands. The tidelands in this area primarily provide habitat for seabird colonies situated along the coast on rocky islets and several offshore islands. Kelp concentrations are reported along much of the coastline and on several offshore islands. Some of the tidelands are known sea otter concentration areas, and several harbor seal and sea lion haulouts exist. Most of the tidelands in the northern part of the region adjoin the Alaska Peninsula NWR. The southern half adjoins areas of private and Native corporation land.

Red king, tanner and dungeness crab are harvested in the tidelands that adjoin the Pacific Ocean, concentrating in the bays and lagoons. Shrimp harvest is concentrated in Amber Bay, Nakalilok Bay, and Chiginagak Bay. Guided sport fishing occurs in the coastal tidelands on the Pacific side of the Alaska Peninsula.

Plan Designations and Management Intent

Plan Designations and Management Intent: Bristol Bay

Bristol Bay Coastal Tidelands. Areas of tideland in Bristol Bay not within the CHA (R15T-01) or the Hook Lagoon tideland management unit (R15T-02) are designated General Use. Development authorizations in this area are considered appropriate subject to the protection of sensitive resources and habitats.

Cinder River CHA (R15T-01). The CHA is designated Habitat and is to be managed to protect the concentrations of waterfowl, brown bear, and harbor seal haulouts. Development authorizations are prohibited within the CHA unless the requirements of AS 16.20.530 and AS 16.20.530 are fulfilled.

Hook Lagoon (R15T-02). Hook Lagoon and the area adjacent to it (R15T-02) are designated Habitat and are to be managed to protect the hydrology of the lagoon, eel grass and areas of salt marsh, and habitats essential to brown bear and waterfowl concentrations. Tideland authorizations may be appropriate in the areas designated Habitat subject to the protection of sensitive resources and habitats.

Plan Designations and Management Intent: Pacific Ocean

Pacific Coast Tidelands. Areas of tideland along the Pacific Ocean not within the Alaska Peninsula NWR are designated General Use. Development authorizations in this area are considered appropriate subject to the protection of sensitive resources and habitats.

Tidelands adjacent to the Alaska Peninsula NWR (R15T-03). Tidelands adjacent to the Alaska Peninsula NWR³³ are to be managed to protect habitat values and public recreation resources and are affected by a Tideland Resource Management Zone (TRMZ). See the

³³ Note: The requirements of the TRMZ also apply to the Aniakchak National Monument and Preserve. This National Monument is not included within a region in the BBAP, but the tidelands of this area need to be classified.

description of a TRMZ in the section on Tidelands Summary in Chapter 3 for a more detailed description of management intent for such zones. See also the footnote. This TRMZ also applies to the Aniakchak National Monument and Preserve.

See the Resource Allocation Table for more details on these tideland management units.

Resource Allocation Table for Upland Management Units - Region 15

Unit # / Name	Acres / Designation(s)	MTRS	Management Intent	Resources, Uses, Additional Info
AN-01 Aniakchak	5,486 Gu - General Use	Map 3-15 S036S051W	The unit is designated General Use (Gu) and is to be managed for a variety of uses including protection of anadromous fish and wildlife resources and habitat, dispersed recreation, and mineral and oil and gas exploration and development. Development authorizations may be considered appropriate subject to the protection fish and wildlife resources and the specific requirements of Chapter 2. However, intensive development is not expected within this unit during the planning period except occasionally and at specific locations related to mineral development or oil and gas extraction, if found economically practicable to develop, and the unit is to be retained in state ownership. The unit is not suitable for settlement.	This unit consists of state-owned land that extends into the northern portion of Aniakchak National Monument and Preserve. It consists of approximately eight sections of land in steep terrain near the headwaters of Pumice Creek. Pumice Creek is cataloged as an anadromous fish stream and the area is used by brown bear for denning.
R15-01 Cinder River	170,134 Gu - General Use	Map 3-15 S035S055-057W; S036S055-058W; S037S058W	The unit is designated General Use (Gu). It is to be managed for a variety of uses including minerals or oil and gas exploration and development, the protection of fish and wildlife resources and their associated habitat, and dispersed recreation. Authorizations should carefully review the guidelines provided in the Fish and Wildlife section of Chapter 2 prior to issuance, particularly those related to caribou calving areas, anadromous streams, and tundra swans. Intensive development is not expected within this unit during the planning period except occasionally and at specific locations related to mineral development or oil and gas extraction, if found economically practicable to develop, and the unit is to be retained in state ownership. The Alaska Peninsula transportation corridor transects the unit; the actual position of the road alignment has yet to be determined. No authorizations or disposals should be considered that are within or near the corridor until the road alignment is known or without consultation with the ADOT/PF.	This is a large state-owned unit that comprises most of the state land in Region 15. It consists mostly of low-lying, poorly drained, wetlands on the west side of the Alaska Peninsula. Vegetation consists of low shrub and tundra. Large areas are considered denning areas for brown bear, and moose and caribou are known to use portions of the unit as wintering habitat. The unit contains several anadromous fish streams. Commercial and other recreational sport fishing and hunting uses occur. Portions of the unit have significant potential to contain deposits of oil and gas. This unit was affected during the 2013 Plan Amendment process.
R15-01A Wetlands East and South of Cinder River	167,648 Ha - Habitat Wr - Water Resources	Map 3-15 S031-032S051W; S032S052-053W; S033S052-054W; S034S053-057W; S035S053-055W; S035S057W	Manage unit for its habitat and wetland values. Retain in state ownership. Dispersed recreation is considered an appropriate use in this unit. Other than utilities, communication, roads/bridges, and similar facilities providing a public service, development is not appropriate within this unit. Any authorizations that may be issued will need to avoid impacts or mitigate impacts to wetlands, riverine areas, and sensitive caribou and moose habitat.	Consisting of three separate but very similar subunits on the upper Alaska Peninsula, this unit is similar to both R-15 and R-15B, but is distinguished from the two units by the presence of sensitive moose and caribou habitats. In the westernmost subunit, caribou calving is present while moose wintering, rutting, and calving are characteristic of the two eastern subunits. Other than this aspect, the subunits are generally similar: each is level, consists of a mixture of wetlands, shrub, and grasslands, and is dominated by lakes, streams, and remnant riverine features. The Old Salmon River, an anadromous stream, bisects the two eastern subunits and a number of creeks are present in the westernmost subunit. This unit was created during the 2013 Plan Amendment process.
R15-01B Habitats East and South of Cinder River	154,204 Ha - Habitat	Map 3-15 S032S053-054W; S033S053-055W; S034S054-056W; S035S051-055W	Manage unit for its habitat values. Retain in state ownership. Other than utilities, communication, roads/bridges, and similar facilities providing a public service, development is not appropriate within this unit. Any authorizations that may be issued will need to avoid impacts or mitigate impacts to wetlands, riverine areas, and sensitive caribou and moose habitat.	This large unit occupies flat terrain generally east and south of the Cinder River Critical Habitat Area. It is similar in many respects to units R15-01 and R15-01A, but differs in the somewhat lesser amount of wetlands. Important moose habitat occurs in the eastern portion of the unit (rutting, wintering, and calving) while caribou calving areas are characteristic of the middle and western areas. This unit was created during the 2013 Plan Amendment process.

Unit # / Name	Acres / Designation(s)	MTRS	Management Intent	Resources, Uses, Additional Info
R15-02 King Salmon River	3,195 Gu - General Use	Map 3-15	<p>The unit is designated General Use (Gu). It is to be managed for a variety of uses including minerals or oil and gas exploration and development, the protection of fish and wildlife resources and their associated habitat, and dispersed recreation. Authorizations should carefully review the guidelines provided in the Fish and Wildlife section of Chapter 2 prior to issuance. Intensive development is not expected within this unit during the planning period except occasionally and at specific locations related to mineral development or oil and gas extraction, if found economically practicable to develop. It is intended that this unit be retained in state ownership during the planning period.</p>	<p>This unit consists of approximately five sections of state-selected land west of the King Salmon River in the northern part of Region 15. The unit contains areas used by waterfowl, and has oil and gas potential.</p>
R15-03 Reindeer Creek	7,240 Gu - General Use	Map 3-15	<p>This unit is designated General Use (Gu). If conveyed by the federal government, these lands are to be managed for a variety of uses including oil and gas exploration and development, the protection of fish and wildlife resources and their associated habitat, and dispersed recreation. Authorizations should carefully review the guidelines provided in the Fish and Wildlife section of Chapter 2 prior to issuance, particularly those related to caribou calving areas. Intensive development is not expected within this unit during the planning period except occasionally and at specific locations related to oil and gas extraction, if found economically practicable to develop. The Lake and Peninsula Borough has made a number of land selections within the unit as part of its municipal entitlement. These include lands at Painter Creek and the landing strip, lands east of the King Salmon River, a selection on Old Creek, and several selections between Mud Creek and the Cinder River. Conveyance of these selections is considered appropriate, subject to a separate, subsequent Best Interest Finding. The Alaska Peninsula transportation corridor transects the unit; the actual position of the road alignment has yet to be determined. No authorizations or disposals should be considered that are within or near the corridor until the road alignment is known or without consultation with the ADOT/PF. It is intended that this unit be retained in state ownership during the planning period.</p>	<p>The unit consists of approximately sixteen sections of state-selected land along the southeast margin of Region 15 in the vicinity of Reindeer Creek. The unit contains anadromous fish streams, may have brown bear denning areas, and is within a caribou wintering area. The unit is utilized for dispersed recreation, primarily related to fishing and hunting. The Alaska Heritage Resources Survey (AHRS) reports a heritage site in or near this unit near the coast. The unit has potential for the discovery of oil and gas.</p>

Resource Allocation Table for Tideland Management Units - Region 15

Unit # / Name	Acres / Designation(s)	MTRS	Management Intent	Resources, Uses, Additional Info
R15T-01 Cinder River CHA	23,041 Ha - Habitat	Map 3-15 S033S055W; S033S056W	Unit is designated Habitat and is to be managed to protect the sensitive upland and tideland resources associated with this Critical Habitat Area. Only development authorizations that meet the requirements of AS 16.20.520 and AS 16.20.530 are appropriate. Applications must be submitted to ADF&G for review and approval. Ensure that authorizations are consistent with the requirements of the Bristol Bay Fisheries Reserve. Consult with NMFS and USFWS prior to granting authorizations.	This tideland unit consists of the uplands and tidelands within the Cinder River CHA, created under AS 16.20.560. Tideland resources include a harbor seal haulout concentration area at the mouth of Cinder River, and both waterfowl seasonal concentrations (spring and fall periods) and molting concentration areas. This is an important staging area for sandhill cranes. The southern portion of the unit contains areas used by brown bears during spring concentrations. A caribou calving area is located in the vicinity of the Cinder River lagoon. A number of anadromous streams empty into the extensive area of sheltered tidal flats that occur to the south of the mouth of Cinder River. See also unit R15T-02, which contains tidelands immediately to the south of the CHA.
R15T-02 Hook Lagoon	26,170 Ha - Habitat Hv - Harvest	Map 3-15 S035S057W	This unit is designated Habitat. Management intent: protect areas of eel grass and estuarine wetlands, waterfowl seasonal and molting concentration areas, and areas along the coast used during brown bear spring concentrations. Tideland authorizations may be appropriate in this unit but must protect these resources and habitats.	A portion of this unit occupies the lagoon; extensive wetland areas adjoin the lagoon. Tideland resources include areas of eel grass and salt marsh and habitats essential to brown bears and waterfowl. Brown bears use the area adjacent to the coast as spring concentration areas. Waterfowl also use this area extensively for seasonal concentrations (spring and fall) and as molting concentration areas. Harvest: Commercial harvest of pink, chum and sockeye salmon (purse seine) occurs along the western coastline of Region 15. Purse seine harvest of coho salmon occurs at the mouth of Cinder River and set net harvest of coho salmon occurs in the vicinity of Hook Lagoon.
R15T-03 Tidelands adjacent to the Alaska Peninsula NWR and Aniakchak National Monument and Preserve	63,984 Ha - Habitat Rd - Public Recreation and Tourism- Dispersed	Map 3-15	Tidelands adjacent to the Alaska Peninsula NWR and the Aniakchak National Monument and Preserve (National Preserve) are to be managed to protect sensitive habitat values, fisheries and wildlife resources, and the public recreation resources of the National Preserve. Offshore islands are also included in the Alaska Maritime NWR. A Tideland Resource Management Zone (TRMZ) affects tidelands adjacent to the NWRs and the National Preserve. See "Management Summary, Tidelands" in Chapter 3 for a more detailed description of TRMZs and the management intent and requirements for such zones. Consult with the National Preserve, USFWS, and NMFS prior to issuing authorizations.	The tidelands adjacent to the Aniakchak National Monument and Preserve primarily provide habitat for sea bird colonies, most of which are situated on offshore islands. Many of the tidelands adjacent to this part of the Alaska Peninsula contain eel grass beds, some are known sea otter concentration areas, and several harbor seal haulout sites are present. Eel grasses and kelp concentrations are also reported on several offshore islands. Bald eagle concentrations are high along this portion of the Alaska Peninsula coast. Harvest: Commercial harvest of red king, tanner and dungeness crab occurs in the tidelands adjacent to the Pacific shore of this region concentrating in bays and lagoons. There is a concentration of shrimp harvest in Amber Bay, Nakalilok Bay and Chiginagak Bay. Commercial harvest of halibut and Pacific herring occurs in the offshore tidelands of this unit (domestic trawl and longline) particularly around Sutwik Island. Recreational halibut fishing also occurs in the Pacific tidelands of this region.

Unit # / Name	Acres / Designation(s)	MTRS	Management Intent	Resources, Uses, Additional Info
R15T-04 Tide and Submerged Lands, Bristol Bay	439,401 Gu - General Use	Map 3-15	Manage for a variety of uses and resources. Minimize impacts to shorebird and waterfowl concentrations. Consult with NMFS prior to issuing authorizations. Maintain opportunities for commercial and subsistence harvest.	<p>This unit consists of two relatively small areas of tide and submerged lands; one part being located north of the Cinder River Critical Habitat Area and the other, south of unit R15T-02. Consult Plan Map 3-15 for location.</p> <p>The majority of the significant biological resources within tidelands in this Region are associated with the Critical Habitat Area (R15T-01) and R15T-02. See these units for a description of sensitive resources.</p> <p>The shoreline consists almost uniformly of coarse sand beaches. Waterfowl and seabirds are known to be present within the unit. Portions of the walrus range exist.</p> <p>Commercial harvest of pink, chum, and sockeye salmon occurs along the western coastline of this Region.</p>

Region 16: Port Heiden

Summary of Resources and Uses in the Region

Region Boundary

Region 16 includes the uplands on a portion of the Alaska Peninsula generally around Port Heiden. This includes the lower Meshik River drainage system (Map 3-16). The Region borders Region 15 to the northwest, Aniakchak National Monument and Preserve on the east, and is defined on the south and southwest by the Port Heiden drainage divide; it includes only those lands that are drained by streams flowing into Port Heiden. The principal community is Port Heiden (pop. 87).

State Lands: Ownership and Acreage

State-owned land occupies approximately twenty percent of the Region and is found south of Port Heiden and southwest of the community of Port Heiden. Native-owned land occurs east of Port Heiden and along the southeastern boundary. The majority of land is owned by the Federal government. The Port Heiden Critical Habitat Area is contained within Region 16. The plan applies to 62,299 acres of state-owned and state-selected uplands and 85,677 acres of state-owned tidelands in this region. The plan also applies to state-owned shorelands (acreages of shorelands have not been calculated).

Physical Geography

The western portion of Region 16 is within the Bristol Bay Lowlands ecological province; the eastern portion of the Region is in the Alaska Peninsula ecological province. Drainage flow is predominantly westward towards Bristol Bay. The principal drainage is the Meshik River system. The western two-thirds of the Region is low-lying country with abundant lakes, ponds, and marshes. The eastern one-third encompasses the spine of the Aleutian Range and has considerable relief. The most significant topographic features are Big Butte, Black Peak (3,385 feet), and Range Peak (3,000 feet).

Climate

Port Heiden has a maritime climate, with cool summers, relatively warm winters, and rain. Snowfall averages 58 inches per year. January temperatures average 25°, and July temperatures average 50°.

Other

Region 16 is primarily within the Chignik and Bristol Bay Quadrangles. It is within the boundaries of the Bristol Bay Regional Native Corporation, and partly with both the Lake and Peninsula and Aleutians East Boroughs.

Access

Access to Region 16 is limited to marine, river, or air transport. Skiffs, ATVs and snowmachines are the primary means of local transportation. Travel on the western beaches is possible with four-wheel drive vehicles.

Resources and Uses

Cultural and Historic. Port Heiden is a traditional Alutiiq community, with a commercial fishing and subsistence lifestyle. The community recently relocated inland because storm waves had eroded much of the old townsite and threatened to destroy community buildings. There are a total of 28 cultural sites in this Region: twenty-one are prehistoric, four are historic, and three are of mixed origin. Most of the historic and archeological sites occur at the community of Port Heiden or to the east along the Meshik River corridor.

Economic. Commercial fishing and government jobs provide the majority of cash income. Many residents hold commercial fishing permits. Subsistence harvests of salmon, other fish and marine mammals is important to the inhabitants. Game, birds, plants and berries are also an integral part of villagers' diets.

Recreation. Recreational activities are primarily outdoor activities tied to hunting, fishing, and wildlife viewing. Recreation and tourism are highly tied to the adjoining Aniakchak National Monument and Preserve which is utilized for river rafting and commercially guided hunting and fishing.

Minerals and Materials. There are no reported mineral occurrences in Region 16. Mineral sands are known to occur at locations along the beaches on the west side of the Alaska Peninsula. There are no active material sites in this Region.

Oil and Gas. Region 16 has high potential for the discovery of oil and gas. The western portion of the Region is underlain by Tertiary Milky River, Bear Lake, and Meshik formations. Elsewhere on the Alaska Peninsula the Bear Lake formation is known to contain oil and gas shows. State and Native landowners are currently pursuing a new hydrocarbon exploration licensing and leasing program. The Alaska Department of Natural Resources, Lake and Peninsula, Bristol Bay, and Aleutians East Boroughs have signed a memorandum of understanding (MOU) in support of oil and gas lease sales and licensing of state land in the

Bristol Bay and Alaska Peninsula region (March 17, 2004). Similar MOUs are in effect between the DNR and The Aleut Regional Native Corporation (December 18, 2003) and the DNR and Bristol Bay Native Corporation (July 10, 2003).

Fish and Wildlife. Caribou, brown bear, waterfowl, and moose are the major wildlife resources in the Region. The Meshik River drainage system provides habitat for salmon, which are harvested by commercial, recreational, and subsistence users. Much of the lowlands in Region 16 provide calving grounds for the Northern Alaska Peninsula Caribou Herd. Moose also tend to calve at the southern and eastern fringes of the Region.

Region 16 encompasses the Port Heiden Critical Habitat Area, which consists of both upland and tideland areas. This legislatively designated area was created to protect habitat that supports migratory stopover areas for large numbers of ducks, geese, and shorebirds in the spring on their way to northern nesting grounds and in the fall on their return to southern wintering areas. A more detailed description of the resources of this CHA is provided in the Tideland section that follows.

Management Considerations: Local and State Plans

Several local and state management plans affect this Region and were considered in development of this plan. The comprehensive plans and district coastal plans of the Lake and Peninsula Borough and the Aleutians East Borough apply to Region 16. These comprehensive plans focus on economic and infrastructure development issues and do not contain specific land use standards or a land use map. The Enforceable Policies of the District Coastal Plans are extensive; policies affecting anadromous streams, bald eagle nests, oil and gas development, materials extraction and mining can be applicable, under certain instances, to state lands. See <http://www.alaskacoast.state.ak.us/>³⁴ for more information on enforceable policies. These policies should be consulted by DNR prior to issuing an authorization.

Region 16 is also within the area covered by the Southwest Alaska Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy 2003-2008, which was developed for the U.S. Department of Commerce Economic Development Administration by the Southwest Alaska Municipal Conference (July 2003). This document identifies a number of goals, objectives, and strategies to facilitate and support efforts that retain and grow the region's wealth, including diversifying the economic base.

The two state management plans affecting this Region include the Bristol Bay Area Plan and the Southwest Alaska Transportation Plan. The BBAP, first developed in 1984, has provided the basis for the management of state land until this plan revision, which replaces and supercedes the 1984 BBAP. The Southwest Alaska Transportation Plan (ADOT/PF, November 2002) identifies needed access facilities within the planning region, which includes an Alaska Peninsula Transportation Corridor that generally extends from South Naknek to the Chigniks

³⁴ The Alaska Coastal Management Program was terminated on July 1, 2011, pursuant to AS 44.66.030.

connecting with the communities of Egegik, Pilot Point, Ugashik, and Port Heiden. The Alaska Peninsula Corridor is an overland route linking the communities of the Alaska Peninsula from Ivanof Bay to Naknek.

Municipal Selections

There are no Borough selections in Region 16.

Management Summary: Uplands

State land in Region 16 is to be managed for a variety of multiple uses, including public recreation and tourism, hunting and fishing, oil and gas exploration and development, public facilities, and maintenance of sensitive wildlife habitats.

Plan Designations and Management

The plan designations that are used within this Region have the following management intent. The policies and management intent guidelines described in Chapter 2 affect all DNR authorizations. Refer especially to those guidelines relating to caribou calving areas and tundra swans in Fish and Wildlife Habitat and Harvest Areas, and to those guidelines pertaining to Settlement.

- **General Use (Gu).** Land designated General Use is to be managed for a variety of uses including the protection of fish and wildlife habitat and harvest, dispersed public recreation, oil and gas development, and the protection of heritage resources. Development during the planning period is considered unlikely given the remote, inaccessible character of the land and, as a matter of policy, it is not intended that intensive development occur within this designation, except as may be related to mineral or oil and gas development. Land with this designation is to be retained during the planning period.
- **Habitat (Ha).** This designation is applied to streams and shorelands that are considered navigable by the state and cataloged by ADF&G as anadromous. See *Table 3.1* in the Navigability section of this Chapter for a partial listing of these streams. Certain of these streams are co-designated Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed.
- **Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed and Habitat (Co-designation).** Certain navigable waterbodies (lakes and streams) are co-designated Habitat (Ha) and Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed (Rd). Authorizations within these waterbodies should not interfere with important habitat or public recreation values. See *Table 3.1* in

the Navigability section of this Chapter for a listing of these streams. Note: Certain waterbodies may (only) be designated Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed, (Rd), Habitat (Ha), or General Use (Gu).

- Public Facilities-Retain (Pr). The area of the Port Heiden airport designated Public Facilities-Retain and is to be retained by the state.
- Settlement (Se). Two relatively small areas of state-selected land situated along Barbara Creek are considered appropriate for remote settlement and for disposal during the planning period.

Specific Management Considerations

- Generally Allowed Uses. The Generally Allowed Uses in 11 AAC 96.020 can occur on state-owned land throughout the Region with the exception of the Cinder River Critical Habitat Area.
- The Alaska Peninsula Transportation Corridor occupies portions of Region 16. Land within this corridor is to be retained by the state. Authorizations or disposals along this corridor should be allowed only after consultation with the ADOT/PF.
- Authorizations within the uplands of the Cinder River Critical Habitat Area may be appropriate subject to the protection of sensitive resources and habitats, but are prohibited unless the requirements of AS 16.20.520 and AS 16.20.530 are fulfilled. A special area permit issued by ADF&G is required for any habitat altering work, including any construction activity. Consult with ADF&G prior to issuing an authorization. See also the management requirements affecting the tidelands within the CHA that follow.
- Mineral Closing Orders and Leasehold Location Orders. No new mineral closing orders or leasehold location orders are recommended in this Region except for areas that are to be disposed of for settlement purposes. In these instances, closure of the area prior to sale is required. The MCOs in areas not selected for settlement within three years of the land sale, however, shall revert to 'open to mineral entry'. See the Mineral Resources section in Chapter 2 for more details on subsurface management requirements.
- Mineral Order No. 791 affects this Region. It precludes shallow natural gas leasing and oil and gas exploration licensing, but has no effect on locatable or leaseable minerals.
- Retained lands and lands suitable for disposal. Except for the one small management unit of state land occupied by the community airport and the area of the CHA, there are no state lands that are designated to be retained by the state. Please note the requirement above to retain lands along the Transportation Corridors.
- Municipal Selections. Management units designated Settlement are considered appropriate for disposal to boroughs under the Municipal Entitlement Act or to individuals. Areas designated General Use may also be appropriate for disposal, subject to a Best Interest Finding.

- **Navigable Waters.** Shorelands (rivers and lakes) that are believed to be navigable are listed in Table 3.1 in the Navigability section of this Chapter. Authorizations in these waters must ensure the continued use of a waterway by the public for purposes of trade, travel, and commerce. Note: These waterbodies are assigned a plan designation of Habitat, Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed, a co-designation of Habitat and Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed, and, sometimes, General Use. Authorizations issued by DNR are to maintain the habitat and public recreation values of these waterbodies.

See the Resource Allocation Table for more details on these upland management units.

Management Summary: Tidelands and Submerged Lands

Tidelands in this Region adjoin Port Heiden Bay. Much of the bay consists of extensive tidal flats, with portions of this area occupied by eel grass and salt marshes. Uplands that adjoin the bay in its southern part, and tidelands immediately adjacent to the uplands, are included within the Port Heiden CHA. With the exception of these tidelands, the remainder of the bay is excluded from the CHA. The bay and the uplands, which form the spit terminating at Strogonof Point, provide a diverse and productive habitat. Near the mouth of the bay there are a number of seabird colonies and a harbor seal haulout concentration area. The uplands that adjoin the bay, as well as upland areas adjacent to the coast extending south to the area of the Seal Islands, are important brown bear spring concentration areas. Waterfowl concentrations occur throughout these upland areas and Port Heiden Bay during the spring and fall. Large portions of this area are also used as waterfowl molting concentration areas.

An extensive yellowfin sole harvest occurs in the Port Heiden area. Drift and set gillnet salmon harvests occur in Port Heiden Bay and west of Strogonof Point. This area is sparsely populated, but the Port Heiden community relies on commercial and subsistence fishing for their livelihood. Subsistence harvest includes salmon and other fish, clams, seals, and waterfowl (birds and eggs). Walrus are not hunted, but households salvage walrus tusks from the beach for ivory carving.

Plan Designations and Management Intent

Coastal Tidelands. Areas of tideland not within the Port Heiden CHA (R16T-01) or Port Heiden Bay (R16T-02) are designated General Use. Development authorizations in this area are considered appropriate subject to the protection of sensitive resources and habitat.

Port Heiden CHA (R16T-01) and Port Heiden (R16T-02). Both the area of the Port Heiden CHA (R16T-01) and Port Heiden itself (R16T-02) are designated Habitat, except for a small area adjacent to the Port Heiden community (R16T-03). The management intent in both tideland management units is to protect the marine mammals, spring brown bear concentration areas, the waterfowl concentration areas, the areas of seabird colonies and harbor seal haulouts

that focus on Chistiakof Island and Strogonof Point. Development authorizations in tideland management unit R16T-02 may be appropriate subject to the protection of sensitive resources and habitats, but are prohibited within the CHA unless the requirements of AS 16.20.520 and AS 16.20.530 are fulfilled. See also the management guideline affecting the upland portion of the CHA, described previously.

Port Heiden Community (R16T-03). Water dependent commercial and industrial facilities to support Port Heiden are considered appropriate in this management unit, and this area is designated Waterfront Development. Development authorizations for these types of uses are considered appropriate subject to the protection of sensitive resource values and habitats.

See the Resource Allocation Table for more details on these tideland management units.

Resource Allocation Table for Upland Management Units - Region 16

Unit # / Name	Acres / Designation(s)	MTRS	Management Intent	Resources, Uses, Additional Info
R16-01 Port Heiden	550 Gu - General Use	Map 3-16 S037S057W Sec, 15,16	This unit is designated General Use (Gu). If conveyed by the federal government, these lands are to be managed for a variety of uses including oil and gas exploration and development, the protection of fish and wildlife resources and their associated habitat, and dispersed recreation. Authorizations should carefully review the guidelines provided in the Fish and Wildlife section of Chapter 2 prior to issuance, particularly those related to caribou calving areas. Intensive development is not expected within this unit during the planning period except occasionally and at specific locations related to oil and gas extraction, if found economically practicable to develop. The Alaska Peninsula transportation corridor transects the unit; the actual position of the road alignment has yet to be determined. No authorizations or disposals should be considered that are within or near the corridor until the road alignment is known or without consultation with the ADOT/PF. It is intended that this unit be retained in state ownership during the planning period.	This unit consists of two noncontiguous, small units of state-selected land north of Port Heiden. Vegetation consists of low and dwarf shrublands. The unit is within an area used by caribou for wintering. The unit has potential for the discovery of oil and gas resources. The Alaska Heritage Resources Survey (AHRs) reports several heritage sites in or near this unit.
R16-02 Port Heiden Airport	3,473 Pr - Public Facilities- Retain	Map 3-16	This unit is to be managed by ADOT/PF consistent with the FAA standards and the conveyance document, and is to be retained in state ownership.	This unit (OSL 331) encompasses the Port Heiden public airport and associated facilities and is managed by the ADOT/PF.
R16-03 Barbara Creek North	4,436 Se - Settlement	Map 3-16	The unit is designated Settlement (Se). If conveyed by the Federal government, it is considered appropriate for disposal during the planning period. Development is to conform to the requirements of Remote Settlement and Caribou and Moose Rutting and Calving Area, described in the Settlement, and Fish and Wildlife Habitat and Harvest Areas sections of Chapter 2. Buffers along anadromous fish streams must also conform to the management guidelines in Chapter 2. Should the Bristol Bay Borough make land selections in the unit under the Municipal Entitlement program, these selections are considered appropriate for conveyance, subject to a separate and subsequent Best Interest Finding.	This unit consists of approximately four sections of state-selected land in the vicinity of Barbara Creek, roughly five miles southeast of the community of Port Heiden. The terrain has little relief, is vegetated with tundra and low shrub, and considered suitable for settlement. Roads extend to within one mile of the unit. Barbara Creek is an anadromous fish stream. A caribou wintering area occupies portions of this unit. The unit has potential for the discovery of oil and gas.
R16-04 Barbara Creek	13,992 Se - Settlement	Map 3-16	The unit is designated Settlement (Se) and is considered appropriate for disposal during the planning period. Development is to conform to the requirements of Remote Settlement and Caribou and Moose Rutting and Calving Area, described in the Settlement, and Fish and Wildlife Habitat and Harvest Areas sections of Chapter 2. Buffers along anadromous fish streams must also conform to the management guidelines in Chapter 2. Should the Bristol Bay Borough make land selections in the unit under the Municipal Entitlement program, these would be considered appropriate for conveyance, subject to a separate and subsequent Best Interest Finding.	This unit consists of approximately seven sections of state-owned land in the vicinity of Barbara Creek, roughly six miles southeast of the community of Port Heiden. The terrain has little relief, is vegetated with tundra and low shrub, and considered suitable for settlement. Roads extend to within two miles of the unit. Barbara Creek is an anadromous fish stream and the unit is within a caribou calving area. A caribou wintering area occupies portions of this unit. The unit has potential for discovery of oil and gas.

Unit # / Name	Acres / Designation(s)	MTRS	Management Intent	Resources, Uses, Additional Info
R16-05 Charles Creek	37,346 Gu - General Use	Map 3-16	This unit is designated General Use (Gu). It is to be managed for a variety of uses including minerals or oil and gas exploration and development, the protection of fish and wildlife resources and their associated habitat, and dispersed recreation. See Chapter 2 guidelines for caribou wintering areas and tundra swans. Intensive development is not expected within this unit during the planning period except occasionally and at specific locations related to oil and gas exploration and development or recreation. It is intended that this unit be retained in state ownership during the planning period.	The unit consists of state-owned uplands in the southern portion of Region 16. The unit is in low-lying terrain with tundra and low shrub vegetation. The unit is affected by a caribou wintering area, and includes areas used by brown bear in spring, summer, and fall, and also contains concentrations of waterfowl. The unit has potential for the discovery of oil and gas resources.

Resource Allocation Table for Tideland Management Units - Region 16

Unit # / Name	Acres / Designation(s)	MTRS	Management Intent	Resources, Uses, Additional Info
R16T-01 Port Heiden CHA	69,730 Ha - Habitat	Map 3-16 S037S059W, S037S060W	Unit is designated Habitat and is to be managed to protect the sensitive upland and tideland resources associated with this Critical Habitat Area. Only development authorizations that meet the requirements of AS 16.20.520 and AS 16.20.530 are appropriate. Applications must be submitted to ADF&G for review and approval.	This unit consists of the Port Heiden CHA, established under AS 16.20.555, which contains a mixture of upland and tideland areas. Most of the CHA occupies upland areas to the south and east of Port Heiden. The relatively small areas of tidelands are primarily associated with waterfowl seasonal concentration areas (spring and fall) and waterfowl molting concentrations. Large concentrations of sea otters have been documented within Port Heiden. Note: Most tideland resources in the Port Heiden area are contained within tideland unit R16T-02.
R16T-02 Port Heiden bay	52,634 Ha - Habitat Hv - Harvest	Map 3-16 S037S059W, S038S059W, S038S060W	Unit is designated Habitat. Management intent: Protect areas of eel grass, waterfowl seasonal and molting concentration areas, sea bird colonies, and the harbor seal haulout area. Tideland authorizations may be appropriate in this unit but must protect sensitive resources and habitats. Consult with USFWS prior to issuing authorizations. In general, tideland authorizations should be concentrated along the shore near the community of Port Heiden.	Most of the sensitive tideland resources and habitats within Port Heiden bay occur within this tideland unit. Sensitive upland areas are primarily associated with the Port Heiden CHA (R16T-01). There is a large harbor seal haulout area situated at the mouth of Port Heiden, just east of the spit (Strogonof Point). Sea bird colonies exist at Strogonof Point and Chistiakof Island, both of which are also situated at the mouth of the bay, and in a nearby upland area (Goldfish Lake). Areas within the bay are important as seasonal waterfowl concentration areas (spring and fall) and as waterfowl molting concentration areas, while offshore areas within this unit are important as a fall concentration area. Numerous anadromous streams empty into the bay. There are large areas of sheltered tidal flats, some of which may contain eel grass. Large concentrations of sea otters have been documented within Port Heiden. Harvest: Extensive yellowfin sole harvest occurs in the offshore tidelands of this region. Set net harvest occurs at Strogonof Point and set net and drift net harvest occur in the eastern portion of Port Heiden (bay), south of Port Heiden community. This region is sparsely populated, and the local community relies heavily on commercial and subsistence fishing. Subsistence harvesting includes salmon and other fish, clams, seals and waterfowl (birds and eggs). Walrus are not hunted in this area, but households salvage walrus tusks and bones from the beach for ivory carving.
R16T-03 Tide and Submerged Lands, Bristol Bay	85,677 Gu - General Use	Map 3-16	Manage for a variety of uses and resources. Protect concentrations of waterfowl and seabirds. Consult with USFWS and NMFS prior to issuing authorizations. Maintain opportunities for commercial harvest.	This unit consists of those offshore submerged lands not included within the Port Heiden Critical Habitat Area (R16T-01) or unit R16T-02, which occupies the remainder of Port Heiden. Consult Plan Map 3-16. Waterfowl and seabirds are present in the unit. It is also likely that marine mammals (harbor seals) that concentrate within Port Heiden may also transit or use this unit at times. Portions of the walrus range also occur. Yellowfish sole harvest occurs in these offshore tidelands.

Region 17: Chignik, Perryville

Summary of Resources and Uses in the Region

Region Boundary

Region 17 includes the uplands of a portion of the Alaska Peninsula on the eastern side of the Aleutian Mountain Range from Stepovak Bay to Chignik Lagoon as well as the coastal islands (Map 3-17). It includes the Black Lake-Chignik River-Chignik Lake system. The western boundary of the Region is the drainage divide between Bristol Bay and the Pacific Ocean. Communities include Chignik (pop. 89), Chignik Lake (113), Chignik Lagoon (92), Perryville (106), and Ivanof Bay (3).

Except for small tracts of land that are used for public purposes or that represent continuation of state land in the adjoining Region (18), there are no state uplands within this Region. Native entities or the federal government own the uplands. Federal land consists of uplands within the Alaska Peninsula NWR and the islands of the Chiachi and Mitrofanina Islands group that are part of the Alaska Maritime NWR. The focus of state management in this Region is tidelands and submerged lands.

State Lands: Ownership and Acreage

There is but little state-owned land in Region 17 except for small management units at community airports at Perryville and the Chigniks as well as the navigable waterbodies. The majority of land is Federally-owned and within the Alaska Peninsula National Wildlife Refuge. Native-owned lands are a sizeable portion of the Region and dominate the land situation around the Ivanof Bay-Perryville area and around the Chigniks. The plan applies to 3,641 acres of state-owned and state-selected uplands and 848,249 acres of state-owned tidelands in this region. The plan also applies to state-owned shorelands (acreages of shorelands have not been calculated).

Physical Geography

Region 17 is within the Alaska Peninsula ecological province. Most of the Region is steep, rugged, and mountainous with headlands that jut into the ocean. Drainage flow is predominantly eastward towards the Pacific Ocean. Principal drainages include the Black Lake-Chignik River-Chignik Lake system and the Kametolook River. The Pacific Coast has multiple embayments such as Stepovak Bay, Ivanof Bay, Mitrofanina Bay, Kuiukta Bay, Chignik Bay, and Kujulik Bay. By far, the most significant topographic feature is Mount Veniaminof, an active volcano, which rises from sea level to an elevation of 7,075 feet; it has a base with a diameter of thirty miles.

Climate

The maritime climate is characterized by cool summers, warm winters and rainy weather. Along the coast, summer temperatures range from 39° to 60°; winter temperatures average 21° to 50°. Low clouds, rain squalls, fog and snow showers frequently limit visibility. Average annual precipitation is 127 inches, including 58 inches of snow.

Other

Region 17 is primarily within the Chignik and Stepovak Bay Quadrangles. It is within the boundaries of the Bristol Bay Regional Native Corporation, and the Lake and Peninsula Borough.

Access

Access to the major communities and the Region is primarily restricted to marine and air travel; ATV's and skiffs are the primary modes of local transportation. At Ivanof Bay, there is a private 1,500' gravel airstrip, and the bay is accessible by floatplane. Scheduled flights arrive to and from King Salmon. Bulk cargo goods are barged to Chignik Bay. There is no public dock or harbor, although it is a local priority to develop one.

Perryville is accessible by air and sea. There is a state-owned 2,467' long by 50' wide gravel runway and seaplane base, and scheduled and charter flights are available from King Salmon. Cargo barges deliver fuel and supplies each spring.

Chignik has a state-owned 2,600' long by 60' wide gravel runway and a seaplane base. Regular flights run from King Salmon and Port Heiden. There is also a 1,630' private gravel airstrip. Barge services arrive weekly from late spring through early fall, and monthly during the remainder of the year. The state ferry operates bi-monthly from Kodiak between May and October. A 600-foot privately-owned dock and a boat haulout are available. A breakwater, 110-slip small boat harbor and public dock are under development. There is a strong regional interest in constructing roads between Chignik, Chignik Lagoon, Chignik Lake and the City landfill.

Chignik Lagoon is primarily accessible by air and sea. There is a state-maintained 1,600' by 60' gravel airstrip and public small boat harbor and seaplane base. Regular and charter flights are available from King Salmon. A cargo ship brings supplies annually, and goods are lightered to shore. Boat haulouts are available.

At Chignik Lake, there is a state-owned 2,800' long by 60' gravel airstrip; seaplanes may land at Chignik Lagoon. Regularly scheduled and charter flights are provided. Goods are lightered to the Lake via Chignik Lagoon weekly during the summer and monthly during the winter, and

transported overland. The state ferry provides service to Chignik Lagoon four times per year. There is no harbor, dock, barge access or boat haulouts.

Resources and Uses

Cultural and Historic. The community of Perryville was founded in 1912 as a refuge for Alutiiq people driven away from their villages by the eruption of Mt. Katmai. The present population of Chignik Lake traces its roots from the Alutiiq near Ilnik and the old village of Kanatak near Becharof Lake. The community was the winter residence of a single family in 1903. Other families moved from surrounding communities in the early 1950s when a school was built. The communities are a mixture of non-Natives and Alutiiq.

The state Office of History and Archeology lists fifty-six sites in Region 17; seventeen of these are historic and thirty-nine are prehistoric. Most of the historic and archeological sites occur in the Chignik Lake-Chignik River drainage, in the vicinity of Cape Kumliun, and near Perryville.

Economic. Villages in the Region typically have an economy based upon commercial fishing and subsistence activities. Residents commonly hold commercial fishing permits. Two fish processing plants operate in Chignik. Salmon, herring roe, halibut, cod and crab are processed here; between 600 to 800 people come to Chignik to fish or work in the plants each summer. The people depend upon subsistence hunting and fishing, and use salmon, trout, crab, clams, moose, caribou, bear, porcupine and seals.

Recreation. The Region is not heavily used for tourism and commercial recreation although it has abundant fish and wildlife resources and high scenic values. Recreational activities are related to outdoor uses such as hunting, fishing, wildlife viewing, and river use. Several commercial recreation operators use Chignik as a base.

Minerals and Coal. Region 17 contains a large number of base and precious metal occurrences and prospects. It also includes the Chignik coal basin. The identified resources for the Chignik and Herendeen Bay coalfields range up to 200 million short tons; hypothetical and speculative resources range to three billion short tons. Coal occurs as Cretaceous bituminous and subbituminous coals of the Coal Valley Member of the Chignik Formation; the coal units are typically less than seven feet thick ranging from less than two to seventeen feet. At least forty-nine base and precious metal occurrences are found in the Region. Most are porphyry or polymetallic deposits. One of the most significant porphyry copper deposits is Bee Creek, located on the north side of Chignik Bay. Disseminated chalcopyrite occurs in an arkosic sandstone near a late Tertiary dacite stock which displays zoned alteration patterns with a potassic-altered core.

Oil and Gas. The oil and gas potential of the Region is not known; part of an oil and gas basin lies in a small portion of the southwestern part of the Region and near Black Lake indicating potential in these areas. State and Native landowners are currently pursuing a new hydrocarbon exploration licensing and leasing program. The Alaska Department of Natural Resources, Lake

and Peninsula, Bristol Bay, and Aleutians East Boroughs have signed a memorandum of understanding (MOU) in support of oil and gas lease sales and licensing of state land in the Bristol Bay and Alaska Peninsula region (March 17, 2004). Similar MOUs are in effect between the DNR and The Aleut Regional Native Corporation (December 18, 2003) and the DNR and Bristol Bay Native Corporation (July 10, 2003).

Geothermal. There are no thermal springs in Region 17.

Materials. Materials sites along the beaches are used from time to time.

Forestry. There are no significant forestry resources in Region 17.

Fish and Wildlife. Salmon resources of the Black Lake, Chignik Lake, and Chignik River drainage support an important commercial and subsistence harvest as well as commercial fish processing. Wildlife resources include a large brown bear population, caribou, some moose, raptors, abundant marine mammals, and seabirds. Moose and caribou are harvested by subsistence users. The coastal portions of the region provide nesting areas for eagles and other raptors including peregrine falcons.

