



U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management

Record of Decision and Approved Haines Amendment to the Ring of Fire Resource Management Plan

February 2020

Prepared by:
U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management

In Cooperation with:
Haines Borough
Skagway Borough

Estimated Lead Agency Total Costs
Associated with Developing and
Producing this EIS: \$473,872



The Bureau of Land Management Today

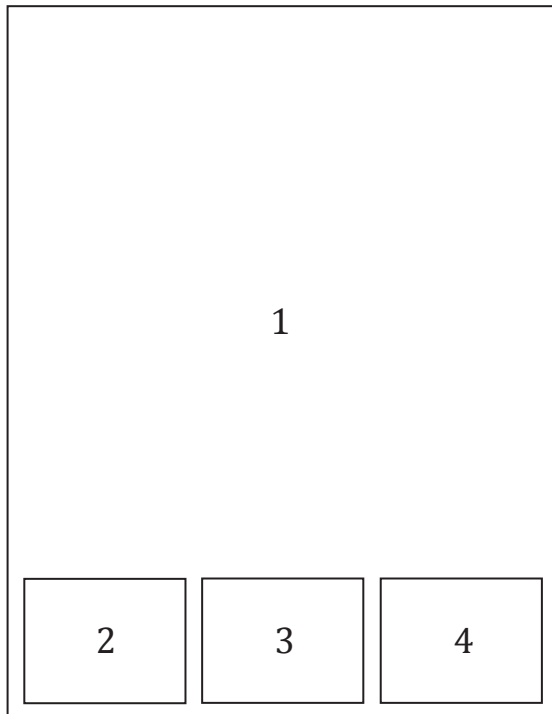
Our Vision

To enhance the quality of life for all citizens through the balanced stewardship of America's public lands and resources.

Our Mission

To sustain the health, diversity, and productivity of the public lands for the use and enjoyment of present and future generations.

DOI-BLM-AK-A020-2018-0023-EIS



BLM Cover Photos

1. Aerial view of the Takinsha Mountains area in the southern portion of the Haines Block planning area.
2. Recreation Guide Service Helicopter at West Creek Glacier Area.
3. Norse Glacier area in the northern portion of the Haines Block planning area.
4. Radio collared mountain goat near Haines, Alaska. (photo courtesy of Alaska Department of Fish and Game)

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Acronyms

Area of Critical Environmental Concern	ACEC
Alaska Department of Fish and Game	ADFG
Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act	ANCSA
Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act	ANILCA
Bureau of Land Management	BLM
Council on Environmental Quality	CEQ
Chilkat Indian Village	CIV
Extensive Recreation Management Area	ERMA
Final Environmental Impact Statement	FEIS
National Environmental Policy Act of 1969	NEPA
Notice of Intent	NOI
Monitoring and Control Area	MCA
Memorandum of Agreement	MOA
Proposed Resource Management Plan Amendment	PRMPA
Record of Decision	ROD
State of Alaska	State
Special Recreation Management Area	SRMA
Special Recreation Permits	SRP
U.S. Department of the Interior	USDOI



Haines Planning Area- Overview

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR | BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT | ALASKA | GLENNALLEN FIELD OFFICE



- | | | |
|---------------------------|-----------------------|--------------|
| North & South Blocks | Forest Service | Heliports |
| Bureau of Land Management | Local Government | Road/Highway |
| State of | National Park Service | Summit |
| Alaska Native Allotment | Private | Low point |
| Alaska Native Corporation | Water | |

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Record of Decision

1.0 Introduction

This Record of Decision (ROD) approves the Bureau of Land Management's (BLM) Haines Amendment to the Ring of Fire Resource Management Plan (referred to as the Approved Plan Amendment). This Approved Plan Amendment was described as Alternative G in the October 2019 Final Environmental Impact Statement for the Proposed Haines Amendment to the Ring of Fire Resource Management Plan. (FEIS/PRMPA).

This ROD provides the background on the development of the plan amendment and the rationale for approving the proposed decisions contained in Alternative G, and describes modifications made to address protests received on the plan. The Approved Plan Amendment describes the decisions themselves.

The planning area encompasses BLM-managed public lands managed by the Glennallen Field Office known as the Haines Block. The Haines Planning Area encompasses approximately 920,000 acres in Southeast Alaska, bound by the Canadian Border to the north and to the west, Glacier Bay National Park to the southwest, and the Tongass National Forest to the south and to the east.

The BLM Glennallen Field Office manages approximately 317,096 acres in the planning area. Nearly all the lands are selected by, but not yet conveyed to, the State of Alaska (State) or Native Corporations under the entitlements provided by the Alaska Statehood Act of 1958 and the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (ANCSA) of 1971. Within the planning area, the BLM manages approximately 15.8 acres that are not selected by the State of Alaska or Native Corporations. Nothing in this plan amendment encumbers State-selected or Native-selected lands following the transfer of title out of Federal ownership.

In 2008, the Ring of Fire Record of Decision was signed. As part of the protest resolution the Director of the BLM required that the BLM re-evaluate the Importance Criteria found in BLM Manual 1613 as they apply to the resources associated with the Haines Block, including mountain goats. To do so would require an amendment to the existing RMP. The development of this RMPA formally began with the publication of the Notice of Intent in the Federal Register on March 26, 2009. Over the next ten years, the BLM conducted various outreach efforts, held public open houses and meetings, and engaged in consultation and coordination. (Refer to Chapter 5.0 of the FEIS/PRMPA, as summarized herein in Section IX, Public Involvement). On May 14, 2019 the Notice of Availability for the Draft Environmental Impact Statement /Proposed Resource Management Plan Amendment was published in the Federal Register, starting the 90-day public review and comment period. Substantive comments were compiled, along with BLM's response, in Appendix A, BLM Ring of Fire Resource Management Plan Amendment/Final EIS Public Comments. The BLM also provided the standard protest period of 30 days prior to approval of this ROD, as required by BLM planning regulations found in 43 CFR 1610.5-2. The protest period ended November 12, 2019.

The RMPA was prepared using the BLM's planning regulations and guidance issued under the authority of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976, and under the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA), the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) regulations for implementing NEPA (40 CFR 1500-1508), BLM's NEPA Handbook 1790-1 (January 2008), and BLM's Land Use Planning Handbook 1601-1 (March 2005).

