

# Appendix A.

## Glossary

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**AAC.** Alaska Administrative Code, regulations for the State of Alaska.

**Access.** A way or means of approach. Includes transportation, trails, easements, rights of way and public use sites.

**ACMP.** Alaska Coastal Management Plan. A program developed to implement the Alaska Coastal Management Act. The program deals with coastal resources in the coastal area.

**ADF&G.** Alaska Department of Fish and Game

**ADL.** Alaska Division of Land (now the Division of Mining, Land and Water) (used most often with a number to identify a land use case file.)

**ADOT/PF.** Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities

**Anadromous Fish.** A fish or fish species that spends portions of its life cycle in both fresh and salt waters, entering fresh water from the sea to spawn; these include the anadromous forms of pacific trout and salmon of the genus *Oncorhynchus* (rainbow and cutthroat trout, and chinook, coho, chum, sockeye, and pink salmon), Arctic char, Dolly Varden, sheefish, smelts, lamprey, whitefish, and sturgeon.

**Anadromous Waters.** A river, lake or stream from its mouth to its uppermost reach including all sloughs and backwaters adjoining the listed water, and that portion of the streambed or lakebed covered by ordinary high water used by salmon to spawn. Anadromous waters are shown in “The Atlas to the Catalog of Waters Important for Spawning, Rearing, or Migration of Salmon” (referred to as the Anadromous Fish Stream Catalog) compiled by ADF&G.

**ANCSA.** Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act.

**ANILCA.** Alaska National Interest Land Conservation Act.

**Area Plan.** A plan approved by the Commissioner of the Department of Natural Resources under the authority of AS 38.04.065 that establishes the land and resource management policies for state land within a planning area. Such plans also assign land use designations to individual parcels of state land, which are subsequently converted to land use classifications in a Land Classification Order. When used in this plan, the term ‘Area Plan’ refers to the revised Fish Creek Management Plan.

**AS.** Alaska Statutes.

**ASLS.** Alaska State Land Survey.

**ATS.** Alaska Tideland Survey.

**Authorization.** A decision issued by DNR or the Matanuska-Susitna Borough allowing a use and setting the conditions for that use. This usually takes the form of a permit or lease.

**Authorized Use.** A use allowed by DNR or by the Borough by permit or lease.

**Banks.** The portion of the stream channel cross section that restricts the lateral movement of water at normal bank-full levels, often exhibiting a distinct break in slope from the stream bottom.

**Borough.** The Matanuska-Susitna Borough

**Buffer.** An area of land between two areas with different activities or resources, used to reduce the effect of one activity or resource upon another.

**CSU.** See Federal Conservation System Unit.

**Caretaker Facilities.** Single or multi-family floating residential facilities used as housing that are necessary to contain equipment or processing facilities for economic development activities, such as commercial timber harvest, mineral exploration or aquatic farming operations, or associated with public activities. Caretaker facilities may be floating facilities or may be located on uplands.

**Classification.** Land classification identifies the purposes for which state land will be managed. All classification categories are for multiple use, although a particular use may be considered primary. Land may be given a maximum of three classifications in combination.

**Classification Order.** See Land Classification Order.

**Clean fill.** Fill that is free of organics, human refuse, and toxic pollutants.

**Closed to Mineral Entry.** Areas where the staking of new mineral claims is prohibited because mining has been determined to be in conflict with significant surface uses in the area. Existing mineral claims that are active at the time of plan adoption are not affected by mineral closures.

**Commissioner.** The Commissioner of the Alaska Department of Natural Resources.

**Concurrence.** Under existing statutes, regulations and procedures, the Department of Natural Resources or the Borough is required to obtain the approval of other groups before taking a specific action. Concurrence binds all parties to conduct their activities consistent with the approved course of action.

