

# Bay Record of Decision

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# BAY RECORD OF DECISION

## I. SUMMARY

This Record of Decision (ROD) approves the Bureau of Land Management's (BLM's) proposal to manage the public lands in the Bay planning area under the Anchorage Field Office's jurisdiction as presented in the attached Resource Management Plan (RMP). This RMP is almost identical to Alternative D in the December 2007 Bay Proposed RMP and Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) (USDI-BLM 2007). This ROD provides the rationale for selecting the management decisions described in Alternative D, and provides clarifications and modifications incorporated into the RMP. The attached RMP describes the program area decisions and mitigation measures approved for BLM lands in the Bay planning area.

The Bay planning area includes lands administered by the State of Alaska (State), Native Corporations, the National Park Service (NPS), U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) and private landowners. Of the approximately 23,048,654 acres within the planning area, decisions in the RMP will initially apply to 1,975,966 acres of BLM-managed lands. Approximately 1,024,712 of these 1,975,966 acres are selected by the State or Native Corporations for conveyance. Due to over-selections, not all of these selected lands will actually be conveyed. When conveyances are complete in 2010, approximately 1,163,604 acres are expected to remain under BLM management in the Bay planning area (Map E-1).

## II. DECISION

The decision is hereby made to approve the attached Bay RMP for the Bay planning area. The RMP replaces the Southwest Management Framework Plan (MFP) (USDI-BLM 1982) for lands within the Bay planning area.

This plan was prepared under the regulations (43 CFR Part 1600) implementing the Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLPMA) of 1976. An Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) was prepared in association with this RMP in compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969. This ROD serves as the final decision establishing the land use plan decisions outlined in the RMP and is effective on the date it is signed. No further administrative remedies are available for these decisions.

The RMP is nearly identical to Alternative D as described and analyzed in the Bay Proposed RMP/FEIS published December, 2007. Specific management decisions for public lands in the Bay planning area under the jurisdiction of the Anchorage Field Office are presented in Section II of the RMP (attached).

The RMP does not contain decisions for the surface or mineral estates of land administered by the State of Alaska, the National Park Service, the Fish and Wildlife Service, or private lands and minerals.

A summary of major decisions in the RMP include:

- The RMP recommends the Secretary of the Interior revoke all ANCSA 17(d)(1) withdrawals as described in Public Land Orders 5174, 5179, 5180, 5181, 5184, and 5186. The revocation of these withdrawals would open approximately 1.1 million acres for mineral leasing or mineral entry on lands retained by BLM, not on State- or Native-selected lands. State- and Native-selected lands would not be open to mineral leasing or locatable mineral entry until conveyance or relinquishment of selection. Revoking the withdrawals would remove large-scale prohibitions on these activities. However, resource protection measures (Appendix A) have been developed in the RMP to minimize impacts to resources.
- Manage public land resources to enhance vegetative communities, fish and wildlife resources, natural, cultural, and geological resources, and recreational opportunities.
- Manage uses to protect and prevent damage to public land resources, and to enhance those resources where feasible.
- Designate areas as 300-foot setbacks and No Surface Occupancy (NSO) for the East and South Fork Arolik River, Faro Creek, South Fork Goodnews River and Klutuk Creek. These water bodies are identified as having sensitive aquatic habitat.
- All BLM lands will be managed as VRM Class IV, except:
  - BLM lands in the full visible foreground up to 1/2 mile from established winter trail/road systems will be managed as VRM Class III, including Goodnews to Quinhagak coastal and Arolik River routes; Goodnews Bay to Dillingham route; Dillingham to Aleknagik; Dillingham to Koliganek; Ekwok to Naknek; New Stuyahok to Levelock; and Naknek to King Salmon.
  - BLM lands in the full visible foreground up to 1/2 mile from main river travel routes will be managed as VRM Class III, including portions of the North Fork Goodnews River; Middle Fork Goodnews River; South Fork Goodnews River; and East Fork Arolik River; Nushagak River; Kvichak River; Lower Mulchatna River; and Alagnak Wild River.
  - BLM lands in the full visible foreground up to one mile from the boundaries of Togiak NWR, Becharof NWR, Katmai NPP, and Lake Clark NPP will be managed as VRM Level III.
  - The Carter Spit ACEC will be managed as VRM Class III.
- All BLM-managed lands (unencumbered, State-, and Native-selected) in the planning area (approximately 1.9 million acres) will be managed for Semi-Primitive Motorized recreation setting.
- Designate all BLM-managed lands (unencumbered, State-, and Native-selected) in the planning area as “limited” to Off-Highway Vehicles (OHVs), where OHVs shall be required to stay on existing trails whenever possible. Snowmachines will be allowed open cross-country travel when adequate snow cover is present – that is, adequate to avoid crushing vegetation or removing ground cover.

