

Appendix A: Glossary

This glossary includes definitions and terms used in the plan and on maps.

AAC. Alaska Administrative Codes

ADF&G. Alaska Department of Fish and Game

AHRS. Alaska Heritage Resources Survey

Anadromous Fish Stream. 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 salmon to spawn.

Anadromous streams are shown in “The Atlas to the Catalog of Waters Important for Spawning, Rearing, or Migration of Salmon” (referred to as the Anadromous Fish Stream Catalog) compiled by ADF&G.

Area Plan. Prepared by DNR, area plans allocate resources and identify allowed and prohibited uses on state lands including uplands, tidelands, and submerged lands.

AS. Alaska Statutes

Authorized Use. A use allowed by DNR by permit, lease, or other mechanism.

BLM. Bureau of Land Management

Boat or Watercraft. A device that is used or designed to be used for the movement of people or goods in or on the water, whether manually or mechanically propelled, but does not include personal floatation devices or other floats such as inner tubes, air mattresses, or surf boards.

Camp or Camping. To use a vehicle, tent, or shelter, or to arrange bedding or both, with the intent to stay overnight.

Campground. An area developed and maintained by the Division of Mining Land and Water which contains one or more campsites.

Classification. Land classification identifies the 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.

Commercial. An action or operation that generates income from the buying, selling, renting, bartering, or trading goods or services.

Commercial Recreation. Recreational uses of lands, waters, and resources for business or financial gain, such as guided sport fishing, guided and outfitted sport hunting and guided recreation.

Critical Habitat. For the purposes of implementing AS 41.23.200(d)(2) within the Knik River Public Use Area, critical habitat is defined as habitat that is essential to the perpetuation of a species of fish or wildlife within the Knik River Public Use Area.

DNR. The Department of Natural Resources

Developed Recreational Facilities. These include any of the following: sanitary structures including trash receptacles, campground, picnic area, rest area, visitor information center, swim beach or area, trailhead, and parking area.

Division. The Division of Mining, Land & Water

DMLW. Same as “Division.” See “Division.”

DOF. Division of Forestry

DPOR. The Division of Parks and Outdoor Recreation

Easement. An interest in land owned by another that entitles its holder to a specific limited use or purpose.

17(b) Easement. An easement across Native corporation land reserved under the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act of 1971 (ANCSA). Uses of the easements are limited to transportation purposes and other uses specified in the act and in conveyance documents.

Facilities. Includes buildings, parking areas, camping areas, a boat launch area or ramp, shelters/cabins, and sanitary facilities.

Facility Recommendations. A recommended type and character of facility consistent with the plans intent that allows the manager to use discretion in deciding the specific means for best achieving the intent based on particular circumstances and further site analysis.

Feasible. Capable of being accomplished in a successful manner within a reasonable period of time, taking into account economic, environmental, technical, and safety factors.

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 or that may be introduced in Alaska, except domestic birds and mammals.

Fish Spawning and Rearing Area. Area identified as important for fish spawning and rearing.

Goal. A statement of basic intent or general condition. Goals are not quantifiable and do not have specific dates for achievement; they are long-term in orientation.

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 a species.

Leasable Minerals. Leasable minerals include deposits of coal, sulfur phosphates, oil shale, sodium potassium, oil, and gas.

Legislatively Designated Area. An area set aside by the state legislature for special management actions and retained in public ownership.

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

Management Area. An area established around identifiable features or resources used to reduce the effect of an activity or use on the feature or resources.

Management Guidelines. A specific course of action that must be followed when a DNR manager permits, leases, or otherwise authorizes use of state lands or resources. Guidelines range 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.

Management intent statement. The statements that define the department's near and long-term management objectives and the methods to achieve those objectives.

Management Recommendation. A recommended course of action that is consistent with the plan's intent that allows the resource manager to use discretion in deciding the specific means for best achieving the intent. Deviation from management recommendations requires written justification.

Management Unit. Lands that are similar topographically and have similar use patterns; in this plan there are eight units described herein.

Materials. Includes sand, gravel, rock, peat, pumice, cinders, clay, and sod.

May. Same as "should." See "should."

