



THE STATE  
of **ALASKA**  
GOVERNOR MIKE DUNLEAVY

**Department of Natural Resources**

DIVISION OF MINING, LAND & WATER  
Director's Office

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February 6, 2024

The Honorable Click Bishop, Co-Chair  
The Honorable Cathy Giessel, Co-Chair  
Senate Resources Committee  
Alaska State Capitol  
Juneau, AK 99801

Co-Chair Bishop and Co-Chair Giessel:

Thank you for the opportunity to present SB 198 State Land for Remote Recreational Cabin Sites to the committee on Wednesday, January 31, 2024. During my presentation, committee members requested follow-up information regarding two matters:

**Request for a chart of Department of Natural Resources programs that dispose of or lease state land.**

- The requested chart is attached to this letter.

**Does the existing process for reclassification of state lands include a best interest finding?**

- The Division of Mining, Land and Water (Division) has a statutory process for classification/reclassification of state land under AS 38.04.065. This statute requires public notice and involvement under AS 38.05.945.
- The Division also has regulations that guide our plan processes at 11 AAC 55.
- The classification/reclassification process does not require a best interest finding pursuant to AS 38.05.035(e).

**All actions and decisions by the Department are appealable.**

Regardless of the decision process, the appeal and request for reconsideration processes provide administrative recourse for people who are aggrieved by or affected by a decision issued by the department by allowing them to seek the Commissioner's review of the decision.

Thank you for your time and consideration. Please let me know if I can be of further help in providing information to the committee.

Sincerely,

Christy Colles  
Director  
Division of Mining, Land and Water

Type of Program	Statutory Authority	Regulations	Annual Land Use Fee 11 AAC 05	Application Fee	Notes
Personal Use Cabin Program	AS 38.04.035(4) AS 38.05.020	11 AAC 65	\$240 plus \$0.60 x Sq Ft	\$400	Limited to those who have current personal use cabin permits. Cannot be transferred.
Trapping Cabin Permit (Existing)	AS 38.95.075	No regulations	\$240	\$160	Criteria in statute is too restrictive for this statute to be used. Applicant had to have used the cabin for trapping prior to 1984.
Trapping Cabin Permit (New Construction)	AS 38.95.080	11 AAC 94	\$10 (set by statute)	\$400	
Land Use Permit for Commercial Use with Cabin (e.g., logging camp)	AS 38.05.850	11 AAC 96	\$1,600, plus \$0.60 x Sq Ft	\$400	
Land Use Permit for Commercial Recreation Use with Cabin (e.g., big game guide camp)	AS 38.05.850	11 AAC 96	\$1,600, plus Visitor Day Use Fees \$4 per day/person	\$400	
Lease for Commercial or Commercial Recreation Use with Cabin (e.g., guide camp, lodge)	AS 38.05.070 AS 38.05.073 AS 38.05.075	11 AAC 58	Fair Market Value unless there is an established fee schedule, minimum rent \$1000	\$1,200 for up to one acre and \$2,000 for over one acre	
Public and Charitable Lease with Cabin (e.g., youth camp)	AS 38.05.810 (b)-(d)	11 AAC 58	Less than Fair Market Value, depends on the nature of the project	\$600 for up to one acre and \$1,200 for over one acre	
Setnet Cabin Site Lease	AS 38.05.070(b)	11 AAC 58	\$1,920 for first acre and \$120 for additional acre.	\$1,200 for up to one acre and \$2,000 for over one acre	
Structures in support of Mining Operations	AS 38.05.255 AS 38.05.850	11 AAC 86.145	No fee in addition to mine permit application fees.	Applications	Claimholders rents and royalties
Remote Recreation Cabin Staking Program	AS 38.05.600	11 AAC 67	Based on Fair Market Value, Survey and Appraisal	\$240 lease application	Stakers enter into a lease while survey and appraisal are completed prior to purchase of the parcel