

CHAPTER 3: MANAGEMENT POLICIES FOR EACH MANAGEMENT UNIT

INTRODUCTION

This chapter presents more detailed land management information for specific areas within the Tanana Valley State Forest (TVSF). There are 14 Management Units, each of which may be divided into one or more subunits based on management objectives and geography.

For each Management Unit, this chapter presents four types of information:

- A. **Summary of Management Intent.** This summary identifies in general terms which resource values or uses will be emphasized in different parts of the management unit.
- B. **Existing Resources and Uses.** The resources present in each management unit are briefly described. This information provides the rationale for the guidelines and planned activities discussed below. The resources are listed in alphabetical order.
- C. **Management Guidelines and Activities.** This subsection states how the Alaska Department of Natural Resources (DNR) will react to proposed uses for specific areas and describes which resource uses the state intends to protect or foster.
- D. **Land Management Summary.** This table provides an overview of policies for each subunit.

The following terms have specific meaning in the context of this plan and are used frequently in this chapter. Additional definitions are in Appendix A.

Consultation: Under existing statutes, regulations and procedures, the Department of Natural Resources informs other groups of its intention to take a specific action(s) and seeks their advice or assistance. Consultation is not intended to be binding on a decision; it is a means of informing affected organizations and individuals about forthcoming decisions and getting the benefit of their expertise.

Feasible: Capable of being accomplished in a successful manner within a reasonable period of time, taking into account economic, environmental, technical, and safety factors.

Feasible and Prudent: Consistent with sound engineering practice and not causing environmental, social, or economic problems that outweigh the public benefit to be derived from compliance with the standard which is modified by the term “feasible and prudent”.

Goal: A general statement of intent, usually neither quantifiable nor having a specified date of completion. Goals identify desired long-range conditions.

Guideline: A specific course of action that must be followed when a resource manager permits, leases, or otherwise authorizes use of state lands. Some guidelines state the intent that must be followed and allow flexibility in achieving it. Guidelines also range from giving general guidance for decision-making or identifying factors that need to be considered to setting detailed standards for on-the-ground decisions.

Policy: An intended course of action or a principle for guiding actions. In this plan, DNR policies for land and resource management include goals, management intent statements, management guidelines, planned activities, implementation plans and procedures, and various other statements of DNR's intentions.

- 1 **Shall:** Requires a course of action or set of conditions to be achieved. A guideline modified by the word ‘shall’
2 must be followed by resource managers or users. If such a guideline is not complied with, a written decision
3 justifying the noncompliance is required (see Appendix B, Finding of Incompatibility).
- 4 **Should:** States intent for a course of action or set of conditions to be achieved. A guideline modified by the
5 word 'should' states the plan's intent and allows a resource manager to use discretion in deciding the specific
6 means for best achieving the intent or whether circumstances justify deviation from the intended action or set
7 of conditions. A guideline may include criteria for deciding if such a deviation is justified.
- 8 **Will:** Same as ‘shall’ (above), however, when the word 'will' refers to a planned management activity by DNR
9 or another agency, the carrying out of this activity is contingent on available funding.
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1 MANAGEMENT UNIT 1: DUGAN HILLS

2 SUMMARY OF MANAGEMENT INTENT

3 This unit encompasses the Dugan Hills and a smaller portion of state land along the Hutlinana River south of
4 the Elliot Highway. It includes 2 Subunits.

5 Subunit 1A, which includes sections of Baker Creek and the Hutlinana River, will be managed for
6 commercial and personal use timber production while protecting recreation and habitat values near the
7 streams.

8 Subunit 1B, the Dugan Hills, will be managed for multiple-use consistent with 11 AAC 96 and AS 41.17.200,
9 including active forest management, recreation, and mineral use. Current levels of recreation, mineral and
10 timber use are low but could increase due to recent improvements to the Elliot Highway between
11 Livengood and Manley Hot Springs. There is limited demand for personal use timber and fuelwood
12 production in portions of the unit closer to the Elliot Highway and in the southern portion near areas
13 included in past land disposal programs.

14 EXISTING RESOURCES AND USES

- 15 1. **Cultural Resources:** None identified.
- 16 2. **Fish and Wildlife Habitat:** Lowland areas near Baker Creek and Hutlinana River (Subunits 1A-B)
17 provide important moose and furbearer habitat. Baker Creek and the Hutlinana River provide
18 spawning habitat for chum salmon. The Tolovana River, which drains the Minto Flats, provides
19 habitat for species of anadromous fish such as Chinook, chum, and coho salmon, and supports high
20 value resident species such as Arctic grayling. Big game hunting is moderate, and the area supports
21 intensive trapping activity. ADF&G holds a permit for radio telemetry towers in Subunit 1C
22 (ADL 421533). The Minto Flats State Game Refuge is east of Unit 1.
- 23 3. **Private Land and Leaseholds:** One private parcel is identified in the southern portion of Subunit 1C.
- 24 4. **Recreation and Tourism:** Numerous trails are located within this unit and are used by dog mushers
25 and snowmachiners, though none of these trails are documented by official DNR records. Baker
26 Creek and the Hutlinana River are valued for boating and fishing, and several hunting guides work
27 in this area. Several "pothole" lakes that have recreational value are located along a creek in T. 3 N.,
28 R. 11 W. The Tolovana River is important for boating, paddling, fishing, and hunting. The Tolovana
29 River is also used for tourism operations that include fishing, duck hunting, and wildlife viewing.
30 The Innoko and Nowitna Rivers are used for pike fishing charters, and there are some additional
31 chartered trips in the Minto Flats and on the Baker, Fish, and Kantishna Rivers.
- 32 5. **Scientific Resources:** None identified in this unit.
- 33 6. **Subsurface Resources:** Current information suggests that the area has low mineral values
34 except in Subunit 1A, located near the Eureka Mining District. No significant sources of gravel
35 are apparent in this unit.

- 1 7. **Timber:** Most of this unit contains extensive pole-sized hardwood stands. Small stands of mixed
2 spruce-hardwood in Subunit 1A, accessible from the Elliot Highway, are an important source of
3 fuelwood and spruce sawtimber for residents.
- 4 8. **Transportation and Access:** Road access to Unit 1 is most likely from the Elliot Highway to the
5 north of the Unit. Major access to the Dugan Hills is via RS 2477 segments. Portions of the
6 RS 2477 Trails over Bean Ridge Corporation land are reserved for public use by a 17(b) right-of-
7 way. The easements are 25 feet wide and allow winter off- road-vehicle and non-motorized use.

8 **MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES AND ACTIVITIES**

- 9 1. **Minerals:** This unit will remain open to mineral location and leasing.
- 10 2. **Recreational Facilities:** Authorized trails may be maintained in this unit.
- 11 3. **Streamside and Lakeshore Management:** Guidelines for special management zones (see the
12 Riparian and Instream Flow Management section of Chapter 2) apply to water bodies in all
13 subunits. Waterbodies with special management zones are listed in Table 2.3.
- 14 4. **Timber Sales:** Timber within Subunit 1A will be managed for local personal use and commercial
15 production.
- 16 5. Subunit 1B has low demand and limited access. Timber sales have not been scheduled for this
17 subunit. Timber will be made available in the future if warranted by a change in demand or
18 accessibility. Subunit 1B, by virtue of difficult access, may be valuable as a timber or carbon
19 reservoir, especially if other parts of the State Forest experience forest health declines.
- 20 6. Timber sales in this unit are within the Fairbanks Area. For more detail when specific proposals are
21 developed, see the Fairbanks Area Five Year Schedule of Timber Sales and Forest Land Use Plans.
- 22 7. **Trails:** Guidelines for trail corridors of regional or statewide significance (see the Trails section of
23 Chapter 2) apply to trails within the State Forest. No trails with active DNR records are identified
24 within Unit 1. Undocumented trails may exist in this unit. Public review of Five Year Schedule of
25 Timber Sales, Best Interest Findings, and Forest Land Use plans are critical opportunities for
26 information about undocumented trails to be communicated to the Division.
- 27 8. **Transportation:** Some secondary roads may be constructed to provide timber access in Subunit 1A.
28 If timber harvest becomes feasible in Subunits 1B and 1C, primary access to Subunit 1B will likely be
29 a winter road on the flats west of the Dugan Hills or a road from the Elliot Highway. Access to
30 Subunit 1C will likely be a winter road on the western margin of Minto Flats, west of the Tolovana
31 River. Both roads will tie into the primary roads that access Unit 2. Management of state land west
32 and east of Unit 1 should allow for development of access to Subunits 1B.
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1 LAND USE SUMMARY

2 Table 3.1. Unit 1 (Dugan Hills) Land Use Summary

Unit 1: Dugan Hills							
Subunit/ Designation/ Acres	Management Intent	Summary of Management Activities	Potential Access Roads: 1°/2° (primary/ secondary)	Subsurface Designation		Prohibited Surface Uses*	Other Uses and Resources
				Locatable	Leasable		
1A / FOR / 5,560 acres	Timber production, stream & lake values, recreation	Commercial and personal use timber sales	Some 2° roads may be constructed	Open to mineral entry	Available for leasing	Land disposal	
1B / FOR / 69,965 acres	Forestry/Multiple Use	None planned.	None planned, but if harvest becomes feasible, 1°/2° access will be by winter roads	Open to mineral entry	Available for leasing	Land disposal	
1C / FOR / 80, 175 acres	Forestry/Multiple Use	None planned	Likely winter access only	Open to mineral entry	Available for leasing	Land disposal	Private parcel located in southern part of subunit; ADF&G telemetry towers ADL 421533

3 * Other uses, such as material sales or land leases, that are not specifically prohibited may be allowed. Such uses will be allowed if consistent with the management
4 intent statement and management guidelines of this unit and with the relevant management guidelines in Chapter 2.

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Unit 1: Dugan Hills Ownership Map

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Unit 1: Dugan Hills Land Designation Map

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2 MANAGEMENT UNIT 2: LOWER TANANA

3 SUMMARY OF MANAGEMENT INTENT

4 This unit consists of land that abuts approximately 60 miles of the lower Tanana River and about 40 miles of
5 the lower Kantishna River. It contains 5 subunits.

6 **Subunits 2A, 2D, and 2E,** Most of the land within these subunits will be managed for commercial timber
7 production while protecting recreation and habitat values near the Tanana and Kantishna Rivers.

8 **Subunits 2B and 2C,** These areas will be managed in their natural states for research and educational use.

9 EXISTING RESOURCES AND USES

- 10 1. **Cultural Resources:** The Tolovana Roadhouse, located on a privately owned inholding, is eligible for
11 the National Register of Historic Places. Probability of cultural sites is low to medium along the
12 Kantishna River and low along the Tanana River. The old village site, known as Old Minto (within
13 T1N, R8W) is the site of seasonal cultural activities. This site was conveyed to the Minto Village
14 Council in 2006 ([ADL 414434](#)). Consult Chapter 2, Cultural Resources, for a list of the cultural site
15 codes in this unit. Further information on the cultural sites can be obtained from the Office of
16 History and Archaeology.
- 17 2. **Fish and Wildlife Habitat:** Much of this unit is important moose and furbearer habitat with the
18 exceptions of dune and upland areas west and north of the Kantishna River confluence. Low
19 elevation areas of both the Kantishna and the Tanana Rivers are important habitat for black bear.
20 The Tanana and Kantishna Rivers provide habitat for species of anadromous fish such as Chinook,
21 coho, and chum salmon, and supports high value resident species such as Arctic grayling. The area
22 is heavily used by residents of Minto, Nenana, and Fairbanks for subsistence and sport hunting,
23 trapping, and fishing. An ADF&G telemetry tower is permitted in Subunit 2A. The Minto Flats State
24 Game Refuge is to the north and south of Subunit 2E.
- 25 3. **Private Land and Leaseholds:** Numerous privately-owned tracts and leaseholds are adjacent to and
26 within this unit. Several Native allotments are located near Old Minto Village in Subunit 2E, and
27 many remote parcels are located along the Kantishna River west of Subunit 2A. Much of the Iksgiza
28 Lake Subdivision and the lake are surrounded by the TVSF. The Tolovana Roadhouse, a privately-
29 owned inholding, is operated commercially.
- 30 4. **Recreation and Tourism:** The Tanana, Kantishna, and Tolovana Rivers are heavily used for
31 recreational camping, boating, fishing, hunting and access to surrounding land. Several operators
32 from Nenana and Manley Hot Springs take people camping, fishing, wildlife viewing and hunting for
33 ducks, bear and moose. The Tolovana River is used for canoeing, as is the Tanana River in this unit.
34 The Yukon 800, a powerboat race that goes from Fairbanks to Galena and back, follows the Tanana
35 River in this unit. In the winter, dog mushing and snowmachining are common on RS 2477 trails
36 within this Unit. The Tanana River is also a popular route for snowmachining, cross-country skiing
37 and ski plane landing.

1 5. **Scientific Resources:** The Oblique Lake Research Natural Area (Subunit 2B) includes a deep,
2 undeveloped upland lake in a depression between low, horseshoe-shaped dunes and a contrasting
3 oxbow lake on the floodplain of the Kantishna River. South-facing sand bluffs support hill prairies
4 greatly reworked by ant colonies.

5 The Caribou Crossing Research Natural Area (Subunit 2C) includes an undisturbed, mature white
6 spruce forest, a hill prairie, a bottomland of permafrost, and a wetland marsh. The area appears to
7 be optimal habitat for late-succession, snag cavity-dependent birds and small mammals. The hill
8 prairie is a scientifically interesting sagebrush grassland. See also Appendix E, Research Natural
9 Area Report, for more information.

10 6. **Subsurface Resources:** Despite the existence of a few active mining claims near Old Minto Village,
11 mineral potential in this unit appears low. Oil and gas potential is not known. The only upland
12 source of gravel in this unit appears to be rock outcrops along the Tanana River opposite the
13 Kantishna confluence.

14 7. **Timber:** Bottomlands along the Tanana and Kantishna Rivers contain a patchwork of mature spruce
15 stands and productive, younger, mixed hardwood-spruce stands. Muskeg is predominant further
16 away from the rivers. Harvestable stands lie on both sides of the Tanana River in Subunit 2E.
17 Unburned uplands north of the Kantishna River confluence contain high volumes of spruce
18 sawtimber. Many late successional white spruce stands in the floodplain are underlain by shallow
19 permafrost. These stands are losing productivity, as evidenced by perched water tables, leaning
20 trees, windthrow and rot, and dramatic loss of basal area. Extensive sand dune areas west of the
21 confluence are forested with productive hardwood stands. Doyon Limited lands south of Subunit
22 2A hold significant quantities of mature spruce. Subunits 2B and 2C are research natural areas,
23 which are closed to timber harvest.

24 8. **Transportation and Access:** Because this unit is not accessed by all-season roads, summer access
25 to the area is via the Tanana and Kantishna Rivers. Barge service out of Nenana offers possibilities
26 for log transport to the rail and highway system. Winter access is via established RS 2477 routes.
27 The Totchaket Road presently extends 12 miles W of the Nenana River bridge (completed in 2020)
28 at 10th Street, and the Phase 1 land auction was complete in 2022. The extension of this road
29 towards the Kantishna River may create new access to Subunit 2A.

30 MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES AND ACTIVITIES

31 1. **Development Activities Near Private Land:** Due to a relatively large number of private land
32 holdings in this unit, roads, timber harvest, and other development activities will be sited and
33 designed to avoid trespass and harm to scenery near private cabins and settlement to the extent
34 feasible and prudent.

35 2. **Minerals:** Subunits 2A, 2D, and 2E will remain open to mineral location and leasing. Within
36 Subunits 2B and 2C, the research natural areas, mineral exploration or development will be
37 restricted if it conflicts with the overriding scientific values. Within the RNAs, rights to locatable
38 minerals may be acquired only under the leasehold location system, [AS 38.05.205](#), and may not be
39 acquired by locating a mining claim under [AS 38.05.195](#). The stipulations used in approving plans of

1 operations per Leasehold Location Order #24 (See Appendix C.) will also be included in any
2 miscellaneous land use permits issued for exploration activities within the RNAs.

- 3 3. **Research Natural Areas:** RNAs within subunits 2B and 2C will be managed in their natural states for
4 research and education. Guidelines for research natural areas in the Scientific Resources Section of
5 Chapter 2 will apply to these subunits.

