

Chapter IV: BLM Land and Resource Review

Scope

The BLM conducted an internal review consisting of existing MFPs, current RMP efforts, and resource inventories, land status, known leaseable mineral potential, and known locatable mineral potential. The data from this review was incorporated into the area matrix analysis in Chapter IV. *See page 118, Factors Used in Analysis.*

Summary

Land Use Planning & Resources Review

The BLM's 10-year Land Use Planning (LUP) schedule includes approximately 14 plans on BLM-administered lands in Alaska. Only the East Alaska, Ring of Fire and Kobuk-Seward RMPs have progressed to where alternatives for withdrawals have been sufficiently developed and are incorporated into this report. *See pages 119-121, Planning Map & Schedule.*

The BLM has reviewed existing MFPs, RMPs, and resource inventories for consistency with current management objectives, and identified the areas where d-1 withdrawals are necessary to protect sensitive resources, habitats, and natural research areas. The review also included the Utility Corridor RMP for the Trans-Alaska Pipeline System. The specific recommendations are identified and referenced in each of the 12 area analysis.

Land Status Review

The Alaska Land Transfer Acceleration Act (Public Law 108-452), was passed to facilitate the conveyance of State and Native entitlements by September 10, 2009. Approximately 20 million acres of the selected lands shown on the "BLM" map will be conveyed, approximately 6 million acres to ANCSA corporations and 14 million acres to the State. The report does not differentiate between State or Native selections. While many of the lands have dual selections on them, they are counted as selected only once in calculating acreage in the analysis of this report. While selections are pending, the lands are segregated from all forms of appropriation. Under the terms of Sections 403 and 404 of the Act, ANCSA corporations must have all final priorities submitted no later than June 2008, and the State must have final, irrevocable priorities on file for all but 3.25 million acres by December 2008.

The largest single unknown affecting ANCSA entitlement is Doyon Limited's 1.7 million-acre 12(c) entitlement. This entitlement must be fulfilled first from available lands within its 34 separate statutory village withdrawal areas before Doyon can prioritize lands from several ANCSA deficiency areas, which are also withdrawn under d-1.

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The State revised its Ownership Priority List (OPL) in October 2005. This information was used in each area analysis to project conveyance patterns. *See page 122, State OPL Map.*

Locatable & Salable Minerals Review

The Alaska State Office, Division of Energy and Solid Minerals, Branch of Solid Minerals prepared a draft assessment of locatable and salable mineral potential for BLM-managed lands covered by d-1 withdrawals. This report is a summary of occurrences and development potential. Mineral occurrence potential is a prediction of the likelihood of the presence of these resources while the development potential describes whether or not a mineral occurrence is likely to be explored. Locatable minerals include primarily metallic and certain non metallic industrial minerals that are generally found in lode or placer deposits. The report documents locatable minerals known to exist on BLM-managed lands and identifies areas of high potential. Areas of high locatable mineral potential were based on available data including: geological environment, inferred geological processes, reported mineral occurrences, known mines or significant deposits, favorable Mineral Terranes of Alaska (MTA) conditions, and active federal and state mining claims. *See page 123, Locatable Mineral Potential Map.*

| Mineral Potential Area | Acres | % of D-1 Lands |
|------------------------|------------|----------------|
| High LMP | 20,700,000 | 35% |
| Medium LMP | 27,500,000 | 47% |
| Low LMP | 10,600,000 | 18% |

The mineral assessment included saleable minerals, although disposal of saleable minerals is not precluded by the d-1 withdrawals. Salable minerals include common varieties of mineral materials such as construction aggregate (sand and gravel), building stone, pumice, clay, and limestone. River bars and beach lines are an abundant source of mineral materials for construction projects in much of the state. Communities often develop local materials sources. Outside of these areas, mineral materials have no value unless they are in close proximity to a project under development, with a few exceptions confined mainly to those d-1 lands with developed road access or port facilities.

Regionally, there is a strong demand and dependence on mineral materials for structural pads, road-base, airports/airstrips, dock facilities, and general fill material. Due to low unit costs and high transportation costs for mineral materials, demand must be met locally for projects to be economically viable.

The local demand for mineral materials in the state is generally being met by producers on state or private lands who will continue to meet most of the future demands. Less demand will come from public lands in the future. No further analysis of saleable minerals was made in this report.

