



THE STATE
of **ALASKA**

GOVERNOR MICHAEL J. DUNLEAVY

Department of Natural Resources

DIVISION OF FORESTRY / FAIRBANKS AREA FORESTRY

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February 15, 2022

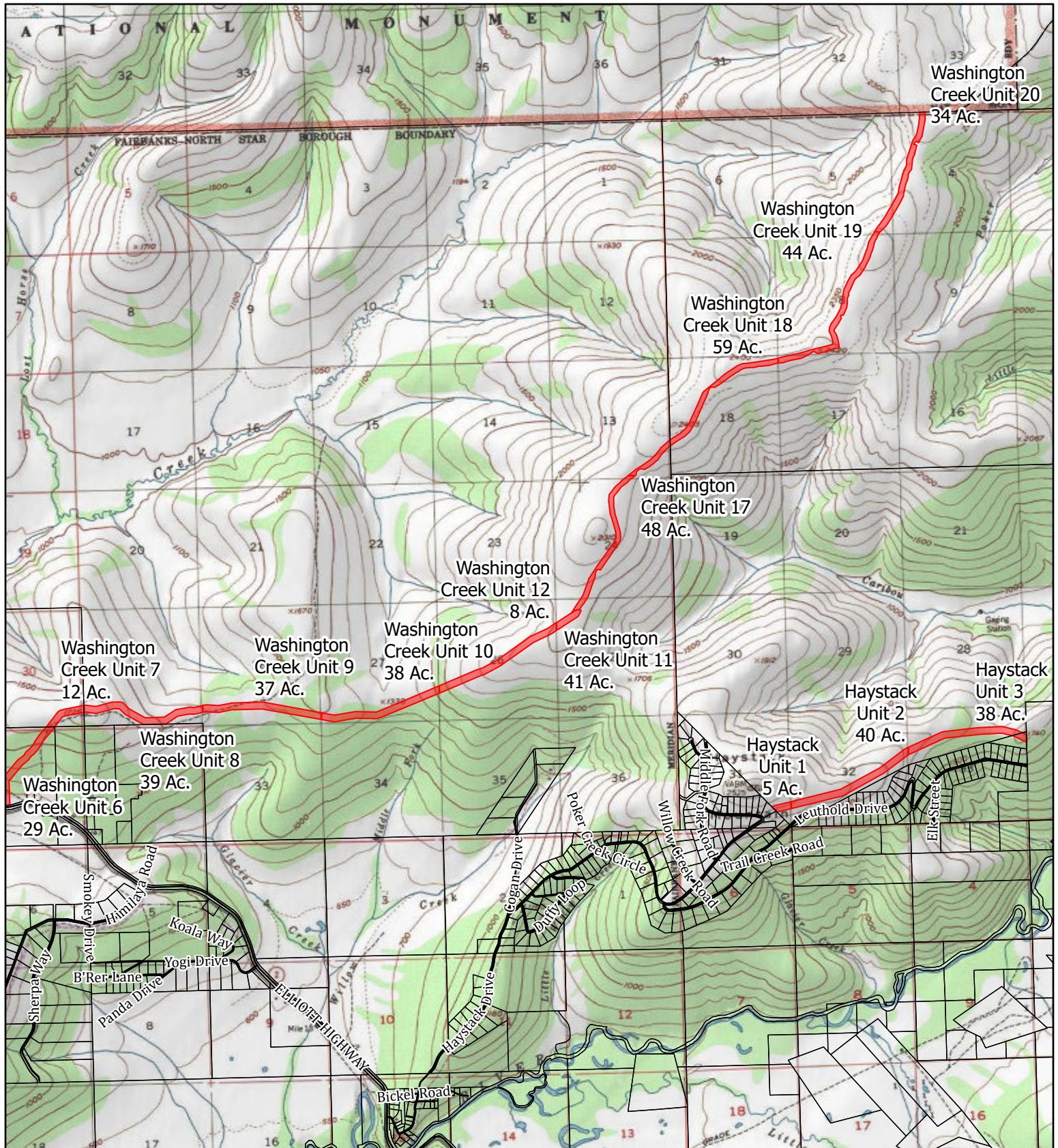
The Alaska Division of Forestry (DOF) Fairbanks Area Office is proposing two fuel mitigation projects north of Fairbanks along Washington Creek and Leuthold Drive adjacent to the Haystack Extension subdivision (ie: Haystack Mountain Fuels Mitigation Project).

Wildland urban interface fires are the most complex, costly, and dangerous situations firefighters and the public can face. Following the 2004/2005 fire season, a comprehensive Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP) was completed to assess Fairbanks' high risk fire areas and develop fuel mitigation projects to reduce the impact of wildfires on the public. The Haystack Mountain area is identified in the CWPP as a 'High' to 'Extreme' fire risk "Zone of Concern" due to topography and a dense and continuous black spruce landscape. As part of its wildland fire protection mandate, the DOF is working to expand the network of fuel treatment projects to reduce the threat of destructive urban-interface fires impacting communities like Haystack.