6 Roads and landings for timber harvest in Subunit 2D may be located in the narrow strip between
7 the bluff and the drainage in Subunit 2C.

- 8 4. **Streamside Management:** Guidelines for special management zones (see the Riparian and Instream
9 Flow Management Section of Chapter 2) apply to waterbodies within the State Forest, including
10 their side channels, sloughs, and backwaters. Waterbodies with special management zones are
11 listed in Table 2.3.

- 12 5. **Timber Sales:** Suitable lands will be managed for commercial timber production in accordance with
13 other policies stated in this plan. Forest stands in decline from permafrost or other factors will be
14 priorities for harvest where feasible and prudent. Firewood, house logs, and other products will be
15 made available to local residents as requested. As inventories are updated and demand increases,
16 levels of commercial harvest may increase.

- 17 a. Timber sales in this unit are within the Fairbanks Management Area. For more detail when
18 specific proposals are developed, see the Fairbanks Area Five Year Schedule of Timber Sales
19 and Forest Land Use Plans.

- 20 6. **Timber Development Cooperation with Alaska Native Corporations:** When appropriate, the State
21 will seek cooperative agreements with Alaska Native Corporations to share timber development
22 costs and ensure that the timing and size of timber sales offered by the state and Alaska Native
23 Corporations are in the general interest of the public.

- 24 7. **Trails:** Guidelines for trail corridors of regional or statewide significance (see the Trails section in
25 Chapter 2) apply to trails within the State Forest. Documented RS 2477 Trails are present in
26 Subunits 2D and 2E. Undocumented trails may exist in this unit. Public review of Five Year Schedule
27 of Timber Sales, Best Interest Findings, and Forest Land Use Plans are critical opportunities for
28 information about undocumented trails to be communicated to the Division.

29 None of these trails are planned to be upgraded permanently to primary forest roads; however,
30 crossing and temporary use of sections of the trails will be necessary.

- 31 8. **Transportation:** Timber in this unit will be accessed primarily by winter roads and ice bridges.
32 Where feasible and prudent the state will seek cooperative agreements or easements with Alaska
33 Native regional and Village Corporations, Alaska Department of Agriculture, or any other land
34 managers to reduce costs of access roads. Thirty miles of the Commissioner's Line may be upgraded
35 to a primary winter road. The Nenana-Totchaket Road clearing may also be used for access to the
36 southern portion of Subunit 2A. Subunit 2E may be accessed by constructing approximately
37 34 miles of primary winter road north from the Commissioner's Line. The road would pass through
38 the Minto Flats State Game Refuge. Subunit 2D may be accessed by this road or the Commissioner's
39 Line. Barging timber to Nenana on the Tanana River is an option, though may be less cost effective

- 1 than roading. Generally, secondary winter road is proposed in these subunits for timber
- 2 management. Major access to the unit is via documented RS 2477 segments.
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1 LAND USE SUMMARY

2 Table 3.2. Unit 2 (Lower Tanana) Land Use Summary

Unit 2: Lower Tanana							
Subunit/ Designation/ Acres	Management Intent	Summary of Management Activities	Potential Access Roads: 1°/2° (primary/ secondary)	Subsurface Designation		Prohibited Surface Uses*	Other Uses and Resources
				Locatable	Leasable		
2A / FOR / 62,285 acres	Commercial timber production; habitat and recreation near Tanana and Kantishna Rivers and other waterbodies	long-term commercial timber sales	Unit 2A: Mostly 1° and 2° winter roads will be used for additional access. Unit 2A: Nenana- Totchaket Rd. may be used	Open to mineral entry	Available for leasing	Land disposal	Unit 2A: Private parcel in southern part of subunit; ADF&G Telemetry Tower <u>ADL 421533</u>
2D / FOR / 15,881 acres			Unit 2D: Nenana- Totchaket Rd. or Commissioner’s Line may be used				Unit 2D: Private inholdings; RS 2477 trail
2E / FOR / 74,799 acres			Unit 2E: Construct 34 miles of 1° winter road from Commissioner’s Line				Unit 2E: Private inholdings; RS 2477 trail

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Unit 2 – Lower Tanana

Subunit/ Designation/ Acres	Management Intent	Summary of Management Activities	Potential Access Roads: 1°/2° (primary/ secondary)	Subsurface Designation		Prohibited Surface Uses*	Other Uses and Resources
				Locatable	Leasable		
2B / FOR / 2,990 acres	Oblique Lake Research Natural Area, subject to management intent in ADL 228312	Research	No new road construction planned.	Leasehold location LLO 24	Available for leasing	Commercial leases, developed recreation, material extraction, remote cabins, timber harvest, trapping cabins, introduction of non-endemic species, carbon offset projects	
2C / FOR / 1,251 acres	Caribou Crossing Research Natural Area, subject to management intent in ADL 228313						

1 * Other uses, such as material sales or land leases, that are not specifically prohibited may be allowed. Such uses will be allowed if consistent with the management
2 intent statement and management guidelines of this unit and with the relevant management guidelines in Chapter 2.

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Unit 2: Lower Tanana Ownership Map

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Unit 2: Lower Tanana land Designation Map

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2 MANAGEMENT UNIT 3: TATALINA RIVER

3 SUMMARY OF MANAGEMENT INTENT

4 This unit encompasses the State Forest land between the Tolovana River and the Tatalina River. It contains
5 2 subunits.

6 **Subunits 3A and 3B** will both be managed for multiple-uses consistent with 11 AAC 96 and AS 41.17.200.
7 Current levels of recreation and timber use are very limited but may increase in the future. Land adjacent to
8 the Tolovana and Tatalina Rivers will be managed to protect the recreation and habitat values of the stream
9 corridors.

10 EXISTING RESOURCES AND USES

- 11 1. **Cultural Resources:** None identified in this unit.
- 12 2. **Fish and Wildlife Habitat:** Lowlands near the Tolovana and Tatalina Rivers contain important
13 moose, black bear, and furbearer habitat. This extent of the Tolovana River provides habitat for
14 species of anadromous fish such as Chinook and chum salmon, and both rivers support high value
15 resident species of fish such as Arctic grayling. Portions of the Minto Flats within Subunit 3B contain
16 trumpeter swan habitat designated by the Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) in 2015
17 as a Species of Greatest Conservation Need (see Chapter 2: Fish & Wildlife Management
18 Guidelines). The unit supports moderate to heavy hunting and trapping and borders the Minto Flats
19 State Game Refuge.
- 20 3. **Private Land and Leaseholds:** Alaska Gasline Development Corporation holds a non-competitive
21 lease for a Pipeline Right of Way and associated sites for the construction of this pipeline, bisecting
22 Unit 3 north-south (ADL 421297).
- 23 4. **Recreation and Tourism:** The Tolovana River and stretches of the Tatalina River are used for sport
24 fishing and canoeing. A documented RS 2477 passes through a portion of this unit near the Tatalina
25 River, used by dog mushers, skiers and snowmachiners. A small number of trapping cabin permits
26 are located within Unit 3.
- 27 5. **Scientific Resources:** None identified in this unit.
- 28 6. **Subsurface Resources:** Mineral potential is moderate to high, and especially high in Subunit 3A,
29 which is near the Livengood-Tolovana mining district. Exposed bedrock on ridges and mining
30 tailings provides sources of material. There is active mining exploration occurring in Subunit 3A. An
31 active material site is partially located within Subunit 3A.
- 32 7. **Timber:** Upland portions of this unit contain primarily hardwood stands. Productive mixed
33 hardwood-spruce stands occur on lower slopes adjacent to Minto Flats and the Tatalina and
34 Tolovana Rivers.
- 35 8. **Transportation and Access:** Access to Subunit 3A is provided by a gated pipeline access road that
36 parallels Wilber Creek. The Trans-Alaska Pipeline and Elliot Highway form the northern boundary of

1 this unit. Subunit 3B is not accessed by an all-season road, but instead by an unnamed trail that
2 continues south from the pipeline to Slate Creek and by a documented RS 2477 trail.

3 MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES AND GUIDELINES

- 4 1. **Minerals:** This unit will remain open to mineral location and leasing, except for the Trans-Alaska
5 Pipeline right-of-way, which will remain closed to mineral location to protect existing and future
6 utility uses.
- 7 2. **Streamside Management:** Guidelines for special management zones (see the Riparian and Instream
8 Flow Management section of Chapter 2) apply to water bodies in this unit. Waterbodies with
9 special management zones are listed in Table 2.3.
- 10 3. **Timber Sales:** Timber sales have not been scheduled in Subunit 3A or 3B. This unit, by virtue of its
11 difficult access and remote location, may be valuable as a timber or carbon reservoir, especially if
12 other parts of the State Forest experience forest health declines. Timber for commercial and
13 personal use will be made available if warranted by a change in demand or accessibility.
- 14 4. Timber sales in this unit would be within the Fairbanks Area. For more detail if specific proposals
15 are developed, see the Fairbanks Area Five Year Schedule of Timber Sales and Forest Land Use
16 Plans.
- 17 5. **Trails:** Guidelines for trail corridors of regional or statewide significance (see the Trails section of
18 Chapter 2) apply to the following trails within the State Forest. An RS 2477 trail is documented in
19 Unit 3B. Undocumented trails may exist in this unit. Public review of Five Year Schedule of Timber
20 Sales, Best Interest Findings, and Forest Land Use Plans are critical opportunities for information
21 about undocumented trails to be communicated to the Division.
- 22 6. **Transportation:** Future primary access development may be limited to this unit due to uneconomic
23 access to existing timber, and high recreation values. However, if demand changes for timber, all-
24 season access from the Elliot Highway will be considered. Additionally, upgrading local winter trails
25 to primary winter road will be considered for access if timber harvest becomes feasible in Subunit
26 3B.

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LAND USE SUMMARY

Table 3.3. Unit 3 (Tatalina River) Land Use Summary

Unit 3: Tatalina River							
Subunit/ Designation/ Acres	Management Intent	Summary of Management Activities	Potential Access Roads: 1°/2° (primary/ secondary)	Subsurface Designation		Prohibited Surface Uses*	Other Uses and Resources
				Locatable	Leasable		
3A / FOR / 14,954 acres	Forestry/Multiple Use	None planned	None planned, but if harvest becomes feasible, Dunbar- Livengood Trail may be upgraded to 1° winter road	Open to mineral entry, except oil pipeline ROW	Available for leasing	Land Disposal	Pipeline ROW ADL 421297 ; State mining claims in northern half of the subunit
3B / FOR / 75,827 acres	Forestry/Multiple Use	None planned	None planned, but if harvest becomes feasible, Dunbar- Livengood Trail may be upgraded to 1° winter road	Open to mineral entry	Available for leasing	Land Disposal	RS 2477 trail; Pipeline ROW ADL 421297
M-01 / FOR MAT / 51 acres	Managed under ADL 418790 until close of project. At close of ADL 418790, resume management as forest classified land.	See LAS casefile	See LAS casefile	See LAS casefile	See LAS casefile	See LAS Casefile	

*Other uses, such as material sales or land leases, that are not specifically prohibited may be allowed. Such uses will be allowed if consistent with the management intent statement and management guidelines of this unit and with the relevant management guidelines in Chapter 2.

Unit 3: Tatalina River Ownership Map

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Unit 3: Tatalina River Land Designation Map

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MANAGEMENT UNIT 4: CHATANIKA RIVER, CACHE CREEK, GOLDSTREAM VALLEY

SUMMARY OF MANAGEMENT INTENT

This area includes most of the uplands between Washington and Goldstream Creeks northwest of Fairbanks and is divided into 4 subunits.

Subunit 4A will be managed for general multiple-use management consistent with 11 AAC 96 and AS 41.17.200. Current levels of recreation, mineral development and timber use are low, but could increase in the future.

Subunit 4C, the Murphy Dome Highlands, will be managed for dispersed and developed recreation and for commercial and personal use timber production.

Portions of Subunits 4A and 4C within the Chatanika River watershed will be managed to balance its high recreational and habitat values with the primary State Forest purpose of Timber Management.

Subunit 4D will be managed primarily for commercial timber production.

EXISTING RESOURCES AND USES

- Cultural Resources:** Four cultural sites have been identified in this unit as part of this plan, including an historic railroad bridge over Goldstream Creek. Consult Chapter 2, Cultural Resources, for a list of the cultural site codes in this unit. Further information on the cultural sites can be obtained from the Office of History and Archaeology.
- Fish and Wildlife Habitat:** Important moose, black bear, and furbearer habitat are found at lower elevations near Minto Flats, the Chatanika River, and Goldstream Creek. Highlands near Murphy Dome provide important furbearer and small game habitat. The Chatanika River provides spawning habitat for Chinook and chum salmon, migratory habitat for coho salmon, and supports high value resident species such as Arctic grayling. Because this area is easily accessed and close to Fairbanks, it is heavily used for hunting, trapping, and sportfishing, as well as bird watching, wildlife photography and wildlife viewing. The Minto Flats State Game Refuge is west of this unit.
- Private Land and Leaseholds:** Numerous privately owned tracts and leaseholds are adjacent to and within this unit. Concentrations of inholdings exist along the Chatanika River and Left Fork Creek. The Hayes Creek, McCloud, and Lincoln Creek Subdivisions abut this unit.
- Recreation and Tourism:** Land within Unit 4 has high recreational value because of its landscape diversity (e.g., of forest types and topography) and easy access from Fairbanks. The highlands near Murphy Dome are used for hunting, trapping, viewing scenery, and berry picking. The Chatanika River and nearby land are used for fishing, hunting, camping, and recreation. The end of the Murphy Dome Extension is used as a boat launch site for the Chatanika River and point of entrance to Minto Flats. Trails and forest roads are used in all seasons by motorized and human-powered recreationalists. Public emphasis has been placed on recreation and tourism uses in this Unit. All of Unit 4, including the southern portion of Subunit 4C, is managed for multiple uses with an emphasis on timber production, as described in other sections in this plan. Consideration will be given at the

1 discretion of managing foresters concerning sale design in units abutting private land (see Chapter
2 2, Section I: Private Land) or areas with established or proposed trail systems (see Chapter 2,
3 Section O: Recreation and Section P: Trails). Matters of specific design or treatment can be
4 discussed in the public comment process as draft Best Interest Findings (BIFs) and Forest Land Use
5 Plans (FLUPs) are released for review.

- 6 5. **Scientific Resources:** University of Alaska holds permits for 36 seismic research stations within a
7 6.25 square mile area in Subunit 4C ([LAS 34916](#)). Permanent University of Alaska Forest
8 Measurement Plots are permitted in Subunits 4C and 4D ([LAS 17939](#)).
- 9 6. **Subsurface Resources:** Mineral potential appears low to moderate in the northern part of this
10 subunit but higher in the hills above the Goldstream Valley, which are part of the mineralized
11 Cleary Sequence. Leases for energy exploration have been issued previously within Subunit 4D.
- 12 7. **Timber:** This unit contains productive, mature stands of mixed spruce-hardwood in lower,
13 unburned side drainages of the major creeks and Minto Flats. Uplands are stocked with pole- sized
14 hardwood stands. Timber values are especially high on the lower slopes above the Goldstream
15 Valley which have been logged through state timber sales since the early 1960s. Most of Subunit 4A
16 is currently uneconomical to access because of its remoteness. A variety of Interior forest types
17 exist, including the range of age classes and species that contribute to biodiversity. However, forest
18 age classes younger than forty years old are less common in the road-accessible portions of
19 Subunits 4C and 4D except where prior timber harvest has occurred. Habitat enhancement projects
20 have been carried out in hardwood stands in the late 1990s and early 2000s.
- 21 8. **Transportation and Access:** Subunit 4C is accessible by all-season road and numerous trails. Access
22 to timber harvest areas near Standard Creek is via the 32-mile-long Standard Creek Road from the
23 Old Nenana Highway. Access to the Cache Creek drainage from Murphy Dome Road is via the Cache
24 Creek Road. An extension of the Cache Creek Road to the Standard East Road has been
25 contemplated for many years, though presently a rough 3-mile winter trail separates the two road
26 systems. The Murphy Dome Extension ([ADL 407800](#)) provides access to the Luck Dome highlands
27 that are west of Murphy Dome and is a direct link between Fairbanks and the heavily used Minto
28 Flats and Chatanika River. Other recreational and settlement access routes include the Old Murphy
29 Dome Road and a number of RS 2477 trails as well as trails that are not documented in DNR's land
30 record system.

