

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

**FINDING OF THE COMMISSIONER**

AS 38.05.185 (a) and AS 38.05.300

for

**MINERAL ORDER (CLOSING) NO. 1140**

related to the

Dog Sled West Subdivision -- ADL 231773

Pursuant to AS 38.05.035, the State of Alaska, Department of Natural Resources, Division of Mining, Land, and Water proposes to issue a Final Finding and Decision to convey State-owned land into private ownership within the Dog Sled West project area (ADL 231773). As noted in the Preliminary Decision – Proposed Land Offering Dog Sled West Subdivision – ADL 231773, issued March 4, 2014 the project area is within Kashwitna Region, Management Unit K-07 of the *Southeast Susitna Area Plan (SSAP)*. In accordance with the relevant area plan, DMLW proposes to close the entire project area to mineral entry. The attached mineral order identifies the area that must be closed to mineral entry and gives a legal description.

The Division of Mining, Land, and Water requests the mineral estate of approximately 5 acres, identified in the attached mineral order, be closed to mineral entry and location, in accordance with AS 38.05.300 for a land disposal. Mining activity on the project area would be incompatible with the current and proposed land estate uses. The land does not contain any known mineral deposits and was not selected for mineral values. There are no mining claims on the land.

Public notice of the comment period for the proposed mineral order was conducted in accordance with AS 38.05.945. The Department did not receive objections or comments regarding the proposed mineral order from the public or agencies during the response period.

In accordance with AS 38.05.185 (a) and AS 38.05.300, I find that the best interests of the State of Alaska and its residents are served by closure of the land to entry under the mineral location and mining laws of the State of Alaska as described by Mineral Order (Closing) No. 1140.

/s/

Approved by: Joseph R. Balash  
Commissioner  
Department of Natural Resources  
State of Alaska

July 31, 2014

Date

**Finding of the Commissioner - Mineral Order (Closing) No. 1140**

Dog Sled West Subdivision – ADL 231773

Page 2 of 2

**Reconsideration Provision**

A person affected by this decision who provided timely written comment on this decision may request reconsideration, in accordance with 11 AAC 02. Any reconsideration request must be received within 20 calendar days after the date of "issuance" of this decision, as defined in 11 AAC 02.040 (c) and (d) and may be mailed or delivered to Joseph R. Balash, Commissioner, Department of Natural Resources, 550 W. 7<sup>th</sup> Ave., Ste. 1400, Anchorage, Alaska 99501; faxed to 907.269.8918; or sent by electronic mail to [dnr.appeals@alaska.gov](mailto:dnr.appeals@alaska.gov).

If reconsideration is not requested by that date or if the commissioner does not order reconsideration on his own motion, this decision goes into effect as a final order and decision on the 31st day after issuance. Failure of the commissioner to act on a request for reconsideration within 30 days after issuance of this decision is a denial of reconsideration and is a final administrative order and decision for purposes of an appeal to Superior Court. The decision may then be appealed to Superior Court within a further 30 days in accordance with the rules of the court and to the extent permitted by applicable law. An eligible person must first request reconsideration of this decision in accordance with 11 AAC 02 before appealing this decision to Superior Court. A copy of 11 AAC 02 may be obtained from any regional information office of the Department of Natural Resources.

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

**MINERAL ORDER No. 1140**

  X   Closing Lands to Mineral Entry                      \_\_\_\_\_ Opening Lands to Mineral Entry

- I. Name of Mineral Order: Dog Sled West Subdivision – ADL231773
- II. Reason for Mineral Order: This Mineral Order is based upon the attached *Finding of the Commissioner* and the written justification contained in the following:  
Southeast Susitna Area Plan, adopted (2008)  
Preliminary Decision, Dog Sled West Subdivision – ADL 231773, March 4, 2014 and the subsequent Final Finding and Decision for same  
Land Sale pursuant to AS 38.05.035(e)
- III. Authority: AS 38.05.185 and AS 38.05.300.
- IV. Location and Legal Description: In the Matanuska-Susitna Borough, east of Parks Highway and south of Montana Creek; portions of N½N½ Section 8, Township 23 North, Range 4 West, Seward Meridian, located within the Palmer Recording District, Third Judicial District, Alaska. Detailed legal description will be provided on final approved plat should this project advance to plat recording stage. The proposed Mineral Order (Closing) will cover the nominal 5 acre area.
- V. Mineral Order: This order is subject to valid existing rights and is issued under the authority granted by AS 38.05.185 – AS 38.05.275 to the Alaska Department of Natural Resources. In accordance with AS 38.05.185(a), I find that the best interests of the State of Alaska and its residents are served by closure of the land described in this mineral order to entry under mineral location and mining laws of the State of Alaska. The above described lands are hereby **closed** to entry under the locatable mineral and mining laws of the State of Alaska.

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

  July 18, 2014    
Date

  /s/    
Approved by: Joseph R. Balash  
Commissioner  
Department of Natural Resources  
State of Alaska

  July 31, 2014    
Date