- The BLM recognizes that the use of off-highway vehicles (OHVs) for subsistence activities is a valid use of BLM-managed public lands in Alaska. This activity is fundamentally different from the use of OHVs for recreational activities, and our management of it is guided by Section 811 of the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act. Section 302(b) of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act gives broad authority to the Secretary of the Interior to authorize uses of public lands through a variety of instruments. In the case of subsistence use of OHVs, this plan and its Record of Decision recognizes and authorizes use of OHVs for subsistence purposes throughout the planning area, unless specified otherwise or such use is excluded by the Authorized Officer.
- Designate the 36,220 acre Carter Spit as an Area of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC) to provide additional protection to the Steller's eider (protected species under the Endangered Species Act) and its habitat.

### III. ALTERNATIVES

Four alternatives, including a No Action Alternative were analyzed in detail in the Draft RMP/EIS (USDI-BLM 2006) and in the Proposed RMP/FEIS (USDI-BLM 2007). Alternatives were developed to address major planning issues and to provide direction for resource programs influencing land management. All management under any of the alternatives would comply with state and Federal regulations, laws, standards, and policies.

Each alternative emphasizes a different combination of resource uses, allocations, and restoration measures to address issues and resolve conflicts among uses, so program goals are met in varying degrees across the alternatives. However, each alternative allows for some level of support for all resources present in the planning area. The alternatives emphasize certain programs and activities, and whether active or passive management would occur. The alternatives differ in how fast program goals would be met and the degree to which program goals would be met. Management scenarios for programs not tied to major planning issues and/or mandated by law often contain few or no differences in management between alternatives.

#### A. Alternative Description

**Alternative A**, the No Action Alternative, promotes the continuation of current management practices. Land and resource management would continue under the guidance of the existing Southwest Management Framework Plan (MFP) (USDI-BLM 1982) for the Goodnews Block only. Direction contained in existing laws, regulations and policy statements would provide guidance for managing lands within the remainder of the planning area and sometimes override provisions in the Southwest MFP. The current levels, methods and mix of multiple use management of BLM land in the planning area would continue. No lands would be open to mineral leasing and large tracts would remain closed to new locatable minerals activities due to retention of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (ANCSA) 17(d)(1) withdrawals. No Special Designations would be proposed, and lands would remain unclassified for off-highway vehicles (OHVs) and visual resource values. In general, proposed land use would be analyzed on a case-by-case basis. Leasable and locatable mineral activities would be guided by requirements in specific operational plans on a project-specific basis.

**Alternative B** highlights actions and management that would facilitate resource development. All ANCSA 17(d)(1) withdrawals would be revoked, opening all BLM unencumbered lands to leasable and locatable mineral activities. Selected lands whose selection is relinquished would also be open to mineral activities. The BLM-managed lands within the planning area would be designated as “open” to OHV use. No Special Designations would be proposed and visual resources would be managed as Visual Resource Management (VRM) Class IV. Leasable and locatable mineral activities and other permitted activities would be guided by requirements in specific operational plans on a project-specific basis.

**Alternative C** emphasizes actions and management that protect and enhance renewable resources, archaeological, and paleontological values. Leasable and locatable mineral activities would be more constrained than in Alternatives B or D.

Areas of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC) would be proposed, including the Bristol Bay ACEC (974,970 acres) and the Carter Spit ACEC (61,251 acres). ANCSA 17(d)(1) withdrawals would be retained for the Carter Spit ACEC; this area would remain closed to mineral activities. ANCSA 17(d)(1) withdrawals would be lifted from the Bristol Bay ACEC, opening this area to mineral activities. Both proposed ACECs would be closed to salable mineral activities.

All other ANCSA 17(d)(1) withdrawals would be revoked, BLM unencumbered lands to leasable and locatable mineral activities.

Three eligible river segments, portions of the Alagnak River, and portions of the Goodnews River mainstem and Goodnews River Middle Fork, would be found suitable and recommended for inclusion in the National WSR system. ANCSA 17(d)(1) withdrawals would be maintained for proposed Wild and Scenic Rivers (WSRs) serving as interim protection until Congress has had an opportunity to act on the proposals.

