

Alaska Peninsula Areawide Oil and Gas Lease Sale

Annually Held in Spring

Property Description and Location: The proposed 2013-2017 Alaska Peninsula oil and gas lease sale area is located on the north side of the Alaska Peninsula. It stretches from the Nushagak Peninsula in the north, then south and west to the vicinity of Cold Bay. The lease sale area covers about 5.8 million acres, and is divided into 1,047 tracts ranging in size from 1,280 to 5,760 acres.

Approximately 1.75 million acres of the gross sale area are offshore. The lease sale area contains tracts in which the state owns both the land estate and the mineral estate; and tracts where the state owns the mineral estate while the land estate may be privately owned or owned by a municipality. The most recent best interest finding for the Alaska Peninsula was issued on July 25, 2005.

On October 12, 2012, DNR called for substantial new information that has become available over the past year. Based on a determination of whether substantial new information justifies a supplement to the most recent best interest finding, DNR will issue either a “Decision of New Substantial Information” and a supplement to the finding or a “Decision of No New Substantial Information” at least 90 days before a proposed Spring 2013 lease sale.

Petroleum Potential: Petroleum potential in the area is considered low to moderate.

Other Resource Issues: The proposed lease sale area contains some of the state’s most productive fish and wildlife populations.

A wide variety of mammals inhabit the region including caribou, brown bear, moose, Pacific walrus, beluga whale, gray whale, Steller sea lion, harbor seal, and sea otter . The Steller sea lion is listed as threatened under the federal Endangered Species Act, and several established rookery sites and critical habitat areas exist within Bristol Bay. The spotted seal is also listed as threatened under the Endangered Species act. No critical habitat is established for the spotted seal since their southern distinct population segment occurs outside the United States. The southwest Alaska Distinct Population Segment of the northern sea otter is listed as threatened under the federal Endangered Species Act, and critical

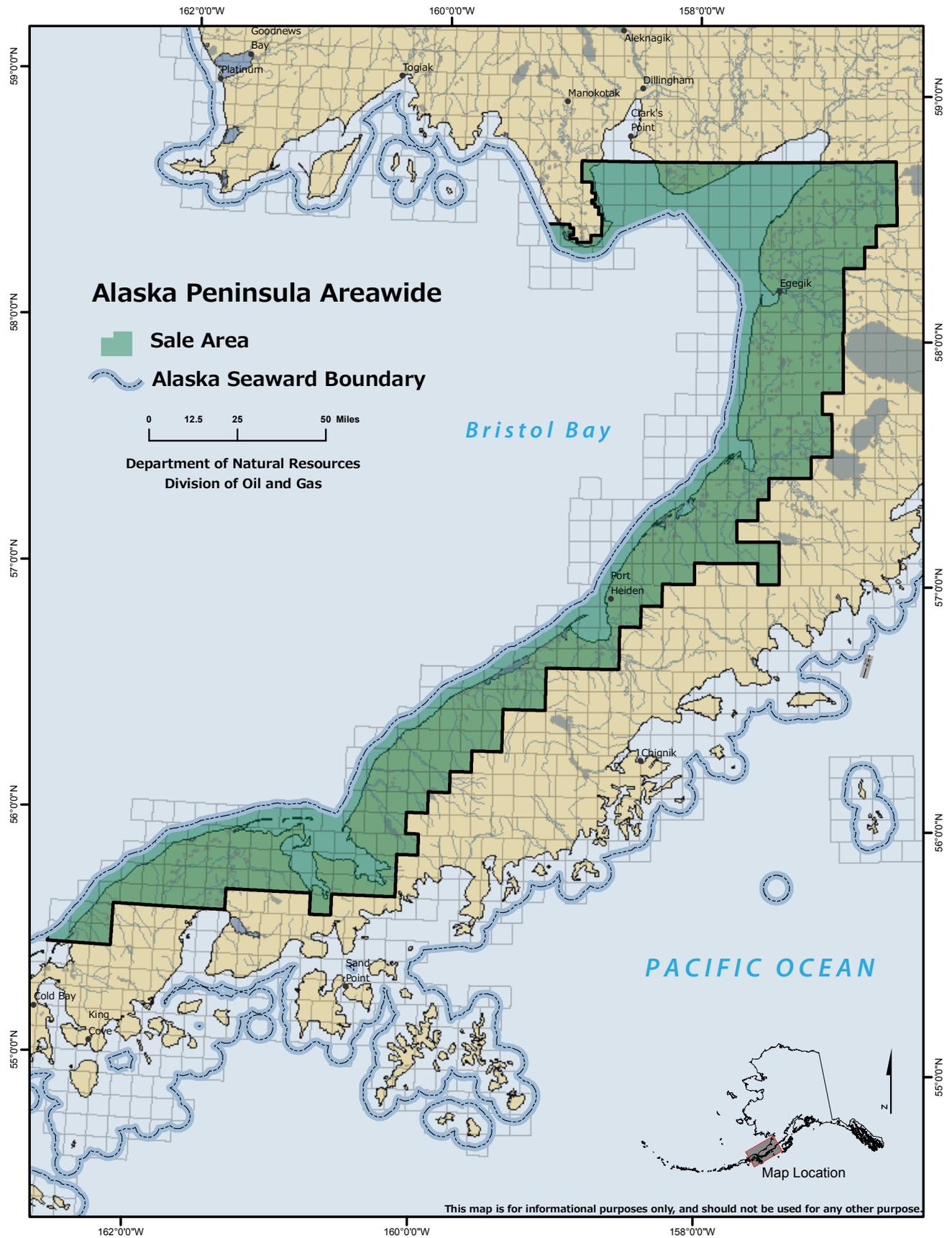
habitat is designated in the Port Moller and Herendeen Bay area. The area provides staging, feeding, and nesting habitat for hundreds of species of shorebirds and waterfowl, numbering in the millions of birds. All five species of Pacific salmon occur in the area, as well as Dolly Varden, rainbow trout, Arctic grayling, burbot, and other fishes. Fish and wildlife populations in the area are extensively harvested for subsistence and sport use, and significantly contribute to the local economy.