31 Most of Subunit 4A is not accessed by all-season roads. A public right-of-way connects the Elliot
32 Highway to the Hayes Creek Subdivision on the eastern end of the subunit. One ridge to the south,
33 a dozer line constructed to access the 2011 Hastings Fire is used by local residents and
34 recreationalists to access Subunit 4A. [ADL 419281](#) provides public access across state lands.

35 MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES AND ACTIVITIES

- 36 1. **Cultural Site Protection:** Four cultural sites have been identified in Subunit 4D as part of this plan.
37 Consult Chapter 2, Cultural Resources, for a list of the cultural site codes in this unit. Further
38 information on cultural sites can be obtained from the Office of History and Archaeology.

- 1 2. **Development Activities Near Private Land:** Because of the relatively large number of private
2 holdings in or near Subunit 4C, roads, timber harvest, and other development activities will be sited
3 and designed to minimize negative impacts on private land to the extent possible. See the Private
4 Lands section of Chapter 2 for guidelines on avoiding conflicts with landowners. Forest Land Use
5 Plans shall address roads and other impacts to private lands. The Division of Forestry and Fire
6 Protection (DOF) will consider landowner comments as they relate to the type and location of
7 roads.
- 8 3. **Minerals:** Oil and gas exploration and development activities will be sited or timed to mitigate
9 impacts on the fish and wildlife habitat and public use values of the Chatanika River corridor.
10 Specific mitigation measures necessary to protect the values for which the river corridor was
11 established will be developed as part of the lease-sale process. Mitigation measures will be
12 developed case- by-case and will consider timing, topography, vegetation, and other factors that
13 affect the impact of oil and gas exploration and development activities on fish and wildlife habitat
14 and public-use values. The rest of Unit 4 will remain open to mineral location and leasing.
- 15 4. **Recreational Facilities:** Recreational facilities, for example parking for vehicles towing trailers, an
16 improved boat launch, or camp sites, may be suitable at the end of the Murphy Dome Extension.
17 Proposal and management of such facilities are subject to DMLW authorization, including final
18 approval by DOF.
- 19 5. **Scenic Quality:** Development activities on the western side of Unit 4 will be sited and designed to
20 enhance or minimize harm to scenic quality of State Forest land visible from the Minto Flats State
21 Game Refuge to the extent feasible and prudent. Chapter 2 guidelines for management of visual
22 resources will apply to these areas. The Scenic Values guideline of the Recreation section of
23 Chapter 2 contains scenic value guidelines, as does the Silviculture and Harvest Practices part of the
24 Timber Management section of Chapter 2.
- 25 6. **Streamside Management:** Guidelines for special management zones (see the Riparian and Instream
26 Flow Management section of Chapter 2) apply to water bodies in Unit 4, including their side
27 channels, sloughs, and backwaters. Waterbodies with special management zones are listed in Table
28 2.3.
- 29 7. **Timber Sales:** Timber sales have been repeatedly scheduled in Subunit 4A since the 2011 Hastings
30 Fire, and it is expected that sales will be offered as soon as access issues with FNSB are resolved to
31 mutual satisfaction. Suitable land will be managed for timber production in Subunits 4C and 4D in
32 accordance with other policies stated in this plan. Subunits 4C and 4D are heavily used by local
33 hunters, and forest roads infrastructure has received investment from ADF&G’s Hunter Access and
34 similar grant programs over previous decades. Timber sales within this area will conform to the
35 best practices of both timber management and wildlife habitat, to the extent feasible and prudent.
36 ADF&G is expected to identify for DOF consideration “rare features that provide critical habitat for
37 a species of high conservation priority” during the appropriate public/agency comment periods.
38 Timber sales in this unit are within the Fairbanks Area. For more detail when specific proposals are
39 developed, see the Fairbanks Area Five Year Schedule of Timber Sales and Forest Land Use Plans.
- 40 8. **Trails:** Guidelines for trail corridors of regional or statewide significance (see the Trails section of
41 Chapter 2) apply to trails within the State Forest. RS 2477 routes and public access easements have

1 been identified in Unit 4. Trails without active DNR records may exist in this unit. Public review of
2 Five-Year Schedule of Timber Sales, Best Interest Findings, and Forest Land Use Plans are critical
3 opportunities for information about undocumented trails to be communicated to the Division.

4 Construction of Approximately 2 miles of the Lincoln Creek Loop Trail may be considered along
5 Keystone ridge in accordance with the FNSB Lincoln Creek Subdivision plans. Details of siting,
6 design, and management will be developed jointly with the FNSB. On non-motorized trails on State
7 Forest lands within this unit, signs may be posted on or near the trail indicating that they are for
8 non-motorized use. Where conditions for conflict among motorized and non-motorized users exist,
9 parallel trails may be considered. Safety for all users will be considered in construction of
10 intersections.

11 9. **Transportation:** Timber in Subunits 4C and 4D will be accessed by all-season roads. Additional
12 primary road may be constructed north of Dunbar for permanent access to Subunit 4D. Additional
13 secondary road may be constructed in Subunits 4C and Subunit 4D for timber management. Roads
14 in State Forest land near the Minto Lakes will be sited and designed to retain a visual barrier
15 between the roads and the Minto Lakes. The objective of the barrier is to prevent unauthorized
16 roads and trails that may harm recreational, habitat, and public use values of Minto Flats.

17 Extension of the Cache Creek Road is intended for timber transportation and incidental recreational
18 use. Significant additional use, such as that associated with a subdivision, will require funds for road
19 maintenance in addition to those funds or resources available from timber development. Because
20 logging traffic will share the road with residents, construction of turnouts as part of a timber sale
21 contract should be considered where necessary for safety purposes. When a conflict or safety
22 concern exists with private landowners, road closures will be considered along with other options
23 (see the “Road Use Restrictions part of the Transportation section of Chapter 2).

24 Primary access to Subunit 4A is desired by DOF to access the significant timber present and is
25 expected to provide access opportunities for recreationalists. Obtaining access via the Hastings Fire
26 Dozer Line is the subject of ongoing negotiations between FNSB and DOF.

27

LAND USE SUMMARY

Table 3.4. Unit 4 (Chatanika River, Cache Creek, and Goldstream Valley) Land Use Summary

Unit 4: Chatanika River, Cache Creek and Goldstream Valley							
Subunit/ Designation/ Acres	Summary of Management Intent	Summary of Management Activities	Potential Access Roads: 1°/2° (primary/ secondary)	Subsurface Designation		Prohibited Surface Uses*	Comments
				Locatable	Leasable		
4A / FOR / 50,980 acres	Forestry, multiple use	None planned	None planned, but if harvest becomes feasible, 1° access will be from Hayes Cr. Subdivision or from Murphy Dome Extension.	Open to mineral entry	Available for leasing	Land disposal	Private inholdings; Public access easement ADL 417096
4B / - / -	<i>Removed from State Forest</i>						
4C / FOR / 70,348 acres	Recreation and tourism, timber production	scenic turnout, trail construction, timber sales	Will be accessed by all-season roads	Open to mineral entry	Available for leasing	Land disposal	Private inholdings; Public Access easement ADL 407800 ; State mining claims on eastern side of FO02N003W
4D / FOR / 24,978 acres	Timber production, stream values	Timber sales	Will be accessed by all-season roads	Open to mineral entry	Available for leasing	Land disposal	Private inholdings; RS 2477 Trail

* Other uses, such as material sales or land leases, that are not specifically prohibited may be allowed. Such uses will be allowed if consistent with the management intent statement and management guidelines of this unit and with the relevant management guidelines in Chapter 2

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Unit 4: Chatanika River, Cache Creek, & Goldstream Valley Ownership Map

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Unit 4: Chatanika River, Cache Creek, & Goldstream Valley Land Designation Map

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1 MANAGEMENT UNIT 5: NENANA RIDGE

2 SUMMARY OF MANAGEMENT INTENT

3 This unit encompasses much of the state land on Nenana Ridge and includes about 50 miles of the Tanana
4 River. It contains 2 subunits.

5 Subunit 5A will be managed for timber production, wildlife habitat, and recreation while minimizing
6 impacts to scenic values along the Parks Highway and Tanana River where feasible and prudent.

7 Subunit 5B, the Bonanza Creek Experimental Forest, will be managed to protect research activities and to
8 maintain its value for experimental and observational research.

9 EXISTING RESOURCES AND USES

- 10 1. **Cultural Resources:** Six cultural sites have been identified in Subunit 5A as part of this plan. Consult
11 Chapter 2, Cultural Resources, for a list of the cultural site codes in this unit. Further information on
12 cultural sites can be obtained from the Office of History and Archaeology.
- 13 2. **Fish and Wildlife Habitat:** The Tanana River and Goldstream Creek bottomlands are important
14 moose, black bear, and furbearer habitat. Peregrine falcon nesting sites are present on the Tanana
15 floodplain. The Tanana River serves as a staging area and migration corridor for waterfowl. The
16 river provides habitat for Chinook, coho, and chum salmon and supports high value resident species
17 of fish such as Arctic grayling. Because this unit is easily accessed from Fairbanks and Nenana, it is
18 used intensively for hunting and trapping.
- 19 3. **Private Land and Leaseholds:** Several private inholdings are present along the Tanana River.
- 20 4. **Recreation and Tourism:** The Tanana River is important for recreational boating, camping,
21 snowmachining, and access to surrounding areas for hunting and fishing. The clearwater tributaries
22 of the Tanana are also important for fishing and hunting. In the winter, the Tanana River corridor is
23 used for winter recreation. The many logging roads in this unit provide access for recreational
24 activities. An 18-mile network of logging roads and trails is used by recreationalists in all seasons.
25 Grouse and moose hunters use the area in the fall. Many of these trails are not documented in
26 Alaska DNR land records system. Public review of Five-Year Schedule of Timber Sales, Best Interest
27 Findings, and Forest Land Use Plans are critical opportunities for information about undocumented
28 trails to be communicated to the Division.
29 Views of the Alaska Range and Tanana River are especially good from the Parks Highway in this
30 unit. Tourism operators are known to utilize portions of the trail system as well, for example for
31 dog mushing or snowshoeing. Operators take people out on the Tanana River and its tributaries for
32 fishing, hunting for bear, moose, and birds, and camping, fishing, and wildlife viewing. Zasada Road,
33 Bonanza Creek Road, Nenana Ridge Road, and Skinny’s Road and associated logging roads are
34 heavily used by berry-pickers and other non-timber forest product harvesters and for other
35 recreational and personal uses.
- 36 5. **Scientific Resources:** The Bonanza Creek Experimental Forest has been used for forest research
37 since the late 1950s. Use of the Experimental Forest is guided by a 55-year lease ([ADL 21408](#))

1 granted by the state to the USDA Forest Service Institute of Northern Forestry, now known as the
2 Boreal Ecology Cooperative Research Unit (Appendix D). The current lease runs until June 30, 2074.
3 A number of forest measurement plots, climate data collection, and permafrost monitoring sites
4 are permitted in Unit 5.

5 6. **Subsurface Resources:** The highly mineralized Cleary Sequence underlies most of the unit. In the
6 past, an oil and gas lease was recorded south of Dunbar, but development potential is not known.
7 Existing quarries and bedrock outcrops provide sources of material near the Parks Highway.

8 7. **Timber:** Much of Unit 5A is especially valuable for timber production because of its relatively high
9 productivity, high existing spruce sawtimber volume, and economic all-season access. Subunit 5B
10 has similar forest characteristics, and also contains one of the highest densities of silvicultural
11 research sites in Alaska’s boreal forest. Past and ongoing research have informed forest
12 management practices in Interior Alaska. DOF last sold a timber sale within 5B in 1997.

13 8. **Transportation and Access:** All of Unit 5 is accessible from the Parks Highway, and over 230 miles
14 of all classes of forest road exist within the Unit. Main forest road networks include Bonanza Creek,
15 Rosie Creek, Skinny’s , Nenana Ridge/Maisch, and Standard Creek. Recreational access is provided
16 by the Tanana River and the Cripple Creek-Rosie Creek and Rosie Creek Trails. A number of RS 2477
17 routes provide access to the unit.

18 **MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES AND ACTIVITIES**

19 1. **Habitat Enhancement in Bonanza Creek Experimental Forest:** Habitat enhancement will be
20 conducted in Subunit 5B only as part of research projects.

21 2. **Minerals:** All of this unit will remain open to mineral entry and leasing. The Bonanza Creek
22 Experimental Forest is open to mineral development subject to leasehold location. Mineral activity
23 will be restricted within the Bonanza Creek Experimental Forest (Subunit 5B) if it conflicts with the
24 overriding scientific values. Clause 12 of the lease allows mineral activities within the experimental
25 forest only if they are in compliance with stipulations agreed upon by the State and the lessee.

26 3. **Recreational Facilities and Activities:**

27 a. **Rosie Creek Logging roads.** This 18-mile network of logging roads and connecting trails
28 depends upon existing forest roads constructed and maintained to provide access for timber
29 management. The primary use of these roads will continue to be for timber management. The
30 DOF’s consideration of opening timber sales will take safety concerns of all users into account,
31 and upgrades will give priority to safety improvements that benefit both recreationalists and
32 logging traffic. Identification and mitigation of safety risks inherent in overlapping usage will be
33 made with feedback from all user groups, within the stated priority framework.

34 b. **Bonanza Creek Experimental Forest:** Developed recreational sites will not be established in
35 Subunit 5B outside of the Parks Highway corridor because of likely conflicts with research
36 values. The U.S. Forest Service’s Boreal Ecology Cooperative Research Unit may establish signs
37 along the Bonanza Creek Road system listing activities that require authorization.

1 4. **Research Activity:** Research activity within the Bonanza Creek Experimental Forest (Subunit 5B) will
2 be governed by the Lease between the State of Alaska and US Department of Agriculture
3 ([ADL 21408](#)).

4 5. **Scenic Quality:** Timber, road, mining, and other development activities in this unit will be sited and
5 designed to enhance views or minimize adverse impacts on scenic views from the Parks Highway
6 and Tanana River to the extent feasible and prudent. The perceived value of a scenic resource will
7 be assessed according to the management guidelines set forth in Chapter 2, and proposals to
8 mitigate scenic impacts from a management action shall be commensurate with the scenic value in
9 question. A 300-foot buffer from centerline on each side of the roadway should be managed to
10 maintain or enhance scenic views along the highway. Development activities such as timber
11 harvesting and land-use authorizations may be allowed within this buffer if the activity is designed
12 to maintain or enhance the scenic values of the highway corridor, and to provide opportunities for
13 viewing background scenery.

14 6. **Streamside Management:** Guidelines for special management zones (see the Riparian and Instream
15 Flow Management section of Chapter 2) apply to waterbodies in this unit, including their side
16 channels, sloughs, and backwaters. Waterbodies with Special Management Zones are listed in
17 Table 2.3

18 7. **Timber Sales:**

19 **Subunit 5A.** Suitable lands will be managed for commercial and personal use timber production in
20 accordance with other policies stated in this plan.

21 **Subunit 5B.** The primary goal of timber management in the Bonanza Creek Experimental Forest is
22 to enhance research values. Timber sales to enhance research values will be initiated at the request
23 of the Bonanza Creek Experimental Forest (lease holder).

24 Timber within this subunit will not be included in the forest wide sustained yield base. In general,
25 timber will be harvested by commercial operators, not by the public, so that harvest activities may
26 be more controlled. All timber sales within this subunit will be designed and conducted under the
27 written approval of the team leader, Boreal Ecology Cooperative Research Unit. A Forest Land Use
28 Plan (FLUP) will be prepared jointly by DNR and the Research Unit for each timber sale. Each report
29 will include a description of the research or forest protection objectives of the timber sales and
30 other conditions agreed on by DNR and the U.S. Forest Service's Boreal Ecology Cooperative
31 Research Unit. Design of timber sales will ensure that activities do not conflict with existing
32 research and will provide coordinated data collection. Although DNR and the U.S. Forest Service's
33 Boreal Ecology Cooperative Research Unit will be responsible for monitoring compliance with
34 timber sale contracts, only DNR will administer the contract and convey instructions to the
35 operator.

36 Timber sales in this unit are within the Fairbanks Area. For more detail when specific proposals are
37 developed, see the Fairbanks Area Five Year Schedule of Timber Sales and Forest Land Use Plans.

