

# Approved Revisions

## Northwest Area Plan - Public Review Draft

### General

| Subject               | Page | Revision  |
|-----------------------|------|---|
| General – Mapping     |      | Final maps will include legend detail and a listing of plan designations used on specific plan maps.  |
| General – Subsistence |      | Revise the Resources and Uses section of each management unit to include information on subsistence, where this is known and is not now included. |

### Chapter 1

| Subject               | Page | Revision   |
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| Management Guidelines | 1-9  | Revise: ... state lands are to be managed for multiple use. <u>As defined in AS 38.04.910(5), 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<sup>1</sup>.”</u> |

### Chapter 2

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| General Guidelines | 2-3  | Revise: All authorizations for the use of state land within the planning area will be consistent <u>with the principles of multiple use<sup>2</sup> and sustained yield and with the management intent in this plan.</u>   |
| General Guidelines | 2-3  | Revise: <u>add the definition of sustained yield in AS 38.04.910 to the Glossary.</u><br><br>Revise General Guidelines to include: <u><b>D. Authorizations issued by the Department are to be consistent with the principles of multiple use and sustained yield, and if fish and wildlife resources are involved, with the public trust doctrine.</b></u> |

<sup>1</sup> See Glossary (p. A-7) for the complete definition of multiple use.

<sup>2</sup> The concept of multiple use means that authorizations must take into account short-term and long-term public needs for both renewable and nonrenewable resources. Although the general thrust of the Alaska Constitution (Article V) is to utilize state land for the benefit of the people of Alaska, this does not mean that every use can be authorized in an area. The general guidelines also include the concept that minimizing conflicts between resources and uses includes the ability to deny a particular use on a particular site.

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| Fish and Wildlife, Background/ General Guidelines |      | <p>Revise, add as a new paragraph under ‘Management Guidelines’ the following”:</p> <p><u>The management guidelines that follow apply to all habitat areas throughout the planning area, with special consideration given to marine mammal haulouts, sea bird rookeries, waterfowl concentration areas, moose and caribou seasonal habitats, anadromous fish and high value resident fish streams, lagoons and estuaries , and other areas listed on page 2-9 where alteration of the habitat and/or human disturbance could result in a permanent loss of a population or sustained yield of a species.</u></p>  |
| Fish and Wildlife                                 |      | <p>No change except related to final mapping, which may include more detailed information on the plan maps.</p> <p>The final plan will contain source references used in habitat and species research.</p>  |
| Fish and Wildlife, Goals                          | 2-7  | <p>Revise, add to Goals: <b><u>Manage for Sustained Yield.</u></b> DNR management of state land and resources is to be consistent with the requirements of sustained yield, as expressed in the State Constitution.</p>   |
| Fish and Wildlife, Goals                          | 2-7  | <p>Revise, add to Goals: <b><u>Manage to Maintain and Enhance the Natural Environment.</u></b> DNR, in its management of habitat on state lands, shall attempt to maintain and enhance the natural environment in areas known to be important as habitat for fish and wildlife.</p>   |
| Fish and Wildlife                                 | 2-8  | <p>Revise: “DNR [MAY] shall consider requiring replacement with, or enhancement of, fish and wildlife habitat ... .”</p>  |
| Fish and Wildlife, Management Guideline B         | 2-10 | <p>Revise: ... appropriateness of the use that is under consideration for authorization. <u>Adjudicators may also find it useful to consult with local communities and boroughs since they often possess useful information that may not otherwise be available.</u></p>  |
| Fish and Wildlife                                 | 2-13 | <p>Revise, add as new paragraph:</p> <p><u>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.</u></p>  |
| Fish and Wildlife                                 | 2-16 | <p>Revise: [WHERE FEASIBLE AND PRUDENT] Surface activities authorized under permit, lease, or that have the potential to impact local harvest activities, are to avoid significant conflicts with local subsistence harvest and other traditional uses of fish and game resources. <u>The impact of surface activities upon local harvest is to be evaluated in DNR authorizations. These evaluations are to determine the degree of impact and, where significant impact is likely to occur, either deny the activity or impose seasonal/ temporal restrictions. Prior to issuing an authorization that may have a significant effect upon habitat or local harvests, DNR is to consult with ADFG, the borough, and local communities to ascertain their interests and concerns.</u></p> |

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| Habitat/<br>Minerals                      |             | Revise Management Guideline E. “Although mining within the aforementioned areas is considered appropriate or may be appropriate with stipulations, ... <u>There may be sites within a management unit that may not be appropriate for coal development or mining. Determinations of this type are to be made as part of the regulatory review/permitting processes related to the authorizations of these activities....</u><br><br>Add a cross reference as well: <u>See also Primary and Co-designated Uses in Chapter 3, p. 3-3</u> |
| Materials                                 | 2-25        | Revise: Insert after ‘upland material sources’ “when the quality, quantity, and cost of the resource is acceptable.”   |
| Materials                                 | 2-25        | Revise: Insert after ‘permitted in fish spawning areas’ the following: ‘unless it can be shown that the activity will not adversely affect spawning.’  |
| Subsurface –<br>Coal                      |             | Revise Management Guideline I, ‘Leasable Mineral Development’ to add at the end of the paragraph the following: <u>The surface impacts of proposed underground mining shall be fully considered as part of the permitting process.</u>   |
| Subsurface –<br>Radioactive<br>Elements   |             | The resource allocation table for unit N-01 will be amended to add that uranium prospects are being explored here.   |
| Subsurface –<br>Mining in<br>Fish Habitat | 2-27        | Revise lines 16-17, p. 2-8, to: “[WHEN DNR ISSUES] A permit for mining in or adjacent to designated fish habitat, [CONDITIONS OF THE PERMIT] will require [ANY NECESSARY MEASURES] , <u>as stipulations of the permit, any necessary measures, such as ... .”</u>  |

