
Chapter 3

LAND MANAGEMENT POLICIES FOR EACH MANAGEMENT UNIT

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Chapter 3

LAND MANAGEMENT

POLICIES FOR EACH

MANAGEMENT UNIT

INTRODUCTION

This chapter presents specific land management policies for each management unit. A management unit is generally homogeneous with respect to resources, topography, and land management.

This chapter is organized using the eight subregion boundaries. Management units are grouped by subregion. A map of these subregions is shown on page 3-1.

The land management policies for each management unit are defined in several ways:

Statement of Management Intent. The statement of management intent defines near and long-term management objectives for the management unit, and the methods to achieve these objectives.

Management Guidelines. Management guidelines that apply to a single management unit are listed along with a reference to applicable area-wide management guidelines in Chapter 2.

Land Use Summary Chart. The charts include primary and secondary surface land use designations, subsurface designations, and prohibited uses. While the land use designations shown in the summary charts provide a quick picture of planned uses within a unit, the statement of management intent should be used as the more definitive explanation of management policy.

Maps of Management Unit and Subunit Boundaries. Each subregion is divided into management units; management units are divided into subunits. If more than one land disposal is proposed in a subunit, a small letter follows the subunit number. Maps

showing land use designations and land ownership for each subregion are included at the end of the subregion.

The land use designations shown on the maps and charts in this chapter are flexible. Uses not shown may be allowed on a case-by-case basis if the Alaska Department of Natural Resources determines they are consistent with the statement of management intent for the management unit and consistent with applicable management guidelines. Specific boundaries of land use designations shown on the maps may be modified through on-the-ground implementation activities (site planning, disposal, etc.) as long as modifications follow the intent of the plan. For example, field surveys may be necessary to delineate precisely the wetland boundaries shown on management unit maps. Through implementation of the plan, additional areas may be identified which meet the established resource objectives for a particular management unit. This plan does not preclude site decisions which are clearly in compliance with the management intent and guidelines.

Site specific issues are frequently encountered by department land managers. A plan that deals with a region the size of the Tanana Basin generally cannot provide a predetermined answer to, for example, a question related to a proposed communication site on a ridge of the Alaska Range. The plan can, however, make clear what the general management objectives are for the area in question and thereby provide the basis for a more informed decision.

SUBSURFACE RESOURCES LAND USE DESIGNATIONS

The main policy decision regarding subsurface land use is the decision to open or close areas to mineral location, or to make areas available for mineral leasing.

SETTLEMENT

Settlement information is shown in four places in the plan: Chapter 1 *Settlement* summarizes the offerings; Chapter 2 *Settlement and Agriculture & Grazing* have extensive goals and guidelines for area-wide settlement and agriculture policies; Chapter 3 includes subregion summaries and detailed management unit descriptions; and Appendix D lists all the disposals.

The 1990 TBAP Update did not comprehensively review all settlement areas in this plan, although changes were made for a few subunits. All the information available in the 1985 TBAP has been included in this update in a new format. Many technical corrections were made in this update from the 1985 plan; the major corrections are noted in the management units.

The acreage listed for each project is the maximum total offering allowed. As noted in the management units, the exceptions are those projects already offered at the time the 1985 TBAP was prepared. For various reasons, such as relinquishment, foreclosure, or unfulfilled requirements, portions of these projects may return to the state. For these exceptions, the acreage shown is that which was returned to the state by 1984. Other parcels may have returned to the state since that time, and may be offered for sale.

Existing projects are those that have been offered before 1991. The parcels that have returned to the state may be available for offering. The maximum net acreage allowed for existing projects shows the ceiling on the offering, and does not reflect the actual amount offered. Existing offerings for subdivisions and agriculture projects often are shown only as private land on the plan maps. These projects can be located by checking disposal brochures, land status plats, and casefiles.

Future projects are shown on the plan maps. Subunits with only one project are identified with subunit numbers (e.g., 1A2 - Nenana Ridge West Subdivision). If more than one project is identified within a subunit, a small letter has been added to the subunit number (e.g., 6F1a - Fireweed Homestead). When a single subunit has multiple projects, and the future projects' boundaries have not been identified, the projects will have the same subunit number or the same number and letter. This occurs for subunits 1D1a, 1P1, 3C1, 3I2a, 3T3, 4J2, and 6D1.

Land disposals are closed to coal leasing, and will be closed to new mineral entry prior to sale, to avoid conflicts with third party interests.