38 8. **Trails:** Guidelines for trail corridors of regional or statewide significance (see the Trails
39 section of Chapter 2) apply to documented trails within Unit 5. Trails that are not

1 documented in DNR’s land record system are present and heavily used in this unit. Public
2 review of Five Year Schedule of Timber Sales, Best Interest Findings, and Forest Land Use
3 Plans are critical opportunities for information about undocumented trails to be
4 communicated to the Division.

5 Research activities in Subunit 5B will be designed not to conflict with use of these trails.

6 **9. Transportation:**

7 a. **Subunit 5A.** All-season roads will provide access to timber in upland portions of this unit;
8 winter roads and ice bridges will provide access to stands near the Tanana River.

9 b. **Subunit 5B.** Road and trail construction, management, access, and maintenance are subject
10 to the terms of the Bonanza Creek Experimental Forest Lease Agreement (ADL 21408). The
11 DOF and the Boreal Ecology Cooperative Research Unit will cooperate with each other
12 regarding the maintenance, construction, upgrading, and gating of roads within the Bonanza
13 Creek Experimental Forest and may enter a memorandum of understanding to address road
14 issues. The following interpretations do not supersede the lease:

15 i. **Road Construction.** Subject to Section 55. Limits of Access, no new access or trails are
16 authorized within Subunit 5B without the express permission of the State’s Authorized
17 Officer. The State will notify the Lessee, and to the extent practical and feasible, will
18 consult on any changes to the road or trail system management.

19 ii. **State Access.** Subject to Section 43. Concurrent Usage, the State (including authorized
20 agents and contractors) shall continue to enjoy access to all existing roads within Subunit
21 5B and retain the right to establish necessary additional road segments to carry out
22 timber management activities on State land adjacent to 5B.

23 iii. **Public Access.** Subject to Section 56. Navigable Waters and 57. Public Access, the State, in
24 consultation with the Leaseholder, will determine what kinds of access optimize research
25 needs and the public’s right of access.

26

LAND USE SUMMARY

Table 3.5. Unit 5 (Nenana Ridge) Land Use Summary

Unit 5: Nenana Ridge							
Subunit/ Designation/ Acres	Management Intent	Summary of Management Activities	Potential Access Roads: 1°/2° (primary/ secondary)	Subsurface Designation		Prohibited Surface Uses*	Other Resources and Uses
				Locatable	Leasable		
5A / FOR / 108,540 acres	Scenery on Parks Hwy, timber production, wildlife habitat, recreation near Tanana River	Recreation Timber sales	All-season roads will access uplands, winter roads will access stands near Tanana River	Open to mineral entry	Available for leasing	Land disposal	Private inholdings; Portions of this subunit included in ADL 229382 ; Leasehold Location Order LLO 39 ; RS 2477 Trails; Forest Measurement, Climate, Permafrost Monitoring sites
5B / FOR / 13,852 acres	Bonanza Creek Experimental Forest. Manage according to ADL 229382	Research Recreation	No new 1° roads will be constructed. 2° roads will be developed as necessary for research and timber mgmt. 2° roads to fire salvage areas will be closed after harvest/ reforestation.	Leasehold Location Order LLO 24	Available for non-coal leasing only	Land disposal Commercial leases Trapping cabins Remote cabins Carbon offset projects	

Unit 5 – Nenana Ridge

Subunit/ Designation/ Acres	Management Intent	Summary of Management Activities	Potential Access Roads: 1°/2° (primary/ secondary)	Subsurface Designation		Prohibited Surface Uses*	Other Resources and Uses
				Locatable	Leasable		
M-01 / FOR MAT / 16.5 acres	Manage According to LAS Casefile Records Sites will be managed for forestry upon closure	See LAS Casefiles	See LAS Casefiles	See LAS Casefiles	See LAS Casefiles	See LAS Casefiles	

* Other uses, such as material sales or land leases, that are not specifically prohibited may be allowed. Such uses will be allowed if consistent with the management intent statement and management guidelines of this unit and with the relevant management guidelines in Chapter 2.

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Unit 5: Nenana Ridge Ownership Map

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Unit 5: Nenana Ridge Land Designation Map

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1 MANAGEMENT UNIT 6: CHENA

2 SUMMARY OF MANAGEMENT INTENT

3 This unit consists of one of the largest areas of state-owned land near Fairbanks and fronts 10 miles of the
4 Chena and Little Chena Rivers.

5 The entire unit will be managed for commercial and personal- use timber production, while providing
6 recreation opportunities.

7 EXISTING RESOURCES AND USES

- 8 1. **Cultural Resources:** The prehistoric Chena Bluff site and a site that includes historic cabins and
9 mining debris are recognized in this unit. There exists a possibility that these sites may be eligible
10 for the National Register of Historic Places. Four cultural sites have been identified in this unit as
11 part of this plan. Consult Chapter 2, Cultural Resources, for a list of the cultural site codes in this
12 unit. Further information on cultural sites can be obtained from the Office of History and
13 Archaeology.
- 14 2. **Fish and Wildlife Habitat:** Much of this unit contains important habitat for moose, black bear, and
15 furbearers. Easy access from Fairbanks results in heavy hunting, fishing, trapping, and wildlife
16 viewing. The Chena River system provides spawning and rearing habitat for Chinook and chum
17 salmon and supports high value resident species of fish such as Arctic grayling. Critical nesting
18 habitat for peregrine falcons has been identified along the Chena River.
- 19 3. **Private Land and Leaseholds:** Numerous privately-owned or leased tracts are located within or
20 near this unit. About 10 inholdings are located along the Chena River, and a notable cluster of
21 remote parcel leases is located on Anaconda and Caribou Creeks just north of the State Forest
22 boundary. A residential and agricultural area is located between the Chena Hot Springs Road and
23 this unit.
- 24 4. **Recreation and Tourism:** This unit is of particular value for recreation because it is near Fairbanks,
25 fronts the Chena and Little Chena Rivers, and contains an extensive system of trails and roads that
26 are heavily used by OHVs, snowmachiners, equestrians, mountain bikers, hikers, skiers, and dog
27 mushers. The Two Rivers Road was constructed by DOF in the early 1980s and receives intense
28 recreational use. The Little Chena Dozer Line, constructed in response to wildfires in 2004, has been
29 upgraded to the 13.5-mile Mike Kelly Trail managed by the Division of Mining, Land, and Water
30 (DMLW). The Chena River is easily accessed by roads and is important for motorboating, paddling,
31 and recreational cabin use. Tourism businesses use forest road and trail infrastructure for ATV and
32 dog mushing tourism operations.
- 33 5. **Scientific Resources:** None identified in this unit.
- 34 6. **Subsurface Resources:** Kinross/Fort Knox has operated an open pit gold mine on lands adjacent to
35 the northwest of Unit 6 since 1996. Mineral potential is moderate to high in this unit because of the
36 presence of the Cleary Sequence in the northern portion, potential for silver and zinc in the

1 southern portion, existing mining claims, and access. Large mining claim blocks are in drainages
2 north of the unit. Mining claims within the State Forest are located near Iowa and Potlatch Creeks.

3 7. **Timber:** The Chena and Little Chena River floodplains contain productive, high-value spruce
4 sawtimber; warmer slopes are covered with hardwoods. Moderate levels of timber harvest have
5 occurred in this unit for the last 80 years. Easy access makes this unit important as a firewood and
6 house log supply for the Fairbanks area.

7 8. **Transportation and Access:** This unit is accessed by numerous roads and trails. The Two Rivers and
8 Pheasant Farm Roads provide the major access routes to the northern and southern portions of this
9 unit respectively. Other access is provided by the Hipas (Big Bend) and Grange Hall Roads. Mining
10 trails north of the State Forest are potential access to mining and timber harvest areas in the
11 northern portion of the unit. Numerous documented and undocumented trails are used in winter
12 and summer for recreation. The Two Rivers Road and Colorado Creek Trail are also used for access
13 to the Anaconda - Caribou Creek settlement area. Access into the Smallwood and Iowa Creek
14 drainages has been primarily winter only access from Adventure Road / Chena Hot Springs Road
15 Mile 11. RS 2477 trails have been identified in Unit 6.

16 MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES AND ACTIVITY

17 1. **Cultural Site Protection:** Guidelines for cultural site protection (see the Cultural Resources section
18 of Chapter 2) apply to cultural sites within this unit.

19 2. **Mineral:** All of this unit will remain open to mineral location and leasing.

20 3. **Recreational Facilities:** A boat launch site may be constructed on the Chena River at the end of the
21 Grange Hall Road. The Grange Hall Road should be improved before the boat launch site is
22 constructed.

23 4. **Streamside Management:** Guidelines for special management zones (see the Riparian and Instream
24 Flow Management section of Chapter 2) apply to waterbodies within Unit 6, including their side
25 channels, sloughs, and backwaters. Waterbodies with special management zones are listed in Table
26 2.3.

27 5. **Timber Sales:** Suitable lands will be managed for commercial timber production in accordance with
28 other policies stated in this plan. Timber harvest along designated recreation trails and navigable
29 rivers will be sited using established best management practices to limit impacts to the recreation
30 opportunities, habitat, and scenic quality to the extent prudent and feasible. Commercial timber
31 sales will continue to be offered in the area, along with personal-use harvest.

32 Timber sales in this unit are within the Fairbanks Area. For more detail when specific proposals are
33 developed, see the Fairbanks Area Five Year Schedule of Timber Sales and Forest Land Use Plans.

34 6. **Trails:** Guidelines for trail corridors of regional or statewide significance (see the Trails section of
35 Chapter 2) apply to documented trails within Unit 6. One RS 2477 trail and a small number of public
36 access easements intersect Unit 6. Trails that are not documented in DNR's land record system may
37 be present in this unit. Public review of Five Year Schedule of Timber Sales, Best Interest Findings,
38 and Forest Land Use Plans are critical opportunities for information about undocumented trails to
39 be communicated to the Division.

1 Approximately 6 miles of trail may be constructed and maintained for cross-country skiing and
2 horseback riding near Lyrad Creek. The trail will tie into a trail system within the adjacent Chena
3 River Recreation Area.

4 If efforts to maintain the current alignment of the Chena Hot Springs Winter Trail (RST 278) are
5 unsuccessful, consideration should be given to relocation to the southern portion of this unit.

6 7. **Transportation:** Timber access may require the construction of secondary road or winter road.
7 However, it is likely that less road will be constructed because of the existing road system and the
8 relatively concentrated timber resources. When feasible, roads will be constructed to all- season
9 standards to provide access for public firewood and house log cutting. Land south of the Chena
10 River will be accessed by ice bridges and winter roads.

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1 LAND USE SUMMARY

2 Table 3.6. Unit 6 (Chena) Land Use Summary

Unit 6: Chena							
Subunit / Designation / Acres	Management Intent	Summary of Management Activities	Potential Access Roads: 1°/2° (primary/secondary)	Subsurface Designation		Prohibited Surface Uses*	Other Resources and Uses
				Locatable	Leasable		
6 /FOR / 54,534 acres	Timber production, Recreation	Timber sales, Recreation	Some 2° road may be constructed. When possible, all-season roads will be constructed to provide for public wood-cutting	Open to mineral entry	Available for leasing	Land disposal	Private Inholdings; RS 2477 Trails; State Mining claims in northwestern portion of Unit
M-01 / FOR MAT / 147 acres	Manage according to <u>ADL 419562</u> Sites will be managed for forestry upon closure	See LAS Casefile	See LAS casefile	See LAS Casefile	See LAS Casefile	See LAS Casefile	

3 * Other uses, such as material sales or land leases, that are not specifically prohibited may be allowed. Such uses will be allowed if consistent with the management intent statement
 4 and management guidelines of this unit and with the relevant management guidelines in Chapter 2.

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Unit 6: Chena Ownership Map

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Unit 6: Chena Land Designation Map

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1 MANAGEMENT UNIT 7: SALCHA

2 SUMMARY OF MANAGEMENT INTENT

3 This unit consists of 20 miles of bottomland of the Tanana River and forested uplands and valleys north of
4 the river. It contains 3 subunits.

5 Subunit 7A will be managed for commercial and personal use timber production while protecting fish and
6 wildlife habitat and recreation values of the Tanana River and the mouth of the Salcha River.

7 Subunits 7B and 7C will be managed for commercial timber production and mineral production while
8 protecting fish and wildlife values near Redmond Creek.

9 EXISTING RESOURCES AND USES

- 10 1. **Cultural Resources:** Several pre-historic and historic cultural sites in the Richardson Mining District
11 have been identified in this unit. Probability is high for occurrence of other cultural resources along
12 creeks in this unit. Multiple cultural sites have been identified in every Subunit. Consult Chapter 2,
13 Cultural Resources, for a list of the cultural site codes in this unit. Further information on cultural
14 sites can be obtained from the Office of History and Archaeology.
- 15 2. **Fish and Wildlife Habitat:** The lowlands of this unit are generally important moose and furbearer
16 habitat; upland areas are prime black bear habitat. The lowlands receive heavy to moderate
17 hunting and trapping. The Salcha River system provides spawning and rearing habitat for Chinook
18 and chum salmon and supports high value resident species of fish such as Arctic grayling.
- 19 3. **Private Land and Leaseholds:** A native allotment is located in the center of Subunit 7A.
- 20 4. **Recreation and Tourism:** Although this unit is adjacent to 12 miles of the Richardson Highway and
21 Old Valdez Trail, most people are drawn to nearby Birch and Harding Lakes. Roadside views are
22 generally restricted. Potential for Tanana River access is high within Subunit 7A, but few people take
23 air boats and jet boats on the Tanana River through this subunit. The mouth of the Salcha River, a
24 popular river for motorboating, is in this unit. The Mosquito Creek logging road and the Canyon
25 Creek logging road receive moderate recreational use, primarily by hunters in the fall. Logging
26 roads have created access for recreationists in the area. Fishing is also a popular activity in the
27 Richardson/Clearwater area of the Tanana River. This unit is sometimes used to access recreational
28 cabins on the Salcha River, and many people use this area for recreational snowmachining and
29 four-wheeling. One known dog mushing tourism business operates in parts of Subunit 7C and
30 much of Unit 8.
- 31 5. **Scientific Resources:** A number of permanent UA forest measurement sites are permitted in
32 Subunit 7B ([LAS 19739](#)). The northwest corner of Subunit 7B contains permitted seedling growth
33 study plots ([ADL 421870](#)).
- 34 6. **Subsurface Resources:** Numerous active mining claims, both placer and hard rock, located along
35 Banner and Canyon Creeks are part of the Richardson Mining District. Recent studies suggest at
36 least moderate mineral potential in other parts of Subunits 7B and 7C. Active and abandoned

- 1 floodplains of the Tanana River are a likely source of materials. A small number of active material
2 sites are located in Subunit 7B near the Richardson highway.
- 3 7. **Timber:** Bottomlands along the Tanana River contain a patchwork of mature spruce and
4 productive, younger mixed hardwood-spruce stands. Ridges north of the Tanana are forested with
5 mixed hardwood-spruce stands.
- 6 8. **Transportation and Access:** The Richardson Highway and the Old Valdez Trail provide primary
7 access to Subunits 7A and 7B. Subunit 7C is not accessed by an all-season road. Multiple RS 2477
8 trails access Subunit 7B. A public access easement managed by ADF&G connects Harding Lake to
9 the northwest corner of Subunit 7B. The Trans-Alaska Pipeline System passes through the middle of
10 the unit.

