

LEASABLE MINERALS - COAL ALTERNATIVES

MANAGEMENT GUIDANCE COMMON TO ALL ALTERNATIVES

Management Areas and Direction:

1. Lands under selection by the State or Native corporations are segregated from mineral leasing, including coal. For State and Native selected lands, revocation or modification of ANCSA d(1) withdrawals as indicated below only apply if lands are retained in long-term federal ownership. Because of the segregation against mineral leasing on State and Native selected lands, the categories and constraints identified below only apply on lands retained in long-term federal ownership.
2. Wild river portions of W&SR corridors would be closed to leasing, exploration, and development for nondiscretionary reasons.
3. Placement of an area within a category presented below does not imply potential for coal in that area.

ALTERNATIVES – Leasable Minerals (Coal)

DIFFERENCES IN MANAGEMENT GUIDANCE BY ALTERNATIVE				
Management Actions	Alternative A: Current management	Alternative B: Development end of spectrum	Alternative C: Conserve, maintain end of spectrum	Alternative D
Management Areas				
Areas unacceptable for further consideration for coal leasing.	Currently, most BLM-managed lands are closed to coal leasing because of State or Native selections or underlying ANCSA d(1) withdrawals.	Revoke all ANCSA d(1) withdrawals. Only wild portions of WSR corridors and inner pipeline corridor would be closed to coal leasing. PLO 5150 would be modified to allow for mineral leasing in the outer corridor.	In addition to those lands identified in Alternative D, the following would be closed to coal leasing if retained in federal ownership: 1) lands within the Nelchina calving ACEC; 2) lands within the Tielke SRMA; 3) lands within the West Fork Gulkana River ACEC.	BLM would recommend revocation of most ANCSA d(1) withdrawals. The following areas would be unacceptable for further consideration for coal leasing: 1) All segments within WSR corridors, including scenic and recreational portions of the Delta 2) All areas within 200 feet of anadromous rivers and streams; 3) lands retained in federal ownership within the Bering Glacier RNA; 4) Lands within the pipeline/utility corridor (PLO 5150); 5) lands retained in federal ownership within the Denali SRMA (maintenance of PLO 5180).

ALTERNATIVES – Leasable Minerals (Coal)

Management Actions	Alternative A: Current management	Alternative B: Development end of spectrum	Alternative C: Conserve, maintain end of spectrum	Alternative D
Areas that are acceptable for further consideration for coal leasing and development by only certain stipulated mining methods (unsuitable for surface mining of coal).	None currently identified.	None. Apply mitigation as described in “Mitigation Guidelines for Surface Disturbing Activities.”	In addition to those areas identified in Alternative D, include all areas within viewshed of Denali, Glenn, and Richardson highways within this category.	1) Lands retained in federal ownership in West Fork ACEC area; 2) All areas in VRM Class II not described above; 3) All primary trumpeter swan breeding habitat as identified; 4) All critical moose winter range as identified; 5) All areas within ¼ mile of historically active bald eagle and osprey nest sites.
Areas that are acceptable for further consideration for coal leasing and development by all mining methods.	None currently identified.	All areas not falling within the other two categories.	All areas not falling within the other two categories.	All areas not falling within the other two categories.
Note: All leases would be subject to measures described in “Mitigation Measures for Surface Disturbing Activities.”				