

Chapter 3

Land Management Policies for Each Management Unit

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Chapter 3

Land Management Policies for Each Management Unit

Introduction

This chapter presents specific land management policy for state uplands and shorelands within the planning area. Information on state lands is organized by region, of which there are four: Lower Tanana, Kantishna, Parks Highway and West Alaska Range, and one region that includes all of the Legislatively Designated Areas within the plan boundary. These regions are the same as the 1985 plan (updated in 1991) except that a number of townships in the Parks Highway and West Alaska Range Region were dropped and a large area in the Lower Tanana Region has been added south of the Yukon River. Both changes have resulted from the adjudication of state selections by the Bureau of Land Management. In 1985, large areas in the Parks Highway and West Alaska Range region were in state selection status but these have since been relinquished by the state and are retained federal land, while the areas south of the Yukon River have resulted from the adjudication of state selections and the conveyance of federal land to the state. The latter area is by far the more significant of the two boundary changes, adding 2,250,061 acres to the planning area. In the southern part of the planning area, the external boundary generally follows the corporate boundary of the Denali Borough. No such correspondence exists for the northern area, where the North Star Borough occupies only a portion of the northern part of the planning area, and the northern boundary is formed by the Yukon River. The Denali National Park and Preserve is located south of this planning area, and is within the planning area of the Yukon Tanana Area Plan.

Map 3-1 shows the planning area and regions and 2011 land status.

Within the planning area there are approximately 11 million acres of state uplands; this estimate also includes the areas of state shorelands. Significantly, nearly 1 million acres of this total are associated with Legislatively Designated Areas (LDAs), which includes the TVSF, James Dalton, and the Minto Flats State Game Refuge LDAs. The three LDAs total 919,929 acres within the planning area. Generally, area plans do not apply to LDAs, with management direction for such areas being provided through enabling legislation and management plans specific to the LDA, although area plans classify these areas in order to enable certain types of authorizations to be issued. This plan's recommendations primarily apply to the remaining areas of state owned land and state selected land within the planning area that make up about 10 million acres within the three main regions, and their 274 management units. Most of this state land has been either tentatively approved or patented to the state (8 million acres), and the state exercises its management authorities over this land. However, extensive areas of state selections (2 million acres) exist within the planning area, with much of this associated with the Fort Wainwright Military Reservation in the Parks

Highway and West Alaska Range Region. Other areas with selection concentrations include the area occupied by the Clear Air Force Base near Anderson and the mountainous terrain in the southeastern part of the Parks Highway and West Alaska Range Region. Within the Kantishna Region, selections occur in areas near the Denali Park and Preserve and in some of the mountainous terrain within the Bitzshini Mountains. It is unclear how much of this selected land the state will receive and this will not be known until the adjudication of the remaining selections of both the state and Native corporations are finalized by the BLM, and this is not expected for some time. The state exercises ANILCA 906(k) authority over the area of federal land affected by state selections.

The management requirements of this area plan do not apply to non-state lands, which includes, in the context of this plan, University of Alaska lands, Mental Health Trust Authority lands, and other state owned lands directly administered by the ADOT/PF and ADF&G.

Organization of Chapter

The chapter is organized into the following sections:

- *Land Use Designations*, which describe the general management direction for specific parcels of state land.
- *Management Intent*, which consists of an explanation of how specific units of state land are to be managed. Management intent language gives additional specificity to the general management direction provided by the land use designations.
- *Plan Duration and Flexibility*, which indicates the planning period and requirements for plan amendment.
- *Regional Setting*.
- *Regional and parcel specific management* direction for state land.

Land Use Designations

A land use **designation** recognizes uses or resources that are of major importance in a particular management unit. Unit designations are based on current and projected future use patterns and the most significant resources identified in each unit. DNR will manage activities in the unit to encourage, develop, or protect the uses or resources for which the unit is designated. Plan designations are more specific than the land use classifications required under 11 AAC 55.040, and such designations are converted to land use classifications, as required by 11 AAC 55.020. DNR will manage state land according to these designations and according to the equivalent land use classification.