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Leaseable Minerals Review

The Alaska State Office, Division of Energy and Solid Minerals, Branch of Energy prepared an assessment of leaseable mineral potential for those BLM-managed lands covered by d-1 withdrawals. This report is a summary of prospective leaseable minerals (oil and gas, coal bed methane, and coal). Geothermal resources were included in the report, but not in the matrix analysis because the d-1 withdrawals did not segregate the lands from geothermal leasing.

The report shows the location of selected leaseable mineral resources currently closed to disposal and appropriation under the authority of Section 17(d)(1) of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act. Recognizing that the Generalized Land Status data set is accurate only to the section level of a township (i.e., one mile square), and that the above-listed priority status types apply; the following approximate acreage totals were derived for the leaseable mineral resources:

| | | |
|---|-------------|------------|
| 1 | Oil and Gas | 10,547,473 |
| 2 | Coal | 3,739,559 |

These values are for comparison purposes only and do not represent the actual acreages involved, only the maximum acreages possible using the available coverage and recognizing the limitations placed on each dataset. *See page 124, Leaseable Mineral Potential Map.*

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Factors Used in Analysis

| AREA | Specific Public Comments | Specific Fed Agencies Comments | BLM RMP | BLM Rev & Proposed Designation | BLM Overlapping Withdrawal | BLM Lands Previously Opened PLO | % Previous Opened Land Selected | % Locatable Land to be Opened | % Leaseable Potential on Land to be Opened | % BLM Admin Land Selected | % Selected Lands to be Conveyed |
|---------|--------------------------|--------------------------------|---------|--------------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|--|---------------------------|---------------------------------|
| AREA 1 | AC,A CC, CW | NFS | EARMP | GFO | 2 WSR 5150 | 6329 | 100 | M - H 50 - 50 | 0 | 63 | 80 |
| AREA 2 | AC | State | 0 | FDO | 3 WSR NRA NCA | 0 | 0 | L - M 30 - 60 | 100 | 47 | 45 |
| AREA 3 | AC | State | UCRMP | FDO | 5150 | 0 | 0 | M 90 | 0 | 38 | 75 |
| AREA 4 | AC | State | KSRMP | FDO | 0 | 6477 | 50 | L-M-H 75 - 25 | 0-1 | 66 | 70 |
| AREA 5 | AC | 0 | KSRMP | FDO | 0 | 6477 | 67 | M - H 50 - 50 | 0 | 81 | 35 |
| AREA 6 | AC | 0 | 0 | FDO AFO | 1 WSR | 6477 | 30 | L - M 50 - 50 | 25 | 16 | 29 |
| AREA 7 | AC | State | CYRMP | FDO | 0 | 6477 | 10 | L - M 50 - 50 | 0 | 53 | 42 |
| AREA 8 | AC | 0 | CYRMP | FDO | 0 | 6098 | 92 | L-M-H 33-33-33 | 0 | 84 | 30 |
| AREA 9 | AC | 0 | 0 | AFO | 0 | 6787 | 75 | L-M-H 50-30-20 | 30 | 44 | 57 |
| AREA 10 | AC CW | NFS | RRMP | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | M 90 | 0-1 | 46 | 90 |
| AREA 11 | AC | State | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 100 | 100 |
| AREA 12 | AC | NFS | RRMP | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 100 | 40 |