**Consultation.** Under existing statutes, regulations, and procedures, the Department of Natural Resources or the Borough informs other groups of its intention to take a specific action and seeks their advice or assistance. Consultation is not intended to be binding on a decision. It is a means of informing affected organizations and individuals about forthcoming decisions and getting the benefit of their expertise.

**DEC.** Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation.

**Department.** Alaska Department of Natural Resources.

**Designated Use.** An allowed use of major importance in a particular management unit. Activities in the unit will be managed to encourage, develop, or protect this use. Where a unit has two or more designated uses, the management intent statement and guidelines for the unit and Chapter 2 guidelines, together with existing statutes, regulations, and procedures, will direct how resources are managed to avoid or minimize conflicts between designated uses.

**Designation.** See Land Use Designation.

**Developed Recreational Facility.** Any structure or facility that serves either public or private recreational needs.

**Director.** The division director of the state division responsible for managing state land. Most often, “director” refers to the Director of the Division of Mining, Land and Water; for lands administered by DPOR, director refers to the Director of DPOR.

**Dispersed Recreation.** Recreational pursuits that are not site specific in nature, such as beach combing, recreational boating or wildlife viewing.

**DMLW.** Division of Mining, Land and Water, a division of DNR.

**DNR.** Alaska Department of Natural Resources.

**Dock.** A platform or landing pier that extends over, or onto water, and is usually used for receiving boats.

**DOF.** Division of Forestry, a division of DNR

**DPOR.** Division of Parks and Outdoor Recreation, a division of DNR

**Easement.** An interest in land owned by another that entitles its holder to a specific limited use.

17(b) Easement. Easement across Native corporation land reserved through the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (ANCSA, Section 17(b)). Uses of the easements are limited to transportation purposes and other uses specified in the act and in conveyance documents.

**Feasible.** Capable of being accomplished in a successful manner within a reasonable period of time, taking into account economic, environmental, technical, and safety factors.

**Feasible and Prudent.** Consistent with sound engineering practice and not causing environmental, social or economic problems that outweigh the public benefit to be derived from compliance with the guideline modified by the term “feasible and prudent” [from ACMP regulations: 6 AAC 80.900 (20)]. A written decision by the land manager is necessary justifying a variation from a guideline modified by the terms “feasible” or “feasible and prudent”. See also, Types of Plan Changes, Chapter 4.

**Federal Conservation System Unit.** In this plan, this term refers to those areas of federal land that are in some form of protected status and are identified in ANILCA (National Wildlife Refuge, National Park, National Monument). Not included in this definition are lands administered by the U.S. Bureau of Land Management or the U.S. Forest Service except those lands administered by those agencies that are designated Wilderness or National Trails, which are considered to be Conservation System Units.

**Fish and Wildlife.** Any species of aquatic fish, invertebrates and amphibians, in any state of their life cycle, and all species of birds and mammals, found in or which may be introduced into Alaska, except domestic birds and mammals. The term “area(s)” in association with the term “fish and wildlife” refers to both harvest and habitat areas.

**FLUP.** Forest Land Use Plan. Prepared by the Division of Forestry, Alaska Department of Natural Resources.

**Forestry.** On tidelands: any activity or structure for timber harvest or for transfer of logs from uplands to tidelands, including, but not limited to felling, yarding and hauling of logs, roads, log transfer facilities, floating A-frame logging, upland and marine log storage areas, and camps and other support facilities associated with timber resource development. On uplands: any activity or structure for the harvest or management of timber resources.

**Generally Allowed Use.** An activity conducted on state land managed by the Division of Mining, Land and Water that is not in a special category or status. See 11 AAC 96.020.

**Goal.** A statement of basic intent or general condition desired in the long term. Goals usually are not quantifiable and do not have specified dates for achievement.

**Green Infrastructure.** Green infrastructure is defined as an interconnected network of natural areas and open spaces that conserves natural ecosystem values and functions, sustains clean air and water, and provides a wide array of benefits to people and wildlife.

