

## Glossary of Terms

**3809 regulations:** Surface management regulations for locatable mineral operations.

**17(b) easement:** a public easement across native lands to access public land and waters established under section 17(b) of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (ANCSA) in 1971.

**ACEC (Area of Critical Environmental Concern):** an area within the public lands where special management attention is required to protect important historic, cultural, or scenic values, fish and wildlife or natural systems or processes, or to protect life and safety from natural hazards.

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

**ADOT:** Alaska Department of Transportation

**Anadromous:** ascending rivers from the sea for spawning. Salmon are an anadromous species.

**ANCSA (Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act):** a law passed by Congress in 1971 to settle aboriginal land claims in Alaska by conveying title to some lands and paying natives for extinguishing their claims to other lands. Under the settlement the natives received title to a total of 40 million acres, to be divided among some 220 native villages and thirteen Regional Corporations established by the act. The corporations shared in a payment of \$462,500,000.

**ANILCA (Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act):** a law passed in 1980 designating 104 million acres for conservation by establishing or expanding national parks, wildlife refuges, wild and scenic rivers, wilderness areas, forest monuments, conservation areas, recreation areas, and wilderness study areas to preserve them for future generations.

**Back Country Byway:** The BLM contribution to the national Byway Program. Back Country Byway is a designation for a road that has unique scenic and historical significance. They provide the public with recreational opportunities while informing them about natural and cultural resources and multiple use activities on the public domain.

**BLM (Bureau of Land Management):** branch of the United States Government's Department of the Interior. BLM is responsible for managing America's public lands and renewable and non-renewable resources which include recreation, range, timber, minerals, watershed, fish and wildlife, wilderness, and natural, scenic, scientific, and cultural values.

**BLM-AK designated sensitive species status:** those species (fish, wildlife or plant) designated by the State Director, usually in cooperation with the State agency responsible for managing the species, as sensitive. They are those species that are: (1) under status review by U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and/or the National Marine Fisheries Service; or (2) whose numbers are declining so rapidly that Federal listing may be

necessary; or (3) with typically small and widely dispersed populations; or (4) those inhabiting ecological refugia or other specialized or unique habitats. Essentially a candidate species for federal listing as either threatened or endangered.

**carrying capacity:** as used here, the appropriate number of general recreational visitors or commercial operators using an area before recreational experiences are compromised or resource damage occurs.

**CFR (Code of Federal Regulations):** a codification of the general and permanent rules published in the Federal Register by the Executive Departments and agencies of the Federal Government. The Code is divided into 50 titles which represent broad areas subject to Federal regulation. Each volume of the Code is revised at least once each year and issued on a quarterly basis.

**commercial use:** any use of public lands where money is paid for services provided.

**Conveyed:** land where the title has been transferred to the selecting organization.

**cygnet:** a young swan.

**d(1) withdrawal:** a withdrawal made under section 17(d)(1) of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act for study to determine the proper classification of the lands and to determine the public values of the lands which need protection.

**designated trail:** a trail that is marked on the ground and mapped for public use. It is an administrative and not a legal designation. In some areas, motorized travel may be limited to designated trails.

**EA (Environmental Assessment):** a concise public document for which a Federal Agency is responsible to provide sufficient evidence and analysis for determining whether an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) is necessary or a Finding of No Significant Impact. Discusses need for action, of alternatives to environmental impacts and actions.

**FLPMA (Federal Land Policy and Management Act):** a law passed in 1976 to establish public land policy, guidelines for its administration and provide for the management, protection, development, and enhancement of the public lands.

**FLPMA 302 Permits:** section 302 of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act provides for use, occupancy and development of public lands with consideration for multiple use and sustained yield by requiring permits for utilization of public lands for habitation, cultivation, and the development of small trade or manufacturing concerns.

