



Newsletter of the  
**Kobuk-Seward Peninsula**  
 Resource Management Plan - Update

Summer 2008

**BLM**

**Greetings:**

The Record of Decision (ROD) for the 11.9-million-acre Kobuk-Seward Peninsula planning area is now available.

The BLM started the planning process for the Kobuk-Seward Peninsula planning area in January 2004 by conducting public scoping to gather information about the issues and resources. We took your comments and wrote a draft Resource Management Plan and Environmental Impact Statement (RMP/EIS)

In the summer of 2006, we held meetings in 12 communities to discuss the draft plan and gather additional comments, concerns, ideas, and suggestions about the management alternatives. We also received more than 4,000 cards, letters, and e-mails concerning the draft plan during the public comment period. We took those comments and wrote the Proposed RMP/Final EIS.

The Kobuk-Seward Peninsula Proposed Resource Management Plan and Final Environmental Impact Statement was published in September 2007, starting a 30-day protest period and a 60-day Governor's Consistency Review.

No inconsistencies with State or local plans, policies, or programs were identified during the Governor's review.

The BLM received six protests to the Proposed RMP/Final EIS, four of which were determined to have standing and which the BLM Director resolved without requiring significant changes to decisions in the Proposed RMP/Final EIS. The following clarifications were made in the ROD:

1. The BLM clarified the intent to develop Travel Management Plans for the Mount Osborn Area of Critical Environmental Concern and the Salmon Lake-Kigluaik Mountain Recreation Management Area. The projected completion of these Travel

Management Plans is within five years of the approval of the RMP/ROD as recommended in BLM Handbook H-1601-1, Appendix C, Section II (D).

2. The BLM clarified that a group size of 7-10 is the correct number for the Squirrel River Special Recreation Management Area. The BLM has corrected the Market Analysis Table in the Approved RMP/ROD to show a group size of 7-10 people.

The RMP/ROD includes a decision requiring that air taxi operators and transporters obtain commercial permits to operate in the Squirrel River Special Recreation Management Area. This is an implementation level decision appealable to the Interior Board of Land Appeals (IBLA) under 43 CFR part 4. This decision is found in Section III. D. Implementation Decisions of the ROD.



Any party adversely affected by the implementation decision concerning permits for air taxi operators and transporters may appeal within 30 days of publication of the Notice of Availability by filing a notice of appeal in the office of the **BLM Central Yukon Field Manager** at the address listed below. Please consult 43 CFR Part 4 for further information on the IBLA appeals process.

The Approved RMP and ROD is available in paper copy or on a compact disc by request. The document will also be posted on the Internet at: <http://www.blm.gov/ak> and then clicking on Programs, Planning and Kobuk-Seward Peninsula RMP.

To request a copy of the ROD/Approved RMP, contact us by phone at 907-474-2200 or send an email request to [jeanie\\_cole@blm.gov](mailto:jeanie_cole@blm.gov), or mail a request to BLM, Fairbanks District Office, 1150 University Ave., Fairbanks, AK 99709-3844.

Thank you for your input and continued participation.

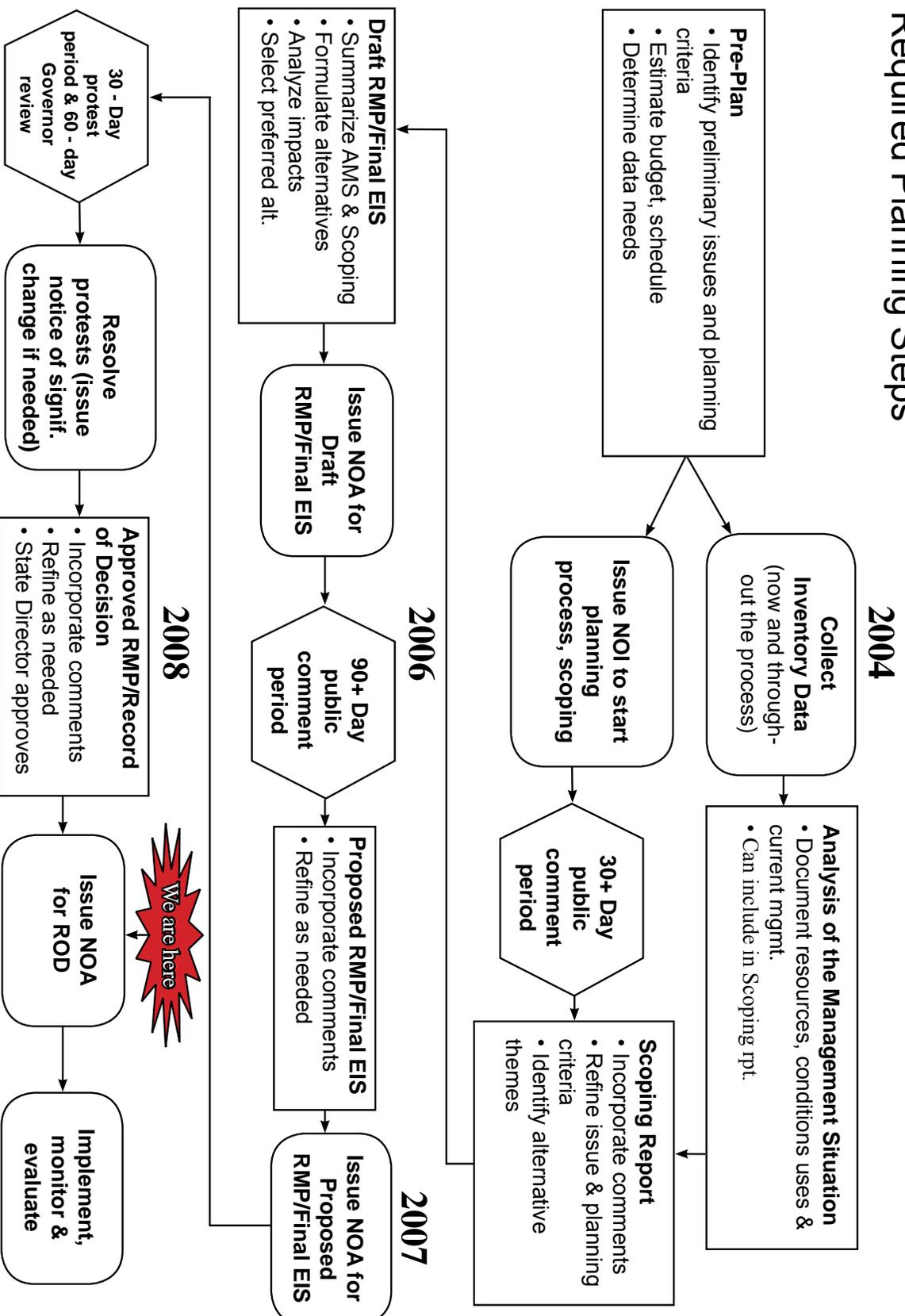
**Shelly Jacobson**  
 Field Manager

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# Kobuk-Seward Peninsula RMP

## Required Planning Steps



AMS = Analysis of the Management Situation; EIS = Environmental Impact Statement; NOI = Notice of Intent; NOA = Notice of Availability; RMP = Resource Management Plan; ROD = Record of Decision