**Guideline.** A course of action to be followed by DNR or Borough resource managers or required of land users when the manager permits, leases, or otherwise authorizes the use of state land or resources. Guidelines also range in their level of specificity from giving general guidance for decision making or identifying factors that need to be considered, to setting detailed standards for on-the-ground decisions. Some guidelines state the intent that must be followed and allow flexibility in achieving it.

**ILMA.** See Interagency Land Management Agreement/Transfer.

**ILMT.** See Interagency Land Management Agreement/Transfer.

**Improvements.** Buildings, wharves, piers, dry docks, and other similar types of structures permanently fixed to the uplands, tidelands, or submerged lands that were constructed and/or maintained by the applicant for business, commercial, recreation, residential, or other beneficial uses or purposes. In no event shall fill be considered a permanent improvement when placed on the tidelands solely for the purposes of disposing of waste or spoils. However, fill material actually utilized for beneficial purposes by the applicant shall be considered a permanent improvement. [11 AAC 62.840]

**Instream Flow.** An instantaneous flow rate of water through a stream during specified periods of time, from a designated location upstream to a designated location downstream.

**Instream Flow Reservation.** The legal water reservation for instream uses such as fish, wildlife, recreation, navigation, and water quality.

**Interagency Land Management Agreement/Transfer (ILMA/ILMT).** An agreement between DNR and other state agencies that transfers some land management responsibility to these other agencies.

**Land Classification Order.** An order approved by the Commissioner of the Department of Natural Resources that classifies state land into specific land use categories (AS 38.04.065). The Land Classification Order in this Area Plan (Appendix B) classifies all state lands within the planning area according to the land use designations assigned to individual land parcels in the Resource Allocation Tables contained in Chapter 3 of the Area Plan.

**Land Disposal.** Same as Land offering, defined below; except that land disposal areas referenced in Chapter 3 may include lots reserved for lease or sale for public commercial, or industrial facilities.

**Land Manager.** A representative of the Borough or of a state agency or division responsible for managing state land.

**Land Offering.** Transfer of state or borough land to private ownership. If authorized by DNR it is authorized by AS 38.04.010, including fee simple sale, homesteading, and sale of agricultural rights. The term does not include leases, land use permits, water rights, rights-of-way, material sales, or other disposals of interest in lands or waters. (See also, Land disposal.)

**Land Sale.** Same as Land offering as defined above.

**Land Use Designation.** A category of land allocation determined by a land use plan. Designations identify the primary and co-primary uses for state land. (Chapter 4 sets out how the land use designations of this plan will be classified according to 11 AAC 55.)

**Leasable Minerals.** Leasable minerals include deposits of coal, sulfur phosphates, oil shale, sodium potassium, oil and gas. Leasable minerals do not include the locatable minerals.

**LDA.** Legislatively Designated Area. This includes state parks, critical habitat areas, game refuges, etc.

**Lease.** A Department of Natural Resources authorization for the use of state land according to terms set forth in AS 38.05.070-105, or a similar authorization by the Borough.

**Legislative Designation.** An action by the state legislature that sets aside a specific area for special management actions and ensures the area is kept in public ownership.

**Limited State Holding (LSH).** Land in which the state has a limited (less than fee) property rights interest. Examples are easements, airspace easements, clear zone easements, rights of ways, leases, fish weir permits, conservation easements, equitable servitude, etc., acquired from other source authorities, such as direct purchase, donation, escheat, condemnation, and special congressional legislation.

**Locatable Minerals.** Locatable minerals include both metallic (gold, silver, lead, etc.) and nonmetallic (feldspar, asbestos, mica, etc.) minerals. Locatable minerals do not include the leasable minerals.

**Management Intent Statement.** The statements that define the department's or the borough's near and long-term management objectives and the methods to achieve those objectives.

**Management Unit.** A geographic unit used in the Fish Creek Management Plan to describe part of the planning area. The management unit is typically contiguous and most of the unit has similar resource values. The management unit is given a single classification and description in Chapter 3 of the Management Plan, though different guidelines or management may apply to different parts of the unit.