Map 3-1: Planning Area, Regions and Land Status

When the plan assigns a designation to a unit, the designation is accompanied by region-wide management guidelines and by management intent specific to that unit. These three pieces of information – designations, management guidelines, and statement of intent – must be taken into consideration in determining how a parcel of state land is to be managed and in making disposal and authorization decisions.

Primary designated use. Most management units are assigned a primary designated use (versus units designated General Use), which indicates, in a general way, how state land is to be used and managed. Primary designated uses shall take precedence over other uses. Generally, however, DNR allows multiple uses. DNR initially presumes that all other uses are compatible with the primary use. However, if DNR determines that a use conflict exists and that the proposed use is incompatible with the primary use, the proposed use should not be authorized or it should be modified so that the incompatibility no longer exists (from 11 AAC 55.040 (c)). The plan may assign a designation to ensure a future use that will best serve the public interest, even if that use is not imminent.

Co-designated use. Where a unit has two or more designated uses, DNR will avoid or minimize conflicts between designated uses by applying the management intent statement and guidelines for the unit, the regional intent, and the Chapter 2 guidelines from this plan together with existing statutes, regulations, and procedures. Only those co-designations that are generally complementary to or compatible with each other are included in this plan. Co-designated uses should, therefore, be viewed as compatible unless specific conditions that exist at the time the Department is evaluating whether to grant an authorization indicate otherwise. In this plan, co-designated uses are often Habitat and Public Recreation or Minerals/Coal and Habitat. Within areas designated Minerals/Coal and Habitat, mining or coal exploration and development are considered to be appropriate uses, but exploration and development projects must consider their potential impacts upon sensitive wildlife, fisheries, an habitats, and must either avoid or mitigate these impacts.

Designations Used in This Plan

Ag – Agriculture. Land that is agricultural or that, by reason of its climate, physical features, and location, is suitable for present or future agricultural cultivation or development and that is intended for present or future agricultural use. This designation converts to a land use classification of Agriculture Land. Land designated Agriculture may be conveyed out of state ownership to individuals or other entities.

Co – Coal. Areas considered to have coal potential and for which coal mining is considered to be an appropriate use, are designated Coal. See the “Explanation of Mineral and Coal Designations” at the end of this list of designations. This designation converts to a land use classification of Coal Land. Areas designated Coal are to be retained in state ownership, although coal leases (or other forms of authorizations) are recognized as appropriate.

F – Forestry. Land that is or has been forested and is suited for long-term forest management because of its physical, climatic, and vegetative conditions. This land will remain in state ownership. Approving authorizations in these areas will be conducted in compliance with the Forest Resources and Practices Act (AS 41.17 and 11 AAC 95) and the specific management guidelines in the Forestry section of Chapter 2. This designation converts to a land use classification of Forest Land. Forest Land is to be retained by the state, although timber sales are recognized as appropriate.

Gu – General Use. Land that contains one or more resource values, none of which is of sufficiently high value to merit designation as a primary use, or, because of the size of the parcel, a variety of uses can be accommodated with appropriate siting and design controls. General use may also apply where there is a lack of resource, economic, or other information with which to assign a specific land use designation, and/or the lack of current demand implies that development is unlikely within the planning period. This designation converts to a land use classification of Resource Management Land. Areas designated General Use may be conveyed to municipalities, but must be reclassified to Settlement prior to disposal to individuals. In certain instances areas designated General Use may be retained in state ownership; when this occurs, it is noted.

Ha – Habitat. This designation applies to areas of varied size for fish and wildlife species during a sensitive life-history stage where alteration of the habitat or human disturbance could result in a loss of a population or sustained yield of a species or that contain a unique or rare assemblage of a single or multiple species of regional or statewide significance. Land designated Habitat is intended to remain in state ownership, and is to be maintained in an undisturbed, natural state except for improvements related to public health, safety, habitat restoration or rehabilitation, and public recreation. Utilities and roads may be appropriate with appropriate design if habitat functions can be maintained. Authorizations within areas designated Habitat are to be considered inappropriate unless consistent with these stipulations and with the management intent for the management unit. This designation converts to a land use classification of Wildlife Habitat Land.