2.0 Results of the Protest Review and Governor's Consistency Review

2.1 Protests

The BLM provided a 30-day protest period for the Proposed RMP/Final EIS in accordance with 43 CFR 1610.5-2. During the 30-day protest period, three protests were received and subsequently resolved by the BLM Director, whose decision is final for the U.S. Department of the Interior (USDO). For a protest to be considered, an individual must have standing in accordance with 43 CFR 1610.5-2(a). Of the three protests, one was dismissed for lack of standing, and two were denied based on the merits of the protest issues.

In summary, the protests alleged that:

- BLM failed to adequately analyze cumulative effects on goat populations by not considering climate change and helicopter activity stressors;
- BLM failed to conduct meaningful consultation and coordination as required by BLM Handbook 1780-1, the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (ANILCA), and Executive Order 12898;
- BLM failed to address the effects of the land use planning actions on subsistence uses in the Planning Area as required by ANILCA Section 810;
- BLM failed to use the best available information and failed to consider an alternative that reflected expert scientific opinion on the best management approach for mountain goats;
- BLM did not adequately consider public comments on the Draft EIS project alternatives;
- BLM violated NEPA by not establishing a rationale need for the proposed action and alternatives;
- The FEIS violated FLPMA by overemphasizing FLPMA's multiple use mandate and failing to give priority to the designation and protection of Areas of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC);
- The FEIS failed to analyze an alternative that lessens the unavoidable adverse impacts on goats;
- The protest period for the FEIS was prohibitively short, that the BLM did not make the document available in hard copy; and,
- The BLM did not comply with 40 CFR 1502.8.

The BLM Director addressed all protests without making changes to the Approved Resource Management Plan. The Protest Resolution Report for the Final Environmental Impact Statement for the Proposed Haines Amendment to the Ring of Fire RMP is posted on:

<https://www.blm.gov/programs/planning-and-nepa/public-participation/protest-resolution-reports>.

This ROD serves as the final plan decision for the Ring of Fire Resource Management Plan Haines Amendment as described, and the RMP Amendment becomes effective on the date the

Haines Amendment to the Ring of Fire
ROD is signed. No further administrative remedies are available for land use plan level decisions.

2.2. Governor's Consistency Review

The Governor of the State of Alaska provided comments on the Supplemental Draft EIS/RMPA which were considered by the BLM. Concurrent with the protest period, the BLM made the FEIS/PRMPA available to the Governor of Alaska for a 60-day consistency review as required by 43 CFR 1610.3-2(e). The mandatory Governor's Consistency Review of the FEIS/PRMPA was completed on December 2, 2019 and concluded that the FEIS/PRMPA was consistent with the State of Alaska's planning efforts.

3.0 Decision

The decision is hereby made to approve the attached plan as the Approved Haines Amendment to the Ring of Fire Resource Management Plan. The Approved Plan supplements the Ring of Fire RMP for the Haines Planning area. Management decisions under the jurisdiction of the BLM are presented in the Approved Plan attached to this ROD in the section titled *Management Decisions*.

With the exception of the establishment of a maximum number of annual helicopter-supported recreation landings, the decisions covered by this ROD are land use planning level decisions which were protestable under the land use planning regulations (43 CFR Part 1610). The establishment of a maximum number of annual helicopter-supported recreation landings is an implementation level decision which is appealable under the Department of Interior's appeal regulations (43 CFR Part 4). Information on appealing implementation level decisions can be found in the *Implementation Decisions* section below.

3.1 Notice of Modifications

There were no modifications made to this plan as a result of protests to the FEIS for the Proposed Haines Amendment to the Ring of Fire RMP.

3.2 Clarifications:

The following clarifications and minor corrections made to the information included in the Proposed Haines Amendment/Final EIS to the Ring of Fire RMP are reflected in the attached Approved Plan:

- The following had been added to the attached Approved Plan, under Appendix B, Chilkat Mountains Special Recreation Management area matrix, Implementation Decisions, *management* section, bullet 5, "motorized special recreation permits utilizing over snow travel would not be allowed."

3.3 What the ROD/Approved Plan Will Provide

This ROD and the Approved Plan Amendment will provide overall direction for permitted helicopter supported recreational activities, designation of recreation management areas, and identification of recreation and wildlife management objectives. Specifically the plan defines upper limits on permitted helicopter-supported commercial recreation activities in buffered and non-buffered Mountain Goat habitat, delineates boundaries for both a Special Recreation Management Area (SRMA) and Extensive Recreation Management Area (ERMA), and identifies recreation management objectives, recreation setting characteristics, and recreation management actions and allowable use decisions on BLM-managed lands within the boundary of

the Haines planning area.

Decisions in the land use plan apply to all BLM-managed lands in the planning area. Acreages presented in the Approved Plan Amendment are approximate because the BLM continues to transfer title to State-selected lands and lands selected by Native Corporations within the planning area.

- Decisions in land use plans guide future land management actions and subsequent site-specific implementation decisions. These land use plan decisions establish goals and objectives for resource management (desired outcomes) and the measures needed to achieve these goals and objectives (management actions and allowable uses).

Goals are the broad statements of desired outcomes and are usually not quantifiable. **Objectives** are specific desired conditions, usually quantifiable and measurable, and may have timeframes for achievement. **Land use allocations** specify locations within the planning area that are available or not for certain uses. These include decisions such as what lands are open, closed, or limited to motorized travel, leases, or other land uses. **Management actions** include those provisions that help in meeting the established goals and objectives and include measures that will be applied to guide day-to-day activities on public lands, including but not limited to stipulations, guidelines, and required operating procedures.

3.4 What the ROD/Approved Plan Will Not Provide

Proposal Authorizations - This Approved Plan does not authorize any project, approve any application, or provide approval for any specific future action within the planning area. All applications, regardless of the proposal, will be subject to a NEPA process, including the potential for: additional public review, the identification of potential impacts resulting from the proposed action, the development and application of mitigating measures, and the assignment of Required Operating Procedures, Stipulations, and Standard Lease Terms as appropriate.