**Materials.** "Materials" include but are not limited to common varieties of sand, gravel, rock, peat, pumice, pumicite, cinders, clay and sod.

**MCO.** See Mineral Closing Order.

**Mineral Closing Order (MCO).** All state lands are open for the prospecting and production of locatable minerals unless the lands are specifically closed to mineral entry. The Commissioner of the Department of Natural Resources may close land to mineral entry if a finding has been made that mining would be incompatible with significant surface uses on state land (AS 38.05.185; 11 AAC 55.040e). [Note: A significant surface use of the land has been interpreted by DNR to include not only residential and commercial structures, but also fish and wildlife habitat, recreational, and scenic values.]

**Mineral Entry.** Acquiring exploration and mining rights under AS 38.05.185-38.05.275.

**Mining.** Any structure or activity for commercial exploration and recovery of minerals, including, but not limited to resource transfer facilities, camps, and other support facilities associated with mineral development. The term "mining" does not refer to offshore prospecting.

**Mining Claim.** Rights to deposits of minerals, subject to AS 38.05.185-38.05.275, in or on state land that is open to claim staking may be acquired by discovery, location and recording as prescribed in AS 38.05.185-38.05.275. The locator has the exclusive right of possession and extraction of the minerals lying within the boundaries of the claim, subject to AS 38.05.185 - 38.05.275.

**Minor Change.** A minor change to a land use plan is not considered a revision under AS 38.04.065. A minor change is a change that does not modify or add to the plan's basic intent, and that serves only to clarify the plan, make it consistent, facilitate its implementation, or make technical corrections. [11 AAC 55.030]

**MSB.** Depending on context may mean either Matanuska-Susitna Borough or Matanuska-Susitna Borough Code.

**Multiple Use.** Means the management of state land and its various resource values so that it is used in the combination that will best meet the present and future needs of the people of Alaska, making the most judicious use of the land for some or all of these resources or related services over areas large enough to provide sufficient latitude for periodic adjustments in use to conform to changing needs and conditions; it includes:

1. the use of some land for less than all of the resources, and
2. a combination of balanced and diverse resource uses that takes into account the short-term and long-term needs of present and future generations for renewable and nonrenewable resources, including, but not limited to, recreation, range, timber, minerals, watershed, wildlife and fish, and natural scenic, scientific, and historic values. [AS 38.04.910]

**NPS.** See U.S. National Park Service.

**Native Owned.** Land that is patented or will be patented to a Native corporation.

**Native Selected.** Land selected from the federal government by a Native corporation but not yet patented.

**Navigable.** Used in its legal context, it refers to lakes and rivers that meet federal or state criteria for navigability. Under the Equal Footing Doctrine, the Alaska Statehood Act, and the Submerged Lands Act, the state owns land under navigable waterbodies.

**Off-Road Vehicle (ORV).** Any motorized vehicle capable of, or designed for, travel on or immediately over land, water, or other natural terrain, excluding non-amphibious motorboats, fixed-wing and rotor-winged aircraft, and snowmobiles.

**Ordinary High Water Mark.** The mark along the bank or shore up to which the presence and action of the nontidal water are so common and usual, and so long continued in all ordinary years, as to leave a natural line impressed on the bank or shore and indicated by erosion, shelving, changes in soil characteristics, destruction of terrestrial vegetation, or other distinctive physical characteristics [from 11 AAC 53.900 (23)].

**Permanent Use.** A use that includes a structure or facility that is not readily removable.

**Permanent Facility.** Permanent facilities are improvements that do not need to be removed and usually involve the construction of a foundation for the improvement. In the context of the RRMP (only), it also refers to a significant ground area that may be affected by an allowed activity but that may not involve the construction of a foundation for structure improvements. Permanent facilities on state land shall be authorized by the Department of Natural Resources by lease. Examples of permanent facilities are structures that require a foundation, log or solid wall structures or frame tents.