Hr – Heritage Resources. This designation applies to land where there is active preservation of, or research for, significant historical, prehistoric, paleontological, or other cultural values, or where there is a reason to believe that these values exist.

Ma – Materials. Sites suitable for extraction of materials, which include common varieties of sand, gravel, rock, peat, pumice, pumicite, cinders, clay, and sod. This land will remain in state ownership until the material on the site is no longer required for state purposes (such as road construction and maintenance, materials storage, and public or state facilities) after which these lands may be used for alternative purposes. See the Resource Allocation Tables to identify the types of uses that might be appropriate to a specific parcel. These lands cannot be sold and cannot be used for an alternative use without re-designation of the area plan and reclassification, although some sites may be suitable for other uses after material resources are exhausted. This designation converts to a land use classification of Material Land.

Mi – Minerals. Areas considered to have mineral potential and for which mining is considered to be an appropriate use, are designated Mineral. See the “Explanation of Mineral and Coal Designations” at the end of this list of designations. This designation converts to a land use classification of Mineral Land. Land designated Minerals is to be retained in state ownership, except as may be provided for under AS 38.05.195-.275.

Pr – Public Facilities-Retain. These sites are reserved for specific infrastructure to serve state interests. This may include areas intended as open space or to function as riparian buffers. Units designated “Public Facilities-Retain” will be retained in state ownership. This designation converts to a land use classification of Reserved Use Land.

Pt – Public Facilities-Transfer. Areas with this designation are intended to be conveyed out of state ownership for some type of public purpose. This designation converts to the designation of Settlement Land since the Reserved Use Land designation is not conveyable under the Municipal Entitlement program.

Rd – Public Recreation-Dispersed. This designation applies to those areas that offer or have a high potential for dispersed recreation or tourism and where desirable recreation conditions are scattered or widespread rather than localized¹. Developed facilities are generally not necessary other than trails, trail signs, primitive campsites, and other minor improvements. This land will be retained in public ownership in an undisturbed, natural state except for improvements related to public health, safety, or recreation. Authorizations within areas designated Public Recreation-Dispersed are not to be considered appropriate unless necessary for public health, safety or recreation. Utilities and roads may be appropriate with appropriate design if recreation functions can be maintained. This designation converts to a land use classification of Public Recreation Land. Areas designated Public Recreation-Dispersed are to be retained in state ownership except that such areas may be conveyed to municipalities under AS 29.65 or as may be provided for in the management intent for specific units.

Se – Settlement. This designation applies to state uplands suitable for sale, leasing, or permitting to allow private recreational or residential use. This designation will generally be used for areas appropriate for land offerings for residential uses. Unsettled or unsold land in the unit will be managed for uses compatible with settlement. This may include uses such as selling additional lots, laying out new subdivisions, identifying greenbelts through subdivisions, reserving materials sites for subdivision roads and building lots, placing easements on access routes, or reserving lots for community facilities and open space. Areas designated Settlement should be closed to mineral entry prior to sale, and, in this plan, a leasehold location order is recommended to be imposed on areas not yet affected by a current mineral closing order. This land may be conveyed to municipalities and individuals. This designation converts to a land use classification of Settlement Land.

¹ Uses that typically occur within areas of dispersed recreation are those associated with Generally Allowed Uses under 11 AAC 96.020.

Wr – Water Resources. This designation applies to areas of important water sources, watersheds, or hydropower sites. In this plan it also includes important wetland areas, the intent of which is to maintain these in an undisturbed, natural state. It is intended that this type of land will be retained in state ownership in an undisturbed, natural state. Authorizations within areas designated Water Resources are not to be considered appropriate unless necessary for public health and safety. Utilities and roads may be appropriate with appropriate design if wetland and water resource functions can be maintained. This designation converts to a land use classification of Water Resource Land.

Explanation of Mineral and Coal Designations

Except where state land is closed to mineral entry or to coal leasing, DNR will treat mining or coal extraction as if it is compatible with the principal surface use. This is important to note because DNR area plans usually do not apply mineral resource designations to large areas, although in this plan significant areas are affected by the co-designation of Habitat and Coal/Mineral. Chapter 2, *Subsurface Resources*, also includes additional guidelines and a summary of statutes regulating mining and reclamation activities.

