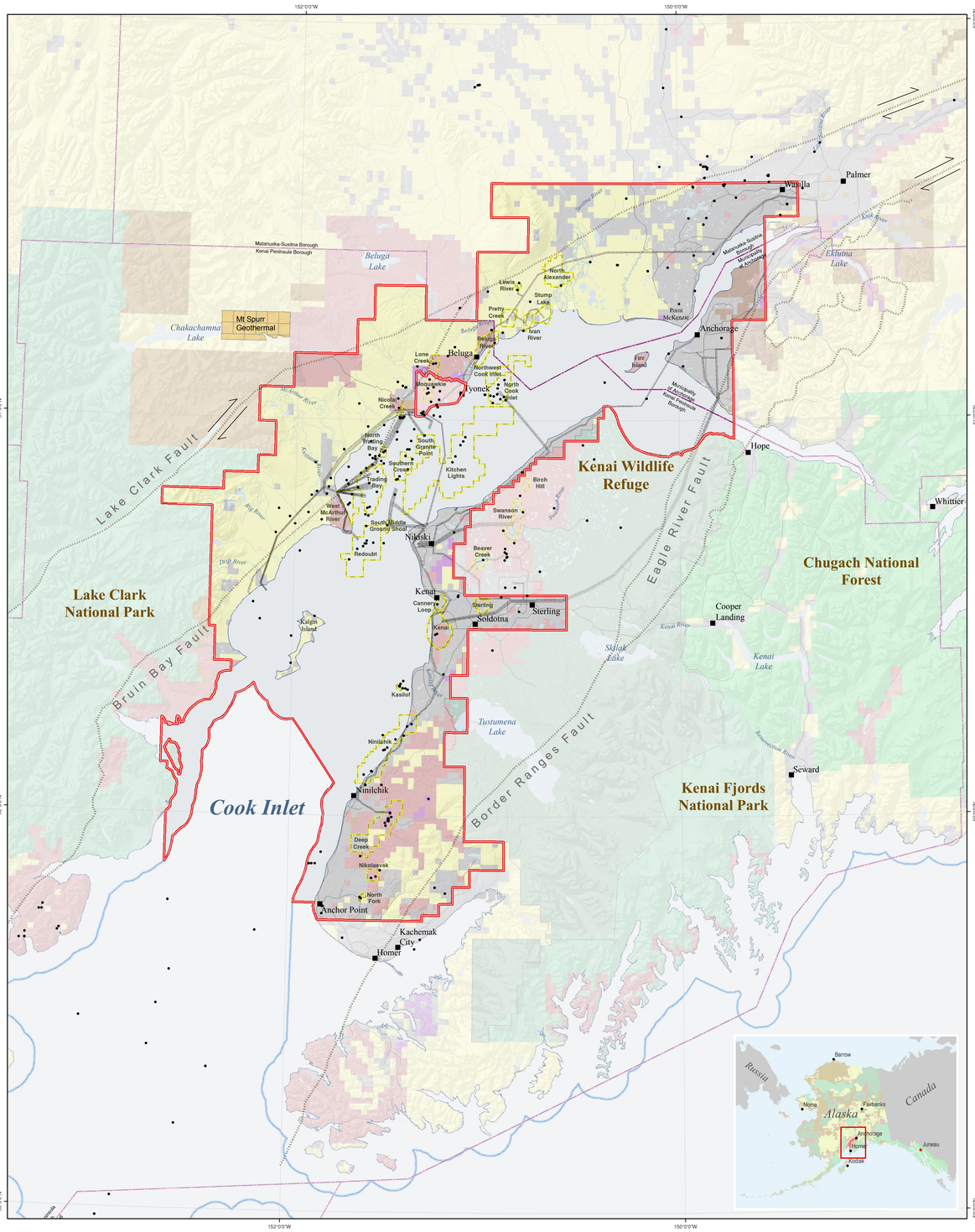
State of Alaska
Department of Natural Resources
Division of Oil and Gas

Cook Inlet Region
Oil and Gas Program and Communities



Anchorage (Municipality of) (Unified Home Rule Municipality, Population: 291,826)
Anchorage is the most populated community in Alaska. Located in southcentral Alaska at the head of Cook Inlet. The municipality is the center of commerce for the state. Oil and gas industries, finance and real estate, transportation, communications, and government agencies are headquartered in Anchorage.