Management Considerations: Local and State Plans

A number of management plans were considered in development of this plan. These include: the Bristol Bay Area Plan; the Lake and Peninsula Coastal Zone Plan; the Southwest Alaska Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy 2003-2008; and the Southwest Area Transportation Plan. The management plans for the Alaska Peninsula and Alaska Maritime National Wildlife Refuges were also considered.

The Bristol Bay Area Plan (1984) affected all state lands in the Region until this revision. Region 17 was to be managed for fish and wildlife habitat and harvest. Mineral exploration and development and community expansion settlement were encouraged. This revision replaces and supersedes the original (1984) Area Plan.

Region 17 is within the Lake and Peninsula Borough. Both the Comprehensive Plan and the District Coastal Management Plan of the Borough apply to Region 17. The Comprehensive Plan focuses on economic and infrastructure development issues and does not contain specific land use standards or a land use map. The Enforceable Policies of the District Coastal Management Plan are extensive; policies affecting anadromous streams, bald eagle nests, oil and gas development, material extraction and mining can be applicable, under certain instances, to state lands. See <http://www.alaskacoast.state.ak.us/> for more information on enforceable policies. These policies should be consulted by DNR prior to issuing an authorization.

Region 17 is also within the area covered by the Southwest Alaska Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy 2003-2008, which was developed for the U.S. Department of Commerce Economic Development Administration by the Southwest Alaska Municipal Conference (July

2003). This document developed a number of goals, objectives, and strategies to facilitate and support efforts that retain and grow the region's wealth, including diversifying the economic base.

The Southwest Alaska Transportation Plan (ADOT/PF, November 2002) identified an Alaska Peninsula Transportation Corridor, which in general extends from South Naknek to the Chigniks connecting with the communities of Egegik, Pilot Point, Ugashik, and Port Heiden. The Alaska Peninsula Corridor is an overland route linking the communities of the Alaska Peninsula from Ivanof Bay to Naknek. The key facility in this corridor is the port at Chignik, from which fuel and supplies can be disbursed to other communities via road connections. From Chignik the corridor extends west along the Gulf of Alaska coast to Perryville and Ivanof Bay. It also extends from Chignik to Chignik Lake and Chignik Lagoon, then crosses the Alaska Peninsula to Port Heiden. From Port Heiden the corridor extends north, connecting Pilot Point, Ugashik, Egegik and South Naknek, and tying into the Cook Inlet to Bristol Bay Corridor at Naknek.

The Comprehensive Conservation Plans of the Alaska Peninsula and Alaska Maritime National Wildlife Refuges guide the management of federal uplands within these Refuges. See the section on Local and Federal Plans in Chapter 3 for a description of these plans and how they apply to federal lands.

Municipal Selections

The Lake and Peninsula Borough has no outstanding municipal selections in Region 17.

Management Summary: Uplands

The small amount of state land within this Region is associated with state public facilities (primarily airports), small tracts of land on the western boundary of the Region, and one small management unit at Black Lake west of Chignik. Tracts used for public facilities are to be retained by the state. The isolated areas of state uplands are to be managed for multiple uses; no development is expected within these management units during the planning period, except possible isolated and site-specific development locations, as may occur with oil and gas or mineral exploration and development.

Plan Designations and Management

The plan designations that are used within this Region have the following management intent. The policies and management intent guidelines described in Chapter 2 affect all DNR authorizations. See also the descriptions of the plan designations in the first part of this Chapter; this section indicates which lands can be conveyed out of state ownership and those that must be retained.

- **General Use (Gu).** Land that contains one or more resource values, none of which is of sufficiently high value to merit designation as a primary use. The land is to be managed for a variety of uses including protection of fish and wildlife habitat and harvest, dispersed public recreation, minerals, oil and gas exploration and development, and protection of heritage resources. It is expected that little development will occur in these areas during the planning period, and it is not intended as a matter of policy that intensive forms of development occur in these areas other than occasionally and at specific sites. Land designated General Use may be considered for conveyance to municipalities, subject to a Best Interest Finding. There are currently no municipal selections in this Region, however. Land with this designation is to be retained in state ownership during the planning period.
- **Public Facilities-Retain (Pr).** These sites are reserved for a specific infrastructure to serve state interests. They are to be retained by the state and managed under for public purposes, usually as airports.
- **Habitat (Ha).** Generally, this designation applies to areas of varied size that are important for fish and wildlife species during a sensitive life-history stage where alteration of the habitat or human disturbance could result in the permanent loss of a population or sustained yield of a species. In Region 17 this designation is applied to streams and shorelands cataloged by the Alaska Department of Fish and Game as anadromous (<http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/sf/SARR/AWC/index.cfm?adfg=maps.interactive>). Land with this designation is to be retained in state ownership.
- **Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed and Habitat (Co-designation).** Certain navigable waterbodies (lakes and streams) are co-designated Habitat (Ha) and Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed (Rd). Authorizations within these waterbodies should not interfere with important habitat or public recreation values. See Table 3.1 in the Navigability section of this Chapter for a listing of these streams. Note: Certain waterbodies may (only) be designated Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed, (Rd), Habitat (Ha), or General Use (Gu).

Specific Management Considerations

- **Generally Allowed Uses.** The Generally Allowed Uses in 11 AAC 96.020 can occur on state-owned land throughout the Region.
- **Proposed Transportation Corridor.** The area identified on the Region Map as a “Potential Transportation Corridor” should be retained by the state during the planning period. Authorizations granted by DNR within this corridor should not preclude the future development of transportation access. Authorizations or disposals within and adjacent to this corridor should only be allowed after consultation with ADOT/PF.
- **Mineral Closing and Opening Orders.** No mineral closing or opening orders affect this Region. No new MCOs are recommended.

- Retained lands and Lands suitable for Disposal. Except for the several small management units allocated to Public Facilities-Retain, there are no state lands that are designated to be retained by the state. However, see the paragraph above on Proposed Transportation Corridors.
- Navigable Waters. Shorelands (rivers and lakes) that are believed to be navigable are listed in Table 3.1 in the Navigability section of this Chapter. Authorizations in these waters must ensure the continued use of a waterway by the public for purposes of trade, travel, and commerce. Note: These waterbodies are assigned a plan designation of Habitat, Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed, a co-designation of Habitat and Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed, and, sometimes, General Use. Authorizations issued by DNR are to maintain the habitat and public recreation values of these waterbodies.

Management Summary: Tidelands and Submerged Lands

Tidelands represent the majority of state lands within this Region, and are the focus of management within the Region. Most of the tidelands adjoin federal National Wildlife Refuges (Alaska Peninsula and Alaska Maritime) or Native-owned tracts. Those adjacent to the coastal islands are particularly important. The tidelands adjacent to the Chiachi and Mitrofanina Island groups provide valuable habitats for numerous seabird colonies. There are also several harbor seal and sea lion haulouts. Tidelands adjacent to the Alaska Peninsula coast frequently contain eel grass beds, but are hardly used by harbor seals or sea lions and are unpopulated by sea otters except for the established populations at Kupreanof Point and Chignik Bay. The Chiachi Islands are also unpopulated by sea otter.

The community of Chignik, where there are two operating canneries, is the commercial fishing hub for this area, servicing primarily Chignik Lagoon, Chignik Lake and Perryville. Salmon, herring roe, halibut, cod and crab are processed here.

A commercial herring sac roe harvest occurs primarily in Kujulik Bay, Castle Bay and Chignik Bay, and herring sac roe (food/bait) occurs in Stepovak Bay. Pacific herring trawl occurs in the vicinity of Sutwik Island and the Mitrofanina Islands. Purse Seine harvest of pink, sockeye, chinook, chum and coho salmon occurs extensively in Chignik Bay and Chignik Lagoon. Purse seine harvest for pink and chum salmon also occurs along the coast of this region, most especially in Kuiukta, Mitrofanina, Ivanof, Humpback, and Stepovak Bays. Substantial harvests of pink, sockeye, chum, and coho salmon occur along the capes between Castle Bay and Kupreanof Point and in Stepovak Bay. Red king, tanner, and dungeness crab are harvested all along the southern coast of this region in bays and lagoons, with the highest concentrations of harvest being in the Chignik Bay and Lagoon areas. Shrimp are harvested in Chignik, Castle, and Mitrofanina Bays.

Plan Designations and Management Intent

Coastal Tidelands. Tidelands adjacent to Native or private land are designated General Use. Tideland authorizations in these areas are considered appropriate but such authorizations shall minimize disturbance to sensitive marine resources.

Tidelands adjacent to Alaska Maritime and Alaska Peninsula NWRs (R17T-01). Both refuges are affected by a Tideland Resource Management Zone. Tidelands within this Zone are designated Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed and Habitat and are to be managed to protect habitat values and maintain the public recreation value of these areas. For a detailed description of this Tideland Resource Management Zone, see Tidelands Summary in Chapter 3.

See the Resource Allocation Table for more details on this tideland management unit.

Resource Allocation Table for Upland Management Units - Region 17

Unit # / Name	Acres / Designation(s)	MTRS	Management Intent	Resources, Uses, Additional Info
R17-01 Black	3,236 Gu - General Use	Map 3-17	This unit is designated General Use (Gu). It is to be managed for a variety of uses including minerals or oil and gas exploration and development, the protection of fish and wildlife resources and their associated habitat, and dispersed recreation. See Chapter 2 guidelines for anadromous fish and caribou calving areas. Intensive development is not expected within this unit during the planning period except occasionally and at specific locations related to oil and gas or recreation. It is intended that this unit be retained in state ownership during the planning period.	The unit consists of state-owned land approximately three miles northwest of Black Lake. Vegetation consists of low and dwarf shrub. The unit contains anadromous fish streams, caribou calving areas, and areas utilized by brown bear during spring-summer-fall.
R17-02 Chignik Lagoon Airport	29.47 Pr - Public Facilities-Retain	Map 3-17 S045S059W	The unit is to be managed by the ADOT/PF in accordance with FAA and ADOT/PF guidelines for public airports, in accordance with the management right and with the stipulations of the conveyance. The unit is to be retained in state ownership.	This unit (ADL 224035; LSH 263 and OSL 263) consists of land encompassing the public airport facilities at Chignik Lagoon. It is managed by the ADOT/PF.
R17-03 Chignik Airport	123 Pr - Public Facilities-Retain	Map 3-17 S045S058W	The unit is to be managed by the ADOT/PF in accordance with FAA and ADOT/PF guidelines for public airports, in accordance with the management right and with the stipulations of the conveyance document. The unit is to be retained in state ownership.	The unit (ADL 64601, ADL 220384, and OSL 640) consists of land encompassing the airport associated facilities at Chignik. It is managed by the ADOT/PF.
R17-04 Chignik Lake Vicinity	18.58 Gu - General Use	Map 3-17 S045S060W	The unit is designated General Use (Gu). It is to be managed for a variety of uses including minerals, protection of fish and wildlife resources and their habitat, and dispersed recreation. Intensive development is not expected within this unit during the planning period except occasionally and at specific locations. It is intended that this unit be retained in state ownership during the planning period.	This is a small unit of state-owned uplands north of Mensis Point in the area where the Chignik River empties into Chignik Bay.
R17-05 Chignik Lake ADF&G Admin Site	5.35 Pr - Public Facilities-Retain	Map 3-17 S045S060W Sec, 19,30	The unit is designated as Public Facilities-Retain (Pr) and is to be managed in accordance with the terms of the management right and the conditions of the limited state holding (LSH 522). The unit is to be retained in state ownership.	The unit is located on the lower Chignik River; it consists of two small non-contiguous tracts of land (ADL 228432 and LSH 522) administered by the ADF&G. This river front site is utilized by Fish and Game to administer the Chignik Lagoon fisheries. The Chignik River is cataloged as an anadromous fish stream.
R17-06 Chignik Lake DOT Admin Site	2.72 Pr - Public Facilities-Retain	Map 3-17 S045S061W	The unit is to be managed by the ADOT/PF under the terms of the management right. The unit is to be retained in state ownership.	This small unit (ADL 224227 and OSL 973) consists of land managed by the ADOT/PF near the Chignik Lake public airport.
R17-07 Chignik Lake Airport	102 Pr - Public Facilities-Retain	Map 3-17 S045S061W	The unit is to be managed by the ADOT/PF according to guidelines established by the FAA and ADOT/PF for public airport facilities, in accordance with the management right, and terms of the limited state holding. The unit is to be retained in state ownership.	The unit consists of land (ADL 224226 and LSH 264) encompassing the Chignik Lake public airport and associated facilities; it is managed by the ADOT/PF.
R17-08 Perryville Airport	76 Pr - Public Facilities-Retain	Map 3-17 S049S064W	The unit is to be managed by the ADOT/PF in accordance with guidelines established by the FAA and ADOT/PF for public airports and in accordance with the management rights. The unit is to be retained in state ownership.	The unit consists of lands (ADLs 224246 and 221514) which encompass the Perryville public airport and are administered by the ADOT/PF.

Resource Allocation Table for Tideland Management Units - Region 17

Unit # / Name	Acres / Designation(s)	MTRS	Management Intent	Resources, Uses, Additional Info
R17T-01 Tidelands adjacent to NWRs	147,243 Ha - Habitat Rd - Public Recreation and Tourism- Dispersed	Map 3-17	Tidelands adjacent to the Alaska Maritime and Alaska Peninsula National Wildlife Refuges are to be managed to protect sensitive habitat values, fisheries and wildlife resources, and the public recreation resources of the National Refuges. A Tideland Resource Management Zone (TRMZ) affects these tidelands. See “Management Summary, Tidelands” in Chapter 3 for a more detailed description of TRMZs and the management intent and requirements for such zones. As appropriate, consult with Alaska Maritime and Alaska Peninsula NWRs, USFWS, and NMFS prior to issuing authorizations.	<p>This tideland Unit adjoins the Alaska Peninsula NWR and the islands of the Chiachi and Mitrofanina Islands group that are part of the Alaska Maritime NWR. Resources associated with the tidelands adjoining the Alaska Peninsula NWR include occasional sea bird colonies, a fairly heavy concentration of bald eagle nests, and scattered areas of kelp. The tidelands adjacent to the Chiachi and Mitrofanina Island groups are particularly valuable as habitats for numerous seabird colonies. Tidelands are little used by sea lions or harbor seals with the exception of established harbor seal haulout areas on the eastern coastline of Unavikshak Island and the northern coastline on Cape Kumliun in Kujulik Bay. Kujulik Bay is the only sea otter concentration area with the exception of established populations in Chignik Bay and Kupreanof Point. Kujulik Bay is also the site of shrimp egg hatching and rearing concentrations. Herring spawning areas occur near the head of Kujulik Bay at Bear Creek and in Hook Bay south of Cape Kumliun. The Chiachi Islands are not populated by sea otter, but there are several harbor seal and sea lion haulouts and occasional areas with kelp beds.</p> <p>Harvest: Commercial herring sac roe harvest occurs in the tidelands of this region, primarily in Kujulik, Castle, and Chignik Bays and further west in Stepovak Bay. Pacific herring trawl occurs around the Mitrofanina Island group. Purse seine harvest of pink, sockeye, chinook and chum salmon occurs along the coast of this region, but is concentrated in the vicinity of Chignik Bay and Chignik Lagoon. Purse seine harvest of salmon extends westerly along the Alaska Peninsula concentrating in Kuiukta, Mitrofanina, and Stepovak Bays and in the vicinity of the Mitrofanina and Chiachi Island groups. Pacific herring trawl also occurs around the Mitrofanina Island group. Sport fishing is prevalent in the tidelands along the coastline in this region.</p> <p>The community of Chignik is a commercial fishing hub for the area. Private tideland facilities support the fish processing industry at Chignik and provide commercial docking facilities for the State Ferry which docks at Chignik bi-monthly. The villages of Chignik Lagoon and Perryville are heavily dependent on commercial fishing. Red king, tanner and dungeness crab are harvested in bays and lagoons in this region, with the highest concentrations of harvest being in the Chignik and Chignik Lagoon area. Shrimp are also harvested in Chignik, Castle and Mitrofanina Bays.</p> <p>Subsistence harvest only occurs in the Chignik Bay and Chignik Lagoon area and consists of salmon and other fish, crab, clams, occasional marine mammals and waterfowl (birds and eggs).</p>
R17T-02 Tidelands and Offshore Submerged Lands	848,249 Gu - General Use	Map 3-17	Manage for a variety of uses and resources. Protect sea bird colonies and eel grass concentration area. Maintain opportunities for commercial, sport, and subsistence harvest.	This unit consists of the tide and submerged lands adjoining privately owned uplands (including Native corporation land) and the submerged lands offshore of the Tideland Resource Management Zone (TRMZ) of this Region (R17T-01). See R17T-01 for a description of the resources and

Unit # / Name	Acres / Designation(s)	MTRS	Management Intent	Resources, Uses, Additional Info
				<p>management guidelines for the TRMZ.</p> <p>The majority of the sensitive biological resources within this Region are included within the TRMZ. Outside of the TRMZ there are a few eel grass locations and sea bird colonies.</p> <p>Some commercial herring sac roe harvest occurs in the tidelands of the Region, although it primarily concentrates at Kujulik, Castle, and Chignik Bays, and further west in Stepovak Bay. Purse seine harvest of pink, sockeye, chinook, and chum salmon occurs along the coast, concentrating in the vicinity of Chignik Bay and Chignik Lagoon. Sport fishing is prevalent in the tidelands along the coastline.</p>

Region 18: Cape Seniavin, Seal Islands

Summary of Resources and Uses in the Region

Region Boundary

Region 18 includes both upland and tideland areas (see Plan Map 3-18). The uplands occupy a portion of the Alaska Peninsula on the western side of the Aleutian Mountain Range, generally extending from Port Moller to a drainage divide approximately 7 miles southwest of Port Heiden. It includes all drainages flowing northwest into Bristol Bay, excluding those that drain into Port Heiden. The only settlement is Port Moller, which presently consists of a cannery but has no resident population. Tidelands are situated along curvilinear sand beaches except for a large lagoon in the area called 'Seal Islands'. The lagoon is an important habitat area for a variety of marine and terrestrial mammals, and waterfowl.

State Lands: Ownership and Acreage

State-owned lands comprise most of the lands in Region 18. Approximately three quarters of the land is state-owned and the remainder is Federally-owned. There are virtually no Native-owned lands in Region 18. The plan applies to 762,915 acres of state-owned and state-selected uplands and 178,496 acres of state-owned tidelands in this Region.

Physical Geography

Region 18 is within the Alaska Peninsula ecological province. Drainage flow is predominantly northwestward towards Bristol Bay. Principal drainages include the Bear, Milky, Sandy, Muddy, Ocean, Ilnik, and Unangashak Rivers as well as Fog, Fracture, Fireweed, and Blueberry Creeks. Notable lakes include Bear, Sandy, and Wildman Lakes. The most significant topographic feature is Mount Veniaminof, an active volcano which rises from sea level to an elevation of 7,075 feet and has a base with a diameter of thirty miles. The western half of the Region is predominantly wetlands with little relief.

Climate

The Region has a maritime climate, with cool summers, relatively warm winters, and rain. Frequent and dramatic weather changes occur, with a constant prevailing wind of 20 to 25 mph. Snowfall averages 57 inches per year, with a total annual precipitation of approximately 33 inches. January temperatures average 25°, and July temperatures average 50°.

Other

Region 18 is primarily within the Chignik, Port Moller, and Stepovak Bay Quadrangles. It is within the boundaries of the Bristol Bay Regional Native Corporation, The Aleut Regional Native Corporation and Aleutians East Borough as well as the Lake and Peninsula Borough.

Access

Access to the Region is primarily restricted to marine, river, and air travel; ATV's and skiffs are the primary modes of local transportation. At Port Moller there is a private gravel airstrip, and the bay is accessible by floatplane. Other airstrips are located in the region such as the Bear Lake airstrip (unattended) that is located on the west side of Bear Lake that is used by a lodge and sportsmen. A road and trail extend from the coast eastwards up the Sandy River drainage for approximately nine miles connecting to the Sandy River landing strip and an old oil well site. A few miles of roads and trails extend around the vicinity of Port Moller.

Resources and Uses

Cultural and Historic. The state Office of History and Archeology lists nine sites in Region 18; six of these are historic, two are prehistoric, and one is both. Most of the sites occur in the vicinity of Port Moller, Bear Lake, or near the Seal Islands tidal lagoon.

Economic. The Region's economy is based on commercial fishing and fish processing, subsistence activities, commercial guiding, and recreational hunting and fishing.

Recreation. The Region is not heavily used for tourism and commercial recreation although it has abundant fish and wildlife resources. Recreational activities are related to outdoor uses such as hunting, fishing, wildlife viewing, and river use. The Sandy River airstrip and road and the Bear Lake airstrip are used as sites for commercial recreational activities primarily related to hunting and fishing. Scenic recreational resources are primarily related to Mt. Veniaminof.

Materials, Minerals and Coal. Except for occasional use of beach areas, there is little material extraction and no active material sites. Mineral sands are known to occur along the beaches on the west side of the Alaska Peninsula; these include placers at the Port Moller spit, Ilnik spit, and on a stretch of beach between the Seal Islands lagoon and Port Heiden. The placers contain iron, titanium, manganese, and gold in varying amounts. Because most of the region is low-lying and covered by alluvium, there are few known metalliferous lode occurrences. A few copper, lead, and gold prospects occur at the southern boundary of the Region at the headwaters of the Bear Lake drainage. There are no known coal resources.

Oil and Gas. The Region has high potential for oil and gas. One well has been drilled in the Region, approximately two miles east of the Sandy River airstrip. The Sandy River No.1 well was drilled by Gulf Oil Corporation in 1963 to a depth of 13,068 feet. The drill hole

encountered the Milky River, Bear Lake, and Stepovak formations and had both oil and gas showings. The underlying basin is projected to have a very thick sequence of potentially petroliferous units.

Forestry. There are no significant forestry resources in Region 18.

Fish and Wildlife. Waterfowl, moose, caribou, and brown bear are the most important resources in Region 18. Important salmon runs occur on the King Salmon, Bear, and Sandy Rivers as well as the lower reaches of streams between the Muddy River and the Seal Island area. The Region also includes caribou calving grounds for the Northern Alaska Peninsula Caribou Herd and most of the Region is considered a calving area. Moose are becoming more established in the Region and have become a significant species for hunters. Moose calving areas are known to be especially prevalent in the Bear Lake/Port Moller portion of the Region. Moose wintering areas also occur in this area along the major river drainages, including the Bear, Sandy, and Milky Rivers. The Cape Seniavin area has developed into a walrus haulout of growing importance and has important nesting colonies of seabirds and concentrations of waterfowl. A Special Use Designation for sensitive areas at Cape Seniavin is under consideration by the DNR but will be developed in a separate process. Seabird colonies are also located in the Seal Islands and at Entrance Point and Left Triangle at Port Moller. Sea otters inhabit coastal areas, especially between Cape Seniavin and the Sandy River. Seals are also known to inhabit areas between Bear River and King Salmon River. Forage fish, especially rainbow smelt and herring, concentrate in coastal areas, notably northwest of the mouth of the Muddy River to Port Heiden and beyond.

Management Considerations: Local and State Plans

A number of local and state management plans were considered in development of this plan. Region 18 is within portions of both the Lake and Peninsula Borough and the Aleutians East Borough. Both the Comprehensive Plans and the District Coastal Management Plans of these Boroughs apply to Region 18. The Comprehensive Plans focus on economic and infrastructure development issues and do not contain specific land use standards or a land use map. The Enforceable Policies of the District Coastal Management Plan are extensive; policies affecting anadromous streams, bald eagle nests, oil and gas development, material extraction and mining may be applicable, under certain instances, to state lands. See <http://www.alaskacoast.state.ak.us/>³⁵ for more information on enforceable policies. These policies should be consulted by DNR prior to issuing an authorization.

The Southwest Alaska Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy 2003-2008, which was developed for the U.S. Department of Commerce Economic Development Administration by the Southwest Alaska Municipal Conference (July 2003), also affects this Region. This document developed a number of goals, objectives, and strategies to facilitate and support efforts that could retain and grow the region's wealth.

³⁵ The Alaska Coastal Management Program was terminated on July 1, 2011, pursuant to AS 44.66.030.

The Bristol Bay Area Plan (1984) has affected the management of all state lands in the Region until this revision. Region 18 was to be managed for “fish and wildlife habitat and harvest, recreation, and oil and gas exploration and development” in the original Area Plan. This revision replaces and supersedes the original (1984) Area Plan.

Municipal Selections

Both the Lake and Peninsula Borough and the Aleutians East Borough have made selections in the Region as part of their respective municipal entitlements. The Aleutians East Borough has selections on the north side of Bear Lake and on the Sandy River. The Lake and Peninsula Borough has selections in the Wildman Lake area and on the upper reaches of the Unangashak River. Municipal selections in Region 18 total approximately 8,047 acres.

Management Summary: Uplands

State land in Region 18 is to be managed for a variety of multiple uses, including settlement, public recreation and tourism, protection of fish and wildlife habitat and harvest, exploration and development of oil and gas, and general use. Because of the absence of discernible economic trends, generally unsuitable topography, and the potential to accommodate a variety of uses through siting and other types of development stipulations, nearly all state land in this Region is designated General Use, except for two areas that are considered appropriate for settlement and are designated Settlement. Two small areas that are used for public facilities are designated Public Facilities-Retain.

Plan Designations and Management

The plan designations that are used within this Region have the following management intent. Designations also follow the requirements of the section ‘Definitions Used in this Plan’ in this Chapter, which includes general management requirements pertinent to plan designations.

Additional policies and management intent guidelines in Chapter 2 affect specific designations. See also the descriptions of the plan designations in the first part of this Chapter; this section indicates which lands can be conveyed out of state ownership and those that must be retained.

- **General Use (Gu).** Land designated General Use is to be managed for a variety of uses including the protection of fish and wildlife habitat and harvest, dispersed public recreation, minerals and oil and gas development, and protection of heritage resources. Development during the planning period is considered unlikely given the remote, inaccessible character of the land and, as a matter of policy, it is not intended that intensive development occur within this designation, except as may be related to mineral or oil and gas development. Land with this designation is to be retained in state ownership during the planning period.

- Public Facilities-Retain (Pr). Two small areas of public facilities are designated Public Facilities-Retain. These are to be retained by the state.
- Habitat (Ha). This designation is applicable to areas of sensitive wildlife habitat and is also applied to streams and shorelands that are considered navigable by the state and cataloged by ADF&G as anadromous. See *Table 3.1* in the Navigability section of this Chapter for a partial listing of these streams. Authorizations may be appropriate in areas designated Habitat subject to the protection of habitat resources and public recreation values.
- Settlement (Se). Two relatively small areas at King Salmon River and Bear Lake are considered appropriate for remote settlement and for disposal during the planning period. This land may be conveyed to municipalities and individuals. See the Settlement section of Chapter 2 for more requirements affecting the disposal and development of land for residential purposes.
- Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed and Habitat (Co-designation). Certain navigable waterbodies (lakes and streams) are co-designated Habitat (Ha) and Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed (Rd). Authorizations within these waterbodies should not interfere with important habitat or public recreation values. See *Table 3.1* in the Navigability section of this Chapter for a listing of these streams. Note: Certain streams may (only) be designated Habitat or General Use.

See the Resource Allocation Table for more detail on these upland management units.

Specific Management Considerations

- Generally Allowed Uses. The Generally Allowed Uses in 11 AAC 96.020 can occur on state-owned land throughout the Region. A Special Use Designation for this tideland management unit is under consideration by DNR, but will be developed as a separate process.
- Mineral Closing and Opening Orders. MCO 393 closes a large number of major streams in the Bristol Bay Area to minerals location, including the Bear River downstream of Bear Lake, a tributary north of the Bear River, and the Sandy River below Sandy Lake. Mineral Order No. 791 precludes shallow natural gas leasing and oil and gas exploration licensing. This Order has no effect on locatable or leaseable minerals other than that noted. No other mineral closing orders are recommended; the only exception applies to areas that are to be disposed of for the purposes of settlement. In these instances, closure of the area prior to sale is required. The MCO in areas not selected for settlement within three years of the land sale shall revert to 'open to mineral entry'. No leasehold locations orders are recommended. See the Mineral Resources section in Chapter 2 for more detail of subsurface management requirements.
- Retained Lands and Lands Suitable for Disposal. Except for the two small management units designated Public Facilities-Retain, there are no state lands that are designated to be retained by the state. Management units designated Settlement are considered

appropriate for disposal to boroughs under the Municipal Entitlement Act or to individuals. Areas designated General Use may be appropriate for disposal but the reasonability of disposal must be determined on a case-by-case basis.

- **Navigable Waters.** Shorelands (rivers and lakes) that are believed to be navigable are listed in Table 3.1 in the Navigability section of this Chapter. Authorizations in these waters must ensure the continued use of a waterway by the public for purposes of trade, travel, and commerce. Note: These waterbodies are assigned a plan designation of Habitat, Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed, a co-designation of Habitat and Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed, and, sometimes, General Use. Authorizations issued by DNR are to maintain the habitat and public recreation values of these waterbodies.

Management Summary: Tidelands and Submerged Lands

The area of the Seal Islands and Cape Seniavin are unique habitat areas that are distinct from the remainder of the region in terms of the type and concentration of marine resources and the unusual assemblage of wetlands and lagoons that characterize the Seal Islands area. Other areas along the Bristol Bay coast are less rich biologically except for Cape Seniavin and the Seal Islands areas. This region also includes the historical settlement of Port Moller.

An extensive yellowfin sole harvest occurs offshore in this region. Drift gillnetting occurs along the entire coast of this region targeting sockeye salmon. Set gillnets target sockeye salmon in the Seal Islands area and sockeye salmon are occasionally harvested with purse seine gear between Cape Seniavin and Port Moller. There are a few set net sites northeast of the Seal Islands area, but this region is sparsely populated and consequently there is little subsistence harvest along this coastline.

Plan Designations and Management Intent

Tideland areas adjacent to coast. The shoreline in this Region consists of coarse sand beaches with some sand and gravel beaches near Cape Kutuzof. Marine mammals (sea otter³⁶ and harbor seals) are present throughout the region. Waterfowl and shorebirds are also common. Seabirds concentrate at the Seal Islands and at Cape Seniavin. Pacific herring spawning areas are also present, especially north of the Seal Islands near Ilnik Lake and at scattered sites south of Cape Seniavin. This area is designated General Use. Tideland authorizations are considered appropriate for this area, but must ensure the protection of sea bird colonies and Pacific herring spawning sites. Sea otter occupy off shore areas up to depths of 60 meters in areas characterized by offshore reefs and kelp beds. Authorizations granted by DNR should also ensure that pupping areas are protected.

³⁶ Sea otter populations north of Port Moller have varied considerably in past years, reflecting the presence or absence of sea ice. The population should grow in this Region and the range expand northward from Port Moller to Port Heiden in the absence of severe sea ice conditions.

Seal Islands (R18T-01). The area of the ‘Seal Islands’ (R18T-01) actually consists of a long narrow sand spit, an enclosed saltwater lagoon, and adjacent estuarine type wetlands. The area of the lagoon consists of extensive tidal flats that are reported to have eel grass and salt marshes. This area is situated some five miles south of the Port Heiden CHA (See Region 16 Tidelands description) and has many of the same habitat and resource attributes. This area provides habitat for a seabird colony and a harbor seal haulout. The area of the lagoon is an important waterfowl concentration and molting area. This extensive area of sand spit, lagoon, and wetland is designated Habitat. Generally, authorizations in this area are discouraged and should only be considered appropriate if the resources and habitats of this wetland/sand spit/lagoon complex can be effectively protected.

Cape Seniavin (R18T-02). The headland at Cape Seniavin (R18T-02) contains a significant walrus haulout area as well as several seabird colonies. The Cape Seniavin site is one of the four major walrus haulout sites in Alaska³⁷. The size of the walrus population at this site during the summer use period varies from about 40 walruses to an average maximum count of 2,900. The designation of this area is Habitat, and authorizations in this area are prohibited except for activities related to research and/or the protection of the walrus haulout area. A Special Use Designation for this tideland management unit is under consideration by DNR, but will be developed as a separate process.

Port Moller Community (R18T-03). Water dependent commercial and industrial facilities to support the historical settlement of Port Moller are considered appropriate, and this area (R18T-03) is designated Waterfront Development. Development authorizations for these types of uses are considered appropriate subject to the protection of sensitive resource values and habitats.

See the Resource Allocation Table for more details on these tideland management units.

³⁷ The other major haulout sites occur in Regions 2 and 3: Round Island, Cape Pierce, and Cape Newenham.

Resource Allocation Table for Upland Management Units - Region 18

Unit # / Name	Acres / Designation(s)	MTRS	Management Intent	Resources, Uses, Additional Info
R18-01 Port Moller	523,139 Gu - General Use	Map 3-18	This unit is designated General Use (Gu). It is to be managed for a variety of uses including minerals or oil and gas exploration and development, the protection of fish and wildlife resources and their associated habitat, and dispersed recreation. See Chapter 2 guidelines for caribou calving areas and tundra swans. Several land selections have been made in this unit by the Lake and Peninsula and Aleutians East Boroughs; the selections may be appropriate for disposal, subject to a separate and subsequent Best Interest Finding. Intensive development is not expected within this unit during the planning period except occasionally and at specific locations related to oil and gas or recreation. It is intended that this unit be retained in state ownership during the planning period.	This unit consists of much of the state-owned and state-selected uplands in Region 18. The unit is low-lying terrain, vegetated by tundra, and dwarf and low shrub land; the terrain is poorly drained and contains numerous lakes, ponds, and marshes. The critical habitat areas for caribou and moose do not occur in this unit; they are included in unit R18-01A. The northern and coastal portions of the unit contain areas utilized by brown bear in the spring, summer, and fall Significant recreational and commercial sports hunting and fishing activities take place, especially in the Sandy River and Bear Lake areas. The unit has high potential for the discovery of oil and gas resources. This unit was affected during the 2013 Plan Amendment process.
R18-01A Port Moller Upland Habitats	221,373 Ha - Habitat	Map 3-18 S044S069W, S045S070-071W, S046S070-072W, S047S069-071W, S048S070-071W, S049S070-072W	Manage unit for its habitat and wetland values. Retain in state ownership. Other than utilities, communication, roads/bridges, and similar facilities providing a public service, development is not appropriate within this unit. Any authorizations that may be issued will need to avoid impacts or mitigate impacts to wetlands, riverine areas, and sensitive bear, caribou and moose habitat. Oil and gas development is considered an appropriate use within this unit.	This unit is very similar to the features described for unit R18-01. It is characterized by flat terrain vegetated by tundra and low lying shrub and dwarf shrub, and is considered to have a high potential for the discovery of oil and gas resources. It differs from R18-01 in that this unit contains the principal habitat areas for moose, caribou, and to a lesser degree, brown bear. Caribou calving occurs throughout that part of the unit north of T043S. Moose wintering areas occur along the major drainages of the Sandy, Bear, and Milky River drainages and in the uplands both north and south of Bear Lake. Moose wintering is confined to the aforementioned upland areas. Other portions of the unit are important components of caribou range. This unit was created during the 2013 Plan Amendment process.
R18-02 Cape Seniavin	1,476 Ha - Habitat	Map 3-18 S044S069W	The unit is to be managed for the protection of wildlife habitat important for marine mammals and seabirds. No authorizations or uses should be allowed in the unit that are not consistent with protection of the walrus haulout and seabird colonies, and with the guidelines in Chapter 2, Section J under Fish and Wildlife Habitat and Harvest Areas. Leases and permits for commercial recreation facilities will not be issued within the unit. Leases and permits for other activities, compatible with the fish and wildlife resources, will be considered on a case by case basis. Permits for research related facilities/activities may be allowed on a case by case basis within the unit. Issuance of permits for temporary guide/outfitter camps and other temporary facilities and activities beyond the one mile radius of the walrus haulout will be considered on a case by case basis. Applications for the use of sites located within a one mile radius of the haulout will not be considered.	The unit is located at Cape Seniavin on the Bristol Bay coast. The unit includes the NW1/4 of Section 2 and all of Sections 3, 4, 9, and 10. The unit includes a permitted commercial recreation site (ADL 24056). Cape Seniavin is an important haulout area for walrus and contains significant seabird colonies. Between feeding cycles, walrus come to shore to rest at this isolated haulout. In recent years the number of walrus using this haulout site has increased substantially and it has evolved into one of the most important resting areas for walrus in Alaska. The FAA has also issued guidelines for aircraft avoidance at Cape Seniavin. The unit is to be retained in state ownership. A tideland unit adjoins this unit; it has a similar management intent. See unit R18T-02. Because of the importance of this haulout, protection under a Special Use Designation may be warranted. The development of a SUD, or similar approach, is under consideration by the ADF&G, DNR, and USFWS.
R18-03 King Salmon River	6,514 Se - Settlement	Map 3-18	The unit is designated Settlement (Se) and is considered appropriate for disposal during the planning period. Development is to conform to the requirements of Remote Settlement and Caribou and Moose Rutting and Calving Area, both of which are described in the Settlement, and Fish and Wildlife Habitat and Harvest Areas sections of Chapter 2. Buffers along anadromous fish streams must also conform to the management guidelines in Chapter 2.	The unit consists of approximately ten sections of land on the Bristol Bay coast on the north and south side of the King Salmon River and generally north of Franks Lagoon. The terrain is of low relief and suitable for settlement. The area is sparsely vegetated with tundra and low and dwarf shrubs. The unit contains the lower reaches of the King Salmon River, an anadromous fish stream. The unit is within a caribou wintering area and the beach area is utilized by brown bear. The unit has potential for discovery of

Unit # / Name	Acres / Designation(s)	MTRS	Management Intent	Resources, Uses, Additional Info
R18-04 Bear Lake Vicinity	5.49 Pr - Public Facilities- Retain	Map 3-18 S048S070W Sec. 7	The unit and facilities are to be managed by the ADF&G according to the management right. The unit is to be retained in state ownership.	oil and gas resources. The unit is partly affected by MCO 393. This is a small unit of land (ADL 79954 and OSL 645) located near the Bear Lake aircraft landing strip at the west end of Bear Lake. The terrain is well drained, has but little relief, and is vegetated by tundra, and dwarf and low shrub. Bear Lake and the Bear River are anadromous and the unit is within an area used for caribou calving.
R18-05 Bear Lake	8,361 Se - Settlement	Map 3-18	The unit is designated Settlement (Se) and is considered appropriate for disposal during the planning period. Development is to conform to the requirements of Remote Settlement and Caribou and Moose Rutting and Calving Area, which are described in the Settlement, and Fish and Wildlife Habitat and Harvest Areas sections of Chapter 2. Buffers along anadromous fish streams must also conform to the management guidelines in Chapter 2. The Aleutians East Borough has made a land selection within the unit as part of its municipal entitlement. Conveyance of these selections is considered appropriate, subject to a separate and subsequent Best Interest Finding.	The unit is located on the west, north and northwest side of Bear Lake. The terrain is well drained, has little relief, and is vegetated by tundra, and dwarf and low shrub. The terrain is considered suitable for settlement. Bear Lake and the Bear River are anadromous and the unit is within an area used for caribou wintering, and moose rutting and calving. The Alaska Heritage Resources Survey (AHRS) reports a small number of heritage sites in this unit. The unit has potential for discovery of oil and gas resources. The unit is partly affected by MCO 393.
R18-06 Fish and Game Cabin	0.71 Pr - Public Facilities- Retain	Map 3-18 S048W072W	The unit is to be managed subject to the conditions of LSH 390 for use as a cabin site by the ADF&G.	This small unit of land (LSH 390) is located in the settlement of Port Moller and contains a cabin used by the Alaska Department of Fish and Game.

Resource Allocation Table for Tideland Management Units - Region 18

Unit # / Name	Acres / Designation(s)	MTRS	Management Intent	Resources, Uses, Additional Info
R18T-01 Seal Islands	44,307 Ha - Habitat Hv - Harvest	Map 3-18	This extensive area of sand spit, lagoon, and wetland is designated Habitat. Management intent: To protect the sensitive habitats of this area, brown bear and waterfowl concentration area, the sea bird colony site, and harbor seal haulout concentration areas. Generally, authorizations in this area are discouraged and should only be considered appropriate if the resources and habitats of this wetland/lagoon/sand spit complex can be effectively protected. Consult with NMFS and USFWS prior to granting authorizations.	This tideland unit, which encompasses an area known as the ‘Seal Islands’ actually consists of a long narrow sand spit, an enclosed saltwater lagoon, and adjacent estuarine type wetlands. Portions of this sand spit are within the Alaska Maritime NWR. The area of the lagoon consists of extensive tidal flats that are reported to have eel grass and salt marshes. This area is situated some five miles south of the Port Heiden CHA (See Region 16 Tidelands description) and has many of the same habitat and resource attributes. A seabird colony is situated at the northern part of the lagoon on a portion of the sand spit. A harbor seal haulout concentration area occupies much of the central part of the sand spit and lagoon. A spring concentration area for brown bear occurs in the extensive wetland areas to the east of the lagoon, along the sand spit, and south to the Ilnik River. The area of the lagoon is an important waterfowl concentration area during the spring and fall; it is also an important waterfowl molting concentration area. Harvest: Extensive yellowfin sole harvest occurs in the offshore tidelands of this region. Drift net harvest occurs in the tidal coastlands of this region, particularly in the vicinity of Cape Seniavin, for sockeye and chinook salmon. Purse seine harvest for sockeye chinook and chum salmon occurs from Muddy River to Port Moller. There are a few set net leases northeast of the Seal Island area. This region is sparsely populated and there is little subsistence harvest.
R18T-02 Cape Seniavin	443 Ha - Habitat	Map 3-18 S044S069W	The designation of this area is Habitat. Authorizations in this area are prohibited except for activities related to research and/or the protection of the walrus haulout area. Consideration should be given to the use of a Special Land Use Designation if some generally allowed uses (primarily use of fixed wing aircraft and ATVs) significantly affect the large walrus population. Consult with ADF&G and USFWS prior to granting authorizations.	The headland at Cape Seniavin (R18T-02) contains a very significant walrus haulout area as well as several sea bird colonies. The Cape Seniavin site is one of the four major walrus haulout sites in Alaska. The size of the walrus population at this site during the summer use period varies from about 40 walruses to an average maximum count of 2,900.
R18T-03 Port Moller	1,602 Wd - Waterfront Development	Map 3-18 S048S072W	Unit is designated Waterfront Development, to accommodate the historic use of this area as an anchorage for seafood processors. Protect waterfowl concentrations when granting authorizations. Consult with ADOT/PF prior to granting authorizations in the NW1/4 of Section 30.	Unit is situated adjacent to lands approved for conveyance to the Aleutians East Borough. Established seafood processing facilities are sited on a spit at the mouth of Port Moller bay called ‘Entrance Point’. Portions of this area are important as an anchorage for seafood processors. Waterfowl seasonal concentration areas (spring and fall) occur within this unit and also walrus haulout concentrations at ‘Entrance Point’.

