



News Release BLM-Alaska Anchorage Field Office

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BLM Releases Record of Decision for Bay Resource Management Plan

ANCHORAGE – The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) announces the availability of the Record of Decision for the Bay Resource Management Plan (RMP). The 23-million-acre Bay planning area includes approximately 1.9 million acres of BLM-administered public land and resources in the Bristol Bay and Goodnews Bay regions of southwest Alaska.

The Bay Approved RMP is essentially the same as the Proposed RMP issued in December 2007, with minor modifications added for clarification. The BLM received five protests to the Proposed RMP. The BLM Director resolved the protests without requiring significant changes to the Proposed RMP. Minor modifications and clarifications to the proposed plan are outlined in the Record of Decision.

The approved plan designates one Area of Critical of Environmental Concern, located at Carter Spit in the Goodnews Bay area. The plan also recommends the revocation of all Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (ANCSA) Section 17(d)(1) withdrawals in the planning area. Future exploration and development on these lands would be guided by conditions outlined in the plan.

The Bay planning documents are available online at www.blm.gov/ak and at BLM offices in Anchorage. For more information about the Bay Resource Management Plan or to obtain the document on CD or in printed form, contact the BLM at 907-267-1246 or 800-478-1263 (within Alaska).

The BLM, an agency of the U.S. Department of the Interior, manages 258 million surface acres – more land than any other federal agency. Most of this public land is in 12 Western states, including 80.8 million surface acres in Alaska. The Bureau also administers 700 million acres of sub-surface mineral estate throughout the nation. The BLM's multiple-use mission is to sustain the health and productivity of the public lands for the use and enjoyment of present and future generations. The Bureau accomplishes this by managing such activities as outdoor recreation, livestock grazing, mineral development, and energy production, and by conserving natural, historical, cultural, and other resources on the public lands.

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