Management Intent

The plan provides management intent for both the resources and types of authorizations that are expected to occur within the planning area as well as for specific management units. Management intent essentially describes how the Department intends to manage a resource or management unit and may both describe what is intended to occur as well as what is not intended to occur. It may also specify specific management direction. Also, the plan can provide management guidance for a resource without designating it. For example, the plan may address the resource by providing management intent for a specific area or through areawide guidelines. In addition, other state, federal, or local regulations will determine the conditions for using undesignated resources.

In some cases, the management intent for a unit discourages specific uses because these uses may create conflicts with designated uses. **Discouraged uses** may be allowed if DNR determines that the use does not conflict with the management intent, designated uses, and the management guidelines. Discouraged uses include activities that should not be authorized or will not be allowed if there are feasible and prudent alternatives. If DNR determines that the discouraged use conflicts with the management intent or designated uses, and cannot be made compatible by following the management guidelines, DNR would allow it only through a plan amendment.

In some cases the plan may also identify **prohibited uses**. These are uses that have significant conflicts with other uses or resources and will not be permitted without a plan amendment. Prohibitions are rare, because the plan seeks to minimize land use conflicts through plan guidelines and intent rather than through prohibitions.

Management intent statements for each unit refer only to state management of state land. While these statements accommodate certain proposed uses on state lands, there is no guarantee that other regulatory agencies will issue permits necessary for the proposed use. All proposed development uses referenced in the management intent statements are assumed to employ best management practices in siting and operating the proposed use.

Disposal or Retention in State Ownership. Certain land use classifications, by statute, allow land to be conveyed to municipalities under the municipal entitlement program². The same statute identifies those land classifications that may not be conveyed to such entities.³ Another portion of statute (AS 38.04.015) identifies the general public interests in retaining areas of state land in public ownership. These principles were applied in developing the recommendations for the retention of state land that are identified for specific management units.

In this plan, the land use designation is the general indicator of whether land should be retained in state ownership or made available for disposal. In general, units designated Habitat, Water Resources, Public Facilities-Retain, Forestry, Coal, Minerals, and Public Recreation are intended to be retained in state ownership. Units designated Settlement, Public Facilities-Transfer, or Agriculture are considered appropriate for disposal. Units designated Materials, General Use, or, sometimes, Public Recreation, may be appropriate for conveyance out of state ownership under certain conditions. In addition, units already under management agreements with other state agencies are usually not available for conveyance. Shorelands must also be retained in state ownership unless law requires conveyance or the conveyance is to a political subdivision of the state, and such conveyances are subject to the Public Trust Doctrine, described at the end of this chapter. Finally, the Mineral Estate must always be retained by the state; the only exception being conveyances to other state agencies or entities.

There are some units with management intent that precludes disposal, although the designation and classification might otherwise allow it. When this occurs, this restriction is noted in the management intent statement specific to the management unit in the Resource Allocation Table. This includes units already under management by another state agency or that contain certain unique or sensitive uses or resources that merit retention by the state.

² The Municipal Entitlement of the North Star Borough has already been fulfilled and no additional land is owed that entity under AS 29.65. Most of the municipal entitlement of the Denali Borough has also been fulfilled, with only about 9,000 acres remaining. This plan includes recommendations that affect the adjudication of the remaining entitlement.

³ AS 29.65.130 identifies those land use classifications that permit conveyance under the Municipal Entitlement Act. This statute is specific to municipal entitlement conveyances, but in a more general sense, in this area plan, the designations of General Use, Agriculture, Public Facilities-Transfer, and Settlement are considered appropriate for the conveyance of lands out of state ownership. These convert to the classifications of Resource Management, Agricultural, and Settlement Land.

Shorelands. DNR will provide reasonable access across state shorelands to upland owners. Upland access across state shorelands, including developed access facilities, may be allowed within all land use designations where DNR determines the proposed facilities are consistent with the management intent and applicable guidelines of the plan. However, state shoreland designations do not give the public access rights to adjacent private uplands. ADF&G Habitat Division requires a Fish Habitat Permit if the shorelands are within an anadromous or potentially anadromous stream.