**Generally Allowed Uses:** the State of Alaska's uses and activities that are generally allowed on state land. "Using a highway vehicle with a curb weight of up to 10,000 pounds, including a four-wheel-drive vehicle and a pickup truck, or using a recreational-type vehicle off-road or all-terrain vehicle with a curb weight of up to 1,500 pounds, including a snowmobile and four-wheeler, on or off an established road

easement, if use off the road easement does not cause or contribute to water quality degradation, alteration of drainage systems, significant rutting, ground disturbance, or thermal erosion. An authorization is required from ADF&G for any motorized travel in fish bearing streams.

**GFO (Glennallen Field Office):** one of the three Bureau of Land Management Field Offices located in Alaska. GFO is responsible for managing approximately 7.6 million acres of public lands from Yakutat to Black Rapids.

**land status:** the legal standing of land within Bureau of Land Management boundaries. Land status includes private, military, state, state selected, native, native selected and unencumbered public lands.

**leasable minerals:** oil, gas and coal.

**leases:** a means of allowing long-term use of public lands.

**limited:** as used here, limited indicates some limitation to off-highway vehicle (OHV) use within a particular area. Limitations may be designated trails, seasonal restrictions, or vehicle class limitations.

**LNT (leave-no-trace):** a set of ethics used to minimize damage to the environment while recreating on public lands.

**locatable minerals:** generally, hard-rock minerals, such as gold, silver, copper and rare metals. Administration of

locatable mineral activities takes place under the mining laws and 43 CFR 3809.

**metaliferous:** yielding or containing metal.

**mineral materials:** Bureau of Land Management (BLM) authorizes disposal of mineral materials such as gravel and sand to third parties on unimproved lands. Materials cannot be bartered or sold and must be used in connection with project construction or maintenance.

**mitigation measures:** actions taken to reduce adverse impacts on resource values.

**Mitigation Measures for Surface Disturbing Activities:** an appendix to the East Alaska Resource Management Plan providing protection standards for permitted activities and conditions for actions requiring plans of operations and environmental assessments (copies available).

**NEPA (National Environmental Policy Act):** a law passed in 1970 requiring all federal agencies to give equal and complete consideration to environmental values in all their decision making. The purpose is to encourage harmony between people and their environment. A comprehensive environmental policy stating that the Federal Government's policy is to create and maintain conditions under which people and nature can exist in productive harmony and fulfill the social, economic and other requirements of present and future generations of Americans. All internally or externally proposed actions on or affecting public lands or resources must

be reviewed for NEPA compliance by preparing an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) or Environmental Assessment (EA).

**NSO (no surface occupancy):** an area that is open for mineral leasing but analysis has found that in order to protect other resource values, no surface occupancy is permitted for oil and gas facilities or infrastructure unless site-specific analysis shows that resource values can be protected.

**Nunatak:** an isolated hill or peak which projects through the surface of a glacier. A hill or peak which was formerly surrounded but not overridden by glacial ice. An Eskimo word meaning “lonely peaks”.

**Occupancy:** a permitting system allowing cabins or storage on public lands.

**OHV:** off-highway vehicles

**Open:** a designation for trails with no restrictions.

**Permits:** a means of authorizing use of public lands in an equitable, safe and enjoyable manner while minimizing adverse impacts and user conflicts.

**PLO (Public Land Order):** Congressional orders defining withdrawals of public lands by statute or secretarial order from operation of some or all of the public land laws.

**PLO 5150:** a Congressional order defining withdrawals for utility and transportation corridors.

**PLO 5179:** The Public Land Order resulting from ANCSA d(1) which withdrawals lands from mineral entry, mineral leasing, and land disposals in some areas.

**PLO 6329:** The Public Land Order resulting from an amendment to the 1980 Southcentral Management Framework Plan. This PLO modified existing ANCSA d(1) withdrawals to allow for mineral entry, mineral leasing, and land disposals in some areas.

**primary trumpeter swan breeding habitat:** those slow-moving bodies of water and associated wetland habitats within public lands where concentrations of trumpeter swans are found during breeding/cygnets-rearing season due to the quality of available habitat.

