

LOCATABLE MINERALS ALTERNATIVES

MANAGEMENT GUIDANCE COMMON TO ALL ALTERNATIVES

Management Areas: Lands under selection by the State and Native corporations are segregated from locatable mineral entry. 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.

Management Direction:

1. Mining of locatable minerals will be subject to the surface management regulations found in 43CFR 3809. Surface occupancy under the mining laws will be limited to uses incident to the mining operation. Bonding will be required in accordance with BLM policy.
2. Continue rehabilitation of mining-related disturbances, on active and inactive workings, as required by 43 CFR 3809 and in accordance with BLM policy.
3. All operations must file a Plan of Operations with BLM. The Plan must be approved prior to commencement of on-the-ground activities. Areas withdrawn from mineral location in which valid existing rights are being exercised require the filing of a Plan of Operations.

ALTERNATIVES – Locatable Minerals

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				
Closed Areas	Most BLM-managed lands are currently withdrawn from mineral entry because of ANCSA d(1) withdrawals or State and Native selections. This RMP will not effect segregations against mineral entry due to State and Native selection. Mining activities currently take place on some BLM-managed lands because valid existing rights or because certain areas were excluded from ANCSA d(1) withdrawals or State and Native selections.	Revoke all ANCSA d(1) withdrawals. Open all areas other than wild portions of WSR corridors, subject to reasonable 3809 surface regulations.	Add the following to the list in D: 1) recommend withdrawing lands within the Denali SRMA from mineral entry; 2) Maintain d(1) withdrawals within the Nelchina ACEC; 3) Recommend withdrawing unencumbered BLM lands within the Delta viewshed from mineral entry; 4) Maintain d(1) withdrawals within the Nelchina/Eureka SRMA; and 5) recommend withdrawing BLM-managed lands within the Tielke SRMA from mineral entry. Items 1, 3, and 5 would take congressional approval.	The following areas would be closed to locatable mineral entry: 1) All portions of the WSR corridors, including scenic and recreational segments of the Delta; 2) lands opened to mineral leasing but not to mineral entry in PLO 6329; 3) Slana settlement area; 4) inner corridor of the pipeline; 5) Bering Glacier RNA. All d(1) withdrawals outside these areas that exclude mineral entry would be modified or revoked.
Open Areas	As stated above.		Everything outside of areas listed above.	All d(1) withdrawals outside the areas listed above that exclude mineral entry would be modified or revoked.

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Management Actions	Alternative A: Current management	Alternative B: Development end of spectrum	Alternative C: Conserve, maintain end of spectrum	Alternative D
Management Direction				
General	Plans of Operations include stipulations based on site-specific resource concerns.	Same as A.	Same as D.	Plans of Operations would incorporate applicable mitigation identified under “Mitigation Guidelines for Surface Disturbing Activities”.
Visual Resources	Plans of Operations have been limited due to ANCSA d(1) withdrawals and State and Native selections and have not considered visual resource concerns.	Plans of Operations will consider visual resource concerns on a case-by-case basis.	Not applicable. These areas would be withdrawn from mineral entry under Alternative C.	Plans of Operations within the Denali and Delta SRMAs that are not withdrawn from locatable minerals would attempt to meet Class II VRM objectives through measures such as minimizing vegetation clearing, using landforms to screen structures, etc. Along Denali Highway, utilize recommendations in “Denali to Wrangell St. Elias” to mitigate visual impacts.