



THE STATE
of **ALASKA**
GOVERNOR SEAN PARNELL

Department of Natural Resources

DIVISION OF MINING, LAND & WATER
Resource Assessment & Development Section

550 West 7th Avenue, Suite 1050
Anchorage, Alaska 99501-3579
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September 5, 2013

Re: Adoption of the 2013 Plan Amendment to the Bristol Bay Area Plan

Dear Alaskan,

The Commissioner of the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) adopted the changes to the 2005 Bristol Bay Area Plan that are included in the 2013 Plan Amendment Public Review Draft (PRD) as modified by the List of Approved Revisions. The approved revisions result in significant changes to the recommendations for land classification in the January 2013 PRD. These additional changes affect over 3.1 million acres of state land, or about one-quarter of the uplands in the Bristol Bay area. There are major increases in both the Wildlife Habitat (2.6 million acres) and Public Recreation (1.1 million acres) land classifications, while the Resource Management land classification decreased by 1.9 million acres.

The Commissioner also adopted a Determination of Reclassification, which provided the basis for the land classification revisions, and a Land Classification Order (SC-04-002A02), which affects 6.4 million acres of state lands. These changes in classification occurred throughout the planning area, including areas situated on the Alaska Peninsula. The Commissioner took these actions pursuant to an agreement that dismissed the litigation *Nondalton Tribal Council et al. v. State* so that the issues in the case could be addressed through the appropriate administrative process.

All documents related to the 2013 Plan Amendment are provided on the DNR website: <http://dnr.alaska.gov/mlw/planning/areaplans/bristol/amend/index.cfm>. These include the 2013 PRD of the Plan Amendment, Issue Response Summary, the List of Approved Revisions, a table that identifies requested and final plan designations for specific management units, and a plan map that depicts the changes in land classification that resulted from the reevaluation of state lands during the development of the Summary. The webpage also includes all public comments received on the PRD of the Plan Amendment.

This action is a final decision. Procedures to request reconsideration of this decision follow. Requests for reconsideration must be provided within 20 days of the date of issuance of the adoption decision which is September 5, 2013.

For additional information, contact:

Bruce Phelps, Section Chief
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Division of Mining, Land & Water
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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Bruce Phelps".

Bruce Phelps, Section Chief

Request for Reconsideration Procedures

A person affected by this decision may request reconsideration, in accordance with 11 AAC 02. Any reconsideration request must be received in writing within 20 calendar days after the date of issuance of this decision, as defined in 11 AAC 02.040(c) and (d), and may be mailed or delivered to Daniel S. Sullivan, Commissioner, Department of Natural Resources, 550 W. 7th Avenue, Suite 1400, Anchorage, Alaska 99501; or faxed to 1-907-269-8918; or sent by electronic mail to dnr.appeals@alaska.gov.

If reconsideration is not requested within the time allowed, or the commissioner does not order reconsideration or takes no action within 30 calendar days after issuance of this decision, this decision goes into effect and is a final administrative order and decision of the department on the 31st day after issuance. Failure of the commissioner to act on a request for reconsideration is an automatic denial of the request for reconsideration. This decision may then be appealed to Superior Court within a further 30 days in accordance with the Alaska Rules of the Court, and to the extent permitted by applicable law.

An eligible person must first request reconsideration of this decision in accordance with 11 AAC 02 before appealing this decision to Superior Court. A copy of 11 AAC 02 may be obtained from any regional information office of the Department of Natural Resources.

The Department of Natural Resources complies with Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. Individuals with disabilities who may need auxiliary aides, services, or special modifications to participate in this decision process should contact the person indicated above or by TDD 907.269.8411 seven days in advance of the need, to arrange accommodations.