

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

COPPER RIVER BASIN AREA PLAN AMENDMENT
SC-86-030A09

Management Unit 29, Subunit 29B

related to the
Mankomen Lake Remote Recreational Cabin Sites – ADL 231542

The Commissioner of the State of Alaska, Department of Natural Resources (DNR) finds that the following amendment to the Copper River Basin Area Plan, described more fully in the Attachment, meets the requirements of AS 38.04.065 *Land Use Planning and Classification* and 11 AAC 55.010-030 *Land Planning and Classification* for land use plans and hereby adopts the amendment. The Department of Natural Resources will manage state lands within the area of the revision consistent with this designation and management intent.

- Designation: Settlement
- Management Intent: Land offering within Subunit 29B is appropriate. Public recreation opportunities shall be preserved around Mankomen Lake by retaining 50% of the lakeshore in state ownership.

Signature on file

Concurrence by: Brent Goodrum
Director
Division of Mining, Land, and Water
Department of Natural Resources
State of Alaska

November 20, 2018

Date

Signature on file

Approved by: Andrew T. Mack
Commissioner
Department of Natural Resources
State of Alaska

November 29, 2018

Date

ATTACHMENT

to the COPPER RIVER BASIN AREA PLAN AMENDMENT

Management Unit 29, Subunit 29B

related to the Proposed Mankomen Lake Remote Recreational Cabin Sites – ADL 231542

Location: Located within DNR's Southcentral Region, approximately 65 miles northeast of Glennallen, approximately 25 miles west-northwest of Mentasta Lake, and 25 miles north of Chistochina, the project area is within Township 14 North, Range 4 East and Township 14 North, Range 5 East, Copper River Meridian, and Township 22 South, Range 16 East, Fairbanks Meridian within the Unorganized Borough. The unit encompasses approximately 8,030 acres.

Authority: The authority to revise plans derives from *AS 38.04.065(b) Land Use Planning and Classification*. *11 AAC 55.030(f) Land Use Plan* defines when a revision constitutes a plan amendment.

Current Plan: Management Subunit 29B has a primary designation of Public Recreation and Wildlife Habitat, with a secondary designation of Settlement.

Management intent provides that if the state acquires sufficient land suitable for settlement at Mankomen Lake (Subunit 29B), a land offering for settlement of up to 500 acres is allowed. Mankomen Lake will be managed as a recreation lake.

Proposed Plan Amendment: DMLW proposes to change the primary designation of Subunit 29B to Settlement, and remove Mankomen Lake from the list of Recreation Lakes in Chapter 2, page 2-41.

Management intent for Subunit 29B (above) will be replaced with: Land offering within Subunit 29B is appropriate. Public recreation opportunities shall be preserved around Mankomen Lake by retaining 50% of the lakeshore in state ownership.

Explanation: The Copper River Basin Area Plan (CRBAP) was adopted in 1986 and has not been updated since. Land within the Mankomen Lake area is suitable for settlement, and would be attractive for land offering. Offering of land for sale within the subunit is appropriate as provided in the Preliminary Decision dated July 6, 2018. Amending the designation of the subunit to Settlement as the primary designation is necessary to allow for the offering/disposal of land. Since the adoption of the CRBAP in 1986, the state received tentative approval to the lands within Subunit 29B (2008 and 2012). Amending the management intent is appropriate to reflect the updated land status, and to directly state that land disposal is appropriate within the subunit. Public recreation opportunities will still be preserved by retaining 50% of the state land around Mankomen Lake, thereby keeping with the original intent of listing the lake as a "recreation lake". Removing Mankomen Lake from the list of recreation lakes removes the requirement for a 200' buffer around the perimeter of the entire lakeshore, which frustrates upland property owners and is overly burdensome to the State as a management remnant.

Attachment to the Copper River Basin Area Plan Amendment

Unit 29: Upper Gakona, Chistochina, & Slana River Drainages; Subunit 29B
related to a Proposed Land Offering in the Unorganized Borough
for Mankomen Lake RRCS – ADL 231542
Page 2 of 2

Assessment: The following alternatives are being considered:

1. (Preferred) Amend the Copper River Basin Area Plan as described above to change the primary designation to settlement, change the management intent, and remove Mankomen Lake from the list of recreation lakes in Chapter 2, page 2-41. Amending the plan is the preferred alternative as it will allow the sale of settlement-classified land, providing the public an opportunity to obtain property in a desirable area, while still preserving recreation opportunities on the lake
2. (Status Quo) Do not amend the Copper River Basin Area Plan. This alternative is not preferred as it would not allow the offering of settlement-classified land and deny many Alaskans the opportunity to obtain land in this area.

Requirements of AS 38.04.065 (b): The factors identified in this section of statute have been considered in the Preliminary Decision for the proposed Mankomen Lake Remote Recreational Cabin Sites – ADL 231542, issued on July 6, 2018 and the proposed action is consistent with that portion of the statute.