Unit # / Name	Acres / Designation(s)	MTRS	Management Intent	Resources, Uses, Additional Info
R18T-04 Coastline Seal Islands to Port Moller	178,496 Gu - General Use	Map 3-18	Manage unit for a variety of uses and resources. Protect marine mammals and Pacific herring spawning areas. Consult with NMFS prior to issuing authorizations. Maintain opportunities for commercial and subsistence harvest.	<p>This unit consists of the extensive tide and submerged lands adjoining the coast of this Region, except for the two units at the Seal Islands (R18T-01) and Cape Seniavin (R18T-02), and the smaller unit at Port Moller (R18T-03). Consult Plan Map 3-18.</p> <p>The shoreline consists of coarse sand beaches with some mixed sand and gravel beaches near Cape Kutuzof. Marine mammals (walrus, sea otter and harbor seals) are present throughout the unit although the known concentration areas occur within units R18T-01 and R18T-02. Waterfowl and shorebirds are common, but also concentrate in the aforementioned units. Pacific herring spawning areas also occur, especially south of the Seal Islands area near Ilnik Lake and at scattered locations south of Cape Seniavin.</p> <p>Yellowfin sole harvest occurs in the vicinity of offshore tidelands of this Region. Drift net harvest occurs in the tidal coastlines, particularly in the vicinity of Cape Seniavin, for sockeye and chinook salmon. Purse seine harvest for sockeye, chinook, and chum salmon occurs from Muddy River to Port Moller. There are a few set nets/leases northeast of the Seal Islands. There is little subsistence harvest.</p>

Region 19: Herendeen Bay, Port Moller and Shumagin Islands

Summary of Resources and Uses in the Region

Region Boundary

Region 19 encompasses the area of the Shumagin Islands and a section of the Alaska Peninsula lying south of Port Moller. Unga, Nagai and Popof Islands, as well as the dozens of other islands that make up the Shumagin Islands, are a part of this region (Map 3-19). The mountainous southern half of the Alaska Peninsula, from Beaver Bay in the southwest to Stepovak Bay in the northeast, comprises the mainland part of Region 19. The boundaries of this region are the same as the original (1984) Bristol Bay Area Plan. Elevations range from sea level to the highest of the glaciated mountaintops in the northeast corner of this region at 5,402 feet. Almost the entire population of this region is located on Popof Island in the city of Sand Point, the largest community in the Aleutians East Borough with 952 year-round residents. Most of the land in the Region is in federal ownership and located within the Alaska Peninsula and Alaska Maritime National Wildlife Refuges. See Map 3-19.

State Lands: Ownership and Acreage

Most of the state land in Region 19 is the tidelands and shorelands. Almost all of the state-owned uplands are found at the heads of Herendeen Bay and Port Moller and includes most of the peninsula that divides these two bodies of water. Other small blocks of state-selected lands are found in the vicinity of Sand Point and on Nagai Island. The plan applies to 83,962 acres of state-owned and state-selected uplands and 1,093,144 acres of state-owned tidelands in this region. The plan also applies to state-owned shorelands (acreages of shorelands have not been calculated).

Physical Geography

This region is situated on the edge of the North American Tectonic Plate where it meets the Pacific Plate. The resulting Aleutian Range of mountains forms the steep mountainous terrain of the mainland portion of Region 19. Numerous bays cut into the rocky coastline along the Pacific Ocean. On the north side of this Region the only contact with Bristol Bay waters is in the upper reaches of Herendeen Bay and Port Moller where the terrain is a little more gentle, reaching out into extensive mud flats around the peninsula that divides these two bays. Volcanoes reside just beyond this Region's boundaries. Mount Dana at 4,442 feet is to the southwest and Mount Kupreanof at 6,220 feet is to the northeast, with the latter most recently active in 1987. The region as a whole is considered seismically active.

The offshore islands in the Pacific Ocean also exhibit relatively mountainous terrain with Unga Island, the largest of the Shumagin Islands, having a high point of 2,283 feet. A much smaller Big Koniuji Island also quickly rises to an elevation of 1,878 feet. This island group is characterized by indented coastlines with cliffs lining the shore in many places.

Climate

Given that all land within Region 19 is in such close proximity to the open sea, it enjoys a maritime climate. This moderates the temperatures to a monthly average low of 27°F in February to a high of 58°F in August (representative weather data for Sand Point). Frequent storms carry moisture from the North Pacific resulting in 33 inches of precipitation annually with 52 inches coming in the form of snow. Winds are commonly moderate to strong. The area is generally free of permafrost.

Other

Region 19 is within the Port Moller, Stepovak Bay, and Simeonof Island Quadrangles. It lies entirely within the boundaries of the Aleut Regional Native Corporation and the Aleutians East Borough.

Access

Residents are dependent upon air or marine transportation. Sand Point is the only major airstrip in this Region with a 4,000 foot paved runway. There are daily flights from Anchorage. Other locales within this Region are served by charter aircraft or boat. Marine cargo arrives monthly from Seattle. The Alaska Marine Highway System services Sand Point but only runs from May to October. There is no road access to the Region.

Resources and Uses

Cultural and Historic. Archaeological evidence indicates that areas within the Region have been continuously occupied for at least 8,000 years by the Unangan, known in modern times as the Aleut. The 1700s brought tremendous change as the Russians established a fur trading business here and many Natives were forcibly transplanted to the Pribilofs to work in the seal trade. Scandinavians and other Europeans immigrated here in the 1800s to work in the whaling and fishing industries. The Saint Nicholas Chapel in Sand Point is on the National Register of Historic Places. The state Office of History and Archeology lists 106 sites in Region 19 – sixty-seven prehistoric, thirty-three historic, five of mixed origin, and one paleontological.

Economic. Commercial fishing and government jobs provide the majority of cash income. Many residents hold commercial fishing permits. Subsistence harvests of salmon, other fish and marine mammals are important to the residents. Game, birds, plants and berries are also an integral part of villagers' diets.

Recreation. Recreation in the Region is primarily related to outdoor activities such as hunting, sport fishing, wildlife viewing, photography, and hiking. The Alaska Peninsula and Alaska Maritime National Wildlife Refuges receive the majority of this use.

Minerals and Coal. The mineral potential of Region 19 is high. The Alaska Resource Data Files show 100 prospects and mineral occurrences in the Region; they occur throughout the Peninsula and the Shumagin Islands. The mineral showings fall into several categories based on commodity: 1) silver-gold; 2) gold; 3) copper; 4) copper-molybdenum; and, 5) lead-zinc. Mineralization is mostly related to hydrothermal activity associated with volcanism and the emplacement of shallow intrusive rocks. Four prospects are most significant – Pyramid (north of Balboa Bay), Apollo-Sitka and Shumagin (on Unga Island), and Centennial. Pyramid is a porphyry copper type deposit of late Tertiary age; reserves of 125 million tons grading 0.4% Cu and 0.03% Mo are inferred. The Apollo-Sitka mines are important gold producers with production exceeding 107,600 ounces from ore averaging 0.22 oz/ton gold. Inferred reserves are 748,000 tons grading 0.76 oz/ton gold and 2.16 oz/ton silver. Shumagin is an epithermal gold vein similar to Apollo-Sitka; it has an estimated 540,000 tonnes grading 10.3 g/t Au, 34.3 g/t Ag.

The portion of Region 19 that is on the Alaska Peninsula is primarily underlain by the Herendeen Bay coal basin. The Herendeen Bay coalfield is similar in geology to that of the nearby Chignik coalfield in Region 17. The identified resources for the Chignik and Herendeen Bay coalfields range up to 200 million short tons; hypothetical and speculative resources range to three billion short tons. Coal occurs as Cretaceous bituminous and subbituminous coals of the Coal Valley Member of the Chignik Formation; the coal units are typically less than seven feet thick ranging from less than two to seventeen feet.

Oil and Gas. There is modest potential for oil and gas resources in Region 19, primarily in the area between Port Moller and Herendeen Bay. No wells have been drilled in the Region although several have been drilled in adjacent Regions. State and Native landowners are currently pursuing a new hydrocarbon exploration licensing and leasing program. The Alaska Department of Natural Resources, Lake and Peninsula, Bristol Bay, and Aleutians East Boroughs have signed a memorandum of understanding (MOU) in support of oil and gas lease sales and licensing of state land in the Bristol Bay and Alaska Peninsula region (March 17, 2004). Similar MOUs are in effect between the DNR and The Aleut Regional Native Corporation (December 18, 2003) and the DNR and Bristol Bay Native Corporation (July 10, 2003).

Materials. There are no active material sites in Region 19.

Forestry. There are no significant economic timber resources in Region 19.

Fish and Wildlife. This region is rich in fish and wildlife resources. Offshore waters harbor pollock, halibut, cod (gray and black), salmon (sockeye, chum and pink), herring, and crab (red and brown king, and tanner). Whales, sea otters, seal and sea lion are also found in nearby waters. Seabird colonies line the coast. Some of the larger terrestrial mammals found here include brown bear, moose, caribou, wolf, fox, wolverine, and land otter.

Most of the streams in this region support anadromous fish runs that contribute to the subsistence and commercial fisheries that are an important part of the local economy. The currently declining sea lion and northern sea otter populations inhabit this region. Most of this coast and offshore area is ideal seabird habitat. Of the terrestrial mammals, the one that draws the most attention is the brown bear. The numerous salmon streams of the Alaska Peninsula provide ideal habitat for this large omnivore.

Region 19 also encompasses the Port Moller Critical Habitat Area, which was created to protect habitat that supports migratory stopover areas for large number of ducks, geese, and shorebirds in the spring on their way to northern nesting grounds and in the fall on their return to southern wintering areas.

Management Considerations: Local and State Plans

There are a number of local, state, and federal management plans that affect this Region and that were considered in the development of the revision of this Plan.

The Aleutians East Borough Coastal District Plan affects the entire coastal zone within this region. This plan contains extensive enforceable policies affecting state lands and should be consulted by DNR prior to issuing authorizations. The coastal plan's enforceable policies can be found on the web at: <http://www.alaskacoast.state.ak.us/>.³⁸

Only one state management plan affects this region, the Bristol Bay Area Plan, which has been the basis for the management of state lands since its adoption in 1984. This revision replaces and supersedes the 1984 plan.

Most of the uplands in this region are federal and fall within one of two National Wildlife Refuges (NWRs). The Alaska Peninsula and Alaska Maritime NWRs each have Comprehensive Conservation Plans (CCPs) that guide refuge activities. See the section on Local and Federal Plans in Chapter 3 for a description of these plans and how they apply to federal lands.

³⁸ The Alaska Coastal Management Program was terminated on July 1, 2011, pursuant to AS 44.66.030.

Management Summary: Uplands

Region 19 is to be managed for multiple uses including wildlife habitat, settlement, public facilities, and dispersed public recreation. While the potential for oil and gas is considered to be modest, exploration and development activity that is protective of other resources and uses is appropriate under this designation. The largest amount of state land, situated to the south and east of Port Moller, is designated General Use and is to be managed for multiple uses, although during the planning period it is likely that the most appropriate use of this land is for dispersed recreation and wildlife habitat protection. Most of the coastal lands in Port Moller are within the Port Moller Critical Habitat Area and are to be managed primarily for habitat. An area of residential settlement is identified near the head of Herendeen Bay. State lands in Sand Point are to be managed for public facilities, and state-selected lands in the vicinity are for community expansion.

Plan Designations and Management

The plan designations that are used within this region have the following management intent. The policies and management intent guidelines described in Chapter 2 affect all DNR authorizations. See also the descriptions of the plan designations in the first part of this Chapter; this section indicates which lands can be conveyed out of state ownership and those that must be retained.

- **General Use (Gu).** Four blocks of state-owned and state-selected lands are located in the vicinity of Port Moller and one on Nagai Island. These areas are designated for General Use to allow for a variety of uses. While most of the land will be managed for public recreation and wildlife habitat, other uses may be compatible. One possible use for land at the back of Herendeen Bay to be used for trans-peninsular transport and associated development. ADOT/PF should be consulted prior to the issuance of authorizations or disposals in this area. Another possible use is oil and gas exploration and development activities that are protective of other resources and uses, as permitted by DNR. Land with this designation is to be retained during the planning period.

It is expected that little development will occur in these areas during the planning period, and it is not intended as a matter of policy that intensive forms of development occur in these areas other than occasionally and at specific sites. Any municipal land selections, under the Municipal Entitlement program, are conveyable to the municipality subject to a Best Interest Finding by the state. However, the Lake and Peninsula Borough has made no land selections on General Use lands in this Region.

- **Habitat (Ha).** This designation applies to areas of varied size for fish and wildlife species during a sensitive life-history stage where alteration of the habitat or human disturbance could result in the permanent loss of a population or sustained yield of a species. This land will remain in state ownership except for areas where a tidelands conveyance to a municipality is allowed under AS 38.05.820 and AS 38.05.825. This designation applies to uplands, tidelands, and submerged lands. In Region 19 this

designation is applied to streams and shorelands cataloged by the Alaska Department of Fish and Game as anadromous and to the area within the Port Moller Critical Habitat Area.

- **Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed and Habitat (Co-designation).** Certain navigable waterbodies (lakes and streams) are co-designated Habitat (Ha) and Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed (Rd). Authorizations within these waterbodies should not interfere with important habitat or public recreation values. See Table 3.1 in the Navigability section of this Chapter for a listing of these streams. Note: Certain waterbodies may (only) be designated Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed (Rd), Habitat (Ha), or General Use (Gu).
- **Public Facilities-Retain (Pr).** This designation is used for land upon which public infrastructure is or can be built. It is commonly used for airports as these are typically retained in state ownership.
- **Settlement (Se).** An area at the head of Port Moller within this Region is considered appropriate for remote settlement and is designated Settlement. Note: One of the valleys at the back of Herendeen Bay may provide the best route for a transportation corridor across the Alaska Peninsula and any future developments here should not obstruct this potential. ADOT/PF should be consulted prior to issuing any authorizations in this area.

Specific Management Considerations

- **Generally Allowed Uses.** The Generally Allowed Uses in 11 AAC 96.020 can occur on state-owned land throughout the Region with the exception of the Port Moller Critical Habitat Area.
- **Port Moller Critical Habitat Area.** The Alaska State Legislature has designated the Port Moller Critical Habitat Area for the protection of fish and wildlife habitat. A special area permit is required for any habitat altering work, including any construction activity and should be submitted to the Division of Sport Fish Regional Office in Anchorage representing the area in which the proposed activity will occur.
- **Anadromous rivers and streams.** Anadromous rivers and streams, including shorelands, as depicted in the anadromous stream catalog (<http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/sf/SARR/AWC/index.cfm?adfg=maps.interactive>) are co-designated Habitat (Ha) and Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed (Rd).
- **Mineral Closing and Opening Orders.** MCO 393, which closes a large number of major streams in the Bristol Bay Area to mineral entry, does not affect this Region. The following Mineral Closing Orders (MCO) each affect less than 60 acres: MCOs 598, 622 and 644 in Sand Point. No new Mineral Closing Orders are recommended for this Region.

- Mineral Order. Mineral Order No. 791 is an interim order (as of July 11, 2003) that precludes shallow natural gas leasing and oil and gas exploration licensing. This order has no effect on locatable or leaseable minerals other than shallow natural gas leasing and oil and gas exploration licensing. The order affects state land in Region 19.
- Retained Lands. Except for the several small management units allocated to Public Facilities-Retain, there are no state lands that are designated to be retained by the state.
- Navigable Waters. Shorelands (rivers and lakes) that are believed to be navigable are listed in Table 3.1 in the Navigability section of this Chapter. Authorizations in these waters must ensure the continued use of a waterway by the public for purposes of trade, travel, and commerce. Note: These waterbodies are assigned a plan designation of Habitat, Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed, a co-designation of Habitat and Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed, and, sometimes, General Use. Authorizations issued by DNR are to maintain the habitat and public recreation values of these waterbodies.

Management Summary: Tidelands and Submerged Lands

Tidelands represent the majority of state lands within this Region, and are the focus of management within the Region. Most of the tidelands adjoin federal National Wildlife Refuges (Alaska Peninsula and Alaska Maritime) or Native-owned tracts. Those adjacent to the coastal islands are particularly important. The tidelands adjacent to Unga Island and the Shumagin Island group are especially valuable, providing habitat for numerous seabird colonies, harbor seal haulout sites, and both sea lion rookeries and haulouts. Eel grass beds are common throughout many of the islands of this group and extensive kelp beds are located offshore. Tidelands adjacent to the Alaska Peninsula are known sea otter concentration areas or have established populations of sea otters.

Commercial fishing is carried on extensively in this region. Pacific herring sac roe harvest occurs at Beaver Bay (Cape Aliaksin). A halibut harvest occurs around the Shumagin Islands and Unga Island. Foreign trawl for sablefish, pollock, cod and ocean perch occurs in this region. Purse seine harvest of all varieties of salmon occurs all along the coastline of this region, most intensely in the bays and lagoons, from Stepovak Bay to Unga Strait. Salmon are also harvested by purse seine, mostly on the east coast of Unga Island. There is a more sporadic purse seine harvest on other islands in the Shumagin Island group. Commercial fishing and fish processing (bottomfish, pollock, salmon and fish meal) are currently the dominant activities in the Sand Point area. It is the home of the largest fishing fleet in the Aleutian Chain. A large number of residents hold commercial fishing permits, but there is also a large influx of transient population during the fishing season. A small number of set net permits occur along the eastern coastline of Balboa Bay and in Lefthand Bay, scattered set net permits occur around southern portions of Unga Island, and a few set net permits are scattered along the southern coastline of the Alaska Peninsula in this region. Although the community of Unga is no longer occupied year-round, it is occupied in summer for subsistence harvest of salmon and other fish. Local subsistence harvest consists of mostly salmon.

Red king and tanner crab are harvested all along the southern coast of the Alaska Peninsula, with the highest concentrations of harvest in the bays and lagoons. Dungeness crab are harvested in Stepovak and Beaver Bays.

Plan Designations and Management Intent

Coastal and Municipal Tidelands. Tidelands adjacent to native or private land are designated General Use except for areas within municipalities, which are designated Waterfront Development³⁹. There are other specific, scattered sites that are associated with transportation or various forms of economic development that are also designated Waterfront Development⁴⁰. Tideland authorizations in these areas are considered appropriate, but such authorizations shall protect sea lion rookeries and haulouts, harbor seal haulouts, established sea otter pupping areas and sea bird colonies, and shall minimize disturbance to kelp and eel grass beds.

Tidelands adjacent to National Wildlife Refuges (R19T-01). These areas are affected by a Tideland Resource Management Zone. Tidelands within this Zone are designated Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed and Habitat and are to be managed to protect habitat values and maintain the public recreation value of these areas, particularly for the tideland resources described above. For a detailed description of this Tideland Resource Management Zone, see Tidelands Summary in Chapter 3.

See the Resource Allocation Table for more details on these tideland management units.

³⁹ Municipal tideland management units: Sand Point: R19T-03 through 06, Squaw Harbor: R19T-03.

⁴⁰ R19T-02.

Resource Allocation Table for Upland Management Units - Region 19

Unit # / Name	Acres / Designation(s)	MTRS	Management Intent	Resources, Uses, Additional Info
R19-01 Nagai Island and Port Moller	63,463 Gu - General Use Ha - Habitat	Map 3-19	The large inland portion of this unit is designated General Use (Gu) and is to be managed for a variety of uses, including subsistence and recreational harvest, the protection of sensitive habitats and fish/wildlife, the possible development of the Herendeen coalfield, oil and gas exploration and development, and dispersed recreation. Development authorizations may be considered appropriate subject to the protection of these resources and the specific requirements of Chapter 2. Intensive development is not expected within this unit during the planning period. That portion of the unit covering Nagai Island is designated Habitat and is to be retained in state ownership. It is intended that this unit be retained in state ownership during the planning period.	This unit covers several townships of state land near the Port Moller area and state-selected land on Nagai Island. Near Port Moller the mountainous terrain rises quickly from the coast in many places. Numerous valleys containing anadromous streams provide more gentle gradients for access. The Port Moller Critical Habitat Area (R21T-01) covers the majority of this unit's coastline. Waterfowl concentrate in these waters. The state selections on Nagai Island are a top-filing of Native-selected lands. They are located on the north end of Nagai Island around protected harbors. Some coastal land is accessible while other areas of the coast are steep and covered with seabird rookeries. Marine mammals and seabirds use this area. The Herendeen coalfield underlies the majority of this unit.
R19-02 Herendeen Bay	20,098 Se - Settlement	Map 3-19	Unit is designated Settlement and is considered appropriate for disposal during the planning period. Development is to conform to the requirements of Remote Settlement in Chapter 2. It is intended that land disposals locate along the coast and in the valleys in a manner that mitigates wildlife impacts and maintains a right-of-way for a future transportation corridor. One of the valleys at the back of Herendeen Bay may provide the best route for a transportation corridor across the Alaska Peninsula and any future developments here should not obstruct this potential. ADOT/PF shall be consulted prior to issuing any authorizations in this area. Portions of this area may be closed to mineral entry when a land disposal is under consideration.	This unit is comprised of all state land at the head of Herendeen Bay. The area lies just south of the Port Moller Critical Habitat Area. Abutting this unit to the south is the Alaska Peninsula National Wildlife Refuge. A potential trans-peninsular transportation corridor should be maintained. Marine mammals, seabirds and waterfowl use the area. Herring and blue crab spawn in the bay. Lawrence, Grass and Deer valleys all branch off of the bay and are spring concentration areas and/or feeding concentration areas for brown bear. Cannery ruins, old cabin sites, borough land and a Native allotment occupy scattered lots around the shore. The Alaska Heritage Resources Survey (AHRS) reports a heritage site in this unit on the east side of Herendeen Bay. The Herendeen coalfield underlies this unit.
R19-03 Sand Point	1.29 Pr - Public Facilities- Retain	Map 3-19 S056S073W Sec. 8	These units are to be retained by the state. OSL 691 is to be managed by ADF&G under Interagency Land Management Agreement ADL 200414. OSL 458 is to be managed by ADF&G as residential quarters or office.	OSL 691 is a 2.7 acre lot in Sand Point to be used for an ADF&G warehouse. OSL 458 is a 0.28 acre lot in Sand Point (Lot 15 of Humboldt Harbor Estates) to be used for ADF&G residential quarters or office.
R19-04 Sand Point Airport	61 Pr - Public Facilities- Retain	Map 3-19 S056S073W Sec. 19	This unit is to be retained by the state to provide an airport for Sand Point. It will be managed by ADOT/PF pursuant to Management Rights ADLs 220568 and 224241.	This unit contains the Sand Point Airport and is comprised of OSLs 52, 841 and 989 and LSH 177 and is to be managed by ADOT/PF. MCOs 598, 622 and 644 affect this unit.

Resource Allocation Table for Tideland Management Units - Region 19

Unit # / Name	Acres / Designation(s)	MTRS	Management Intent	Resources, Uses, Additional Info
R19T-01 Tidelands adjacent to NWR	182,320 Ha - Habitat Rd - Public Recreation and Tourism- Dispersed	Map 3-19	Tidelands adjacent to the Alaska Maritime and Alaska Peninsula National Wildlife Refuges are to be managed to protect sensitive habitat values, fisheries and wildlife resources, and the public recreation resources of the NWR. A Tideland Resource Management Zone (TRMZ) affects these tidelands. See "Management Summary, Tidelands" in Chapter 3 for a more detailed description of TRMZs and the management intent and requirements for such zones. As appropriate, consult with Alaska Maritime and Alaska Peninsula NWRs, USFWS, and NMFS prior to issuing authorizations.	<p>The tidelands associated with offshore islands, principally Unga Island and the various islands in the Shumagin Island Group, contain the majority of the sensitive habitats and marine resources within the Region. All of the offshore islands are included within the Alaska Maritime NWR.</p> <p>The tidelands adjacent to Unga Island and the Shumagin Island group are particularly valuable, providing habitat for numerous large seabird colonies (spring, fall and winter concentrations of 10,000 to 100,000 birds or more), harbor seal haulout sites, both sea lion rookeries and haulouts, and an area of herring spawning. Kelp beds are located offshore of many such islands within this group and also occur on the eastern shore of Unga Island.</p> <p>Tidelands adjacent to the Alaska Peninsula are known sea otter concentration areas or have established populations of sea otters. A herring spawning area occurs in Lefthand Bay.</p> <p>Harvest: Purse seine harvest occurs along the Pacific coastline of the Alaska Peninsula in this region, most intensely in bays and lagoons from Stepovak Bay to Unga Strait for pink, sockeye, chinook, chum and coho salmon. Herring sac roe are harvested at Beaver Bay (Cape Aliaksin). A few scattered set net permits occur along the coastline of the Alaska Peninsula, mostly on the eastern coastline of Balboa Bay and in Lefthand Bay. Red king and tanner crab are harvested along the southern coastal tidelands in this region with the highest concentrations being in bays and lagoons. Dungeness crab harvest is concentrated in Stepovak and Beaver Bays.</p> <p>The tidelands around the Shumagin Islands are highly desirable for commercial fishing and fish processing, particularly Unga and Popof Islands. Salmon are harvested by purse seine, mostly on the east coast of Unga Island and also around other islands in the Shumagin group. Domestic trawl harvest of halibut occurs in tidelands around this island group and foreign trawl occurs for sablefish, pollock, cod and ocean perch. There are a few set net permits around these islands particularly around the southern portions of Unga Island (community of Unga). The community of Unga is occupied only in the summer for subsistence harvest of salmon and other fish. Subsistence harvest around Unga and Popof Islands consists of mostly salmon. Sport fishing is also prevalent in the tidelands of this region.</p>
R19T-02 Lefthand Bay/Balboa Bay	14,487 Wd - Waterfront Development	Map 3-19 S053S075W	The unit is to be managed to accommodate tideland industrial uses, including those related to a potential oil and gas terminal. Development in tidelands must be coordinated with upland development, which, if it were to occur, would take place within Native-owned lands.	The unit consists of a tideland tract at the head of Balboa Bay, and extending to the head of Lefthand Bay, in an area that is considered to have potential for an oil and gas terminal or as a transshipment point for processed mineral resources. Adjacent uplands are occupied by units owned by Native corporations or individuals.
R19T-03 Squaw Harbor	1,748 Wd - Waterfront Development	Map 3-19 S057S074W	The unit is to be managed to accommodate tideland commercial and industrial uses. Note: It is unlikely that all of the area within this unit will be used for future commercial and industrial tideland uses. A fairly large area of tidelands is designated Waterfront Development given the	The unit is situated generally within Baralof Bay, adjacent to the community of Squaw Harbor on Unga Island. This area is considered appropriate for tideland commercial and industrial uses. This tideland unit excludes all private tidelands.

Unit # / Name	Acres / Designation(s)	MTRS	Management Intent	Resources, Uses, Additional Info
			uncertainty of the exact location of future facilities needed to support this community.	
R19T-04 Humboldt Harbor	3,860 Wd - Waterfront Development	Map 3-19 S056S073W	The unit is to be managed to accommodate tideland commercial and industrial uses. Note: It is unlikely that all of the area within this unit will be used for future commercial and industrial tideland uses. A fairly large area of tidelands is designated Waterfront Development given the uncertainty of the exact location of future facilities needed to support this community.	The unit is situated generally on Humboldt Harbor, adjacent to the community of Sand Point on Popof Island. This area is considered appropriate for tideland commercial and industrial uses. This tideland unit excludes all private tidelands. Commercial fishing and fish processing are currently the dominant activities involving tidelands around Sand Point. Sand point is the home of the largest fishing fleet in the Aleutian Chain and includes local fishermen as well as a large number of transients during the fishing season. Tideland facilities support the fish processing industry and provide commercial docking facilities for the State Ferry which docks at Sand Point bi-monthly between May and October.
R19T-05 Sand Point	200 Wd - Waterfront Development	Map 3-19 S056S073W	The unit is to be managed to be consistent with airport operations and with the requirements of the ILMA.	The unit encompasses an area of an ILMA (ADL 228251) to ADOT/PF related to the operations of the Sand Point airport.
R19T-06 Popof Strait	2,912 Wd - Waterfront Development	Map 3-19 S056S073W	The unit is to be managed to accommodate tideland commercial and industrial uses. Note: It is unlikely that all of the area within this unit will be used for future commercial and industrial tideland uses. A fairly large area of tidelands is designated Waterfront Development given the uncertainty of the exact location of future facilities needed to support this community.	The unit is situated generally within Popof Strait, adjacent to the community of Sand Point on Popof Island. This area is considered appropriate for tideland commercial and industrial uses. This tideland unit excludes all private tidelands as well as tideland unit R19T-04. Commercial fishing and fish processing are currently the dominant activities involving tidelands around Sand Point. Sand point is the home of the largest fishing fleet in the Aleutian Chain and includes local fishermen as well as a large number of transients during the fishing season. Tideland facilities support the fish processing industry and provide commercial docking facilities for the State Ferry which docks at Sand Point bi-monthly from May to October.
R19T-07 Herendeen Bay - South	445 Wd - Waterfront Development	Map 3-19	The unit is to be managed to accommodate tideland uses associated with residential settlement.	Uplands are intended to be developed for settlement; see unit R19-02.
R19T-08 Alaska Peninsula, South	1,093,144 Gu - General Use	Map 3-19	Manage for a variety of uses and resources. Protect eel grass beds, Pacific herring spawning areas, and sea otter concentration areas used for pupping. Consult USFWS and NMFS prior to issuing authorizations. Maintain opportunities for commercial, subsistence, and sport harvest.	This unit consists of those tide and submerged lands not situated within the Tideland Resource Management Zone (R19T-01) or areas adjoining other tideland units, particularly those situated adjacent to municipalities (R19T-02 through - 07). They adjoin lands either owned privately or by Native corporations. The majority of the sensitive biological resources within this Region are included within the TRMZ. Within this unit there are no known harbor seal, sea lion or walrus haulout areas or rookeries, or significant sea bird colonies. Nonetheless, some areas with significant resources exist. Tidelands adjacent to some portions of the coast may have sea otter concentrations or established populations of sea otter. A herring spawning area occurs in Lefthand Bay and there are eel grass beds situated at the headlands between

Unit # / Name	Acres / Designation(s)	MTRS	Management Intent	Resources, Uses, Additional Info
				<p>Beaver Bay and Balboa Bay.</p> <p>Purse seine harvest occurs along the Pacific coastline of the Alaska Peninsula in this region, most intensely in bays and lagoons from Stepovak Bay to Unga Strait for pink, sockeye, chinook, chum and coho salmon. Herring sac roe are harvested at Beaver Bay (Cape Aliaksin). A few scattered set net permits occur along the coastline of the Alaska Peninsula, mostly on the eastern coastline of Balboa Bay and in Lefthand Bay. Red king and tanner crab are harvested along the southern coastal tidelands in this region with the highest concentrations being in bays and lagoons. Dungeness crab harvest is concentrated in Stepovak and Beaver Bays. Sport fishing is also prevalent in the tidelands of this region.</p>

Region 21: Nelson Lagoon, Moffet Lagoon

Summary of Resources and Uses in the Region

Region Area and Boundary

Region 21 encompasses a large area consisting of generally flat and lake filled topography in its central portions and by mountainous terrain in the more southern parts (Map 3-21). Most of the state-owned land is associated with the low, flat, lake filled area of the northern and interior portions of this Region. Region 21 is situated at the extreme west end of the Alaska Peninsula. It is bordered on the north by Bristol Bay, on the west by the Izembek National Wildlife Refuge, on the south by the Pacific Ocean, and on the east by the eastern edge of Port Moller, a large embayment having a rich and diverse population of marine mammals, waterfowl and shorebirds, walrus and seal haulouts, and by extensive areas of eel grass. The small community of Nelson Lagoon (pop. 64) occurs within the Region.

State Lands: Ownership and Acreage

Most of this Region consists of extensive areas of state-owned uplands, much of which occurs within the Port Moller Critical Habitat Area, a protected area of sensitive habitat and diverse biological resources. Essentially that area adjoining the coast and inland about 10-15 miles are owned by the state. Much of the remaining part of the Region is separated into native and federal ownership. Native-owned lands adjoin parts of Port Moller and Nelson Lagoon in the northern part of the Region but also occur along Canoe Bay and within the Sapsuk River drainage, areas situated in the southern and central parts of the Region, respectively. Portions of the Alaska Peninsula south of the state-owned areas are occupied by the Alaska Peninsula National Wildlife Refuge. These principally occur near Mt. Dana or occupy portions of the large peninsula to the east of Pavlof Harbor.

The plan applies to 494,697 acres of state-owned and state-selected uplands and 495,999 acres of state-owned tidelands in this region. The plan also applies to state-owned shorelands (acreages of shorelands have not been calculated). There are relatively few areas of state-selected land, with most of these concentrated at the west end of the region along the coast and directly inland, following the Cathedral River drainage. There are few areas of municipal selections in this Region; there is one fairly large area (1,985) occupying a part of the northern coast of Pavlof Bay and a smaller area (450 acres) along the north coast at Salt Water Lagoon.

Physical Geography

This region is characterized by two types of landscapes. There are broad, flat to undulating lowlands in the north punctuated by numerous lakes and ponds and by extensive wetland areas.

Mountainous terrain occupies the remainder of the Region, particularly in the southwest at the Aghileen Pinnacles and adjacent to Pavlof Volcano and its associated peaks, and in the southeast, generally coinciding with the mountainous topography of Hoodoo Mountain and Mt. Dana. The hydrology of the Region reflects the topographic differences. Lowland areas are characterized by seemingly endless lakes, ponds, and wetlands, with numerous streams. This condition is particularly true of the area north of Pavlof Bay to Nelson Lagoon where the rivers are characteristically low gradient and meandering. The principal drainages are the Sapsuk and Caribou Rivers. The relatively few major rivers occupying the areas of mountainous topography are characteristically fast, with steep gradients. The principal drainage within the more mountainous terrain is associated with the Canoe Bay River, which drains into Canoe Bay proper. There is, however, a general similarity of vegetation types, with some differentiation, reflecting the effects of altitude. Low and dwarf shrub dominates extensive areas, much of which is associated with wetland complexes in the area with a large number of lakes and ponds north of Pavlof Bay. Tall shrubs and alpine tundra/barrens dominate in mountainous areas except for a fairly small area of dwarf shrub tundra near the Aghileen Pinnacles. Palustrine wetlands occupy large areas of the flat interior and northern parts of the Region.

A special, unique physiographic feature within this Region is the Nelson Lagoon, situated in the northern part of the Region and adjoining Port Moller to the east. The area of the lagoon proper as well as some adjoining uplands are contained within the Port Moller Critical Habitat Area (CHA). Parts of Port Moller are also contained within this CHA. Both the lagoon and Port Moller are described in more detail in the 'Tidelands and Shorelands' section that follows.

Climate

The climate of Region 21 is considered to be maritime, with much of its weather being formed by storms emanating from either the North Pacific or the Bering Sea. Annual precipitation ranges between 25 and 60 inches, including an annual snowfall of 55 inches. The Region is generally free of permafrost.

Access

Access to and within Region 21 is poor. There are no roads, airstrips, or ports, although generally good port facilities and airstrips are available at Cold Bay and Port Heiden. Access is provided by water, and most of this is associated with commercial fishing.

Resources and Uses

Most of the uses in this Region are associated with subsistence by native peoples and a limited amount of sport fishing, most of which is associated with saltwater. There is also limited subsistence and recreational hunting of moose and caribou. Some trapping also occurs for red

fox, beaver, lynx, mink, and marten. There are few people within the region; most of these cluster around Nelson Lagoon. Most use is associated with commercial fishing in offshore waters; see the use description in the section on 'Tidelands and Shorelands' that follows.

Cultural and Historic. Nelson Lagoon was used historically as a Unangan summer fish camp. A salmon saltery operated from 1906 to 1917, which attracted Scandinavian fishermen; however, there has been no cannery since. In 1965 a school was built and the community began to be occupied year-round. There is only one reported prehistoric site, situated on the west side of Herendeen Bay.

Economic. Nelson Lagoon is situated in the middle of a rich and productive salmon fisheries area. Many residents hold commercial fishing permits, primarily salmon gillnet. Subsistence activities balance the seasonal nature of the fishery, and some trapping occurs.

Recreation. Recreation in the Region is primarily related to outdoor activities such as hunting, sport fishing, wildlife viewing, photography, and hiking. State lands occupy the majority of this Region and therefore receive the majority of this use. However, small portions of the Alaska Maritime and Alaska Peninsula National Wildlife Refuges are in this Region and draw some recreational use.

Minerals. Region 21 contains at least eleven known mineral occurrences. A wide variety of commodities are present; these include porphyry, hot-springs, and polymetallic lode-types. Copper, gold, silver, lead, zinc, antimony, arsenic, and silver prospects are known. Mineral sand placers occur along many beaches in the Bristol Bay area. In Region 21 ilmenite sands occur on the beaches in the Nelson Lagoon and Moffet Point areas. The Herendeen coalfield extends partly into Region 21. The identified resources for the Chignik and Herendeen Bay coalfields range up to 200 million short tons; hypothetical and speculative resources range to three billion short tons. Coal occurs as Cretaceous bituminous and subbituminous coals of the Coal Valley Member of the Chignik Formation; the coal units are typically less than seven feet thick ranging from less than two to seventeen feet.

Oil and Gas. Oil and gas potential is considered to be high. Five wells have been drilled in the Region. In 1970 Pan American drilled the Hoodoo Lake No. 1 and 2 just west of Herendeen Bay to depths of 8,049 ft. and 11,243 ft. respectively. The company also drilled the David River No. 1 (2,300 ft.) and 1-A (13,769 ft.) in 1969. In 1974, BP Exploration drilled the Cathedral River No. 1 to a depth of 14,301 feet. Oil and gas shows were encountered in the Bear Lake, Stepovak, and Tolsoi formations; these formations are absent in the Cathedral River well. State and Native landowners are currently pursuing a new hydrocarbon exploration licensing and leasing program. The Alaska Department of Natural Resources, Lake and Peninsula, Bristol Bay, and Aleutians East Boroughs have signed a memorandum of understanding (MOU) in support of oil and gas lease sales and licensing of state land in the Bristol Bay and Alaska Peninsula region (March 17, 2004). Similar MOUs are in effect between the DNR and The Aleut Regional Native Corporation (December 18, 2003) and the DNR and Bristol Bay Native Corporation (July 10, 2003).

Geothermal. Although thermal springs are found northwest, southeast, and south of Region 21, there are no known thermal waters in the Region.

Fish and Wildlife. The resources of this Region are primarily those associated with fisheries and wildlife. Most of the larger streams draining into Bristol Bay are anadromous, with chum, coho, and king salmon present. There are somewhat fewer anadromous streams that drain into the Pacific Ocean, with most concentrating within the Canoe Bay and Canoe Bay River drainages. Pink, king, and sockeye salmon are present in these streams. Brown bears congregate along the coast, along the Sapsuk and Canoe Bay River drainages, and along the drainages that flow into Bristol Bay south of Franks Point. Moose are present in the region in fewer numbers, reflecting the sparse habitat for this animal. Although present, there are no known moose rutting or calving areas. Caribou are common throughout the region and are part of the Southern Alaska Peninsula Herd, which, at a population of about 3,000, is the smallest herd in the planning area. An extensive caribou calving area occupies most of the lowland to the west of Nelson Lagoon and north of the mountain range dominated by the Pavlof Volcano, Mt. Hague, Pavlof Sister, and the Aghileen Pinnacles. There are few raptors that frequent the uplands, and most shorebirds and waterfowl are associated with near shore areas, Nelson Lagoon, and both Port Moller and Herendeen Bay. Marine resources are particularly significant and the section on 'Tidelands and Shorelands' should be consulted for a description of the type and distribution of these resources.

Management Considerations: Local, State, and Federal Plans

Local, state, and federal management plans affect portions of this Region.

There are no local plans that affect this area except for the Aleutians East Borough Coastal District Plan. This plan contains extensive enforceable policies and should be consulted by DNR prior to granting an authorization. See the web site <http://www.alaskacoast.state.ak.us/>⁴¹ for more information on the enforceable policies of the Coastal District Plan.

The single state resource management plan that affects this Region is the DNR Bristol Bay Area Plan. It affects all state lands in the planning area, which includes uplands, shorelands, tidelands, and submerged lands, and navigable waters, and has been in force since its adoption in 1984. This revision supersedes and replaces the 1984 plan.

The Alaska Peninsula and Becharof National Wildlife Refuge (NWR) Comprehensive Conservation Plan (CCP) applies to the Alaska Peninsula NWR. There is a separate federal CCP for the Izembek NWR. See the section on Local and Federal Plans in Chapter 3 for a more detailed description of these plans and how they apply to federal lands. DNR has consulted these plans in its preparation of the revised plan.

⁴¹ The Alaska Coastal Management Program was terminated on July 1, 2011, pursuant to AS 44.66.030.

Municipal Selections

Two municipal selections by the Aleutians East Borough total approximately 2,207 acres in Region 21. One fairly large area (1,715) occupies a part of the northern coast of Pavlof Bay and a smaller area (492 acres) occurs along the north coast at Salt Water Lagoon. See Plan Map 3-21 for the location of these selections and refer to Appendix C.

Management Summary: Uplands

The Region is to be managed for a variety of multiple uses, including the maintenance of sensitive habitats, wildlife, and fisheries; and for dispersed public recreation and harvest. Because of the extent of the state land, the absence of discernible economic patterns, and the potential to accommodate a variety of uses through siting and other types of development stipulations, many areas of state land are designated General Use. Most of the state land situated in interior locations north of the mountain range dominated by Pavlof Volcano is considered an essential calving area for a portion of the Southern Alaska Peninsula Caribou Herd. Because of the importance of this area for calving habitat, development authorizations must conform to the requirements of Chapter 2 under the section 'Caribou and Moose Rutting and Calving Areas'.

Plan Designations and Management

The plan designations that are used within this Region have the following management intent. The policies and management intent guidelines described in Chapter 2 affect all DNR authorizations. Refer especially to those guidelines relating to Fish and Wildlife Habitat and Harvest Areas, and Settlement. See also the descriptions of the plan designations in the first part of this Chapter; this section indicates which lands can be conveyed out of state ownership and those that must be retained.

- General Use (R21-01 and R21-04) (Gu). Extensive areas throughout the Region are designated General Use, for the reasons given above. Areas designated General Use are typically remote, inaccessible, and, within this Region, are generally not considered suitable for development. Within areas designated General Use, a variety of uses may occur; nonetheless, it is expected that, owing to their physical characteristics, little development will occur during the planning period and, as a matter of policy, it is not intended that intensive forms of development occur in these areas. Site specific development, such as occurs with oil and gas exploration and development, would be acceptable in these areas with protection of other resources and uses. Other than these forms of development, it is intended that land designated General Use will be retained in state ownership during the planning period.

- Settlement (R21-02 and R21-05) (Se). The two areas of state land selected by the Aleutians East Borough under the Municipal Entitlement Act are designated Settlement. Areas designated Settlement may be conveyed to municipalities under AS 29.65.130. These areas are considered appropriate for conveyance to the borough, subject to a separate and subsequent Best Interest Finding by DNR.
- Habitat (R21T-01) (Ha). This designation is applied to the upland areas encompassed by the Port Moller Critical Habitat Area. Note: Extensive tideland areas are also affected by the Habitat designation. Anadromous streams depicted in the ADF&G Anadromous Stream Catalog are also designated Habitat.
- Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed and Habitat (Co-designation). Certain navigable waterbodies (lakes and streams) are co-designated Habitat (Ha) and Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed (Rd). Authorizations within these waterbodies should not interfere with important habitat or public recreation values. See Table 3.1 in the Navigability section of this Chapter for a listing of these streams. Note: Certain streams may be only designated Habitat or General Use.

