

**STATE OF ALASKA
DEPARTMENT OF NATRUAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF MINING, LAND AND WATER**

MINERAL ORDER NO. 1039

 X Closing Lands to Mineral Entry _____Opening Lands to Mineral Entry

I. Name: Point Bridget/Echo Ranch Bible Camp Land Exchange Area

II. Reason for Mineral Order: This mineral order is based upon the attached Commissioner's Administrative Finding and applicable statutes.

III. Authority: AS 38.05.185, AS 38.05.300 and 11 AAC 67.230(b)

IV. Location and Legal Description: Lands to be closed under this Mineral Order include lands in and adjacent to Point Bridget State Park near Berners Bay and Lynn Canal depicted on the attached map and to be described as USS 1154, Tract A in Sections 13 and 24, T37S R63E, CMR, consisting of approximately 44 acres, and Lots 3, 6, 16, 17 and 19, in Section 13, T37S R63E, CRM, consisting of approximately 43.61 acres.

V. Mineral Closing: This mineral order is subject to valid existing rights and is issued under the authority granted by AS 38.05.185 – 38.05.275, AS 38.05.300 and 11 AAC 67.230(b) to the Department of Natural Resources. In accordance with AS 38.05.185(a), I find that the best interests of the State of Alaska and its residents are served by closing the land described in this mineral closing order to entry under the mineral location and mining laws of the State of Alaska. The above-described lands are hereby closed to entry under the locatable mineral and mining laws of the State of Alaska.

Concur: _____
Brent W. Goodrum, Director
Division of Mining, Land and Water

Date

Approved: _____
Mark D. Myers, Commissioner
Department of Natural Resources

Date

**STATE OF ALASKA
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF MINING, LAND AND WATER**

**ADMINISTRATIVE FINDING
MINERAL ORDER NO. 1039
Closing Lands to Mineral Entry**

POINT BRIDGET STATE PARK/ERBC LAND EXCHANGE

The Department of Natural Resources (DNR), Division of Mining, Land and Water, Resource Assessment & Development Section (RADS), proposes to close to mineral entry lands that are the subject of a land exchange being executed under AS 38.50. These lands are known as the Point Bridget State Park/Echo Ranch Bible Camp Land Exchange, ADL 106979. This site is located within Sections 13 and 24 of T. 37 South, R. 63 East, Copper River Meridian, in or adjacent to Point Bridget State Park near Berners Bay and Lynn Canal in Juneau.

Upon entering into a Preliminary Exchange Agreement 11 AAC 67.230(b), requires the department initiate procedures to close lands proposed for exchange to mineral entry and location under AS 38.05.185. The state lands proposed for exchange are within and adjacent to Point Bridget State Park. The Park was established to protect the area's recreational and scenic resources, to preserve and enhance the continued use of the area for hunting, fishing and recreational activities. Mining activity in this area is incompatible with the intended recreational uses and is contrary to the enabling legislation of the park.

For these reasons, I find:

1. The closing of state and private land to mineral entry in and adjacent of Point Bridget State Park is appropriate. Mineral entry and development are not consistent with the intended purposes of the State Park, and is therefore inappropriate in this area.
2. The requirements for closure under AS 38.05.185 – 38.05.275 and 11 AAC 67.230(6) have been met.

The amount of land closed under this order is approximately 88 acres. The areas affected by this Mineral Order are depicted in the attached map.

Concur:

Brent W. Goodrum, Director
Department of Natural Resources

Date

Approved:

Mark D. Myers, Commissioner
Department of Natural Resources

Date