Management Guidelines

Most state lands will be managed for multiple uses. Exceptions are lands that will be offered for private lease or ownership, recreation sites that are less than 640 acres, and certain other areas that have unique habitat or public recreation values. When used, management guidelines specify requirements for the use of or development within a management unit. Apart from this, the plan establishes management guidelines in order to allow various uses to occur without serious conflicts. Management guidelines can direct the timing, amount, or specific location of different activities to make the permitted uses compatible. For example, the plan provides guidelines that require that land disposals must be designed to protect public access and recreational opportunities, while still permitting the land to be conveyed out of state ownership.

Duration and Flexibility of Plan

This plan guides land uses for the **next 20 years or until revised**, subject to periodic reviews, for areas with designations involving settlement, industrial or commercial uses, or other forms of economic uses including material extraction or uses related to community or recreational development. Designations related to habitat, public recreation (dispersed), forestry, minerals, coal, and water resources do not have a specific planning horizon. The area plan is intended to guide the management of land within the latter areas until the plan is formally revised. In some instances, areas designated General Use may not be appropriate for development within the planning period and, if so, this is indicated in the management intent language.

The land use designations shown on the maps in this chapter are intended to be flexible. DNR may permit uses not originally designated if DNR determines they are consistent with the management intent for the unit and consistent with applicable management guidelines.

Boundaries of land use designations shown on the following maps may be modified through implementation activities, such as site planning or disposal, as long as modifications adhere to the intent of the plan and follow the procedures described in Chapter 4 under the section *Type of Plan Changes*.

Glossary

Definitions of terms used frequently in the plan are found in the *Glossary, Appendix A*.

Plan Structure

Plan Regions

The planning area, consisting of 16,600,000 million acres, is divided into three principal regions and one region that includes land within Legislatively Designated Areas (LDAs). Regions are typically large geographic areas characterized by lands contiguous to each other and that have are located within a distinctive geographic area. The three main regions contain state owned and state selected land, which is the primary focus of area plans. These are the same regions as used in the 1985 plan, although there have been some amount of modification to exclude areas that had been selected by the state but have since been dropped by the state from consideration and to include areas that were federal land at the time of the development of the original plan but have since been conveyed to the state or have been selected by the state for potential conveyance.

The three principal regions are: Kantishna, Lower Tanana, and Parks Highway and West Alaska Range. The Kantishna Region, generally occupying the area of the Kantishna drainage west of the Nenana River and south of the Tanana River, consists of 3,058,441 acres and is further divided into 76 management units. The Lower Tanana Region, generally occupying lowlands west of the Fairbanks North Star Borough and includes the Minto Flats State Game Refuge, the area immediately north of the Yukon River and the Tanana River on the south, consists of 3,059,415 acres and contains 99 management units. The last major region, Parks Highway and West Alaska Range, consists of both extensive lowlands as well as mountainous terrain situated south of the Tanana Valley State Forest, and consists of over 3,502,811 acres and contains 99 management units. The plan provides plan designations, management intent, and, sometimes, management guidelines for each of the management units in the three regions.

The Parks Highway and West Alaska Range region contains the Fort Wainwright Military Reservation. Area plans must provide management guidance for federal land that is selected by the state for potential conveyance in fulfillment of the state's land entitlement from the federal government, and the Military Reservation is covered by a state selection. This selection would only come into play if and when the military vacates the reservation, which is not likely to occur during the planning period, and would only occur after the adjudication of the selection by the BLM and the determination that such a conveyance is appropriate. These same considerations apply to the Clear Air Force Base, which is located near Anderson.

The last region encompasses all or portions of the three LDAs within the planning boundary, which are located in the Lower Tanana region: the Tanana Valley State Forest, the Minto Flats State Game Refuge, and the James Dalton Legislatively Designated Area. In these instances, the plan does not provide management guidance other than to provide a plan designation, which is required in the event that the Department needs to issue leases or other authorizations that constitute disposals of state land since state land must be classified before it can be conveyed out of state ownership. Map 3-1 in this Chapter depicts the plan boundary, the three principal plan regions, and the Legislatively Designated Areas (which constitute a region).

