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Appendix A

Glossary

2008 Revision. Refers to the Northwest Area Plan, revised in 2008. The 2008 Revision supersedes the original Northwest Area Plan, adopted in 1989, and all amendments to the original plan.

AAC. Alaska Administrative Code.

Access. A way or means of approach. Includes transportation, trail, easements, rights of way, and public use sites.

ACMP. Alaska Coastal Management Plan.

ADF&G. Alaska Department of Fish and Game.

ADOT/PF. Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities.

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 anadromous fish. Some, but not all anadromous waters are shown in “The Atlas to the Catalog of Waters Important for Spawning, Rearing, or Migration of Anadromous Fishes” (referred to as the Anadromous Waters Catalog (AWC)) compiled by ADF&G and DNR or has been determined by ADF&G to contain or exhibit evidence of anadromous fish in which the anadromous portion of the waterbody extends up to the first point of physical blockage. See also AS 41.17.950(1).

Anchorage. A location commonly used by private, recreation, or commercial vessels for anchoring.

ANCSA. Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (1971).

ANILCA. Alaska National Interest Land Conservation Act (1980).

ARDF. Alaska Resource Data File, a database of mineral occurrences compiled by the US Geological Survey.

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 Northwest Area Plan.

AS. Alaska Statutes.

ASLS. Alaska State Land Survey.

ATS. Alaska Tideland Survey.

Authorized Use. A use allowed by DNR by permit or lease.

AWC. Anadromous Waters Catalog, see *Anadromous waters*.

Buffer. An area of land between two activities or resources managed and used to reduce the effect of one activity upon another.

Classification. See *Land use classification*.

Classification Order. See *Land Classification Order*.

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 valid at the time of plan adoption are not affected by mineral closures.

Commissioner. The Commissioner of the Alaska Department of Natural Resources.

DEC. Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation.

Department. Alaska Department of Natural Resources or DNR.

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; the Chapter 2 guidelines; and 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.

Dispersed recreation. Recreational pursuits that are not site specific in nature, such as hunting, fishing, recreational boating or wildlife viewing.

DMLW. Division of Mining, Land and Water, a division of DNR.

DNR. Alaska Department of Natural Resources.

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.

17(b) Easement. Easement across Native corporation land reserved through the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (ANCSA). Uses of the easements are limited to transportation purposes and other uses specified in the act and in conveyance documents. Information on 17(b)2 easements may be found at the DNR website:
dnr.alaska.gov/mlw/trails/17b/index.htm

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.
[11 AAC 95.900(29)]

Fish and wildlife. Any species of aquatic fish, invertebrates and amphibians, in any stage 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.

FLUP. Forest Land Use Plan. FLUPs are prepared by the Division of Forestry and precede state timber sales.

Forest Resources and Practices Act (FRPA). That section of Alaska Statute (AS 41.17.010-.955) that deals with the use, management, and protection of forest resources within the State of Alaska. More formally described as the Alaska Forest Resources and Practices Act.

General Use. Uplands designated General Use provide some combination of settlement, timber, recreation, habitat or other values. When used in this plan, this designation refers to areas where resource information is insufficient to warrant a specific designation, development is unlikely during the planning period of 20 years, or where a number of uses can be accommodated. For specific General Use areas, see the management intent statement of the individual management units in Chapter 3.

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. For the most part these uses are allowed for 14 days or less, and a permit is not required. See AAC 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.

Habitat. 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. This designation, when used, applies to areas having particularly valuable or sensitive habitat within the planning boundary. The “Ha” designation does not preclude human uses that are compatible with the following categories. Also refers to the plan designation of Habitat or the land classification of Wildlife Habitat Land¹.

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 zones²
- estuaries important for rearing or schooling of anadromous fish
- lagoons important for the support of beluga whales, anadromous fish, seabird colonies, rearing or schooling of anadromous fish, and pinnipeds

¹ The term ‘Habitat’ has a meaning that is specific to this plan. A more general definition of habitat is “The location or environment where an organism (or a thing) is most likely to be found.” This more specific meaning is applied to be consistent with the intent of 11 AAC 55.230, which provides a definition of ‘Wildlife Habitat Land’. See p. 4-3.