11 MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES

- 12 1. **Cultural Site Protection:** Guidelines for cultural site protection (see the Cultural Resources section
13 of Chapter 2) apply to cultural sites within this unit.
- 14 2. **Minerals:** All of this unit is open to mineral exploration and leasing, except for the Trans-Alaska
15 Pipeline System right-of-way, which will remain closed to mineral location to protect existing and
16 future utility uses.
- 17 3. **Scenic Quality:** Timber, road, and other development activities in Subunits 7A and 7B will be sited
18 and designed to enhance or minimize harm to scenic views from the Richardson Highway to the
19 extent feasible and practical. The perceived value of a scenic resource will be assessed according to
20 the management guidelines set forth in Chapter 2, and proposals to mitigate scenic impacts from a
21 management action shall be commensurate with the scenic value in question.
- 22 4. **Streamside management:** Guidelines for special management zones (see the Riparian and Instream
23 Flow Management section of Chapter 2) apply to waterbodies in Unit 7, including their side
24 channels, sloughs, and backwaters. See table 2.3 for a list of waterbodies in TVSF with Special
25 Management Zones.
- 26 5. **Timber Sales:** Subunits 7A and 7B will be managed for commercial timber production in accordance
27 with other policies stated in this plan. Within the floodplain of the Tanana River in Subunit 7A there
28 exists substantial areas of flood-killed timber and active bank erosion. In Subunit 7A, DOF shall
29 cooperate with the ADF&G to salvage timber value, provided the terms of any salvage sale are
30 deemed by ADF&G to adequately protect anadromous fish habitat.
- 31 Timber will be made available in more remote portions of Unit 7 if warranted by a change in
32 demand or accessibility.
- 33 Timber sales in this unit are within the Fairbanks Area. For more detail if specific proposals are
34 developed, see the Fairbanks Area Five Year Schedule of Timber Sales and Forest Land Use Plans.
- 35 6. **Trails:** Guidelines for trail corridors of regional or statewide significance (see the Trails section of
36 Chapter 2) apply to documented trails within Unit 7. Trails that are not documented in DNR's land
37 record system may be present in this unit. Public review of Five Year Schedule of Timber Sales, Best
38 Interest Findings, and Forest Land Use Plans are critical opportunities for information about
39 undocumented trails to be communicated to the Division.

1 7. **Transportation:** Subunits 7A and 7B will be accessed by secondary roads from the Richardson
2 Highway and Old Valdez Trail, including new road construction for timber access. Three possible
3 alignments exist for a winter primary road that accesses Subunit 7C and the Redmond Creek
4 drainage in Subunit 7B: 1) upgrade the trail west of Birch Lake and the extension over Gunnysack
5 Creek, 2) use a 200-foot-long floating easement 1.5 miles east of Birch Lake, or 3) construct a
6 winter road east of the end of the Mosquito Creek Road. Routes 1 and 2 would cross land owned by
7 the FNSB and would necessitate cooperative planning. Road planning will consider the access needs
8 of existing and potential mining claims in Subunits 7B and 7C.

9 When Subunit 7C is accessed, its access road and 11 miles of the existing Redmond Creek Trail may
10 be upgraded into primary winter road. This level of development requires an interest finding,
11 whether published by the DMLW Region office for an easement creating long term use or by DOF in
12 a FLUP for short-term applications.
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LAND USE SUMMARY

Table 3.7. Unit 7 (Salcha) Land Use Summary

Unit 7: Salcha							
Subunit/ Designation/ Acres	Summary of Management Intent	Summary of Management Activities	Potential Access Roads: 1°/2° (primary/ secondary)	Subsurface Designation		Prohibited Surface Uses*	Other resources or Uses
				Locatable	Leasable		
7A / FOR / 14,339 acres	Timber production, habitat and recreation near Tanana River	Timber sales	2° roads from Richardson Hwy and Old Valdez trails will access this unit	Open to mineral entry	Available for leasing	Land disposal	Active Native Allotment
7B / FOR / 75,684 acres	Mineral production, timber production, habitat and recreation near Tanana River and other streams	Timber sales	2° roads from Richardson Hwy and Old Valdez trails will access this unit	Open to mineral entry	Available for leasing	Land disposal	Public access easement ADL 416796 ; RS 2477 Trails; Forest research plots LAS 19739 , ADL 42180 ; State Mining Claims
7C / FOR / 94,036 acres	Forestry/Multiple Use	Timber sales	Will be accessed by 1° winter road	Open to mineral entry except oil pipeline ROW	Available for leasing	Land disposal	RS 2477 Trails; State Mining Claims
M-01 / FOR MAT / 62 acres	Manage according to ADL 34041 and ADL 41952 . Sites will be managed for forestry upon closure.	See LAS casefiles	See LAS casefiles	See LAS casefiles	See LAS casefiles	See LAS casefiles	

* Other uses, such as material sales or land leases, that are not specifically prohibited may be allowed. Such uses will be allowed if consistent with the management intent statement and management guidelines of this unit and with the relevant management guidelines in Chapter 2.

Unit 7 Salcha Ownership map

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Unit 7 Salcha Land Designation Map

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1 MANAGEMENT UNIT 8: SHAW CREEK

2 SUMMARY OF MANAGEMENT INTENT

3 This unit includes the upland area north of Shaw Creek Flats and about 8 miles of the Tanana River. It
4 contains 4 subunits.

5 Subunits 8A, 8C and 8D contain high value mineral resources and will be managed for both commercial
6 timber production and mineral exploration / production. These and other activities in these subunits will be
7 managed to protect fish and wildlife values near the Tanana River and Shaw and Caribou Creeks. Timber
8 salvage prior to mining development opportunities will be evaluated as per [AS 41.17.083](#).

9 Subunit 8B, the Rosa - Keystone Dunes Research Natural Area, will be managed in its natural state for
10 research and educational use.

11 EXISTING RESOURCES AND USES

- 12 1. **Cultural Resources:** Several prehistoric and historic sites are recognized in this unit. Probability is
13 considered high that other cultural resources are present at Campbell Lake and promontories that
14 overlook waterbodies or large vistas. Multiple cultural sites have been identified in each subunit as
15 part of this plan. Consult Chapter 2, Cultural Resources, for a list of the cultural site codes in this
16 unit. Further information on cultural sites can be obtained from the Office of History and
17 Archaeology.
- 18 2. **Fish and Wildlife Habitat:** The unit provides important moose and furbearer habitat, contains black
19 bear habitat in lower elevations, and brown bear habitat in upper elevations. The unit supports the
20 Fortymile caribou herd, primarily as winter habitat, and Shaw Creek Flats provides waterfowl
21 habitat. Shaw Creek provides rearing habitat for Chinook and coho salmon and supports high value
22 resident species of fish such as Arctic grayling.
- 23 3. **Private Lands and Leaseholds:** The Tenderfoot Subdivision is located south of the Richardson
24 Highway in Subunit 8A.
- 25 4. **Recreation and Tourism:** Recreational uses are low throughout this unit. However, air boats and
26 jetboats are used on the Tanana River through this unit, with some berry-picking reported. Dog
27 mushing tourism businesses have operated in the past in this unit. A number of trapping cabins are
28 permitted in Unit 8.
- 29 5. **Scientific Resources:** The Rosa Keystone Dunes Research Natural Area contains a series of high
30 "fossil" sand dunes and dune-impounded ponds. Temperature inversions have formed an inverted
31 tree line in deep, undrained hollows between 200-foot-tall dune crests. See also Appendix E,
32 Research Natural Area Report, for more information. ADF&G telemetry tower permitted in Subunit
33 8A. UA permafrost monitoring sites are permitted in Subunit 8A.
- 34 6. **Subsurface Resources:** Pogo Mine, operated by Northern Star Resources Ltd. since 2006, is located
35 at the end of a 49-mile access road that passes through or near much of this unit. Other active
36 mineral exploration is ongoing in this area, for example SAM ALASKA in 2020 began building access
37 north into the TVSF (DMLW Permit #9882). Land along Tenderfoot Creek in Subunit 8A is actively

- 1 being mined for placer gold, and other areas are being explored for hard rock mining. Depending
2 on the results of exploration activities in the area, some areas could be cleared and mined. A
3 Leasehold Location Order applies to Subunit 8B.
- 4 7. **Timber:** This unit is forested extensively with productive, pole-sized hardwood. Warmer slopes in
5 Unit 8 contain significant areas of mature mixed stands with moderate levels of spruce sawtimber.
6 Pockets of spruce sawtimber are located south of the Richardson Highway in Subunit 8A. Timber
7 harvest activities in mining areas should focus on utilization of the resource prior to mine
8 development or as part of mine development.
- 9 8. **Transportation and Access:** The 49-mile Pogo Mine Road provides all-season access to Subunits 8C
10 and 8D. The establishment of this road is governed by [ADL 417066](#), and its ongoing use,
11 maintenance, and management is governed by [ADL 421276](#). Eight miles of the Richardson Highway
12 provide primary access to Subunit 8A. Secondary access to Subunit 8A is provided by the Tenderfoot
13 Subdivision roads, and several mining roads that spur off the highway. Two trails are used for mining,
14 hunting, and trapping access to the upper Gilles and Caribou Creeks. Future access into Unit 8 is likely
15 to come from the Pogo Mine Road, though use of this easement is time-limited unless access across
16 surrounding private land is secured.

17 MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES AND ACTIVITIES

- 18 1. **Cultural Site Protection:** Guidelines for cultural site protection (see the Cultural Resources section
19 of Chapter 2) apply to cultural sites within this unit.
- 20 2. **Minerals:** Subunits 8A, 8C, and 8D will remain open to mineral location and leasing, except for the
21 Trans-Alaska Pipeline System, which will remain closed to mineral location to protect existing and
22 future utility uses. Within Subunit 8B, a research natural area, mineral exploration or development
23 will be restricted if it conflicts with the overriding scientific values. Within the RNA, rights to
24 locatable minerals may be acquired only under the leasehold location system, [AS 38.05.205](#), and
25 may not be acquired by locating a mining claim under [AS 38.05.195](#). The stipulations used in
26 approving plans of operations per Leasehold Location Order #24 (See Appendix C.) will also be
27 included in any miscellaneous land use permits issued for exploration activities within the RNA.
- 28 3. **Research Natural Areas:** Subunit 8B will be managed in its natural state as a research natural area.
29 Guidelines for research natural areas in the Scientific Resources section of Chapter 2 will apply to
30 this subunit. Several pipeline right-of-way leases and applications run through and adjacent to this
31 Research Natural Area. Management of the Research Natural Area is subject to valid existing rights.
- 32 4. **Streamside Management:** Guidelines for special management zones (see the Riparian and Instream
33 Flow Management section of Chapter 2) apply to waterbodies within Unit 8, including their side
34 channels, sloughs, and backwaters.
- 35 Roads in this unit and in Shaw Creek Flats will be located to avoid whenever possible crossing or
36 closely paralleling Shaw and Caribou Creeks to protect identified salmon spawning and rearing
37 habitats (see the Mitigation part of the Fish and Wildlife Habitat section of Chapter 2).
- 38 5. **Timber Sales:** Lands in Subunits 8A, 8C, and 8D will be managed for commercial timber production
39 in accordance with other policies stated in this plan.

- 1 Subunit 8B is a research natural area and is closed to timber harvest.
- 2 Timber sales in this unit are within the Delta Area. For more detail when specific proposals are
- 3 developed, see the Delta Area Five Year Schedule of Timber Sales and Forest Land Use Plans.
- 4 6. **Trails:** Guidelines for trail corridors of regional or statewide significance (see the Trails section of
- 5 Chapter 2) apply to documented trails within Unit 8. Trails that are not documented in DNR’s land
- 6 record system are present and heavily used in this unit. Public review of Five Year Schedule of
- 7 Timber Sales, Best Interest Findings, and Forest Land Use Plans are critical opportunities for
- 8 information about undocumented trails to be communicated to the Division.
- 9 7. **Transportation:** Primary all-season access to most of Unit 8 is principally from the 49-mile Pogo
- 10 Mine Road and its main forest road spurs. When Pogo Mine operations conclude and the Road Use
- 11 Agreement ([ADL 421276](#)) is terminated, Forestry will consider expanding public access options if
- 12 possible in ways compatible with the statutory intent of the State Forest to provide a sustainable
- 13 timber resource while allowing for multiple uses.
- 14 The State has developed a portion of the winter trail on the north margin of Shaw Creek Flats to a
- 15 primary winter road for timber access to Subunit 8C. Additional development of this winter access
- 16 route may occur to access timber sales in Subunit 8C and 8D.
- 17 If roads on public rights-of-way within subdivisions are used for timber or other resource
- 18 management activities, they will be maintained by the state as secondary all-season roads during
- 19 periods of use. Use of subdivision roads will be coordinated to minimize conflict with private land
- 20 values.
- 21

LAND USE SUMMARY

Table 3.8. Unit 8 (Shaw Creek) Land Use Summary

Unit 8: Shaw Creek							
Subunit/ Designation/ Acres	Summary of Management Intent	Summary of Management Activities	Potential Access Roads: 1°/2° (primary/ secondary)	Subsurface Designation		Prohibited Surface Uses*	Other Resources and Uses
				Locatable	Leasable		
8A / FOR / 25,620 acres	Mineral production, timber production, fish and wildlife habitat and recreation near Caribou Creek	Timber sales	1° all-season access is planned from Shaw Creek Rd	Open to mineral entry, except oil pipeline ROW	Available for leasing	Land disposal	RS 2477 Trails; State Mining Claims along Tenderfoot Creek
8B / FOR / 3,243 acres	Rosa-Keystone Dunes Research Natural Area Manage Under <u>ADL 228314</u>	Research	No new road construction planned	Open under leasehold location <u>LLO 24</u>	Available for leasing	Land disposal, Commercial leases, developed recreation, material extraction, remote cabins, timber harvest, trapping cabins, introduction of non -endemic species	RS 2477 Trails; Special Use Designation
8C / FOR / 31,323 acres	Timber production, fish and wildlife habitat, recreation near Tanana River and Shaw Creek, mineral production	Timber sales	1° winter road will be extended to access timber sales. 1° all-season access is planned from Shaw Creek Rd	Open to mineral entry	Available for leasing	Land disposal	RS 2477 Trails; Private Easement <u>ADL 416817</u> ; State Mining Claims along Northeast boundary

Subunit/ Designation/ Acres	Summary of Management Intent	Summary of Management Activities	Potential Access Roads: 1°/2° (primary/ secondary)	Subsurface Designation		Prohibited Surface Uses*	Other Resources and Uses
				Locatable	Leasable		
8D / FOR / 20,856 acres	Forestry /Multiple Use	Timber sales	1° winter road may be extended to access timber sales. All season access is planned from Shaw Creek	Open to mineral entry	Available for leasing	Land disposal	State Mining Claims on much of the subunit
M-01 / FOR MAT / 251 acres	Manage under ADL 419550 ADL 419770 ADL 419751 ADL 419806 ADL 419752 ADL 419753 Sites will be managed for forestry upon closure	See LAS Casefiles	See LAS Casefiles	See LAS Casefiles	See LAS Casefiles	See LAS Casefiles	

* Other uses, such as material sales or land leases, that are not specifically prohibited may be allowed. Such uses will be allowed if consistent with the management intent statement and management guidelines of this unit and with the relevant management guidelines in Chapter 2.

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Unit 8 Shaw Creek Ownership Map

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Unit 8 Shaw Creek Land Designation Map

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1 MANAGEMENT UNIT 9: RAPID CREEK

2 SUMMARY OF MANAGEMENT INTENT

3 This unit includes most of the uplands between Shaw Creek and the Goodpaster River. It contains 3 subunits.

4 Subunit 9A will be managed for commercial timber production while protecting fish and wildlife values near
5 Liscum Slough and Rapid Creek.

6 Subunit 9B, the Shaw Creek Tamarack Research Natural Area, will be managed in its natural state for
7 research and educational use.

8 Subunit 9C will be managed for general multiple-use management consistent with 11 AAC 96 and
9 AS 41.17.200.

10 EXISTING RESOURCES AND USES

- 11 1. **Cultural Resources:** One cultural site been identified in this unit as part of this plan. Probability of
12 other sites is considered high on promontories that overlook waterbodies or large vistas. Consult
13 Chapter 2, Cultural Resources, for a list of the cultural site codes in this unit. Further information on
14 cultural sites can be obtained from the Office of History and Archaeology.
- 15 2. **Fish and Wildlife Habitat:** Moose and furbearers occur throughout this unit. The unit contains
16 important black bear habitat, primarily in lower elevations, and brown bear habitat in upper
17 elevations. This unit is used by the Fortymile caribou herd, primarily as winter habitat. Lowland
18 areas are used intensively for trapping. The lower Goodpaster River system provides rearing habitat
19 for Chinook salmon and supports high value resident species of fish such as Arctic grayling.
- 20 3. **Private Lands and Leaseholds:** None identified in this unit.
- 21 4. **Recreation and Tourism:** Most recreation in this area occurs outside of the TVSF near Quartz Lake
22 or in the Goodpaster River valley. The ridge that bisects the unit offers a good view and is accessed
23 by trails used by local residents. "Lake 992" in Subunit 9B generally has low recreational use.
24 Snowmachiners use this area for day trips. People who have cabins along the Goodpaster River
25 access their cabins through this unit on an RS 2477 trails that passes through Subunit 9A.
- 26 5. **Scientific Resources:** Subunit 9B, the Shaw Creek Tamarack Research Natural Area, used to contain
27 representative upland and lowland stands of tamarack suitable for research uses. However, the
28 tamarack have been killed by repeated defoliation over a five-year period by the larch sawfly in the
29 late 1990s. It is plausible that tamarack ingrowth has occurred since the 2001 Plan Update, but there
30 is no known recent site visit to confirm this. There are two cabins within the Research Natural Area,
31 along the east side of the lake. Two active traplines were observed and a trail circles the lake. See
32 also Appendix E, Research Natural Area Report, for more information.
- 33 6. **Subsurface Resources:** Mineral potential is low to moderate within this unit. Mining claims exist in
34 Subunit 9A and a small number in Subunit 9C. A Leasehold Location Order applies to Subunit 9B.