### Chapter 3

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| Explanation<br>of Mineral<br>and Coal<br>Designations | 3-5         | Revise to: Stipulations <u>shall</u> be imposed in the authorization in order to ensure the continuation of the habitat value or resource within the unit.  |
| Lisburne<br>Region                                    |             | Revise line 44 p. 3-16 and line 1-2, p. 3-17: “While such activities ... careful consideration must be given to potential impacts upon the WACH as well as the to other species and habitats listed in page 2-9.  |
| Coordination<br>with NSB –<br>Lisburne<br>Region      |             | Revise Management Guideline B under ‘Coordination and Public Notice’ to “The comprehensive plan, <u>coastal zone plan</u> , and zoning map/ordinances of the Northwest Arctic and North Slope Boroughs are to be reviewed by DNR prior to issuing permits, leases, or other forms of use authorizations. <u>The boroughs should also be consulted when such authorizations may affect subsistence activities<sup>3</sup>. Note: also see discussion of Alaska Coastal Management Program , p. 4-8. Uses authorized on state land by DNR must, in addition to the management</u> |

<sup>3</sup> Note: Both boroughs maintain information on a variety of cultural, environmental, social, as well as other considerations related to DNR authorizations and should be reviewed prior to issuing a decision. Consultation with the Borough may also be appropriate.

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|         |      | <u>guidelines in this Chapter, also conform to the ACMP enforceable policies of the program, including the statewide standards under 11 AAC 112 and the enforceable policies of approved district plans.</u>   |
| LT-04   |      | <p>Revise designation to Habitat/Harvest and change management intent to reflect this. As part of this description note the need to consult with ADFG and federal agencies on marine mammal haulout locations and walrus use areas.</p> <p>Add to resource description the following: USFWS reports that, presumably because of the loss of ice in the region, walrus have begun hauling out in numerous places along the coast between Icy Cape and Cape Lisburne. Concentrations were observed in several places including Cape Lisburne, Corwin Bluff, and along the barrier islands north of this unit (LT-01).</p> <p>The area offshore of this unit, Ledyard Bay, is also considered a sensitive habitat area and authorizations that occur within the tideland and submerged land areas should carefully evaluate potential effects upon whale, ringed seal, and bird migration. Ledyard Bay is a federally designated critical habitat area for the threatened Spectacled Eider. Most of the Spectacled Eiders that breed on the Arctic Coastal Plain molt in Ledyard Bay.</p> |
| LT-05   |      | Revise to add new tideland unit, LT-05. Designate this unit Gu. Note in management intent the high concentration of bird colonies at Cape Thompson and note the applicability of management guidelines pertinent to such colonies.   |
| K-13    |      | Codesignate unit Minerals/Habitat.   |
| KT-06   |      | Revise description to note presence of sea bird colonies and spotted seal haulouts. Include appropriate management guidelines. Change designation from Ha to a co-designation of Ha and Rd.  |
| KT-07   |      | Revise description to note presence features described in issue. Include appropriate management guidelines.  |
| NT-04   |      | Revise to include new tideland unit occupying the coastal wetlands at the mouth of the Koyuk River in Norton Sound. Designate as Habitat and include appropriate management intent. Include in unit description the presence of coastal wetlands, extensive estuarine environments, and the presence of anadromous streams, in addition to shorebirds and seabirds.  |
| NT-05   |      | Revise to include new tideland unit to correspond with the spatial boundaries of the Yukon Delta NWR. Co-designate this unit Ha and Rd. Include similar management unit for this unit as for other tideland units fronting federal CSUs.   |
| NT-06   |      | Add this unit and co-designate in Habitat and Harvest.   |
| ST-01   |      | Revise ST-01 to include Port Clarence and the adjacent offshore areas. Co-designate this Habitat and Harvest.  |
| ST-06   |      | Revise to include new tideland unit to correspond with the spatial boundaries of the Bering Land Bridge National Preserve. Co-designate this unit Ha and Rd. Include similar management intent for this unit as for other tideland units fronting federal CSUs.  |

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| W-05                    |             | Delete that portion of the parcel generally south of the lake and the area along the northern shore (within 1000 feet of shoreline) from this parcel. Consolidate this area into the adjacent parcel, W-06.   |
| W-06                    |             | Enlarge the size of this parcel to accommodate the settlement area deleted from W-05 (see above).   |
| Various units as listed |             | Revise tables to list resources (if missing) as listed below and include management intent to protect those resources.<br>L-05; brown bear and waterfowl<br>L-06; fish, musk ox<br>U-02; fish, cultural resources<br>U-04; cultural resources<br>U-05; fish, cultural resources<br>B-01; fish<br>K-03; Wulik River is source of drinking water<br>K-05; waterfowl<br>K-06; moose<br>K-16; waterfowl<br>K-17; moose<br>K-18; moose<br>N-03; fish, caribou<br>N-04; fish waterfowl<br>N-05; waterfowl<br>N-08; fish, moose<br>S-02; fish, moose, seabirds, shorebirds<br>S-03; fish, moose, shorebirds<br>S-04; fish, moose, shorebirds<br>W-03; fish, moose<br>W-04; fish, moose |

## Glossary

| <b>Subject</b> | <b>Page</b> | <b>Revision</b>   |
|----------------|-------------|---|
| Glossary       |             | Add definition to glossary: <b>Sustained Yield.</b> ‘Sustained Yield’ means the achievement and maintenance in perpetuity of a high level annual or regular periodic output of the various renewable resources of the state land consistent with multiple use (AS 38.04.910(12)). |