Many decisions are not appropriate at this level of planning and are not included in the ROD. Examples of these decisions include:

- *Statutory requirements* - This plan will not change the BLM's obligation to comply with the applicable laws and regulations including, but not limited to the Clean Air Act, the Clean Water Act, the National Environmental Policy Act, the Federal Land Policy and Management Act, the Endangered Species Act, or any other Federal law.
- *National policy* - These decisions will not change the BLM's obligation to conform to current or future national policy.
- *Funding levels and allocations* - These are determined annually at the National level and are beyond the control of the field office.

The Ring of Fire RMP has been amended as outlined in this ROD and Approved Plan. Decisions made under the Ring of Fire RMP ROD and Approved plan that were not amended, remain in effect.

3.5 Implementation Decisions

The establishment of a maximum number of annual helicopter-supported recreation landings is an implementation level decision which is now appealable under the Department of Interior's

appeal regulations (43 CFR Part 4).

3.6 Appeal Procedures for Implementation Decisions

Any party adversely affected by establishment of a maximum number of annual helicopter-supported recreation landings within the planning area may appeal. This decision may be appealed to the Interior Board of Land Appeals, Office of the Secretary, in accordance with the regulations contained in 43 CFR § 4. To appeal, you must file a *Notice of Appeal* with the BLM Glennallen Field Office through one of the following methods within 30 days of receipt of this decision: in writing via the United States Postal Service mail system or other common carrier to:

C/O Field Manager - Appeal Bureau of Land Management
Glennallen Field Office
P.O. Box 147 Glennallen, AK 99588

Or by hand delivery to Mile Post 186.5 Glenn Highway, Alaska; or by electronic means, such as electronic mail blm_ak_appeals@blm.gov. The subject line in the email or facsimile must include *Notice of Appeal – Glennallen Field Office*. The appellant has the burden of showing that the decision appealed from is in error.

A copy of the appeal, statement of reasons, and all other supporting documents must also be sent to:

Regional Solicitor, Alaska Region – Appeal
4230 University Drive, Suite 300
Anchorage, AK 99508-4626

You may include a statement of reasons when the notice of appeal is filed, or you may file the statement of reasons within 30 days after filing the appeal. If the statement of reasons is filed separately, it must be sent to:

Interior Board of Land Appeals Office of Hearings and Appeals
801 N. Quincy Street, Suite 300
Arlington, VA 22203

Request for Stay

If you wish to file a petition for a stay of the effectiveness of this decision during the time your appeal is being reviewed by the Interior Board of Land Appeals, the petition for stay must accompany your *Notice of Appeal* (43 CFR 4.21, 43 CFR 2801.10, 43 CFR 2881.10). A petition for a stay is required to show sufficient justification based on the standards listed below.

Copies of the *Notice of Appeal* and Petition for a Stay **must** also be submitted to each party named in this decision and to the Interior Board of Land Appeals and to the appropriate Office of the Solicitor (43 CFR 4.413) at the same time the original documents are filed with this office. If you request a stay, you have the burden of proof to demonstrate that a stay should be granted.

Standards for Obtaining a Stay

Except as otherwise provided by law or other pertinent regulations, a petition for a stay of a decision pending appeal shall show sufficient justification based on the following standards:

- (1) The relative harm to the parties if the stay is granted or denied
- (2) The likelihood of the appellant's success on the merits
- (3) The likelihood of immediate and irreparable harm if the stay is not granted.
- (4) Whether the public interest favors granting the stay.

4.0 Overview of the Alternatives, including the Environmentally Preferred Alternative

Four alternatives, including the No Action Alternative, were analyzed in detail in the Supplemental Draft EIS/RMPA in 2019 and the FEIS/Proposed RMPA in 2019. The alternatives were developed to address the major planning issues and provide direction for the resources affected. All Alternatives recognize and incorporate the Alaska Land Health Standards developed with the assistance of the Alaska Resource Advisory Council in 2004 as the baseline standard for assessing the land health. All management under any of the four alternatives would comply with Federal and State laws and regulations, standards and policies. Each alternative represents a complete and reasonable set of objectives, actions and allocations that would guide future management of lands and resources in the planning area. The BLM considered additional alternatives raised during scoping and comment periods on the Draft EIS/RMP and Supplemental Draft EIS/RMP which were not carried forward into the final document. These were discussed in Chapter 2.2 of the FEIS/PRMPA.

Alternatives B through D in the Draft EIS/RMP were considered but dropped from further analysis in the Supplemental Draft EIS/RMP as new information was made available. Alternative C was carried forward into the Supplemental Draft EIS/RMP as Alternative F, with minor changes as it was the one alternative that was still considered to be within a range that would meet the purpose and need.

4.1 Alternatives Description

Alternative A:

The No Action Alternative would retain the SRMA designation in the north block of the Planning Area. The south block would remain undesignated. However, the boundaries of the SRMA have changed from the 2008 signing of the Ring of Fire ROD due to the conveyance of several sections of BLM land to the State of Alaska. Under the No Action Alternative, a SRMA Plan would be developed consistent with the direction in the 2008 Approved Ring of Fire RMP and ROD. The 98,004-acre Monitoring and Control Area in the northwest portion of the Planning Area where permitted helicopter landings are currently prohibited would be retained. The total number of authorized helicopter landings in the Planning Area would be maintained at 2,700 annually (2,400 summer, 300 winter). This alternative would prevent current operators

from expanding their operations and would prevent other operators from using BLM-managed lands for helicopter-supported tourism activities.

The No Action Alternative would guide the BLM to manage lands as decided for in the Ring of Fire ROD and Approved Plan of 2008. Essentially it provides for an alternative that would maintain current levels of permitted helicopter-supported recreation activity. This base line is used to provide a means to measure predicted changes from what is currently happening within the landscape and what may happen if a different alternative were selected. Resources would be protected through the NEPA process associated with application processing, including development of site-specific mitigating measures and application of the Ring of Fire ROD and Approved Plan ROPs and Stipulations.

Alternative E:

This alternative would establish a 102,257-acre ACEC with a special designation as a Resource Natural Area within the northwest portion of the Planning Area. The boundary would be drawn to include the Monitoring and Control Area and to take in the area identified as being of cultural significance to the federally recognized tribes. The remaining areas in the North and South Blocks would be designated as ERMAs. The total number of authorized helicopter landings in the Planning Area would be maintained at 2,700 annually (maximum 2,400 summer, 300 winter). This alternative would lift the 98,004-acre Monitoring and Control Area (MCA) in the North Block.