Specific Management Considerations

- Generally Allowed Uses. The Generally Allowed Uses in 11 AAC 96.020 can occur throughout the Region; there are no areas affected by 11 AAC 96.010 requiring a permit before being authorized.
- Mineral Closing Orders and Leasehold Location Orders. Except for areas closed to mineral entry under existing Mineral Closing Orders, all lands within the Region are open to mineral entry. (There are two MCOs that affect this Region: MCO 791 closes the Region to shallow oil and gas exploration and development, and MCO 393 closes certain streams to mineral entry.) No additional MCOs are recommended; the only exception applies to the areas to be disposed of by DNR for purposes of settlement, should such areas be selected for this purpose in the future within this Region by DNR. In these instances, closure of the settlement area prior to sale is required. The MCO in areas not selected for staking within three years of the land sale shall revert to 'open to mineral entry'. No leasehold location orders are recommended.
- Municipal Entitlement Selections. Land designated Settlement is conveyable to municipalities under the Municipal Entitlement Act. All lands so designated are appropriate for disposal, subject to a DNR Best Interest Finding.
- Retained Lands. There are no state lands within this Region that are designated by the area plan to be retained other than those affected by the Habitat designation, which coincides with the Port Moller CHA and certain anadromous streams.
- Navigable Waters. Shorelands (rivers and lakes) that are believed to be navigable are listed in Table 3.1 in the Navigability section of this Chapter. Authorizations in these waters must ensure the continued use of a waterway by the public for purposes of trade, travel, and commerce. Note: These waterbodies are assigned a plan designation of

Habitat, Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed, a co-designation of Habitat and Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed, and, sometimes, General Use. Authorizations issued by DNR are to maintain the habitat and public recreation values of these waterbodies.

See the Resource Allocation Table for more details on these upland management units.

Management Summary: Tidelands and Submerged Lands

The tidelands in Region 21 stretch along the coastline from Port Moller and Nelson Lagoon, west to Moffet Lagoon on the Bristol Bay side of the Peninsula. On the Pacific Ocean side, this region extends south to include Pavlof Bay and Coal Bay. Nelson Lagoon and the northwestern part of Port Moller are the most sensitive habitat areas and include a variety of marine mammals, seabirds and seabird colonies, harbor seal and walrus haulouts, and extensive areas of waterfowl concentrations (all seasons) and waterfowl nesting. Eel grass and salt marshes are reported to occupy large areas of sheltered tidal flats in this bay and lagoon system. The Port Moller Critical Habitat Area (CHA) encompasses probably the most biologically productive and sensitive of these areas. There are also significant herring spawning areas and brown bear spring concentrations at the southern tip of Herendeen Bay.

Tidelands along the Pacific Coast are less biologically productive and are not known to include significant walrus or sea lion haulouts or rookeries, bald eagle concentrations or areas of kelp, except for specific locations in Coal Bay and the outer coast. The Pacific Coast area does provide sheltered tidal flats, sheltered rocky shore and exposed rocky headlands, which support clams, bivalves and mussels. Estuaries are created at the mouths of anadromous streams, which provide sub-tidal habitat for king and dungeness crab, and shrimp.

Commercial harvest of a variety of fish occurs along the Bristol Bay coastline in this region, particularly around the Nelson Lagoon / Port Moller area. Purse seine and drift (gill) net harvest of chinook salmon occurs in the vicinity of Cape Seniavin and for chum salmon in the eastern portions of Herendeen Bay. Several varieties of salmon are harvested by drift net in Nelson Lagoon. Extensive harvest of yellowfin sole and cod occurs in the Port Moller area, and herring sac roe are harvested in Nelson Lagoon, Port Moller bay, Herendeen Bay and around Deer Island. There are numerous set net sites within Nelson Lagoon. Subsistence harvest activity around Nelson Lagoon Village occurs during commercial off-season and consists of fishing. There is also some subsistence harvest of waterfowl and eggs.

Herring sac roe is harvested commercially in Pavlof Bay, Cape Tolstoi and Canoe Bay on the Pacific side of this region. Intensive purse seine harvest of pink, chum and some sockeye salmon occurs along the western coast of Pavlof Bay, concentrating in Canoe Bay. Red king and tanner crab are harvested along the Pacific Coast concentrating in sheltered tidal areas in bays and lagoons.

Plan Designations and Management Intent

Bristol Bay Tidelands

Coastal Shoreline. The Bristol Bay shoreline consists of coarse sand beaches with some mixed sand and gravel beaches. Waterfowl, shorebirds, sea otters, and harbor seals are present throughout this sub region. There are also some small, isolated Pacific herring spawning areas. This part of the Region is designated General Use and is to be managed to accommodate multiple tideland uses. Tideland authorizations are considered appropriate subject to the protection of sensitive resources and habitats.

Port Moller CHA, Port Moller West (R21T-01, R21T-02). Nelson Lagoon is the primary waterbody in this management unit and consists of extensive areas of sheltered tidal flats that are reported to consist, in part, of eel grass. It is a biologically rich and diverse lagoon system, with portions of the lagoon extending eastward to include the Kudobin Islands, which are used for harbor seal and walrus haulouts and contain a number of large seabird colonies. Most of the Lagoon is part of the Port Moller CHA, although significant areas of seabird colonies, harbor seal haulouts, and walrus haulouts are outside the CHA. Nelson Lagoon is split into two tideland management units; the area of the CHA itself (R21T-01), and the area not included in the CHA, titled Port Moller West (R21T-02). Both management units are designated Habitat and are to be managed to protect the critical biological resources of Nelson Lagoon. Tideland authorizations are not considered appropriate within this area and may only be granted if the resources of the area are protected, if there is no other feasible and prudent site, and the authorization is in the overall best interest of the state.

Port Moller Bay (R21T-03). Port Moller bay consists of extensive areas of sheltered tidal flats some of which may contain eel grass. This bay is a biologically productive area that includes a site used for walrus haulout situated near the settlement of Port Moller at Entrance Point, areas important for harbor seal haulouts in the western part of this management unit, and extensive areas important for waterfowl winter concentrations and waterfowl molting. Except for the tidelands adjacent to the settlement of Port Moller (R18T-03) that are intended to support waterfront development and are designated Waterfront Development, the remainder of the bay is designated Habitat. Authorizations within the areas designated Habitat may be appropriate, but authorizations shall ensure that walrus and harbor seal haulout areas are protected. Note: The area of harbor seal haulout concentration is included in management unit R21T-02, since it is part of the larger area used as haulouts in management unit 21T-01, Port Moller CHA.

Pacific Ocean Tidelands

Coastal Tidelands. Tidelands adjacent to the relatively small areas of Native or private lands are designated General Use except for areas within municipal selections or that are otherwise specifically designated. The northernmost part of Pavlof Bay (R21T-04) is designated Waterfront Development, to accommodate potential marine industrial development. An upland management unit, R21-03, adjoins this tideland management unit and is designated Settlement, a use designation that also accommodates these types of uses. Tideland authorizations in these areas are considered appropriate, but authorizations must protect sensitive resources and must be consistent with specific, applicable management requirements for a management unit.

Tidelands adjacent to the Alaska Peninsula NWR (R21T-05). A Tideland Resource Management Zone (R21T-05) affects tidelands adjacent to the Alaska Peninsula National Wildlife Refuge. Tidelands within this Zone are designated Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed and Habitat and are to be managed to protect habitat values and maintain public recreation values. For a detailed description of this Tideland Resource Management Zone, see Tidelands Summary in Chapter 3.

See the Resource Allocation Table for more details on these tideland management units.

Resource Allocation Table for Upland Management Units - Region 21

Unit # / Name	Acres / Designation(s)	MTRS	Management Intent	Resources, Uses, Additional Info
R21-01 Nelson Lagoon/ Moffet Lagoon	169,690 Gu - General Use	Map 3-21 Various	Unit is designated General Use (Gu) and is to be managed for a variety of uses, including the protection of fish and wildlife resources and their associated habitat, oil and gas exploration and development, the possible development of the Herendeen coalfield, and dispersed recreation. Development authorizations may be considered appropriate subject to the protection of these resources and the specific requirements of Chapter 2. See particularly the requirements for “Caribou and Moose Calving, Wintering, and Rutting Areas” in Chapter 2. Intensive development is not expected within this unit during the planning period except occasionally and at specific sites, such as oil and gas developments, if determined practicable. It is intended that this unit be retained in state ownership during the planning period.	This unit is separated into two subunits, one situated near the coast at Cape Lieskoi, and the other immediately west of Herendeen Bay. (This separation resulted from the 2013 Plan Amendment process which created a separate unit from the original unit of R21-01, to encompass significant moose and caribou habitats.) Except for the mountainous area in the far southeastern part of the unit near and adjacent to the Aghileen Pinnacles, the terrain is generally flat to gently rolling with vegetation consisting almost entirely of low and dwarf shrub. Extensive areas of wetland occur throughout the unit. Few moose are present but portions of the unit are part of the caribou’s range. Numerous anadromous streams exist, with all four species of salmon as well as Dolly Varden and Arctic char present in many streams. Few historic or prehistoric resources exist, reflecting the relatively little human use that has occurred within this Region. The unit is believed to contain oil and gas potential. The Herendeen coalfield underlies the eastern portion of this unit. This unit was affected by the 2013 Plan Amendment process.
R21-01A Area south of MoffettLagoon	271,354 Ha - Habitat Wr - Water Resources	Map 3-21 S050S077W, S050S079W, S050S080W, S051S078W, S051S079W, S051S080W, S051S081W, S051S082W, S052S079W, S052S080W, S052S081W, S052S082W	Manage unit for its habitat and wetland values. Retain in state ownership. Dispersed recreation is considered an appropriate use in this unit. Other than utilities, communication, roads/bridges, and similar facilities providing a public service, development is not appropriate within this unit. Any authorizations that may be issued will need to avoid impacts or mitigate impacts to wetlands, riverine areas, and sensitive bear, caribou and moose habitat. Oil and gas development is considered an appropriate use within this unit.	This unit, consisting of over 270,000 acre, was created from a previous unit in the 2005 BBAP. (See above.) It contains important calving and wintering grounds of the Alaska Peninsula Caribou Herd. Similar to unit R21-01, terrain is generally flat to gently rolling with vegetation consisting almost entirely of low and dwarf shrub. Extensive areas of wetland occur throughout the unit and are particularly concentrated near and within the lower drainages of the Caribou and Sapsuk Rivers. The Caribou and Sapsuk rivers are the principal drainages features within the unit, although numerous other streams and lakes exist, including the Lefthead and David Rivers. All four species of salmon are present and almost all of the streams are considered to be anadromous. Few historic or prehistoric resources exist, reflecting the relatively little human use that has occurred within this Region. The unit is believed to contain oil and gas potential. The Herendeen coalfield underlies the eastern portion of this unit. This unit was created during the 2013 Plan Amendment process.
R21-02 Salt Water Lagoon	396 Se - Settlement	Map 3-21 S049S080W	Unit is designated Settlement and is considered appropriate for disposal during the planning period. Development is to conform to the requirements of Remote Settlement and those for the Caribou Wintering Area, described in the Settlement, and Fish and Wildlife Habitat and Harvest Areas sections of Chapter 2. Conveyance to the Aleutians East Borough is considered appropriate, subject to a separate and subsequent Best Interest Finding.	Unit consists of both water areas and uplands. The water areas occur within portions of Salt Water Lagoon; the uplands occupy the higher elevation land to the south and east of the Lagoon. Caribou are known to winter in this area. Estuarine wetlands are present at the edges of the Lagoon. Upland areas are relatively well drained and are suitable for development (settlement). Dwarf and low shrub characterize the upland areas. There are no known prehistoric or historic sites. This unit is affected by a municipal selection of the Aleutians East Borough.
R21-03 David River	35,019 Se - Settlement	Map 3-21	The unit is designated Settlement and is considered appropriate for disposal during the planning period. Development should conform to the requirements for Remote Settlement in Chapter 2. See requirements for	The unit occupies generally level terrain containing numerous wetlands and lakes, of varying size. Vegetation is either dwarf low shrub or that type characteristic of palustrine wetlands. A caribou wintering area occupies

Unit # / Name	Acres / Designation(s)	MTRS	Management Intent	Resources, Uses, Additional Info
			caribou calving areas in Chapter 2.	much of the unit. David River, which constitutes the principal drainage of the area within the unit, is an anadromous fish stream. Unit may be suitable for settlement in areas adjacent to lakes. Access would be by means of floatplane. Portions of the unit are considered to have oil and gas potential.
R21-04 Sapsuk River - Cape Leontovich	4,480 Ha - Habitat	Map 3-21	If conveyed, the unit is designated Ha - Habitat and is to be managed for a variety of uses, including subsistence and recreational harvest, the protection of fish and wildlife resources and their associated habitat, oil and gas exploration and development, and dispersed recreation. Development authorizations may be considered appropriate subject to the protection of these resources and the specific requirements of Chapter 2. See particularly the section on "Caribou and Moose Calving and Rutting Areas" in this Chapter. Intensive development is not expected within this unit during the planning period except occasionally and at specific sites, such as isolated oil and gas development, if determined practicable.	This unit consists of three separate parts (subunits) occupying areas of state-selected land at Cape Leontovich and east of several large lakes near the Sapsuk River in the eastern, central part of the Region. The Cape Leontovich area, situated in the western part of the unit, occupies areas adjacent to the coast. These areas are generally low, flat and are relatively well drained, compared to other areas within this Region. They are covered by low and dwarf shrub. Moose and caribou are believed to be present at times during the year, but there are no reported caribou rutting areas. The area near the Sapsuk River is more characteristic of unit R21-01; it is low, flat, land not well drained, consisting of extensive wetland areas. The vegetation is a mix of palustrine wetlands and low and dwarf spruce, which also occupies wetland areas. A portion of the caribou wintering and calving occurs within this unit. There are no known historic or prehistoric resources in the subunit. There are several anadromous streams within the subunits, most of which contain sockeye salmon, although other species may also be present. The potential for oil and gas development may exist in several areas.
R21-05 Pavlof Bay	6 Se - Settlement	Map 3-21 S052S079W Sec. 26,34, 35,36	The unit is designated Settlement and is considered appropriate for disposal during the planning period. Conveyance of this unit to the Aleutians East Borough is considered appropriate, subject to a separate and subsequent Best Interest Finding.	The unit is situated on fairly flat terrain at the head of Pavlof Bay in an area characterized by low and generally flat to gently rolling topography. The predominate vegetation is dwarf shrub. There are numerous ponds, lakes, and wetlands. There are no known anadromous streams or historic/prehistoric sites. This area has been considered at various times as appropriate for various forms of commercial or industrial development associated with a transportation related marine facility. This unit is affected by a municipal entitlement selection of the Aleutians East Borough.

Resource Allocation Table for Tideland Management Units - Region 21

Unit # / Name	Acres / Designation(s)	MTRS	Management Intent	Resources, Uses, Additional Info
R21T-01 Port Moller CHA	112,033 Ha - Habitat	Map 3-21	The unit is designated Habitat. Unit is to be managed to protect the sensitive upland and tideland resources associated with this Critical Habitat Area. Only development authorizations that meet the requirements of AS 16.20.520 and AS 16.20.530 are appropriate. Applications must be submitted to ADF&G for review and approval. Also consult with NMFS and USFWS prior to granting authorizations. Note: The management of the sensitive tideland resources in the Port Moller area requires consideration of those resources in the adjacent tideland units, R21T-02 and R21T-03. This larger tideland area is to be managed as an integrated unit. See management intent for R21T-02 and R21T-03. Development authorizations to support the needs of the Nelson Lagoon community may be appropriate, subject to the protection of sensitive resources and consistency with overall unit management intent.	The Port Moller CHA, established under AS 16.20.550, consists mostly of an area of lagoon (Nelson Lagoon) as well as most adjoining uplands. Nelson Lagoon consists of extensive areas of sheltered tidal flats that are reported to consist, in part, of eel grass. It is a biologically rich and diverse lagoon system, with portions extending eastward to include the Kudobin Islands, which are used for harbor seal and walrus haulouts and contain a number of large seabird colonies. There are a variety of sensitive resources within the lagoon. These include eel grass beds and an extensive area used for harbor seal haulouts, while the entirety of the CHA is important as a waterfowl seasonal concentration area (spring, fall, and winter) and as a waterfowl concentration area for molting. Large concentrations of sea otters have been reported in Nelson Lagoon. A walrus haulout is located at the end of the Kudobin Islands, at Walrus Island. Most of the Lagoon is part of the Port Moller CHA, whose purpose is to protect the marine resources of this area. However, large portions of the lagoon are not included within the CHA yet contain important sea bird colonies, harbor seal haulouts, and walrus haulouts. These resources are contained in tideland unit R21T-02.
R21T-02 Port Moller West	88,991 Ha - Habitat Hv - Harvest	Map 3-21	This unit is designated Ha and is to be managed as an integrated unit with the adjacent tideland unit, R21T-01, which contains the Port Moller CHA. Tideland authorizations may be appropriate within this unit but are to ensure that the sensitive resources of this unit and the adjoining unit, R21T-01, are protected. Consult with NMFS, ADF&G, and USFWS prior to granting authorizations.	This tideland unit is situated immediately to the east of the Port Moller CHA, which is tideland unit R21T-01, and contains many of the same resources. A large harbor seal haulout area is included within this unit, and is an extension of the same haulout area in the CHA. The remainder of the unit is important as a waterfowl seasonal concentration area (spring, fall, winter) and as a waterfowl molting concentration area. Herring spawning areas occur at the head of Herendeen Bay around the mouths of anadromous streams emptying into the bay. Spring concentrations of brown bear also occur along this coastline. Large rafts of sea otters have been observed in Herendeen Bay. Harvest: Domestic trawl for cod occurs in the tidelands along the northern coastline of this unit. Herring sac roe harvest occurs in Nelson Lagoon and the northern part of Herendeen Bay around Deer Island. There are a few set net sites in this area. Purse seine and drift net harvest for sockeye chinook, chum and coho salmon occurs throughout this unit. The village of Nelson Lagoon is sited on a long spit which encloses the western portion of Nelson Lagoon. Residents rely on commercial drift net (gill net) harvest of salmon. Subsistence harvest of salmon by area residents also occurs during commercial off-season, and seabirds and eggs are also harvested.
R21T-03 Port Moller bay	68,813 Ha - Habitat Hv - Harvest	Map 3-21	Port Moller Bay is designated Habitat. Development authorizations may be appropriate within this unit but are to ensure that impacts upon the extensive waterfowl concentrations found throughout the Bay are minimized.	This unit includes the main portion of Port Moller bay. Not included in this tideland unit are tideland units R21T-01 and R21T-02. The resources of the main part of Port Moller bay are associated with waterfowl seasonal concentration areas (primarily winter). Large rafts of sea otters have been observed in Port Moller bay. Harvest: Yellowfin sole and cod are harvested in the Port Moller bay area and sac roe is also harvested in this bay.

Unit # / Name	Acres / Designation(s)	MTRS	Management Intent	Resources, Uses, Additional Info
R21T-04 Pavlof Bay	863 Wd - Waterfront Development	Map 3-21 S050S075W, S050S076W, S051S075W	Unit is to be managed to accommodate tideland industrial uses, including those related to a potential oil and gas terminal. Development in tidelands must be coordinated with upland development, which, if it were to occur, would take place within state land designated General Use. The use of upland areas (Unit R21-03) for commercial/industrial purposes is considered appropriate.	Unit consists of a tideland tract at the head of Pavlof Bay in an area that is considered to have potential for an oil and gas terminal. Adjacent uplands are situated on state land and are designated Settlement.
R21T-05 Tidelands adjacent to Alaska Peninsula NWR	13,609 Ha - Habitat Rd - Public Recreation and Tourism- Dispersed	Map 3-21	Tidelands adjacent to the Alaska Peninsula NWR are to be managed to protect sensitive habitat values, fisheries and wildlife resources, and the public recreation resources of the NWR. A Tideland Resource Management Zone (TRMZ) affects these tidelands. See "Management Summary, Tidelands" in Chapter 3 for a more detailed description of TRMZs and the management intent and requirements for such zones. As appropriate, consult with Alaska Peninsula NWR; USFWS; and NMFS prior to issuing authorizations.	Unit adjoins the Alaska Peninsula NWR. Tidelands adjacent to the NWR are not known to include significant walrus or sea lion haulouts or rookeries, concentrations of bald eagle nests, or areas of kelp, except for specific locations in Coal Bay and the outer coast. Harvest: Herring sac roe is harvested commercially in the tidelands along the southern coast of this region in Pavlof Bay, around Cape Tolstoi and in Canoe Bay. There is a concentration of commercial purse seine harvest of pink, chum and sockeye salmon in Pavlof Bay and Canoe Bay. Red king and tanner crab are harvested in the many bays and lagoons along this southern coastline. Sport fishing is prevalent in the tidelands along the southern coast of the Alaska Peninsula.
R21T-06 Bristol Bay and Pacific Ocean, South	495,999 Gu - General Use	Map 3-21	Manage unit for a variety of uses and resources. Protect areas of Pacific herring spawning, sea bird colonies, sea otter concentration and established population areas, and eel grass beds. Consult with USFWS and NMFS prior to issuing authorizations. Maintain opportunities for commercial, subsistence, and sport fish harvest.	This unit consists of extensive areas of coast adjacent to state-owned uplands on Bristol Bay and areas along the Pacific Ocean. Areas along the Pacific Ocean are either owned by the state, Native corporations/private individuals, or are part of a Tideland Resource Management Zone. On the Bristol Bay side, the units at Nelson Lagoon (R21T-01 through -03) are excluded; while on the Pacific Ocean side, the TRMZ and R21T-04, in Pavlof Bay, are excluded. The shoreline on the Bristol Bay side is characterized by coarse sand beaches with some mixed sand and coarse gravel beaches. The Pacific Ocean side is pocketed with both small and large bays, in contrast to the nearly continuous curvilinear coastline along Bristol Bay. The majority of the sensitive biological resources are included within the Nelson Lagoon and Port Moller bay units and within the TRMZ. Nonetheless, significant resources exist in this unit. On the Bristol Bay side, waterfowl, shorebirds, and sea otter concentrations occur throughout. Some isolated, small Pacific herring spawning areas also occur. On the Pacific Ocean side sea otter concentrations or established populations of sea otter are reported, there are numerous sea bird colonies situated on rocks within Pavlof Bay, and fairly extensive eel grass beds exist south of the community of Pavlof, at the headland between Pavlof Bay and Beaver Bay. Domestic trawl for cod occurs in the tidelands and submerged lands along the north coast, and there are several set net sites. It is also likely that purse seine and drift net harvest for sockeye chinook, chum, and coho salmon occurs, although most commercial and subsistence harvest occurs in Nelson Lagoon and Port Moller. Sac roe is harvested commercially in the tidelands along the southern coastal area in Pavlof Bay, around Cape Tolstoi and in Canoe Bay. Red king and tanner crab are harvested in some of the bays and lagoons. Sport fishing is prevalent along the southern coast.

Region 22: Lower Alaska Peninsula – Unimak & Krenitzin Islands

Summary of Resources and Uses in the Region

Region Boundary

Region 22 occupies the extreme westerly part of the Alaska Peninsula, Unimak Island, and the Pavlof, Cherni, and Sanak Island groups situated south of the Alaska Peninsula (Map 3-22). Except for several small holdings in the communities within this Region, there are no state-owned uplands. Native corporations or the federal government own almost all of the land within Region 22. There are three National Wildlife Refuges within the Region – Izembek, Alaska Peninsula, and Alaska Maritime. Izembek is also designated as a state game refuge, although the federal government owns all of the uplands. The boundaries of this region are the same as the original (1984) Bristol Bay Area Plan with one addition. In order to address all of the land within the Aleutians East Borough, the Krenitzin Islands were added to the planning area. Communities are coastal and include King Cove (pop. 691), Akutan (pop. 420), Cold Bay (pop. 85), and False Pass (pop. 64).

State Lands: Ownership and Acreage

Almost all state land in Region 22 is the tidelands and shorelands. The few areas of state-owned uplands are in the vicinity of the four major settlements. The plan applies to 9,164 acres of state-owned and state-selected uplands and 2,449,977 acres of state-owned tidelands in this region. The plan also applies to state-owned shorelands.⁴²

Physical Geography

The physical geography of this Region is dominated by a series of volcanoes, mostly glaciated, that occupy the southern half of the Alaska Peninsula and most of the major islands. A nearly flat coastal plain occupies the northern half of the Peninsula. The volcanoes form a northeast spine of mountains that descend rapidly to sea level. Rocky headlands and sandy beaches characterize the coast on the south side of the Peninsula. There are two bays, Morzhovoi and Cold Bays, which cut so deeply that they almost transect the peninsula. Offshore islands include the Pavlof Islands and Deer Island, which have steep terrain, and the relatively flat Sanak Islands. On the north side of the Alaska Peninsula there is a broad coastal plain separating the mountains from Bristol Bay. This plain is characterized by gently rolling tundra

⁴² Acreages of shorelands have not been calculated.

surrounding numerous lakes and wetlands. Barrier Islands on the north shore, with their long sandy beaches, protect an extensive lagoon system that provides the unique set of conditions to attract millions of migrating birds in seasonal congregations.

Off the southwest end of the Alaska Peninsula, less than a mile across Isanotski Strait (False Pass) lies Unimak Island, which is also characterized by steep terrain. Thirteen-mile-wide Unimak Pass separates Unimak Island from the first of the Krenitzin Islands. This group of six major islands and numerous small ones has mostly mountainous terrain with many small embayments. Akutan Island is the largest island in the group.

Climate

Region 22 has a maritime climate. Temperatures range from a monthly average low of 23°F in February to a high of 56°F in August. Frequent storms carry moisture from either the Bering Sea or the North Pacific resulting in 33 inches of precipitation annually with 52 inches coming in the form of snow. Winds are commonly moderate to strong. The area is generally free of permafrost.

Other

Region 22 is within the Unalaska, Unimak, False Pass, Cold Bay, and Port Moller Quadrangles. It lies entirely within the boundaries of the Aleutians East Borough and the Aleut Regional Native Corporation Boundary.

Access

The settlements are dependent upon air or marine transportation. Cold Bay serves as a regional air transportation hub with a 10,000-foot paved and lighted runway. This also serves as an international hub for private aircraft. There are gravel airstrips at King Cove (3,360') and False Pass (2,100') with a seaplane base at Akutan. All four communities have regularly scheduled air service.

Marine cargo arrives monthly from Seattle. The Alaska Marine Highway System services all four settlements but only runs from May to October. There is no road access to the Region, but each community has a local network of roads. Cold Bay has the most extensive with 40 miles of gravel roads. Under a plan approved in 2004, a road and hovercraft ferry will provide a more reliable link between King Cove and the major airport at Cold Bay.

Resources and Uses

Cultural and Historic. Akutan began in 1878 as a fur storage and trading port for the Western Fur and Trading Company. Commercial cod fishing and processing attracted nearby Natives to the community. The community was evacuated by the military following the Japanese attack on Unalaska in June 1942. The village was restored in 1944 but many chose not to return. The False Pass area was originally homesteaded in the early 1900s and grew with the establishment of a cannery in 1917. Natives moved to False Pass from Morzhovoi, Sanak Island, and Ikatan when the cannery was built. It operated until 1981 when it was destroyed by fire. The community of King Cove was founded in 1911 when Pacific American Fisheries built a cannery, which operated until 1976 when it was partially destroyed by fire. Archeological sites dating to the last ice age indicate that the area around Cold Bay was inhabited by a large Native population. During World War II, Cold Bay was the site of the strategic air base Fort Randall. Archaeological evidence indicates that areas within the Region have been continuously occupied for at least 8,000 years by the Unangan, known in modern times as the Aleut. There are 157 cultural sites within Region 22 – 96 prehistoric, 45 historic, and 16 of mixed origin, which are concentrated at the first two breaks in the Aleutian Chain, False and Unimak passes, and along the Bering Sea coastline. Fishing and fish processing are still the dominant industries in the Region to this day.

Recreation. Recreation in the Region is primarily related to outdoor activities such as hunting, sport fishing, wildlife viewing, photography, and hiking. Cold Bay draws the majority of recreationists due to its relative ease of access and proximity to the Izembek National Wildlife Refuge.

Minerals and Materials. There are 36 mineral occurrences in Region 22; the majority of these are epithermal precious metal occurrences of gold and silver. A few other polymetallic prospects and porphyry copper-type occurrences are known. The mineral occurrences are distributed on the Krenitzin Islands and from False Pass to the Belkofski vicinity. There is a gap with no mineral occurrences on most of Unimak Island due to volcanic cover. Potential for discovery of precious metals in the Region is high. There are no active material extraction sites.

Coal, Oil and Gas. The oil and gas potential of the Region is not well known. The most potential occurs along the coastal area west of Bechevin Bay to Coal Oil Creek and Cape Lapin; this area is underlain by the North Aleutians basin. No wells have been drilled in the Region and most potential probably lies beneath the waters of Bristol Bay. There are no significant deposits of coal.

Forestry. There are no significant economic timber resources in Region 22.

Fish and Wildlife. This region is rich in fish and wildlife resources. Seabird colonies line the coast and the diversity and numbers of waterfowl and shorebirds that utilize this region was the major reason for the establishment of the Izembek National Wildlife Refuge. Some of the larger terrestrial mammals in the region include brown bear, caribou, wolf, fox, wolverine, and land otter. Most of the streams support anadromous fish runs that are important to the subsistence

and commercial fisheries of the local economy. Izembek Lagoon, a state wildlife refuge, contains extensive eel grass beds and provides important habitat for the numerous seabird and waterfowl that use this area as part of their annual migration. The majority of the eastern Pacific population of black brant geese and half of the world population of emperor geese use this lagoon.

Management Considerations: Local and State Plans

A variety of local, state, and federal management plans affect this Region. These plans have been consulted in the process of revising the BBAP.

The Aleutians East Borough Coastal District Plan affects the entire coastal zone within this region. This plan contains extensive enforceable policies affecting state lands and should be consulted by DNR prior to issuing authorizations. The coastal plan's enforceable policies can be found on the web at: <http://www.alaskacoast.state.ak.us/>.⁴³

Only one state management plan affects this region, the DNR Bristol Bay Area Plan, adopted in 1984. This revision replaces and supersedes that plan.

Most of the uplands are part of three National Wildlife Refuges (NWRs). The Alaska Peninsula, Izembek, and Alaska Maritime NWRs all have Comprehensive Conservation Plans that guide refuge activities. See the section on Local and Federal Plans in Chapter 3 for a description of these plans and how they apply to federal lands.

Management Summary: Uplands

There are very few state uplands in Region 22. These exist only as small management units in the vicinity of the major settlements and are related primarily to public facilities, particularly airstrips. Several other management units of state land at Cold Bay and King Cove are not known to be required for public use, and are designated Settlement-Commercial (Sc). The areas of the airstrips are designated Public Facilities-Retain and the other management units as Settlement.

Plan Designations and Management

The plan designations that are used within this region have the following management intent. The policies and management intent guidelines described in Chapter 2 affect all DNR authorizations. See also the descriptions of the plan designations in the first part of this Chapter; this section indicates which lands can be conveyed out of state ownership and those that must be retained.

⁴³ The Alaska Coastal Management Program was terminated on July 1, 2011, pursuant to AS 44.66.030.

- Public Facilities-Retain (Pr). A number of small management units (R22-02, R22-04, R22-05, and R22-06) are to be retained for public purposes.
- Settlement (Se). Some small management units (such as R22-05) are designated Settlement and are appropriate for disposal during the planning period, if conveyed by the federal government. They should be developed according to the management guideline for Community Settlement Areas in the Settlement section of Chapter 2.
- Settlement-Commercial (Sc). Lands that are considered appropriate for commercial leasing, permitting, or other authorizations are designated Settlement-Commercial. Please refer to the guidelines in the Settlement section of Chapter 2.
- Habitat (Ha). Generally, this designation applies to areas of varied size that are important for fish and wildlife species during a sensitive life-history stage where alteration of the habitat or human disturbance could result in the permanent loss of a population or sustained yield of a species. In Region 22 this designation is applied to streams and shorelands cataloged by the Alaska Department of Fish and Game as anadromous (<http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/sf/SARR/AWC/index.cfm?adfg=maps.interactive>). Land with this designation is to be retained in state ownership.
- Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed and Habitat (Co-designation). Certain navigable waterbodies (lakes and streams) are co-designated Habitat (Ha) and Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed (Rd). Authorizations within these waterbodies should not interfere with important habitat or public recreation values. See Table 3.1 in the Navigability section of this Chapter for a listing of these streams. Note: Certain waterbodies may (only) be designated Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed, (Rd), Habitat (Ha), or General Use (Gu).

See the Resource Allocation Table for more details on these upland management units.

Specific Management Considerations

- Generally Allowed Uses. The Generally Allowed Uses in 11 AAC 96.020 can occur on state-owned land throughout the Region with the exception of the area within the Izembek State Game Refuge. The specific standards of a national/state game refuge apply in this area. The General Use designation also provides for site-specific development, such as occurs in oil and gas exploration and development activities, with appropriate protections of other resources and uses.
- Mineral Closing Orders and Mineral Order. Except for areas closed to mineral entry under existing Mineral Closing Orders or Mineral Order, all lands within the Region are open to mineral entry. (Existing Mineral Closing Orders, each effecting less than 200 acres, occur in King Cove (MCO 650), Cold Bay (MCO 552), Morzhovoi Bay (MCO 521), and False Pass (MCO 642).) Mineral Order No. 791 is an interim order that

precludes shallow natural gas leasing and oil and gas exploration licensing. This order has no effect on locatable or leaseable minerals other than shallow natural gas leasing and oil and gas exploration licensing. No Leasehold Location Orders (LLO) exist.

No additional MCOs or LLOs are recommended; the only exception applies to areas that are to be disposed of by DNR for settlement purposes, should such areas be selected for this purpose in the future. In these instances, closure of the settlement area prior to sale is required. The MCOs in areas not selected for staking within three years of the land sale shall revert to 'open to mineral entry'. See also the Mineral Resources section in Chapter 2 for more detail on subsurface management requirements.

- **Retained Lands.** There are no state lands that are designated to be retained except for those few management units that serve a public purpose and are designated Public Facilities-Retain or are part of the Izembek State Game Refuge.
- **Navigable Waters.** Shorelands (rivers and lakes) that are believed to be navigable are listed in Table 3.1 in the Navigability section of this Chapter. Authorizations in these waters must ensure the continued use of a waterway by the public for purposes of trade, travel, and commerce. Note: These waterbodies are assigned a plan designation of Habitat, Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed, a co-designation of Habitat and Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed, and, sometimes, General Use. Authorizations issued by DNR are to maintain the habitat and public recreation values of these waterbodies.

Management Summary: Tidelands and Submerged Lands

Tidelands represent the majority of state lands within this Region, and are the focus of management within the Region. Most of the tidelands adjoin federal National Wildlife Refuges (Alaska Peninsula, Izembek, and Alaska Maritime) or Native-owned tracts. Those adjacent to the coastal islands and within the Izembek Lagoon on the northern side of the Alaska Peninsula are particularly important.

The tidelands in Region 22 include areas that are very significant biologically and that contain a variety of fisheries and marine mammal concentrations, extensive seabird colony sites, and shellfish concentrations. Two areas of particular importance are Amak Island and Sea Lion Rock, situated off the northern shore of the peninsula, and Izembek Lagoon. Another significant area is that of the Cherni and Sanak Islands groups. Amak Island and Sea Lion Rock contain extensive sea lion rookeries and haulouts, as well as areas of walrus haulouts. Izembek Lagoon, which is a National Wildlife Refuge as well as a State Game Refuge, contains extensive areas of eel grass as well as areas used for harbor seal haulouts, waterfowl seasonal concentrations (all seasons) and waterfowl molting. Portions of the lagoon are also used for brown bear spring concentrations. The exposed tidal flats on the north side of the Kudiakof Islands, part of the Izembek Lagoon NWR, are rich in razor clam concentrations. There are also high concentrations of razor clams found in the tidal flats on the northeast side of Unimak Island in Bechevin Bay. The Cherni and Sanak island groups provide habitat for a large number of seabird colonies as well as for sea lion rookeries and haulout sites. There are also known

concentration areas of established sea otter habitat, particularly around Sanak, Deer, and the Pavlof Islands. Kelp beds occur off Sanak Island. The remainder of the tidelands in this region, while somewhat less important biologically, include areas of kelp and eel grass, seabird colonies, and both sea lion rookeries and haulouts. The tidelands of this region provide, in general, areas of extensive and productive habitat. Many sheltered tidelands in bays and lagoons, particularly around the southern side of Unimak Island and the Krenitzin Island group, provide habitat for king, tanner and dungeness crab.

Commercial harvest of salmon occurs in and around Izembek Lagoon and Moffet Bay on the northern coast of this region. Halibut is harvested extensively throughout the southern tidelands of this region, especially around Sanak Islands, the south side of Unimak Island and the Krenitzin Island area. Pollock, cod and herring sac roe (food/bait) are harvested in the Krenitzin Island area as well. Pink, chum and coho salmon are harvested all along the southern coast of this region, most extensively in Pavlof Bay, Belkofski Bay, King Cove and Cold Bay. Intensive purse seine and drift (gill) net harvest occurs around False Pass, Akutan Bay and Peninsula, and Cape Lazaref on the south side of Unimak Island. Purse seine and drift (gill) net harvest also occurs at Unimak Bight. There are scattered set net sites along the southern coast of this region particularly in bays and lagoons where there is a high concentration of salmon.

Red king crab and tanner crab are harvested all along the southern coastal tidelands within this region; the highest concentrations of harvest being in the bays and lagoons. The richest harvest areas are around the Krenitzin Islands where dungeness crab are also harvested. Small concentrations of dungeness crab occur in Belkofski Bay and along the south shore of Unimak Island from Cape Lazaref to Unimak Bight.

Seasonal subsistence fishing occurs around Belkofski. King Cove subsistence harvest consists almost entirely of salmon with some harvest of seabirds and eggs. In False Pass, subsistence harvest consists mainly of salmon, halibut, geese and seals. Subsistence harvest by local Akutan resident population includes seal, salmon, halibut, clams and waterfowl (birds and eggs).

Plan Designations and Management Intent

The extensive tidelands within this Region either abut native corporation land or national wildlife refuges, and tideland management reflects this ownership pattern.

Coastal and Municipal Tidelands. Tidelands adjacent to native or private land are designated General Use. Areas within municipalities, which are designated Waterfront Development as are units at Lenard Harbor and Hot Springs Cove. Municipal tidelands⁴⁴ occur at Cold Harbor, False Pass, and Akutan. Tideland authorizations in these areas are considered appropriate, but authorizations must protect sensitive resources and must be consistent with specific, applicable management requirements for a management unit.

⁴⁴ Cold Bay: R22T-07 and RT22T-08; False Pass: R22T-02 through R22T-04; Akutan: R22T-05 and R22T-06.

Tidelands adjacent to National Wildlife Refuges are affected by a Tideland Resource Management Zone (R22T-01). Tidelands within this Zone are designated Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed and Habitat and are to be managed to protect habitat values and maintain the public recreation value of these areas, particularly for the tideland resources described above. For a detailed description of this Tideland Resource Management Zone, see Tidelands Summary in Chapter 3.

See the Resource Allocation Table for more details on this tideland management unit.

Resource Allocation Table for Upland Management Units - Region 22

Unit # / Name	Acres / Designation(s)	MTRS	Management Intent	Resources, Uses, Additional Info
R22-01 Pavlof Bay	6,630 Gu - General Use	Map 3-22 S052S079-080W	The unit is designated General Use (Gu) and is to be managed for a variety of uses, including the protection of fish and wildlife resources and their associated habitat, oil and gas exploration and development, and dispersed recreation. Development authorizations may be considered appropriate subject to the protection of these resources and the specific requirements of Chapter 2. It is intended that this unit be retained in state ownership during the planning period.	The unit is situated on fairly flat terrain at the head of Pavlof Bay in an area characterized by low and generally flat to gently rolling topography. The predominate vegetation is dwarf shrub. There are numerous ponds, lakes, and wetlands. There are no known anadromous streams or historic/prehistoric sites. An area of caribou wintering occurs in this unit.
R22-02 Cold Bay Airport	1,702 Pr - Public Facilities- Retain	Map 3-22 S057S088W, S057S089W	The unit is to be retained in state ownership and managed by ADOT/PF consistent with FAA and state guidelines for airport management.	This unit is comprised of OSL 350 and contains the Cold Bay Airport. Some rights-of-way and lots within the townsite are also a part of this unit. An area of caribou wintering occurs in this unit.
R22-03 Cold Bay	286 Sc - Settlement- Commercial	Map 3-22 S058S088W, S058S089W	The unit is to be managed for a variety of uses, including possible community expansion. This land is adjacent to the airport and borough lands, and could be used for future community expansion by providing commercial land compatible with the airport. It is considered appropriate for a state land disposal. Development authorizations may be considered appropriate subject to the protection of these resources and the specific requirements of Chapter 2.	This unit is comprised of OSL 1111 south of the Cold Bay airport. This level tundra is covered with low shrubs and has an anadromous fish stream running through it.
R22-04 King Cove Airport	381 Pr - Public Facilities- Retain	Map 3-22 S058S085W, S058S086W	The unit is to be retained in state ownership and managed by the ADOT/PF consistent with the Management Rights in ADLs 224220, 221398 and 221399.	This unit is comprised of LSHs 75 and 188 and contains the King Cove Airport.
R22-05 King Cove DOT Facilities	0.90 Pr - Public Facilities- Retain	Map 3-22 S059S086W	The unit is to be retained in state ownership and managed by ADOT/PF under the terms of LSHs 75 and 288 and as a public right-of-way.	This unit is comprised of LSHs 75 and 288 and OSL 981. There is a small lot within the townsite of King Cove that contains equipment storage for the airport. The remainder of this unit is the road connecting the town to the airport.
R22-06 False Pass Airport	138 Pr - Public Facilities- Retain	Map 3-22 S061S094W Sec. 28,33-34	The unit is to be retained in state ownership and managed by the Department of Transportation and Public Facilities (ADOT/PF) consistent with ADOT/PF guidelines and the Management Right (ADL 224133).	This unit is comprised of OSL 977 and contains the False Pass Airport.