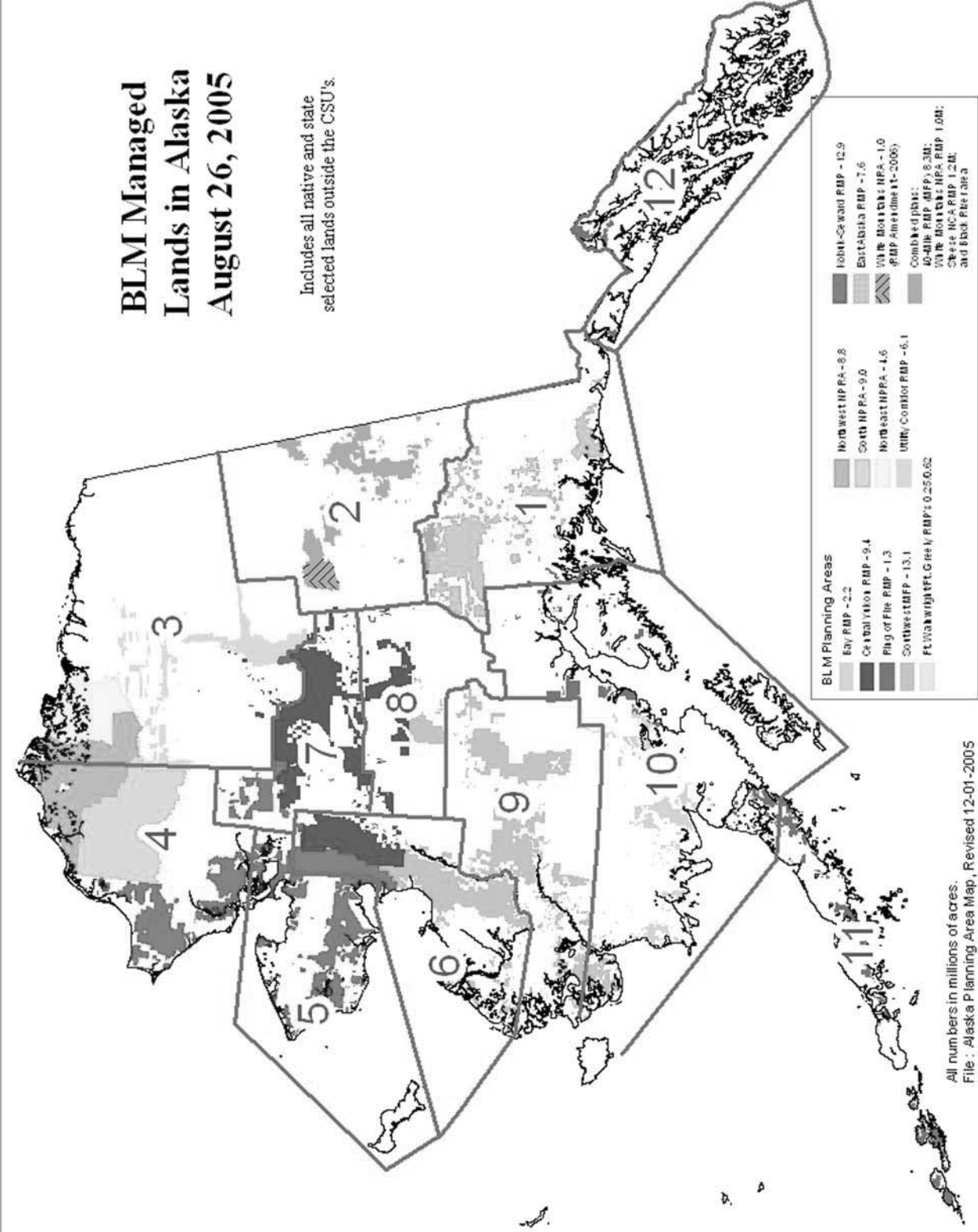
Key

A: Ahna
 AC: Alaska Coalition
 CC: Copper Country Alliance
 CW: Cascadia Wetlands Project
 BLM: Bureau of Land Management
 FWS: Fish and Wildlife Service
 NFS: National Forest Service
 NPS: National Park Service
 State: State of Alaska
 CYRMP: Central Yukon Resource Management Plan
 EARMP: Draft East Alaska Resource Management Plan
 KSRMP: Draft Kobuk-Seward Resource Management Plan
 RFRMP: Draft Ring of Fire Resource Management Plan
 UCRMP: Utility Corridor Resource Management Plan
 AFO: BLM Anchorage Field Office
 GFO: BLM Glennallen Field Office
 FDO: BLM Fairbanks District Office
 WSR: BLM Wild & Scenic River (CSUs)
 CSU: Conservation System Unit
 NRA: White Mountains National Recreation Area
 NCA: Steese National Conservation Area
 PLO: Public Land Order
 5150: BLM Utility Corridor
 L: Low Potential
 M: Medium Potential
 H: High Potential

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**BLM Managed
 Lands in Alaska
 August 26, 2005**

Includes all native and state
 selected lands outside the CSU's.