Alternative F:

The current SRMA designation for the North Block area would be changed to an ERMA and extend to BLM-managed lands in the South Block. The 98,004-acre MCA would be retained for a period of five-years following the signing of the ROD to provide a monitoring and control area for mountain goat studies conducted jointly between the BLM and the Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADFG). After the five-year period expires, the MCA would be lifted, and permit applications would be accepted for review through site-specific NEPA analysis prior to any new authorizations.

Future landing authorizations would be contingent on the results of the mountain goat study efforts. The total number of authorized helicopter landings on BLM-managed lands in the Planning Area would be set to a maximum of 6,000 landings annually during the summer and winter (maximum 3,000 summer and 3,000 winter).

Alternative G (Preferred Alternative):

This alternative will designate part of the western portion of the northern block (65,467 acres) as a SRMA. These lands would be managed with an emphasis on opportunities for backcountry recreation and to protect, conserve, or restore lands or habitat in support of wildlife-dependent recreational activities.

The SRMA would focus on primitive backcountry recreation activities while considering future enhanced access, particularly in cooperation with partners to provide for improved trail access and maintenance of riverine access points and opportunities. No helicopter-supported recreation landings or Unmanned Aerial System use in conjunction with Special Recreation Permits (SRPs) would be permitted within the SRMA. Fixed wing aircraft access and landings, for both

permitted commercial and personal use activities would be allowed. Temporary structures and camps in support of traditional or recreational use would be allowed. Backcountry cabins in support of the SRMA objective may be considered within the SRMA.

The total number of permitted landings would increase in the Planning Area to a maximum of 11,000 landings annually, or a maximum of 5,500 summer and 5,500 winter landings. During the first year, and through year 4, a maximum of 1,600 winter landings would be allocated within buffered high-use winter mountain goat habitat. Outside of the buffered high-use winter mountain goat habitat, up to 5,500 annual winter landings could be achieved in year 1 and annually. In year 5, winter landing allocations within buffered high use winter mountain goat habitat could increase (see Appendix C). Map 9 in Appendix E illustrates the 1,500-meter buffered, high-use winter mountain goat habitat. In years 1 through 4, BLM would permit up to 2,400 summer landings annually. In year five, summer landing allocations could increase (see Appendix C).

Operators with permits allowing for winter landings within buffered high use winter mountain goat habitat, must achieve an average of 75 percent utilization of landings by combined operators to trigger a step increase of landings. For example, an average annual utilization of 1,200 winter landings by combined operators in years 1 - 4, could trigger the need for a step increase within winter high-use mountain goat habitat (see Appendix C). Increases would only be considered if goat monitoring indicates goat populations are healthy. The BLM in cooperation with the ADFG would consider incremental increases to permit allocations if operator(s) are in good standing and there are no concerns with mountain goat populations or trends. Similarly, summer operators must achieve an average 75 percent utilization of summer landings by combined operators over four years to trigger a potential increase in permit allocations (see Appendix C).

This alternative was developed to provide a balance of economic benefit and resource protection. A balanced approach to Land Management Area designations, goals, and objectives were considered in response to resource values, consultation, stakeholder input, and current and foreseeable recreation, subsistence, and commercial uses of the land. The SRMA designation in the North Block also allows BLM to provide for compatible current use and activities as well as continuation and protection of current and desired cultural practices and resources.

4.2 The Environmentally Preferable Alternative Analysis

The CEQ has defined the environmentally preferable alternative as the alternative that will promote the national environmental policy as expressed in Section 101 of NEPA. This section lists six broad policy goals for all Federal plans, programs, and policies:

1. Fulfill the responsibilities of each generation as trustee of the environment for succeeding generations;
2. Assure for all Americans safe, healthful, productive, and aesthetically and culturally pleasing surroundings;
3. Attain the widest range of beneficial uses of the environment without degradation, risk to health and safety, or other undesirable or unintended consequences;
4. Preserve important historic, cultural, and natural aspects of our national heritage, and maintain, wherever possible, an environment which supports diversity and variety of individual choice;
5. Achieve a balance between population and resource use which will permit high standards

of living and a wide sharing of life's amenities; and

6. Enhance the quality of renewable resources and approach the maximum attainable recycling of depletable resources.

Based on these criteria, identification of the environmentally preferable alternative(s) involves balancing current and potential resource uses with the need to protect resources, as well as consideration of the human environment. Alternative E is the environmentally preferred alternative. It would be more protective of natural and biological values than Alternatives A, F, or G by providing an ACEC to be managed as a wildlife refuge and provide for monitoring and control for wildlife populations. While it would allow for current uses to continue outside of the ACEC, it would not allow for economic growth.

Alternative F could be viewed as the least environmentally preferable alternative. This alternative could provide instant economic benefit to the economy through a high level of special recreation permitting. However, permitting would occur within habitat likely to have the highest resource values; a monitor and control area for wildlife would go away after a period of 5 years; and the entire area would be managed as an Extensive Recreation Management Area with few restrictions on permitting.

Alternative G is the less environmentally preferable than Alternative E, but more preferable than Alternatives A or F. Alternative G achieves a balance between sustainable economic benefits and resource protection. Lands designated as an SRMA under this alternative would exclude helicopter-supported recreation activities and provide for the monitor and control of wildlife populations. The remaining ERMA, under this alternative would allow for the most helicopter-supported recreation and economic growth to occur, while also providing incremental increases in permitting where wildlife resources are of the highest concern.

5.0 Management Considerations in Selecting the Approved Plan Amendment

The BLM is tasked with the job of multiple use management, as mandated under FLPMA and numerous other laws and regulations that govern the management of public lands for various purposes and values. BLM's objective in choosing Alternative G as the preferred alternative and proposed plan was to address these diverse needs and concerns in a fair manner and provide a practicable and workable framework for management of BLM public lands. The BLM is ultimately responsible for preparing a plan consistent with its legal mandates that reflects its collective professional judgement, incorporating the best from competing viewpoints and ideas. The Approved Plan, Alternative G, considered public and agency comments and provides a balance between those reasonable measures necessary to protect the existing resource values and the continued public need for use of the BLM-managed public lands within the planning area.