Resource Allocation Table for Tideland Management Units - Region 22

Unit # / Name	Acres / Designation(s)	MTRS	Management Intent	Resources, Uses, Additional Info
R22T-01 Tidelands adjacent to NWRs	266,844 Ha - Habitat Rd - Public Recreation and Tourism- Dispersed	Map 3-22	Tidelands adjacent to the three National Wildlife Refuges (NWR) and the State Game Refuge are to be managed to protect sensitive habitat values, fisheries and wildlife resources, and the public recreation resources of the NWRs. A Tideland Resource Management Zone (TRMZ) affects these tidelands. See “Management Summary, Tidelands” in Chapter 3 for a more detailed description of TRMZs and the management intent and requirements for such zones. As appropriate, consult with Alaska Maritime, Izembek, and Alaska Peninsula NWRs; USFWS; and NMFS prior to issuing authorizations.	<p>This tideland unit adjoins three National Wildlife Refuges - Izembek, Alaska Peninsula, and Alaska Maritime. Most of the Ikatan Peninsula and adjacent tidelands are included in the Alaska Maritime National Wildlife Refuge. The Izembek State Game Refuge includes the tidelands within Izembek Lagoon and north of the Kudiakof Islands. This tideland unit contains a rich diversity of habitats and resources.</p> <p>There are a variety of marine resources that are scattered throughout this Region, including eel grass and kelp beds, numerous seabird colonies, sea lion rookeries and haulouts, as well as walrus rookeries and haulouts. This Region also contains a significant population of sea otter. The outstanding resource areas within this Region coincide with the area of the Izembek National Wildlife Refuge, Izembek State Game Refuge and with the Alaska Maritime NWR at Amak Island and rocks. Izembek SGR consists of an extensive lagoon system that is rich in eel grass and kelp beds, and contains extensive areas used for harbor seal haulouts, brown bear concentrations (spring), and waterfowl seasonal concentrations (spring and fall). The Izembek Lagoon portion of the SGR is enclosed within the Izembek NWR which consists of uplands bordering the lagoon including spits and the Kudiakof Islands. Amak Island and rocks contain a large population of walrus and sea lions and has haulout areas for both. Sea bird colonies are also present on this island. The remaining parts of the Region also possess significant resources, with most of these concentrated on the south side of the Alaska Peninsula. Within the latter area, there are numerous sea bird colonies, concentration areas of kelp and eel grass, and sea lion rookeries and haulouts. The Sanak Island group contains the majority of the sea lion rookery and haulout areas.</p> <p>Harvest: Salmon are harvested in the tidelands on the northern side of the peninsula in this region, particularly around Izembek Lagoon and Moffet Bay. Commercial harvest of a variety of resources occurs along the southern coast and islands of this region. Pink chum and coho salmon are harvested throughout the tidelands but most extensively in Pavlof Bay, Belkofski Bay, King Cove and Cold Bay. Intensive purse seine and gill net harvest of salmon occurs around False Pass, Akutan Bay and also from Akutan Peninsula to Cape Lazaref on the south side of Unimak Island, including Unimak Bight. There are scattered set net sites along the southern coast of this region particularly in bays and lagoons where there is a high concentration of salmon. Halibut harvest occurs throughout the southern tidelands of this region, especially around the Sanak Islands, the south side of Unimak Island and the Krenitzin Islands area. Pollock, cod and herring sac roe (food/bait) are harvested in the Krenitzin Islands area as well. Red king and tanner crab are harvested in the bay and lagoons all along the southern coast of the Alaska Peninsula. Dungeness crab are harvested in the highest numbers in Belkofski Bay and along the south shore of Unimak Island from Cape Lazaref to Unimak Bight. There are also concentrations of</p>

Unit # / Name	Acres / Designation(s)	MTRS	Management Intent	Resources, Uses, Additional Info
				dungeness crab around the shores of the Krenitzin Islands. Sport fishing is prevalent in the tidelands adjacent to this region. Seasonal subsistence fishing occurs around Belkofski, King Cove, False Pass, Cold Bay and Akutan. Subsistence harvest consists mainly of salmon, but also includes halibut, clams, geese, other waterfowl and eggs and seals.
R22T-02 False Pass North	392 Wd - Waterfront Development	Map 3-22 S061S094W Sec. 22,27	Unit is to be managed to accommodate tideland commercial and industrial uses, including a new boat harbor for the community of False Pass.	The unit is situated to the north of the False Pass community in an area that is considered appropriate for tideland commercial and industrial uses. A new harbor may go in this unit.
R22T-03 False Pass Central	13 Wd - Waterfront Development	Map 3-22 S061S094W Sec. 28	The unit is to be managed to accommodate tideland commercial and industrial uses.	The unit is situated near the main part of the False Pass community in an area that is considered appropriate for tideland commercial and industrial uses. There are a number of private tideland units near this unit, some of which have industrial and fisheries use. Commercial fishing and fish processing are currently the dominant activities involving tidelands around False Pass. Tideland facilities support the fish processing industry and provide commercial docking facilities for the State Ferry which docks bi-monthly between May and October. False Pass also provides docking facilities for barge service from Seattle.
R22T-04 False Pass South	320 Wd - Waterfront Development	Map 3-22 S061S094W Sec. 33,34	The unit is to be managed to accommodate tideland commercial and industrial uses.	The unit is situated south of the False Pass community in an area that is considered appropriate for tideland commercial and industrial uses. There are a number of private tideland units near this unit, some of which have industrial and fisheries use. Note: This tideland unit excludes ATS 58.
R22T-05 Akutan Community North	470 Wd - Waterfront Development	Map 3-22 S070S112W Sec. 8-12	The unit is to be managed to accommodate tideland commercial and industrial uses. Note: It is unlikely that all of the area within this unit will be used for future commercial and industrial tideland uses. A fairly large area of tidelands is designated Waterfront Development given the uncertainty of the exact location of future facilities needed to support this community.	The unit is situated at, and east of, the community of Akutan in an area that is considered appropriate for tideland commercial and industrial uses. There are a number of private tideland units that adjoin this unit, some of which have industrial and fisheries use. This tideland unit excludes all private tidelands. Commercial fishing and fish processing dominates Akutan's economy.
R22T-06 Akutan Community South	507 Wd - Waterfront Development	Map 3-22 S070S112W Sec. 9-13	The unit is to be managed to accommodate tideland commercial and industrial uses. Note: It is unlikely that all of the area within this unit will be used for future commercial and industrial tideland uses. A fairly large area of tidelands is designated Waterfront Development given the uncertainty of the exact location of future facilities needed to support this community.	The unit is situated generally west and south of the community of Akutan in an area that is considered appropriate for tideland commercial and industrial uses. There are a number of private tideland units that adjoin this unit, some of which have industrial and fisheries use. This tideland unit excludes all private tidelands. Commercial fishing and fish processing dominates Akutan's economy.
R22T-07 Cold Bay North	863 Wd - Waterfront Development	Map 3-22 S057S088W, S057S089W	The unit is to be managed to accommodate tideland commercial and industrial uses. Note: It is unlikely that all of the area within this unit will be used for future commercial and industrial tideland uses. A fairly large area of tidelands is designated Waterfront Development given the uncertainty of the exact location of future facilities needed to support this community.	The unit is situated generally north and east of the community of King Cove in an area that is considered appropriate for tideland commercial and industrial uses. This tideland unit excludes all private tidelands. Commercial fishing and fish processing are currently the dominant activities involving tidelands around King Cove. Seafood processing in this area occurs year-round and the north harbor provides ice-free moorage for fishing boats. Tideland facilities support the fish processing industry and provide commercial docking facilities for the State Ferry which docks bi-monthly between May and October.

Unit # / Name	Acres / Designation(s)	MTRS	Management Intent	Resources, Uses, Additional Info
R22T-08 Cold Bay South	4,331 Wd - Waterfront Development	Map 3-22 S057S088W, S058S088W	The unit is to be managed to accommodate tideland commercial and industrial uses. Note: It is unlikely that all of the area within this unit will be used for future commercial and industrial tideland uses. A fairly large area of tidelands is designated Waterfront Development given the uncertainty of the exact location of future facilities needed to support this community.	The unit is situated generally southeast of the community of King Cove in an area that is considered appropriate for tideland commercial and industrial uses. This tideland unit excludes all private tidelands.
R22T-09 Aleutians West	2,449,977 Gu - General Use	Map 3-22	Manage unit for a variety of uses and resources. Protect eel grass beds and sea bird colonies. Maintain opportunities for commercial, subsistence, and sport fish harvest.	<p>This unit consists of that portion of the Region not included within the Tideland Resource Management Zone (R22T-01) or in areas where tidelands adjoin municipalities (units R22T-02 through -08).</p> <p>The vast majority of the sensitive biological resources occur with the TRMZ, particularly within the Izembek Lagoon, Amak Island and rocks, and the offshore islands on the Pacific side of the unit. Within R22T-09 there are scattered areas of eel grass beds and sea bird colonies.</p> <p>Salmon are harvested in the tidelands on the northern side of the peninsula in this region, particularly around Izembek Lagoon and Moffet Bay. Commercial harvest of a variety of resources occurs along the southern coast. Pink chum and coho salmon are harvested throughout the tidelands but most extensively in Pavlof Bay, Belkofski Bay, King Cove and Cold Bay. Intensive purse seine and gill net harvest of salmon occurs around False Pass. There are scattered set net sites along the southern coast of this region particularly in bays and lagoons where there is a high concentration of salmon. Halibut, red king and tanner crab are harvested in the bay and lagoons all along the southern coast of the Alaska Peninsula. Dungeness crab are harvested in the highest numbers in Belkofski Bay.</p> <p>Sport fishing is prevalent in the tidelands adjacent to this region. Seasonal subsistence fishing occurs around Belkofski, King Cove, False Pass, Cold Bay and Akutan. Subsistence harvest consists mainly of salmon, but also includes halibut, clams, geese, other waterfowl and eggs and seals.</p>
R22T-10 Lenard Harbor	613 Wd - Waterfront Development	Map 3-22 S058S087W, S058S088W	The unit is to be managed to accommodate tideland commercial and industrial uses. Note: It is unlikely that all of the area within this unit will be used for future commercial and industrial tideland uses. A fairly large area of tidelands is designated Waterfront Development given the uncertainty of the exact location of future facilities.	The unit is situated on the southeast side of Cold Bay near the road to King Cove. The tide and submerged lands have a brown sandy substrate and moderate slope. Deep waters of Lenard Harbor are known to contain red king and tanner crab. Dungeness crab inhabit the seagrass fringe at the head of Lenard Harbor. Bivalves are abundant near the head and southeast side of Lenard Harbor but not particularly so in this management unit. Herring concentrate in the unit and waterfowl concentrate in the area during spring staging.
R22T-11 Hot Springs Bay	84,788 Wd - Waterfront Development	Map 3-22 S069S112W	Unit is to be managed to accommodate tideland commercial and industrial uses. Note: It is unlikely that all of the area within this unit will be used for future commercial and industrial tideland uses. A fairly large area of tidelands is designated Waterfront Development given the uncertainty of the exact location of future facilities.	The unit is located at the head of Hot Springs Bay adjacent to an area of geothermal activity that is considered one of the most promising in the State. Thermal waters capable of electrical generation may also be suitable for space heating and industrial direct-use applications. Hot Springs Harbor is one of the few sheltered deep water harbors in the Aleutians. The beaches contain material from sand to boulders, gravel beaches typically form an apron leading to dunes behind the beach. Boulder beaches consist of blocks derived from cliffs located immediately behind the beach; these boulder beaches typically are small and are exposed only at low tide. There are no

Unit # / Name	Acres / Designation(s)	MTRS	Management Intent	Resources, Uses, Additional Info
				large concentrations of seabirds in the bay. Although sea lions haulout and have a rookery outside of Hot Springs Bay, none utilize the inner bay. The entire Krenitzin Islands area, including Hot Springs Bay, has concentrations of waterfowl in the spring, fall, and winter.

Navigable Rivers and Lakes

Management Intent of Navigable Waterbodies

Background

The intent of the plan is to designate and provide management intent for the shorelands under all navigable waterbodies. There are so many navigable rivers and lakes in the planning area that it is not practical to state the management intent for each individual waterbody. Therefore the plan identifies general management intent and designations for most of the waterbodies within the planning area. In some cases, however, specific designations are identified for a particular waterbody because of the size, uniqueness, or particular values and functions of a river or lake.

The term “shorelands” is defined as land belonging to the state, which is covered by non-tidal water that is navigable under the laws of the United States up to the ordinary high water mark as modified by accretion, erosion, or reliction (AS 38.05.965). See Figure 1.1 at the beginning of Chapter 1 for a diagram that illustrates the differences between shorelands, submerged lands, and uplands.

Shorelands are not identified on the preceding plan designation maps within this Chapter. Identification of all such waterbodies is impractical on maps of the scale used in this plan. *The DNR records on navigability and hydrology must be consulted in order to determine whether a specific stream or lake is likely to be navigable.* These records are available in the Public Access Assertion & Defense Unit, Division of Mining, Land and Water in Anchorage.

For further information on the state’s navigability policy, go to <http://dnr.alaska.gov/mlw/nav/>

Public Trust Doctrine

The Public Trust Doctrine provides that public trust lands, waters and living natural resources in a state are held by the state in trust for the benefit of all the people, and establishes the right of the public to fully utilize the public trust lands, waters, and resources for a wide variety of public uses. Each state has the authority and responsibility for managing these public trust assets to assure the public rights are upheld.

The Public Trust Doctrine applies whenever navigable waters or the lands beneath those waters are altered, developed, conveyed, or otherwise managed. It also applies whether the trust lands are publicly or privately owned. Shorelands below the ordinary high water mark are considered public trust lands. In summary, all submerged lands – including tidelands out to the three-mile-limit and the beds of navigable lakes, streams and rivers – are all public trust lands.

The Alaska Constitution contains numerous provisions embracing principles of the Public Trust Doctrine that require the state to exercise authority to ensure that the right of the public to use navigable waters for navigation, commerce, recreation, and related purposes is protected. In Alaska, the Public Trust Doctrine extends beyond those submerged lands in which the state holds title to include all waters that are navigable. The state's waters are themselves reserved to the people for common use.

The Alaska Constitution (Article VIII, sections 1, 2, 3, 6, 13, and 14) and Alaska Statutes (38.05.127 and 38.05.128) contain some of the provisions, which are the legal basis for applying the Public Trust Doctrine in Alaska. In Alaska, this doctrine guarantees the public's right to engage in activities such as commerce, navigation, fishing, hunting, trapping, and swimming, while also providing for the protection of areas for ecological study.

The Alaska Constitution provides that "free access to the navigable or public waters of the state, as defined by the legislature, shall not be denied any citizen of the United States or resident of the state, except that the legislature may by general law regulate and limit such access for other beneficial uses or public purposes." The Alaska Supreme Court has concluded "the provisions in Article VIII [of the Constitution] were intended to permit the broadest possible access to and use of state waters by the general public." *Wernberg v. State*, 516 P. 2d 1191, 1198-9 (Alaska 1973). The Alaska legislature has broadly defined the navigable and public waters available for public use in AS 38.05.965. Moreover, the legislature has endorsed a broad interpretation of the Public Trust Doctrine in Article VIII of Alaska's Constitution in finding that:

"Ownership of land bordering navigable or public waters does not grant an exclusive right to the use of the water and any rights of title to the land below the ordinary high water mark are subject to the rights of the people of the state to use and have access to the water for recreational purposes or any other public purposes for which the water is used or capable of being used consistent with the public trust." Sec. 1, Ch. 82, SLA 1985.

The legislature has also declared that the right to use state waters does not include the right to enter or trespass upon private lands. Nevertheless, with 99 percent of Alaska in public ownership at statehood, state laws regarding the transfer of land to private parties say the transfers must provide for public access to navigable waters. For instance, AS 38.05.127 implements the state's constitutional guarantee of access to navigable waters under Article VIII, Section 14. Under the statute, the Commissioner of the Alaska Department of Natural Resources must "provide for the specific easements or rights-of-way necessary to ensure free access to and along the body of water, unless the Commissioner finds that regulating or eliminating access is necessary for other beneficial uses or public purposes." The state's responsibilities to implement the Public Trust Doctrine are considered and used throughout this plan. Any management actions will be consistent with the Public Trust Doctrine as defined by the Alaska Constitution, statutes, court decisions, and public involvement.

Management Intent: Specific Rivers and Lakes

Because of their importance for recreation, commerce and habitat, certain rivers and lakes are given specific use designations. The plan designations applied to shorelands are identical to those used for uplands, tidelands, and submerged lands. In addition to shorelands crossing state, Native, or private land that are navigable, the state asserts ownership of such shorelands within federal conservation units. Within the planning area there are five National Wildlife Refuges, two National Parks/Preserves, and one National Monument, all of which have navigable rivers or lakes, or both.⁴⁵

A listing of rivers and lakes that, at a minimum, are considered to be navigable is identified in Table 3.1 that follows. These are the largest waterbodies within each of the Regions.^{46, 47}

Navigable Rivers and Lakes within Federal Conservation System Units

Certain rivers and lakes within Federal Conservation System Units (CSUs) are significant for their habitat and recreational values. For example, streams with high bear concentrations are important for their habitat value and as popular viewing areas. The navigable portions of waterbodies within CSUs that contain anadromous fish are designated Habitat. All such areas are also designated Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed.^{48, 49} The Habitat designation converts to the land use classification of Wildlife Habitat Land and the designation of Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed, to Public Recreation Land. Navigable waterbodies that are not anadromous and that are not otherwise designated Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed are designated General Use. See the following table for the specific designations applied to the larger navigable rivers and lakes within the planning area.

State Navigable Rivers and Lakes: General

The designation and management intent for navigable waterbodies that cross or are surrounded by state-owned and state-selected lands not within federal conservation units, State Parks, or State Game Refuges are the same as those of the upland tract, except for those streams that are

⁴⁵ National Wildlife Refuges: Togiak, Becharof, Alaska Peninsula, Izembek, and Alaska Maritime. National Parks: Katmai National Park and Preserve, Lake Clark National Park and Wilderness. National Monument: Aniakchak National Park and Preserve.

⁴⁶ Although it is likely that much or most parts of these waterbodies are navigable, portions may not be. Consult with DNR's Public Access Assertion & Defense Unit in the Division of Mining, Land, and Water to determine if a waterbody is navigable at a particular site. See also footnote #29.

⁴⁷ There are other waterbodies that are navigable. Consult with DNR's Public Access Assertion & Defense Unit to determine the navigability to a particular waterbody. See also footnote #28.

⁴⁸ Thus, all such navigable waterbodies are co-designated Habitat and Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed. Consult the ADF&G anadromous stream catalog to determine if a stream is anadromous and with ADF&G to determine if a specific portion of a stream is considered by that agency to be either a spawning or rearing area.

⁴⁹ See also the discussion of specific lakes within federal conservation units that are important for public recreation purposes, following.

specifically designated Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed and those portions of navigable, anadromous streams, which are designated Habitat. These waterbodies are to be managed to be consistent with the designated upland uses. See Table 3.1 below for the specific designations applied to the larger navigable rivers and lakes within the planning region. Many navigable rivers and lakes are designated Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed because of their importance for public recreation. Additionally, as part of the 2013 Plan Admendment, creeks that have been part of Mineral Closing Order 393 but not included in the 2005 BBAP have been added to this table. The state agreed during the 2013 Plan Amendment process to add all creeks included in this MCO but not identified in Table 3.1 and to designate them Habitat or co-designate the Habitat and Dispersed Recreation. The creeks added during the 2013 Plan Amendment process are noted. Note also that MCO 393 (MCO) includes tributaries to such creeks as also warranting the designation of Habitat.⁵⁰

Navigable rivers and lakes that are not within State Parks or State Game Refuges, and are not within state-owned, or state-selected upland management units, and are not otherwise designated in the table below, are designated General Use. These waterbodies are to be managed to allow a diversity of uses consistent with the uses authorized on adjoining uplands in federal, private, or other state entity ownership (e.g. Mental Health, University, and state tracts quitclaimed to a state agency other than DNR). Upland uses are usually designated in an adopted land use or resource management plan, or can be inferred from the actual or planned use of the management unit.

Table 3.1: Some Navigable Waters – Bristol Bay Area Plan

Region	Waterbody	Waters Flowing Through State Uplands (owned & Selected)	Waters Flowing Through Federal Lands (including CSUs)	Land Use Designation		
				Gu	Ha	Rd
2	Akulikutak River		Yes	Yes		
2	Arolik Lake		Yes		Yes	Yes
2	Arolik River	Yes	Yes		Yes	Yes
2	<i>Barnum Creek</i>	Yes			Yes	Yes
2	<i>Cascade Creek</i>	Yes			Yes	Yes
2	Eek Lake		Yes	Yes		
2	Eek River		Yes		Yes	Yes
2	Fog River		Yes		Yes	Yes
2	Goodnews River	Yes	Yes		Yes	Yes

⁵⁰ Review of MCO 393 during the Plan Amendment process determined that certain creeks were missing from those designated Habitat in the original BBAP. DNR determined that all streams (stream bed, water column, and a 100’ riparian area either side of Ordinary High Water of a stream) affected by MCO 393 are to be designated Habitat and this table reflects this determination. This table reflects this determination. This MCO also intends that tributaries to said creeks shall be classified Habitat. This review also revealed that the spatial extent of a given creek or stream is determined by the length of these waterbodies as depicted on USGS maps that accompany the MCO. Waters added during the 2013 Plan Amendment Process are indicated in italics. Note that these streams may not be navigable, none the less these streams are designated Habitat.

Chapter 3 - Navigable Rivers and Lakes

Region	Waterbody	Waters Flowing Through State Uplands (owned & Selected)	Waters Flowing Through Federal Lands (including CSUs)	Land Use Designation		
				Gu	Ha	Rd
2	<i>Granite Creek</i>	Yes			Yes	Yes
2	Indian River		Yes		Yes	Yes
2	Kagati Lake		Yes		Yes	Yes
2	Kanektok River		Yes		Yes	Yes
2	Kanuktik Lake		Yes			Yes
2	Kasigluk River		Yes		Yes	Yes
2	Kinegnak River		Yes		Yes	Yes
2	Kisaralik Lake	Yes			Yes	Yes
2	Kisaralik River	Yes	Yes		Yes	Yes
2	Kukaktlik River		Yes		Yes	Yes
2	Kwethluk River		Yes		Yes	Yes
2	Middle Fork Eek River		Yes		Yes	Yes
2	<i>Middle Fork Goodnews River</i>	Yes			Yes	Yes
2	Nanvakfak Lake		Yes			Yes
2	Pegati Lake		Yes		Yes	Yes
2	Salmon River		Yes		Yes	Yes
2	<i>Slate Creek</i>	Yes			Yes	
2	<i>South Fork Goodnews River</i>	Yes			Yes	
2	Tuluksak River	Yes	Yes		Yes	Yes
2	Ugaklik River		Yes	Yes		
2	<i>Wattamuse Creek</i>	Yes			Yes	
3	Amanka Lake		Yes		Yes	Yes
3	Gechiak Creek		Yes		Yes	Yes
3	Gechiak Lake		Yes		Yes	Yes
3	Heart Lake		Yes		Yes	Yes
3	Igushik River		Yes		Yes	Yes
3	Izavieknik River		Yes		Yes	Yes
3	Kanik River		Yes		Yes	Yes
3	Kemuk River		Yes		Yes	Yes
3	Kikertalik Lake		Yes			Yes
3	Kulukak River		Yes		Yes	Yes
3	Matogak River		Yes		Yes	Yes
3	Nagugun Lake (Reg 3)		Yes			Yes
3	Nayorurun River		Yes		Yes	Yes
3	Negukthlik River		Yes		Yes	Yes
3	Nisua River		Yes		Yes	Yes
3	Norseman Lake		Yes			Yes
3	Ongoike River		Yes			Yes
3	Osviak River		Yes		Yes	Yes

Chapter 3 - Navigable Rivers and Lakes

Region	Waterbody	Waters Flowing Through State Uplands (owned & Selected)	Waters Flowing Through Federal Lands (including CSUs)	Land Use Designation		
				Gu	Ha	Rd
3	Pungokepuk Creek		Yes		Yes	Yes
3	Pungokepuk Lake		Yes			Yes
3	Quigmy River		Yes		Yes	Yes
3	Slug River		Yes		Yes	
3	Togiak Lake		Yes		Yes	Yes
3	Togiak River		Yes		Yes	Yes
3	Tuklung River		Yes		Yes	Yes
3	Tunuing River		Yes		Yes	Yes
3	Ualik Lake		Yes		Yes	Yes
3	Ungalikthluk River		Yes		Yes	Yes
3	Upper Togiak Lake		Yes			Yes
4	Not subject to BBAP					
5	Aleknagik Lake	Yes			Yes	Yes
5	Iowithla River	Yes	Yes		Yes	Yes
5	Muklung River	Yes	Yes		Yes	Yes
5	Nunavaugaluk (Snake) Lake	Yes			Yes	Yes
5	Nushagak River	Yes			Yes	Yes
5	Snake River	Yes	Yes		Yes	Yes
5	Weary River	Yes	Yes		Yes	Yes
5	Wood River (part)	Yes			Yes	Yes
6	Chichitnok River	Yes			Yes	Yes
6	Cranberry Creek	Yes	Yes		Yes	Yes
6	<i>Harris Creek</i>	Yes			Yes	
6	Iowithla River	Yes			Yes	Yes
6	Keefer Creek	Yes			Yes	Yes
6	<i>Kenakuchuk Creek</i>	Yes			Yes	
6	King Salmon River	Yes			Yes	Yes
6	Klutuk Creek	Yes	Yes		Yes	Yes
6	Klutuspak Creek	Yes			Yes	
6	Koktuli River	Yes			Yes	Yes
6	Kokwok River	Yes			Yes	Yes
6	Mosquito River	Yes			Yes	Yes
6	Mulchatna River	Yes			Yes	Yes
6	Napotoli Creek	Yes			Yes	
6	Nushagak River	Yes			Yes	Yes
6	Nuyakuk River	Yes			Yes	Yes
6	Old Man Creek	Yes			Yes	
6	Stuyahok River	Yes			Yes	Yes

Chapter 3 - Navigable Rivers and Lakes

Region	Waterbody	Waters Flowing Through State Uplands (owned & Selected)	Waters Flowing Through Federal Lands (including CSUs)	Land Use Designation		
				Gu	Ha	Rd
6	Vukpalik Creek	Yes			Yes	
7	Chilchitna River	Yes			Yes	Yes
7	Chilikadrotna River	Yes	Yes		Yes	Yes
7	Chulitna	Yes	Yes			Yes
7	Koksetna River	Yes				Yes
7	Long Lake	Yes	Yes			Yes
7	McKinley Creek	Yes			Yes	
7	Mulchatna River	Yes	Yes		Yes	Yes
7	Nikabuna Lakes	Yes				Yes
7	<i>Nikadavna Creek</i>	Yes			Yes	
7	Tutka Lake	Yes			Yes	
8	Newhalen River	Yes			Yes	Yes
8	Sixmile Lake	Yes		Yes	Yes	Yes
8	Tazimina River		Yes		Yes	Yes
9	Boot Lake	Yes		Yes		
9	<i>Canyon Creek</i>	Yes			Yes	
9	<i>Chekok Creek</i>	Yes				Yes
9	Chekok Lake	Yes			Yes	
9	<i>Chinkelyes Creek</i>	Yes				Yes
9	Copper River	Yes			Yes	Yes
9	<i>Dennis Creek</i>	Yes			Yes	Yes
9	<i>Dream Creek</i>	Yes			Yes	Yes
9	Fog Lake	Yes		Yes		
9	Gibraltar Lake	Yes			Yes	Yes
9	Iliamna Lake Note: (entire lake is included within Region 9)	Yes			Yes	Yes
9	Iliamna River	Yes			Yes	Yes
9	Kakhonak Lake	Yes		Yes		
9	Kakhonak River	Yes			Yes	Yes
9	Long Lake	Yes		Yes		
9	Lower Copper Lake	Yes		Yes		
9	Meadow Lake	Yes		Yes		
9	Moose Lake	Yes		Yes		
9	Pile River	Yes			Yes	Yes
9	<i>Tommy Creek</i>	Yes			Yes	
9	Upper Copper Lake	Yes		Yes		
10	Alagnak River	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
10	<i>Belinda Creek</i>	Yes				Yes

Chapter 3 - Navigable Rivers and Lakes

Region	Waterbody	Waters Flowing Through State Uplands (owned & Selected)	Waters Flowing Through Federal Lands (including CSUs)	Land Use Designation		
				Gu	Ha	Rd
10	Kaskanak Creek	Yes	Yes		Yes	Yes
10	Kvichak River	Yes	Yes		Yes	Yes
10	<i>Lower Talarik Creek</i>	Yes			Yes	
10	Ole Creek		Yes		Yes	Yes
10	Pecks Creek	Yes	Yes		Yes	Yes
10	<i>Pete Andrews Creek</i>	Yes				Yes
10	<i>Upper Talarik Creek</i>	Yes			Yes	
10	Yellow Creek	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
11	King Salmon River	Yes			Yes	Yes
11	Naknek River	Yes			Yes	Yes
11	Pauls Creek	Yes	Yes		Yes	Yes
11	Smelt Creek	Yes			Yes	
12	Becharof Lake		Yes		Yes	Yes
12	Big Creek	Yes		Yes		
12	Egegik River	Yes	Yes		Yes	Yes
12	Kejulik River		Yes		Yes	Yes
12	King Salmon River	Yes	Yes		Yes	Yes
12	Swampy River	Yes		Yes		
13	Lower Ugashik Lake	Yes	Yes		Yes	Yes
13	Ugashik River	Yes			Yes	Yes
13	Upper Ugashik Lake		Yes		Yes	Yes
14	Dog Salmon River	Yes			Yes	Yes
14	King Salmon River	Yes			Yes	Yes
14	Ugashik River	Yes			Yes	Yes
15	Cinder River	Yes			Yes	Yes
15	Dog Salmon River		Yes		Yes	Yes
15	King Salmon River	Yes	Yes		Yes	Yes
15	Mother Goose Lake		Yes		Yes	Yes
15	Needle Lake		Yes			Yes
15	Pumice Creek				Yes	Yes
16	Meshik River	Yes	Yes		Yes	Yes
16	Plenty Bear Creek		Yes		Yes	Yes
17	Black Lake		Yes		Yes	Yes
17	Chignik Lake		Yes		Yes	Yes
17	Chignik River		Yes		Yes	Yes
17	Kametolook River		Yes		Yes	Yes
18	Bear Lake	Yes			Yes	Yes
18	Bear River	Yes			Yes	Yes

Chapter 3 - Navigable Rivers and Lakes

Region	Waterbody	Waters Flowing Through State Uplands (owned & Selected)	Waters Flowing Through Federal Lands (including CSUs)	Land Use Designation		
				Gu	Ha	Rd
18	Ilnik Lake	Yes			Yes	Yes
18	Ilnik River	Yes			Yes	Yes
18	Muddy River	Yes	Yes	Yes		
18	Ocean River	Yes			Yes	Yes
18	Sandy Lake	Yes	Yes		Yes	Yes
18	Sandy River	Yes	Yes		Yes	Yes
18	Unangashak River	Yes	Yes		Yes	Yes
18	Wildman Lake	Yes			Yes	Yes
19	Beaver River		Yes		Yes	Yes
19	Bishop Creek		Yes		Yes	Yes
19	Coal Creek	Yes			Yes	Yes
19	Coleman Creek		Yes		Yes	Yes
19	Foster Creek		Yes		Yes	Yes
19	Johnson Creek		Yes		Yes	Yes
19	Lawrence Creek	Yes	Yes		Yes	Yes
19	Portage Creek		Yes		Yes	Yes
19	Susie Creek		Yes		Yes	Yes
21	Big Fish Lake	Yes			Yes	Yes
21	Canoe Bay River		Yes		Yes	Yes
21	Caribou River	Yes	Yes		Yes	Yes
21	Cathedral River	Yes	Yes		Yes	Yes
21	David River	Yes			Yes	Yes
21	<i>Lefthead River</i>	Yes			Yes	
21	<i>Peterson Creek</i>	Yes				Yes
21	Sapsuk Lake		Yes		Yes	
21	Sapsuk River	Yes	Yes		Yes	
22	Barney's Creek		Yes		Yes	Yes
22	Blinn Lake		Yes			Yes
22	Coal Oil Creek		Yes			Yes
22	Delta Creek		Yes		Yes	Yes
22	Emmons Lake		Yes			Yes
22	Fisher Caldera Lakes		Yes	Yes		
22	Joshua Green River		Yes		Yes	Yes
22	Lake Hess		Yes			Yes
22	Lake Trelford		Yes			Yes
22	Lazaref River		Yes		Yes	Yes
22	North Creek		Yes		Yes	Yes
22	Pogromni River		Yes		Yes	Yes

Chapter 3 - Navigable Rivers and Lakes

Region	Waterbody	Waters Flowing Through State Uplands (owned & Selected)	Waters Flowing Through Federal Lands (including CSUs)	Land Use Designation		
				Gu	Ha	Rd
22	Rescue Lake		Yes			Yes
22	Southern Creek		Yes		Yes	Yes
22	Winding Creek		Yes		Yes	Yes
Aniakchak	Aniakchak River		Yes		Yes	Yes
Aniakchak	Meshik Lake		Yes			Yes
Aniakchak	Meshik River		Yes		Yes	Yes
Aniakchak	Northeast Creek		Yes		Yes	Yes
Aniakchak	Surprise Lake		Yes			Yes
Katmai	American Creek		Yes		Yes	Yes
Katmai	Battle Lake		Yes		Yes	Yes
Katmai	Hammersley Lake		Yes			Yes
Katmai	Idavain Lake		Yes			Yes
Katmai	Kukaklek Lake		Yes		Yes	Yes
Katmai	Lake Brooks		Yes			Yes
Katmai	Lake Coville		Yes			Yes
Katmai	Lake Grosvenor		Yes		Yes	Yes
Katmai	McNeil Lake		Yes			Yes
Katmai	Murray Lake		Yes			Yes
Katmai	Naknek Lake		Yes		Yes	Yes
Katmai	Nonvianuk Lake		Yes		Yes	Yes
Katmai	Savonoski River		Yes		Yes	Yes
L.C.	Chilikadrotna River		Yes		Yes	Yes
L.C.	Chulitna River		Yes		Yes	Yes
L.C.	Currant Creek		Yes		Yes	Yes
L.C.	Fishtrap Lake		Yes			Yes
L.C.	Kijik Lake		Yes			Yes
L.C.	Koksetna River		Yes			Yes
L.C.	Kontrashibuna Lake		Yes			Yes
L.C.	Lachbuna Lake		Yes			Yes
L.C.	Lake Clark		Yes		Yes	Yes
L.C.	Little Lake Clark		Yes		Yes	Yes
L.C.	Little Mulchatna River		Yes		Yes	Yes
L.C.	Lower Tazimina Lake		Yes			Yes
L.C.	Pickerel Lakes		Yes			Yes
L.C.	Portage Lake		Yes			Yes
L.C.	Tanalian River		Yes		Yes	Yes
L.C.	Tazimina River		Yes		Yes	Yes
L.C.	Tlikakila River		Yes		Yes	Yes

Region	Waterbody	Waters Flowing Through State Uplands (owned & Selected)	Waters Flowing Through Federal Lands (including CSUs)	Land Use Designation		
				Gu	Ha	Rd
L.C.	Turquoise Lake		Yes			Yes
L.C.	Twin Lakes		Yes		Yes	Yes
L.C.	Upper Tazimina Lake		Yes			Yes

Maps of Planning Area, Regions, and General Land Status

Map 3-2: Region 2

Map 3-3: Region 3

Map 3-5: Region 5

Map 3-6: Region 6

Map 3-7: Region 7

Map 3-8: Region 8

Map 3-9: Region 9

Map 3-10: Region 10

Map 3-11: Region 11

Map 3-12: Region 12

Map 3-13: Region 13

Map 3-14: Region 14

Map 3-15: Region 15

Map 3-16: Region 16

Map 3-17: Region 17

Map 3-18: Region 18

Map 3-19: Region 19

Map 3-21: Region 21

Map 3-22: Region 22

Chapter 4

Implementation and Recommendations

Introduction.....	1
State Land Classification	1
Relationship of Land Use Designations in the Plan to State Land Classifications.....	4
Table 4.1(A): Acreages Associated with Upland Designations – Management Units	5
Table 4.1(B): Acreages Associated with Tideland, Submerged Land, and Shoreland Designations – Management Units	6
Table 4.2(A): Upland Designations – Conversion to Classifications	7
Table 4.2(B): Tideland, Submerged Land, and Shoreland Designations – Conversion to Classifications.....	7
Public Trust Doctrine.....	7
Surface Leasing.....	8
Classification Order	8
Table 4.3: Acres of State Lands Classified.....	9
Special Use Designations.....	10
Applicability of Plan Designations/Classifications to State Lands not Identified in the Plan Text or Plan Maps.....	10
Survivor Designations and Classifications	11
Alaska Coastal Management Program.....	11
Municipal Entitlement	11
State Land Selections, ANILCA Topfiled Lands, and Public Land Orders	14
State Land Selections.....	14
ANILCA Topfiled Lands	14
Public Land Orders	14
Table 4.4: Significant Public Land Orders in the Planning Area	15
Coordination with Federal Land Management	16
Mineral and Leasehold Location Orders.....	17
Proposed Additions to the State Park System.....	17
Coordination with Nushagak & Mulchatna Rivers Recreation Management Plan	17
Types of Plan Changes.....	18

Chapter 4

Implementation and Recommendations

Introduction

This chapter includes information and recommendations necessary to implement plan goals, management intent, and guidelines. Information is included on the following:

- State Land Classification
- Relationship of Land Use Designations in the Plan to State Land Classifications
- Public Trust Doctrine
- Surface Leasing
- Classification Order
- Special Use Designations
- Applicability of Plan Designations/Classifications to State Lands not Identified in the Plan Text or Plan Maps
- Alaska Coastal Management Program
- Municipal Entitlement
- State Land Selections, ANILCA Topfiled Lands, and Public Land Orders
- Coordination with Federal Land Management
- Mineral and Leasehold Location Orders
- Proposed Additions to the State Park System
- Coordination with Nushagak & Mulchatna Rivers Recreation Management Plan
- Types of Plan Changes

State Land Classification

To implement the plan on state lands, DNR must “classify” state lands to reflect the intent of “land use designations” made by this plan. State law requires that classification precede most conveyance or leasing of state uplands or tidelands. According to state statute classification means, “. . . the designation of lands according to their apparent best use.” It “. . . identifies the primary use for which the land will be managed . . .” but “. . . all other

uses are initially presumed as compatible with the primary use.” For this reason, all plan classifications are intended for multiple uses. In this plan most management units are assigned a single, principle designation.

In some instances more than one designation is identified; these are termed “co-designations” and indicate that two (or more) uses are considered to be compatible within a specific management unit of state land. The General Use (Gu) designation is used frequently in this plan, typically applying to the larger management units of state land where two or more uses are judged to be compatible within specific portions of the management unit. Compatibility of uses should be able to be achieved through distance separation, or siting and design techniques that should reduce or preclude the undesirable effects of a particular use.

Following is a list of land classifications, and their associated definitions in Alaska regulations (the Alaska Administrative Code – AAC), which will apply to state lands in the planning area as a result of plan adoption. DNR will manage state lands and resources consistent with these classifications and with the management directions given in Chapter 3 for specific management units of state land.¹

11 AAC 55.095. Heritage Resource Land. Land classified heritage resources is land where there is active preservation of, or research for, significant historical, prehistoric, paleontological, or other cultural values or where there is reason to believe that these values exist.

11 AAC 55.120. Material Land. Land classified material is land that is suitable for the extraction of common varieties of sand, gravel, stone, peat, clay, and other similar materials.

11 AAC 55.130. Mineral Land. Land classified mineral is land where known mineral resources exist and where development is occurring or is reasonably likely to occur, or where there is reason to believe that commercial quantities of minerals exist.

11 AAC 55.160. Public Recreation Land. Land classified public recreation is land that is suitable for recreation uses, waysides, parks, campsites, scenic overlooks, hunting, fishing or boating access sites, trail corridors, or greenbelts along bodies of water or roadways.

11 AAC 55.170. Reserved Land Use. (a) Land classified reserved use is land that:

- 1) is reserved for transfer to another governmental or non-governmental agency that is performing a public service;
- 2) is reserved for transfer through land exchanges; or
- 3) has been designated for a public facility.

¹ Land not otherwise classified on the plan maps within the planning area are classified General Use (Gu) or if reconveyed to the state and previously classified, under the previous applicable classification order.

(b) Nothing in this section requires classification of land identified for a future land exchange under AS 38.50.

11 AAC 55.200. Resource Management Land. Land classified resource management is either:

- 1) land that might have a number of important resources, but for which a specific resource allocation decision is not possible because of a lack of adequate resource, economic, or other relevant information; or for which a decision is not necessary because the land is presently inaccessible and remote and development is not likely to occur within the next 10 years; or
- 2) land that contains one or more resource values, none of which is of sufficiently high value to merit designation as a primary use.

11 AAC 55.202. Settlement Land. An upland area classified settlement is land that is, by reason of its physical qualities and location, suitable for year-round or seasonal residential or private recreational use or for commercial or industrial development. Tideland, submerged land, or shoreland classified settlement is land that is suitable for floathomes, or land that is immediately adjacent to upland areas with existing or proposed settlement and that will be managed to support those existing or proposed upland settlement uses.

11 AAC 55.215. Waterfront Development Land. Land classified waterfront development is tideland, submerged land, or shoreland that is suitable to be used for commercial or industrial activities such as fish processing, aquatic farming, mineral and log transfer facilities, or commercial recreation.

11 AAC 55.222. Water Resources Land. Land classified water resources is land encompassing watersheds or portions of watersheds and is suitable for such uses as water supply, watershed protection, or hydropower sites.

11 AAC 55.230. Wildlife Habitat Land. Land classified wildlife habitat is land which is primarily valuable for:

- 1) fish and wildlife resource production, whether existing or through habitat manipulation, to supply sufficient numbers or diversity of species to support commercial, recreational, or traditional uses on an optimum sustained yield basis; or
- 2) a unique or rare assemblage of a single or multiple species of regional, state, or national significance.

Relationship of Land Use Designations in the Plan to State Land Classifications

The classifications contain no specific land management directives; those directives are expressed through the use of land use designations in the plan, described in detail for individual Regions and management units included in Chapter 3. However, the designations used in the area plan must be converted into land classifications outlined in state regulation (11 AAC 55) that reflect the intent of the plan.

Since plan designations are central to the management of state land in this area plan, knowledge of the amount of area associated with particular designations is important, allowing a comparison between the designated uses. Table 4.1 identifies the acreage associated with the designations recommended in this plan, specified for upland and tideland management units. Descriptions of each of the following designations are also provided in Chapter 3 pages 2 to 5. Note: Acreages associated with plan classifications are given in Table 4.3.

Table 4.1(A): Acreages Associated with Upland Designations – Management Units

Symbol	Designation	Acreage
Gu	General Use	7,262,489
Ha	Habitat	1,564,607
Ha Rd	Habitat, Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed	2,806,692
Ha Rp	Habitat, Public Recreation and Tourism-Public Use Site	3,319
Hr	Heritage Resources	34
Ma	Materials	316
Mi	Minerals	71,701
Mi Ha	Minerals, Habitat	130,536
Pr	Public Facilities-Retain	12,080
Rd	Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed	169,282
Rp	Public Recreation and Tourism-Public Use Site	7,189
Se	Settlement	426,285
Se Rd	Settlement, Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed	53,541
Sc	Settlement-Commercial	268
Wr	Water Resources	37,941
Wr Ha	Water Resources, Habitat	555,919
Wr Ha Rd	Water Resources, Habitat, Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed	451,477
Wr Rd	Water Resources, Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed	59,357
Total		11,845,628

Table 4.1(B): Acreages Associated with Tideland, Submerged Land, and Shoreland Designations – Management Units

Symbol	Designation	Acreage
F	Forestry	0
Gu	General Use	5,577,366
Ha	Habitat	1,392,852
Hv	Harvest	459,783
Pr	Public Facilities-Retain	0
Rd	Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed	494,313
Sd	Shoreline Use	0
Wd	Waterfront Development	32,506
Total		7,962,695

The conversion of land use designations used by this plan into state land classifications is indicated in the two tables below. These are intended to identify the allowable uses of a state upland or tideland area, consistent with the definitions described previously and with any management intent given in Chapter 3.