² Generally this occurs at the mouth of anadromous fish streams to a depth of -40 feet at mean lower low water. The exact location of this area may vary, however, and an analysis to refine the exact configuration may be justified if significant to a permit decision by DNR.

- waterfowl and/or shorebird concentration areas
- bear concentration areas (including concentrations by season) and denning sites
- moose and caribou winter and summer concentration, calving, and insect relief areas
- important wildlife migration corridors, including nearshore migration routes
- sea bird colonies in excess of 1,000 birds
- pinniped haulouts and rookeries
- whale concentration areas within lagoons or estuaries or other enclosed water bodies

High value resident fish. Resident fish populations that are used for recreational, personal use, commercial, or subsistence purposes (from AS 41.17.950(10)).

ILMA or 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.

Lagoon. A shallow body of water typically separated from the sea by sandbars.

Land Classification Order (LCO). 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 classifies all state lands within the planning area according to the land use designations assigned to individual land parcels in the Resource Allocation Tables and according to the requirements pertinent to navigable waters in the Navigable Rivers and Lakes section of 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 offering. Transfer of state land to private ownership as authorized by AS 38.04.010, including fee simple sale and sale of agricultural rights. They do 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 use classification. Land classification identifies the general 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 total of three classifications in combination.

Land use designation. A category of land allocation determined by a land use plan. Designations identify the primary use(s) of state land. Other land uses may occur if they don't significantly detract from or impair the designated use(s). For example, public recreation can occur on land designated for minerals or water resources. 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.

Lease. A Department of Natural Resources authorization for the use of state land according to terms set forth in AS 38.05.070-105.

Legislatively Designated Area (LDA). An area set aside by the state legislature for special management actions and retained in public ownership. Examples are State Game Refuges and State Recreation Areas.

Locatable minerals. Locatable minerals include both metallic (gold, silver, lead, etc.) and non-metallic (feldspar, asbestos, mica, etc.) minerals.

Management intent. The statements that define the department's near and long-term management objectives and the methods to achieve those objectives. As most often used in the plan, they pertain to specific management units.

Materials. "Materials" include but are not limited to common varieties of sand, gravel, rock, peat, pumice, pumicite, cinders, clay and sod. Materials may also refer to the designation of Materials or the land classification of Materials Land.

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 all 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). Mineral closing orders close state lands (mineral estate) to mineral entry. 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 use** on state land [AS 38.05.205]. 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 Opening Order. An order approved by the Commissioner that opens state land to mineral entry that hitherto was closed to entry and development.

Mineral Order. An order approved by the Commissioner that either closes or opens land to mineral entry. The use of this term is fairly recent. Previously the Department issues mineral opening orders or mineral closing orders. Reference in this plan is to ‘mineral closing order’ since this is the instrument that was used by the Department to close areas within the planning area and since state status plats make reference to ‘Mineral Closing Orders’.

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:

- a. the use of some land for less than all of the resources, and
- b. 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]

National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS). Refers to a division of the U.S. Department of Commerce.

Native-owned land. Land that is patented or will be patented to a Native corporation.

Native-selected land. Federally owned land that is selected 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.

NRO. Northern Regional Office of the Division of Mining, Land and Water, Alaska Department of Natural Resources.

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.

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)].

Permanent use. A use that includes a structure or facility that is not readily removable.

Permit. A Department of Natural Resources authorization for use of state land according to terms set forth in 11 AAC 96.

Planning period. Refers to the length of time that the plan covers, which is 20 years. However, the area plan and the land use classifications that derive from the plan remain valid 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 also Chapter 3.)

Public use. Any human use of state land, including commercial and non-commercial uses.

Recreation. Any activity or structure for recreational purposes, including but not limited to hiking, camping, boating, anchorage, access points to hunting and fishing areas, and sightseeing. "Recreation" does not refer to subsistence hunting and fishing.

Region. A spatial unit used in area plans to describe major geographic areas within the plan boundary. Often regions occupy state lands that are contiguous or are generally close to each other and that may have similar resource and use characteristics. In this plan, there are seven regions: five regions that encompass upland and tideland/submerged land areas and two, situated inland from the coast, that consist only of uplands.