The approved plan provides a balance for conservation of existing resources and uses while providing opportunity for increased helicopter-supported commercial recreation activities on BLM-managed lands. With the implementation of this plan the BLM intends to monitor mountain goat populations and habitat, continue cooperation and collaboration with ADF&G in regards to mountain goat populations and habitat, consider an increase in helicopter-supported commercial recreation SRP's, and continue stakeholder and public land user input into future management actions within the Haines Planning Area.

The approved plan distinguishes between Allowable Use Decisions (Land Use Plan level decisions) and Implementation level Decisions. Current and best available science was utilized

Haines Amendment to the Ring of Fire to analyze and determine effects of helicopter-supported commercial recreation activities on mountain goats. Required Operating Procedure (ROP) #16 from the 2008 Ring of Fire ROD was modified to provide for enhanced protections of mountain goats, Dall Sheep, and their associated habitats.

Concerns about specific resource values are addressed throughout the Approved Plan. These include effects from helicopter supported recreation activities in relation to the following issues: mountain goats and their associated habitat, brown bear, wolverine, bald eagles, backcountry users, air quality and climate change, helicopter dependent recreational users, socioeconomics within the planning area, minority or low income populations within the planning area, and religious, cultural, and archaeological resources within the planning area.

A proposed ACEC was analyzed within Alternative E. ACECs must meet the relevance and important criteria in 43 CFR 1610.7-2(a) and must require special management per 43 CFR 1601.0-5(a) to: a) protect the area and prevent irreparable damage to resources or natural systems or b) protect life and promote safety in areas where natural hazards exist. The proposed ACEC in Alternative E has not been carried forward into the Approved RMP because the BLM determined that the standard management prescriptions within the Approved RMP are sufficient to protect the resource values identified in that proposed ACEC from risks and threats of damage and degradation. Based on the prescriptions in the Proposed RMP, the BLM does not need special management to protect the area and prevent irreparable damage to resources or natural systems identified in the proposed ACEC.

Consistency of the Approved Plan with other Federal, State, local, and Tribal plans and policies was considered as a factor in alternative selection. The Approved Plan is consistent with officially approved or adopted resource related plans, and the policies and programs contained therein, of other Federal agencies, the State of Alaska, local governments, and federally recognized tribes to the extent that those plans, policies, and programs are also consistent with the purposes, policies, and programs of Federal laws and regulations applicable to BLM public lands.

6.0 Land Use Management Decisions

Two land use plan allocations were determined within the Approved Plan. An Extensive Recreation Management Area will be designated to include the eastern portion of the North Block and the entire South Block (approximately 251,629 acres). Titled the Haines Block ERMA (see Appendix B) these lands will be managed to provide a setting for backcountry recreation activities, consisting primarily of hiking, skiing, and hunting opportunities, while meeting demand for increased commercial recreation opportunities consisting primarily of aviation related SRP's. A Special Recreation Management Area would be designated to include the western portion of the North Block (approximately 65,467 acres). Titled the Chilkat Mountains SRMA (See Appendix B), these lands will be managed to provide for world class backcountry hunting, recreational viewing experiences of Mountain Goats, and supporting backcountry activities in and undisturbed and unfragmented habitat.

One implementation level decision within the Approved Plan will established a maximum number of authorized annual helicopter-supported commercial recreation landings. The plan provides for allowable uses, limitations, required operation procedures, mitigations, and management actions relative to the allocation of the actual number of landings permitted within a given year and season.

7.0 Mitigation Measures

Measures to avoid or minimize environmental harm were built into the Approved Plan where practicable based on the purpose and need of the action. Many of the standard management provisions will minimize impacts when applied to activities proposed in the planning area. Required Operating Procedures and stipulations identified in Appendix A) will be applied for all permitted uses and SRPs. Additional measures to mitigate environmental impacts may also be developed during subsequent NEPA analysis at the activity level planning and project stages.

An Adaptive Management Strategy and Goals were analyzed and applied under Alternatives E, F and G and are being carried forward in the Approved Plan (see Approved Plan Section 6). Adaptive management is a decision process that promotes flexible resource management decision-making based on clearly identified outcomes (goals) that can be adjusted in the face of uncertainties as outcomes from management actions and other events become better understood. Careful monitoring of these outcomes both advances scientific understanding and helps adjust resource management directions as part of an iterative management process. Adaptive management also recognizes the importance of natural variability in contributing to ecological resilience and productivity. It is not a “trial and error” process, but rather emphasizes learning while doing. Adaptive management does not represent an end in itself, but rather a means to more effective decisions and enhanced benefits.

The goals of the BLM’s Adaptive Management Strategy in the Planning Area include:

1. Maintain natural ecosystem functions with the quality and quantity of habitat necessary to support healthy populations of mountain goats and other wildlife.
2. Monitor wildlife populations and habitat while managing BLM-managed lands to conserve and enhance populations of mountain goats and other wildlife.
3. Protect habitats important to mountain goats and other wildlife populations by the avoidance, minimization, or mitigation of possible adverse effects of permitted land use activities.
4. Balance visitor experience with protection of the resources in the area.

Successful adaptive management couples a change in management direction after a change in resources condition has been realized. The following steps are necessary to manage wildlife resources within the Planning Area when incorporating adaptive management:

- ensure continued population and habitat data collection,
- identify monitoring indicators,
- establish soft and hard triggers or thresholds,
- identify implementable management actions and continue to monitor and evaluate for effectiveness.

Continued cooperation and collaboration with ADFG and the establishment of this adaptive management framework is paramount to the success of this strategy.

In the event that annual surveys are not completed, thus resulting in data gaps for management indicators, predictive models may be utilized to help inform current conditions.

8.0 Plan Monitoring

Monitoring is the repeated measurement of activities and conditions over time. BLM planning regulation 43 CFR Part 1610.4-9 calls for monitoring resource management plans on a continual basis and establishing intervals and standards based on the sensitivity of the resource to the decisions involved. CEQ regulations implementing NEPA state that agencies may provide for monitoring to assure that their decisions are carried out and should do so in important cases (40 CFR Part 1505.3).

