

CLOSURE OF TRUST LAND
TO INCONSISTENT USE
MHT 9100218

I. Proposed Action: Continue the existing closure of Trust land at Icy Cape to all unauthorized public use indefinitely.

II. Authority: 11 AAC 99.080

III. Subject Property: (Map attached)

A. Legal Description: All land within Township 22 South, Ranges 19-22 East and Township 23 South, Ranges 21-22 East, Copper River Meridian.

B. Settlement Parcel Numbers: CRM-0001, CRM-0002, CRM-0003, CRM-0004, CRM-0005, CRM-0006, CRM-0007-A, CRM-0007-B, CRM-0008 and CRM-0009.

C. Total Acreage: Approximately 50,000 acres.

IV. Applicant: Trust Land Office (TLO)

V. Background: The Trust Land Office closed all Trust owned property at Icy Cape on June 14, 2000 to unauthorized public use to preclude conflicts with ongoing timber harvest operations. Timber harvest operations in the vicinity have ceased. The TLO believes that long term timber remains the most viable economic interest for these lands. Regeneration of timber is slow and it may be another 25 years before harvestable stands exist. Short-term and mid-term uses that could provide revenue in the interim are being evaluated. Big game wildlife resources abound in the area and a big game guiding license is issued at Icy Cape for calendar year 2008. A prospectus has been prepared to solicit interest for a longer period of use for commercial big game guiding services. An evaluation of the experience with the licensee will determine whether the prospectus will be issued.

VI. Asset Management Considerations: Although an extensive, in-depth analysis of the resource potential on the Trust Icy Cape land has not been done, the remoteness presents significant barriers to development of all known resources, except the wildlife resources where remoteness is an asset rather than a liability. Exclusive use of the area by a single guide greatly enhances the potential return to the trust because without competition from other guides game populations can remain high thus increasing the quality of trophy big game animals.

VII. Due Diligence: The TLO has a responsibility to the Trust to protect corpus land and resources from unauthorized use. Many of the risks identified with unauthorized use by the public on the Icy Bay land in the initial closure remain even though timber harvest operations have ceased. With the close-out of the timber operations rolling equipment, buildings and other equipment have been transferred to the Trust from the operators.

Unfettered public access to the area creates a potential for vandalism and theft problems that would be expensive and difficult to monitor. Closure to public use, except by specific authorization, is necessary for the following reasons: provides a minimal level of security for Trust property and equipment; reduces the potential for resource damage; minimizes the potential for refuse accumulation that could create animal-human conflicts; reduces the potential for liability claims against the Trust in a remote and dangerous area; and; increases the potential for a significant revenue stream to the Trust through exclusive commercial big game guiding services.

Permanent 36" X 24" aluminum signs on steel posts have been placed at the west and east end of the trust land, at the entrance/exit road access points to the air strip and at the beach access road just south of the west end of the runway. These signs state that the land is closed to any unauthorized public use and provides a telephone number for contacting the TLO.

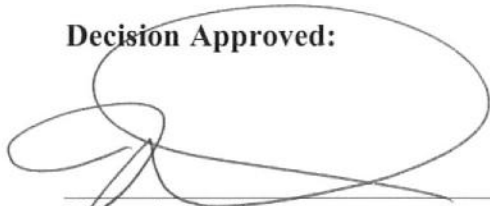
Notification to the neighboring land managers, City and Borough of Yakutat, Yakutat and Cordova Post Offices, the Cordova Detachment of the Alaska State Troopers and air taxi operators known to have used the airstrip will be done immediately.

The FAA lists the airstrip as private and as such is not available for general use.

The big game operator under license is monitoring use of the area and will serve as informal 'eyes and ears' for the TLO.