Municipalities and Communities: Portions of the proposed lease sale area lie within the boundaries of the Bristol Bay, Lake and Peninsula, and Aleutians East boroughs and the Dillingham Census Area.

Municipalities & Communities

Community	Population (2010)
Aleutians East Borough	3,141
Bristol Bay Borough	997
Lake & Peninsula Borough	1,631
Dillingham	2,329
Cold Bay	108
Port Heiden	102
Egegik	109
Pilot Point	68
Naknek	544
King Salmon	374
South Naknek	79
Nelson Lagoon	52
Ugashik	12

Source: http://www.commerce.state.ak.us/lea/commdb/CF_BLOCK.htm



Cook Inlet Areawide Oil and Gas Lease Sale

Annually Held in Spring

Property Description and Location: The 2013-2017 Cook Inlet Areawide oil and gas lease sale area consists of state-owned uplands in the Matanuska and Susitna river valleys generally south and west of Houston and Wasilla, the Anchorage bowl, the western and southern Kenai Peninsula from Point Possession to Anchor Point, and the western shore of Cook Inlet from the Beluga River to Harriet Point. The lease sale area also includes the tide and submerged lands in upper Cook Inlet from Knik Arm and Turnagain Arm south to Anchor Point and Tuxedni Bay. The area is bounded on the east by the Chugach and Kenai mountains and on the west by the Aleutian Range. The area is about 4.2 million acres and is divided into 815 tracts ranging from 640 to 5,760 acres.

A best interest finding for Cook Inlet was issued on January 20, 2009. On October 12, 2012, DNR called for substantial new information that has become available over the past year. Based on a determination of whether substantial new information has become available that justifies a supplement to the most recent best interest finding, DNR will issue either a “Decision of New Substantial Information” and a supplement to the finding or a “Decision of No New Substantial Information” at least 90 days before a proposed Spring 2013 lease sale.

Petroleum Potential: Petroleum potential in the area is considered low to moderate.

Other Resources: The Cook Inlet region is extensively used for recreation, subsistence and sport fishing, hunting and gathering, and commercial and personal use fishing. Five species of Pacific salmon are commercially fished throughout Cook Inlet. Numerous important anadromous fish streams are within the lease sale area. The area provides important habitat for moose, black and brown bear, caribou, and waterfowl.

Marine mammals found near or within the area include beluga whales, Steller sea lions, sea otters, and harbor seals. Species listed as threatened or endangered under the federal Endangered Species Act that inhabit the lease sale area include Steller’s eider (Alaska breeding population, threatened), Cook Inlet beluga whale (endangered), and Steller sea lion (east of 144 degrees longitude, threatened; west of 144 degrees longitude, endangered). The southwest Alaska Distinct Population Segment of the northern sea otter is listed as threatened under the federal Endangered Species Act, and critical habitat is designated around Chisik Island and Tuxedni Bay. On April 8, 2011, the National Marine Fisheries Ser-

vice designated critical habitat for beluga whales in the upper portions of Cook Inlet, Turnagain Arm and Knik Arm and in the middle of Cook Inlet, along the western shore of lower Cook Inlet, and Kachemak Bay along the eastern shore of Cook Inlet near Homer.

