



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
Main: 907.269.8534
TDD: 907.269.8411
Fax: 907.269.8915

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Subject: Release of the Public Review Draft of the Eastern Tanana Area Plan and Public Comment Period

Dear Alaskan,

The Department of Natural Resources (DNR) has released the Public Review Draft (PRD) of the **Eastern Tanana Area Plan** (ETAP) for public review and comment. Following the public review period, which may result in changes to the PRD, DNR intends to adopt the ETAP. Once adopted, this plan will serve as the basis for the management of state lands and waters within the planning area for the next 15 to 20 years. This plan includes a Land Classification Order (NC-10-004) that affects approximately 6,820,774 acres of state owned and state selected land distributed throughout the planning area. This land is primarily located adjacent to the Tanana River and the surrounding uplands and the Fairbanks North Star Borough north of the Tanana River. The classification order implements the plan and primarily classifies land as Habitat, Resource Management, Public Recreation, Forestry, Minerals, and Settlement.

With few exceptions the ETAP boundary is comprised of the eastern portion of the 1991 Tanana Basin Area Plan. The 1991 Tanana Basin Area Plan is outdated and needs revision to account for changes in land ownership; to reflect current and anticipated physical, economic and social factors in the area; and, to provide guidance for the development and conservation of the state's natural resources. Management direction provided in the ETAP will supersede management direction contained in the existing Tanana Basin Area Plan. The ETAP will not affect borough, federal, Mental Health Trust, Municipal, University, Native, private, or other non-state lands and will not affect oil and gas lease sales or gas only lease sales.

Your written comments are encouraged during this public comment period. To facilitate your review and comment the PRD is available online; on CD by request; and, will be available in print format at public libraries within the planning area and the Fairbanks North Star Borough Office. A limited number of printed copies are being produced and will be available upon request. **Comments on the PRD must be received by November 14, 2014 by mail, email, fax, or through the website provided below.** Comments may also be hand delivered to the DNR, Resource Assessment and Development Section office in Anchorage during normal business hours of operation. Public meetings will be scheduled in several communities within the planning area during this comment period. Once the dates, times, and locations are confirmed a separate notice of the meetings will be distributed.

To review and download an electronic version of the PRD, including maps, or submit comments online please visit our webpage at: <http://dnr.alaska.gov/mlw/planning/areaplans/etap/>. For additional information contact:

Brandon McCutcheon, Land Use Planner

Alaska Department of Natural Resources
550 West 7th Ave. Suite 1050
Anchorage, Alaska 99501-3579
Phone: (907)269-8536
Fax: (907) 269-8915
Email: brandon.mccutcheon@alaska.gov

Mark Henspeter, Land Use Planner

Alaska Department of Natural Resources
550 West 7th Ave. Suite 1050
Anchorage, Alaska 99501-3579
Phone: (907)269-8527
Fax: (907) 269-8915
Email: mark.henspeter@alaska.gov

The State of Alaska, 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 submit a comment or participate in a meeting, should contact the person(s) indicated above or contact the state TDD number (907)269-8411 seven days (7) in advance of meetings to arrange accommodations.