1 7. **Timber:** The Rapid Creek drainage contains substantial stands of spruce sawtimber; hills north of
2 the Goodpaster River support moderate levels of spruce. There is a history of large-scale fires in this
3 contiguous landscape block. Portions of this Unit are deemed to have high site productivity. Values are
4 lower in most of Subunit 9C because of remoteness.

5 8. **Transportation and Access:** Quartz Lake Extension Road provides 8 miles of all-season access into
6 Subunit 9A. Winter trails provide additional access into this unit. The historic Fortymile-Big Delta
7 Trail and two spur trails are used chiefly in winter for access to traplines and cabins on the
8 Goodpaster River. The Goodpaster Trail from Quartz Lake was built in the 1930s to access mines in
9 the upper drainage. Spur trails lead up Central Creek and to the lower mile of the Goodpaster. The
10 Goodpaster Trail is listed as an RS 2477 route. Another RS 2477 route does not pass through the
11 unit, but provides access to the area. Access to Rapid Creek is via the Indian Creek Trail that links to
12 an old army maneuver trail in Shaw Creek Flats. The army trail is currently being used as a winter
13 road to haul timber from Subunit 9A.

14 MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES AND ACTIVITIES

15 1. **Cultural Sites:** Consult Chapter 2, Cultural Resources, for a list of the cultural site codes in this unit.
16 Further information on cultural sites can be obtained from the Office of History and Archaeology.

17 2. **Minerals:** Subunits 9A and 9C will remain open to mineral location and leasing. Within Subunit 9B,
18 the research natural area, mineral exploration or development will be restricted if it conflicts with
19 the overriding scientific values. Within the RNA, rights to locatable minerals may be acquired only
20 under the leasehold location system, [AS 38.05.205](#), and may not be acquired by locating a mining
21 claim under [AS 38.05.195](#). The stipulations used in approving plans of operations per Leasehold
22 Location Order #24 (See Appendix C.) will also be included in any miscellaneous land use permits
23 issued for exploration activities within the RNA.

24 3. **Goodpaster River Corridor.** When authorizing development activities, measures will be taken to
25 minimize impacts to the scenic values or recreational uses of the Goodpaster River corridor, here
26 defined as Unit D-15 of the 2015 Eastern Tanana Area Plan (ETAP), to the extent feasible and
27 prudent. ETAP Unit D-15 is “to be managed to protect and maintain habitat and public recreation
28 values”, and a large number of private inholdings and public trails exist within ETAP Unit D-15.
29 Measures to minimize the impacts of timber management actions on scenic values are discussed in
30 Chapter 2.

31 To minimize impacts on the scenic and recreational values of the Goodpaster River, and to maintain
32 the roadless character of the river, winter roads in this unit will be designed and managed to
33 minimize possible use by all-terrain vehicles in the summer.

34 4. **Research Natural Area:** Subunit 9B will be managed in its natural state as a research natural area.
35 Guidelines for research natural areas in the Scientific Resources section of Chapter 2 will apply to
36 this subunit.

37 5. **Streamside and Lakeshore Management:** Guidelines for special management zones (see the
38 Riparian and Instream Flow Management section of Chapter 2) apply to water bodies in Unit 9.
39 Waterbodies with special management zones are listed in Table 2.3.

1 6. **Timber:** Suitable lands in Subunit 9A will be managed for commercial timber production. Timber
2 sales over 10,000 board feet are prohibited in a 160-acre parcel near Jolly's Cabin (T8S, R11E,
3 Sec. 27 SW¼).

4 Timber will be made available in Subunit 9C if warranted by a change in demand or accessibility.

5 Subunit 9B is a research natural area and is closed to timber harvest.

6 Timber sales in this unit are within the Delta Area. For more detail when specific proposals are
7 developed, see the Delta Area Five Year Schedule of Timber Sales and Forest Land Use Plans.

8 7. **Trails:** Guidelines for trail corridors of regional or statewide significance (see the Trails section of
9 Chapter 2) apply to documented trails within Unit 9. Trails that are not documented in DNR's land
10 record system are present and heavily used in this unit. Public review of Five Year Schedule of
11 Timber Sales, Best Interest Findings, and Forest Land Use Plans are critical opportunities for
12 information about undocumented trails to be communicated to the Division.

13 To minimize impacts on the scenic and recreational values of the Goodpaster River, and to maintain
14 the roadless character of the river, the Goodpaster Winter Trail (Fortymile-Big Delta Trail) should be
15 managed for winter-only use by road vehicles. DNR will adjudicate land actions, including timber
16 sales, consistent with this intent. DNR will not upgrade this trail to an all-season road.

17 8. **Transportation:** Subunit 9A is currently accessed by the Quartz Lake Extension Road, a primary all-
18 season forest road. A trail developed by the army on the south side of Shaw Creek has been used
19 to access timber salvaged from the Rapid Creek fire. This trail has also been used to access timber
20 sales to the east and north of Quartz Lake. This access route will continue to be used for timber
21 management. If an all-season road is constructed, it will be routed on the hillsides north of the
22 Goodpaster Winter Trail.

23 The following guideline applies to new access only in a 160-acre parcel near Jolly's Cabin (T8S R11E,
24 Sec. 27 SW ¼). To adjacent units. For example, a road could cross the edge of this parcel to skirt a
25 ridge extending into the parcel. A road designed under a special exception must minimize the
26 distance within the parcel and must not provide new road access to the river. See Chapter 4, Plan
27 Modification, for a description of the special exception process. Access routes to mining claims
28 should avoid this parcel unless no feasible and prudent alternative exists.

29

LAND USE SUMMARY

Table 3.9. Unit 9 (Rapid Creek) Land Use Summary

Unit 9: Rapid Creek							
Subunit/ Designation/ Acres	Summary of Management Intent	Summary of Management Activities	Potential Access Roads: 1°/2° (primary/ secondary)	Subsurface Designation		Prohibited Surface Uses*	Other Resources and Uses
				Locatable	Leasable		
9A / FOR / 56,544 acres	Timber production, habitat and recreation near waterbodies	Timber sales	Probable access by 1° road. All- season access road is planned to be extended	Open to mineral entry	Available for leasing	Land disposal	RS 2477 trails
9B / FOR / 1,909 acres	Shaw Creek Tamarack Research Natural Area Manage according to ADL 228315	Research	None planned	Open under leasehold location LLO 24	Available for leasing	Land disposal, Commercial leases, developed recreation, material extraction, remote cabins, timber harvest, trapping cabins, introduction of non-endemic species; Carbon offset projects	Special Use Designation; Private inholding
9C / FOR / 16,839 acres	Timber production	None planned	None planned. Area may be accessed by all- season road	Open to mineral entry	Available for leasing	Land disposal	

* Other uses, such as material sales or land leases, that are not specifically prohibited may be allowed. Such uses will be allowed if consistent with the management intent statement and management guidelines of this unit and with the relevant management guidelines in Chapter 2.

Unit 9 Rapid Creek Ownership Map

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Unit 9 Rapid Creek Land Designation Map

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MANAGEMENT UNIT 10: GERSTLE RIVER

SUMMARY OF MANAGEMENT INTENT

This unit consists of 65 miles of bottomland along the Tanana River between Big Delta and Dot Lake and includes the highlands that surround Volkmar Lake. It contains 4 subunits.

Most of Subunit 10A will be managed for timber and wildlife habitat. The Bluff Cabin Ridge area will be managed to protect its high recreational, fisheries habitat, and cultural values.

Subunits 10B and 10D will be managed in their natural states as research natural areas.

Subunit 10C will be managed for commercial and personal use timber production while protecting fish and wildlife habitat and recreation use near the Tanana and Volkmar Rivers and other waterbodies.

EXISTING RESOURCES

1. **Cultural Resources:** This unit contains a number of historic and prehistoric cultural sites, including one site that is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. The Bluff Cabin Ridge area is particularly rich in cultural resources, and the University of Alaska Fairbanks has previously used the Gerstle River quarry site for an archaeological field school. Every subunit contains at least 1 cultural site identified as part of this plan. Consult Chapter 2, Cultural Resources, for a list of the cultural site codes in this unit. Further information on cultural sites can be obtained from the Office of History and Archaeology.
2. **Fish and Wildlife Habitat:** Moose and furbearers occur throughout this unit. The unit contains important black bear habitat, primarily in lower elevations, and brown bear habitat in upper elevations. This unit is used by the Fortymile caribou herd, primarily as winter habitat. A substantial number of peregrine falcon nests have been identified along the Tanana River, and many eagles and other raptors are known to nest in bottomlands. Large numbers of sandhill cranes and other birds migrate through the area. The Tanana River system in this area provides spawning habitat for coho and chum salmon, rearing habitat for Chinook and coho salmon, and supports high value resident species of fish such as Arctic grayling.
3. **Private Lands and Leaseholds:** Agricultural parcels are located in the central portion of Subunit 10C.
4. **Recreation and Tourism:** The Tanana and Volkmar Rivers are used for recreational access. Subunit 10A includes a small amount of frontage on the south fork of the Goodpaster River and on Volkmar Lake between private inholdings. The scenic Bluff Cabin Ridge area is easily accessed by snowmachines and dog teams from Delta Junction. The Goodpaster Historical Trail connects the ridge area to Rika's Roadhouse, a State Historic site. Other trails in the area are used for horseback riding, hiking, and hunting. The boat ramp near Delta Junction is used heavily by hunters in the fall, and there is a lot of hunting in the sloughs of the Tanana. The Tanana is also used for recreational

boating, paddling, snowmachining, dog mushing, and cross-country skiing. Many snowmachiners travel through Subunit 10B on their way to Volkmar Lake.

5. **Scientific Resources:** Subunit 10B, the Volkmar Bluffs Research Natural Area, includes portions of the largest contiguous set of hill prairies in central interior Alaska. Hill prairie slopes are uniquely gentle and contain uncommon plants pollinated by a specialized species of bee. Subunit 10D, the Johnson Slough Bluffs Research Natural Area, contains hill prairie surrounded by open aspen forest. Rare species of plants adapted to warm sites and others adapted to high elevations occur together in prairie areas. See also Appendix E, Research Natural Area Report, for more information.
6. **Subsurface Resources:** Mineral potential is moderate east of Volkmar Lake and low elsewhere. No mining claims are located in this unit. A number of material sites are located in Subunit 10C.
7. **Timber:** As early as 1920 a sawmill has operated at or near the State Historical Site at Rika’s Roadhouse and forested lands in Subunit 10C have been harvested since the 1940s. Subunit 10C has served as the only all-season accessible harvest area to the Delta timber industry. Stands of white spruce occur along the Gerstle and Tanana River corridors and side channels.
8. **Transportation and Access:** Subunit 10C is accessed by the Alaska Highway, Cummings Road, and other all-season roads. The Tanana River provides important access for recreational and subsistence activities during the summer, winter, and hunting seasons. An unimproved, unmaintained public boat launch off Cummings Road provides access to Healy Lake and George Lake. Trails and logging roads provide hunting and trapping access. 17(b) right-of-way easements are reserved over two RS 2477 routes in the area. The easements are 25 feet wide and allow winter off-road vehicle and non-motorized use. Other RS 2477 routes pass near and through Unit 10. Portions of the Tanana River remain open throughout the winter in Subunit 10A.

MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES AND ACTIVITIES

1. **Cultural Site Protection:** Guidelines for cultural site protection (see the Cultural Resources section of Chapter 2) apply to all cultural sites identified as part of this plan.
2. **Minerals:** Subunits 10A and 10C shall remain open to mineral location and leasing. Within Subunits 10B and 10D, the research natural areas, mineral exploration or development will be restricted if it conflicts with the overriding scientific values. Within the RNAs, rights to locatable minerals may be acquired only under the leasehold location system, [AS 38.05.205](#), and may not be acquired by locating a mining claim under [AS 38.05.195](#). The stipulations used in approving plans of operations per Leasehold [Location Order #24](#) (See Appendix C.) will also be included in any miscellaneous land use permits issued for exploration activities within the RNAs.
3. **Goodpaster River corridor.** When authorizing development activities, measures will be taken to minimize impacts to the scenic values or recreational uses of the Goodpaster River corridor, here defined as Unit D-15 of the 2015 Eastern Tanana Area Plan (ETAP), to the extent feasible and prudent. ETAP Unit D-15 is “to be managed to protect and maintain habitat and public recreation values”, and many private inholdings and public trails exist within ETAP Unit D-15. Measures to minimize the impacts of timber management actions on scenic values are discussed in Chapter 2.

To minimize impacts on the scenic and recreational values of the Goodpaster River, and to maintain the roadless character of the river, winter roads in this unit will be designed and managed to minimize possible use by all-terrain vehicles in the summer.

4. **Research Natural Areas:** Subunits 10B and 10D will be managed in their natural states for research. Guidelines for research natural areas in the Scientific Resources section of Chapter 2 will apply to these subunits.

5. **Streamside and Lakeshore Management:** Guidelines for special management zones (see the Riparian and Instream Flow Management section of Chapter 2) apply to water bodies in Unit 10. Waterbodies with special management zones are listed in Table 2.3.

6. **Timber Sales:** Suitable lands in Subunits 10A and 10C will be managed for commercial timber production in accordance with policies stated in this plan. Public firewood cutting areas will be provided in easily accessed portions of these subunits.

Timber harvest will be prohibited within the research natural areas in Subunits 10B and 10D.

The area immediately surrounding Volkmar Lake will be managed to provide firewood, house logs, and other products to cabin owners.

Timber sales in this unit are within the Delta Area. For more detail when specific proposals are developed, see the Delta Area Five Year Schedule of Timber Sales and Forest Land Use Plans.

7. **Trails:** Guidelines for trail corridors of regional or statewide significance (see the Trails section of Chapter 2) apply to documented trails within Unit 10. Trails that are not documented in DNR's land record system are present and heavily used in this unit. Public review of Five Year Schedule of Timber Sales, Best Interest Findings, and Forest Land Use Plans are critical opportunities for information about undocumented trails to be communicated to the Division.

8. **Transportation:** Unit 10A is accessed by a secondary winter road crossing the Tanana from the Delta Agricultural Tracts at the end of Sawmill Creek Road. Most of the timber on the south side of the Tanana in Subunit 10C has an access road within two miles. Timber on the west side of the Gerstle River will be accessed through easements between agricultural tracts or by crossing the Gerstle River during the winter. Timber north and east of the Tanana River will be accessed by ice bridges and winter roads. Roads will be sited to avoid causing trespass on land owned by Mendas Chaag Corporation, Dot Lake Village Corporation, and local residents.

To minimize impacts on the scenic and recreational values of the Goodpaster River, and to maintain the roadless character of the river, winter roads in Unit 10 will be designed and managed to minimize possible use by all-terrain vehicles in the summer.

Access routes to mining claims should avoid this parcel unless no feasible and prudent alternative exists.