MHT. Mental Health Trust

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.

MSB. Matanuska-Susitna Borough

Moose Calving Concentration Area. An area identified as having a higher density of moose calving than the surrounding habitat.

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]

NALA. North Anchorage Land Agreement

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.

Off Highway Vehicle. A recreational-type off-road or all-terrain vehicle with a curb weight of up to 1,500 pounds, including a snowmobile and four-wheeler.

OHA. Office of History and Archaeology, a Section of the Division of Parks and Outdoor Recreation.

OHV. Off Highway Vehicle

OHWM. Ordinary High Water Mark

Ordinary High Water Mark. That line on the shore of a non-tidal river or stream that reflects the highest level of water during an ordinary year and is established by fluctuations of water and indicated by physical characteristics such as clear, natural line impressed on the bank; shelving; changes in the character of the soil; destruction of terrestrial vegetation; the presence of litter and debris; or other appropriate means that consider the characteristics of the surrounding area.

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.

PLO. Abbreviation of Public Land Order. A PLO is withdrawal federal land from the public domain for specific purposes. In the PUA, PLO 3324 is a federal land withdrawal for the purpose of protecting public recreation values

Primitive Recreational Facility. Any structure that is not one of those listed under Developed Recreational Facility. These include user created airstrips, boat launches, or camping areas/sites.

PUA. Knik River Public Use Area

SCRO. Southcentral Regional Office

Sensitive Habitat. Habitat determined by DNR to be important for a particular life stage of fish and wildlife. They are usually localized in an area and are usually characterized by a greater number and density of species than in adjacent areas. In the context of this plan, these areas are to receive a higher level of management than other habitat areas. If significant deleterious impacts occur to this habitat, local distribution level impacts may occur.

Serious Degradation. This term is used to refer to the amount of degradation that occurs on trails. It is meant to describe a serious deficiency in the tread of a trail, which is usually associated with specific, severe trail damage causing the tread of the trail to deteriorate to the point where it cannot be safely used by the public or where that use is seriously compromised.

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.

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. ‘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.

SUA. Special Use Area

Sustainable Trail. A trail that conforms to its terrain and environment, is capable of handling its intended use without serious degradation. These typically do not require extensive re-routing and re-building of current trails.

Swan and Loon Nesting Habitat. The area of habitat that supports active nesting of trumpeter swans and loons. In this plan, the majority of this type of habitat is located in the Lakes and Wetlands Unit.

Shall. Same as “will.” See “will.”

Should. States intent for a course of action or a set of conditions to be achieved. Guidelines 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 if the particular circumstances justify deviations from the intended action or set of conditions. See Directors Policy File 06-01 for guidance.

TMP. The Trails Management Process

Trail. A trail has an identifiable tread and evidence of repeated use. In the PUA, DNR will identify trails that will be managed consistent with the TMP.

Tree. For the purposes of this plan, “tree” means a woody perennial plant with a single, well-defined stem, a definite crown shape, and a diameter at breast height of 5.0 inches or greater.

Trespass. To enter upon land without authorization from the land owner.

Trespass structure. A permanent or temporary structure built on land owned by the State of Alaska without benefit of an authorization by DNR.

Unit. See Management Unit.

Uplands. Lands above mean high water, ordinary high water mark, or lands that do not meet the definition of a wetland.

Use Level. A representation of the level of use occurring in a unit. Three use levels are provided in the plan. They are low, moderate, and high.

USFWS. United States Fish & Wildlife Service

Waterfowl Nesting Area. Areas of waterfowl nesting habitat adjacent to waterbodies.

Wetlands. Means those areas that are inundated or saturated by surface or ground water at a frequency and duration sufficient to support, and that under normal circumstances do support, a prevalence of vegetation typically adapted for life in saturated soil conditions. Wetlands generally include swamps, marshes, bogs and similar areas.

Wildlife. All species, especially mammals, living in a natural undomesticated state.

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 DNR land managers in the issuance of authorizations and other decisions. Deviation from plan designations, management intent, or management guidelines modified by “will” requires a plan amendment. (See Chapter 4- Types of Plan Changes). See Directors Policy File 06-01 for guidance.