

Fact sheet:

State of Alaska

Legislatively Designated Areas



Division of Mining, Land & Water
September 2014

The legislature has designated areas for special uses. Areas designated by the legislature include refuges, sanctuaries, critical habitat areas, ranges, special management areas, forests, parks, recreation areas, preserves, public use areas, recreation rivers, and recreational mining areas. The total acreage of land within the boundaries of these areas (excluding joint state/national refuges) is 11,982,139 acres.

The acreage figures below are only approximations of acreage of all lands, regardless of ownership, within the exterior boundaries of legislatively designated areas. Consult the referenced Alaska Statutes to determine the legal description and special management intent for each area. Many areas also have regulations and plans that govern uses within their boundaries.

State Wildlife Areas Total Acres (excluding State/National Refuges): 3,427,895

The following legislatively designated areas were established under Title 16, Chapter 20 of the Alaska Statutes to protect and preserve the natural habitat areas and game population or to enhance habitat for particular wildlife species. Most of these areas are managed by the Alaska Department of Fish and Game.

	<u>Statute</u>	<u>Effective</u>	<u>Amended</u>	<u>Acres</u>
<u>Sanctuaries</u>				
McNeil River State Game Sanctuary	AS 16.20.160-170	07/18/1967	01/01/1993	124,734
Stan Price State Wildlife Sanctuary	AS 16.20.150	06/15/1990		606
Walrus Island State Game Sanctuary	AS 16.20.090-140	04/13/1960		<u>162,353</u>
				Total: 287,693

Critical Habitat Areas (CHA)

Anchor River & Fritz Creek CHA	AS 16.20.605	08/28/1985	06/22/1990	18,581
Chilkat River CHA	AS 16.20.585	09/24/1972		4,797
Cinder River CHA	AS 16.20.560	09/24/1972		25,775
Clam Gulch CHA	AS 16.20.595	03/31/1976		4,102
Copper River Delta CHA	AS 16.20.600	09/28/1978		550,667
Dude Creek CHA	AS 16.20.610	05/13/1988		4,082
Egegik CHA	AS 16.20.565	09/24/1972		8,254
Fox River Flats CHA	AS 16.20.580	05/13/1988		7,197
Homer Airport	AS 16.20.630	08/21/1996		296
Kachemak Bay CHA	AS 16.20.590	09/24/1972	04/14/1993	229,620
Kalgin Island CHA	AS 16.20.575	09/24/1972		3,491
Pilot Point CHA	AS 16.20.570	09/24/1972		46,550
Port Heiden CHA	AS 16.20.555	09/24/1972		72,148
Port Moller CHA	AS 16.20.550	09/24/1972		131,269
Redoubt Bay CHA	AS 16.20.625	06/15/1989		170,880
Tugidak Island CHA	AS 16.20.615	06/07/1988		158,444
Willow Mountain CHA	AS 16.20.620	05/12/1989		<u>22,540</u>
				Total: 1,458,693

State Wildlife Areas (continued)

<u>Refuges</u>	<u>Statute</u>	<u>Effective</u>	<u>Amended</u>	<u>Acres</u>
Anchorage Coastal Wildlife Refuge	AS 16.20.031	02/27/1988		32,256
Creamer's Field Migratory Waterfowl Refuge	AS 16.20.039	07/18/1979		1,772
Cape Newenham State Game Refuge	AS 16.20.030(a)(15)	09/24/1972		14,068
Goose Bay State Game Refuge	AS 16.20.030(c)	05/30/1975		11,045
Izembek State Game Refuge	AS 16.20.030(a)(14)	09/24/1972		181,761
McNeil River State Game Refuge	AS 16.20.041	01/01/1993		131,104
Mendenhall Wetlands State Game Refuge	AS 16.20.034	05/01/1976		3,749
Minto Flats State Game Refuge	AS 16.20.037	04/13/1988		497,698
Palmer Hay Flats State Game Refuge	AS 16.20.032	05/30/1975	05/31/1985	29,056
Susitna Flats State Game Refuge	AS 16.20.036	09/06/1976	07/03/1984 01/01/1986	302,717
Trading Bay State Game Refuge	AS 16.20.038	09/22/1976	01/01/1986	162,693
Yakataga State Game Refuge	AS 16.20.033	08/15/1990 ¹		<u>93,539</u>
				Total: 1,461,458

State Range Areas

Delta Junction Bison Range Area	AS 16.20.300-320	08/01/1979		88,372
Matanuska Valley Moose Range	AS 16.20.340-360	08/30/1984		<u>131,679</u>
				Total: 220,051