Major controlled airports include the state-owned Ted Stevens Anchorage International Airport, the Lake Hood Float Plane Base, and the municipality's Merrill Field. The Port of Anchorage handles 85% of the general cargo for the Alaska Railbelt area. There are five terminal berths, with 3,488 linear feet available. Several barge and trucking companies are available. The Alaska Railroad connects Anchorage to Seward, Whittier, and Fairbanks.

Community contacts: Municipality of Anchorage, PO BOX 196650, Anchorage, AK 99519
Phone: 907-343-7100 Fax: 907-343-7180 E-mail: mayor@muni.org Web: http://www.muni.org

Kenai Peninsula Borough (2nd Class Borough, Population: 55,440)
The Kenai Peninsula Borough is comprised of the Kenai Peninsula, Cook Inlet, and a large unpopulated area northeast of the Alaska Peninsula. The borough includes portions of the Chugach National Forest, Kenai National Wildlife Refuge, Kenai Fjords National Park, and portions of the Lake Clark and Katmai National Park. The twin cities of Kenai and Soldotna are the population centers of the borough, approximately 65 air miles south of Anchorage. The area has a well-capitalized infrastructure of airports, roads and energy-related facilities.

In 1957, oil was discovered in the Swanson River region, bringing new growth and development. The area's economy is diversified. Kenai and Soldotna residents are employed in natural gas drilling and exploration and other oil industry services for Cook Inlet oil. Off-shore oil and gas production in Cook Inlet and downstream production primarily takes place north of Kenai. Other important economic sectors include sport, subsistence, and commercial fishing, fish processing, government, agriculture, transportation, construction, services, and retail trade.

Community contacts: Kenai Peninsula Borough, 144 North Binkley Street, Soldotna, AK 99669
Phone: 907-262-4441 Fax: 907-262-1892 Email: assemblyclerk@borough.kenai.ak.us
Web: http://www.borough.kenai.ak.us

Communities within the Kenai Peninsula Borough

Anchor Point (Unincorporated, Population: 1,930)
Anchor Point is located on the Kenai Peninsula at mile 156 of the Sterling Highway which provides access to Anchorage.

Community contacts: Chamber of Commerce, PO BOX 610, Anchor Point, AK 99556
Phone: 907-235-2600 Fax: 907-235-2600 Email: info@anchorpointchamber.org
Web: http://www.anchorpointchamber.org

Beluga (Unincorporated, Population: 20)
Beluga is located 8 miles northeast of Tyonek, along the northwest shore of Cook Inlet and just 40 air miles southwest of Anchorage. Various Tanaina Athabascan settlements in this area include Old Tyonek Creek, Robert Creek, Timber Camp, Beluga, and Moquawkie Indian Reservation. Beluga is the site of a power plant owned by Chugach Electric Association and provides some electricity for Anchorage. There are seven combustion turbines fueled by natural gas and one fueled by steam.

Beluga has two private runways. One is a 2,400' by 60' gravel lighted airstrip, and the other is a gravel 5,000' by 100' that is not maintained in the winter. A road connects Beluga to nearby Tyonek. Barges deliver heavy goods to the area, and a dock is available.

Homer (1st Class City, Population: 5,003)
Homer is located on the north shore of Kachemak Bay on the southwestern edge of the Kenai Peninsula. The Homer Spit, a 4.5-mile long bar of gravel, extends from the Homer shoreline. It is 227 road miles south of Anchorage, at the southern-most point of the Sterling Highway.

Homer is accessible through the Sterling Highway. The state owns and operates the Homer Airport, with a 6,701' long by 150' wide asphalt runway and float plane basin and a seaplane base at Beluga Lake. The city is served by scheduled and chartered aircraft services. There are additional private landing strips in the vicinity. The Alaska Marine Highway and local ferry services provide water transportation. The deep-water dock can accommodate 30-foot drafts and 340-foot vessels. There is a cruise ship dock, a boat harbor with moorage for 920 vessels, and a 4-lane boat launch ramp.

Community contacts: Homer City Hall, 491 East Pioneer Avenue, Anchorage, AK 99603
Phone: 907-235-8121 Fax: 907-235-3140 Email: clerk@ci.homer.ak.us Fax: http://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov
Port & Harbor, 350 Spit Road, Homer, AK 99603
Phone: 907-235-3160 Fax: 907-235-3160 Email: port@cityofhomer-ak.gov Web: http://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/port

Kenai (Home Rule City, Population: 7,100)
Kenai is located on the western coast of the Kenai Peninsula, fronting Cook Inlet. It lies on the western boundary of the Kenai National Wildlife Refuge, on the Kenai Spur Highway. It is approximately 65 air miles and 155 highway miles southwest of Anchorage via the Sterling Highway. The city is the center of the oil and gas industry, providing services and supplies for Cook Inlet's oil and natural gas drilling and exploration.