All numbers in millions of acres.
 File : Alaska Planning Area Map, Revised 12-01-2005

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Bureau-wide Planning and Workload Measures Schedule for Alaska 10/20/05

| Field Office | Plan/Acreage | Issues | FY 04 | FY 05 | FY 06 | FY 07 | FY 08 | FY 09 | FY 10 | FY 11 | FY 12 | FY 13 | FY 14 |
|---------------------------|---|---|-------|-------|--------|--------|-------|--------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| Glennallen | East Alaska RMP (Southcentral MFP) 7.6M | MFP completed in 1980 (No EIS), OHV-recreation, ANCSA 17 (d)(1), PLO 5150 | | DP | DQ, DR | | | | | DJ | | | |
| Anchorage | Ring of Fire RMP 1.3M | No plan for large part of area, subsistence, oil & gas leasing, WSR, access, ANCSA 17(d)(1); OHV, land tenure | | DP | DQ, DR | | | | | DJ | | | |
| Fairbanks District Office | NE NPR-A IAP/EIS 4.6M | Plan Revision; stipulations, mitigation, lease area review | DP | DQ | DT | | | | DJ | | | | |
| Fairbanks District Office | Kobuk/Seward Peninsula RMP (Northwest MFP) 12.9M | FDO #1 priority; oil & gas, coal leasing, minerals, ANCSA 17(d)(1), OHV, river management, Western Arctic Caribou Herd winter habitat protection | DO | | DP | DQ, DR | | | | | DJ | | |
| Fairbanks District Office | White Mountains NRA RMP 1.0M | RMP amendment; change transportation corridor, change OHV designations | DN | DO | DU | | | | | | | | |
| Anchorage | Bay RMP 2.2M | No plan for large part of the area, subsistence, fisheries, minerals, ANCSA 17(d)(1) | DN | DO | DP | DQ, DR | | | | | DJ | | |
| Fairbanks District Office | South NPR-A IAP/EIS & Colville River MUAP 9.0M | Oil & Gas leasing, Special Area designation, subsistence, wildlife, recreation, cultural, paleontological, VRM | | | DO | | DP | DQ | DR | | | | |
| Fairbanks District Office | Combined plans: 40-Mile RMP (MFP) 8.3M; White Mountains NRA RMP 1.0M; Steese NCA RMP 1.2M; and Black River area | New RMP, ANCSA 17(d)(1), river management now used as base for management, boundary changes, OHV, recreation facilities, trail access to Birch creek, increased public use, mineral entry | | | | DN, DO | DP | DQ, DR | | | | | DJ |

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10/20/05

| Field Office | Plan/Acreage | Issues | FY 04 | FY 05 | FY 06 | FY 07 | FY 08 | FY 09 | FY 10 | FY 11 | FY 12 | FY 13 | FY 14 |
|---------------------------|---------------------------|---|--------|-------|-------|-------|--------|--------|--------|--------|-------|-------|-------|
| Fairbanks District Office | Utility Corridor RMP | RMP revision; includes CAMA-wilderness study area acreage (767K) 41K recommended to Congress. Non-compliance with American Rivers settlement agreement, OHV, increased public use | | | | | DN, DO | DP | DQ, DR | | | | |
| Anchorage | Southwest RMP (MFP) 13.1M | MFP completed in 1981 (no EIS), subsistence, fisheries, ANCSA 17(d)(1), land base adjustment | | | | | DN, DO | DO | DQ, DR | | | | |
| Fairbanks District Office | Central Yukon RMP 9.4M | RMP revision; oil & gas, minerals, ANCSA 17(d)(1), boundary adjustments | | | | | | DN, DO | DP | DQ, DR | | | |
| Fairbanks District Office | Fort Wainwright RMP 248K | RMP amendment completed in 2002; extension of military withdrawal for 30 years | | | | | DJ | | | | | DJ | |
| Fairbanks District Office | Fort Greely RMP | RMP amendment completed in 2002; extension of military withdrawal for 30 years | | | | | DJ | | | | | DJ | |
| Fairbanks District Office | NW NPR-A IAP/EIS 9.4M | Oil & gas leasing | DQ, DR | | | | | DJ | | | | | |