State/National Refuges²

Aleutian Islands Refuge	AS 16.20.030(a)(1)	04/12/1960		3,987,539
Arctic National Wildlife Range	AS 16.20.030(a)(17)	09/24/1972		19,848,644
Bering Sea Refuge	AS 16.20.030(a)(2)	04/12/1960		240,421
Bogoslof Island Refuge	AS 16.20.030(a)(3)	04/12/1960		1,919
Chamisso Island Refuge	AS 16.20.030(a)(4)	04/12/1960		6,398
Clarence Rhodes National Wildlife Range	AS 16.20.030(a)(16)	09/24/1972		3,141,807
Forrester Island Refuge	AS 16.20.030(a)(5)	04/12/1960		30,337
Hazen Bay Refuge	AS 16.20.030(a)(6)	04/12/1960		15,948
Hazy Islands Refuge	AS 16.20.030(a)(7)	04/12/1960		5,674
Kenai National Moose Range	AS 16.20.030(a)(8)	04/12/1960		2,102,900
Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge	AS 16.20.030(a)(9)	04/12/1960		1,977,098
Nunivak Island Refuge	AS 16.20.030(a)(10)	04/12/1960		1,664,310
St. Lazaria Island Refuge	AS 16.20.030(a)(11)	04/12/1960		2,559
Semidi Islands Wildlife Refuge	AS 16.20.030(a)(12)	04/12/1960		257,000
Tuxedni Refuge	AS 16.20.030(a)(13)	04/12/1960		<u>114,862</u>
				Total: 33,397,416

¹ The Yakataga Special Management Area, created per Section 9, Chapter 143, SLA 1990, expired when the Yakataga Area Plan was approved on 04/03/95.

² Lands within the National Wildlife Refuge System were designated as State Game Refuges under Alaska Statute 16.20.030. Acreages are based on the boundaries of the listed national wildlife refuges at the time of the effective date of the state designation. Boundaries of several federal wildlife refuges have changed since the effective date, but the state refuge boundaries remain unchanged.

State Park Areas

Total Acres: 3,357,393

The following legislatively designated areas were established under [Title 41, Chapter 21](#) of the Alaska Statutes to foster the growth and development of a system of parks and recreational facilities and opportunities in the state, for the general health, welfare, education, and enjoyment of its citizens and for the attraction of visitors to the state. These areas are managed by the Department of Natural Resources, Division of Parks and Outdoor Recreation.

<u>Parks</u>	<u>Statute</u>	<u>Effective</u>	<u>Amended</u>	<u>Acres</u>
Afognak Island State Park	AS 41.21.185-189	08/24/1994		49,444
Chilkat State Park	AS 41.21.110-120	05/06/1975 ³	08/07/1997	10,346
Chugach State Park	AS 41.21.120-125	08/06/1970	06/09/1987	501,133
Denali State Park	AS 41.21.150-152	09/21/1970	09/06/1976	323,428
Fort Rousseau Causeway State Historical Park	AS 41.21.190-194	04/02/2008	03/31/2010	68
Kachemak Bay State Park	AS 41.21.130-134	05/09/1970	09/12/1989	173,429
Kachemak Bay State Wilderness Park	AS 41.21.140-143	05/25/1972	09/12/1989	198,397
Point Bridget State Park	AS 41.21.180-183	07/01/1988		2,732
Shuyak Island State Park	AS 41.21.170-178	07/12/1984	08/09/1997	96,145
Wood-Tikchik State Park	AS 41.21.160-167	06/29/1978	12/14/1985	<u>1,547,571</u>
				Total: 2,902,693

Marine Parks

Bettles Bay State Marine Park	AS 41.21.304(1)	07/16/1983		679
Beecher Pass State Marine Park	AS 41.21.304(17)	07/01/1986		680
Big Bear/Baby Bear Bays State Marine Park	AS 41.21.304(33)	06/14/1990		2,040
Boswell Bay Beaches State Marine Park	AS 41.21.304(20)	06/14/1990		3,047
Canoe Passage State Marine Park	AS 41.21.304(21)	06/14/1990		2,507
Chilkat Islands State Marine Park	AS 41.21.304(7)	07/16/1983		6,929
Dall Bay State Marine Park	AS 41.21.304(18)	07/01/1986		960
Decision Point State Marine Park	AS 41.21.304(22)	06/14/1990		761
Driftwood Bay State Marine Park	AS 41.21.304(23)	06/14/1990		1,480
Entry Cove State Marine Park	AS 41.21.304(24)	06/14/1990		1,200
Funter Bay State Marine Park	AS 41.21.304(14)	07/01/1986		1,204
Granite Bay State Marine Park	AS 41.21.304(25)	06/14/1990		3,268
Horseshoe Bay State Marine Park	AS 41.21.304(9)	07/16/1983		1,196
Jack Bay State Marine Park	AS 41.21.304(27)	06/14/1990		1,544
Joe Mace Island State Marine Park	AS 41.21.304(15)	07/01/1986		61
Juneau Area Islands State Marine Park	AS 41.21.304(34)	09/02/2008		4,267
Kayak Island State Marine Park	AS 41.21.304(26)	06/14/1990		5,178
Magoun Islands State Marine Park	AS 41.21.304(32)	06/14/1990		2,442
Oliver Inlet State Marine Park	AS 41.21.304(2)	07/16/1983		560
Safety Cove State Marine Park	AS 41.21.304(28)	06/14/1990		960
Saint James Bay State Marine Park	AS 41.21.304(12)	07/16/1983		10,320
Sandspit Point State Marine Park	AS 41.21.304(29)	06/14/1990		560
Sawmill Bay State Marine Park	AS 41.21.304(3)	07/16/1983		2,320
Security Bay State Marine Park	AS 41.21.304(19)	07/01/1986		1,960
Shelter Island State Marine Park	AS 41.21.304(11)	07/16/1983		3,057
Shoup Bay State Marine Park	AS 41.21.304(4)	07/16/1983		4,556
South Ester Island State Marine Park	AS 41.21.304(5)	07/16/1983		3,320
Sullivan Island State Marine Park	AS 41.21.304(10)	07/16/1983		2,624
Sunny Cove State Marine Park	AS 41.21.304(30)	06/14/1990		946
Surprise Cove State Marine Park	AS 41.21.304(6)	07/16/1983		2,240