Resource management. A land classification used for lands which are presently inaccessible or remote and may have a number of resources, and where the lack of adequate resource, economic or other relevant information combined with the unlikelihood of resource development within the next 20 years makes a specific resource allocation decision not likely within the planning period; or land that contains one or more resource values, none of which is of sufficiently high value to merit designation as a primary use. The plan General Use designation converts to the classification of Resource Management.

Retained land. Uplands, shorelands, tidelands, submerged lands, and water that are to remain in state ownership.

Revised Statute 2477 (RS 2477). From the Mining Act of 1866, which states that “The public right-of-way for the construction of highways over public lands, not reserved for public use, is hereby granted.” Information on RS 2477s can be accessed at the DNR website: dnr.alaska.gov/mlw/trails/rs2477/

Right-of-way. The legal right to cross the land of another.

Secondary use. A use of lesser importance than the primary use in a particular management unit. Secondary uses are not typically used in the Northwest Arctic Area Plan.

Settlement. The sale, leasing, or permitting of state lands to allow private recreational, residential, commercial, industrial, or community use. May also refer the designation of Settlement or the land classification of Settlement Land.

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 (See Figure 1-1, Chapter 1.).

Should. States intent for a course of action or a set of conditions to be achieved. Guide-lines 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.)

State land. A generic term meaning all state land, including all state-owned and state-selected uplands, all shorelands, tidelands and submerged lands. 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 through deed.

State-owned land. Land that is patented or will be patented to the state, including uplands, tidelands, shorelands, and submerged lands.

State-selected land. Federally owned land that is selected by the State of Alaska, but not yet patented nor TAed (Tentative Approval) by the Bureau of Land Management.

Submerged lands. Land covered by tidal waters between the line of mean low water and seaward to a distance of three geographic miles or as may hereafter be properly claimed by the State. (See definition of Tidelands and Figure 1-1, Chapter 1.)

Subsistence. From the Alaska National Interest Land Conservation Act (ANILCA) [PL 96-486, Sec. 803]. The customary and traditional uses by rural Alaska residents of wild, renewable resources 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 byproducts of fish and wildlife resources taken for personal or family consumption; for barter or sharing of personal or family consumption; and for customary trade.

Suitable. Land that is physically capable of supporting a particular type of resource development, avoids or minimizes impacts to the natural environment, and is compatible with adjacent land uses and adopted land use plans.

Sustained Yield. The achievement and maintenance in perpetuity of a high level of annual or regular periodic output of the various renewable resources of the state land consistent with multiple use (AS 38.04.910(12)).

Temporary use. A use that is one year or less in duration requiring a state permit. Any structure associated with the use must be readily removable.

Tidelands. Lands that are periodically covered by tidal waters between mean high water and mean low water. (See Figure 1-1, Chapter 1.)

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 (USFWS). United States Fish and Wildlife Service, a division of the U.S. Department of Interior.

Viewshed. Viewsheds are surfaces visible from a viewpoint on a road corridor or from marine waters.

WACH. Western Arctic Caribou Herd.

Water-dependant. From 6 AAC 80.900(17): “water-dependent” means 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.

Water-related. From 6 AAC 80.900(18): “water-related” means 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.

Wetlands. From 6 AAC 80.900(19): 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. Deviation from plan designations, management intent, or management guidelines requires a plan amendment. (See Chapter 4 - Types of Plan Changes.)

STATE OF ALASKA
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF MINING, LAND AND WATER

Land Classification Order
No. NC-08-001

- I. Name: **Northwest Area Plan (NWAP)**
- II. The classifications in Part III are based on written justification contained in one of the following plans:

Area Plan: Northwest Area Plan
Adopted () Revised (x) Dated 10/31/08

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/text NWAP 2008	19 million	Various	1989 NWAP	See plan maps NWAP 2008

- IV. Special land classification requirements apply to management units B-03, L-07, and K-04. These requirements are described in detail in the Resource Allocation Tables.

- V. 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.

The date of issuance for this decision shall be NOVEMBER 7, 2008

Classified: 
Commissioner,
Department of Natural Resources

Date: OCTOBER 31, 2008

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