All proposed WSR segments and ACECs would be managed as VRM Class III, and most of the remainder of the BLM-managed lands within the planning area would be managed as VRM Class IV. All BLM-managed lands within the planning area would be designated as “limited” to OHV use and a 2,000-lb gross vehicle weight rating would be enforced. Resource protection measures and additional constraints as identified through project-specific NEPA analysis would be used to protect resources on BLM-managed lands within the Bay planning area.

**Alternative D** provides a balance of protection, use, and enhancement of resources. ANCSA 17(d)(1) withdrawals would be revoked, and the majority of unencumbered lands and any selected lands whose selection is relinquished would be open to leasable and locatable mineral activities. ANCSA 17(d)(1) withdrawals would be revoked within a proposed Carter Spit ACEC (36,220 acres). The Carter Spit ACEC would be closed to salable mineral entry. No eligible WSRs would be found suitable and, thus, not recommended for inclusion in the National WSR system.

BLM lands in the full visible foreground up to one mile from the boundaries of Conservation System Units (CSU) would be managed as VRM Class III. BLM-managed lands up to ½ mile from established winter trail or road systems would be managed as VRM Class III. The proposed Carter Spit ACEC would be managed as VRM Class III, and all other BLM-managed lands would be managed as VRM Class IV.

All BLM-managed lands within the planning area would be designated as “limited” to OHV use and a 2,000-lb gross vehicle weight rating would be enforced. Resource protection measures

and additional constraints as identified through project-specific NEPA analysis would be used to protect resources on BLM-managed lands within the Bay planning area.

## **B. The Environmentally Preferred Alternative**

Alternative D, the agency preferred alternative, is the environmentally preferable alternative. Considering the impacts from the whole suite of decisions in Alternative D, it is the alternative that best protects and enhances the natural (biological and physical) and human (cultural, social and economic) environment.

## **IV. MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS IN SELECTING THE APPROVED PLAN**

The BLM is tasked with the responsibility of multiple use management, as mandated under FLPMA and numerous other laws and regulations that govern the management of public lands for various purposes and values. The diversity of community needs and stakeholders, as communicated through public meetings, government-to-government consultations, written comments, etc. drove the development of the preferred alternative. Recommendations received from the Alaska Resource Advisory Council (BLM's official advisory council) were also incorporated into the preferred alternative.

The BLM heard from the public and stakeholders that the RMP should address both natural resource concerns and social and economic concerns. Alternative D's actions would best improve and sustain natural resource conditions while meeting the needs and demands for resource use and commodities.

Management considerations for State- and Native-selected lands were incorporated into Alternative D. These lands make up 65% of the lands managed by the BLM in the Bay planning area. Diligent effort was made to coordinate and consult with the State of Alaska and Native Corporations. As a result, decisions made in the RMP affecting selected lands are generally consistent with State or Native Corporation land use management. In general, decisions for selected lands avoid a major commitment of resources and are custodial in nature. Designations such as Areas of Critical Environmental Concern are not made on selected lands, but site-specific measures are identified through ROPs or Stipulations (Appendix A) that would protect resource values on selected lands.

The BLM chose Alternative D (with slight modifications and clarifications, see ROD page 9) as the approved RMP to address the diverse needs and concerns of the public and provide a practical framework for managing BLM public lands. The RMP provides a balance between reasonable measures to protect resource values and the public need for use of BLM's public lands.

## V. MITIGATION MEASURES

Measures to avoid or minimize environmental harm were built into the RMP and are presented in Appendix A. Additional measures to mitigate environmental impacts may be developed during subsequent NEPA analysis at the activity level planning and project stages.

## VI. PLAN MONITORING

The BLM will monitor the RMP to determine whether the objectives set forth in this document are being met and if applying the land use plan direction is effective. Monitoring for program areas is outlined in the *Management Decision* sections of the RMP. If monitoring shows land use plan actions or mitigation measures are not effective, the BLM may modify or adjust management through plan maintenance. Maintenance is limited to further refining, documenting, or clarifying a previously approved decision incorporated in the plan. Maintenance must not expand the scope of resource uses or restrictions or change the terms, conditions, and decisions of the RMP.

Plan maintenance does not require formal public involvement, interagency coordination, or the NEPA analysis required for making new land use plan decisions. Maintenance actions must be documented in the plan or supporting components.