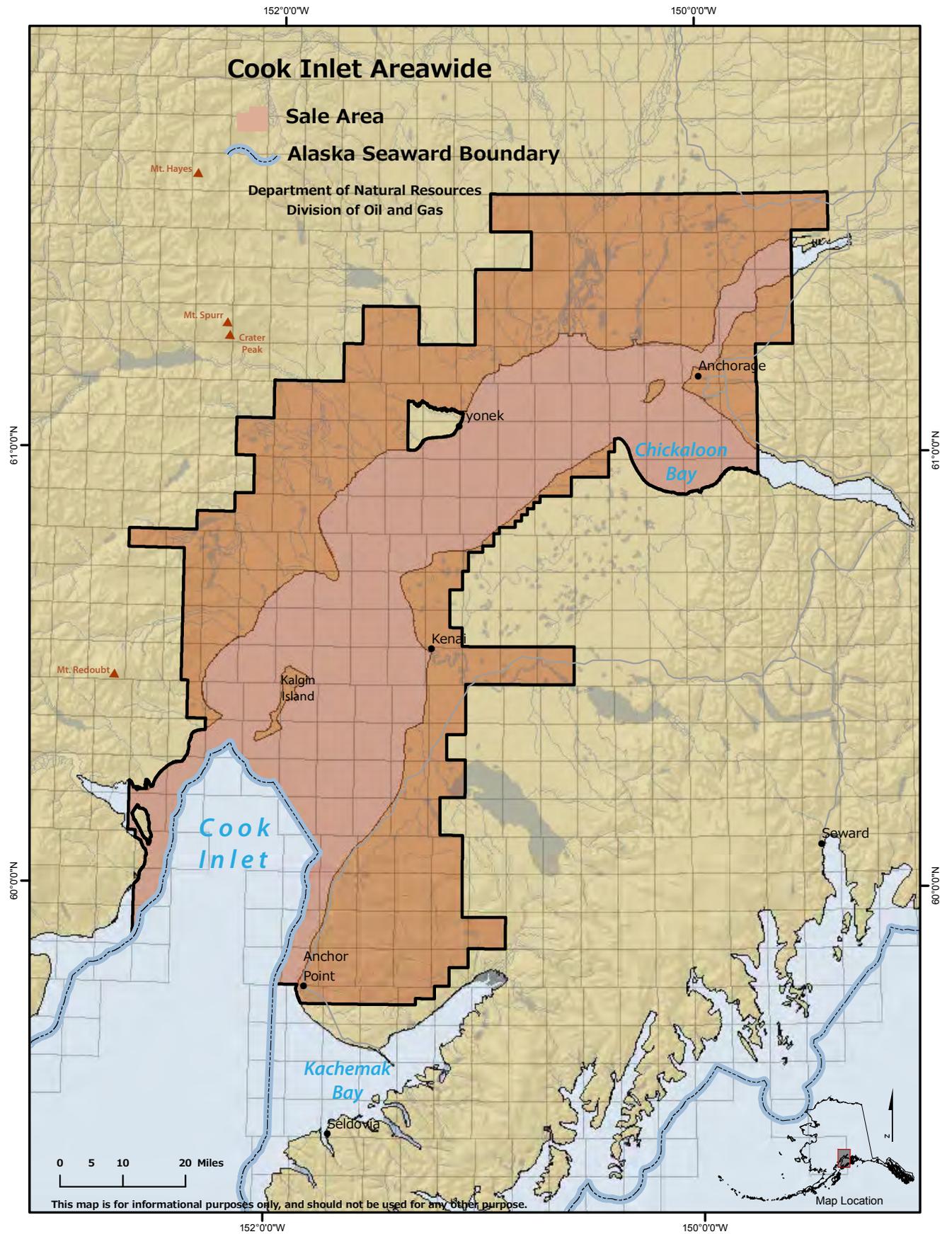
A number of state and federal wildlife refuges, critical habitat areas, recreation areas, and parks exist within or near the lease sale area. These areas encompass important fish and wildlife habitat, and have significant scenic and recreational value.

Municipalities and Communities: The sale area is within the boundaries of the Matanuska-Susitna Borough, the Municipality of Anchorage, and the Kenai Peninsula Borough.

Cook Inlet Municipalities & Communities

Community	Population (2010)
Municipality of Anchorage	291,826
Kenai Peninsula Borough	55,400
Matanuska-Susitna Borough	88,995
Kenai	7,100
Palmer	5,937
Homer	5,003
Seldovia	255
Soldotna	4,163
Wasilla	7,831
Houston	1,912
Anchor Point	1,930
Big Lake	3,350
Clam Gulch	176
Cohoe	1,364
Eklutna	not defined as community in census
Happy Valley	593
Hope	192
Kalifornsky	7,850
Kasilof	549
Knik-Fairview	14,923
Nanwalek	254
Nikiski	4,493
Nikolaevsk	318
Port Graham	177
Ridgeway	2,022
Salamatof	980
Seldovia	165
Village	
Sterling	5,617
Tyonek	171

Source: http://www.commerce.state.ak.us/dca/commdb/CF_BLOCK.htm



Beaufort Sea Areawide Oil and Gas Lease Sale

Annually Held in Fall

Property Description and Location: The 2013-2017 oil and gas lease sale area of the Beaufort Sea consists of state-owned tide and submerged lands located along the Beaufort Sea coast, between the U.S.-Canada border and Point Barrow. The lease sale area also includes some coastal uplands between the Canning and Colville Rivers.

