

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

**DRAFT**  
**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.

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

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Date

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

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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 8,350 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 29Bis 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  
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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 disallow 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.