LAND USE SUMMARY

Table 3.10. Unit 10 (Gerstle River) Land Use Summary

Unit 10: Gerstle River							
Subunit/ Designation/ Acres	Management Intent	Summary of Management Activities	Potential Access Roads: 1°/2° (primary/ secondary)	Subsurface Designation		Prohibited Surface Uses*	Other Resources and Uses
				Locatable	Leasable		
10A / FOR / 60, 524 acres	Timber production, wildlife habitat, recreation, cultural values	Timber sales	Some 2° winter roads may be constructed. Additional 1° and 2° roads may also be constructed	Open to mineral entry	Available for leasing	Land disposal	RS 2477 trails; Public access Easements ADL 415267
10B / FOR / 1,894 acres	Volkmar Bluffs Research Natural Area manage under ADL 228316	Research	None planned.	Open under leasehold location LLO 24	Available for leasing	Land disposal, Commercial leases, developed recreation, material extraction, remote cabins, timber harvest, trapping cabins, introduction of non-endemic species; Carbon Offset Projects	Special Use Designation
10D / FOR / 903 acres	Johnson Slough Bluffs Research Natural Area manage under ADL 228316						

Subunit/ Designation/ Acres	Management Intent	Summary of Management Activities	Potential Access Roads: 1°/2° (primary/ secondary)	Subsurface Designation		Prohibited Surface Uses*	Other Resources and Uses
				Locatable	Leasable		
10C / FOR / 70,935 acres	Timber production Habitat and recreation near Tanana River and other waterbodies	Timber sales	Some additional all- season and winter roads are planned through the Gerstle River area	Open to mineral entry	Available for leasing	Land disposal	RS 2477 Trails; Agricultural inholdings; Private inholdings; ADF&G telemetry tower <u>ADL 421533</u> ; Boat launch <u>ADL 417586</u> ; Permafrost monitoring site <u>LAS 422276</u>
M-01 / FOR MAT / 537 acres	Manage under <u>ADL 419687</u> <u>ADL 419686</u> <u>ADL 419685</u> <u>ADL 419520</u> <u>ADL 419521</u> Sites will be managed for forestry upon closure.	See LAS casefiles	See LAS casefiles	See LAS casefiles	See LAS casefiles	See LAS casefiles	

* Other uses, such as material sales or land leases, that are not specifically prohibited may be allowed. Such uses will be allowed if consistent with the management intent statement and management guidelines of this unit and with the relevant management guidelines in Chapter 2.

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Unit 10 Gerstle River Ownership Map

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Unit 10 Gerstle River Land Designation Map

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1 MANAGEMENT UNIT 11: HEALY RIVER

2 SUMMARY OF MANAGEMENT INTENT

3 This unit consists of a rugged upland area separated from the Alaska Highway by the Tanana River and
4 private land.

5 The entire unit will be managed for multiple-use management consistent with 11 AAC 96 and
6 AS 41.17.200. Extensive land selections by ANCSA Regional and Village Corporations and Native
7 Allotments surround the unit.

8 EXISTING RESOURCES AND USES

- 9 1. **Cultural resources:** A caribou fence is among many cultural sites identified in this unit as part of
10 this plan. Probability of additional sites is considered high along bluff areas in this unit. Consult
11 Chapter 2, Cultural Resources, for a list of the cultural site codes in this unit. Further
12 information on cultural sites can be obtained from the Office of History and Archaeology.
- 13 2. **Fish and Wildlife Habitat:** Moose and furbearers occur throughout this unit. The unit contains
14 important black bear habitat, primarily in lower elevations, and brown bear habitat in upper
15 elevations. This unit is used by the Fortymile caribou herd, primarily as winter habitat.
16 Lowlands along Healy River and Billy Creek are concentration areas for moose and black bear in
17 spring; the Healy River Valley contains wetlands that provide important waterfowl habitat.
18 Water bodies in this area support high value resident species of fish such as Arctic grayling. Fish
19 and wildlife within this unit are harvested for both sport and subsistence. Larger valleys in the
20 unit are extensively trapped.
- 21 3. **Private Land and Leaseholds:** Large tracts owned by ANCSA Regional/Village Corporations
22 border much of Unit 11. Numerous private inholdings & Allotments adjacent to Unit 11 near
23 Healy Lake & George Lake.
- 24 4. **Recreation and Tourism:** George Creek has high recreation value chiefly because of sport fishing
25 and hunting. Healy River and Sand Creek have moderate recreational values for sport fishing.
- 26 5. **Scientific Resources:** None identified in this unit.
- 27 6. **Subsurface resources:** This unit appears to have low mineral potential.
- 28 7. **Timber:** This unit consists of heavily dissected uplands that are generally above 1,500 feet
29 elevation. Higher elevation areas are of low productivity and support pole-sized hardwood
30 forests. Mature spruce sawtimber stands are patchy and generally on lower, south-facing slopes,
31 especially along George Creek, George Lake, and Healy River. Understories of spruce are
32 developing in the hardwood stands. There are no recorded State of Alaska timber sales in this
33 unit.
- 34 8. **Transportation and Access:** This unit is separated from the Alaska Highway by the Tanana River
35 and land owned by the Mendas Chaag and Dot Lake Native Corporations. The Healy Lake and

1 George Lake Trails follow public 17(b) right-of-way easements that are 25 feet wide and allow
2 winter off-road vehicle and non-motorized use. Several RS 2477 routes provide access to
3 Unit 11.

4 **MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES AND ACTIVITIES**

- 5 1. **Cultural Site Protection:** Guidelines for cultural site protection (see the Cultural Resources
6 section of Chapter 2) apply to all cultural sites within this unit. Generally, the land selections by
7 ANCSA Regional and Village Corporations surrounding this Unit suggest this area has cultural or
8 subsistence values that are not known to land managers. Prior to any development action that
9 modifies ground conditions, TVSF managers must cooperate with adjacent landowners to fully
10 assess cultural values and uses on impacted lands.
- 11 2. **Mineral:** All of this unit will remain open to mineral location and leasing.
- 12 3. **Streamside Management:** Guidelines for special management zones (see the Riparian and
13 Instream Flow Management section of Chapter 2) apply to water bodies in Unit 11. Waterbodies
14 with special management zones are listed in Table 2.3.
- 15 4. **Timber Sales:** Timber sales are currently not scheduled for this unit. This unit, by virtue of its
16 difficult access and remote location, may be valuable as a timber or carbon reservoir, especially
17 if other parts of the State Forest experience forest health declines. Timber will be made
18 available in this unit if warranted by a change in demand or accessibility.
19 Timber sales in this unit would be within the Delta Area. For more detail if specific proposals are
20 developed, see the Delta Area Five Year Schedule of Timber Sales and Forest Land Use Plans.
- 21 5. **Trails:** Guidelines for trail corridors of regional or statewide significance (see the Trails section of
22 Chapter 2) apply to documented trails within Unit 11. Trails that are not documented in DNR's
23 land record system are present and heavily used in this unit. Public review of Five-Year Schedule
24 of Timber Sales, Best Interest Findings, and Forest Land Use Plans are critical opportunities for
25 information about undocumented trails to be communicated to the Division.
- 26 6. **Access and Transportation.** TVSF managers should cooperate with adjacent landowners to
27 obtain access prior to undertaking any development actions in this unit.

28

LAND USE SUMMARY

Table 3.11. Unit 11 (Healy River) Land Use Summary

Unit 11: Healy River							
Subunit/ Designation/ Acres	Management Intent	Summary of Management Activities	Potential Access Roads: 1°/2° (primary/ secondary)	Subsurface Designation		Prohibited Surface Uses*	Other resources and Uses
				Locatable	Leasable		
11 / FOR / 199,685 acres	Forestry/Multiple Use	None planned	None planned	Open to mineral entry	Available for mineral leasing	Land disposals	RS 2477 Trails

* Other uses, such as material sales or land leases, that are not specifically prohibited may be allowed. Such uses will be allowed if consistent with the management intent statement and management guidelines of this unit and with the relevant management guidelines in Chapter 2.

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Unit 11 Healy River Ownership Map

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Unit 11 Healy River Land Designation Map

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1 MANAGEMENT UNIT 12: TOWER BLUFFS

2 SUMMARY OF MANAGEMENT INTENT

3 This unit includes wetlands in the lower Mansfield and Billy Creek drainages and fronts about 30 miles of
4 the Tanana River. It contains 2 subunits.

5 Subunit 12A will be managed for general use until additional information is gathered about access
6 development and resource potential.

7 Subunit 12B is accessible during the winter from the Alaska Highway and will be managed for timber
8 production while protecting fish and wildlife habitat values and public uses along the Tanana River.

9 EXISTING RESOURCES AND USES

- 10 1. **Cultural Resources:** Eight cultural sites have been identified in Subunit 12B as part of this plan,
11 at least one of which is prehistoric in nature. Probability is considered high that Tower Bluffs,
12 Cathedral Bluffs, T Lake, and other bluffs within this unit contain other cultural resources. The
13 Eagle Trail is a historic route used by Alaska Natives and miners. Consult Chapter 2, Cultural
14 Resources, for a list of the cultural site codes in this unit. Further information on cultural sites
15 can be obtained from the Office of History and Archaeology.
- 16 2. **Fish and Wildlife Habitat:** The large lakes and wetlands in this unit provide waterfowl habitat
17 and support high value resident species of fish. Important habitat for moose, black bears, upland
18 game birds (e.g., grouse and ptarmigan), and furbearers is found throughout. The moose
19 population increased within this area following wildfires during the 2000s and 2010s, possibly
20 aided by reduced wolf abundance. Important raptor habitat and nesting areas exist within the
21 unit, primarily in the lowland areas along the Tanana River. The unit is heavily utilized for
22 trapping by residents and is an important moose and bear hunting area.
- 23 3. **Private Land and Leaseholds:** Numerous privately owned tracts exist within both subunits, in
24 particular concentrated in the Cathedral Bluffs and Mansfield areas.
- 25 4. **Recreation and Tourism:** The Tanana and Robertson Rivers and Mansfield and T Lakes support
26 sport fisheries. T Lake is accessed by float planes. Powerboaters use the Tanana River in this
27 unit for fishing, hunting, and sightseeing. In the winter, the Tanana is used for snowmachining,
28 dog mushing, and trapping. Snowmachiners and dog mushers also use the logging roads. Most
29 of the hiking and four-wheeling in this unit is associated with moose hunting in the fall.
- 30 5. **Scientific Resources:** None identified in this unit.
- 31 6. **Subsurface Resources:** Mineral potential in this unit appears low. A material sale is active in
32 Subunit 12B.
- 33 7. **Timber:** The Tanana River bottomlands in this unit support mature sawtimber stands of white
34 spruce. Except for the south-facing slopes, the higher elevation area of this unit to the east and
35 north of the Tanana River has generally low productivity, with only patches of sawtimber spruce

1 on lower, warmer slopes. The lower slopes of the highlands north of the Tanana River are
2 productive areas. Timber resources in this area are currently being evaluated.

3 8. **Transportation and Access:** The Tanana River separates almost all the land within this unit from
4 the Alaska Highway. The Tanana Crossing - Grundler Trail follows a 17(b) public right-of- way
5 over land owned by Tanacross, Inc. The easement is 25 feet wide and allows winter off- road
6 vehicle or non-motorized use.

7 Documented RS 2477 routes provide access to and through Unit 12. Undocumented trails may
8 exist in this unit.

9 MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES AND ACTIVITIES

10 1. **Cultural Site Protection:** Guidelines for cultural site protection (see the Cultural Resources
11 section of Chapter 2) apply to all cultural sites within this unit. Structures or other evidence of
12 historic activity near the Eagle Trail will be identified and protected consistent with these
13 guidelines. Care will be exercised when locating timber sales on high probability cultural site
14 locations.

15 2. **Development Activities Near Private Land:** Roads, timber harvest, and other development
16 activities near Cathedral Bluffs and Mansfield Lake will be sited and designed to avoid trespass
17 on adjacent private land.

18 3. **Minerals:** All this unit will remain open to mineral location and leasing. The Robertson River
19 campground site will be closed to locatable mineral entry when funding for campground
20 development is secured.

21 4. **Recreational Facilities:** No authorized recreational facilities are currently found on T Lake, and
22 none are currently planned for this area. A campground may be developed on a scenic bluff
23 north of the Robertson River and east of the Alaska Highway in Subunit 12B. Campground siting
24 and design will avoid negative impacts on peregrine falcon nest sites.

25 5. **Streamside and Lakeshore Management:** Guidelines for special management zones (see the
26 Riparian and Instream Flow Management section of Chapter 2) apply to water bodies in Unit
27 12. Waterbodies with special management zones are listed in Table 2.3.

28 6. **Timber Sales:** Timber sales have not been scheduled in Subunit 12A. Timber will be made
29 available in this subunit if warranted by a change in demand or accessibility. Timber sales in
30 this unit would be within the Tok Area.

31 Suitable lands in Subunit 12B will be managed for commercial and personal- use timber
32 production in accordance with other policies and guidelines stated in this plan.

33 For more detail if specific proposals are developed, see the Tok Area Five Year Schedule of
34 Timber Sales and Forest Land Use Plans.

35 7. **Trails:** Guidelines for trail corridors of regional or statewide significance (see the Trails section of
36 Chapter 2) apply to documented trails within Unit 12. Trails that are not documented in DNR's
37 land record system are present and heavily used in this unit. Public review of Five Year Schedule

1 of Timber Sales, Best Interest Findings, and Forest Land Use Plans are critical opportunities for
2 information about undocumented trails to be communicated to the Division.

3 8. **Transportation:** Timber in Subunit 12B will be accessed by secondary winter roads and ice
4 bridges from the Alaska Highway. Secondary winter roads will probably be constructed in
5 Subunit 12B for timber management. The DNR will seek agreements with the Dot Lake
6 Corporation for cooperative timber agreements and access development near Dot Lake.

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Unit 12 – Tower Bluffs

LAND USE SUMMARY

Table 3.12. Unit 12 (Tower Bluffs) Land Use Summary

Unit 12: Tower Bluffs							
Subunit/ Designation/ Acres	Management Intent	Summary of Management Activities	Potential Access Roads: 1°/2° (primary/ secondary)	Subsurface Designation		Prohibited Surface Uses*	Other Resources and Uses
				Locatable	Leasable		
12A / FOR / 194,100 acres	Forestry/Multiple Use	None planned	None planned	Open to mineral entry	Available for leasing	Land disposal	Private inholdings; RS 2477 trails
12B / FOR / 70,700 acres	Recreation, fish and wildlife habitat, timber sales	Timber sales	Will be accessed by 2° winter roads and ice bridges from the Alaska Hwy	Open to mineral entry	Available for leasing	Land disposal	Private inholdings; RS 2477 trails
M-01 / FOR MAT / 102 acres	Manage under <u>ADL 419510</u> Sites will be managed for forestry upon closure	See LAS Casefile	See LAS Casefile	See LAS Casefile	See LAS Casefile	See LAS Casefile	

* Other uses, such as material sales or land leases, that are not specifically prohibited may be allowed. Such uses will be allowed if consistent with the management intent statement and management guidelines of this unit and with the relevant management guidelines in Chapter 2.

Unit 12 Tower Bluffs Ownership Map

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Unit 12 Tower Bluffs Ownership Map

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1 MANAGEMENT UNIT 13: PORCUPINE CREEK

2 SUMMARY OF MANAGEMENT INTENT

3 This unit consists of a high elevation area north of the Tanana River and Tok. It contains 2 subunits.

4 Subunit 13A will be managed for general use because of its currently low mineral, developed recreation,
5 and timber values.

6 Subunit 13B, accessed by the Taylor Highway and Old Alaska Highway, will be managed for commercial
7 and personal use timber production while protecting fish and wildlife habitat and recreation values near
8 the river.

9 EXISTING RESOURCES AND USES

- 10 1. **Cultural Resources:** Two cultural sites have been identified within this unit. Consult Chapter 2,
11 Cultural Resources, for a list of the cultural site codes in this unit. Further information on
12 cultural sites can be obtained from the Office of History and Archaeology.
- 13 2. **Fish and Wildlife Habitat:** The water bodies in this unit that drain into the Tanana River support
14 high value resident species of fish. Important habitat for moose, brown bears, black bears,
15 upland game birds (e.g., grouse and ptarmigan), and furbearers is found throughout this unit.
16 The moose population increased within this area following the large 2004 wildfires, possibly
17 aided by reduced wolf abundance. Important raptor habitat and nesting areas exist within the
18 unit, primarily in the lowland areas along the Tanana River. The unit is heavily utilized for
19 trapping by local residents and is important for hunting of moose, bears, and small game.
- 20 3. **Private Land and Leaseholds:** A number of private inholdings and native allotments are
21 identified along the Tanana River in Unit 13.
- 22 4. **Recreation and Tourism:** The Tanana River is used for camping, boating and fishing, especially in
23 its clearwater tributaries. The Taylor Highway corridor is used for camping, trapping, and
24 hunting access and offers scenic views from highlands. Powerboaters use the Tanana River in
25 this unit for fishing, hunting, and sightseeing. In the winter, the Tanana is used for
26 snowmachining, trapping, and dog mushing. Snowmachines and dog mushers also use the
27 logging roads. Most of the hiking and four-wheeling in this unit is associated with moose
28 hunting in the fall.
- 29 5. **Scientific Resources:** None identified in this unit.
- 30 6. **Subsurface Resources:** Mineral potential in this unit is low. A mining claim block exists
31 along the Taylor Highway where it crosses Porcupine Creek. An active material site exists
32 in the eastern part of Subunit 13B.
- 33 7. **Timber:** Much of this unit is higher in elevation than the rest of the TVSF and is of lower
34 productivity, except for south-facing slopes, which are productive areas. High fire frequency
35 combined with a rugged landscape have created a patchwork of vegetation and timber types.