The lease sale area encompasses about 2 million acres divided into 576 tracts, ranging in size from 640 to 5,760 acres.

A new best interest finding for the Beaufort Sea was issued on November 9, 2009. On February 17, 2012, DNR called for comments from the public requesting substantial new information that had come available since the most recent best interest finding. No appropriate information was received and DNR issued a "Decision of No New Substantial Information" on July 13, 2012. The Beaufort Sea 2012 lease sale was held on November 7, 2012. A request for new information will be publicized in February 2013.

Petroleum Potential: The petroleum potential in the area is considered moderate to high.

Other Resources: The marine and coastal environments along the Beaufort Sea lease sale area provide denning habitat for polar bears and pupping habitat for ringed seals. Bowhead and beluga whales migrate through the lease sale area during spring and fall. Numerous species of waterfowl, shorebirds, and seabirds migrate along the Beaufort Sea and nest, stage, and molt

in the lagoon areas. Nearshore waters provide habitat for many fish species. Caribou, brown bear, and moose are found along major rivers. Residents of Barrow, Nuiqsut, and Kaktovik use the area's fish and wildlife resources for subsistence; fall and spring bowhead whale hunts are especially important.

Four species found in the lease sale area are listed as threatened or endangered under the federal Endangered Species Act: polar bear (threatened), spectacled eider (threatened), Steller's eider (threatened), and bowhead whale (endangered).

Bowhead whales are classified as depleted under the Marine Mammal Protection Act. However, NMFS has not designated bowhead whale critical habitat under the Endangered Species Act because "the decline and reason for listing the species was overexploitation by commercial whaling, and habitat issues were not a factor in the decline; there is no indication that habitat degradation is having any negative impact on the increasing population in the present; the population is abundant and increasing; and existing laws and practices adequately protect the species and its habitat."

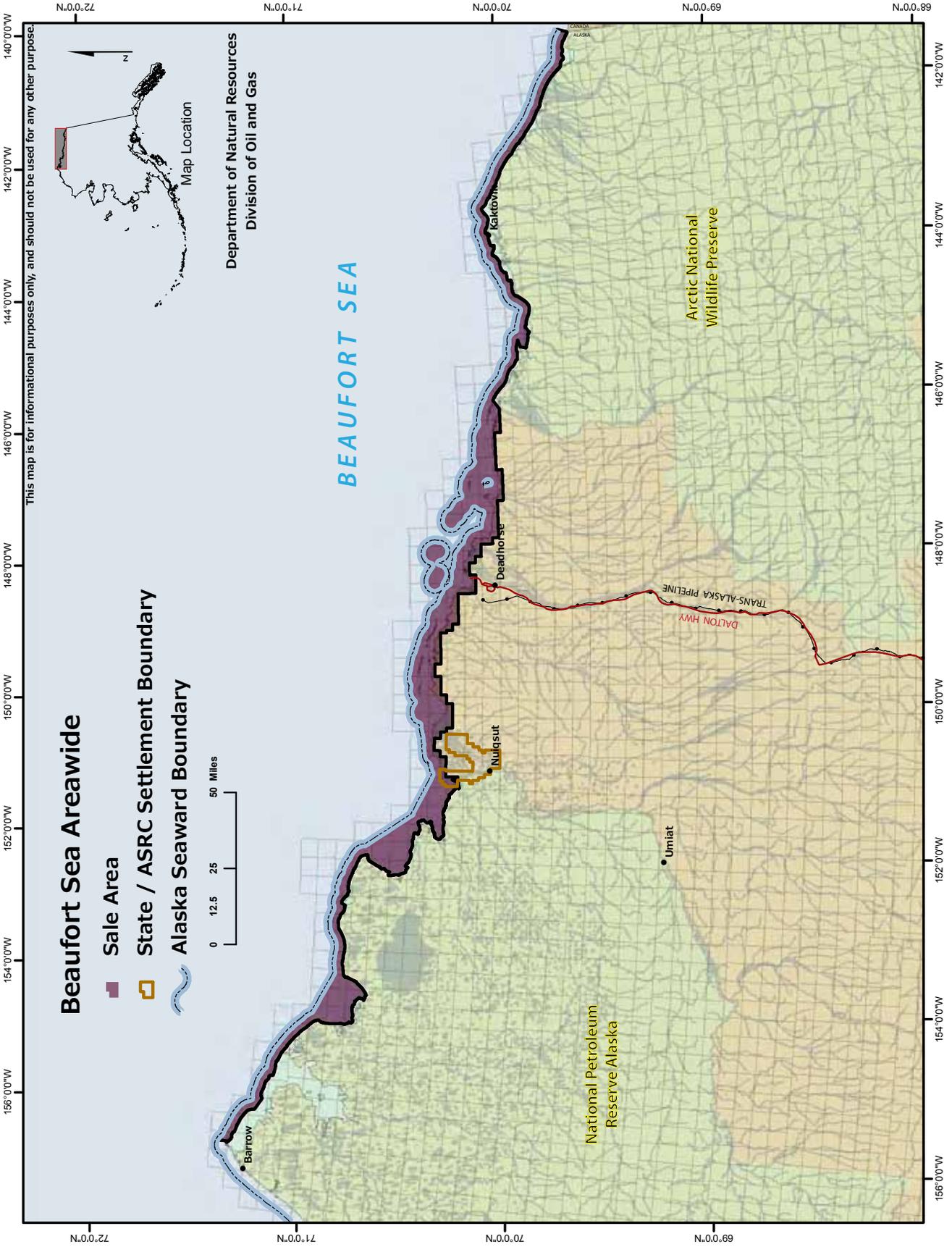
The USFWS designated 187,157 square miles as polar bear critical habitat, including sea ice in the Beaufort Sea and denning habitat on the North Slope.