Table 4.2(A): Upland Designations – Conversion to Classifications

Symbol	Designation	Classification
Gu	General Use	Resource Management Land
Ha	Habitat	Wildlife Habitat Land
Hr	Heritage Resources	Heritage Resources Land
Ma	Materials	Material Land
Mi	Minerals	Mineral Land
Pr	Public Facilities-Retain	Reserved Use Land
Rd	Public Rec. & Tourism-Dispersed Use	Public Recreation Land
Rp	Public Rec. & Tourism-Public Use Site	Public Recreation Land
Rm	Resource Management – High Value	Resource Management Land
Se	Settlement	Settlement Land
Sc	Settlement-Commercial	Settlement Land
Wr	Water Resources	Water Resources Land

Table 4.2(B): Tideland, Submerged Land, and Shoreland Designations – Conversion to Classifications

Symbol	Designation	Classification
Gu	General Use	Resource Management Land
Ha	Habitat	Wildlife Habitat Land
Hv	Harvest	Wildlife Habitat Land
Pr	Public Facilities–Retain	Reserved Use Land
Rd	Public Rec. & Tourism-Dispersed Use	Public Recreation Land
Wd	Waterfront Development	Waterfront Development Land

Public Trust Doctrine

See the Management Intent for Navigable Rivers section at the end of Chapter 3.

Surface Leasing

Under the authority of AS 38.05 and 11 AAC 58.300-.340, state land within the planning area is available for surface leasing, provided that the leasing is allowed under the classification and is consistent with the management intent set forth in this area plan.

Applications for uses of state land within the planning area will be considered by the Regional Manager, Department of Natural Resources, Division of Mining, Land and Water, Southcentral Region, Anchorage, Alaska.

Classification Order

State land is classified under the authority of AS 38.04.005, AS 38.05.300, and 11 AAC 55.010 -.280 according to the management intent set forth in this area plan. Land classification orders, as used in area plans, convert the land use designations in the area plan to land use classifications, which are required under statute. Classifications are important to the determination of whether certain forms of activity can occur under certain portions of statute and they provide a general indication of how state land is to be managed. They do not, however, provide the basis for the management of state land. The plan designations, management intent, and management guidelines of an area plan perform that function.

There are two land classification orders that affect the Bristol Bay planning area:

- 1) Land Classification Order SC-04-002 (implementing the 2005 BBAP) classifies all state land within the plan area except for those areas affected by the classifications in the 2013 Determination of Reclassification and Plan Amendment. See Appendix B. This Land Classification Order (LCO) superseded and replaced all previous classifications and classification orders affecting the planning area of the BBAP. (Note: Special Use Designations predating the adoption of this revision were unaffected by this LCO.)
- 2) Land Classification Order SC-04-002A02 (implementing the 2013 Plan Amendment) replaced and superseded the land classifications of the 2005 BBAP for those units and areas identified in Tables B-3, B-6, and B-7, and Map 3A in the Plan Amendment (January 2013) and those management units identified in the List of Approved Revisions (September, 2013) to the 2013 Plan Amendment and the Revised Plan Amendment Map 3A. The classifications that are included in this document and in the “2013 Determination of Reclassification and Plan Amendment, Table B-7” incorporate the aforementioned revisions. Except as may be modified by the revisions noted above, all other aspects of LCO SC-04-002 remain unchanged. See also Appendix B. The aforementioned documents are available at DNR, if required for review.

See also the section ‘Applicability of Plan Designations/Classifications to State Lands not Identified in the Plan Text or Plan Maps’, following. This section describes how lands inadvertently omitted in the Area Plan or acquired by the state subsequent to this revision are to be treated in terms of plan designation and classification.

Table 4-3 provides estimates of the acreage by classification for uplands and tidelands.

Table 4.3: Acres of State Lands Classified

Classification	Upland Acreage	Tideland and Submerged Land Acreage
Heritage Resources Land	34	0
Materials Land	316	0
Mineral Land	71,680	0
Mineral & Habitat Land	130,536	0
Public Recreation Land	176,471	500,188
Public Recreation & Habitat Land	2,030,314	0
Public Recreation & Habitat & Water Resources Land	451,477	0
Public Recreation & Water Resources Land	59,357	0
Reserved Use Land	12,080	0
Resource Management Land	7,262,489	5,577,366
Settlement Land	426,553	0
Settlement & Public Recreation Land	53,541	0
Water Resources Land	37,941	0
Waterfront Development Land	0	32,506
Wildlife Habitat Land	517,540	1,852,635
Wildlife Habitat & Water Resources Land	555,919	0
Totals	11,786,269	7,962,695

Special Use Designations

Special Use Designations are used whenever it is necessary to establish specific requirements for uses of state lands that would otherwise be permitted under 11 AAC 96. This section of administrative code specifies those uses that require or do not require a permit for the authorization of a use on state land. It also provides under 11 AAC 96.014 that DNR may, through the use of a Special Use Designation, extract a certain use from the list of Generally Allowed Uses (GAU) that would otherwise be authorized without permit, and require that this use receive an authorization to occur. Special Use Designations usually affect a specific type of use and are usually confined to specific geographic areas. They also usually specify conditions or standards that must be satisfied by the affected use. The three current (2004) Special Use Designations² in effect within the planning area are retained and are unaffected by the provisions of this plan. An additional special use designation, used to protect the large walrus haulout at Cape Seniavin, is recommended and is in development under a separate process involving the DMLW Southcentral Region Office.

Applicability of Plan Designations/Classifications to State Lands not Identified in the Plan Text or Plan Maps

This section deals with those lands that are not designated in the BBAP or classified in the Land Classification Order. Such lands include those state lands inadvertently omitted in the BBAP and those lands that may be acquired by the state in the future but not designated or classified in the Area Plan. The state has acquired and will continue to acquire isolated parcels of land through foreclosure, escheat, and other methods. The purpose of this section is to give direction to the designation of these lands by the Department when future issues of parcel classification and management arise.

The following guidelines of plan designation/classification and potential disposal out of state ownership are to apply:

- **Parcels in or near Existing Communities.** If the parcel is in or is immediately adjacent to an existing community or past state land offering, the designation of Settlement and classification of Settlement Land apply. Such land can be considered for disposal use unless it is appropriate as a site(s) for schools, material sites, roads, parks, or other similar public use. Unsold lots identified for disposal in existing subdivisions and lots that return to state ownership will be available for lease, sale, or conveyance. Tracts identified for community purposes in existing subdivisions will not be sold but may be conveyed to municipalities or homeowner associations if they are not needed for state purposes.

² The three SUDs (ADLs 226851, 226,852, and 227445) relate to camping activities in the Togiak NWR and Lower Goodnews River (ADL 226851), Lower Talarik Creek (ADL 227445), and the Nushagak River public use sites (ADL 226852).

- **Parcels near other State Land.** If the parcel adjoins or is surrounded by other state land, the designation of that area(s) applies. It is to be managed according to the management intent and guidelines applicable to the adjacent lands. Such lands can be considered appropriate for disposal if they are designated Settlement or Settlement-Commercial unless it is appropriate as a site(s) for schools, material sites, roads, parks, or other similar public use. They may also be conveyed to a municipality even if it is suitable for these public uses as long as the proposed uses are for comparable municipal (public) use.
- **Parcels not near Other State Land.** Parcels not near other state land or that occur within areas designated General Use are to be designated General Use and classified as Resource Management Land. These lands are to be managed according to the management intent and guidelines applicable to the adjacent lands. Disposal of these lands to the adjacent landowner may be appropriate but will require reclassification to Settlement Land.
- **Newly Acquired State Lands.** Lands that were acquired proactively through exchange, purchase, or other methods will be managed and classified consistent with the purposes for which they were acquired.
- **Other Lands.** If the designation/classification of a parcel of acquired or omitted state land cannot be adequately determined, the parcel is to be designated General Use and classified Resource Management Land.

Survivor Designations and Classifications

This revision of the BBAP replaces and supercedes all previous plan designation and land classifications (termed ‘survivor’) that affect the BBAP planning area. It does not replace or supercede Special Use Designations predating the approval of this revision.

Alaska Coastal Management Program

The Alaska Coastal Management Program was formally rescinded on July 1, 2011 by AS 544.66.030 and, as such, the requirements of this program no longer apply.

Municipal Entitlement

The Municipal Entitlement Act (AS 29.65) determines a municipal general grant land entitlement and identifies what lands are available for transfer to a qualifying municipality. The term “municipality” includes both incorporated cities and organized boroughs. The size of a municipality’s entitlement is generally 10 percent of the vacant, unappropriated, unreserved (VUU) state general grant land within the municipal boundaries. State general grant lands that meet the criteria of VUU land as defined in AS 29.65.130 (ie. classified as

Agricultural, Grazing, Material, Public Recreation, Settlement, Resource Management, or unclassified land) may be appropriate for conveyance to municipalities with a remaining general grant land entitlement under AS 29.65.

Municipalities that are eligible to receive state general grant land under the Municipal Entitlement Program include the Aleutians East Borough (entitlement of 7,633 acres), the Lake and Peninsula Borough (entitlement of 125,000 acres), and the Bristol Bay Borough (entitlement of 2,898 acres), for a total entitlement of 135,531 acres within the planning boundary. Of this entitlement, the Lake and Peninsula Borough has 31,620 acres of DNR approved selections, the state has conveyed 2,549 acres to the Bristol Bay Borough, and the Aleutians East Borough has 1,913 acres of approved selections. The remaining entitlement, while selected by the boroughs, could not be conveyed by the state under the 1984 BBAP because the selections coincided with plan designations that precluded conveyance. Approximately 93,380 acres of selections by the Lake and Peninsula Borough, 349 acres of selections by the Bristol Bay Borough, and 5,720 acres of selections by the Aleutians East Borough were affected by plan designations in the 1984 Area Plan that precluded conveyance. This plan revision (2004) assigns land use designations that provide for the conveyance of the pending municipal selections in many instances.

The formation of a new borough in the Bristol Bay region has been under consideration and is likely to continue to be an issue. If a new Borough is formed, it will also be eligible for 10 percent of the vacant, unappropriated, and unreserved state general grant land within its corporate limits.

State land with land use designations of Settlement, Settlement-Commercial, Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed, and General Use in the Area Plan may be conveyed to municipalities to fulfill outstanding municipal entitlements. Consult the Resource Allocation Table to determine if an area of municipal selection is appropriate for conveyance under this plan. Areas so identified are considered appropriate for conveyance, subject to the outcome of a separate and subsequent state Best Interest Finding. The conversion of these land use designations to corresponding land classifications will enable the land to be conveyed to municipalities. However, it should be noted that certain of the management units that are designated General Use or Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed (normally conveyable categories) are not appropriate for conveyance. The management intent of each management unit affected by these designations must be carefully reviewed since in some instances all or portions of these management units are identified for retention by the state.

Lands identified for retention in management intent statements or designated Habitat, Minerals, Water Resources, or Public Facilities-Retain are not appropriate for conveyance under the Municipal Entitlement program. The lone exception to this standard is for those portions of anadromous, non-navigable streams that are considered appropriate for conveyance to municipalities. Public Use Sites within the Nushagak/Mulchatna river system are designated Public Recreation and Tourism-Public Use Site. These sites may be conveyed to municipalities if so indicated in the management intent statement contained in the Resource Allocation Tables, but, if conveyed, must remain in public ownership and use.

A listing of municipal selections by the Lake and Peninsula and Aleutians East Boroughs is provided in tabular form in Appendix C. Those selections or portions of selections that are considered appropriate for conveyance are so indicated. Certain selections or portions of selections are considered **not** appropriate for conveyance – these include:

- A block of selections on the Mulchatna River, mostly within units R06-07 and R07-06; only portions of these selections are appropriate for conveyance. The selection must be reconfigured to adhere to the 4:1 rule³. A public use easement of 100 feet is to be maintained; this area is to remain vegetated and undisturbed except for utility and road crossings, and public facilities related to recreation or public safety.
- A selection at Dream Creek within management unit R09-07 is considered not appropriate for conveyance because of high fishery values.
- A selection along the Kvichak River within unit R10-07; only portions of the selection are considered appropriate for conveyance. The selection must be reconfigured to adhere to the 4:1 rule. A public use easement of 100 feet is to be maintained; this area is to remain vegetated and undisturbed except for utility and road crossings, and public facilities related to recreation or public safety.
- A selection on the Kuktuli River which encompasses land designated for minerals, a public use site (PU31), and a small amount of general use lands is not considered appropriate for conveyance to prevent conflicts with nearby mineral resource development.
- Portions of a selection on the Copper River, below the falls, is not considered appropriate for conveyance; the management unit that encompasses this area has been designated fish and wildlife habitat (unit R09-09).
- Portions of selections falling within units R09-13 and R10-09 on the south shore of Lake Iliamna in the vicinity of Dennis Creek-Eagle Bluff are considered not appropriate for conveyance in order to provide for public recreation opportunities along the lake. (Note: the remainder of the municipal selection (that portion within units R09-07 and R10-08) is, however, considered appropriate for conveyance.)
- All selections in the Lower Talarik Creek vicinity of Region 10 are considered not appropriate for conveyance; the lands contain a special use area and are heavily utilized by the public for sports fishing.
- A selection on the northwest shore of Lake Iliamna is considered not appropriate for conveyance in order to ensure public access and recreational opportunities (management unit R10-03).

³ Selections must be compact in form, and length cannot exceed width by a ratio of approximately 4:1.

State Land Selections, ANILCA Topfiled Lands, and Public Land Orders

State Land Selections

Under the Statehood Act, Alaska is entitled to approximately 130 million acres of federal land. The selections made by the state in the planning area occurred under the ‘General Grant’ program, and nearly all have been either conveyed to the state through patent or are in TA (Tentative Approval) status, which gives management authority to the state. The areas noted as ‘state-selected’ land on the Plan Maps depict those areas of federal land selected for eventual conveyance to the state. These are primarily located in Regions 5 (Dillingham, Snake Lake, Nushagak Bay), 6 (Nushagak, Mulchatna), 8 (Lake Clark, Newhalen), 9 (Eastern Iliamna Lake), and 10 (Western Iliamna Lake, Kvichak River), totaling approximately 1.6 million acres⁴. Over 10.5 million acres have been conveyed to the state. Areas of state selections on the Region Plan Maps include, in addition to state selections proper, ANILCA topfiled selections and areas subject to Public Land Orders.

ANILCA Topfiled Lands

There are certain areas that are ‘topfiled’ by the state under the provisions of ANILCA legislation. These are selections made by the state that apply or ‘attach’ when Native regional or village selections are adjudicated by the Bureau of Land Management, but it is uncertain how many of these selections will attach during the planning period. The amount of Native selections, in terms of acreage, greatly exceeds that allowed under their selection entitlement, and BLM does not require that these selections be prioritized, which would otherwise make it possible to adjudicate the lower ranked Native selections. The distribution of ANILCA topfiled selections is generally similar to the distribution of state-selected lands. The category of ‘State-Selected Land’ on Region Plan Maps includes areas of ANILCA topfiled selections in addition to areas of state-selected land.

Public Land Orders

Public Land Orders (PLO) of the U.S. Bureau of Land Management withdraw federally owned land for a specific federal use. PLOs may be rescinded if the specific use no longer occurs or the affected area is no longer needed for a federal purpose. These withdrawals may, depending on a variety of considerations, be conveyable to the state and all of the PLOs within the planning area have been topfiled by the state. Many of the PLOs within the planning area are associated with village or regional native corporation selections or with withdrawals for national parks and wildlife refuges, although there are some PLOs that

⁴ Note to DNR adjudicators: check land status of selection when reviewing authorizations. Management units may have already been conveyed to the state or to Native corporations.

withdraw federal land for other purposes. Areas affected by PLOs coincide with areas of state selections on Region Plan Maps. This plan assumes that all such PLOs that are lifted should be conveyed to the state unless affected by hazardous materials⁵. The following Table provides a listing of significant Public Land Orders that affect the north and central part of the planning area:

Table 4.4: Significant Public Land Orders in the Planning Area

PLO #	Location	Townships	Nature of PLO
5172	Nyac Area	S12N59W, S12N60W, S10N60W, S10N61W, S11N60W, S11N59W	Withdrawn for village and regional native corporation selections
5179	Goodnews Bay Area, Nyac Area, West Iliamna	S8S71W, S9S71W, S9S72W, S14N60W, S7S40W-S7S41W, S8S41W-S8S42W, S9S42W, S12S42W, S13S41W-S13S43W, S14S40W-S14S43W, S15S40W, S17S44W	Withdraws land in aid of legislation for creation or additions to federal CSUs
5180	Nyac Area, West Iliamna	S14N56W-S14N59W, S13N56W-S13N59W, S9S43W-S9S44W, S17S44W	Withdraws land for the classification and protection of public interest in lands
5181	Goodnews Bay Area	S8S72W, S9S74W, S9S73W, S9S72W,	Withdraws land for classification and study for possible additions to NWR
5183	Platinum	S15S75W	Withdrawn for classification and aid in legislation, revoking in part EO No. 8979
5184	Goodnews Bay Area, Platinum, Togiak & Twin Hills Area, Nyac Area, West Iliamna	S10S71W-S10S74W, S11S71W, S11S74W, S12S74W, S12S72W, S13S75W, S15S75W, S13S67W, S13S66W, S14N60W, S11N65W, S8S39W, S9S40W, S10S37W, S10S40W, S10S41W, S10S44W-S10S45W, S10S47W-S10S49W, S11S37W, S11S41W, S11S45W, S11S47W, S12S41W, S12S44W, S12S46W-S12S47W, S13S44W-S13S47W, S13S51W, S14S47W, S15S47W, S16S45W-S16S46W, S17S44W-S17S45W, S18S47W	Withdraws land for classification or reclassification of areas withdrawn under section 11 of ANSCA
5186	Nyac Area	S14N56W, S14N57W, S13N56W, S13N57W	Withdraws land for the classification and protection of public interest in lands -- not selected by the State of Alaska (but amended by various PLOs)
5250	Goodnews Bay Area	S8S71W	Same as 5179 and 5180, withdrawn for classification of public interest lands
5392	Nyac Area	S13N60W, S12N61W, S11N61W	Same as PLOs 5172, 5179, 5180, and 5181
5442	Nyac Area	S12N59W, S12N60W, S11N59W, S11N60W, S10N59W-S10N61W, S9N59W, S8N60W, S7N60W, S6N60W	Same as PLO 5172
7314	West Iliamna	S10S44W	Withdrawn for village native corporation selections

⁵ Unless the area of federal land affected by hazardous materials is remediated.

Coordination with Federal Land Management

Large portions of the planning area are within federal wildlife refuges or national parks. Most of the northwestern part of the planning area, generally within the drainages of the Goodnews and Togiak Rivers, is occupied by the Togiak National Wildlife Refuge (NWR). The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service administers this refuge according to a management plan⁶ that is in the process of being revised (2004). Large portions of the uplands on the Alaska Peninsula, especially on the south side of the Peninsula fronting the Pacific Ocean, lie within the Alaska Peninsula, Becharof, and Izembek NWRs. These refuges are currently administered under separate management plans of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, but are also in the process of being revised and incorporated into a combined management plan (2003)⁷. The eastern portion of the Alaska Peninsula is occupied by the Katmai National Park and Preserve. The Park/Preserve is administered through a General Management Plan (1986). Numerous rocks, islets, and off-shore islands located throughout the planning area are part of the Alaska Maritime National Wildlife Refuge. The Alaska Maritime NWR is also administered according to a Comprehensive Conservation Plan.⁸

The Department reviewed these plans in its preparation of the Area Plan. The Area Plan only makes decisions for state lands. However, it is appropriate to coordinate tidelands management, over which the state has jurisdiction, with the management of federally owned uplands in order to avoid the siting and development of incompatible tideland uses. Certain types of mariculture operations and floating facilities are considered generally incompatible with adjacent refuge or park uplands and should not be authorized by the Department. There are certain exceptions to this general management intent, and the Resource Allocation Tables and the sections on Aquatic Farming and Floating Facilities in Chapter 2 must be consulted prior to granting authorizations.

Other types of tideland uses may also be appropriate pursuant to ANILCA; see the sections on specific tidelands management provisions in the Management Summary: Tide and Submerged Land for each Region in Chapter 3 for these uses. In general, Department land authorizations are to be made compatible with the federal upland management designations to the extent feasible and prudent, consistent with the exceptions noted above and if the authorization is in the overall best interest of the state.

⁶ Togiak National Wildlife Refuge Comprehensive Conservation Plan/Environmental Impact Statement and Wilderness Review (1986).

⁷ Draft Alaska Peninsula/Becharof National Wildlife Refuge Comprehensive Conservation Plan/Environmental Impact Statement and Wilderness Review (2003).

⁸ Alaska Maritime National Wildlife Refuge Comprehensive Conservation Plan/Environmental Impact Statement and Wilderness Review (1988).

Mineral and Leasehold Location Orders

Alaska Statute 38.05.185 requires the Commissioner of DNR to determine that mineral entry and location is incompatible with significant surface uses in order to close state-owned lands to mineral entry. This plan revision retains all of the mineral closing orders and Leasehold Location Order 1 from the 1984 BBAP. Specifically, it retains MCO 393, which closes affected streams (stream bed, water column, and riparian area, measured 100' from ordinary high water on each side of the stream) to mineral entry and development.⁹ Additional mineral closing orders or leasehold location orders are not recommended since few conflicts should exist between mining and sensitive surface uses given the location of the mineral deposits and settlement areas. Settlement areas are not located within or adjacent to the areas of principal mineral deposits, which are designated Minerals in this Area Plan.

Proposed Additions to the State Park System

Areas of state-owned land and state-selected land adjacent to western and southwestern portions of Wood-Tikchik State Park are recommended for inclusion in the Legislatively Designated Area of this state park. The recently adopted (October 2002) Wood-Tikchik State Park Management Plan recommended that the western boundaries of the park be extended to include these areas. Other additions to the state park system (including marine parks) are not recommended.

Coordination with Nushagak & Mulchatna Rivers Recreation Management Plan

The Nushagak & Mulchatna Rivers Recreation Management Plan (RRMP) was developed by DNR and other entities to provide the basis for the management of recreation uses and structures on state land within the Nushagak and Mulchatna drainage basin. It was adopted in 1990 as an element of the Bristol Bay Area Plan and as an Area Meriting Special Attention in the District Coastal Plan of the Bristol Bay Coastal Resource Service Area.

This plan revision continues the use of the RRMP as an element of the Bristol Bay Area Plan within the navigable waters of the Nushagak-Mulchatna drainage basin and those adjacent uplands designated in the Area Plan as General Use (Gu), Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed (Rd), Public Recreation and Tourism-Public Use Site (Rp), or (with these designations) co-designated Habitat (Ha) for specific types of recreation activities and facilities. The Revised RRMP (RRRMP) is to be used as the basis for decision making for

⁹ Note: A significant aspect of the 2013 Plan Amendment plan revision process was to clarify that all streams affected by the original mineral order in the 1985 plan were designated Habitat. Revisions to the land classifications during the 2005 Plan Revision process inadvertently dropped this designation from certain streams. The 2013 Plan Amendment process designated these streams Habitat.

the following types of recreation and related uses within these areas: Permanent Facilities, Temporary Facilities, Trapping Cabin, Boat Storage, Airstrip Development, Docks, and 'Other Uses', as more fully described in Chapter 3 of the RRRMP¹⁰. The definition of these terms as they are applied to the RRRMP planning area is included in the Glossary.

There are a number of restrictions in the application of the RRRMP to DNR decision-making. It does not apply to areas designated Settlement and Mining in the BBAP, and it does not affect decisions related to municipal entitlement selections, mining or other forms of subsurface use, or oil and gas development. All types of uses other than those specifically related to recreation are also managed under the auspices of the BBAP. DNR adjudicators should therefore review the management guidelines for specific management units in the BBAP in addition to the listing of allowed and prohibited uses identified in the Nushagak & Mulchatna Rivers Recreation Management Plan.

Types of Plan Changes

The various kinds of changes allowed in 11 AAC 55.030 are:

“A revision to a land use plan is subject to the planning process requirements of AS 38.04.065. For the purposes of this section and AS 38.04.065, a ‘revision’ is an amendment or special exception to a land use plan as follows:

An ‘amendment’ permanently changes the land use plan by adding to or modifying the basic management intent for one or more of the plan’s subunits or by changing its allowed or prohibited uses, policies, or guidelines. For example, an amendment might close to new mineral entry an area that the plan designated to be open, allow a land use in an area where the plan prohibited it, or allow land to be opened to homestead entry in an area that the plan designated for retention in public ownership.

A ‘special exception’ does not permanently change the provisions of a land use plan and cannot be used as the basis for a reclassification of the subunit. Instead, it allows a one-time, limited-purpose variance of the plan’s provisions, without changing the plan’s general management intent or guidelines. For example, a special exception might be used to grant an eligible applicant a preference right under AS 38.05.035 to purchase land in a subunit designated for retention in public ownership. A special exception might be made if complying with the plan would be excessively burdensome or impractical or if compliance would be inequitable to a third party, and if the purposes and spirit of the plan can be achieved despite the exception.

¹⁰ The RRMP only covers certain types of activities related to short-term and long-term uses. These are listed in Table 2.1 of the RRMP. This table, for convenience, is also included as Table 2.1 in this Plan; however, adjudicators should read the entire section on allowed uses in Chapter 2 of the RRMP as well as the specific requirements for particular river segments.

A minor change to a land use plan is not considered a revision under AS 38.04.065. A ‘minor change’ is a change that does not modify or add to the plan’s basic intent, and that serves only to clarify the plan, make it consistent, facilitate its implementation, or make technical corrections.”

Appendices

Appendix A.....	A - 1
Glossary	A - 1
Appendix B.....	B - 1
Land Classification Order No. SC-04-002A02.....	B - 1
Land Classification Order No. SC-04-002.....	B - 2
Appendix C.....	C - 1
Municipal Selections in the Planning Area.....	C - 1
Table C.1: Municipal Selections for Aleutians East Borough.....	C - 1
Table C.2: Municipal Selections for Lake & Peninsula Borough, Priority 1	C - 2
Table C.3: Municipal Selections for Lake & Peninsula Borough, Priority 2	C - 4
Appendix D.....	D - 1
Index	D - 1

Appendix A Glossary

17(b) Easement. Easement across Native corporation land reserved through the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (ANCSA, Section 17(b)). Uses of the easements are limited to transportation purposes and other uses specified in the act and in conveyance documents.

AAC. Alaska Administrative Code, regulations for the State of Alaska.

Access. A way or means of approach. Includes transportation, trails, easements, rights of way and public use sites.

ACMP. Alaska Coastal Management Plan. The Alaska Coastal Management Program was terminated on July 1, 2011, pursuant to AS 44.66.030.

ADF&G. Alaska Department of Fish and Game

ADL. Alaska Division of Land (now the Division of Mining, Land and Water) (used most often with a number to identify a land use case file).

ADOT/PF. Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities

Airstrip Development. Construction of a landing strip for airplanes that involves leveling the ground or removing or modifying a substantial amount of vegetation. (Definition applies to RRMP area.)

Anadromous Fish. A fish or fish species that spends portions of its life cycle in both fresh and salt waters, entering fresh water from the sea to spawn; these include the anadromous forms of pacific trout and salmon of the genus *Oncorhynchus* (rainbow and cutthroat trout, and chinook, coho, chum, sockeye, and pink salmon), Arctic char, Dolly Varden, sheefish, smelts, lamprey, whitefish, and sturgeon.

Anadromous Waters. A river, lake or stream from its mouth to its uppermost reach including all sloughs and backwaters adjoining the listed water, and that portion of the streambed or lakebed covered by ordinary high water used by salmon to spawn. Anadromous waters are shown in “The Atlas to the Catalog of Waters Important for Spawning, Rearing, or Migration of Salmon” (referred to as the Anadromous Fish Stream Catalog) compiled by ADF&G.

<http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/sf/SARR/AWC/index.cfm?ADFG=main.interactive>

Anchorage. A location commonly used by private, recreation, or commercial vessels for anchoring.

ANCSA. Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act

ANILCA. Alaska National Interest Land Conservation Act

Aquaculture. Fish enhancement or hatchery development by ADF&G, a private non-profit corporation, or another group. Does not include aquatic farming.

Aquatic Farming. The culture and propagation of marine aquatic shellfish, such as mollusks, crustaceans, and other invertebrate, and marine vegetation such as kelp and algae under positive control, meaning either enclosed within a natural or artificial escape-proof barrier for mobile species or managed cultivation in unenclosed waters for limited or immobile species. This does not include finfish and their related hatcheries.

Area Plan. A plan approved by the Commissioner of the Department of Natural Resources under the authority of AS 38.04.065 that establishes the land and resource management policies for state land within a planning area. Such plans also assign land use designations to individual parcels of state land, which are subsequently converted to land use classifications in a Land Classification Order. When used in this plan, the term 'Area Plan' refers to the revised Bristol Bay Area Plan.

AS. Alaska Statutes

ASLS. Alaska State Land Survey

ATS. Alaska Tideland Survey

Authorization. A decision issued by DNR allowing a use and setting the conditions for that use. This usually takes the form of a permit or lease.

Authorized Use. A use allowed by DNR by permit or lease.

Banks. The portion of the stream channel cross section that restricts the lateral movement of water at normal bank-full levels, often exhibiting a distinct break in slope from the stream bottom.

BBAP. Bristol Bay Area Plan

Boat Storage. Storing any type of boat or water-related craft in the same place for longer than 14 consecutive days. (Definition applies to RRMP area.)

Buffer. An area of land between two areas with different activities or resources, used to reduce the effect of one activity or resource upon another.

CSU. See Federal Conservation System Unit.

Caretaker Facilities. Single or multi-family floating residential facilities used as housing that are necessary to contain equipment or processing facilities for economic development activities, such as commercial timber harvest, mineral exploration or aquatic farming operations, or associated with public activities. Caretaker facilities may be floating facilities or may be located on uplands.

Classification. Land classification identifies the purposes for which state land will be managed. All classification categories are for multiple use, although a particular use may be considered primary. Land may be given a maximum of three classifications in combination.

Classification Order. See Land Classification Order.

Clean fill. Fill that is free of organics, human refuse, and toxic pollutants.

Closed to Mineral Entry. Areas where the staking of new mineral claims is prohibited because mining has been determined to be in conflict with significant surface uses in the area. Existing mineral claims that are active at the time of plan adoption are not affected by mineral closures.

Commissioner. The Commissioner of the Alaska Department of Natural Resources.

Concurrence. Under existing statutes, regulations and procedures, the Department of Natural Resources is required to obtain the approval of other groups before taking a specific action. Concurrence binds all parties to conduct their activities consistent with the approved course of action.

Consultation. Under existing statutes, regulations, and procedures, the Department of Natural Resources informs other groups of its intention to take a specific action and seeks their advice or assistance. Consultation is not intended to be binding on a decision. It is a means of informing affected organizations and individuals about forthcoming decisions and getting the benefit of their expertise.

DEC. Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation

Department. Alaska Department of Natural Resources

Designated Use. An allowed use of major importance in a particular management unit. Activities in the unit will be managed to encourage, develop, or protect this use. Where a unit has two or more designated uses, the management intent statement and guidelines for the unit and Chapter 2 guidelines, together with existing statutes, regulations, and procedures, will direct how resources are managed to avoid or minimize conflicts between designated uses.

Designation. See Land Use Designation.

Developed Recreational Facility. Any structure or facility that serves either public or private recreational needs.

Director. The division director of the state division responsible for managing state land. Most often, “director” refers to the Director of the Division of Mining, Land and Water; for lands administered by DPOR, director refers to the Director of DPOR.

Discouraged Use. An activity that, due to conflict with designated uses, should not be authorized or will not be allowed if there are feasible and prudent alternatives.

Dispersed Recreation. Recreational pursuits that are not site specific in nature, such as beach combing, recreational boating or wildlife viewing.

DMLW. Division of Mining, Land and Water, a division of DNR

DNR. Alaska Department of Natural Resources

Dock. A platform or landing pier that extends over, or onto water, and is usually used for receiving boats.

DOF. Division of Forestry, a division of DNR

DPOR. Division of Parks and Outdoor Recreation, a division of DNR

Easement. An interest in land owned by another that entitles its holder to a specific limited use.

Estuary. A semi-closed coastal body of water which has a free connection with the sea and within which seawater is measurably diluted with fresh water derived from land drainage. [6 AAC 80.900 (6)]

Feasible. Capable of being accomplished in a successful manner within a reasonable period of time, taking into account economic, environmental, technical, and safety factors.

Feasible and Prudent. Consistent with sound engineering practice and not causing environmental, social or economic problems that outweigh the public benefit to be derived from compliance with the guideline modified by the term “feasible and prudent” [from ACMP¹ regulations: 6 AAC 80.900 (20)]. A written decision by the land manager is necessary justifying a variation from a guideline modified by the terms “feasible” or “feasible and prudent”. See also, Types of Plan Changes, Chapter 4.

¹ The Alaska Coastal Management Program was terminated on July 1, 2011, pursuant to AS 44.66.030.

Federal Conservation System Unit. In this plan, this term refers to those areas of federal land that are in some form of protected status and are identified in ANILCA (National Wildlife Refuge, National Park, National Monument). Not included in this definition are lands administered by the U.S. Bureau of Land Management or the U.S. Forest Service except those lands administered by those agencies that are designated Wilderness or National Trails, which are considered to be Conservation System Units.

Fish and Wildlife. Any species of aquatic fish, invertebrates and amphibians, in any state of their life cycle, and all species of birds and mammals, found in or which may be introduced into Alaska, except domestic birds and mammals. The term “area(s)” in association with the term “fish and wildlife” refers to both harvest and habitat areas.

Floatcamp, Floating Camp, or Floating Caretaker Facility. Single or multi-family floating residential facilities used as housing, or that are necessary to contain equipment or processing to support facilities for economic development activities such as commercial timber harvest, mineral exploration or aquatic farming operations, or associated with public activities.

Floating Residential Facilities. A general phrase used to encompass the floathomes, floatlodges, floating caretaker facilities, and floatcamps.

Floathome. Floathouses, houseboats, barges, and boats, powered or not, that are intended for non-commercial residential use. A floathome is generally for single family use and not associated with economic development activities.

Floatlodge. A floating residential facility providing overnight accommodations for commercial recreation services to the public.

FLUP. Forest Land Use Plan. Prepared by the Division of Forestry, Alaska Department of Natural Resources.

Forestry. On tidelands: any activity or structure for timber harvest or for transfer of logs from uplands to tidelands, including, but not limited to felling, yarding and hauling of logs, roads, log transfer facilities, floating A-frame logging, upland and marine log storage areas, and camps and other support facilities associated with timber resource development. On uplands: any activity or structure for the harvest or management of timber resources.

Generally Allowed Use. An activity conducted on state land managed by the Division of Mining, Land and Water that is not in a special category or status. See 11 AAC 96.020.

Goal. A statement of basic intent or general condition desired in the long term. Goals usually are not quantifiable and do not have specified dates for achievement.

Guideline. A course of action to be followed by DNR resource managers or required of land users when the manager permits, leases, or otherwise authorizes the use of state land or resources. Guidelines also range in their level of specificity from giving general guidance for decision making or identifying factors that need to be considered, to setting detailed standards for on-the-ground decisions. Some guidelines state the intent that must be followed and allow flexibility in achieving it.

Haulout. Location where concentrations of seals, sea lions, or walrus have been observed hauled out on shore, during more than one year, to breed, pup, rest or molt.

ILMA. See Interagency Land Management Agreement/Transfer.

ILMT. See Interagency Land Management Agreement/Transfer.

Improvements. Buildings, wharves, piers, dry docks, and other similar types of structures permanently fixed to the uplands, tidelands, or submerged lands that were constructed and/or maintained by the applicant for business, commercial, recreation, residential, or other beneficial uses or purposes. In no event shall fill be considered a permanent improvement when placed on the tidelands solely for the purposes of disposing of waste or spoils. However, fill material actually utilized for beneficial purposes by the applicant shall be considered a permanent improvement. [11 AAC 62.840]

Instream Flow. An instantaneous flow rate of water through a stream during specified periods of time, from a designated location upstream to a designated location downstream.

Instream Flow Reservation. The legal water reservation for instream uses such as fish, wildlife, recreation, navigation, and water quality.

Interagency Land Management Agreement/Transfer (ILMA/ILMT). An agreement between DNR and other state agencies that transfers some land management responsibility to these other agencies.

Land Classification Order. An order approved by the Commissioner of the Department of Natural Resources that classifies state land into specific land use categories (AS 38.04.065). The Land Classification Order in this Area Plan (Appendix B) classifies all state lands within the planning area according to the land use designations assigned to individual land parcels in the Resource Allocation Tables contained in Chapter 3 of the Area Plan.

Land Disposal. Same as *Land offering*, defined below; except that land disposal areas referenced in Chapter 3 may include lots reserved for lease or sale for public commercial, or industrial facilities.

Land Manager. A representative of the state agency or division responsible for managing state land.

Land Offering. Transfer of state land to private ownership as authorized by AS 38.04.010, including fee simple sale, homesteading, and sale of agricultural rights. This does not include leases, land use permits, water rights, rights-of-way, material sales, or other disposals of interest in lands or waters. (See also, Land disposal.)

Land Sale. Same as *Land offering* as defined above.

Land Use Designation. A category of land allocation determined by a land use plan. Designations identify the primary and co-primary uses for state land. (Chapter 4 sets out how the land use designations of this plan will be classified according to 11 AAC 55.)

Leasable Minerals. Leasable minerals include deposits of coal, sulfur phosphates, oil shale, sodium potassium, oil and gas. Leasable minerals do not include the locatable minerals.

LDA. Legislatively Designated Area. This includes state parks, critical habitat areas, game refuges, etc.

Lease. A Department of Natural Resources authorization for the use of state land according to terms set forth in AS 38.05.070-105.

Legislative Designation. An action by the state legislature that sets aside a specific area for special management actions and ensures the area is kept in public ownership.

Limited State Holding (LSH). Land in which the state has a limited (less than fee) property rights interest. Examples are easements, airspace easements, clear zone easements, rights of ways, leases, fish weir permits, conservation easements, equitable servitude, etc., acquired from other source authorities, such as direct purchase, donation, escheat, condemnation, and special congressional legislation.

Locatable Minerals. Locatable minerals include both metallic (gold, silver, lead, etc.) and non-metallic (feldspar, asbestos, mica, etc.) minerals. Locatable minerals do not include the leasable minerals.

Log Transfer Facility (LTF). Any facility or mechanism necessary to transfer timber from uplands to marine waters.

Log Transfer Site (LTS). A site for all facilities necessary for transfer of timber from uplands to marine waters, including associated components such as log rafting and sorting areas, floating camps, access ramps, etc. A single site (LTS) may contain more than one facility (LTF).

Management Intent Statement. The statements that define the department's near and long-term management objectives and the methods to achieve those objectives.

Mariculture. See Aquatic farming.

Materials. “Materials” include but are not limited to common varieties of sand, gravel, rock, peat, pumice, pumicite, cinders, clay and sod.

MCO. See Mineral Closing Order.

Mean High Water. The tidal datum plane of the average of all the high tides, as would be established by the National Geodetic Survey at any place subject to tidal influence [from 11 AAC 53.900(14)]. Mean high water is the dividing line between uplands and tidelands.

Mean Low Water. The tidal datum plane of the average of the low tides, as would be established by the National Geodetic Survey at any place subject to tidal influence [from 11 AAC 53.900(16)].

Mean Lower Low Water. The tidal datum plane of the average of the lower of the two low waters of each day, as would be established by the National Geodetic Survey at any place subject to tidal influence [from 11 AAC 53.900(17)]. Mean lower low water is the “zero tide line.”

Mineral Closing Order (MCO). All state lands are open for the prospecting and production of locatable minerals unless the lands are specifically closed to mineral entry. The Commissioner of the Department of Natural Resources may close land to mineral entry if a finding has been made that mining would be incompatible with significant surface uses on state land (AS 38.05.185; 11 AAC 55.040(e)). [Note: A significant surface use of the land has been interpreted by DNR to include not only residential and commercial structures, but also fish and wildlife habitat, recreational, and scenic values.]

Mineral Entry. Acquiring exploration and mining rights under AS 38.05.185-38.05.275.

Mineral Transfer Facility. Any facility or mechanism to transfer mineral resources from upland to marine waters.

Mineral Transfer Site. A site for all facilities necessary for transferring mineral resources from uplands to marine waters. A single site may contain more than one facility.

Mining. Any structure or activity for commercial exploration and recovery of minerals, including, but not limited to resource transfer facilities, camps, and other support facilities associated with mineral development. The term “mining” does not refer to offshore prospecting.

Mining Claim. Rights to deposits of minerals, subject to AS 38.05.185-38.05.275, in or on state land that is open to claim staking may be acquired by discovery, location and recording as prescribed in AS 38.05.185-38.05.275. The locator has the exclusive right of possession and extraction of the minerals lying within the boundaries of the claim, subject to AS 38.05.185 -38.05.275.

Minor Change. A minor change to a land use plan is not considered a revision under AS 38.04.065. A minor change is a change that does not modify or add to the plan's basic intent, and that serves only to clarify the plan, make it consistent, facilitate its implementation, or make technical corrections. [11 AAC 55.030]

Multiple Use. Means the management of state land and its various resource values so that it is used in the combination that will best meet the present and future needs of the people of Alaska, making the most judicious use of the land for some or all of these resources or related services over areas large enough to provide sufficient latitude for periodic adjustments in use to conform to changing needs and conditions; it includes:

1. the use of some land for less than all of the resources, and
2. a combination of balanced and diverse resource uses that takes into account the short-term and long-term needs of present and future generations for renewable and nonrenewable resources, including, but not limited to, recreation, range, timber, minerals, watershed, wildlife and fish, and natural scenic, scientific, and historic values. [AS 38.04.910]

NPS. See U.S. National Park Service.

NWR. National Wildlife Refuge

Native Owned. Land that is patented or will be patented to a Native corporation.

Native Selected. Land selected from the federal government by a Native corporation but not yet patented.

Navigable. Used in its legal context, it refers to lakes and rivers that meet federal or state criteria for navigability. Under the Equal Footing Doctrine, the Alaska Statehood Act, and the Submerged Lands Act, the state owns land under navigable waterbodies.

Off-Road Vehicle (ORV). Any motorized vehicle capable of, or designed for, travel on or immediately over land, water, or other natural terrain, excluding non-amphibious motorboats, fixed-wing and rotor-winged aircraft, and snowmobiles.

Ordinary High Water Mark. The mark along the bank or shore up to which the presence and action of the nontidal water are so common and usual, and so long continued in all ordinary years, as to leave a natural line impressed on the bank or shore and indicated by erosion, shelving, changes in soil characteristics, destruction of terrestrial vegetation, or other distinctive physical characteristics [from 11 AAC 53.900(23)].

