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STATE OF ALASKA
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF MINING, LAND, AND WATER

DESIGNATION OF SPECIAL USE LANDS
Within
NORTHERN SOUTHEAST AREA PLAN

ADL 106859

1. AUTHORITY: Pursuant to 11 AAC 96.010(a)(2) and 11 AAC 96.010(b), the following parcels, depicted on the plan maps of the Northern Southeast Area Plan and more specifically described in Chapter 3 of this plan, are designated as special use lands. This document outlines those activities that require an authorization within the designated areas.

Uplands and Tidelands near Haines:

- HT-01 (Lutak Inlet) T29S, R59E;¹ sections 30, 31, and 32 (848 acres)
- HT-09 (Flat Bay) T31S, R60E; sections 29 and 32 (306 acres)
- HT-14 (Chilkat Inlet) T30S, R59E; sections 33 and 34; T31S, R59E, sections 3, 7, 13, 24, 25; and T31S, R60E; sec. 30 (526 acres)
- HT-13 (Chilkat River Beaches) T30S, R59E; sections 29, 30, 32, 33 (299 acres)
- H-07 (Flower Mountain) T29S, R54E (all sections; 23,040 acres)
- H-21 (Pyramid Island) T31S, R59E; sec. 10 (7 acres)
- H-23 (Kochu Island) T31S, R59E; sections 25 and 36 (53 acres)

Tidelands on Kruzof Island:

- BT-22 “Shelikof Beach”, T54S, R61E, sec.29 (20 acres)

¹ All parcels are located within the Copper River Meridian.

2. PURPOSE: The purpose of this Special Use Designation is to:

Haines Area:

- Maintain the use of the tideland parcels for use by the public, limit commercial recreation activities to small-scale commercial operations, and prohibit the use of motorized vehicles by commercial recreation operators.
- Maintain the use of the Flower Mountain area for use by the public and limit commercial recreation activities to small-scale commercial operations.

Kruzof Island:

- Protect the sand beach in the area known as Shelikof Beach on western Kruzof Island from motorized use. The latter area is adversely affected by motorized use.

3. BACKGROUND:

Haines Area Parcels. Tideland parcels situated near Haines have high habitat values and are heavily used for public recreation. The large upland parcel (Flower Mountain) is used by the public and small scale commercial recreation operations. The public asked during the preparation of the Northern Southeast Area Plan that these areas be protected from large-scale commercial recreation operations, that the current level and type of recreational activity continue, and that DNR prohibit motorized uses on high public use tideland tracts.

Kruzof Island Parcel. Shelikof Beach, situated within part of BT-22, is a high value marsh and abuts similar areas within the National Forest. This area is being degraded by the operation of all-terrain vehicles, and both the public and the U.S. Forest Service requested that this area be closed to recreational motorized use.

Under the current Generally Allowed Use of the Department of Natural Resources commercial operations providing recreation services on state land that occur on a daily (but not overnight) basis are allowed to occur without permit, pursuant to 11 AAC 96.010(a)(2). Such uses, if they are to be managed, must be excluded as a Generally Allowed Use. This SUD excludes certain forms of commercial recreation uses on state land, imposes restrictions on the way that these areas can be used for commercial recreation purposes in the Haines Area, and precludes motorized uses within portions of the Kruzof parcel.

4. USES THAT ARE NOT ALLOWED or MAY BE ALLOWED THROUGH AUTHORIZATION WITHIN DESIGNATED AREAS:

Haines Area:

The following types of Commercial Recreation Operators² are excluded as a Generally Allowed Use and are either prohibited or may only be authorized by permit, except as noted.

- Tideland parcels. Commercial Recreation Operators (CRO) with more than 10 clients per day or using motorized vehicles are prohibited. Commercial Recreation Operators using non-motorized with 10 or fewer clients per day may be allowed, subject to authorization by DNR.
- Upland parcels. Commercial Recreation Operations with more than 41 clients per day are not allowed. Commercial Recreation Operations with more than 10 clients per day but less than 41 may be allowed, subject to authorization by DNR. Commercial Recreation Operators with less than 10 clients a day remain a Generally Allowed Use.

Shelikof Beach, Kruzof Island:

The use of motorized vehicles is excluded as a Generally Allowed Use and is prohibited. See plan map, ‘Baranof Island Area, Sitka’, in the Northern Southeast Area Plan.

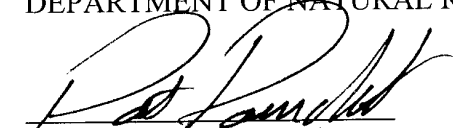
5. PERIODIC REVIEW: This special use designation is subject to periodic review every five years in order to ensure that the objectives described in this order are being met.

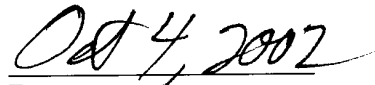
6. DECISION: It is my decision to designate those state lands described herein, and as more fully depicted on the plan maps of the Northern Southeast Area Plan, as special use lands in accordance with 11 AAC 96.010(a)(2) and 11 AAC 96.010(b). I find this decision consistent with the department’s management authority and with the management intent for these parcels as described in this plan.

² Commercial Recreation Operators: An entity that provides recreational services to the public for remuneration. These services can either take a motorized or non-motorized form.

In ninety days from the date of this designation, or by written notice of the designations before the end of the 90-day period, the activities described herein shall be managed according to the terms of this Special Use Designation.

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES


Pat Pourchot, Commissioner


Date