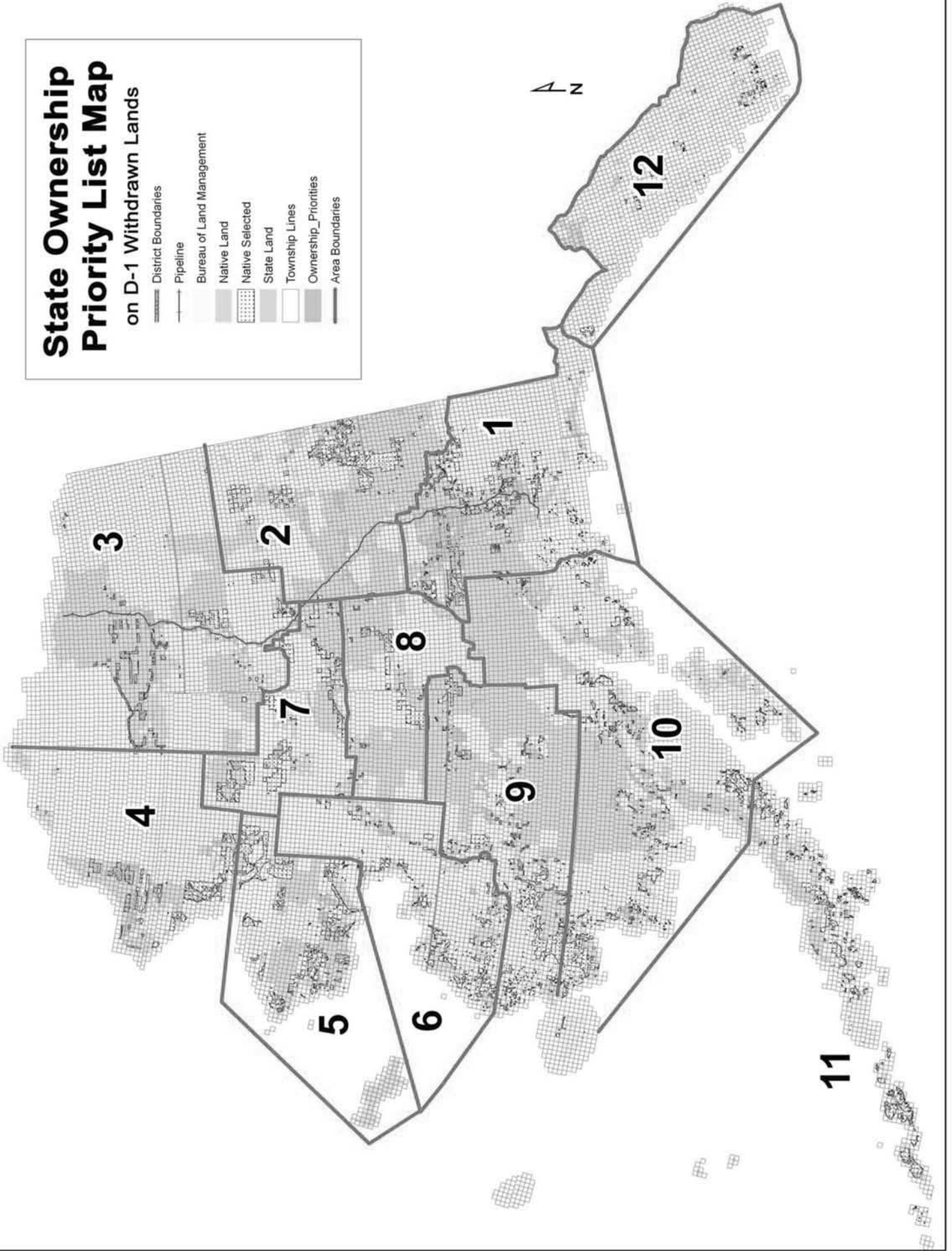
Product or status code:

- DN** Complete Land Use Plan Pre Plan Document
- DO** Complete Land Use Plan Scoping Report/Planning Criteria
- DP** Complete Draft Land Use Plan/Draft EIS
- DQ** Complete Proposed Land Use Plan/Final EIS
- DR** Approve Land Use Plan/ROD
- DS** Complete Draft EIS Level Land Use Plan Amendment
- DT** Complete Approved EIS Level Land Use Plan Amendment/ROD
- DU** Complete EA Level Land Use Plan Amendment/ROD
- DJ** Completed land use plan evaluations

