

MATERIALS

Goals

Land for state-owned materials sites. Maintain suitably located material sites in state ownership and make them available to public and private users to economically meet the area's long-term need for materials. Many of these sites are already owned by the Department of Transportation and Public Facilities or managed by them under Interagency Land Management Assignments issued by DNR.

Management Guidelines

A. Materials Land Management. On land designated Materials, the priority is to manage the unit to allow exploration and development of sand, gravel, and other materials. Developing material sites is a high priority.

B. Materials Site List. The units designated Materials in this plan do not encompass all lands with materials potential owned by DNR and DOTPF. Materials designations are based on information that was available at the time the plan was developed. As more information becomes available, new sites may be identified and may be re-designated Materials through a "Minor Change" to the plan consistent with 11 AAC 55.030.

C. Applications for Uses of Material Land. DOTPF will be consulted when reviewing applications on lands that are identified as containing materials in this plan. Materials sites that are still needed by DOTPF for materials extraction, materials storage, public facilities, and other transportation-related uses will be retained in state ownership.

D. Activities in Wetlands. DNR may authorize materials removal and other activities in wetlands, including construction of roads and pads, if DNR determines that the proposed activity will not cause significant adverse impacts to important fish and wildlife habitat or important ecological processes, a feasible and prudent alternative does not exist, and it is in the state's best interest.

Materials removal from wetlands, lakes, or stream corridors (including active and inactive floodplains) should occur only after design consultation with the Department of Fish and Game, the Department of Environmental Conservation, and the Kenai Peninsula Borough. A Title 16 Permit may be required from ADFG in fish-bearing waters. Dredging and filling activities require a U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Section 404 Permit.

E. Maintain Other Uses and Resources. Before materials are extracted, DNR will ensure that requirements of the material sale contract adequately protect other important resources and uses, such as existing water rights, water resource quantity and quality, navigation, fish and wildlife

habitat and harvest, commercial forest resources, recreation resources and uses, heritage resources, adjacent land uses, scenic resources, and access to public or private lands.

DNR should determine if other existing material sites could be vacated and rehabilitated as a result of opening a new material site. The disposal of materials should be consistent with the applicable management intent statement for the unit and management guidelines in the plan.

F. Land Offerings in Areas of High Materials Potential. Generally, if a unit is designated Settlement but contains sand and gravel deposits, rock sources, or other similar, high-value materials resources, a pit area will be identified and retained in public ownership for future use before lands are offered for sale.

G. Screening Materials Sites. Material sites will, where feasible and prudent, be screened from roads, residential areas, recreational areas, and other areas of significant human use. Sufficient land will, where feasible and prudent, be allocated to the materials site to allow for such screening.

Resource Allocation Summary

Regional and local demand for materials is high on the Kenai Peninsula because of the extensive road network. Acre-for-acre, material sites are some of the highest value land the state owns in the planning area. In areas where materials are not located on state lands, costs for publicly funded projects can increase dramatically because of the cost of shipping or purchase from non-state sources. Even though this plan designates 28 sites Materials (approximately 1,300 acres), there is a limited supply of materials on state land. As a result, with few exceptions, all known materials sites are designated Materials and are to be managed for this and related transportation uses. Exceptions are units where DOTPF has determined that the site is no longer needed. In one instance, an entire river, the Resurrection, includes management intent to allow for extraction not only for construction projects, but also to reduce danger of flooding. For some sites the plan recommends future use of the site such as conveyance to a municipality or for a future community or commercial center. Some of the units that are not already under DOTPF management are recommended for it. See Chapter 4, Table 4.8 for a list of these sites.