

## APPENDIX A

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# PROCEDURES FOR PLAN MODIFICATION AND EXCEPTIONS TO ITS PROVISIONS

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## PLAN MODIFICATION

The land use designations, policies, implementation actions and management guidelines of this plan may be changed if conditions warrant. The plan will be updated periodically as new data and new technologies become available and as changing social and economic conditions place different demands on public lands. The Department of Natural Resources and the Matanuska-Susitna Borough jointly will review proposed modifications of the plan.

### Periodic Review

The plan will be reviewed at least every five years to determine if revisions are necessary. An interagency planning team will coordinate this periodic review at the request of the Commissioner of the Department of Natural Resources or the Manager of the Matanuska-Susitna Borough. The planning team will be coordinated by the Division of Land and Water Management if the emphasis of the review is on state lands and by the borough if the emphasis of the review is on lands in borough ownership. The plan review will include meetings with all interested groups and the general public.

### Amendments

The plan may be amended. An amendment adds to or modifies the basic intent of the plan. Changes to the planned uses, policies, guidelines or certain implementation actions constitute amendments. Amendments must be approved by the Commissioner of ADNR on state lands and by the Borough Assembly on borough lands. Amendments require public notice and consultation with affected agencies and may require public hearings if the Commissioner or Borough Assembly decides the level of controversy warrants. Management plans developed by the Division of Land and Water Management or the Matanuska-Susitna Borough may amend the plan. Results of the Matanuska-Susitna Borough's comprehensive planning process also may be used as a basis for plan amendment. Amendments also may be proposed by agencies, municipalities, or members of the public. Requests for amendments are submitted to the Anchorage office of the Division of Land and Water Management, ADNR and the Planning Department, Matanuska-Susitna Borough.

The following actions are examples of changes which

would require an amendment:

- A proposal to close an area to mineral entry
- Allowing a use in an area where it is currently prohibited
- A disposal in an area recommended for retention
- Retention of an area recommended for disposal
- Changing the classification of an area from resource management to agriculture

On state land, the Director of the Division of Land and Water Management determines what constitutes an amendment or just a minor change. On borough land, this decision will be made by the Borough Manager.

### Minor Changes

A minor change is one which does not modify or add to the basic intent of the plan. Minor changes may be necessary for clarification, consistency, or to facilitate implementation of the plan. Minor changes are made at the discretion of the Director of the Division of Land and Water Management and do not require public review. Minor changes may be proposed by agencies, municipalities, or members of the public. Requests for minor changes affecting state land are submitted to the Southcentral Regional Office of the Division of Land and Water Management, ADNR. Requests for changes affecting borough land are submitted to the Planning Department of the Matanuska-Susitna Borough. The state and borough will provide one another the opportunity to review proposed minor changes. The Director will notify affected agencies when minor changes are made. Affected agencies will have the opportunity to comment on minor changes following notification; the comment period may be provided through existing interagency review processes for associated actions that necessitate minor changes.

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## SPECIAL EXCEPTIONS – ADNR PROCEDURES

Exceptions to the provisions of the plan may be made without modification of the plan. Special exceptions shall occur only when complying with the plan is excessively difficult or impractical **and** an alternative pro-

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cedure can be implemented which adheres to the purposes and spirit of the plan.

The Department of Natural Resources may make a special exception in the implementation of the plan through the following procedures:

1. The Regional Manager of the Division of Land and Water Management shall prepare a finding which specifies the following:
  - a. The extenuating conditions which require a special exception.
  - b. The alternative course of action to be followed.
  - c. How the intent of the plan will be met by the alternative.
2. Agencies having responsibility for land uses with primary or secondary designations in the affected area and the Matanuska-Susitna Borough will be given an opportunity to review the findings. In the event of disagreement with the Regional Manager's decision, the decision may be appealed to the Director of the Division of Land and Water Management, and the Director's decision may be appealed to the Commissioner. If warranted by the degree of controversy, the Commissioner will hold a public hearing before making the decision. The public hearing may be held jointly with the Matanuska-Susitna Borough if appropriate.

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### **SPECIAL EXCEPTIONS – BOROUGH PROCEDURES**

To be worked out by the Matanuska-Susitna Borough as part of the borough comprehensive planning process.