Where the BLM considers taking or approving actions which will alter or not conform to overall direction of the plan, the BLM will prepare a plan amendment or revision and environmental analysis of appropriate scope.

## VII. PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

One of the BLM's primary objectives during development of the RMP was to understand the views of various publics by providing opportunities for meaningful participation in the planning process. To meet this objective, the BLM implemented a comprehensive public involvement program.

During the scoping phase of the RMP, the BLM conducted public meetings in Dillingham, Anchorage, Soldotna, Homer, Aleknagik, Koliganek, Iliamna, and Naknek, and conducted scoping presentations to the Togiak National Wildlife Refuge, Alaska Peninsula/Becharof National Wildlife Refuge, Katmai National Park and Preserve, Bristol Bay Native Corporation (BBNC), and Calista Corporation. The BLM met with Bristol Bay Native Association management and staff on two occasions, attended a BBNC workshop, met with Choggiung managers and staff on two occasions, contacted and met with BLM Resource Advisory Committee members, met with FWS Anchorage Regional Office planning staff, and visited with King Salmon Native Association managers.

Concurrent with the beginning of the scoping period in January 2005, the BLM developed a RMP website. The website included the schedule of public meetings and general schedule for the Bay planning process. An overview of the Goodnews Block portion of the 1981 Southwest Management Framework Plan was also available on the website. Other Federal agencies and Native village governments with interest and/or special expertise were invited to become Cooperating Agencies. While the U.S. Air Force expressed initial interest, no agencies entered

into formal Cooperating Agency status. However, all of the Federal agencies administering lands within the Bay planning area and most of the traditional village councils expressed great interest in continuing to be involved in a less formal capacity.

The BLM also conducted public meetings in Anchorage, Aleknagik, New Stuyahok, Goodnews Bay and Dillingham, conducted a teleconference with Quinhagak village, and continued meetings with various levels of Native government after publication of the Draft RMP to discuss specific issues in-depth and solicit comments. The BLM used newsletters, media news releases, and website postings to offer information to groups, individuals and agencies. Detailed information on the public involvement efforts is included in both the Draft Bay RMP/EIS (USDI-BLM 2006) and Bay Proposed RMP/FEIS (USDI-BLM 2007) in Chapter 5, *Consultation and Coordination*.

After publication of the FEIS, the BLM received four valid protests. These protests were filed by the Renewable Resources Coalition, Alaska Wilderness League (representing other groups and individuals), Thomas Pebler of Anchorage, and Becky S. Savo of Naknek. These protests, resolved by the BLM Director on September 30, 2008, required minor modifications and clarifications as described in *Modifications to and Clarifications of the Proposed RMP/FEIS* section of this ROD.

Following the publication of the FEIS, the Governor of the State of Alaska was afforded the opportunity to review the Proposed RMP/FEIS to identify any inconsistencies between the RMP and approved state or local plans, policies or programs. The Governor's Consistency Review (GCR), dated February 1, 2008, found the Proposed RMP/FEIS to be consistent with state priorities, policies, and land use plans but requested clarification of certain technical and administrative points. These points of inconsistency are described in the *Modifications to and Clarifications of the Proposed RMP/FEIS* section of this ROD.

Throughout implementation of the RMP, the BLM will continue to actively seek the views of the public, using news releases and mass mailings to ask for participation, and provide information about new and ongoing implementation planning, site-specific or project planning and opportunities and timeframes for comment. The BLM will also continue to coordinate with the numerous state, Federal, tribal, and local agencies and officials interested and involved in the management of BLM lands in Bay planning area.

## **VIII. MODIFICATIONS TO AND CLARIFICATIONS OF THE PROPOSED RMP/FEIS**

As a result of protests on the Proposed RMP/FEIS, response from the State of Alaska Governor's Consistency Review, and additional internal and external review, the BLM made minor modifications to and clarifications of the Proposed RMP/FEIS. Modifications resulted in changes to the RMP, while clarifications are made to the EIS that do not become part of the management described in the RMP. None of these modifications or clarifications have altered the results of the analysis in the FEIS.