1 Since 1986, about 10 to 12 million board feet of timber have been burned, and timber is still
2 being salvaged from burnt areas of the forest.

3 8. **Transportation and Access:** The Taylor Highway, closed in the winter, and the Old Alaska
4 Highway provide primary access to Subunit 13B. Timber salvage operations use an ice bridge to
5 cross the Tanana River northeast of Tok. Winter trails may provide access to Unit 13. Subunit
6 13A is not accessed by existing roads. Winter access to the subunit is by snowmachine on the
7 Tanana River, and summer access is via boat on the river.

8 MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES AND ACTIVITIES

9 1. **Cultural Sites:** Guidelines for cultural site protection (see the Cultural Resources section of
10 Chapter 2) apply to all cultural sites within this unit.

11 2. **Habitat Enhancement:** Riparian and upland stands may be manipulated by ADF&G’s Division of
12 Wildlife Conservation, in cooperation with the DOF, to increase available moose browse and
13 begin staggered rotations of hardwood forest beneficial to moose, ruffed grouse and other
14 early- to mid-successional wildlife species. Techniques may include prescribed burning,
15 silvicultural methods, tractor crushing of riparian willow, and bulldozer shearblading or felling of
16 hardwoods. Habitat enhancement projects will be discussed in the Five Year Schedule of Timber
17 Sales or by some other public process.

18 3. **Minerals:** All of this unit will remain open to mineral location and leasing.

19 4. **Streamside Management:** Guidelines for special management zones (see the Riparian and
20 Instream Flow Management section of Chapter 2) apply to water bodies in Unit 13. Waterbodies
21 with special management zones are listed in Table 2.3.

22 5. **Timber Sales:** Suitable lands will be managed for commercial and personal use timber
23 production in accordance with other policies and guidelines stated in this plan.

24 No timber sales are currently scheduled in Subunit 13A. Timber will be made available
25 in this subunit if warranted by a change in demand or accessibility.

26 Timber sales in this unit are within the Tok Area. For more detail if specific proposals
27 are developed, see the Tok Area Five Year Schedule of Timber Sales and Forest Land
28 Use Plans.

29 6. **Trails:** Guidelines for trail corridors of regional or statewide significance (see the Trails section of
30 Chapter 2) apply to documented trails within Unit 13. Trails that are not documented in DNR’s
31 land record system are present and heavily used in this unit. Public review of Five Year Schedule
32 of Timber Sales, Best Interest Findings, and Forest Land Use Plans are critical opportunities for
33 information about undocumented trails to be communicated to the Division.

34 7. **Transportation:** Timber in this unit will be accessed by secondary roads from the Old Alaska
35 Highway and by secondary all-season roads from the Taylor Highway.

36

LAND USE SUMMARY

Table 3.13. Unit 13 (Porcupine Creek) land Use Summary

Unit 13: Porcupine Creek							
Subunit / Designation / Acres	Management Intent	Summary of Management Activities	Potential Access Roads: 1°/2° (primary/secondary)	Subsurface Designation		Prohibited Surface Uses*	Other Resources and Uses
				Locatable	Leasable		
13A / FOR / 59,350 acres	Forestry/Multiple Use	None planned	None planned	Open to mineral entry	Available for leasing	Land disposal	Private Inholdings
13B / FOR / 36,128 acres	Timber production Habitat and recreation near Tanana R. and Porcupine Cr.	Timber sales, habitat enhancement	Accessed by 2° roads from the Old Alaska Hwy and 2° all- season roads from the Taylor Hwy	Open to mineral entry	Available for leasing	Land disposal	Private inholdings; Public access easement ADL 414716
M-01 / FOR MAT / 67 acres	Manage under ADL 419791 Site will be managed for forestry upon closure	See LAS Casefile	See LAS Casefile	See LAS Casefile	See LAS Casefile	See LAS Casefile	

* Other uses, such as material sales or land leases, that are not specifically prohibited may be allowed. Such uses will be allowed if consistent with the management intent statement and management guidelines of this unit and with the relevant management guidelines in Chapter 2.

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Unit 13 Porcupine Creek Ownership Map

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Unit 13 Porcupine Creek Land Designation Map

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1 MANAGEMENT UNIT 14: TOK RIVER

2 SUMMARY OF MANAGEMENT INTENT

3 This unit includes much of the lower Tok River Valley and adjacent highlands of the Alaska Range.
4 The unit has high value for hunting, fishing, trapping, camping, scenery, and timber harvest. It will be
5 managed to maintain these multiple uses. The Eagle Trail State Recreation Site is located in this unit,
6 17 miles south of Tok along the Tok Cutoff.

7 EXISTING RESOURCES AND USES

- 8 1. **Cultural Resources:** There are no recorded cultural sites in this unit. However, slopes above the
9 Tok River may contain cultural sites.
- 10 2. **Fish and Wildlife Habitat:** The Tok is listed in the ADF&G anadromous waters catalogue, and the
11 drainage system supports high value resident species of fish. Lower elevation areas of this unit
12 are used as winter range by moose and support prime black bear and furbearer habitat while
13 higher elevations (above ~4,000 feet) contain prime sheep habitat. This area in general is one of
14 the most important wintering areas for moose in Game Management Unit (GMU) 12. Moose
15 migrate to the Tok River flats (including both to this unit and through the unit to areas further
16 down the Tok River) from GMU 13 and from higher elevation areas within GMU 12. The resident
17 moose population currently exists at moderate densities and likely continues to benefit from
18 improved habitat that resulted from the nearby 1990 Tok River Fire, but that effect will decrease
19 as the forested portions mature. To increase available moose browse in the area, the ADF&G
20 Division of Wildlife Conservation crushed about 400 acres of riparian vegetation within and near
21 the unit in the 1980s and 1990s and roller-chopped >450 acres during 2015–2016 in the lower
22 Tok River valley. The unit is heavily trapped by local residents and serves as an important area
23 for moose and bear hunting.
- 24 3. **Private Land and Leaseholds:** Two Native allotments are located over the Old Glenn Highway.
25 One other allotment is located at the junction of the Johnny Trail and the Glenn Highway.
- 26 4. **Recreation and Tourism:** This unit is important for developed and dispersed recreation because
27 of easy access and its location near the junction of two major tourist routes, the Alaska and
28 Glenn Highways. The Eagle Trail State Recreation Site, a 35-unit campground, is located on
29 Clearwater Creek. Steep slopes that overlook the Glenn Highway from the west provide scenic
30 views from the highway. The Tok River is used for boating and fishing, as well as hunting access.
31 Trails in the area are used by people on four-wheelers for hunting and by snowmachiners, dog
32 mushers, trappers, and cross-country skiers in the winter.
- 33 5. **Scientific Resources:** State, Federal, and UA long-term forest inventory plots are located in
34 Unit 14. Research activity in the area does not limit forest management activities.

- 1 6. **Subsurface Resources:** The unit has moderate mineral potential and supports mining claim
2 blocks in the Clearwater Creek area and drainages to the Southwest. A number of material sale
3 sites are located adjacent to the Tok Cutoff Highway.
- 4 7. **Timber:** This unit is the primary source of spruce sawtimber, fuelwood, and house logs for the
5 surrounding area. Mature stands of white spruce located in the Tok River flats and productive
6 immature stands of mixed hardwood-spruce at lower slopes in the northern portion of this unit
7 are operable year-round.
- 8 8. **Transportation and Access:** The Glenn Highway provides primary all-season access to this unit.
9 Potential secondary access is via the graveled surfaces of the Eagle Trail, an RS 2477 route, and
10 Old Glenn Highway. A portion of the Eagle Trail, Slana - Tanana Crossing (RST 188) follows a 17(b)
11 public easement. The easement is 50 feet wide and allows all-season use. The Johny Trail
12 provides hunting access and is a potential access route to timber in the State Forest and to
13 massive sulfide deposits in the upper Tok River basin. A DOT&PF erosion easement is present
14 along the Tok Cutoff highway ([LAS 420323](#)).

15 MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES AND ACTIVITIES

- 16 1. **Cultural Site Protection:** Portions of the Eagle Trail south of the northern-most junction with the
17 Glenn Highway will be identified on the ground. Structures or other evidence of historic activity
18 will be identified and protected consistent with guidelines for cultural site protection (see the
19 Cultural Resources section of Chapter 2).
- 20 2. **Habitat Enhancement:** Riparian and upland stands may be manipulated by ADF&G's Division of
21 Wildlife Conservation, in cooperation with the DOF, to increase available wildlife habitat,
22 including moose browse, and begin staggered rotations of hardwood forest beneficial to moose,
23 ruffed grouse and other early- to mid-successional wildlife species. Techniques may include
24 prescribed burning, silvicultural methods, tractor crushing of riparian willow, and bulldozer
25 shearblading or felling of hardwoods. Habitat enhancement projects will be discussed in the
26 Five-Year Schedule of Timber Sales or by some other public process.
- 27 3. **Mineral:** All of this unit will remain open to mineral location and leasing, except for the Eagle
28 Trail State Recreation Site, which is closed to mineral entry.
- 29 4. **Scenic Quality:** Timber, road, mining, and other development activities visible from the
30 Glenn Highway and in the Clearwater Creek Valley will be sited and designed to enhance or
31 minimize impact to scenic views.
- 32 5. **Streamside Management:** Guidelines for special management zones (see the Riparian and
33 Instream Flow Management section of Chapter 2) apply to water bodies in Unit 14. Waterbodies
34 with special management zones are listed in Table 2.3.
- 35 6. **Timber Sales:** Suitable lands will be managed for commercial and personal use timber
36 production in accordance with other policies stated in this plan.
- 37 7. Timber sales in this unit are within the Tok Area. For more detail when specific proposals are
38 developed, see the Tok Area Five Year Schedule of Timber Sales and Forest Land Use Plans.

1 8. **Trails:** Guidelines for trail corridors of regional or statewide significance (see the Trails section of
2 Chapter 2) apply to documented trails within Unit 5. Trails that are not documented in DNR’s
3 land record system are present and heavily used in this unit. Public review of Five Year Schedule
4 of Timber Sales, Best Interest Findings, and Forest Land Use Plans are critical opportunities for
5 information about undocumented trails to be communicated to the Division.

6 The portion of the Eagle Trail between the Glenn and Alaska Highways is a road and will be
7 upgraded for timber access as necessary.

8 9. **Transportation:** Roads may be constructed in this unit for timber management.

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Appendix A - Glossary

1 **LAND USE SUMMARY**

2 Table 3.14. Unit 14 (Tok River) Land Use Summary

Unit 14: Tok River							
Subunit/ Designation/ Acres	Management Intent	Summary of Management Activities	Potential Access Roads: 1°/2° (primary/ secondary)	Subsurface Designation		Prohibited Surface Uses*	Other Resources and Uses
				Locatable	Leasable		
14 / FOR / 59,230 acres	Wildlife habitat protection and enhancement, recreation, timber production	Habitat enhancement, timber sales	1° all-season: old highway. Other 1° all-season and 2° all-season and winter roads north of the Tok River. 2° all-season south of the Tok River on seasonal ice bridge	Open to mineral entry	Available for leasing	Land disposals	Private inholdings; RS 2477 trails; DOTPF Erosion control Easement ADL 420323 ; Public access easement ADL 420180
M-01 / FOR MAT / 263 acres	Manage According to ADL 419487 ADL 419488 ADL 419485 ADL 419489 Or appropriate Federal Action records. Sites will be managed for forestry upon closure.	See LAS Casefile	See LAS Casefile	See LAS Casefile	See LAS Casefile	See LAS Casefile	

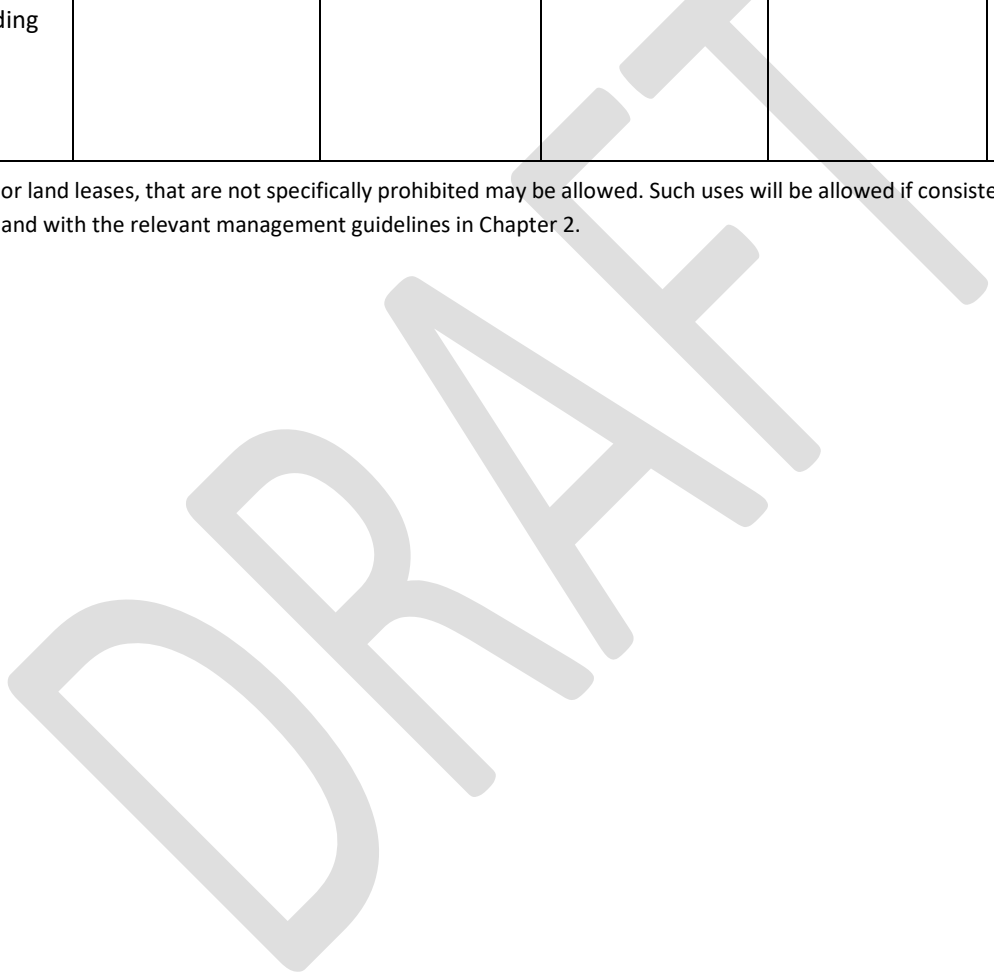
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Subunit/ Designation/ Acres	Management Intent	Summary of Management Activities	Potential Access Roads: 1°/2° (primary/ secondary)	Subsurface Designation		Prohibited Surface Uses*	Other Resources and Uses
				Locatable	Leasable		
PR-01 / FOR PUR / 274 acres	Eagle Trail State Rec Site Manage according to <u>ADL 50050</u>	See LAS Casefile	See LAS Casefile	See LAS Casefile	See LAS Casefile	See LAS Casefile	

1 * Other uses, such as material sales or land leases, that are not specifically prohibited may be allowed. Such uses will be allowed if consistent with the management intent statement and
 2 management guidelines of this unit and with the relevant management guidelines in Chapter 2.

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Unit 14 Tok River Ownership Map

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Unit 14 Land Designation Map

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