**Permit.** A Department of Natural Resources authorization for use of state land according to terms set forth in 11 AAC 96, or a similar authorization by the Borough

**Personal Use.** The harvest of fish and wildlife for personal consumption, including but not limited to subsistence and recreational harvest. Commercial harvest is not included.

**Planning Period.** The period of time that the area plan guides the management of state land and is to be used as the basis for DNR or Borough decision making. This period is 20 years or until the area plan is revised.

**Policy.** An intended course of action or a principle for guiding actions; in this plan, policies for land and resource management include goals, management intent statements, management guidelines, land use designations, implementation plans and procedures, and various other statements of DNR's or the Borough's intentions.

**Primary Use.** See Designated use.

**Prohibited Use.** A use not allowed in a management unit because of conflicts with the management intent, designated primary or secondary uses, or management guideline. Uses not specifically prohibited nor designated as primary or secondary uses in a management unit are allowed if compatible with the primary and secondary uses, the management intent statements for the unit, and the plan's guidelines. Changing a prohibited use to an allowable use requires a plan amendment.

**Public Trust Doctrine.** A doctrine that requires the state to manage tidelands, shorelands, and submerged lands for the benefit of the people so that they can engage in such things as commerce, navigation, fishing, hunting, swimming, and ecological study. (See Navigable Rivers and Lakes: Public Trust Doctrine at the end of Chapter 3.)

**Public Use.** Any human use of state land, including commercial and non-commercial uses.

**Public Use Cabin.** A cabin owned or built by the state on state land that is managed for the benefit of the residents of the state and visitors to the state.

**Public Use Site.** Any site identified on state land that is important for public access (including important float and wheeled plane landing areas), camping, hunting, fishing or other recreation or public use.

**Rearing.** The developmental life phase of a fish from fertilization of eggs to adult.

**Recreation.** Any activity or structure intended for recreational purposes, including but not limited to hiking, camping, boating, fishing, and sightseeing. "Recreation" does not refer to subsistence or sport hunting and fishing.

**Retained Land.** Uplands, shorelands, tidelands, submerged lands, and water that are to remain in public ownership.

**Right-Of-Way.** The legal right to cross the land of another. May be abbreviated ROW.

**SCRO.** Southcentral Regional Office of the Division of Mining, Land and Water, Alaska Department of Natural Resources.

**Settlement.** The sale, leasing, or permitting of state lands to allow private recreational, residential, commercial, industrial, or community use.

**Shall.** Same as "will."

**Shoreland.** Land belonging to the state that is covered by navigable, nontidal water up to the ordinary high water mark as modified by accretion, erosion or reliction. (See definition of Navigable.) Shorelands are generally lake bottoms or the beds of navigable rivers and streams.

**Shoreline Development.** Any water-dependent or water-related structure or facility that is permanent and/or used for private, public, commercial, or industrial purposes. "Shoreline Development" excludes log or other resource transfer facilities, log storage, floating A-frame logging, or camps and other resource development support facilities associated with forestry or mineral development.

**Should.** States intent for a course of action or a set of conditions to be achieved. Guidelines modified by the word “should” state the plan’s intent and allow the manager to use discretion in deciding the specific means for best achieving the intent or whether particular circumstances justify deviations from the intended action or set of conditions. A guideline may include criteria for deciding if such a deviation is justified. (See Types of Plan Changes, Chapter 4.)

**Significant Impact, Significant Effect, Significant Conflict, or Significant Loss** (adapted from the ACMP statutes, AS 46.40.210). A use, or an activity associated with that use, which proximately contributes to a material change or alteration in the natural or social characteristic of the land on which:

1. the use, or activity associated with it, would have a net adverse effect on the quality of the resources;
2. the use, or activity associated with it, would limit the range of alternative uses of the resources; or
3. the use would, of itself, constitute a tolerable change or alteration of the resources but which, cumulatively, would have an adverse effect.