## A. Modifications

1. The Wild and Scenic River (WSR) Analysis presented in the Bay FEIS has been modified to remove the Kvichak River from the WSR Analysis as stated in Chapter 2 of the FEIS (FEIS page 2-6). Appendix D of the RMP contains the corrected WSR Analysis. Additional text has been added to the WSR Analysis in the RMP to explain that, "This analysis excludes the Kvichak River because the BLM does not have administrative interest in the water, the submerged lands (Determination of Navigability, 1985), nor the lands immediately adjacent to this water body, due to conveyance of lands. Additionally, a Recordable Disclaimer of Interest finding was issued by the Bureau of Land Management for the Kvichak River. This Disclaimer clarifies that the Federal government does not have a competing interest (with the State of Alaska) in the submerged lands."

Additionally, the fish habitat Relative Resource Value for the Kvichak River presented in FEIS Table B.2 (FEIS page B-6) is inconsistent with that presented in the text on FEIS page 3-121. The removal of the Kvichak River from the WSR Analysis remedies the inconsistency of the fisheries resource value for the Kvichak River presented in the FEIS (RMP Appendix D).

2. The WSR Analysis has been modified to include a detailed description of the outstandingly remarkable value ranking criteria for fisheries, scenery, recreation, wildlife/subsistence, and Cultural/Historic (RMP Appendix D).
3. The WSR Analysis has been modified to include all criteria for determining non-suitability of eligible rivers. This inclusion describes the BLM's inability to manage the river and protect identified values because the BLM lacks administrative jurisdiction of these eligible rivers in the Bay planning area. Additionally, though local support for WSR designation was expressed during the planning process, the administrative jurisdiction of eligible rivers is retained by the State of Alaska who has expressed disinterest in WSR designation (RMP Appendix D).
4. Modifications have been made to Required Operating Procedure (ROP) FW-3b to restate the ROP as follows (RMP Appendix A):

"Minimize human interference with the Mulchatna, Northern Alaska Peninsula or Nushagak caribou herds during the following critical periods:

Calving aggregations (May 15 to June 15),  
Post calving aggregations (June 15 to July 15) or  
Insect relief aggregations (June 15 to August 31)

If no feasible alternative exists, qualified personnel will conduct a preliminary site survey within the two week period prior to an activity's projected start date to establish caribou presence. Additionally, the presence of caribou at the time of commencement of a temporary activity will result in the delay of temporary activities until caribou have left the area. Approval of long term or permanent activities is dependent upon NEPA analysis, the extent and duration of impacts, particularly habitat fragmentation and the propensity to displace the animals, and the ability to devise appropriate mitigation measures."

## B. Clarifications

1. Add these two paragraphs to Proposed RMP/FEIS page 1-14, Wilderness Characteristics, to describe the policy of former Interior Secretary Gale Norton regarding wilderness in Alaska:

To clarify, Alaska lands were exhaustively inventoried for their wilderness values when Congress enacted the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (ANCSA) in 1971. Subsequently, Congress passed the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act of 1980 (ANILCA). In ANILCA, Congress chose to preserve 57 million acres as formally designated wilderness. Section 1320 of ANILCA exempts BLM lands in Alaska from the wilderness study process required under Section 603 of FLPMA. Section 1320 of ANILCA gives the Secretary of the Interior, in carrying out duties under section 201 and 202 of FLPMA, the discretion to identify areas in Alaska which are suitable as wilderness. Shortly after the passage of ANILCA, the Secretary exercised this discretion to adopt a policy not to conduct wilderness inventory, review, or study as part of the BLM planning process in Alaska.

The latest direction provided the Secretary in 2003, instructed the BLM to consider wilderness study proposals in Alaska only if there is broad support among Alaska's elected officials and that absent this broad support, wilderness should not be considered in RMPs. During development of this RMP, there has been a lack of broad support from Alaska's elected officials for wilderness proposals.

2. As described in the RMP, Travel Management, Management Actions section, the BLM's management decision for OHV use in the Bay planning area is, "OHVs will use existing trails, consistent with the State's Conditions on Generally Allowed Uses..." and "OHV use will be conducted in a manner that minimizes disturbance of vegetation, disturbance of soil stability, or impacts to drainage systems; changing the character of, polluting, or introducing silt and sediment into streams, lakes, ponds, seeps, or marshes; and disturbance of fish and wildlife." Additionally, all proposals for OHV management under consideration would be consistent with Section 811 of ANILCA, which allows for appropriate use for subsistence purpose.
3. Disregard the following words: "...where there is a demonstrated lack of support by residents using the rivers" (Proposed RMP/FEIS page 2-56, Alternative D). As stated in the Bay RMP scoping report (USDOI-BLM, 2005d) there was some support for WSR designation in some comments.
4. Land comprising the Carter Spit ACEC is subject to the management decisions for OHV use as described on page 2-41 of the Proposed RMP/FEIS, section e. Travel Management, 3(b) management decisions.
5. There are currently no designated trails on BLM-managed lands in the Bay planning area, only existing trails. Trails may be designated through a Comprehensive Trails and Travel Management, planned for completion within five years of signing the ROD for the RMP/FEIS.
6. In the event lands adjacent to the Carter Spit ACEC are relinquished from current selection, the BLM will consider incorporating these lands into the Carter Spit ACEC. As