The BLM will monitor the Approved Plan to determine whether the objectives set forth in this document are being met and whether applying the land use plan direction is effective. Monitoring for each program area is outlined in the *Management Decision* of the Approved Plan. If monitoring shows land use plan actions or best management practices are not effective, the BLM may modify or adjust management without amending or revising the plan as long as assumptions and impacts disclosed in the analysis remain valid and broadscale goals and objectives are not changed. Where the BLM considers taking or approving actions which will alter or not conform to overall direction of the plan, the BLM would prepare a plan amendment or revision and environmental analysis of appropriate scope.

9.0 Public Involvement

A Notice of Intent (NOI) to prepare the Draft RMP Amendment/Draft EIS was published in the Federal Register in March 2009. The NOI initiated a 90-day formal scoping period that lasted until June 26, 2009. Public meetings were held during the scoping period in the communities of Haines, Skagway, and Anchorage. The planning process was then paused to allow for a multi-year resource study of mountain goats.

In 2018, an additional 60-day public comment period that lasted until May 30, 2018 was offered and public meetings were held in the communities of Haines, Skagway, and Juneau.

In addition to both sets of public meetings, BLM consulted and solicited comments from local, state, and federal government agencies, special interest groups, and federally recognized tribes. The Municipalities of Haines and Skagway have entered into a formal cooperating agency status with the BLM regarding this planning effort. Concurrent with the beginning of the scoping period, the BLM developed an e-planning website. All planning-related documents, including the Scoping Report are available for online viewing.

In May 2019, the Supplemental Draft EIS for the Haines Amendment to the Ring of Fire RMP was published for a 90-day public comment period. An open house was held in Haines on June 20, 2019. Additional consultation and cooperating agency meetings were held in Haines and Juneau at that time.

The NOA and FEIS were published on October 11, 2019, initiating a 30-day protest period and a 60-day Governor's Consistency Review. Protests were resolved and the final protest report was published at the same time this ROD was published.

10.0 Implementation

Implementation of the Haines Amendment to the Ring of Fire RMP will begin upon the signing of this Record of Decision and public notification via the Notice of Availability published in the Federal Register.

11.0 Availability of the Plan

Copies of the Record of Decision and the Ring of Fire Resources Management Plan Amendment are available by request from the following locations: BLM Anchorage District Office, 4700 BLM Road, Anchorage, Alaska 99507, and the BLM National NEPA Register, ePlanning 2.0 Front Office, website https://eplanning.blm.gov/epl-front-office/eplanning/nepa/nepa_register.do (online availability subject to change), BLM State Office Alaska Public Room, Glennallen Field Office, Skagway Borough, Haines Borough, and the Haines Public Library.

12.0 Field Manager Recommendation

Having considered a full range of alternatives, associated effects, and public input, I recommend adoption and implementation of the attached Ring of Fire Resource Management Plan Amendment.



Thomas Heinlein
Anchorage District Office Manager



Date

Approval

In consideration of the forgoing, I approve the Ring of Fire Resource Management Plan Amendment.



Chad B. Padgett
State Director, Alaska



Date

Approved Resource Management Plan Amendment

Approved Plan

1.0 Introduction

This Approved Plan amends the 2008 Ring of Fire RMP for public lands administered by the BLM in the Haines Planning area. The Approved Plan adopts the management described in Alternative G and the Management Common to All Alternatives section presented in the FEIS for the Proposed Haines Amendment to the Ring of Fire RMP.

1.1 Purpose and Need

This Approved Plan summarizes the information found in the FEIS for the Proposed Haines Amendment to the Ring of Fire RMP. The Approved Plan also provides a public document that specifies management policies and actions for BLM-managed lands in this planning area. This Approved Plan amends the applicable portions of the 2008 Ring of Fire RMP and provides a plan which is consistent with current law, regulations, and policy. The Approved Plan also meets the FLPMA Section 202 criteria for development and revision of land use plans. The Approved Plan identifies designations, associated management practices, and implementation actions that best fulfill the resource needs and multiple use demands within the Haines Planning Area.

1.2 Consideration of other BLM Policies, Plans, and Programs

In addition to complying with all applicable Federal laws, Executive Orders and regulations, this Approved Plan incorporates the following documents and their decisions unless or until amended or replaced. The BLM will continue to refer to and consider the information contained in these plans in its decision making and incorporate decisions from the planning documents as allowable and appropriate as it considers applications:

- BLM- Alaska Statewide Land Health Standards (USDOI-BLM 2004)
- The Required Operating Procedures, stipulations, and Standard Lease Terms identified as Appendix D in the Ring of Fire PRMP/FEIS
- Master Memorandum of Understanding between the BLM and the Alaska Department of Fish and Game (August 8, 1983) and its Supplement (August 8, 1983) for the management of fish and game and fish and game habitat.
- Federal Land Policy and Management Act, Section 202(c)(9).

The BLM has considered and will continue to consider the planning documents developed by Federal, State, Tribal and local governments, some of which are listed below:

- Haines Borough Comprehensive Plan (2004)
- Municipality of Skagway 2020 Comprehensive Plan (2009)
- State of Alaska Northern Southeast Area Plan (2002)
- Chilkat Bald Eagle Preserve Management Plan (2002)
- Haines State Forest Management Plan (2002)
- Tongass National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan (2008)
- General management plan development concept plan and environmental impact statement: Klondike Gold Rush National Historical Park: Skagway, Alaska and Seattle, Washington (1996)
- U.S. Forest Service Environmental Assessment Meade Glacier Heli-Tour Landings (2009)

- U.S. Forest Service Final Environmental Impact Statement for Commercially Guided Helicopter Skiing on the Kenai Peninsula (2004)
- State of Alaska Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (2004 - 2009)
- State of Alaska Haines State Forest Plan (2018)
- State of Alaska Division of Parks and Outdoor Recreation, Chilkat Bald Eagle Preserve (2018)
- State of Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities Haines Highway from MP 3.5 to MP 25.3 Draft Revised Environmental Assessment and Section 4(f) Evaluation (2015).
- Chilkoot Indian Association Tribal Strategic Plan (2008 - 2018)
- Skagway Port Development Plan (2018)
- 2020 Skagway Comprehensive Plan (2009)

1.3 Public Involvement

One of the BLM's objectives during development of the Haines Amendment to the Ring of Fire Resource Management Plan was to understand the views of various members of the public, agencies, organizations, Native corporations, tribes, and state and local governments by providing opportunities for participation in the resource management planning process. The BLM used media releases, public meetings, and website postings to offer up-to-date information to interested parties. The BLM will continue to actively seek the views of the public, using techniques such as media releases, websites, public meetings, and mailings to request participation and inform the public of project proposals and implementation planning.

