

MATERIALS

Goals

Land for Publicly Owned Materials Sites. Maintain in state ownership and make available to public and private users sufficient, suitably located materials sites to economically meet the area's long-term need for materials.

Management Guidelines

A. Preferred Material Sites. When responding to a request for a material sale or identifying a source for materials, the highest priority should be to use existing material sources. Using materials from wetlands and lakes should be avoided unless no feasible alternative exists. Sales or permits for sand, silt, or gravel extraction will not be permitted in fish spawning areas identified by DF&G unless extraction would enhance the site for rearing and DF&G determines that the activity is compatible with fish habitat values.

B. Material Sites. To minimize the construction and maintenance cost of transportation facilities, material sites should be located as near as is feasible to the site where the material will be used.

Design of projects will be on a case-by-case basis in consultation with other agencies. The following are general guidelines for extracting materials:

1. Material Sources. Consideration should be given to all potential material sources. Location and design of sites should take into account factors such as scenic quality, transportation to the site, and effects to fish and wildlife habitat.

2. River Size and Recharge Rates. Selection of gravel sites in floodplains should take into account the volume of gravel available from various stream types. Generally, the largest river feasible, or the one with the largest gravel recharge rates should be chosen.

3. Reclamation. Reclamation of material sites will be accomplished consistent with AS 27.15.

4. Extraction from Active Channels. When extracting gravel in active or inactive floodplains, maintain buffers that will minimize sedimentation and will contain active channels in their original locations and configurations in the short term.

C. Maintaining Other Uses and Resources when Siting and Operating Material Sites. Before allowing the extraction of materials, the manager will ensure that the requirements of the permit or lease give adequate protection to other important resources and uses including existing water rights, water resource quantity and quality, navigation, fish and wildlife habitat and harvest, commercial forest resources, recreation resources and opportunities, historic and archaeological resources, adjacent land uses, and access to public or private lands. Disposal of materials should be consistent with the applicable management intent statement and management guidelines of the plan.

The manager should also determine if other existing material sites can be vacated and rehabilitated as a result of opening a new material site.

D. Screening and Rehabilitation. Material sites should be screened from roads, residential areas, recreational areas, and other areas of significant human use. Sufficient land should be allocated to the material site to allow for such screening. Where appropriate, rehabilitation of material sites will be required. For additional guidelines affecting material extraction see policies under the subsurface resources section.

E. Other Guidelines Affecting Materials. Other guidelines may affect materials. See in particular the following sections of this chapter:

Fish and Wildlife Habitat and Harvest
Settlement
Subsurface Resources
Transportation