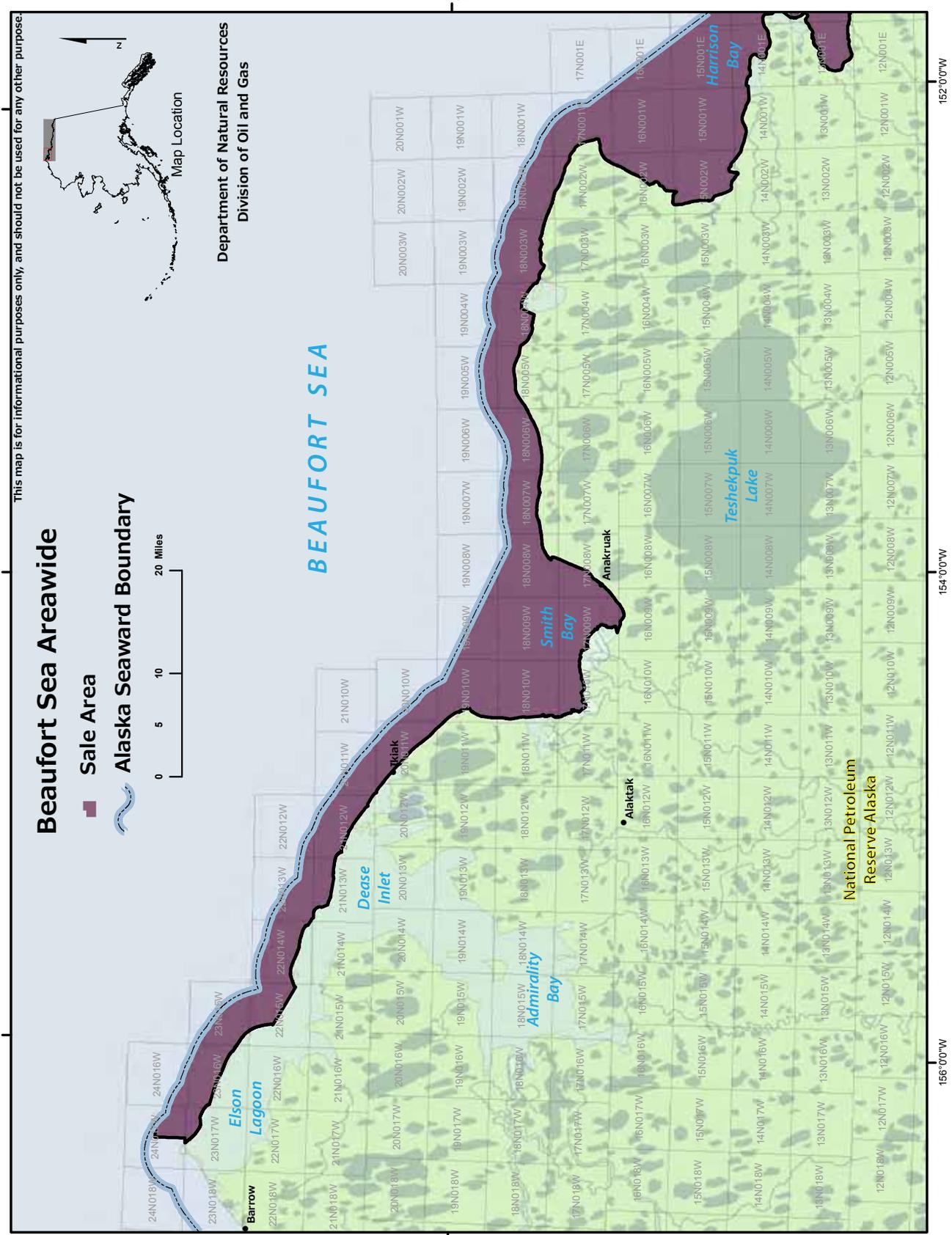
Municipalities and Communities: The North Slope Borough's comprehensive plan and land management regulations may impose restrictions on oil and gas activity in the lease sale area.