Kenai has access to the Sterling Highway. The city-owned Kenai Municipal Airport provides a 7,830 by 150' asphalt runway, a 2,000' by 60' gravel strip, a float plane strip, and helicopter service. A flight service station is available. Float plane facilities are also available at Island Lake and Arness Lake. There are five additional privately-owned airstrips in the vicinity. The Kenai City Dock and boat ramp are located near the mouth of the Kenai River. Moorage is by buoys anchored in the Kenai River.

Community contacts: City of Kenai, 210 Fidalgo Avenue, Kenai, AK 99611
Phone: 907-283-7535 Fax: 907-283-3014 Email: rkoch@ci.kenai.ak.us Web: http://www.ci.kenai.ak.us

Nikiski (Unincorporated, Population: 4,493)
Nikiski is located on the Kenai Peninsula, 9 miles north of the City of Kenai, off of the Sterling Highway. It is also known as Port Nikiski and Nikishka. Traditionally in Kenaitze Indian territory, the area was homesteaded in the 1940s and grew with the discovery of oil on the Kenai Peninsula in 1957. Nikiski is the site of a Tesoro Alaska oil refinery, where Cook Inlet and some North Slope crude oil is processed into jet fuel, gasoline, and diesel.

The Sterling Highway provides access to Anchorage. The Port Nikiski docks service offshore drilling platforms. There are two private airstrips in the vicinity.

Ninilchik (Unincorporated, Population: 883)
Ninilchik lies on the west coast of the Kenai Peninsula on the Sterling Highway just 38 miles southwest of the City of Kenai and 188 road miles from Anchorage. The community lies between mileposts 119 and 144 of the Sterling Highway.

A state-owned 2,400' long by 60' wide dirt/gravel airstrip is located on Oilwell Road.

Community contacts: Ninilchik Village, P.O. Box 39070, Ninilchik, AK 99639 (BIA Recognized Tribe)
Phone: 907-567-3313 Fax: 907-567-3308 Email: ntc@ninilchiktribe-nsn.gov Web: http://www.ninilchiktribe-nsn.gov
Ninilchik Native Association, Inc., P.O. Box 39130, Ninilchik, AK 99639 (Village Corporation)
Phone: 907-567-3866 Fax: 907-567-3867 Email: nnai@nnai.net Web: http://www.nnai.net

Soldotna (1st Class City, Population 4,163)
Soldotna is on the Kenai Peninsula, 150 highway miles south of Anchorage, at the junction of the Sterling and Kenai Spur Highways. It lies 10 miles inland from Cook Inlet and borders the Kenai River. The city of Soldotna houses the seat of government for the Kenai Peninsula Borough.

The Soldotna Municipal Airport provides facilities for charter services and local air traffic. The main runway is 5,000' long by 132' wide. Seaplanes can also land at Mackeys Lakes. There are four additional private landing strips in Soldotna and a heliport for medical emergencies at Central Peninsula General Hospital. The Sterling Highway provides access to Alaska's road system.

Community contacts: City of Soldotna, 177 North Birch Street, Soldotna, AK 99669
Phone: 907-262-9107 Fax: 907-262-1245 Web: http://www.ci.soldotna.ak.us

Sterling (Unincorporated, Population: 5,617)
Sterling is located on the Sterling Highway at the junction of the Moose and Kenai Rivers, 18 miles east of the City of Kenai and provides access to Alaska's road system. There are several private airstrips in the Sterling area, and a private seaplane base at Scout Lake. There are two privately-operated boat launches. -

Tyonek (Unincorporated, Population: 171)
Tyonek lies on a bluff on the northwest shore of Cook Inlet, 43 miles southwest of Anchorage. Tyonek is not located directly on the Kenai Peninsula, but is inside the Kenai Peninsula Borough. It is a Dena'ina Athabascan village practicing a subsistence lifestyle. Various settlements in this area include Old Tyonek Creek, Robert Creek, Timber Camp, Beluga, and Moquawkie Indian Reservation. In 1965 the federal court ruled that the Bureau of Indian Affairs had no right to lease Tyonek Indian land for oil development without permission of the Athabascans themselves. The tribe subsequently sold rights to drill for oil and gas beneath the reservation to a group of oil companies for $12.9 million. The reservation status was revoked with the passage of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act in 1971.

