

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

DRAFT MINERAL ORDER No. 1219

 X Closing Lands to Mineral Entry _____ Opening Lands to Mineral Entry

I. Name of Mineral Order: Thimbleberry Subdivision – ADL 108913 (competitive sale) and Preference Rights – Meyer, ADL 108858 (non-competitive sale).

II. Reason for Mineral Order: This Mineral Order is based upon the attached *Commissioner's Administrative Finding*, applicable statutes, and the written justification contained in the following:

Northern Southeast Area Plan for State Lands (NSEAP, adopted 2002)
Preliminary Decisions, Thimbleberry Subdivision – ADL 108913, January 14, 2020 and Preference Rights – Meyer, ADL 108858, January 2020 and the subsequent Final Finding and Decisions for same

III. Authority: AS 38.05.185 and AS 38.05.300.

IV. Location and Legal Description: The project areas are within the DNR's Southeast Region, approximately 2.5 miles southeast of downtown Sitka, within Lot 14, USS 3557 (0.76-acre) within Section 5, Township 56 South, Range 64 East, Copper River Meridian.

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 and AS 38.05.300 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.

Concur:

Martin W. Parsons, Director
Division of Mining, Land and Water
Department of Natural Resources

Date

Approved:

Corri A. Feige, Commissioner
Department of Natural Resources

Date

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

**DRAFT ADMINISTRATIVE FINDING
MINERAL ORDER NO. 1219
Closing Lands to Mineral Entry**

**THIMBLEBERRY SUBDIVISION (ADL 108913)
And
PREFERENCE RIGHTS – MEYER (ADL 108858)**

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 Thimbleberry project area, ADL 108913 and Preference Rights – Meyer, ADL 108858. As noted in the Preliminary Decision – Proposed Land Offering Thimbleberry Subdivision, ADL 108913, issued January 14, 2020, the project area is within Baranof Unit B-45 lands of the *Northern Southeast Area Plan*. The Preference Rights action, ADL 108858 consists of the western portion (approximately ¼-acre) of Lot 14, USS 3557 (0.76-acre), and the competitive land sale action, ADL 108913 consists of the eastern portion (approximately ½-acre) of Lot 14. In accordance with the area plan, DMLW proposes to close the entire 0.76-acre project areas/Lot 14, to mineral entry. The attached mineral order includes the legal description of area to be closed to mineral entry.

The Division of Mining, Land, and Water requests the mineral estate of 0.76-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. (Review of comments will be addressed in the final document.)

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. 1219.

Concur:

Martin W. Parsons, Director
Division of Mining, Land and Water
Department of Natural Resources

Date

Approved:

Corri A. Feige, Commissioner
Department of Natural Resources

Date