Management Units

In this plan, areas of state uplands and shorelands that have been separated into smaller geographic units called management units. State resource management is specific to this level. Management units⁴ may be large or small but usually have generally similar attributes; or they may be specific legal units like a tract within a residential subdivision; or they may be a discrete area of state land affected by a management agreement that is to be administered for a public purpose, like a port, vehicle storage facility, or airport.

All units have a discrete identifying number (i.e., unit number). These are depicted on the plan maps and are included in the Resource Allocation Table. This number provides a cross-reference between the plan maps and the tables containing information about the parcel. The Table contains information on the resources found within the unit as well as plan designation, management intent, and, if required, management guidelines.

Unit numbers are preceded by an alpha character that represents a particular place or area, with the following convention being applied: ‘P’ represents the Parks Highway and West Alaska Range; ‘K’, Kantishna; and ‘T’, the Lower Tanana region. ‘L’ is used for the Legislatively Designated Areas because they are located in the Lower Tanana region.

A specific convention is used to identify the various types of upland units; these have a geographic identifier (a single alpha character that represents an area) followed by a two-digit identifying number. For example, a parcel in the Kantishna region has the identifying number “K-01.”

Region Descriptions

The regions are described in this section of the plan. These descriptions are necessarily generalized and indicate only the general features or characteristics of an area and only give an overview of how the region is to be managed by the Department. In addition, there is a short description of the somewhat unique region that pertains to Legislatively Designated

⁴ Management units are also sometimes referred to as “units” or “parcels” in this plan.

Areas (LDAs). Because management intent for LDAs is established by legislation, information is necessarily limited and does not follow the following convention. Included in these descriptions for the major region are the following:

Background: This component provides a description of the planning boundaries and related geographic information.

State Lands: The distribution of state lands within the region is explained.

Physical Features: The general topography of the upland tracts is described.

Resources and Uses: The current uses of state land as well as their resources are described in the management unit. Resources and uses include descriptions of recreation uses, settlement, habitats, water resources, minerals, coal, and timber resources, if present.

Access: The principal mode(s) of access to state uplands are usually identified.

Management Constraints and Considerations: Local, state, and federal land and resource plans affecting the management unit are identified, if considered important to future decision making.

Management Intent (Management of State Land): This section describes the general way that state land is to be managed within the region. These provide a more detailed description of how the region is to be managed than can be provided by the plan designations that affect the units in the region. The plan designation and management intent, and any management guidelines that may apply, must be considered on a comprehensive basis in order to discern the overall management direction and any considerations that may be of particular importance in future adjudication decisions within the region. Note: *Specific management direction is contained in the Resource Allocation Tables.*

Plan Maps

There are 11 plan maps that cover the Yukon Tanana Area Plan⁵. See Map 3-1 to locate the map for a particular area. These maps indicate the plan boundary (external boundary of the area plan), the boundaries of the four regions, and the boundaries of the individual management units.

The plan maps also show land ownership, unit numbers, and plan designations. It should be reemphasized that while the land use designations provide the general management intent for each unit, management intent and guidelines (both management unit and areawide) must be considered for a complete explanation of the management policy and requirements affecting

⁵ An additional four maps cover the area of the Parks Highway corridor in the Parks Highway and West Alaska Range region.

particular units. This is essential in order to get a comprehensive understanding of the management intent contained in the area plan as it pertains to a specific unit. The management intent and guidelines contained in Chapter 2 are particularly critical and must be consulted in adjudication decisions affecting individual parcels of state land.

Land Status Depicted In Plan Maps

The maps in this chapter are not intended to be detailed land ownership maps. Instead, they are a representation of state and federal land records current to the date of plan preparation. Land status for upland parcels, including private, Native corporation, municipal, and federal land are derived from the Department's Geographic Information System (GIS) land status coverage. This information is generalized and for this reason the land status for a particular land area can be misleading. For complete information, consult the land records of the Department of Natural Resources, federal Bureau of Land Management, Native corporations, and the Denali and North Star Boroughs. Because of the presence of Mental Health Trust Land and University land, it is also necessary to consult these entities at times.