No public road access exists. Permission is required to land at the local 3,000' long by 90' wide gravel airstrip, owned by the Village of Tyonek, although regularly-scheduled flights are available. A state-owned 4,003' long gravel airstrip is available at Nikolai Creek, and a 2,400' gravel airstrip, owned by Arco Alaska, is located at Beluga. A local road connects to nearby Beluga. Barges deliver goods to the village.

Community contacts: Tyonek Native Corporation, 1689 C Street, Suite 219, Anchorage, AK 99501-5131 (Village Corporation)
Phone: 907-272-0707 Fax: 907-274-7125 Email: bperatrovich@tyonek.com Web: http://www.tyonek.com
Cook Inlet Region, Inc., P.O. Box 93330, Anchorage, AK 99509-3330 (Regional Native Corporation)
Phone: 907-274-8638 Fax: 907-263-5182 Email: info@ciri.com Web: http://www.ciri.com

Matanuska-Susitna Borough (2nd Class Borough. Population: 88,995)
The borough is comprised of the lush farmlands of the Matanuska and Susitna Valleys, approximately 40 miles northeast of Anchorage. Borough residents enjoy a more rural lifestyle close to metropolitan Anchorage. Low housing costs, the rural lifestyle, and a reasonable commute to Anchorage for employment and services has made the Mat-Su Borough one of the fastest growing areas of Alaska in recent years.

The area accesses both the Glenn and George Parks Highways. Local airports supports private and chartered services. The Alaska Railroad provides for delivery of ocean freight.

Community contacts: Matanuska-Susitna Borough, 350 East Dahlia Avenue, Palmer, AK 99645
Phone: 907-745-4801 Fax: 907-745-9845 Email: egray@matsugov.us Web: http://www.matsugov.us
Mat-Su Resource Conservation & Development, Inc., 991 N Hermon Road, Suite 250, Wasilla, AK 99654
Phone: 907-373-1016 Fax: 907-373-1013 Email: info@matsudevelopment.org Web: http://www.matsudevelopment.org

Communities within the Matanuska-Susitna Borough

Palmer (Home Rule City, Population: 5,937)
Palmer is located 42 miles northeast of Anchorage on the Glenn Highway. The city of Palmer houses the seat of government for the Matanuska-Susitna Borough. The Palmer Municipal Airport supports private and chartered services with two paved airstrips.

Community contacts: Greater Palmer Chamber of Commerce, P.O. Box 45, Palmer, AK 99645
Phone: 907-745-2880 Fax: 907-746-4164 Email: info@palmerchamber.org Web: http://www.palmerchamber.org
City of Palmer 231 W. Evergreen Ave., Palmer, AK 99645
Phone: 907-745-3271 Fax: 907-745-0930 Email jbower@palmerak.org Web: http://www.cityofpalmer.org

Point MacKenzie (Unincorporated, Population: 529)
Point MacKenzie is located between the south shore of Knik Arm of Cook Inlet and the Little Susitna River, in the Matanuska-Susitna Borough. It lies on Point MacKenzie Road, south of Big Lake, about 15 miles southwest of Wasilla. Point MacKenzie Road is accessible from Knik Road and the George Parks Highway. A private airstrip is located in the area. The Point MacKenzie Industrial Port is a deep-draft port.

Wasilla (1st Class City, Population: 7,831)
Wasilla is located midway between the Matanuska and Susitna Valleys, on the George Parks Highway. It lies between Lucille Lake and Wasilla Lake, 43 miles north of Anchorage. The Alaska Railroad serves Wasilla on the Fairbanks-to-Seward route. A city airport, with a paved 3,700' long by 75' wide airstrip, provides scheduled commuter and air taxi services.

Community contacts: City of Wasilla, 290 East Herning Ave., Wasilla, AK 99654
Phone: 907-373-9050 Fax: 907-373-9096 Email: mayor@ci.wasilla.ak.us, clerk@ci.wasilla.ak.us
Web: http://www.cityofwasilla.com
Greater Wasilla Chamber of Commerce, 415 E. Railroad Avenue, Wasilla, AK 99654
Phone: 907-376-1299 Fax: 907-373-2560 Email: contact@wasillachamber.org Web: http://www.wasillachamber.org

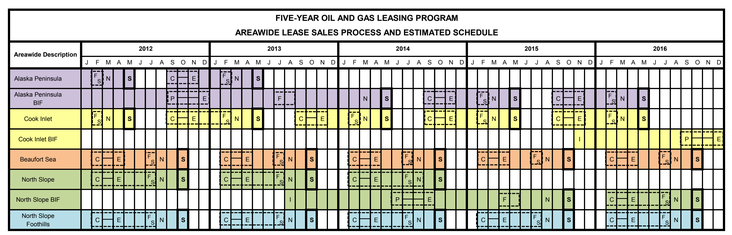
AREAWIDE OIL AND GAS LEASE SALES

Alaska has had a competitive oil and gas leasing program since 1959, in which it has offered tens of millions of acres for lease. Each year the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) issues a Five Year Oil and Gas Leasing Program that sets out a sale schedule for the succeeding five years. All proposed sales are areawide sales that include all available state acreage within a geographic region.