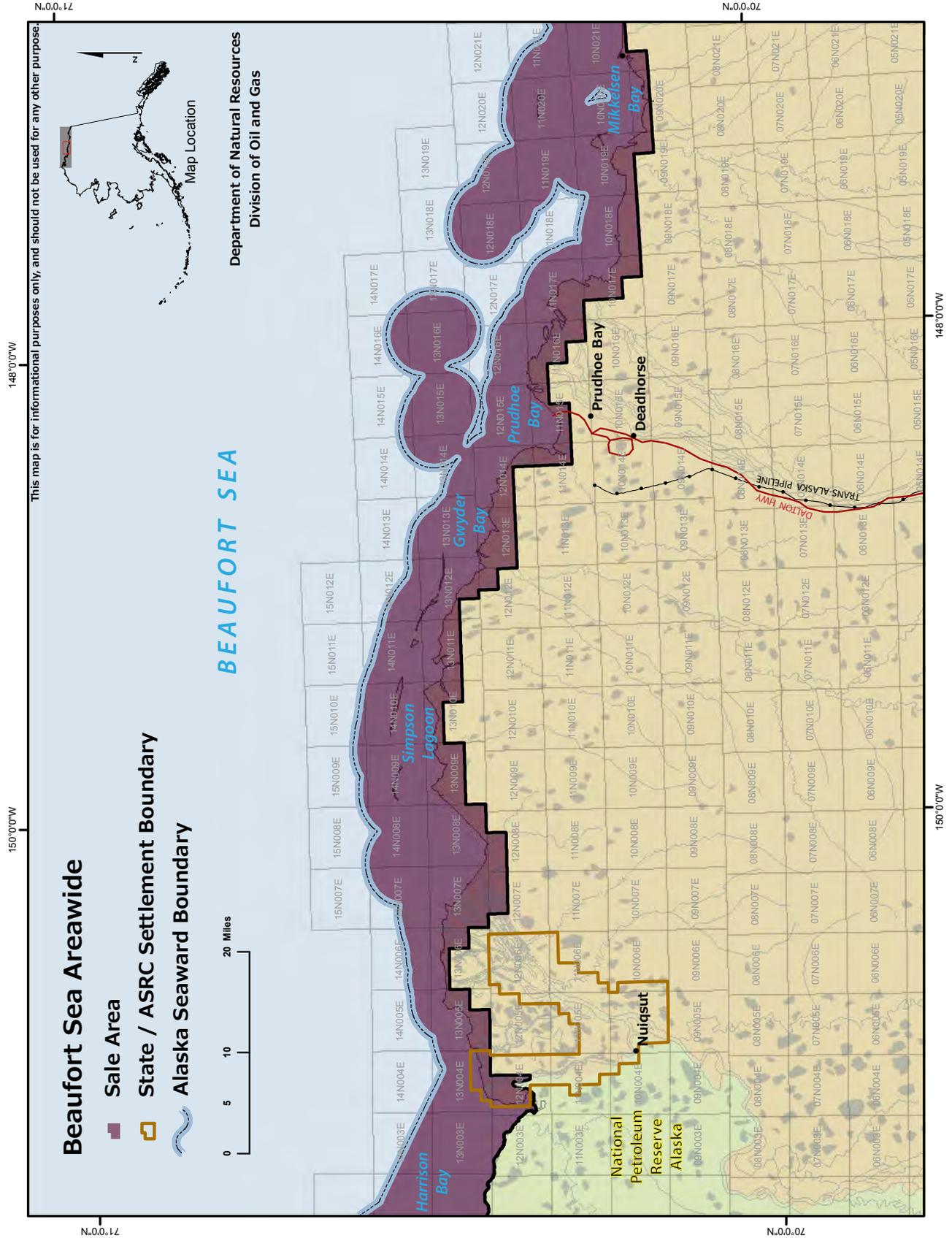
Municipalities & Communities

Community	Population (2010)
North Slope Borough	9,430
Barrow	4,212
Atkasuk	233
Kaktovik	239
Prudhoe Bay/Deadhorse	2,174
Nuiqsut	402

Source: http://www.commerce.state.ak.us/dca/commdb/CF_BLOCK.htm





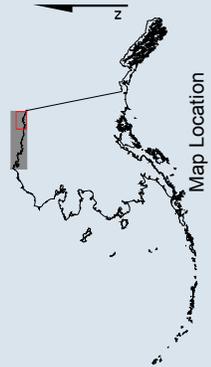


This map is for informational purposes only, and should not be used for any other purpose.