The plan maps show general patterns of land ownership by color. This includes the various types of state land (general state land, Legislatively Designated Areas, Mental Health Trust Land, University of Alaska, and lands under management agreement to another state agency) as well as Borough and private lands. However, because of the way that GIS maps are created, which entails a decision hierarchy on what land status to represent in priority sequence, the colors that represent an ownership pattern may not coincide with the actual pattern of such ownership. The Department has tried to make general land status on the plan maps as accurate as possible, but the ownership patterns of other entities may be incorrect.

The location of state-owned or state-selected parcels is derived from information in the Department's land status records and the federal Master Title Plat. Both the status and spatial boundaries of these parcels are accurately represented at the time of plan preparation (2012). However, because state land status changes with time, the same caution exists for these areas as for areas of non-state land. Both color and a distinct external boundary line indicate areas of state and state-selected land. If there is a conflict between the land status depicted by color and that indicated by a boundary line, the boundary line is correct. This line supersedes the color representations of land ownership.

Resource Allocation Table

Resource Allocation Tables provide information on specific parcels and are related to the plan maps through the unit number. The table includes the land use designation and the land management intent for each specific upland or tideland units. Essentially, the Tables detail the generalized description of state management intent included under the regional "Management Summary" for specific management units.

The tables are organized by Region and for each unit it gives the unit identification number; 1985 classification; location by Township and Range; and size expressed in acreage. Also included is a description of the resources and uses of a parcel, the designation(s), management intent, and management guidelines.

More specifically, the policies and resource information contained in the tables include:

Unit number: Each parcel of state land has a unit number. Units are preceded with a letter indicating the region that they are situated within; see previous description of Management Units.

MTRS: The Meridian, Township, Range, and Section (MTRS) of each parcel are indicated. In all cases the Fairbanks Meridian applies. There may be more than one township and range when a parcel crosses township and/or range boundaries. Similarly, when the parcel encompasses more than one section, typical for some tracts, the affected sections are identified. The only exception to this convention is for the very large tracts associated with Forestry, General Use, Coal, Minerals, Settlement, and Habitat designations; in these instances, only townships and range are given.

Acreage: The approximate acreage in each unit is indicated.

Plan Designation: Land use designations indicate the primary and, if appropriate, co-primary uses and resources for each unit. Although most units are only affected by a single designation (primary), two compatible plan designations (termed “co-designations”) are sometimes specified. Where co-designations have been used, the uses reflected in the designations are generally compatible and complementary to each other.

Management Intent: This column indicates the management direction for a specific parcel. It is consistent with the recommended designation, but includes more information on how state land is to be managed. In some small-sized parcels, the management intent is likely to be brief since the designation itself is often sufficient to indicate the management intent. This is not usually the case with sensitive parcels or large parcels, and, in these instances, the management intent statement is critical to an understanding of how the various resources within the parcel are to be managed. This section may also indicate if the parcel is to be retained in state ownership or if it is appropriate for transfer to a city, borough, non-profit entity, or the public. (See the discussion on p. 3-9 which relates plan designations to determinations to retain or dispose of state land for more detail.) It often also describes those parcel resources that must be taken into consideration in land disposals, coal or mineral development, or other forms of development or use. In some instances the development of a parcel is not appropriate during the planning period and, when this occurs, this is also stated. This is usually associated with units affected by the General Use designation since these units are often located in remote, inaccessible locations and their development is not considered likely or appropriate during the planning period.

Resources and Uses: This column summarizes the resources and uses for which the unit is designated and which are considered important in the unit. It also provides a generalized physical description of the unit, and may indicate the presence (or absence) of certain other resources that are important to land management decisions. Typical among this type of information is whether the parcel contains a heritage or cultural site, a significant concentration of wildlife or habitat, the current use of the parcel, the presence of RS 2477 routes, adjacent land ownership, and whether a state or local land use plan affects the unit.