

Chapter 2

Goals, Management Intent, and Guidelines

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Chapter 2

Goals, Management Intent, and Guidelines

Introduction

This chapter presents land management policies for each of the major resources affected by the plan: fish and wildlife; forestry; materials; mineral resources; recreation and tourism; and water. The chapter also presents management policies for several specific land management concerns: protection of fish and wildlife habitat; public and private access; settlement; shoreline and stream corridors; trail management; public recreation and tourism; oil and gas; etc. In addition, this chapter addresses types of land uses including: aquatic farming; forestry; fish and wildlife harvest; floating facilities; settlement; transportation and trails management; and shoreline use and waterfront development. Note: This chapter was partly revised in 2013 in order to incorporate those revisions associated with the 2013 plan amendment and to reflect changes in organizational structure and/or statute that were changed subsequent to the approval of the 2005 BBAP.

These policies apply to state land throughout the planning area regardless of the land use designation.

This chapter consists of goals and management guidelines. Goals are the general condition the department is trying to achieve, and guidelines are specific directives that will be applied to land and water management decisions as resource use and development occurs.

Definitions

For definitions of terms commonly used in this chapter and others, please see Appendix A, Glossary.

Goals

The following are goals for state lands in the planning area. Goals are general conditions that DNR attempts to achieve through management actions. The goals are listed alphabetically. No single goal has a priority over the others.

Economic Development. Provide opportunities for jobs and income by managing state land and resources to support a vital, self-sustaining local economy.

Fiscal Costs. Minimize the needs for, and the fiscal cost of, providing government services and facilities such as schools and roads.

Public Health and Safety. Maintain or enhance public health and safety for users of state lands and resources.

Public Use. Provide and enhance diverse opportunities for public use of state lands, including uses such as hunting, fishing, boating, and other types of recreation.

Quality of Life. Maintain or enhance the quality of the natural environment including air, land and water, and fish and wildlife habitat and harvest opportunities; protect heritage resources and the character and lifestyle of the community.

Settlement. Provide opportunities for private ownership and leasing of land currently owned by the state.

Sustained Yield. Maintain the long-term productivity and quality of renewable resources including fish and wildlife, and timber.

Management Intent

Management intent for state land is expressed through statements of management emphasis identified on a management unit specific basis. These statements are based on resource and use inventory, existing and potential trends, existing authorizations, existing plans, and public participation.

General Framework of the Plan

A. State land within the planning area will be managed to allow for multiple use unless legislatively designated or a management unit of state land is less than 640 acres and managed under a management agreement by another state agency. It is the intent of the plan to provide land use designations for all state-owned and state-selected lands in the planning area. Any lands inadvertently missed or any state lands, lacking a land use designation, situated in gaps between this plan and adjoining plans are designated using the guidelines in Chapter 4 under 'Applicability of Plan Designations/Classifications to State Lands not Identified in the Plan Text or Plan Maps'.

B. State land will also be managed to protect access and public resources. Types of resources to be protected include, but are not limited to habitat, recreation, water quality, anchorages, watersheds, scenery, and trails.

C. State land will remain open to mineral entry unless specifically closed. This plan does not recommend any new areas be closed to mineral entry nor to be managed under a leasehold location order. Consequently, all land within the planning area is open to entry, except for those areas closed in previous mineral closing orders by DNR.

D. In management units where a primary use has been designated, activities and authorizations pertaining to that primary designated use may take precedence over other uses. Although there may be a priority for use in certain management units, other uses may also be allowed if they do not foreclose the area for its priority use. This plan emphasizes minimizing land use conflicts through plan guidelines and management intent rather than through prohibitions. All other uses are initially presumed 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 shall not be authorized or it shall be modified so that the incompatibility no longer exists (11 AAC 55.040 (c)).

E. This plan designates state lands in categories that are generally consistent with current use patterns and the most significant resource values in the planning area.

F. This plan honors the intent of existing settlement agreements with the Mental Health Trust Authority and the University of Alaska. These settlement agreements shall prevail over the area plan if inconsistencies exist.

Guidelines by Activity or Resource Value

The following guidelines are specific directives that will be applied to management decisions. DNR will use these guidelines when considering issuing authorizations and conveyances or making management decisions on state lands. These guidelines will also apply to lands that are currently state selected and ANILCA filed when they are tentatively approved or patented into state ownership.

Chapter 2 guidelines apply to all state land covered by the Bristol Bay Area Plan unless the plan explicitly exempts some management units or designations from a guideline or the resource or use for which a guideline is intended does not exist in the unit in question.

General

A. All authorizations for use of state land within the planning area will be consistent with the management intent in this plan.

B. In considering authorizations for use of state land, DNR will adjudicate applications to:

- 1.** minimize damages to streambeds, fish and wildlife habitat, vegetation, trails, anchorages, and other resources;

2. minimize conflicts between resources and uses; and
3. protect the long-term value of the resource, public safety, and the environment.

C. If authorizations from other agencies are required, DNR will consider issuing a permit or lease contingent upon issuance of these other authorizations.

Other State Land

Management units that are donated or acquired after the plan is adopted will be designated for the uses for which they were acquired or donated without an amendment to the plan. Lands that come into state ownership through other means will be classified Resource Management Land, or another land use classification following consultation with other state resources departments, without an amendment to the plan.