The Haystack Mountain Fuels Mitigation Project will widen preexisting control lines and establish new treatment units along Washington Creek and Leuthold Drive. Utilizing similar principles used by homeowners to *Firewise* their homes from encroaching wildfires, the planned fuel breaks will enhance public safety by providing firefighters with tactical alternatives to suppress fast moving wildfires and create a more mosaic and fire-resistant landscape. Based on fuels, topography, and community impact, a variety of treatment methods are tentatively planned.

Project completion is expected to take 4-5 years. Once completed, the fuel breaks will offer fire resistance barriers that can also serve as control lines during wildland fire suppression efforts. Additionally, the removal of black spruce and growth of birch and aspen will enhance moose habitat and offer expanded backcountry recreational opportunities.

Questions and comments regarding the Haystack Mountain Fuels Mitigation Project may be directed to Fairbanks Area Forester Matt Sevens, (907) 451-2601, matthew.stevens@alaska.gov or Fairbanks Area Fire Management Officer Gordon Amundson, (907) 451-2636, gordon.amundson@alaska.gov, Fairbanks Area Forestry, 3700 Airport Way, Fairbanks, AK 99709.



Washington Creek and Haystack Fuel Treatments



SOA Fuel Treatments

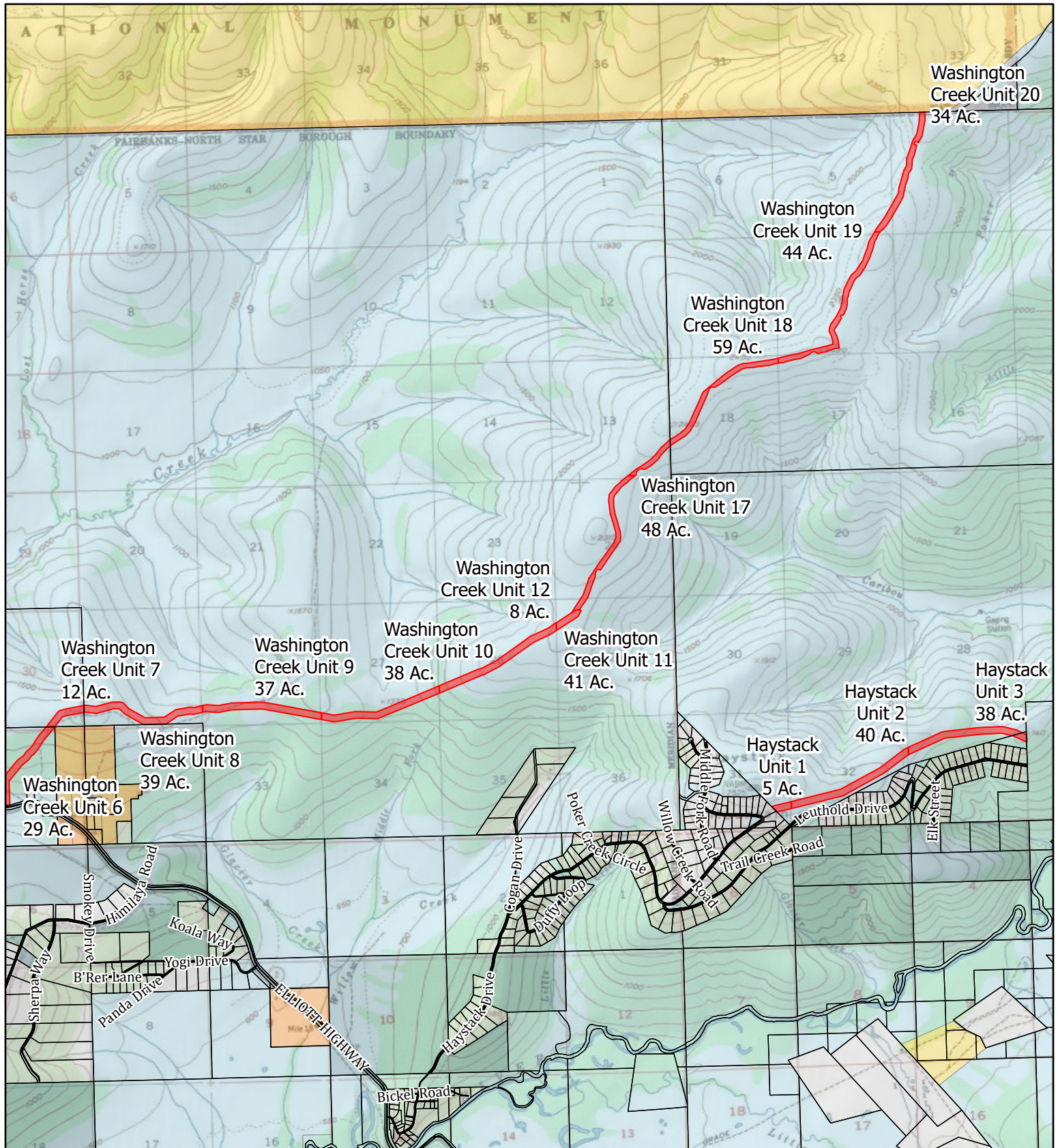
Proposed

Fairbanks North Star Borough Parcels

Road Centerlines

0 1/2 1 2 3 4 Miles





Washington Creek and Haystack Fuel Treatments



SOA Fuel Treatments

- Proposed
- Road Centerlines

Fairbanks North Star Borough Parcels

Ownership

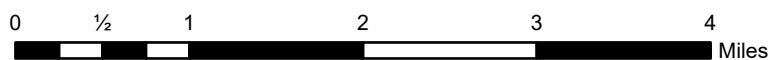
BLM

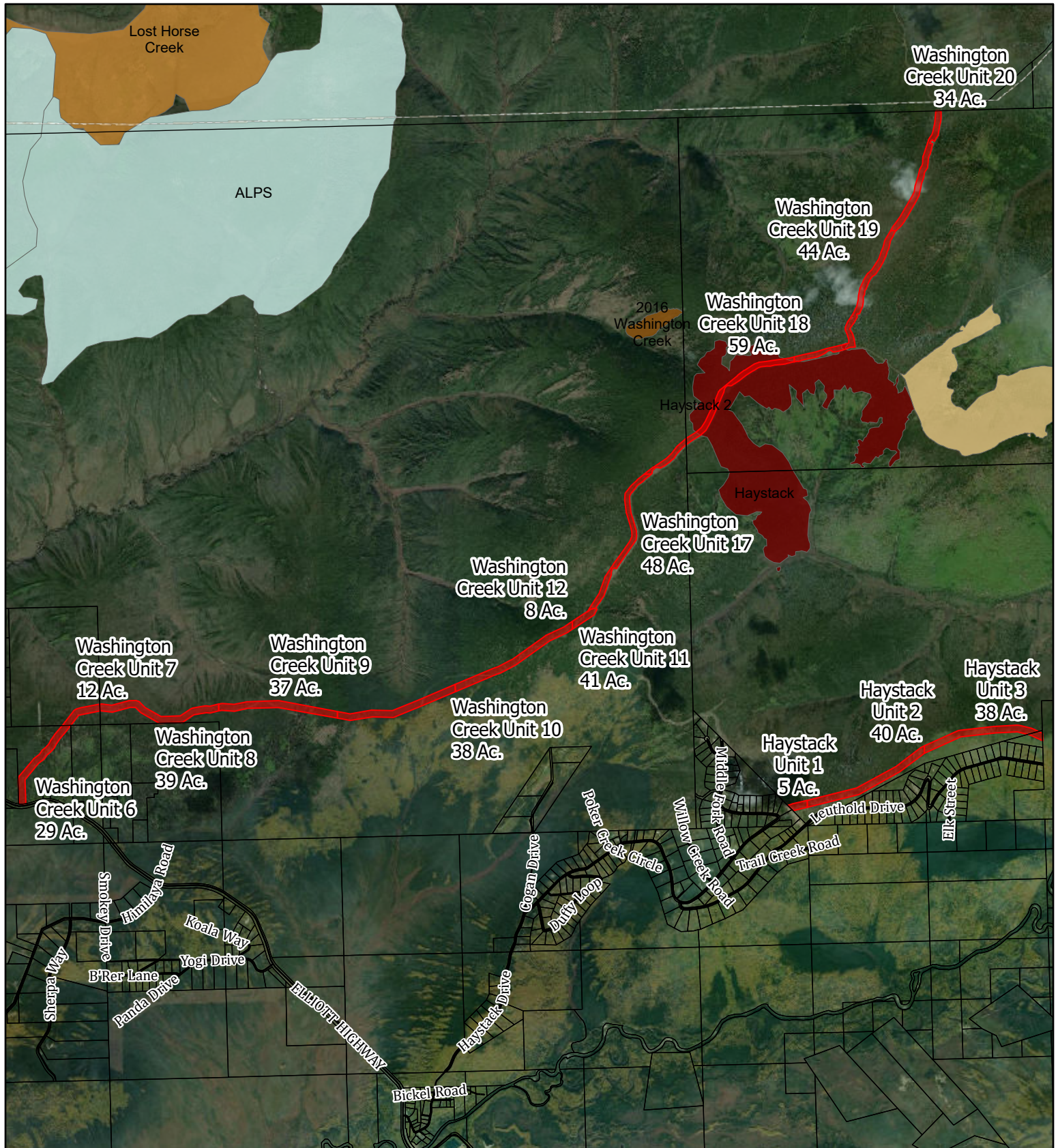
BIA (Native Allotment, Reservation)

State of Alaska

Borough

Private





Washington Creek and Haystack Fuel Treatments



SOA Fuel Treatments

Proposed

Fairbanks North Star
Borough Parcels

Road Centerlines

Fire History Perimeters

2020 - 2029

2010 - 2019

2000 - 2009

1990 - 1999

1970 - 1979