stated on pages 2-54 and 2-55 of the Proposed RMP/FEIS states, "Should lands adjacent to the ACEC be relinquished from selection, they may be added to the ACEC. This would be performed through a plan amendment at a later date."

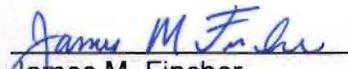
7. The Carter Spit ACEC is recommended as a ROW avoidance area (ROW may be permitted with special restrictions), as written in Chapter 2 of the Proposed RMP/FEIS, page 2-51 Alternative D; page 2-52, Table 2.10 Land Use Authorizations, Alternative D; and page 2-71 Table 2.12, Alternative Summary Table, Land Use Authorizations and Rights-of-Way, Alternative D. This clarifies the discrepancy in text on page 2-83, Table 2.13, Effects to Lands and Realty, Alternative D, stating, "Additional restrictions would include no Land Use Authorizations in the proposed Carter Spit ACEC."
8. The Proposed RMP/FEIS on page 3-136 references an incorrect definition of State subsistence use. The State does not allocate subsistence resource harvest opportunities based on rural or non-rural residency. See Alaska Subsistence Statute 16.05.258.
9. In Alternative D, the BLM has identified parcels for disposal (Sale) as described in the FEIS, Table 2.10, on page 2-52. Text on page 2-46, Management Common to All Action Alternatives (B, C, and D) describing, "No specific parcels available for sale are identified in this RMP", is incorrect.
10. As requested from protests, an updated description of the Pebble Partnership can be found at the following website: <http://www.dnr.state.ak.us/mlw/mining/largemine/pebble/>
11. All trails discussed on Proposed RMP/FEIS pages 3-103 and 3-104 are depicted in Map 3.44 rather than Map 3.43 as stated.
12. On Proposed RMP/FEIS page 3-103: Trail EIN 4 C3, C4, D1, D9 crosses lands selected by Kuitsarak, Incorporated rather than Calista Corporation as stated.
13. On Proposed RMP/FEIS page 3-103, fourth paragraph: Section 23, T. 10 S., R. 71 W. and the beginning of the trail referenced, is a priority selection of Kuitsarak, Incorporated rather than Calista Corporation as written in the Proposed RMP.
14. Page 3-103, fifth paragraph, Winter trail EIN 1 C3, C5, D1, D9, M is located on the surface estate reserved in Patent 50-95-0632 to Kuitsarak, Incorporated. The subsurface estate is owned by Calista in Patent 50-95-0633.
15. Page 3-104, first sentence: No regional corporation or state selection priority exist in this section but rather land status is BLM unencumbered.

## IX. AVAILABILITY OF THE PLAN

Copies of the Record of Decision and the Bay Resource Management Plan are available on request from the following locations: BLM Anchorage Field Office, 4700 BLM Road, Anchorage, Alaska 99507, (907) 267-1246 or (800) 478-1263, and on the Anchorage Field Office website at: [http://www.blm.gov/ak/st/en/prog/planning/bay\\_rmp\\_eis\\_home\\_page.html](http://www.blm.gov/ak/st/en/prog/planning/bay_rmp_eis_home_page.html)

## X. FIELD MANAGER RECOMMENDATIONS

Having considered a full range of reasonable alternatives, associated effects, and public input, I recommend adoption and implementation of the attached Bay Resource Management Plan.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
James M. Fincher  
Anchorage Field Manager

11/03/2008  
Date

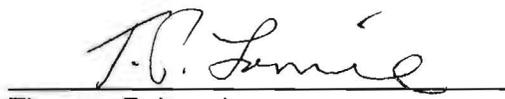
## CONCURRENCE

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Gary Reimer  
Anchorage District Manager

11/03/08  
Date

## APPROVAL

In consideration of the foregoing, I approve the Bay Resource Management Plan.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Thomas P. Lonnie  
State Director

11-4-08  
Date