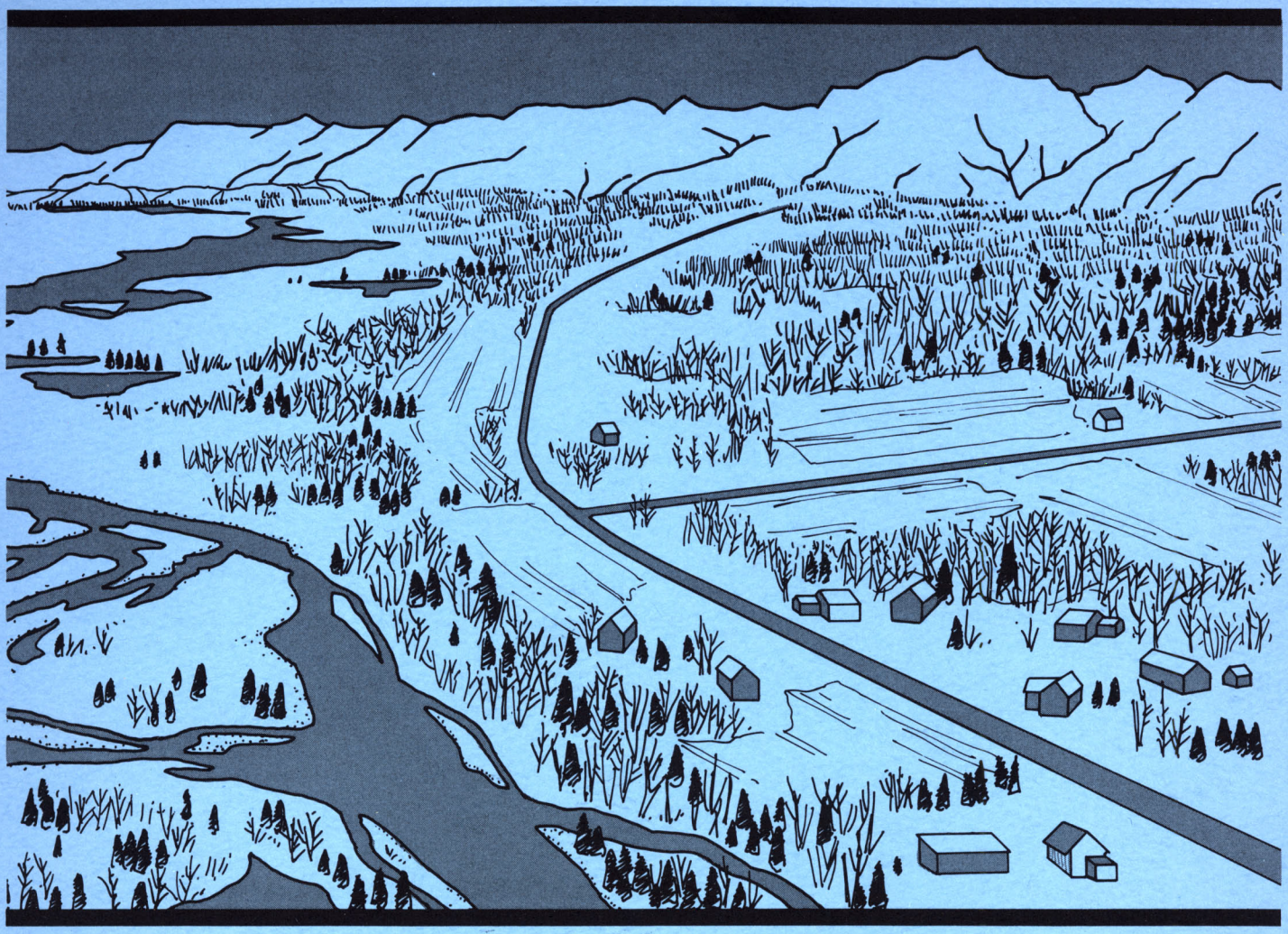
SUSITNA AREA PLAN



JUNE 1985

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In Cooperation With:
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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BILL SHEFFIELD, GOVERNOR

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER

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The Commissioner of the Department of Natural Resources finds that the Susitna Basin Area Plan meets the requirements of AS 38.04.065 and 11 AAC 55.010-.030 for Area Land Use Plans and does hereby adopt it as policy of the Department of Natural Resources for state lands within the planning area.

