

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

DRAFT MINERAL ORDER No. 1234

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

- I. Name of Mineral Order: Square Island Subdivision – ADL 109029

- 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:
Central/Southern Southeast Area Plan Amendment SE-00-001A08 (adopted 2020)
Preliminary Decision, Square Island Subdivision – ADL 109029, September 22, 2020 and the subsequent Final Finding and Decision for same.

- III. Authority: AS 38.05.185 and AS 38.05.300.

- IV. Location and Legal Description: Located within DNR’s Southeast Region, approximately 35 miles north of Ketchikan within Sections 25 and 36, Township 69 South, Range 88 East, and Sections 29, 30, and 31, Township 69 South, Range 89 East, Copper River Meridian, within the Ketchikan Gateway Borough (KGB), First Judicial District, Alaska, more specifically described as:
Tract B, Township 69 South, Range 88 East, Copper River Meridian, according to the plat accepted by the United States Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management, officially filed on June 24, 2002, containing 8.42 acres, more or less; and that portion of Tract A, Township 69 South, Range 89 East, Copper River Meridian, according to the plat accepted by the United States Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management, officially filed on July 01, 2002, excluding ASLS No. 98-7, recorded November 20, 1998 as Plat No. 98-59, Ketchikan Recording District, containing 327.88 acres, more or less. The areas described aggregate 336.3 acres.

- 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 Date
Division of Mining, Land and Water
Department of Natural Resources

Approved: _____ _____
Corri A. Feige, Commissioner Date
Department of Natural Resources

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

**DRAFT ADMINISTRATIVE FINDING
MINERAL ORDER NO. 1234
Closing Lands to Mineral Entry**

SQUARE ISLAND SUBDIVISION

Pursuant to AS 38.05.035, the State of Alaska, Department of Natural Resources, Division of Mining, Land, and Water proposes to issue an Area Plan Amendment in order to potentially convey State-owned land into private ownership within the Square Island project area (ADL 109029). As noted in the Preliminary Decision – Proposed Land Offering Square Island Subdivision – ADL 109029, issued September 22, 2020, the project area is within Region 5, Ketchikan - Cleveland Peninsula, Management Unit C-02 of the *Central/Southern Southeast Region Area Plan*. In accordance with the area plan amendment, DMLW proposes to close the entire project area 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 approximately 336.3 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. 1234.

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