**Spawning.** The deposition or fertilization of fish eggs, including preparation for deposition or fertilization.

**State Land.** All land, including shore, tide, and submerged land, or resources belonging to or acquired by the state. [AS 38.05.965 (20)] See also definitions of state-owned land and state-selected land as well as definitions for shorelands, tidelands, and submerged lands. Refer to Figure 1.1 in Chapter 1 for a graphical depiction of these areas. ‘State Land’ excludes lands owned by the University of Alaska, the Mental Health Trust Authority, or by state agencies that have acquired them through deed.

**State-Owned Land.** Land that has been conveyed to the State of Alaska, including uplands, shorelands, tidelands, and submerged lands (includes Tentatively Approved land).

**State-Selected Land.** Federal land selected by the State of Alaska, pursuant to federal grants and statehood entitlement, that has not yet been conveyed (includes topfilings).

**Submerged Lands.** Land covered by tidal waters between the line of mean lower low water and seaward to a distance of three geographic miles or as may hereafter be properly claimed by the state. (AS 38.05.965) (See definition of Tidelands and Figure 1.1, Chapter 1.)

**Subsistence Uses.** The noncommercial, customary and traditional uses of wild, renewable resources by a resident domiciled in a rural area of the state for direct personal or family consumption as food, shelter, fuel, clothing, tools, or transportation, for the making and selling of handicraft articles out of non-edible by-products of fish and wildlife resources taken for personal or family consumption, and for the customary trade, barter, or sharing for personal or family consumption; in this paragraph, “family” means persons related by blood, marriage, or adoption, and a person living in the household on a permanent basis. [AS 16.05.940 (33)]

**Suitable.** Land that is physically capable of supporting a particular type of resource development.

**Temporary Use.** A low impact, short-term use that does not involve the establishment of permanent improvements or foundations. Any structure associated with a temporary use must be readily removable within 48 hours.

**Temporary Facility.** Temporary facilities or structures or those that can be dismantled and removed from a site or that can be dismantled and stored on the site. Temporary facilities on state land are authorized under permits. Examples of a temporary facility are heliports or frame, dome, or pup tents.

**Trapping Cabin.** A cabin constructed under a Trapping Cabin Construction Permit as authorized and described in AS 38.95.080 and 11 AAC 94.

**Unsuitable.** Land that is physically incapable of supporting a particular type of resource development (usually because that resource doesn't exist in that location).

**Uplands.** Lands above mean high water (See Figure 1.1, Chapter 1.)

**US Fish and Wildlife Service.** United States Fish and Wildlife Service, a division of the U.S. Department of Interior.

**USFWS.** See US Fish and Wildlife Service.

**U.S. National Park Service.** United States National Park Service, a division of the U.S. Department of Interior.

**Water-Dependant.** A use or activity which can be carried out only on, in, or adjacent to water areas because the use requires access to the water body. [6 AAC 80.900 (17)]

**Water-Related.** A use or activity which is not directly dependent upon access to a water body, but which provides goods or services that are directly associated with water-dependence and which, if not located adjacent to water, would result in a public loss of quality in the goods or services offered. [6 AAC 80.900(18)]

**Wetlands.** Includes both freshwater and saltwater wetlands. "Freshwater wetlands" means those environments characterized by rooted vegetation which is partially submerged either continuously or periodically by surface freshwater with less than .5 parts per thousand salt content and not exceeding three meters in depth. "Saltwater wetlands" means those coastal areas along sheltered shorelines characterized by salt tolerant, marshy plants and large algae extending from extreme low tide which is influenced by sea spray or tidally induced water table changes.

**Will.** Requires a course of action or a set of conditions to be achieved. A guideline modified by the word "will" must be followed by land managers and users. If such a guideline is not complied with, a written decision justifying the noncompliance is required. (See Types of Plan Changes, Chapter 4.)