Beaufort Sea Area-wide

■ Sale Area

~ Alaska Seaward Boundary



Department of Natural Resources
Division of Oil and Gas

BEAUFORT SEA





Badami-Point Thomson ice road.

Photo: Aaron Weaver, DOG



Alpine control room.

Photo: Lori Yares, DOG



Photo: Kyle Smith, DOG

Great Bear Petroleum's Merak #1 well, one of the company's two 2012 exploration wells targeting shale plays.

North Slope Areawide Oil and Gas Lease Sale

Annually Held in Fall

Property Description and Location: The 2013-2017 North Slope Areawide oil and gas lease sale area consists of state-owned lands between the National Petroleum Reserve-Alaska (NPR-A) and the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge (ANWR), and from the Beaufort Sea in the north to the Umiat Meridian Base-line in the south.

The gross lease sale area is approximately 5.1 million acres and is divided into 1,225 tracts. In 2011, the Division of Oil and Gas for the first time subdivided some tracts into smaller parcels to encourage timely development of leases. This subdivision of leases was continued in the 2012 lease sale.

The most recent best interest finding for the North Slope was issued on July 15, 2008. On February 14, 2012, DNR called for comments from the public requesting new information that has become available since the most recent best interest finding. No appropriate information was received and on July 13, 2012, DNR issued a "Decision of No New Substantial Information." The North Slope 2012W lease sale was held on November 7, 2012. A request for new information will be publicized in February 2013.

Petroleum Potential: Petroleum potential in the area is considered low to moderate with the potential generally increasing from south to north.

Other Resources: The lease sale area supports a variety of wildlife. Caribou from the Central Arctic herd

and the Teshekpuk Lake herd use parts of the region. Brown bears and moose are found along the Colville and Itkillik Rivers. Polar bear dens have been documented in the Colville River delta. Spotted seals haul out on sandbars in the Colville River delta. Arctic fox, wolverine, and wolves also inhabit the area. Millions of birds migrate through or near the area during the summer, stopping to feed or rest on the numerous small tundra ponds typical of the area. The Colville River delta wetlands provide important staging, nesting, feeding, and molting habitat for many species of birds. Freshwater resident fish include Arctic grayling, burbot, and whitefish. Anadromous and amphidromous fish include Dolly Varden, Arctic Char, cisco, whitefish, and salmon.

Residents of Nuiqsut and Anaktuvuk Pass use the area for fishing and hunting birds, caribou, and other species.

Four species found in the lease sale area are listed as threatened or endangered under the federal Endangered Species Act: polar bear (threatened), spectacled eider (threatened), and Steller's eider (threatened).

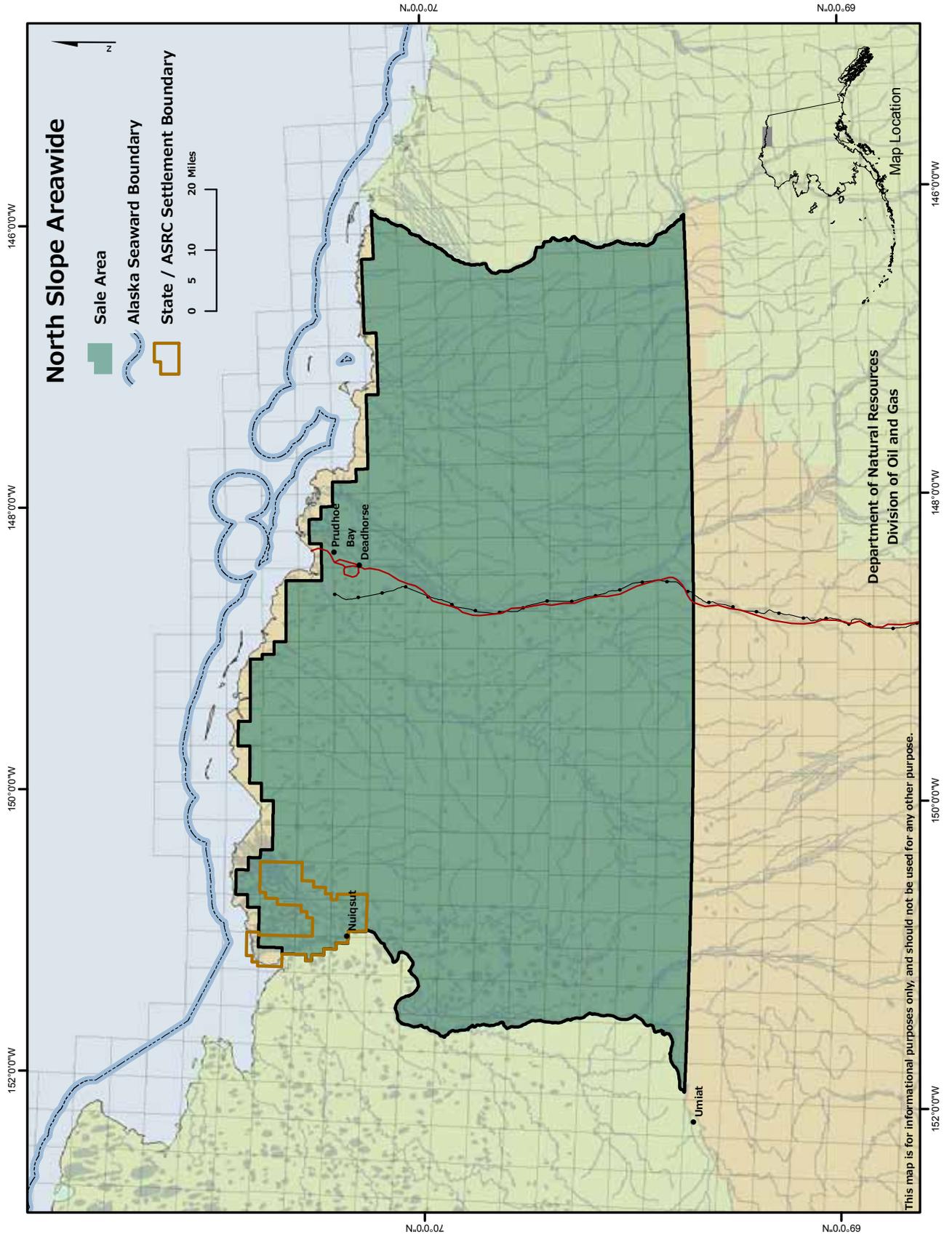
The USFWS designated 187,157 square miles as polar bear critical habitat, including sea ice in the Beaufort Sea and denning habitat on the North Slope.