The BLM will continue to coordinate both formally and informally, with numerous state, federal, tribal, and local agencies and officials interested and involved in management of BLM lands. The Haines and Skagway Boroughs were cooperating agencies for the Haines Resource Management Plan Amendment. The Glennallen Field Office will continue to consult with federally recognized tribes and Alaska Native corporations during implementation of the Approved RMPA. The Chilkat Indian Village (CIV) has expressed an interest in continued consultation to give input on Adaptive Management within the planning area. The BLM can enter into a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with CIV that specifically outlines when and for what purposes the BLM will consult with CIV on any issue.

BLM will continue to seek and work cooperatively with the Haines and Skagway Boroughs as it relates to helicopter supported recreation permitting. BLM will also continue to work cooperatively with ADF&G on wildlife monitoring and other research projects where mutually beneficial goals can be achieved.

The BLM consulted with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service during the Ring of Fire RMP process and again in July of 2018 to determine if the resource management plan would affect any federally listed threatened or endangered species. The Mexican distinct population segment of humpback whale (*Megaptera novaeangliae*) and western distinct population segment of Steller sea lion (*Eumetopias jubatus*) occur in coastal waters near the Planning Area. The Fish and Wildlife Service determined that the decisions to be made by the BLM within this plan amendment will have no effect on these species, as all permitted activities resulting from this plan will take place in terrestrial environments, inland from Lynn Canal and/or coastal waters. If in the future, listed species occur in the planning area, the BLM will consult with the Fish and

Wildlife Service prior to approval of any project that may affect any federally listed species or its habitat.

Other stakeholder relationships are driven by the public process, including the public comment processes required by proposals being evaluated using the National Environmental Policy Act, the ANCSA, the Statehood Act, the ANILCA and other laws and directives. The BLM will continue to contact, coordinate and consult with parties having an interest in lands and resources within the planning area as determined by a specific project, such as an SRMA implementation level plan. The coordination will be to provide the stakeholders with a meaningful opportunity to provide input and comment on the BLM's management of the public lands within the planning area.

More in-depth information on these efforts is included in Chapter 5, Consultation and Coordination in both the Haines Amendment Supplemental Draft Resource Management Plan and Environmental Impact Statement (RMP/EIS) and the Proposed RMP/Final EIS.

1.4 Maintaining the Plan

Land use plan decisions and supporting information can be maintained to reflect minor changes in data, but maintenance is limited to refining, documenting, and/or clarifying previously approved decisions. Some examples of maintenance actions include:

- Correcting minor data, typographical, mapping, or tabular data errors; and,
- Refining baseline information as a result of new inventory data.

The BLM expects that new information gathered from field inventories and assessments, research, other agency studies, and other sources will update baseline data and /or support new management techniques, required operation procedures, and scientific principles. Where monitoring shows land use plan actions or required operating procedures are not effective, modifications or adjustments may occur without amendment or revision of the plan as long as assumptions and impacts disclosed in the analysis remain valid and broadscale goals and objectives are not changed.

Plan maintenance will be documented in supporting records. Plan maintenance does not require formal public involvement, interagency coordination, or the NEPA analysis required for making new land use plan decisions.

1.5 Changing the Plan

The approved plan may be changed, should conditions warrant, through a plan amendment or plan revision process. A plan amendment may become necessary if major changes are needed or to consider a proposal or action that is not in conformance with the Ring of Fire Plan or the Haines Amendment to the Ring of Fire Plan for the Haines Planning area. The results of monitoring, evaluation of new data, or policy changes and changing public needs might also provide the impetus for an amendment. Generally, an amendment is issue specific. If several areas of the plan become outdated or otherwise obsolete, a plan revision may become necessary. Plan amendments and revisions are accomplished with public input and the appropriate level of environmental analysis.

1.6 Plan Implementation

Plan implementation is a continuous and active process. Land use planning and implementation level decisions go into effect upon the signing of the Record of Decision and Approved Plan. For this plan, these include decisions such as land designations and maximum number of permitted helicopter landings.

Implementation plans are area or site-specific plans written to implement decisions made in a land use plan. One-time decisions are prioritized as part of the BLM budget process, and may be affected by future project priorities, funding, non-discretionary workloads, and public participation. An implementation plan for the Chilkat Mountains Special Recreation Management Area is a one-time decision and would be developed, subject to such constraints as available staff and funding levels, once land ownership for the area is complete or once a large contiguous block of land is relinquished from selection by the State of Alaska and becomes BLM unencumbered land.

Long-Term Guidance/Life of Plan Direction

These decisions include the goals, objectives, and management actions established by the plan that are applied during site-specific analyses and activity planning. This guidance is applied whether the action is initiated by the BLM or by a non-BLM project proponent. Long-term guidance and plan direction are incorporated into BLM management as implementation level planning and project analysis occurs.

Priorities for implementation of *one-time* plan decisions will be based on several criteria, including:

- Current and projected resource needs and demands;
- National and Statewide BLM management direction and program emphasis and
- Funding; and,
- Land status (State or Native selected vs. BLM public lands)

1.7 Plan Evaluation

Evaluation is a process in which the plan and monitoring data are reviewed to see if management goals and objectives are being met and if management direction is sound. Land use plan evaluations determine if decisions are being implemented, whether Required Operating Procedures are satisfactory, whether there are significant changes in the related plans of other entities, whether there is new data of significance to the plan, and if decisions should be through amendment or revision. Monitoring data gathered over time is examined and used to draw conclusions on whether management actions are meeting stated objectives, and if not, why. Conclusions are then used to make recommendations on whether to continue current management or to identify what changes need to be made in management practices to meet objectives.

Evaluations will follow the protocols established by the BLM Land Use Planning Handbook (H-1601-1) or other appropriate guidance in effect at the time the evaluation is initiated.