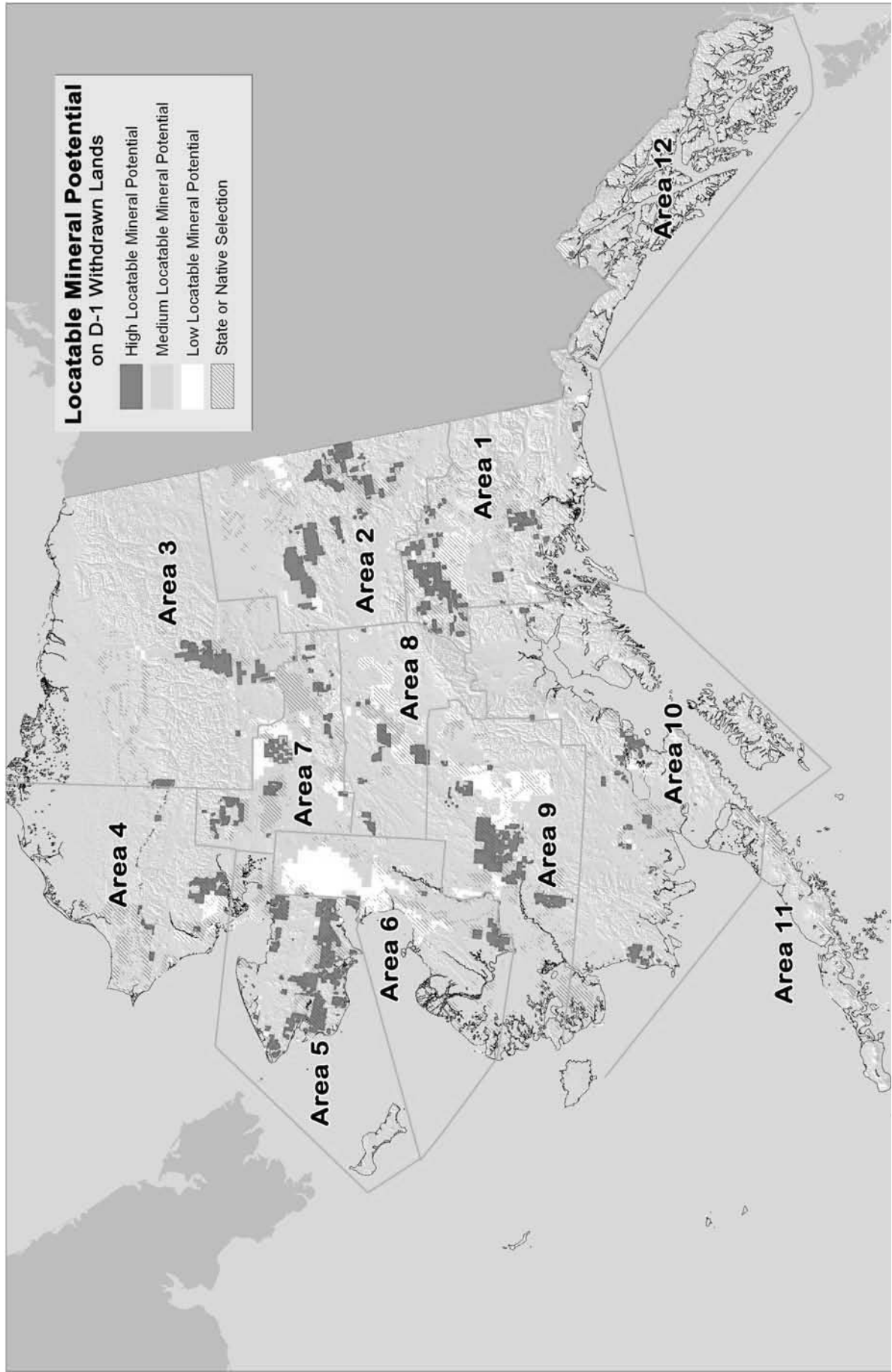
State Ownership Priority List Map

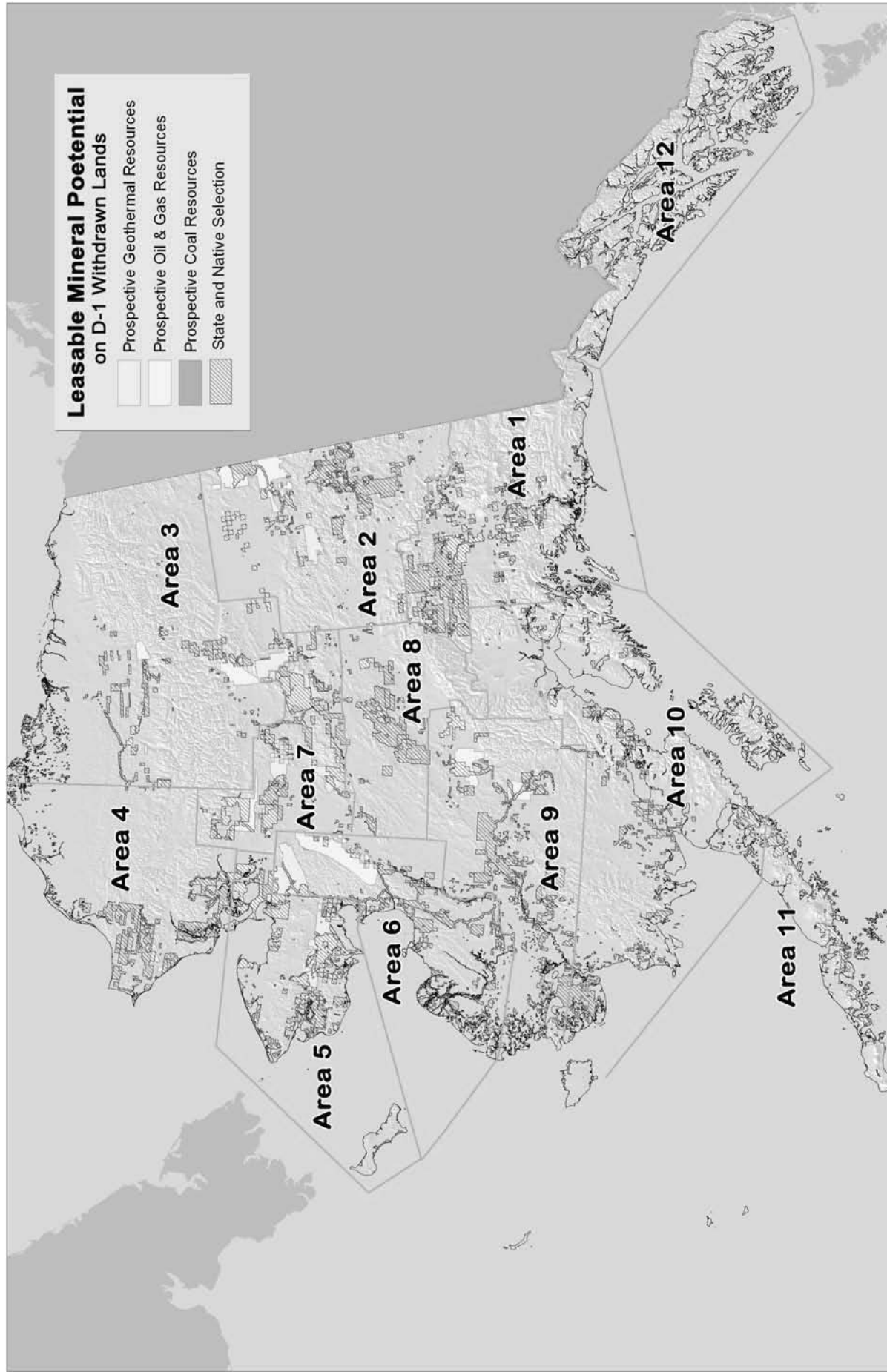
on D-1 Withdrawn Lands

- District Boundaries
- Pipeline
- Bureau of Land Management
- Native Land
- Native Selected
- State Land
- Township Lines
- Ownership_Priorities
- Area Boundaries



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Acronym List

| | |
|-------------|--|
| AC..... | Alaska Coalition |
| AMA..... | Alaska Miners Association |
| ANCSA..... | Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act |
| ANILCA..... | Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act |
| BLM..... | Bureau of Land Management |
| CAMA..... | Central Arctic Management Area |
| CNF..... | Chugach National Forest |
| CSU..... | Conservation System Units |
| CYRMP..... | Central Yukon Resource Management Plan |
| D-1..... | Withdrawal under Sec 17(d)(1) of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act |
| EARMP..... | East Alaska Resource Management Plan |
| F&WS..... | Fish and Wildlife Service |
| KSRMP..... | Kobuk- Seward Resource Management Plan |
| LUP..... | Land Use Planning |
| MFP..... | Management Framework Plan |
| MTA..... | Mineral Terranes of Alaska |
| NEPA..... | National Environmental Policy Act |
| NFS..... | National Forest Service |
| NPS..... | National Park Service |
| OPL..... | Ownership Priority List |
| PL..... | Public Law |
| PLO..... | Public Land Order |
| RAC..... | Resource Advisory Council |
| RFRMP..... | Ring of Fire Resource Management Plan |
| RMP..... | Resource Management Plan |
| RNA..... | Research Natural Area |
| ROP..... | Required Operating Procedures |
| WSR..... | Wild and Scenic River |