Municipalities and Communities: The North Slope Borough has adopted a comprehensive plan and land management regulations that may impose restrictions on oil and gas activity in the lease sale area.

Municipalities & Communities

Community	Population (2010)
North Slope Borough	9,430
Prudhoe Bay/Deadhorse	2,174
Nuiqsut	402
Anaktuvuk Pass	324

Source: http://www.commerce.state.ak.us/dca/commdb/CF_BLOCK.htm



North Slope Foothills Areawide Oil and Gas Lease Sale

Annually Held in Fall

Property Description and Location: The 2013-2017 North Slope Foothills Areawide oil and gas lease sale area lies between the National Petroleum Reserve-Alaska (NPR-A) and the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge (ANWR), south of the Umiat Baseline and north of the Gates of the Arctic National Park and Preserve.

The gross lease sale area is approximately 7.6 million acres and is divided into 1,347 tracts ranging from 1,280 to 5,760 acres.

The most recent best interest finding for the North Slope Foothills was issued May 26, 2011. On February 14, 2012, DNR requested new information that had become available since the most recent best interest finding. No appropriate information was received and on July 13, 2012, DNR issued a "Decision of No New Substantial Information." The North Slope Foothills 2012 lease sale was held on November 7, 2012. A request for new information will be publicized in February 2013.

Petroleum Potential: Petroleum potential in the area is considered relatively high for gas, and relatively low for oil.

Other Resources: Four caribou herds use the lease sale area: the Western Arctic herd, the Central Arctic herd, the Teshekpuk Lake herd, and the Porcupine herd. Caribou use the lease sale area as winter range

and travel along the river drainages and mountain passes to summer calving areas along the Beaufort Sea coast.

Riparian habitats found within the lease sale area are important to a variety of species including moose, brown bears, muskoxen, wolves, furbearers, and numerous species of birds. Some of the higher mesa or butte areas are used by Dall sheep for lambing and mineral licks.

Major river valleys, where willow thickets are most abundant, provide valuable moose habitat. Moose concentrate in these areas throughout the year, with peak use during winter. Brown bears are frequently associated with riparian habitats in the area, especially in the spring and fall. The North Slope's tundra and foothills support numerous migratory bird species in this area. Dall sheep live on ridges, dry meadows, and steep mountain slopes. Residents of Anaktuvuk Pass are the most frequent users of fish and wildlife in the lease sale area; however, Barrow, Nuiqsut, and Kaktovik residents harvest species in the area.

Municipalities and Communities: The North Slope Borough has adopted a comprehensive plan and land management regulations that may impose restrictions on oil and gas activity in the lease sale area.

Municipalities & Communities

Community	Population (2010)
North Slope Borough	9,430
Prudhoe Bay/Deadhorse	2,174
Nuiqsut	402
Anaktuvuk Pass	324
Barrow	4,212
Kaktovik	239

Source: http://www.commerce.state.ak.us/dca/commdb/CF_BLOCK.htm