³ Originally designated as Battery Point State Recreation Area, effective 04/22/1970.

State Park Areas (continued)

	<u>Statute</u>	<u>Effective</u>	<u>Amended</u>	<u>Acres</u>
<u>Marine Parks (continued)</u>				
Taku Harbor State Marine Park	AS 41.21.304(13)	07/01/1986		1,271
Thoms Place State Marine Park	AS 41.21.304(16)	07/01/1986		1,894
Thumb Cove State Marine Park	AS 41.21.304(31)	06/14/1990		720
Ziegler Cove State Marine Park	AS 41.21.304(8)	07/16/1983		720
				Total: 77,471

Recreation Areas

Caines Head State Recreation Area	AS 41.21.430-445	05/16/1971	08/17/1975	6,273
Captain Cook State Recreation Area	AS 41.21.410-425	08/17/1969		2,030
Chena River State Recreation Area	AS 41.21.470-490	06/18/1967	08/11/1975	252,820
Nancy Lake State Recreation Area	AS 41.21.450-465	07/06/1966	04/22/1970	22,476
Willow Creek State Recreation Area	AS 41.21.491-495	06/07/1987		3,594
				Total: 287,193

State Preserve

Alaska Chilkat Bald Eagle Preserve	AS 41.21.610-630	07/01/1982	05/26/1986	44,959
				Total: 44,959

Special Management Areas (SMA)

Business Park Wetlands SMA	AS 41.21.518	06/26/1992		30
Kenai River SMA	AS 41.21.500-514	06/02/1984	07/01/2004	45,047
				Total: 45,077

State Forest Areas

Total Acres: 2,280,872

The following legislatively designated areas were established under [Title 41, Chapter 15](#) or [Chapter 17](#) of the Alaska Statutes primarily for management of forest resources. These areas are managed by the Department of Natural Resources, Division of Forestry.

	<u>Statute</u>	<u>Effective</u>	<u>Amended</u>	<u>Acres</u>
<u>State Forest</u>				
Southeast State Forest	AS 41.17.500	07/01/2010		48,472
Tanana Valley State Forest	AS 41.17.400	07/23/1983	06/02/1988 05/12/1990	1,811,400
				Total: 1,859,872

Resource Management Area (RMA)

Haines State Forest RMA	AS 41.15.300-330	07/01/1982		421,000
				Total: 421,000

Other State Multiple Use Areas

Total Acres: 2,915,979

The following legislatively designated areas were established under [Title 41, Chapter 23](#) of the Alaska Statutes for special multiple use management of state public land and water resources by the Department of Natural Resources.

	<u>Statute</u>	<u>Effective</u>	<u>Amended</u>	<u>Acres</u>
<u>Public Use Areas</u>				
Ernie Haugen Public Use Area	AS 41.23.050-080	06/07/1988		935
Goldstream Public Use Area	AS 41.23.140-170	08/12/1990		3,171
Hatcher Pass Public Use Area	AS 41.23.100-130	09/01/1986	06/05/2003	5,169
Knik River Public Use Area	AS 42.23.180-230	08/28/2006		262,644
Kodiak Narrow Cape Public Use Area	AS 41.23.240-270	10/10/2007		46,902
Nelchina Public Use Area	AS 41.23.010-040	08/28/1985		<u>2,334,713</u>
				Total: 2,653,534
<u>Recreation Rivers (RR)</u>				
Alexander Creek State RR	AS 41.23.500(1)	06/09/1988	04/14/1993	22,960
Kroto & Moose Creek State RR	AS 41.23.500(2)	06/09/1988		74,628
Lake Creek State RR	AS 41.23.500(3)	06/09/1988		64,014
Little Susitna River State RR	AS 41.23.500(4)	06/09/1988		17,464
Talachulitna River State RR	AS 41.23.500(5)	06/09/1988		52,799
Talkeetna River State RR	AS 41.23.500(6)	06/09/1988		<u>30,018</u>
				Total: 261,883
<u>Recreational Mining Area</u>				
Caribou Creek Recreational Mining Area	AS 41.23.600-620	08/14/1990		288
Petersville Recreational Mining Area	AS 41.23.630	05/31/1997	06/18/2014	<u>274</u>
				Total: 562