OPP or Offshore Prospecting Permit. A permit issued by DNR giving the permittee exclusive right to explore for, and if commercial quantities are discovered, develop locatable minerals in the state's tidelands and submerged lands.

Permanent Use. A use that includes a structure or facility that is not readily removable.

Permanent Facility. Permanent facilities are improvements that do not need to be removed and usually involve the construction of a foundation for the improvement. In the context of the RRMP (only), it also refers to a significant ground area that may be affected by an allowed activity but that may not involve the construction of a foundation for structure improvements. Permanent facilities on state land shall be authorized by the Department of Natural Resources by lease. Examples of permanent facilities are structures that require a foundation, log or solid wall structures or frame tents. Trapping cabins are not permanent facilities in the plan and are treated separately in Chapter 2 of the RRMP. (Definition applies to RRMP area only.)

Permit. A Department of Natural Resources authorization for use of state land according to terms set forth in 11 AAC 96.

Personal Use. The harvest of fish and wildlife for personal consumption, including but not limited to subsistence and recreational harvest. Commercial harvest is not included.

Planning Period. The period of time that the area plan guides the management of state land and is to be used as the basis for DNR decision making. This period is 20 years or until the area plan is revised.

Policy. An intended course of action or a principle for guiding actions; in this plan, DNR policies for land and resource management include goals, management intent statements, management guidelines, land use designations, implementation plans and procedures, and various other statements of DNR's intentions.

Primary Use. See Designated use.

Prohibited Use. A use not allowed in a management unit because of conflicts with the management intent, designated primary or secondary uses, or management guideline. Uses not specifically prohibited nor designated as primary or secondary uses in a management unit are allowed if compatible with the primary and secondary uses, the management intent statements for the unit, and the plan's guidelines. Changing a prohibited use to an allowable use requires a plan amendment.

Public Trust Doctrine. A doctrine that requires the state to manage tidelands, shorelands, and submerged lands for the benefit of the people so that they can engage in such things as commerce, navigation, fishing, hunting, swimming, and ecological study. (See Navigable Rivers and Lakes: Public Trust Doctrine at the end of Chapter 3.)

Public Use. Any human use of state land, including commercial and non-commercial uses.

Public Use Cabin. A cabin owned or built by the state on state land that is managed for the benefit of the residents of the state and visitors to the state.

Public Use Site. Any site identified on state land that is important for public access (including important float and wheeled plane landing areas), camping, hunting, fishing or other recreation or public use.

Rearing. The developmental life phase of a fish from fertilization of eggs to adult.

Recreation. Any activity or structure intended for recreational purposes, including but not limited to hiking, camping, boating, sport hunting and fishing, and sightseeing. “Recreation” does not refer to subsistence hunting and fishing.

Region. A large geographic unit used in Area Plans to describe parts of the planning area. Often these areas contain contiguous lands, occupy areas that are contiguous or are generally close to each other, and may have similar resource and use characteristics. In this Area Plan, there are over 20 regions.

Resource Transfer Facility (RTF). Any facility or mechanism necessary to transfer timber, minerals, or other resources from uplands to marine waters, including all necessary components such as log rafting and sorting areas, floating camps, etc.

Resource Transfer Site (RTS). A site for all facilities necessary to transfer timber, minerals, or other resources from uplands to marine waters, including all necessary components such as log rafting and sorting areas, floating camps, access ramps, etc. A single resource transfer site may contain more than one resource transfer facility.

Retained Land. Uplands, shorelands, tidelands, submerged lands, and water that are to remain in state ownership.

Right-Of-Way. The legal right to cross the land of another. May be abbreviated ROW.

RRMP. The Nushagak & Mulchatna Rivers Recreation Management Plan (August 1990; updated April 2005).

RTF. See Resource Transfer Facility.

SCRO. Southcentral Regional Office of the Division of Mining, Land and Water, Alaska Department of Natural Resources.

Settlement. The sale, leasing, or permitting of state lands to allow private recreational, residential, commercial, industrial, or community use.

Shall. Same as “will.”

Shoreland. Land belonging to the state that is covered by navigable, nontidal water up to the ordinary high water mark as modified by accretion, erosion or reliction. (See definition of Navigable.) Shorelands are generally lake bottoms or the beds of navigable rivers and streams.

Shoreline Development. Any water-dependent or water-related structure or facility that is permanent and/or used for private, public, commercial, or industrial purposes. “Shoreline Development” excludes log or other resource transfer facilities, log storage, floating A-frame logging, or camps and other resource development support facilities associated with forestry or mineral development.

Should. States intent for a course of action or a set of conditions to be achieved. Guidelines modified by the word “should” state the plan’s intent and allow the manager to use discretion in deciding the specific means for best achieving the intent or whether particular circumstances justify deviations from the intended action or set of conditions. A guideline may include criteria for deciding if such a deviation is justified. (See Types of Plan Changes, Chapter 4.)

Significant Impact, Significant Effect, Significant Conflict, or Significant Loss (adapted from the ACMP statutes², AS 46.40.210). A use, or an activity associated with that use, which proximately contributes to a material change or alteration in the natural or social characteristic of the land on which:

1. the use, or activity associated with it, would have a net adverse effect on the quality of the resources;
2. the use, or activity associated with it, would limit the range of alternative uses of the resources; or
3. the use would, of itself, constitute a tolerable change or alteration of the resources but which, cumulatively, would have an adverse effect.

Spawning. The deposition or fertilization of fish eggs, including preparation for deposition or fertilization.

State Land. All land, including shore, tide, and submerged land, or resources belonging to or acquired by the state. [AS 38.05.965 (20)] See also definitions of state-owned land and state-selected land as well as definitions for shorelands, tidelands, and submerged lands. Refer to Figure 1.1 in Chapter 1 for a graphical depiction of these areas. ‘State Land’ excludes lands owned by the University of Alaska, the Mental Health Trust Authority, or by state agencies that have acquired them through deed.

State-Owned Land. Land that has been conveyed to the State of Alaska, including uplands, shorelands, tidelands, and submerged lands (includes Tentatively Approved land).

² The Alaska Coastal Management Program was terminated on July 1, 2011, pursuant to AS 44.66.030.

State-Selected Land. Federal land selected by the State of Alaska, pursuant to federal grants and statehood entitlement that has not yet been conveyed (includes topfilings).

Submerged Lands. Land covered by tidal waters between the line of mean lower low water and seaward to a distance of three geographic miles or as may hereafter be properly claimed by the state. (AS 38.05.965) (See definition of Tidelands and Figure 1.1, Chapter 1.)

Subsistence Uses. The noncommercial, customary and traditional uses of wild, renewable resources by a resident domiciled in a rural area of the state for direct personal or family consumption as food, shelter, fuel, clothing, tools, or transportation, for the making and selling of handicraft articles out of non-edible by-products of fish and wildlife resources taken for personal or family consumption, and for the customary trade, barter, or sharing for personal or family consumption; in this paragraph, “family” means persons related by blood, marriage, or adoption, and a person living in the household on a permanent basis. [AS 16.05.940 (33)]

Suitable. Land that is physically capable of supporting a particular type of resource development.

Temporary Use. A low impact, short-term use that does not involve the establishment of permanent improvements or foundations. Any structure associated with a temporary use must be readily removable within 48 hours.

Temporary Facility. Temporary facilities or structures or those that can be dismantled and removed from a site or that can be dismantled and stored on the site. Temporary facilities on state land are authorized under permits. Examples of a temporary facility are heliports or frame, dome, or pup tents. Floating facilities are considered temporary facilities in the RRMP. (Definition applies to RRMP area only.)

Tidelands. Lands that are periodically covered by tidal waters between the elevation of mean high water and mean lower low water. (AS 38.05.965) (See Figure 1.1, Chapter 1.)

Tideland Resource Management Zones. An extensive area of tidelands and submerged lands where there is a high concentration of significant marine resources or the presence of public uses managed under requirements common to the entire zone. Such areas are used where there is a common upland property ownership of a large area under a protected status, like a park or refuge, or where there is a high concentration of significant marine uses or resources and individual tideland units cannot effectively capture the diversity and extent of these resources. There is only one Tideland Resource Management Zone in the Bristol Bay Area Plan. A TRMZ is applied to tidelands adjacent to federally owned lands in federal conservation units (National Wildlife Refuge, National Park and Preserve, National Monument).

TRMZ. See Tideland Resource Management Zones.

Trapping Cabin. A cabin constructed under a Trapping Cabin Construction Permit as authorized and described in AS 38.95.080 and 11 AAC 94. In the RRMP, trapping cabins are not permanent facilities and are treated separately. (Definition applies to RRMP area only.)

Unit. An area of state-owned or state-selected land, usually but not always contained within Resource Allocation Tables of the area plan, for which a land use designation and management intent is provided. Units may be of varying size. They are assigned a specific unit number for purposes of identification.

Unsuitable. Land that is physically incapable of supporting a particular type of resource development (usually because that resource doesn't exist in that location).

Uplands. Lands above mean high water (see Figure 1.1, Chapter 1).

US Fish and Wildlife Service. United States Fish and Wildlife Service, a division of the U.S. Department of Interior

USFWS. See US Fish and Wildlife Service.

U.S. National Park Service. United States National Park Service, a division of the U.S. Department of Interior.

Water-Dependant. A use or activity which can be carried out only on, in, or adjacent to water areas because the use requires access to the water body. [6 AAC 80.900 (17)]

Water-Related. A use or activity which is not directly dependent upon access to a water body, but which provides goods or services that are directly associated with water-dependence and which, if not located adjacent to water, would result in a public loss of quality in the goods or services offered. [6 AAC 80.900(18)]

Wetlands. Includes both freshwater and saltwater wetlands. “Freshwater wetlands” means those environments characterized by rooted vegetation which is partially submerged either continuously or periodically by surface freshwater with less than .5 parts per thousand salt content and not exceeding three meters in depth. “Saltwater wetlands” means those coastal areas along sheltered shorelines characterized by salt tolerant, marshy plants and large algae extending from extreme low tide which is influenced by sea spray or tidally induced water table changes.

Will. Requires a course of action or a set of conditions to be achieved. A guideline modified by the word “will” must be followed by land managers and users. If such a guideline is not complied with, a written decision justifying the noncompliance is required. (See Types of Plan Changes, Chapter 4.)

STATE OF ALASKA
 DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
 DIVISION OF MINING, LAND AND WATER

Land Classification Order No. SC-04-002A02

- I. Name: 2013 Plan Amendment, Bristol Bay Area Plan
- II. The classifications in Part III are based on written justification contained in the 2013 Plan Amendment to the Bristol Bay Area Plan adopted on 9/5/13:

Area Plan: **Bristol Bay Area Plan**
 Adopted () Revised (x) Dated _____

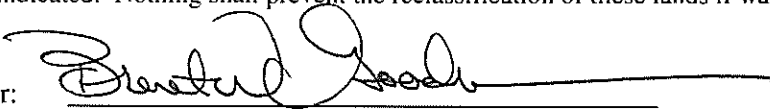
Management Plan:
 Adopted () Revised () Dated _____

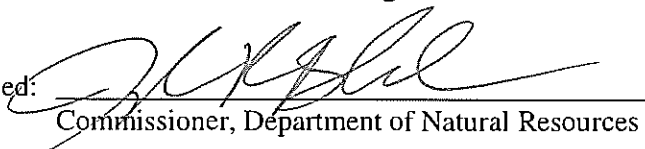
Site Specific Plan:
 Adopted () Revised () Dated _____

III.	<u>Legal Description</u>	<u>Acreage</u>	<u>Acquisition Authority</u>	<u>Existing Classification</u>	<u>Classification by this Action</u>
	Map 3 and Tables B-3, B-6, and B-7, in 2013 Plan Amendment as modified by the List of Approved Revisions (September, 2013) and revised Plan Amendment Map 3A (September 2013)	6,471,000	GS, CG	Resource Management, Wildlife Habitat, Public Recreation, Mineral, Settlement	Wildlife Habitat, Public Recreation, Water Resources, Mineral (co-classified with Habitat)

This order replaces and supersedes the land classifications of the 2005 Bristol Bay Area Plan for (only) those management units and areas identified in Tables B-3, B-6, and B-7, and Map 3 in the Plan Amendment (January 2013) and (only) those management units identified in the Approved Revisions (September, 2013) to the 2013 Plan Amendment and the Revised Plan Amendment Map 3A.

- IV. This order is issued under the authority granted by AS 38.04.065 and AS 38.05.300 to the Commissioner of the Department of Natural Resources. The above described lands are hereby designated and classified as indicated. Nothing shall prevent the reclassification of these lands if warranted in the public interest.

Concur:  9/5/13
 Director, Division of Mining, Land, and Water Date

Classified:  9/5/13
 Commissioner, Department of Natural Resources Date

STATE OF ALASKA
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF MINING, LAND AND WATER

LAND CLASSIFICATION ORDER NO. SC-04-002

- I. Name: Bristol Bay Area Plan (BBAP)
- II. The classifications in Part III are based on written justification contained in one of the following plans:


Area Plan: **Bristol Bay Area Plan**
 Adopted () Revised (x) Dated 4/19/05

Management Plan:
 Adopted () Revised () Dated _____

Site Specific Plan:
 Adopted () Revised () Dated _____

III. Legal Description	Acreage	Acquisition Authority	Existing Classification	Classification by this action
See plan maps, BBAP, 2005	18.9 million		Bristol Bay Area Plan, 1984	See plan maps, BBAP, 2005

- IV. This order is issued under the authority granted by AS 38.04.065 and AS 38.05.300 to the Commissioner of the Department of Natural Resources. The above described lands are hereby designated and classified as indicated. Nothing shall prevent the reclassification of these lands if warranted in the public interest.

Classified:  Date: 4/19/05
 Commissioner, Department of Natural Resources

Appendix C Municipal Selections in the Planning Area

Table C.1: Municipal Selections for Aleutians East Borough

Selection Name	Borough Priority	Within BBAP Unit #	Selection ADL	BBAP Designation	Gross Acres Selected	Acres Appropriate For Conveyance	% of Gross	Issues/Remarks
Pavlof Bay	1	R21-05	226715	Se	1,715	1,715	100%	
David River	1	R21-02	226713	Se	492	492	100%	
Sandy River	1	R18-01	226711	Gu	2,548	2,548	100%	
Bear Lake	1	R18-05	226712	Se	1,203	1,203	100%	
Total for Aleutians East Borough					5,958	5,958	100%	

Table C.2: Municipal Selections for Lake & Peninsula Borough, Priority 1

Selection Name/Location	MTR	Priority	Land Use Management Unit No.	Land Use Designation	ADL	Gross Acres Selected	Acres Appropriate for Conveyance	Percentage of Gross	Comments/Issues
S.F. Hoholitna R.	S8N38W	1	R07-01	Gu	227004	320	320	100%	
Lake September	S6N36W	1	R07-01	Gu	227008	640	640	100%	
Bonanza Hills	S9N30W	1	R07-06	Rd	227001	1,921	1,921	100%	
Chilikadrotna Mouth	S6N35W	1	R07-06, R07-10	Rd	227008	960	960	100%	
Mulchatna River	S5N36W	1	R07-06	Rd	226995	3,039	3,039	100%	
Mulchatna River	S3N38W, S4N38W	1	R06-07	Rd	226995	4,067	4,067	100%	
Upper Chilikadrotna	S7N29W	1	R07-06	Rd	227005	320	320	100%	
Nikabuna Lake	S1S36W	1	R07-21	Se	227013	5,218	5,218	100%	
Long Lake	S1N34W	1	R07-21	Se	227013	960	960	100%	
Chekok	S2S29W	1	R09-02	Se	227014	640	640	100%	
Eagle Bluff-Dennis	S9S34W	1	R09-13	Rd	227019	1,894	947	50%	Approx. half to be retain by State
Eagle Bluff-Dennis	S9S35W	1	R10-09	Rd	227019	2,632	1,316	50%	Approx. half to be retain by State
Dream Creek	S10S31W	1	R09-07	Se	227020	3,423	0	0%	Retained due to fishery values
Kakhonak Lake	S8S29W, S7S29W, S7S28W, S6S28W	1	R09-08, R09-07	Gu, Se	227016	22,296	22,296	100%	
Kvichak River	S11S42W, S10S41W	1	R10-07	Rd	227021	5,299	5,299	100%	

Appendix C - Municipal Selections in the Planning Area

Selection Name/Location	MTR	Priority	Land Use Management Unit No.	Land Use Designation	ADL	Gross Acres Selected	Acres Appropriate for Conveyance	Percentage of Gross	Comments/Issues
Bishop Creek	S22S50W, S22S51W	1	R12-01	Gu	227024	4,410	2,520	57%	Retain Tidelands
Egegik	S22S49W	1	R12-01	Gu	227024	427	427	100%	
King Salmon River	S22S47W	1	R12-01	Gu	227023	160	160	100%	
Egegik River	S23S48W	1	R12-01	Gu	227025	524	524	100%	
Coast	S26S51W	1	R12-01	Gu	227026	959	770	80%	Retain Tidelands
Jensen Airstrip	S26S48W, S27S48W	1	R12-04	Se	227027	230	230	100%	
Jensen Airstrip Lake	S27S48W	1	R12-04	Se	227027	2,286	2,286	100%	
Lower Ugashik Lake	S30S48W	1	R12-01	Gu	227028	1,280	1,280	100%	
King Salmon River	S33S52W,	1	R15-01	Gu	227029	3,533	3,533	100%	
Painter Creek Lodge	S35S51W	1	R15-01	Gu	227030	960	960	100%	
Old Creek	S34S53W	1	R15-01	Gu	227029	320	320	100%	
Cinder River-Mud Crk	S35S56W, S35S55W, S35S54W	1	R15-01	Gu	227031	4,779	4,779	100%	
			Total Priority 1 Selections			73,497	65,732	89%	

Table C.3: Municipal Selections for Lake & Peninsula Borough, Priority 2

Selection Name/Location	MTR	Priority	Land Use Management Unit No.	Land Use Designation	ADL	Gross Acres Selected	Acres Appropriate for Conveyance	Percentage of Gross	Comments/Issues
Weasel Creek	S6N37W, S5N37W	2	R07-01, R06-05	Gu	227006	7,680	7,680	100%	
Mulchatna River	S4N38W, S4N37W	2	R06-07, R06-06	Rd, Rp	226995	3,465	2,600	75%	Subject to the 4:1 Rule
Mulchatna River	S5N36W, S5N35W	2	R06-07, R06-06	Rd, Rp	226995	2,223	1,670	75%	Subject to the 4:1 Rule
Mulchatna River	S7N43W, S8N33W	2	R-07-06, R07-07, R07-03	Rd, Rp, Rp	227003	1,120	1,120	100%	
Bonanza Hills	S9N30W	2	R07-02, R07-05	Gu, Rp	227001	320	320	100%	
Chilikadrotna	S6N34W	2	R07-06, R07-11	Gu, Rp	227007	320	320	100%	
Big Bonanza Crk. Lake	S6N33W	2	R07-09	Rp	227007	320	320	100%	
Chilikadrotna	S6N32W	2	R07-12	Rp	227007	160	160	100%	
unamed lake	S7N30W	2	R07-02, R07-08	Gu, Rp	227005	480	480	100%	
Chilikadrotna	S6N30W	2	R07-06, R07-14	Rd, Rp	227007	480	480	100%	
Mouth Little Mulchatna	S5N30W	2	R07-13	Rp	227011	160	160	100%	
Little Mulchatna	S5N30W	2	R07-06	Rd	227011	1,600	1,600	100%	
Lower Koksetna River	S4N31W	2	R07-19	Gu	227012	1,280	1,280	100%	
Chilchitna River Mouth	S4N36W	2	R07-06	Rd	227010	640	640	100%	
Nikadavna Creek	S3N36W	2	R07-02	Gu	227010	640	640	100%	

Appendix C - Municipal Selections in the Planning Area

Selection Name/Location	MTR	Priority	Land Use Management Unit No.	Land Use Designation	ADL	Gross Acres Selected	Acres Appropriate for Conveyance	Percentage of Gross	Comments/Issues
Tutna Lake	S3N35W	2	R07-06, R07-17	Rd, Rp	227010	3,040	3,040	100%	
Chitna	S4N35W	2	R07-02	Gu	227010	640	640	100%	
Chilchitna River	S4N34W	2	R07-02, R07-18	Gu, Rp	227010	320	320	100%	
Tut	S3N36W	2	R07-16	Gu	227010	616	616	100%	
Koksetna River	S3N34W	2	R07-20	Se	227010	1,760	1,760	100%	
Joe Nort Lake	S2N33W	2	R07-20	Se	227009	1,120	1,120	100%	
Flat	S2N35W	2	R07-20	Se	227009	960	960	100%	
Chop	S1N34W, S1N35W	2	R07-21	Se	227013	2,874	2,874	100%	
North Nikabuna	S1N35W	2	R07-21	Se	227013	1,278	1,278	100%	
Koktuli River Junction	S4S38W	2	R06-28, R06-29	Rp, Rp	227015	320	320	100%	
Koktuli River	S4S37W	2	R06-09, R06-31	Rd-Ha, Rp	227015	800	800	100%	
Sharp Mtn.	S5S36W	2	R10-03	Gu	227015	960	960	100%	
Upper Koktuli	S4S35W	2	R06-24, R06-32	Mi, Rp	227015	640	0	0%	Retain due to Minerals designation
Stuyahok River	S6S40W	2	R06-40, R06-41	Rp, Rd	227018	1,360	1,360	100%	
Lower Talarik Creek	S6S37W, S6S36W	2	R10-03, R10-04, R10-05	Rd, Rp, Rp	227017	4,313	0	0%	Retain due to recreation values
West Lake Iliamna	S7S39W, S7S38W	2	R10-03	Rd	227017	734	0	0%	Retain due to recreation values
Pile River	S3S26W	2	R09-03	Se	227033	3,840	3,840	100%	

Appendix C - Municipal Selections in the Planning Area

Selection Name/Location	MTR	Priority	Land Use Management Unit No.	Land Use Designation	ADL	Gross Acres Selected	Acres Appropriate for Conveyance	Percentage of Gross	Comments/Issues
Kakhonak Lake	S8S29W, S7S29W, S7S28W, S6S28W	2	R09-08, R09-07	Gu, Se	227016	28,584	28,584	100%	
Sid Larson Bay	S9S31W	2	R09-07	Gu	227020	2,560	2,560	100%	
???	S9S31W	2	R09-07	Gu	227020	640	640	100%	
Eagle Bluff-Dennis	S9S35W, S9S34W	2	R09-07, R10-08	Gu	227019	14,981	14,981	100%	
Hallersville	S13S45W	2	R10-07	Rd	227022	2,282	2,282	100%	
			Total Priority 2 Selections			95,510	88,405	93%	

Appendix D

Index

Page numbers beginning with “A” refer you to a definition.

A

- 17(b) Easement. 2:48, A:1
- Access. 1:10, 2:9, 2:18, 2:20, 2:23, 2:37, 2:45-49, 2:53, 2:65, 2:68, 2:75, 3:10, 3:19, 3:34, 3:51, 3:66, 3:90, 3:116, 3:130, 3:140, 3:150, 3:164, 3:178, 3:192, 3:200, 3:210, 3:224, 3:234, 3:246, 3:258, 3:270, 3:284, A:1
- Access Corridors. 2:45-49
- Access Easement. 2:45-49, 2:68-70
- Acreage. 1:1, 3:18, 3:33, 3:49, 3:65, 3:89, 3:115, 3:139, 3:149, 3:163, 3:177, 3:191, 3:199, 3:209, 3:223, 3:233, 3:245, 3:257, 3:269, 3:283
- ACWA. 2:67
- ADF&G Admin Site. 3:175, 3:241
- Adjacent Upland Owners. 2:5-8
- ADOT/PF. 2:37, 2:48, 2:53, 2:65, 2:75-76, 3:1, 3:44-45, 3:60, 3:71, 3:74, 3:79-81, 3:84, 3:96, 3:99, 3:106, 3:110, 3:112-113, 3:133, 3:135, 3:137-138, 3:144, 3:146, 3:148, 3:157, 3:159-162, 3:170, 3:173-175, 3:184, 3:187, 3:195, 3:203, 3:205-207, 3:214, 3:218-219, 3:227, 3:230, 3:238, 3:241, 3:254, 3:261-262, 3:265, 3:267, 3:291, A:1
- Aghileen Pinnacles. 3:270, 3:272, 3:278
- Agripina Bay. 3:209
- Ahklun Mountains. 3:19, 3:33-34, 3:49-50, 3:65-66, 3:89
- AHRS. 2:30
- Air Transportation. 2:74, 3:19
- Akutan. 3:19, 3:24-25, 3:283-285, 3:289, 3:293-294
- Akutan Bay. 3:289, 3:292
- Akutan Community North. 3:293
- Akutan Community South. 3:293
- Alagnak River. 2:50, 3:28, 3:149-154, 3:161-162, 3:303
- Alagnak Wild River Compendium. 3:153, 3:167
- Alaska Clean Water Actions. 2:67
- Alaska Coastal Management Program, 4:11, A:1
- Alaska Heritage Resources Survey. 2:30
- Alaska Marine Highway. 3:19, 3:24
- Alaska Maritime National Wildlife Refuge. 3:49, 3:236, 3:257, 3:259, 3:292, 4:16
- Alaska Peninsula. 1:2-3, 1:5, 1:10, 2:28-29, 2:36, 2:38, 2:42-43, 2:58, 2:60, 2:74, 3:16-18, 3:20, 3:23-26, 3:52-53, 3:67, 3:69, 3:86, 3:93-94, 3:129, 3:149, 3:152, 3:163, 3:166, 3:168, 3:176-177, 3:179-180, 3:182, 3:191-194, 3:201, 3:209-211, 3:216, 3:218, 3:220, 3:223-226, 3:233, 3:236-237, 3:239, 3:242, 3:245-246, 3:257, 3:259-260, 3:263-264, 3:266, 3:269, 3:271, 3:281, 3:283-295, 4:16
- Alaska Peninsula Basin. 2:42, 3:69, 3:93
- Alaska Peninsula National Wildlife Refuge. 1:2-3, 2:18, 2:50, 3:16-18, 3:26, 3:30, 3:177, 3:181, 3:191, 3:193, 3:196, 3:209, 3:211-213, 3:216, 3:220, 3:233, 3:236-237, 3:239-240, 3:242, 3:257, 3:259-260, 3:263, 3:265-266, 3:269, 3:271-272, 3:277, 3:281, 3:283, 3:286, 3:288, 3:292, 3:299, 4:16

Appendix D - Index

- Alaska Peninsula, South. 3:267-268
Aleknagik. 2:38, 3:65-69, 3:71, 3:78-79, 3:96, 3:154
Aleknagik Airport. 3:79
Aleknagik Research Station. 3:79
Aleknagik State Recreation Site. 3:68, 3:71-73, 3:79
Aleutians East Borough. 1:9, 2:62, 3:16, 3:28, 3:224, 3:246, 3:248, 3:252-254, 3:257-258, 3:273-274, 3:278-279, 3:283-284, 4:12-13, C:1
Aleutians West. 3:294
Amak Island. 3:18, 3:288, 3:292, 3:294
Amanka Lake. 3:51, 3:60, 3:301
Amber Bay. 3:216, 3:220
Anadromous. 2:70, 2:72-73, A:1
Anadromous Fish Stream. 2:64, 2:70, 2:72-73
Anchorage. 2:18, 2:22-23, 2:49, 2:52, 3:5, A:2
Anelon Gold Prospect. 3:152
Aniak River. 3:34-35, 3:44, 3:89
Aniakchak. 3:218, 3:306
Aniakchak Caldera. 3:209
Aniakchak National Monument and Preserve. 2:18-19, 2:22, 2:50, 3:9, 3:16, 3:26, 3:30, 3:209, 3:211-212, 3:216-218, 3:220, 3:223-224, 3:299
Aniakchak River. 3:209, 3:306
Apollo-Sitka. 3:259
Aquatic Farming. 2:5-7
Arolik River. 3:35, 3:45, 3:300
Asbestos. 2:36, 3:45, 3:52, A:7
Aukney Gold Prospect. 3:152
Azure Prospect. 3:180
- B**
Balboa Bay. 3:259, 3:263, 3:266, 3:268
Baralof Bay. 3:266
Barbara Creek. 2:59, 2:62, 3:227, 3:230
Barbara Creek North. 3:230
Beach Log Salvage. 2:26
Bear Creek. 3:78, 3:129, 3:149, 3:242
Bear Lake. 2:42, 2:59, 2:62, 3:180, 3:192, 3:211, 3:224, 3:245-249, 3:252-253, 3:271, 3:304
Bear Lake Vicinity. 3:253
Bear River. 3:245, 3:247, 3:249, 3:252-253, 3:304
Beaver Bay. 3:257, 3:263-264, 3:266-268, 3:281
Becharof Lake. 2:59, 2:62, 3:177, 3:179-180, 3:235, 3:304
Becharof National Wildlife Refuge. 2:18-19, 2:50, 3:16, 3:30, 3:163, 3:177, 3:180, 3:196, 3:299, 4:16
Bechevin Bay. 3:288
Bee Creek. 3:235
Belinda Creek. 3:149, 3:153, 3:161, 3:303
Belkofski. 3:285, 3:289, 3:293-294
Belkofski Bay. 3:289, 3:292, 3:294
Big Bonanza Creek. 3:124-125
Big Bonanza Creek (PU48). 3:125
Big Butte. 3:223
Big Creek. 3:179, 3:185, 3:188-189, 3:304
Big Hill. 3:139
Big Koniuji Island. 3:258
Big Mountain. 2:62, 3:147-150, 3:152, 3:155-157, 3:161-162
Big River Hills. 3:20
Bird Rock. 3:42-43, 3:46
Black 3:241
Black Creek. 3:115, 3:128, 3:191
Black Lake. 3:233, 3:235-237, 3:241, 3:304
Black Peak. 3:223
Blood Beach (PU1), 3:83
Blue Mountain. 3:177, 3:179
Blueberry Creek. 3:245
Boat Storage. 2:55-57, 4:17-18, A:2
Bonanza Creek. 3:115, 3:117, 3:124
Bonanza Creek (PU38). 3:124
Bonanza Hills. 2:35, 3:115, 3:117, 3:124
Bonanza Hills (PU49). 3:124
Boot Lake. 3:147, 3:303
Branch River. 3:151

- Bridge. 2:72-74, 2:76, 3:133
 Bristol Bay and Pacific Ocean, South.
 3:281
 Bristol Bay Basin. 2:42, 3:52, 3:69, 3:92-
 93, 3:152
 Bristol Bay Borough. 3:16, 3:28, 3:73,
 3:149, 3:163-176, 3:230, 4:11-13
 Bristol Bay CRSA. 3:26, 3:38
 Bristol Bay CRSA Coastal Management
 Plan. 3:25, 3:38, 3:54, 3:71, 3:95, 3:153
 Bristol Bay Fisheries Reserve. 3:16, 3:18,
 3:62-63, 3:76, 3:86-87, 3:176, 3:188-
 189, 3:204, 3:207, 3:220
 Bristol Bay Lowlands. 3:16, 3:23, 3:65,
 3:89-90, 3:149, 3:177, 3:209, 3:223
 Bristol Bay Native Corporation. 3:34,
 3:50, 3:66, 3:115, 3:139, 3:153, 3:164,
 3:224
 Bristol Bay Transportation Corridor. 2:74,
 3:71, 3:80, 3:96, 3:133, 3:137, 3:142,
 3:154, 3:159-162, 3:168, 3:173-174,
 3:182, 3:194, 3:210, 3:237
 Brooks Camp. 2:50, 3:165
 Buffer. 2:45, 2:47, 2:65-66, 2:68-73, A:2
 Building Setback. 2:69-70, 2:73
 Bulldog Creek. 3:44
- C**
- Calista Corporation. 3:34, 3:36, 3:50
 Canoe Bay, 3:269-270, 3:272, 3:275,
 3:281
 Canoe Bay River. 3:270, 3:272, 3:305
 Canyon Creek. 3:139, 3:303
 Cape Aliaksin. 3:263, 3:266, 3:268
 Cape Kumliun. 3:235, 3:242
 Cape Kutuzof. 3:250, 3:255
 Cape Lapin. 3:285
 Cape Lazaref. 3:289, 3:292
 Cape Leontovich. 3:279
 Cape Newenham. 3:33-35, 3:42, 3:46,
 3:49-51, 3:57-58, 3:251
 Cape Newenham State Game Refuge.
 3:16-17, 3:37, 3:42-43, 3:46
 Cape Pierce. 3:58, 3:62, 3:251
 Cape Seniavin. 2:59, 3:18, 3:27, 3:58,
 3:215, 3:245-255, 3:275, 4:10
 Cape Tolstoi. 3:275, 3:281
 Captain James Cook. 3:35, 3:51
 Caribou. 2:14-15, 3:23, 3:37-38, 3:44,
 3:52-54, 3:60, 3:68, 3:70, 3:78-84, 3:80-
 82, 3:84, 3:91, 3:94-95, 3:98, 3:101-105,
 3:107, 3:109-113, 3:118, 3:123-128,
 3:131-132, 3:137-138, 3:141, 3:143,
 3:146-147, 3:151, 3:159, 3:161-162,
 3:167, 3:173, 3:175, 3:179, 3:181, 3:187,
 3:192-193, 3:197, 3:200-201, 3:205,
 3:210-212, 3:218-220, 3:225-226, 3:230-
 231, 3:235-236, 3:241, 3:247, 3:252-
 253, 3:260, 3:270, 3:272-273, 3:278-
 279, 3:285, 3:291
 Caribou and Moose Rutting and Calving
 Areas. 2:11, 2:14-15
 Caribou Creek. 3:117
 Caribou River. 3:270, 3:278, 3:305
 Cash Creek. 3:117
 Castle Bay. 3:239, 3:242-243
 Cathedral River. 3:269, 3:271, 3:305
 Causeways. 2:48-49
 Cenaliulriit CRSA. 3:25, 3:38
 Centennial. 3:259
 Chagvan Bay. 3:35, 3:37, 3:42-43, 3:46,
 3:51
 Charles Creek. 3:231
 Chekok Creek. 3:139, 3:141, 3:146, 3:303
 Chekok Lake. 2:59, 2:62, 3:146, 3:303
 Chiachi Islands. 3:233, 3:239, 3:242
 Chichitnok River. 3:89, 3:101-102, 3:302
 Chichitnok River (PU20). 3:102
 Chiginagak Bay. 3:209, 3:216, 3:220
 Chignik. 3:19, 3:24, 3:168, 3:182, 3:194,
 3:201, 3:210, 3:225, 3:233-243
 Chignik Airport. 3:234, 3:241
 Chignik Bay. 3:24, 3:233-235, 3:239,
 3:241-243
 Chignik Coal Basin. 3:23, 3:235
 Chignik Coalfield. 3:235, 3:259, 3:271

Appendix D - Index

- Chignik Lagoon. 3:168, 3:182, 3:192, 3:194, 3:210, 3:233-237, 3:239, 3:241-243
- Chignik Lagoon Airport. 3:234, 3:241
- Chignik Lake. 3:168, 3:182, 3:194, 3:210, 3:233-237, 3:239, 3:241, 3:304
- Chignik Lake ADF&G Admin Site. 3:241
- Chignik Lake Airport. 3:241
- Chignik Lake DOT Admin Site. 3:241
- Chignik Lake Vicinity. 3:241
- Chignik River. 3:233, 3:235-236, 3:241, 3:304
- Chigniks Road Intertie. 2:74
- Chilchitna River. 3:115, 3:118, 3:123, 3:125-127, 3:303
- Chilchitna River (PU34). 3:126
- Chilchitna River (PU46). 3:127
- Chilikadrotna River. 2:50, 3:115, 3:117-118, 3:120-121, 3:123-126, 3:303, 3:306
- Chilikadrotna River (PU35). 3:126
- Chilikadrotna River (PU42). 3:126
- Chilikadrotna River (PU43). 3:126
- Chilikadrotna River (PU45). 3:126
- Chimenchun Creek. 3:163
- Chinkelyes Creek. 3:139, 3:303
- Chistiakof Island. 3:228-229, 3:232
- Chromite. 3:45, 3:52
- Chulitna. 2:58, 3:127, 3:138, 3:303
- Chulitna Bay. 3:138
- Chulitna River. 2:62, 3:105, 3:115-116, 3:118, 3:121, 3:127-128, 3:138, 3:306
- Cinder River. 3:16, 3:209-221, 3:304
- Cinder River Critical Habitat Area. 1:3, 3:17-18, 3:209, 3:212, 3:214-216, 3:218, 3:220-221, 3:227
- CIRI Native Corporation. 3:116
- Clark Slough. 3:66
- Clarks Point. 3:66, 3:76, 3:84, 3:86
- Clarks Point Airport. 3:84
- Classification Order. 1:13, 4:8-10, A:2, A:6, B:1-2
- Coal. 3:23, 3:52-53, 3:166, 3:201, 3:235, 3:259, 3:265, 3:271, 3:278, A:7
- Coal Bay. 3:275, 3:281
- Coal Leasing. 2:39
- Coal Oil Creek. 3:285, 3:305
- Coalbed Methane. 3:51, 3:53, 3:151-152, 3:166
- Coastal Area. 2:67-73
- Coastal Use/Maintenance Area. 2:67, 2:70, 2:73
- Coastline Seal Islands to Port Moller. 3:255
- Co-designated Use. 3:2
- Coffee Point. 3:178
- Cold Bay. 3:19, 3:24, 3:283-286, 3:289, 3:291-294
- Cold Bay Airport. 3:291
- Cold Bay North. 3: 293
- Cold Bay South. 3:294
- Cold Harbor. 3:289
- Commercial Development. 2:50, 2:60
- Commercial Recreation Facilities. 2:52-53, 3:5
- Community Settlement Areas. 2:62-63
- Community Transportation Project. 2:74
- Cook Inlet. 2:29, 3:19, 3:67, 3:130, 3:133, 3:140, 3:142, 3:154, 3:168, 3:182, 3:194, 3:210, 3:237
- Coordination. 2:8, 2:34, 2:51, 2:61, 4:16-17
- Copper. 2:35-36, 3:52, 3:93, 3:117, 3:131, 3:141, 3:180, 3:211, 3:235, 3:246, 3:259, 3:271, 3:285
- Copper River. 3:139, 3:141, 3:148, 3:303, 4:13
- Copper-Gold. 2:36, 3:23, 3:92-93, 3:106, 3:131, 3:141, 3:159
- Corridor Middle Mulchatna River. 3:103
- Corridor of the Iowithla River. 3:82, 3:113
- Corridor of the Kokwok River. 3:109-110
- Corridor of the Lower Mulchatna River. 3:103-104
- Corridor of the Lower Nushagak River. 3:107-108
- Corridor of the Nushagak River System. 3:101
- Corridor of the Nuyakuk River. 3:107
- Corridor of the Upper Mulchatna River. 3:124-125

Corridor Upper Kuktuli River, 3:108-109
 Cranberry Creek. 3:104, 3:302
 Cripple Mountains. 3:44
 Crooked Mountain. 3:44, 3:49-50
 CRSA. 3:25-26, 3:38, 3:54, 3:71, 3:95,
 3:153
 Culvert. 2:73, 2:76
 Currents. 3:21

D

David River. 3:278-279, 3:305
 Deer Island. 3:275, 3:280, 3:283, 3:289
 Deer Mountain. 3:191
 Dennis. 3:148
 Dennis Creek. 3:139, 3:148, 3:153, 3:303,
 4:13
 Designated Harvest Areas. 2:16-18
 Diamond J. 3:150
 Dillingham. 2:58, 2:62, 3:65-87, 4:14
 Dillingham Airport. 3:81
 Dillingham Census Area. 3:16
 Dillingham Road. 3:80
 Discouraged Uses. 3:6
 Disposal. 3:7
 Docks. 2:20, 2:23, 2:51, 2:55, 2:71, 2:73,
 3:24, 3:31, A:6
 Dog Salmon River. 3:191, 3:199, 3:201,
 3:209-211, 3:304
 Downtown Dillingham. 3:81
 Dream Creek. 3:148, 3:303, 4:13
 Duration of Plan. 1:12, 3:8

E

Eagle Bay Creek. 3:129
 Eagle Bluff. 3:161-162, 4:13
 Eagles. 2:13
 Eagles, Nesting. 2:14
 Easement. 2:45-49, 2:54, 2:65-66, 2:68-73,
 2:77, A:1, A:4, A:7
 Eel Grass Beds, 2:15
 Egegik. 2:59, 3:177-189
 Egegik 2. 3:187
 Egegik Bay. 3:24, 3:179, 3:185, 3:187-
 189, 3:207

Egegik Community. 3:177, 3:182-183,
 3:185, 3:188
 Egegik Critical Habitat Area. 3:16-18,
 3:177, 3:179, 3:181, 3:184-185, 3:188
 Egegik Iron-Titanium Beach Placers.
 3:179
 Egegik River. 3:21, 3:177, 3:179, 3:182,
 3:185, 3:188-189, 3:304
 Ekuk. 3:52, 3:66, 3:68, 3:76, 3:86
 Ekwok. 3:71, 3:90-92, 3:94, 3:96, 3:113
 Ekwok Airport. 3:113
 Ekwok School. 3:113
 Entrance Point. 3:247, 3:254, 3:276
 Eskimo Creek. 3:173
 Etolin Point. 3:74-76, 3:84-86

F

False Pass. 2:283-285, 3:289, 3:291-294
 False Pass Airport. 3:291
 False Pass Central. 3:293
 False Pass North. 3:293
 False Pass South. 3:293
 Federal Conservation System Units. 1:2-3,
 2:7, 3:16, 3:29, 3:299, A:3, A:5
 Filling or Leasing of Tidelands. 2:71
 Finnbear Lode. 3:117
 Fire Management. 2:24-27, 2:48
 Fish and Game Cabin. 3:154, 3:160, 3:253
 Fish and Wildlife Habitat and Harvest.
 1:11, 2:9-19
 Fish and Wildlife Habitats. 2:9-16
 Fish Streams, 2:37, 2:68, 2:70, 2:72, 2:76
 Fisheries Reserve. 3:16, 3:18, 3:62-63,
 3:76, 3:86-87, 3:176, 3:188-189, 3:204,
 3:207, 3:220
 Floathomes. 2:21-22, 4:3, A:5
 Floating Camp, Floating Caretaker
 Facility. 2:21, A:3, A:5
 Floating Camps. 2:21, 2:23, 3:31, A:5,
 A:7, A:11-12
 Floating Facilities. 2:16, 2:18, 2:20-23,
 2:49, 2:52-53, 3:31, 4:16, A:3, A:5, A:13
 Floatlodge. 2:21, 2:52-53, 3:31, A:5
 FLUP. 2:24-26, A:5

Appendix D - Index

Fog Lake. 3:23, 3:141, 3:147-148, 3:303
Fog Pond. 3:141
Fog River. 3:33, 3:44, 3:300
Forest Land Use Plan. 2:24-25, 2:30, A:5
Forestry. 2:24-27, 3:22, 3:36-37, A:5
Franks Lagoon. 3:252-253
Franks Point. 3:272
Freeze Over. 3:21