Esther C. Wunnicke — April 24, 1985

Esther Wunnicke, Commissioner
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Date

The Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) has actively participated in the Susitna area land use planning process. We appreciate the opportunity to present fish and wildlife values in the plan and the commitment of the Department of Natural Resources to address fish and wildlife concerns. We recognize that the planning area cannot be managed solely for fish and wildlife resources and the people who use and enjoy them, yet we believe that the open planning process has achieved a significant public benefit. We acknowledge progress made in the plan to strike a balance between often conflicting uses of land. Although any disposal of recreation lands reduces their availability to the public, we recognize the demands on the state to dispose of lands at the level provided for in the plan. The department strongly supports the proposed public access, trail, and lake and stream shoreline policies established in the plan. In addition, we support the plan's endorsement of long-term legislative or administrative dedication of some key public resource lands in this area. The department will use the guidance and policies of the plan when executing its statutory authority during plan implementation, and will continue to cooperate with the Alaska Department of Natural Resources.

Don W. Collinsworth — 5.7.85

Don W. Collinsworth, Commissioner
ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

Date

Matanuska-Susitna Borough

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BOROUGH ASSEMBLY

The Susitna Area Plan contains four major products for public land: areawide land management policies, land use designations for specific sites, priorities for implementing, and procedures for review and amendments. The Assembly of the Matanuska-Susitna Borough adopted the Susitna Area Plan on March 19, 1985, by Ordinance Serial No. 85-8.

Dorothy A. Jones
Mayor

ATTEST:

Chris Seagraves
Borough Clerk

Gary Thurlow
Borough Manager

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The Susitna Area Planning Team would like to acknowledge our debt to the staff of the Susitna Cooperative River Basin Study, particularly Sterling Powell, John O'Neil and Devony Lehner of the USDA Soil Conservation Service and Paul Fuglestad of the USDA Economic Research Service for providing much of the data on which this land use plan is based. We also would like to extend our special thanks to Amy Garrett, Charlotte Sponsel, Elaine Thomas, Patty Kerschner, Susan Peck, and Diane Martin for their patience and dedication in the preparation of the manuscript and graphic work for this document, and to Carol Larsen for coordinating public information for the plan.

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U.S.D.I. BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH

* The name of the official agency representative to the planning team is in bold type. Other agency people added expertise on various issues.

HOW TO USE THIS PLAN

While the size of this plan may be intimidating, the document is organized to make it simple to use. The plan has two main sections: Chapter 2, which deals with areawide land management policy and is organized by types of land uses or resources (e.g., agriculture, wetlands, etc.); and Chapter 3, which deals with policy for specific locations (e.g., land at Lake Louise, Trapper Creek, etc.).

In addition to these chapters, which comprise the bulk of the plan, Chapter 1 presents an introduction to how and why the plan was done and gives a summary of the plan's overall goals. Chapter 4 describes actions necessary to implement the plan (e.g., transportation improvements, legislative actions, etc.). The table of contents and some examples of how to use the plan are shown on the facing page and below:

EXAMPLES:

If you want to know how the plan affects a particular land use or resource — for example, agriculture, forestry or land sales — turn to Chapter 2. This chapter presents general land management policies for the entire planning area and a summary of the amount and location of land allocated to each type of land use. For example, pages 35 through 41 present policies on state and borough land disposal programs and describe the amount and location of land allocated to this use.

If you want to know how the plan affects a particular piece of land — for example, a parcel north of Trapper Creek — turn to Chapter 3. The planning area is divided into 12 subregions, and Chapter 3 has a section on each subregion. To find the portion of the plan dealing with the specific parcel you are interested in, turn to the map showing subregions on page 67 . On this map, locate the subregion containing the parcel and then turn to the appropriate section of Chapter 3. For example, the area north of Trapper Creek is in the Petersville Road Subregion which is covered on pages 131 through 163.

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Also included in a package at the end of this document are two large colored maps showing surface and subsurface land use designations and a reference map indicating the location of all subregions and management units in relation to geographic features and the township-range grid.