IX. TLO Decision: The existing closure of the Trust land at Icy Cape is extended indefinitely.

Decision Approved:



Harry A. Noah
Executive Director

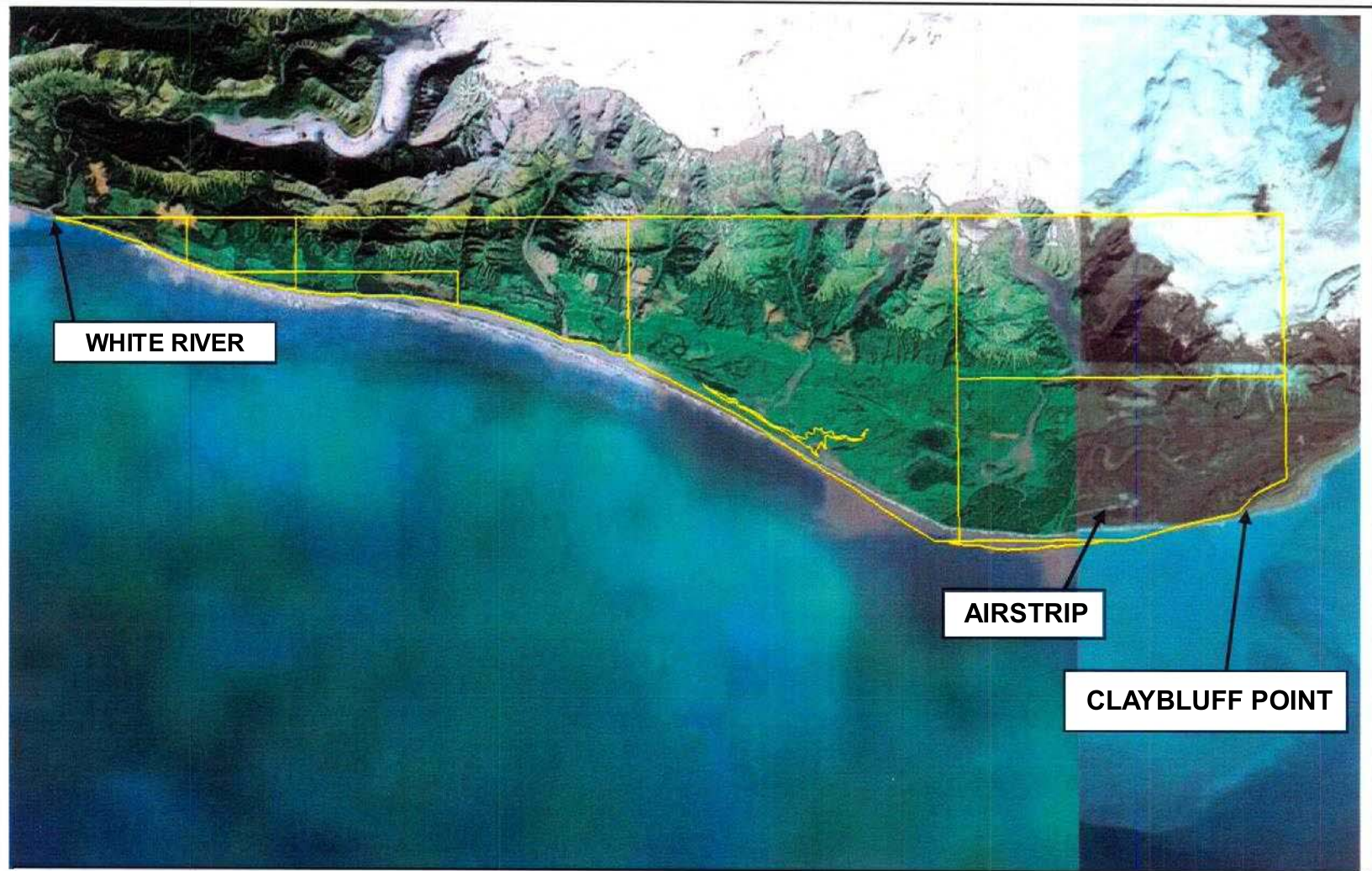
9/14/08
Date

Acknowledgement of Consultation:



Jeff L. Jessee, Chief Executive Officer
Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority

9/30/08
Date



Alaska Mental Health Trust land and airstrip at Icy Cape closed to public use

All land within Township 22 South, Ranges 19-22 East and Township 23 South, Ranges 21-22 East, Copper River Meridian. Total Acreage: Approximately 50,000 acres.