G

Gas Rocks. 3:177, 3:180
Gas Rocks Hot Spring. 3:180
General Use. 3:3
Generally Allowed Uses. 1:11
Gill's Camp, 3:117
Gnat Creek. 3:115, 3:123
Goals. 2:1
Gold. 2:35-36, 3:23, 3:35-36, 3:42, 3:44-45, 3:51-52, 3:69, 3:92-93, 3:102, 3:105-106, 3:117, 3:131, 3:141, 3:148, 3:152, 3:159, 3:180, 3:192, 3:211, 3:246, 3:259, 3:271, 3:285, A:7
Gold Lake. 3:36
Goldfish Lake. 3:232
Goodnews Bay. 3:22, 3:33-47, 3:51
Goodnews Bay Airport. 3:45
Goodnews Bay Community. 3:45-46
Goodnews District. 2:35, 3:23, 3:45
Goodnews River. 3:19, 3:33, 3:35-36, 3:39, 3:41, 3:45, 3:300, 4:16
Graveyard Point. 3:76-77, 3:86, 3:172
Groundhog Mountain. 3:106, 3:115, 3:128-129, 3:137, 3:149, 3:159

H

Habitat. 3:3-4
Hagemeister Island. 3:49, 3:52, 3:57-59, 3:62, 3:68
Hagemeister Strait. 3:52, 3:58, 3:62
Half Cabin Lake. 3:115, 3:120-121, 3:124
Halfway Mountain. 3:115
Harris Creek. 3:93, 3:105, 3:302
Harvest. 3:4
Harvest Areas. 2:16-17

Haulout. 2:10, 2:14, 3:17-18, 3:25, 3:27, 3:29, 3:43, 3:46, 3:58-59, 3:62, 3:75-77, 3:86, 3:172, 3:185, 3:188, 3:199, 3:204, 3:207, 3:215-216, 3:220, 3:228, 3:232, 3:239, 3:242, 3:247, 3:251-252, 3:254, 3:263-264, 3:266-267, 3:269, 3:275-276, 3:280-281, 3:288-289, 3:292, 3:295, 4:10, A:6
Herendeen Bay. 3:257-268, 3:271-272, 3:275, 3:278, 3:280
Herendeen Bay – South. 3:267
Herendeen Bay Coal Basin. 3:23
Herendeen Bay Coalfields. 3:235, 3:259, 3:271
Herendeen Coalfield. 3:265, 3:271, 3:278
Heritage Resource Land. 4:2
Heritage Resources. 2:28-31, 3:4
Hoholitna. 3:115-128
Hoholitna River. 3:115-116, 3:118, 3:123
Holitna River. 3:89, 3:92, 3:115, 3:119
Hoodoo Lake. 3:271
Hoodoo Mountain. 3:270
Hook Bay. 3:242
Hook Lagoon. 3:211, 3:215-216, 3:220
Hot Springs Bay. 3:294-295
Hot Springs Cove. 3:289
Hot Springs Harbor. 3:294
Humboldt Harbor. 3:267
Humboldt Harbor Estates. 3:265

I

Ice Creek. 3:65-66, 3:78
Igiugig. 3:133, 3:149-152, 3:154, 3:162, 3:168
Igushik. 3:49-63
Igushik River. 3:50-52, 3:301
Ikatan. 3:285, 3:292
Iliamna. 2:36, 3:129-131, 3:133, 3:138, 3:154, 3:168
Iliamna Airport. 3:138
Iliamna Bay. 3:140
Iliamna Lake. 2:24, 2:29, 2:36, 2:38, 2:50, 3:16, 3:19-21, 3:28, 3:94, 3:129-131, 3:133, 3:139-162, 3:168, 3:303, 4:13-14

Iliamna Lake Islands. 3:147
 Iliamna Lake NW. 3:159
 Iliamna River. 3:131, 3:303
 Iliamna-Newhalen-Nondalton Electric
 Coop. 3:138
 Iliamna-Nondalton Road Intertie. 2:48,
 2:74
 Ilnik. 3:235
 Ilnik Lake. 3:250, 3:255, 3:305
 Ilnik River. 3:245, 3:254, 3:305
 Industrial Development. 2:20, 3:276,
 3:279, 4:3
 Iniskin Bay. 3:133, 3:142, 3:154, 3:168
 Instream Flow. 2:32
 Iowithla River. 3:82, 3:89, 3:96, 3:99,
 3:112-114, 3:302
 Iowithla River (PU7). 3:113
 Iowithla River, Corridor of the. 3:73, 3:82,
 3:113
 Iris Placer Gold. 3:69
 Iron. 2:36, 3:23, 3:92-93, 3:110, 3:179-
 180, 3:211, 3:246
 Isanotski Peaks. 3:20
 Isanotski Strait. 3:284
 Ivanof Bay. 3:168, 3:182, 3:194, 3:210,
 3:233-234, 3:237, 3:239
 Izembek Lagoon. 3:22, 3:286, 3:288-289,
 3:292, 3:294
 Izembek National Wildlife Refuge. 3:16-
 17, 3:26-27, 3:30, 3:269, 3:272, 3:283,
 3:285-286, 3:288, 3:292, 3:299, 4:16
 Izembek State Game Refuge. 3:16-17,
 3:283, 3:287-288, 3:292

J

Jack Rabbit Hills. 3:99
 Jackknife Mountain. 3:78
 Jensen Airstrip. 3:182-183, 3:187

K

Kakhonak. 3:140-141, 3:148
 Kakhonak Airport/Road. 3:148
 Kakhonak Lake. 3:140-141, 3:147, 3:303
 Kakhonak River. 3:147, 3:303
 Kakhonak School. 3:148

Kametolook River. 3:233, 3:304
 Kamishak. 3:148
 Kamishak Prospect. 3:23, 3:141, 3:148
 Kanakanak. 3:65, 3:67
 Kanatak. 3:179, 3:235
 Kanektok River. 3:19, 3:33-36, 3:41, 3:57,
 3:301
 Kanik River. 3:49, 3:301
 Kaskanak Creek. 3:149, 3:153, 3:159,
 3:304
 Katmai National Park and Preserve. 2:50,
 3:9, 3:16, 3:22, 3:26-27, 3:92, 3:139,
 3:148-149, 3:151, 3:153, 3:163-167,
 3:170, 3:173-174, 3:177, 3:183, 3:299,
 3:306, 4:16
 Keefer Creek. 3:102, 3:126, 3:302
 Keefer Cutoff. 3:82-83
 Keefer Cutoff (PU2). 3:84
 Keefer Cutoff (PU3). 3:83
 Keefer Cutoff (PU5). 3:83
 Kejulik River. 3:177, 3:304
 Kemuk. 3:110
 Kemuk Mountain. 3:92-93, 3:110
 Kemuk Mountain (PU12). 3:109
 Kemuk River. 3:301
 Kilbuck Caribou Herd. 3:23, 3:38
 Kilbuck Mountains. 3:19, 3:38, 3:44
 Killae Creek. 3:123
 King Cove. 3:19, 3:24, 3:283-286, 3:289,
 3:291-294
 King Cove Airport. 3:291
 King Cove DOT Facilities. 3:291
 King Cove-Cold Bay Connection. 2:74
 King Salmon. 3:19, 3:24, 3:86, 3:133,
 3:163-166, 3:168, 3:171-176, 3:234
 King Salmon Airport. 3:166, 3:175
 King Salmon Creek. 3:83, 3:163-164,
 3:167-168, 3:170, 3:173
 King Salmon River. 3:89, 3:91-92, 3:101-
 102, 3:104, 3:163, 3:177-178, 3:182,
 3:199, 3:201, 3:209-222, 3:247, 3:249,
 3:252, 3:302, 3:304
 King Salmon River (PU15). 3:104
 King Salmon River (PU18). 3:104
 Kinuyak. 3:165

Appendix D - Index

- Kisaralik Lake. 3:44, 3:301
Kisaralik River. 3:33-34, 3:36-37, 3:44, 3:301
Klutuk Creek. 3:110-111, 3:302
Klutuspak Creek. 3:104-105, 3:302
Klutuspak Creek (PU14). 3:105
Klutuspak Creek (PU16). 3:105
Klutuspak River. 3:89
Knutson Creek. 3:139, 3:141, 3:146
Knutson Creek-Three Sisters Mountain. 3:139, 3:146
Koggiung. 3:150-151
Kokhanok. 3:139
Kokhanok Lake. 3:139, 3:147
Koksetna River. 3:115, 3:118, 3:127-128, 3:303, 3:306
Koktuli River. 3:89, 3:91, 3:93-96, 3:98, 3:103-104, 3:106, 3:108-109, 3:302, 4:13
Koktuli River (PU27). 3:106
Koktuli River (PU28). 3:108
Koktuli River (PU29). 3:108
Koktuli River (PU30). 3:109
Kokwok River. 3:89, 3:99, 3:109-112, 3:114, 3:302
Kokwok River (PU10). 3:112
Kokwok River, Corridor of the. 3:107, 3:109-110
Koliganek. 3:90-91, 3:94, 3:110
Koliganek Airport. 3:110
Krenitzin Islands. 3:20, 3:24, 3:283-295
Kudiakof Islands. 3:288, 3:292-293
Kudobin Islands. 3:276, 3:280
Kuiukta Bay. 3:233, 3:239, 3:242
Kujulik Bay. 3:233, 3:239, 3:242-243
Kukaklik Lake. 3:149
Kulik River. 3:152
Kulukak Bay. 3:50, 3:58, 3:62
Kulukak River. 3:49, 3:54, 3:58, 3:62, 3:301
Kupreanof Point. 3:239, 3:242
Kuskokwim Area Plan. 3:33, 3:119, 3:123
Kuskokwim Bay. 3:16-17, 3:19, 3:23, 3:33-47, 3:49
Kvichak Bay. 3:18, 3:24, 3:65, 3:75-76, 3:84-87, 3:151-152, 3:163, 3:171-172, 3:176
Kvichak Bay, South. 3:176
Kvichak River. 3:19-21, 3:24, 3:28, 3:52, 3:65, 3:75-77, 3:83, 3:86, 3:89, 3:130, 3:133, 3:140, 3:149-162, 3:168, 3:172, 3:304, 4:13-14
Kvichak/Alagnak Rivers. 3:161
Kwethluk River. 3:33-35, 3:39, 3:44, 3:301
- ## L
- Lake Aleknagik. 3:65-66, 3:68, 3:78-79, 3:302
Lake Aleknagik 2. 3:79
Lake Aleknagik State Recreation Site. 3:68, 3:71-73, 3:79
Lake and Peninsula Borough, 1:2, 1:4, 1:9, 2:62, 3:16, 3:28, 3:95-98, 3:103, 3:108-109, 3:111, 3:115-116, 3:119-128, 3:130, 3:132, 3:139-140, 3:142, 3:146-147, 3:150, 3:153, 3:155-157, 3:160-161, 3:167, 3:177-178, 3:181-183, 3:187, 3:191-193, 3:210, 3:212-213, 3:219, 3:224, 3:234, 3:246, 3:248, 3:252, 3:261, 4:12-13
Lake Camp. 3:164
Lake Clark. 2:29, 3:20, 3:116, 3:127, 3:129-138, 3:141, 3:151, 3:306, 4:14
Lake Clark National Park and Preserve. 1:2-3, 2:50, 3:9, 3:16, 3:20, 3:22-23, 3:115-116, 3:120, 3:122, 3:127-129, 3:135-136, 3:138-139, 3:299, 3:306-307
Lake Fork. 3:148
Lake Fork of the Pain River. 3:148
Lake Iliamna. 2:24, 2:29, 2:36, 2:38, 2:50, 3:16, 3:19-21, 3:28, 3:94, 3:129-131, 3:133, 3:139-162, 3:168, 3:303, 4:13-14
Lake Nerka. 3:78
Land Classification Order. 1:13, 4:8, 4:10, A:6
Land Classification Orders No. SC-04-002, SC-04-002A02. See Appendix B

Land Classifications. 4:2, 4:4-7
 Land Offerings. 2:30, 2:62-63, 2:65, 2:75, 3:5
 Land Sales. 1:9, 2:33, 2:50, 2:62-63, 2:67
 Land Status. 3:11-12
 Land Use Designations. 1:12, 3:1-2, 3:6, 3:15, 4:4-7, A:7
 Lead. 3:246, 3:259, 3:271, A:7
 Leasehold Location Order. 1:10, 2:3, 2:38-39, 2:64, 3:99, 3:103, 3:105, 3:122-128, 3:135-138, 3:144, 3:146, 3:148, 3:157, 3:161-162, 3:203, 3:227, 3:274, 4:17
 Leasehold Location Order No. 1. 2:38-39, 3:100, 3:122, 3:135-136, 3:144, 3:157, 4:17
 Lefthand Bay. 3:263, 3:266-268
 Lefthand Bay/Balboa Bay. 3:266
 Legislatively Designated Area. 1:12, 2:7, A:7
 Lenard Harbor. 3:289, 3:294
 Levelock. 3:149-152, 3:162
 Levelock Airport. 3:162
 Lewis Point. 3:68
 Lignite. 3:36
 Lime Hills. 3:16, 3:89, 3:115, 3:129
 Little Bonanza Creek. 3:117
 Little Muklung River. 3:66, 3:80-81
 Little Mulchatna River. 3:126, 3:306
 Little Mulchatna River (PU44). 3:126
 Log Transfer Facilities. 2:26, 4:3, A:5, A:7
 Long Lake. 3:115-117, 3:128, 3:303
 Lower and Upper Talarik Creek. 3:149
 Lower Nushagak River. 3:66, 3:68, 3:92, 3:94, 3:107, 3:111
 Lower Nushagak River, Corridor of the. 3:107
 Lower Talarik Creek. 3:152, 3:154-155, 3:159-160, 3:304, 4:13
 Lower Talarik Creek SUA. 3:154-156, 3:158, 3:160, 4:10
 Lower Ugashik Lake. 3:20, 3:179, 3:182, 3:191, 3:304
 Lower Wood River/Dillingham. 3:81

M

Mable Mountain. 3:66, 3:78
 Management Guidelines. 1:13, 3:7
 Management Intent. 1:12, 2:2, 3:1-2, 3:6-8, 3:15, 3:297, 3:299, A:7
 Management Units. 3:9-10
 Manganese. 3:52, 3:246
 Manokotak. 3:49, 3:51-53, 3:55, 3:60, 3:67
 Manokotak Airport. 3:60
 Manokotak Townsite. 3:60
 Marsh Mountain. 3:68-69
 Marys Mountain. 3:115
 Material Land. 4:2
 Material Sites. 2:33
 Materials. 3:4, A:8
 Materials Resources. 2:33-34
 Matogak River. 3:49, 3:301
 McKinley Creek. 3:115, 3:123, 3:303
 McNeil River State Game Sanctuary. 3:148, 3:165
 MCO 393. 1:6, 2:38, 3:12, 3:78, 3:80-81, 3:99, 3:101, 3:103-104, 3:106-108, 3:110, 3:113, 3:122, 3:124-125, 3:135, 3:144, 3:146-148, 3:157, 3:159-162, 3:170, 3:184, 3:195, 3:249, 3:253, 3:262, 3:274, 3:300, 4:17
 Meadows Lake. 3:147
 Mean High Water. 1:1, 2:23, 2:37, 2:69-70, 2:72-73, 3:17, 3:30, A:8, A:13-14
 Mean Lower Low Water. 1:1, A:8, A:13
 Mensis Point. 3:241
 Mental Health Trust Authority Lands. 1:11, 3:1
 Mercury. 2:36, 3:36, 3:68-69
 Mesa Mountain. 3:115, 3:128
 Meshik River. 3:223-225, 3:304, 3:306
 Milk Creek. 3:44, 3:50
 Milky River. 2:42, 3:180, 3:192, 3:211, 3:224, 3:245, 3:247, 3:252
 Millet Prospect. 3:131
 Mineral Closing. 1:10, 2:38
 Mineral Closing Order. 1:6, 1:10, 2:38, 2:64, 3:41, 3:57, 3:74, 3:99, 3:122, 3:135, 3:144, 3:157, 3:170, 3:184, 3:195,

Appendix D - Index

- 3:203, 3:227, 3:249, 3:262, 3:274, 3:287,
3:300, 4:17, A:8
Mineral Exploration. 2:21, 2:27, 3:28
Mineral Land. 4:2
Mineral Location. 2:37
Mineral Opening Order. 2:38-39, 3:74
Mineral Order No. 791. 3:57, 3:75, 3:171,
3:184, 3:195, 3:203, 3:215, 3:227, 3:249,
3:263, 3:274, 3:287
Mineral Resources. 2:35-41
Mineral Sand. 3:23, 3:36, 3:179-180,
3:187, 3:211, 3:224, 3:246, 3:271
Minerals. 1:10, 3:4, 3:6, 3:23, 3:28, A:7
Mitrofanina Bay. 3:24, 3:233, 3:239, 3:242
Mitrofanina Island. 3:233, 3:239, 3:242
Moffet Bay. 3:289, 3:292, 3:294
Moffet Lagoon. 3:269-281
Moffet Point. 3:271
Molybdenum. 2:35-36, 3:23, 3:93, 3:131,
3:141, 3:180, 3:211, 3:259
Moore Creek. 3:191
Moose. 2:14-15, 3:23, 3:35, 3:37, 3:53-54,
3:68, 3:70, 3:91-92, 3:94, 3:98, 3:118,
3:131-132, 3:141, 3:151, 3:153, 3:167,
3:179, 3:181, 3:192-193, 3:200-201,
3:210-212, 3:225, 3:235-236, 3:247,
3:260, 3:270, 3:272
Moose Lake. 3:139, 3:147, 3:303
Moose Lakes. 2:62
Morzhovoi. 3:285
Morzhovoi Bay. 3:283, 3:287
Mosquito River. 3:89, 3:91, 3:102, 3:114,
3:302
Mother Goose Lake. 3:210-211, 3:304
Mount Alai. 3:191
Mount Burls. 3:177
Mount Chiginagak. 3:20, 3:209
Mount Dana. 3:257, 3:269-270
Mount Hague. 3:272
Mount Katmai. 3:178, 3:235
Mount Kupreanof. 3:257
Mount Lees. 3:177
Mount Pavlof. 3:20
Mount Peulik. 3:177, 3:191
Mount Shannon. 3:191
Mount Simeon. 3:177
Mount Ugashik. 3:177
Mount Veniaminof. 3:20, 3:233, 3:245-
246
MTRS. 3:15
Mud Creek. 3:213, 3:219
Muddy River. 3:245, 3:247, 3:254-255,
3:305
Muklung Hills. 3:27, 3:80, 3:89, 3:94-95,
3:97-98, 3:112-113
Muklung Hills (PU8). 3:113
Muklung River. 3:66, 3:69, 3:78, 3:80-81,
3:302
Mulchatna Caribou Herd. 3:23, 3:38, 3:53-
54, 3:70, 3:91, 3:94-95, 3:118, 3:127,
3:167
Mulchatna River. 3:28, 3:70, 3:89-128,
3:149, 3:302-303, 4:12, 4:17
Mulchatna River (PU 37). 3:125
Mulchatna River (PU22). 3:106
Mulchatna River (PU23). 3:106
Mulchatna River (PU32). 3:103
Multiple Use. 1:5, 1:13, 2:2, 3:2, 3:8, 3:27,
4:2, A:3, A:9
Municipal Conveyances. 2:30
Municipal Entitlement. 1:7, 3:11, 4:11-13
Municipal Entitlement Program. 1:9, 3:7
Municipal Selections. 2:54, 2:62
Municipal Selections in the Planning Area.
C:1-6
- ## N
- Nagai Island. 3:257, 3:261, 3:265
Nagai Island and Port Moller. 3:265
Nakalilok Bay. 3:209, 3:211, 3:216, 3:220
Naknek. 3:86-87, 3:133, 3:151, 3:163-165,
3:171-172, 3:174, 3:176
Naknek Admin. Site. 3:174
Naknek DOT Site. 3:174
Naknek Lake. 3:163-164, 3:306
Naknek Materials Site. 3:174
Naknek River. 3:21-22, 3:52, 3:76-77,
3:86-87, 3:91, 3:163-167, 3:171-172,
3:175-176, 3:304
Naknek Road. 3:174

- Naknek, South Naknek Bridge and Intertie. 2:74
 Napotoli Creek. 3:110, 3:302
 Negro Lake. 3:129
 Negukthlik River. 3:49, 3:301
 Neighborhood Trails. 2:45-49
 Nelson Lagoon. 3:269-281
 Nelson Lagoon/Moffet Lagoon. 3:269-281
 New Stuyahok. 3:89-91, 3:94, 3:112
 New Stuyahok Airport. 3:112
 New Stuyahok School. 3:112
 Newhalen. 3:129-138
 Newhalen River. 3:129, 3:131-133, 3:135, 3:137, 3:162, 3:303
 Newhalen River Bridge. 2:74, 3:133
 Nichols Spit. 3:76
 Nikabuna Lake. 3:115
 Nikabuna Lakes. 3:115-116, 3:120-121, 3:128, 3:303
 Nondalton. 3:115, 3:129-131, 3:137
 Nondalton Airstrip. 3:137
 Non-State Lands. 3:1
 Nonvianuk Lake. 3:152, 3:306
 North Aleutians Basin. 2:42, 3:285
 North Naknek Airport. 3:174
 North Region 11. 3:173
 Novarupta Volcano. 3:166
 Nunavauguluk Lake. 3:65, 3:78-80, 3:302
 Nunvak Mountain. 3:78
 Nushagak. 3:35, 3:51, 3:67-68, 3:89-114
 Nushagak & Mulchatna Rivers Recreation Management Plan. 1:11, 2:51-52, 2:54-55, 3:26, 3:68, 3:70-71, 3:73, 3:81-84, 3:95-99, 3:101-114, 3:119-121, 3:123-127, 4:17-18, A:11
 Nushagak & Mulchatna Rivers Recreational Management Guidelines. 2:56-57
 Nushagak Basin. 2:36, 2:42, 3:23, 3:52, 3:69, 3:91, 3:93, 3:151-152
 Nushagak Bay. 3:18, 3:24, 3:57, 3:60, 3:65-87
 Nushagak Hills. 3:20, 3:89, 3:118
 Nushagak Peninsula. 3:49-53, 3:57, 3:62, 3:75
 Nushagak River. 2:24, 3:19-21, 3:24, 3:28, 3:53, 3:65-71, 3:74-75, 3:81-84, 3:89-99, 3:101, 3:104-105, 3:107, 3:109, 3:111-112, 3:114, 3:118-119, 3:122, 3:149, 3:154, 3:302, 4:12
 Nushagak River (PU19). 3:104
 Nushagak River System, Corridor of the. 3:101
 Nushagak SUA (PU21). 3:108
 Nushagak SUA (PU6). 3:114
 Nushagak SUA (PU9). 3:114
 Nuyakuk. 3:79
 Nuyakuk Creek. 3:109
 Nuyakuk Creek (PU13). 3:109
 Nuyakuk River. 3:89, 3:91, 3:94, 3:99, 3:104, 3:107, 3:302
 Nuyakuk River, Corridor of the. 3:107
 Nyac. 3:33-36, 3:40, 3:44
 Nyac District. 2:35, 3:23, 3:36, 3:44
- O**
- Ocean Basin Topography, 3:21-22
 Ocean River. 3:245, 3:305
 Office of Habitat Management and Permitting. 2:12-13, 2:16, 2:76
 Office of History and Archaeology. 2:29-30
 Offshore Prospecting Permits. 2:37-38, 3:36, A:9
 Offshore Submerged Land. 3:63, 3:87, 3:232, 3:242-243
 OHA. 2:30
 OHMP. 2:76
 Oil and Gas, 1:10-11, 2:42-44, 3:23, 3:52-53, 3:69, 3:93-94, 3:117, 3:131, 3:141, 3:152-153, 3:166, 3:180, 3:192-193, 3:201, 3:211, 3:224-225, 3:235-236, 3:246-247, 3:259, 3:271, 3:285, A:7
 Oil and Gas Seeps. 3:69, 3:94, 3:180, 3:192
 Oil or Gas. 3:18
 Oil Seeps. 2:42, 3:69
 Okstukuk Lake. 3:109, 3:112
 Okstukuk Lake (PU11). 3:112
 Old Creek. 3:213, 3:219

Appendix D - Index

- Old Man Creek. 3:114, 3:302
Old Savanoski. 3:165
Old Stuyahok. 3:105, 3:108, 3:110-111
Ole Creek. 3:149, 3:153, 3:304
OPP. 2:37-38, A:9
Ordinary High Water. 1:1, 1:6, 2:72-73, A:9
Osviak River. 3:49, 3:52, 3:58, 3:62, 3:301
Other State Land. 2:4, 2:63, 4:11
Otter Creek. 3:79-81
- P**
- Pacing of Land Disposals, 2:61
Painter Creek. 3:211, 3:213, 3:219
Pauls Creek. 3:163, 3:167, 3:173, 3:304
Pavlof. 3:281
Pavlof Bay. 3:269-270, 3:273, 3:275-276, 3:279, 3:281, 3:289, 3:291-292, 3:294
Pavlof Harbor. 3:269
Pavlof Islands. 3:283, 3:289
Pavlof Sister. 3:272
Pavlof Volcano. 3:270, 3:272-273
Pebble. 3:106
Pebble2. 3:159
Pebble Copper Deposit. 2:36, 3:23, 3:91-93, 3:98, 3:106, 3:131, 3:133, 3:142, 3:152, 3:155-156, 3:159-160
Pebble Streams. 3:106-107
Pecks Creek. 3:149, 3:161, 3:304
Pedro Bay. 3:130, 3:133, 3:139-141, 3:147
Pedro Bay Airport. 3:146
Pedro Bay School. 3:147
Permanent Roads. 2:48-49
Perryville. 3:168, 3:182, 3:194, 3:210, 3:233-243
Perryville Airport. 3:241
Personal Use Wood Harvest. 2:26
Pete Andrews Creek. 3:149, 3:304
Peters Plug. 3:149
Pickerel Lake. 3:138, 3:306
Pike Ridge Trail. 3:173-174
Pile Bay. 3:130, 3:140-141, 3:150
Pile River. 3:139, 3:141, 3:146, 3:303
Pilot Point. 3:16-18, 3:182, 3:199-200, 3:204, 3:207
Pilot Point Airstrip. 3:200, 3:205, 3:207
Pilot Point Central. 3:205
Pilot Point Community. 3:185, 3:199-200, 3:204-205, 3:207
Pilot Point Critical Habitat Area. 3:199, 3:202-204, 3:207
Pilot Point North. 3:205
Plan Changes. 4:18-19, A:4
Plan Preparation. 1:8
Plan Regions. 3:9
Planning Area. 1:1-3, 3:16
Planning Period. 1:12
Planning Process. 1:7
Platinum. 3:23, 3:35-36, 3:40, 3:42, 3:45, 3:51, 3:92-93, 3:110
Platinum (community). 3:34-36, 3:42
Pope-Vannoy Landing. 3:139
Popof Island. 3:257, 3:266-267
Population. 3:19
Porcupine Island. 3:147
Port Heiden. 3:24, 3:223-232
Port Heiden Airport. 3:230
Port Heiden Bay. 3:228, 3:232
Port Heiden Critical Habitat Area. 3:16-18, 3:223, 3:225, 3:228, 3:232, 3:251, 3:254
Port Moller. 3:245-268, 3:276
Port Moller Bay. 3:254, 3:275-276, 3:280
Port Moller Critical Habitat Area. 3:17, 3:260-262, 3:265, 3:269-270, 3:274-276, 3:280
Port Moller West. 3:276, 3:280
Port of Bristol Bay. 3:164
Portage Creek. 3:66-69, 3:82-84, 3:94, 3:102, 3:114, 3:305
Portage Creek Airport. 3:84
Portage Creek N. (PU4). 3:83
Presurveyed Parcels. 2:63
Primary Designated Use. 3:2
Prohibited Uses. 3:7
Proposed Transportation Corridor. 3:74, 3:99, 3:135, 3:144, 3:157, 3:170, 3:184, 3:195, 3:203, 3:214, 3:238
Protection Point. 3:76
Ptarmigan Creek. 3:115, 3:125-126

Ptarmigan Creek Drainage (PU47). 3:125
 Public Access. 2:20, 2:45-49, 2:65, 2:68
 Public Access Easements. 2:45-49, 2:69-73, 2:77
 Public Facilities-Retain. 3:4
 Public Notice. 2:8
 Public Participation. 1:7
 Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed. 3:4
 Public Recreation and Tourism-Public Use Site. 3:5
 Public Recreation Land. 4:2
 Public Trust Doctrine. 3:297-298, 4:7, A:10
 Public Use Cabins. 2:51
 Public Use Site. 2:51, 3:5, 3:79, 3:83-84, 3:102-106, 3:108-114, 3:124-127, 3:160, A:11
 Pumice Creek. 3:218, 3:304
 Pyramid. 3:259

Q

Quarry Materials. 2:33, 2:36
 Quigmy River. 3:49, 3:302
 Quinhagak. 3:33-36, 3:42, 3:46
 Quinhagak Airport. 3:44

R

Range Peak. 3:223
 Recreation. 2:50-57, A:11
 Recreation Facilities. 2:51-51
 Red Top Mine. 3:68-69
 Regional Transportation Corridor. 2:74
 Reindeer Creek. 3:219
 Remote Recreation. 2:60
 Remote Settlement Areas. 2:62
 Reserved Land Use. 4:2-3
 Resource Allocation Table. 3:12-15
 Resource Management Land. 4:3
 Retained Land. 2:69, A:11
 Retention. 3:7
 Right Hand Point. 3:50, 3:58, 3:62
 Rights-of-Way. 2:26, 2:76, A:11
 Riparian Buffers. 2:70, 2:72-73
 Riparian Protection Standard. 2:70

Road Corridors. 2:47
 Road Pullout. 2:76
 Roadhouse Lake. 3:129
 Roadhouse Mountain. 3:129, 3:138-139
 Roadless Areas. 2:77
 Roads Near Wetlands. 2:77
 Rocky Creek. 3:36
 RRMP. 2:51, 2:54-57, 3:71, 3:81-84, 3:96, 3:101-104, 3:107-113, 3:119-120, 3:123-127, 4:17-18, A:1-2, A:10-11, A:13-14
 RRMP 6. 3:111
 RRMP 11. 3:104
 RRMP 14. 3:101
 RRMP 19. 3:102, 3:126
 RRMP 25. 3:123

S

Salmon Creek. 3:173
 Salt Water Lagoon. 3:269, 3:273, 3:278
 Salvage of Damaged Trees. 2:26
 Sanak Basin. 2:42
 Sanak Island. 3:285, 3:289
 Sanak Islands. 3:283, 3:288-289, 3:292
 Sand and Gravel. 2:33
 Sand Point. 3:257-258, 3:261-265, 3:267
 Sand Point Airport. 3:265, 3:267
 Sandy Lake. 3:245, 3:249, 3:305
 Sandy River. 3:245-249, 3:252, 3:305
 Sapsuk River. 3:269-270, 3:272, 3:278-279, 3:305
 Sapsuk River – Cape Leontovich. 3:279
 Scandinavian Slough. 3:82-84
 Scenic Features. 2:64
 Scenic Resources. 2:50-57
 Scynneva Creek. 3:117
 Sea Ice. 3:18, 3:21-22
 Sea Lion and Walrus Haulouts and Rookeries. 2:14
 Sea Lion Rock. 3:288
 Seabird Colonies. 2:14
 Seal Islands. 3:18, 3:228, 3:245-255
 Section-line Easement. 2:77
 Setback. 2:69-70, 2:73
 Settlement. 2:58-66, 3:5
 Settlement Land. 2:62, 4:3

Appendix D - Index

- Settlement-Commercial. 3:5
Sharp Mountain. 3:106, 3:109
Sheep Mountain Creek. 3:152
Shishaldin Volcano. 3:20
Shorelands. 1:1-2
Shorelines. 2:67-73
Shotgun. 3:23, 3:91-92, 3:98, 3:102
Shotgun Hills. 2:35, 3:89-90, 3:92, 3:95, 3:101-102
Shumagin. 3:259
Shumagin Basin. 2:42
Shumagin Islands. 3:257-268
Silver. 2:35-36, 3:93, 3:105, 3:117, 3:131, 3:141, 3:180, 3:259, 3:271, 3:285, A:7
Silver Salmon Creek. 3:80
Sixmile Lake. 3:129, 3:133, 3:137, 3:303
Sleitat. 3:23, 3:93, 3:105
Sleitat Mountain. 2:36, 3:92-93, 3:105
Smelt Creek. 3:163, 3:304
Smokey Point. 3:199, 3:202, 3:205
Snake Lake. 3:65-88, 3:302
Snake River. 3:49, 3:62, 3:65-66, 3:74-75, 3:79-81, 3:302
Snipe Lake. 3:126
Sort Yards. 2:26
South Alaska Municipal Conference. 3:96, 3:119, 3:132, 3:154, 3:167, 3:181, 3:193, 3:213, 3:225, 3:236, 3:247
South Naknek. 3:163-165, 3:171, 3:175, 3:210, 3:225
South Naknek Airport. 3:175
South Region 11. 3:175
Southern Alaska Peninsula Caribou Herd. 3:272-273
Southwest Alaska Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy 2003-2008. 3:70, 3:95-96, 3:118-119, 3:132, 3:153-154, 3:167, 3:181, 3:193, 3:212-213, 3:225, 3:236, 3:247
Southwest Alaska Municipal Conference. 3:96, 3:119, 3:132, 3:154, 3:167, 3:181, 3:193, 3:213, 3:225, 3:236, 3:247
Southwest Alaska Transportation Plan. 2:74, 3:71, 3:95-96, 3:133, 3:142, 3:153-154, 3:167-168, 3:181-182, 3:193-194, 3:201, 3:210, 3:212, 3:225, 3:237
Special Management Areas. 2:18-19
Special Use Area. 3:38-39, 3:54-55, 3:70-71, 3:95-96, 3:108, 3:114, 3:154, 3:160
Special Use Designation. 3:38, 3:108, 3:114, 3:160, 3:247, 3:249, 3:251-252, 4:10
Springway Creek. 3:103, 3:117
Spruce Creek. 3:36
Squaw Creek. 3:83
Squaw Harbor. 3:264, 3:266
Staked Parcels. 2:63
State Parks. 3:1
State-Selected Land. 1:9
Stepovak Bay. 3:233, 3:239, 3:242-243, 3:257, 3:263-264, 3:266, 3:268
Stream Bank. 2:76
Stream Corridors. 2:64, 2:67-73
Stream Crossing. 2:76
Strogonof Point. 3:228-229, 3:232
Stuyahok. 3:91, 3:105
Stuyahok Hills. 3:111
Stuyahok River. 3:89, 3:91, 3:96, 3:103, 3:105, 3:108, 3:110, 3:111, 3:302
Stuyahok River (PU24). 3:110
Stuyahok River (PU25). 3:111
Subdivision Design. 2:66
Subdivisions, 2:60, 2:65
Submerged Lands. 1:1-2
Surprise Lake. 3:209, 3:306
Surprise Lake Hot Springs. 3:211
Sutwik Island. 3:220, 3:239
Swan River. 3:89, 3:102, 3:106
Synneva Creek. 3:117
- ## T
- Table Mountain. 3:78
Talarik Creek. 3:106, 3:152, 3:154, 3:159
Tangle Island. 3:147
Taylor Mountains. 3:20

- Tazimina River. 3:116, 3:130, 3:138, 3:303, 3:306
- Temporary Facilities. 2:55, A:13
- Temporary Roads. 2:48-49
- The Aleut Regional Native Corporation. 3:246, 3:258, 3:284
- The Gas Rocks. 3:177, 3:180
- Threatened and Endangered Species. 2:13
- Three Sisters Mountain. 3:139, 3:146
- Tidal Variations. 3:22
- Tide and Submerged Lands, Bristol Bay. 3:189, 3:207, 3:221, 3:232
- Tideland Permits. 2:54
- Tideland Resource Management Zones. 2:18, A:13
- Tidelands. 1:1-2, 2:7, 2:18, 2:71-73, 3:7-8, 3:17-18, 3:24-25, 3:29-31, A:13
- Tidelands Adjacent to Alaska Peninsula National Wildlife Refuge. 3:216-217, 3:220, 3:240, 3:277, 3:281
- Tidelands Adjacent to National Wildlife Refuge. 3:266
- Tidelands Adjacent to National Wildlife Refuges. 3:242, 3:264, 3:290, 3:292
- Tidelands Adjacent to the Alaska Peninsula National Wildlife Refuge and Aniakchak National Monument and Preserve. 3:220
- Tidelands Adjacent to Togiak National Wildlife Refuge. 3:42-43, 3:46, 3:62
- Tidelands and Offshore Submerged Lands. 3:87, 3:242-243
- Timber Harvest. 2:65
- Timber Harvest Guidelines. 2:25
- Timber Salvage. 2:26, 2:76
- Tin. 2:36, 3:23, 3:36, 3:92-93, 3:105
- Titanium. 3:23, 3:92, 3:110, 3:179-180, 3:211, 3:246
- To and Along. 2:64, 2:67-68, 2:70, 2:72
- Togiak. 3:49-63
- Togiak Airport. 3:60
- Togiak Bay. 3:50, 3:52, 3:58, 3:62
- Togiak Erosion Control. 3:60
- Togiak Lake. 3:50-53, 3:302
- Togiak National Wildlife Refuge. 3:30, 3:33, 3:37-39, 3:41-43, 3:46, 3:49, 3:52-55, 3:57-60, 3:62, 3:71-72, 3:86
- Togiak River. 3:19, 3:21, 3:33, 3:49-54, 3:58, 3:62, 3:302
- Tommy Creek. 3:147, 3:303
- Tommy Creek/Chigmit. 3:147
- Tourism. 2:50-57
- Trails. 2:45-49
- Trans-Peninsula Transportation Corridor. 2:74
- Transportation Corridor. 3:71, 3:74-75, 3:96, 3:99-100, 3:133, 3:135-136, 3:142, 3:144, 3:154, 3:157-158, 3:168, 3:170-171, 3:182, 3:184, 3:194-196, 3:201, 3:203, 3:210, 3:214-215, 3:225-227, 3:237-239, 3:262
- Transportation. 2:74-77
- Trapping Cabins. 2:55, A:14
- TRMZ. 2:18, A:13
- Tuluksak River. 3:33-35, 3:44, 3:301
- Tundra Swan Nesting Areas. 2:15
- Tungsten. 3:23, 3:92-93, 3:105, 3:117
- Tunuing River. 3:49, 3:302
- Tutna Lake. 3:115, 3:118, 3:120-121, 3:123-124, 3:126-128
- Tutna Lake (PU36). 3:127
- Twin Hills. 3:49-52
- Twin Hills Airport. 3:60
- Twin Lakes. 3:116, 3:130, 3:307
- U**
- Ugashik. 3:168, 3:182, 3:194, 3:199-201, 3:204-3:207, 3:210, 3:226, 3:237
- Ugashik Airport. 3:206
- Ugashik Bay. 3:16, 3:199-207
- Ugashik Bay Uplands. 3:205
- Ugashik Creek. 3:191-192
- Ugashik Lake. 3:177, 3:151
- Ugashik Lakes. 3:191-197
- Ugashik River. 3:21, 3:177, 3:191, 3:199-200, 3:204-205, 3:207, 3:304
- Ukinek Spring. 3:180
- Unangashak River. 3:245, 3:248, 3:305
- Unavikshak Island. 3:242

Appendix D - Index

Unga. 3:263, 3:266
Unga Island. 3:257-259, 3:263, 3:266-267
Unga Strait. 3:263, 3:266-268
Ungalikthluk River. 3:49, 3:302
Unimak Bight. 3:289, 3:292-293
Unimak Island. 3:20, 3:22, 3:24, 3:283-296
Unimak Pass. 3:20, 3:284-285
University of Alaska Lands. 3:1
Unnamed Lake (PU26). 3:111
Uplands. 1:1-2, 3:16
Upper Aleknagik Lake. 3:78
Upper and Lower Copper Lakes. 3:139
Upper and Lower Ugashik Lakes. 3:20, 3:179, 3:191
Upper Chekok Creek. 3:146
Upper Chulitna Area. 3:105
Upper Koktuli River (PU31). 3:109
Upper Koktuli River, Corridor. 3:108
Upper Mulchatna River (PU33). 3:103
Upper Mulchatna River, Corridor of the. 3:124
Upper Talarik Creek. 3:106-107, 3:149, 3:159, 3:304
Upper Ugashik Lake. 3:177, 3:304

V

Valley of Ten Thousand Smokes. 3:165-166
Vukpalik Creek. 3:101, 3:104-105, 3:303
Vukpalik Creek (PU17). 3:105

W

Walrus. 2:14, 2:13, 3:35, 3:42, 3:46, 3:52, 3:58, 3:61-62, 3:68, 3:189, 3:221, 3:251-252, 3:254-255, 3:292
Walrus Haulout. 2:14, 3:17-18, 3:42-43, 3:46, 3:58-59, 3:62, 3:75, 3:247, 3:251-252, 3:254, 3:267, 3:269, 3:275-276, 3:280-281, 3:288, 3:292, 4:10, A:6
Walrus Island. 3:280
Walrus Islands State Game Sanctuary. 3:16-18, 3:49, 3:57-59, 3:61-62
Walrus Islands. 3:49, 3:52, 3:58, 3:61
Warehouse Mountain. 3:81

Water Intake Structures. 2:12
Water Resources Land. 4:3
Waterbodies. 2:68-73
Waterfowl Habitat. 2:15
Waterfront Development. 1:10, 3:5, 3:30
Waterfront Development Land. 4:3
Weary River. 3:49, 3:60, 3:65-66, 3:78-80, 3:302
Weasel Creek. 3:115, 3:120, 3:123
West Region 12. 3:187
Wetland. 2:72-73
Whale Mountain. 3:177
Wide Bay. 3:194
Width of Trail Corridors. 2:46
Wildlife Habitat Land. 4:3
Wildman Lake. 3:245, 3:248, 3:305
Williamsport. 3:133, 3:154, 3:168
Williamsport-Pile Bay. 3:19, 3:140
Winter. 2:76
Wood River. 3:19, 3:23, 3:65-67, 3:69-71, 3:74, 3:79-80, 3:96, 3:154, 3:302
Wood River Mountains. 3:49-50, 3:60, 3:65, 3:90, 3:94
Wood River-Aleknagik Road. 3:80
Wood-Tikchik Lakes. 3:19
Wood-Tikchik State Park. 3:16, 3:22, 3:28, 3:33, 3:39-41, 3:44, 3:49, 3:55-57, 3:60, 3:65, 3:68, 3:72-75, 3:78, 3:89-90, 3:92, 3:97, 4:17
Wood-Tikchik State Park Management Plan. 3:39, 3:41, 3:44, 3:55-57, 3:60, 3:68, 3:70, 3:73, 3:78-79, 3:95, 4:17

Y

Yako Creek. 3:68
Yantarni Bay. 3:209, 3:211
Yantarni Creek. 3:209
Yellow Creek. 3:149, 3:160-161, 3:304
Youth Creek. 3:78
Yukon Delta National Wildlife Refuge. 3:16, 3:33, 3:37, 3:39

Z

Zinc. 3:92, 3:259, 3:271