

Appendix B

Grazing

Goals:

Food Security. Provide opportunities for grazing on state lands to support the local and regional production of livestock to support the citizens of Alaska in the future. Known as “food security”, this goal recognizes the potential variability of food production and distribution in the future and indicates the state’s intent to ensure a grazing land base.

Availability of State Land. Make units with existing forage and rangeland resources available for short-term and long-term grazing, consistent with the management intent of the units affected by grazing operations and with the following management guidelines.

Contribute to Economic Diversity. Contribute to Alaska's economy by protecting range lands that provide opportunity for the development of the livestock industry.

Management Guidelines:

A. Use of State Land for Grazing. Grazing on state land may be allowed in areas with appropriate classifications (11 AAC 60.010) and if consistent with the management intent of the unit and with management guideline B, and if DNR determines in the authorization decision that the potential conflicts with other resource or land uses are acceptable or can be mitigated with stipulations. (11 AAC 60.170)

B. Areas Not Appropriate for Grazing Leases. In addition to the restrictions of 11 AAC 60.010¹, lands designated Water Resources, Materials, Public Facilities – Retain, and co-designated Reserve Use and Habitat may not be used for grazing leases.

C. Multiple Use. Lands used for grazing will be managed as multiple use lands to support a variety of public benefits, including fish and wildlife habitat and harvest, water quality maintenance, public recreation, and public access. 11 AAC 60.130

C. Access and Use. Public access across and public use of grazing lands may not be limited by persons holding grazing leases or permits unless approved as part of a grazing operations plan. (11 AAC 60.130)

D. Operational Requirements. Grazing operations on state land are subject to the requirements of 11 AAC 60.

¹ Grazing is not allowed on lands designated or classified Public Recreation and Reserved Use. Grazing on a short term basis may be allowed on lands designated or classified as Settlement or Agriculture. Note: the previous listing interprets the intent of 11 AAC 60.010; the land use classifications referred to in 11 AAC 52 have been repealed.

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E. Grazing Operations Plans. Prior to initiating grazing activities on a grazing permit or lease, a person must have an approved grazing operations plan that will become part of the lease or permit. DNR will assist a lessee or permittee in preparing a plan in consultation with the Natural Resources Conservation Service or other agencies.

E. Other Guidelines Affecting Grazing. Other guidelines may affect grazing. See other sections of this chapter.