**proliferation:** to spread or grow by rapid production of new parts such as unmanaged growth of trails.

**R&PP (Recreation and Public Purposes):** an act authorizing the sale or lease of public lands for recreational or public purposes to state and local governments and to qualified non-profits.

**R&PP Leases:** a means to serve community recreational purposes on public lands by issuing leases for things such as parks.

**Research Natural Area:** An area that is established and maintained for the primary purpose of research and education because the land has one or more of the following characteristics: 1) A typical representation of a common plant or animal association; 2) an unusual plant or animal association; 3) a threatened or endangered plant or animal species; 4) a typical representation of common geologic, soil, or water features; or 5) outstanding or unusual geologic, soil or water features.

**riparian zones:** wetlands that are transitional between permanently saturated lowlands and drier upland sites. Riparian habitat is characterized by hydrophytic vegetation (plants that often grow in water or wet soils) that grows in nonhydric (moist but not wet) soils.

**ROS (Recreation Opportunity Spectrum):** Describes the recreation setting or experience that currently exists in a particular area. The seven classes are: primitive (P), semi-primitive non-motorized (SPNM), semi-primitive motorized (SPM), roaded natural (RN), roaded modified (RM), rural (R), urban (U) and remote developed lakeside (RDL).

**ROW (rights-of-way):** a legal right of passage over another person or organization's land. The area over which a right-of-way exists.

**RS 2477:** part of an 1866 mining law that reserves rights-of-way for construction of highways over public lands.

**SRMA (Special Recreation Management Area):** areas where the management emphasis is on recreation but other resource use or development is allowed.

**SRP (Special Recreation Permit):** means of authorizing recreational uses of public lands and waters. They are issued for specific recreational uses as a means to manage visitor use, protect natural and cultural resources, and provide a mechanism to accommodate commercial recreational uses. There are four types of SRPs: commercial, competitive, organized groups/events and individuals or groups in special areas.

**subsistence use:** living off the land, relying on fish, wildlife and other wild resources for food, shelter, clothing, transportation, handicrafts, and trade. An Alaskan resident living in a rural area may participate in federal subsistence hunting on certain unencumbered Bureau of Land Management (BLM) lands.

**terminal moraine:** an accumulation of earth and stones formed across the course of a glacier at its farthest advance, at or near a relatively stationary edge, or at places marking the termination of important glacial advances.

**TLAD (Tangle Lakes Archeological District):** an area rich in historic and prehistoric remains located between mileposts 17 and 37 on the Denali Highway. TLAD was accepted to the National Register of Historic Places in 1971 and encompasses 226,660 acres. The boundary was revised in 1993 to follow natural features.

**unencumbered:** public lands that have not been selected by the state or native organizations.

**USFWS:** United States Fish and Wildlife Service

**Viewshed:** a region or area that can be seen from a particular location.

**VRM (Visual Resource Management):** a means of managing visual resources by designating areas as one of four classes: Class I: maintaining a landscape setting that appears unaltered by humans; Class II: designing proposed alterations so as to retain the existing character of the landscape; Class III: designing proposed alterations so as to partially retain the existing character of the landscape; Class IV: providing for management activities which require major modifications of the existing character of the landscape.

**W&SR:** A river that is part of the National Wild and Scenic River system. In Alaska, most were designated through the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (ANILCA). The Bureau of Land Management's Glennallen Field Office manages two of them, the Delta National Wild and Scenic River and the Gulkana National Wild River.

**Withdrawal:** Federal land set aside and dedicated to a present, governmental use; public land set aside for some other public purpose, e.g. pending a determination of how the land is to be used; an action approved by the Secretary or a law enacted by Congress which closes land to specific uses under

the public land laws (usually sale, settlement, location and entry), or limits use to maintain public values or reserves area for particular public use or program, or that transfers jurisdiction of an area to another Federal agency.