Annual Areawide Lease Sales:
- Provide an established time each year that acreage within a geographical region will be available for lease,
- Increase the number of lease sales conducted by the state,
- Allow companies to plan and develop their exploration strategies and budgets years in advance,
- Result in more efficient exploration and earlier development.

For each sale area DNR must prepare a finding to determine if the lease sale is in best interests of the state. The finding then has standing for ten years. During subsequent years, until it is necessary to prepare a new finding, DNR issues a call for new information that has come available since the finding was written. If new information is considered significant a supplement to the finding is written.

Ninety days prior to the sale date the sale is announced along with the lease terms and conditions. The state offers attractive bidding terms that include combinations of fixed and variable bonus bids, royalty shares and net profit shares. Minimum bids vary but have recently ranged from $5 to $25 per acre. Fixed royalty rates are generally set at 12-1/2 percent or 16-2/3 percent. Lease terms are five, seven or ten years depending on distance from existing infrastructure and as determined by the Commissioner of Natural Resources. Rental rates are subject to change with the terms of the sale.



BIF = New best interest finding
C = Call for new information (beginning of public comment)
E = Public comment period ends
F = Issue final finding
FS = Issue supplement to the finding (if any)
I = Request information from agencies
N = Publish notice of sale and terms
P = Issue preliminary best interest finding (beginning of public comment)
S = Hold sale
= Public process

Ten-Year Best Interest Finding Estimated Release Schedule

2013 Alaska Peninsula
2015 North Slope
2017 Cook Inlet
2019 Beaufort Sea
2021 North Slope Foothills

Map Features

- Pipelines
- Roads
- Faults
- Exploration or Stratigraphic Test Wells
- Communities
- Areawide Sale Boundary
- Unit Boundary
- Municipality/Borough Boundary
- Geothermal Leases

Scale 1:500,000
0 5 10 20 30 40 50 Miles
0 10 20 40 60 80 100 Kilometers

Alaska Albers Equal Area Conic
False Easting: 0.000000
Central Meridian: -154.000000
Standard Parallel 2: 65.000000

North American Datum 1983
False Northing: 0.000000
Standard Parallel 1: 55.000000
Latitude of Origin: 50.000000

Generalized Land Status

- State
- State and Native
- U.S. Forest Service
- U.S. Park Service
- National Wildlife Refuge
- BLM
- Military
- Native
- Private and Municipal

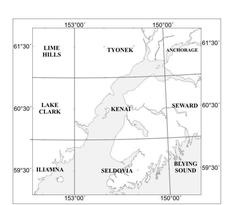
DATA SOURCES

Base map data, including hydrologic data, village and town locations, land status and boundaries, etc. are from the State of Alaska Statewide Land Records Information Systems GIS database. Oil and gas wells are from the Alaska Oil and Gas Conservation Commission dataset. Land status is derived from the Federal Bureau of Land Managements' general land status dataset. Community information compiled from query (Jan. 4, 2012) of Division of Community and Regional Affairs at http://commerce.alaska.gov/dca.commdb/CF_BLOCK.htm, population 2010 U.S. Census. Fault boundaries taken from Magoon, L.B., Adkison, W.L., and Egbert, R.M., 1976, Map showing geology, wildcat wells, tertiary plant-fossil localities, K-Ar age dates and petroleum operations, Cook Inlet area, Alaska: U.S. Geologic Survey Miscellaneous Investigations, Map I-1019, 3 sheets, scale 1:250,000.

Information on this map is depicted only at a township or section level resolution. For detailed information regarding and specific area, interested individuals may consult the land records of one or more of the following agencies:

The State of Alaska, Dept. of Natural Resources
The Federal Bureau of Land Management
Alaska Oil and Gas Conservation Commission

Discrepancies in boundary alignments are the result of merging multiple data sets from a number of different sources.



USGS 1:250,000 Quad Sheet Index

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Alaska Department of NATURAL RESOURCES Division of Oil and Gas