2.0 Management Decisions

This section of the Approved Plan presents the goals and objectives, land use allocations, and management actions established for public lands managed by the BLM. These management decisions are presented by program area. Not all types of decisions were identified for each program. A *Monitoring* section is also included for each program to describe how the program decisions will be tracked to ensure implementation.

The Draft EIS and Proposed Final EIS identified Desired Future Conditions for several programs, which are included in the Approved Plan as *Objectives*. Most of the identified objectives are long range in nature and will not be achieved immediately, but rather are assumed to require a period of 20 to 50 years to achieve. Some of the sections from the Draft and Proposed SEIS have been combined or reorganized for ease in reference, but the content remains as contained in the Proposed FEIS. For program areas not listed in this Approved Plan, refer back to the Ring of Fire RMP, as many programs were not amended by this planning effort.

This section is organized alphabetically by program area with the following titles:

- Cultural Resource Management
- Lands and Realty
- Recreation
- Travel Management and OHV use
- Wildlife

Maps depicting the management decisions are provided in Appendix E for easy reference. Some management actions refer to specific Required Operating Procedures (ROPs) or stipulations. These ROPs and Stipulations are shown in Appendix A.

2.1 Cultural Resource Management

A. Goals:

- Preserve key cultural properties listed on or eligible for the National Register of Historic Places.

B. Objectives:

- Identify and Preserve significant archaeological and historic cultural resources in alpine ice patches, and around the Chilkoot Trail.

C. Management Actions:

- Manage cultural properties within BLM-managed lands in the planning area for their scientific use (preserved until their research potential is realized).
- Manage actions which may impact cultural resources in compliance with the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) Sections 106 and 110.
- There will be no disturbance of any archaeological or historical sites, including archaeological collection of artifacts. The collection of vertebrate fossils, including mammoth and mastodon bones, tusks, etc, is prohibited. If cultural or paleontological resources are encountered during permitted activities, these items will be respectfully left in their location and the BLM GFO Authorized Officer shall be notified.

D. Monitoring (and adaptive management if applicable):

- Prioritize proactive surveys of alpine ice patches and glacier margins in the vicinity of current or proposed summer helicopter-supported recreation.

2.2 Lands and Realty

A. Goals:

- For goals not specifically addressed in this amendment, refer to Ring of Fire RMP ROD and Approved Plan Section I.
- Lands within the Amended SRMA boundary would be managed consistent with the Goals of the designated SRMA (See *Recreation*).
- Lands within the ERMA boundary would be managed consistent with the Goals of the ERMA (See *Recreation*).

B. Objectives:

- For objectives not specifically addressed in this amendment, refer to Ring of Fire RMP ROD and Approved Plan Section I.
- Lands within the amended SRMA boundary would be managed consistent with the Objectives of the designated SRMA (See *Recreation*).
- Lands within the ERMA boundary would be managed consistent with the Objectives of the ERMA (See *Recreation*).

C. Management Actions

- For management actions not specifically addressed in this amendment, refer to Ring of Fire RMP ROD and Approved Plan Section I.
- Lands within the amended SRMA boundary would be managed consistent with the Management Actions of the designated SRMA (See *Recreation*).
 - Right of Ways would be considered that are consistent with SRMA Objectives
 - Surface use or occupancy would be avoided in high use winter mountain goat habitat
 - Land uses permitted under the ROF plan, such as mining access, would continue.
- Lands within the ERMA boundary would be managed consistent with the Management Actions of the ERMA (See *Recreation*).
 - Rights of Way would be considered
 - Land uses permitted under the Ring of Fire ROD and Approved Plan, such as mining access, will continue.

2.3 Recreation

A: Chilkat Mountains SRMA

Establishment of Chilkat Mountains Special Recreation Management Area (65,467 Acres)
(See Appendix B)

1. Goals:

- Cooperate with Alaska Department of Fish and Game for goat habitat and populations.
- Recognize goat hunting and associated activities as traditional uses.

- Preserve backcountry recreation pursuits.
- Enhance recreation management or visitor services in support of the SRMA.

2. Objectives:

- Provide for world class backcountry hunting, recreational viewing experiences of mountain goats, and supporting backcountry activities in an undisturbed and unfragmented habitat.
- SRMA user surveys/assessments report an average 4.0 realization (4.0 on a probability scale where: 1 = not at all realized to 5 = totally realized) of the targeted experiences and benefits listed and found within the Chilkat Mountains SRMA Matrix Table (see Appendix B).

3. Management Actions:

- An implementation plan for the Chilkat Mountains Special Recreation Management Area is a one-time decision and would be developed, subject to such constraints as available staff and funding levels, once land ownership for the area is complete or once a large contiguous block of land is relinquished from selection by the State of Alaska and becomes BLM unencumbered land.

3a. Allowable uses:

Special Recreation Permits

- Helicopter supported special recreation permits or special recreation permits utilizing unmanned aerial vehicles (drones) are not permitted within the SRMA.
- Motorized special recreation permits utilizing over snow travel would not be allowed.
- Other special recreation permits will be considered if they support the Goals and Objectives of the SRMA.

Camping Restrictions

- 14 consecutive day camping limit on SRMA lands year-round.
- Camping and overnight use is prohibited at 7 Mile Haines Highway and Dalton Cache BLM-managed lands.

Comprehensive Trails and Travel Management

- The area is classified as limited to existing or designated routes. The steep topography and terrain generally prevent the use of OHV's with current technological capabilities.

Visual Resource Management

- The SRMA is classified as VRM Class IV and managed under VRM Class IV objectives.

Lands and Realty

- Right-of-ways which do not negatively affect the objective statement for the SRMA will be considered.
- Surface occupancy or use will be avoided in high-use, winter, mountain goat habitat.
- Land uses consistent with this Amendment and previously permitted or analyzed

under the Ring of Fire RMP will continue.

- Isolated parcels relinquished from selection by the State of Alaska that are attached to the Haines road system or bordering the SRMA would be included within the SRMA. Parcels relinquished from selection not meeting those two parameters would become part of the ERMA.

Non-energy Solid Mineral Leasing, Salable Minerals/Mineral Material Disposal

- These decisions were identified under the Ring of Fire RMP and are not limited by the SRMA designation.

3b. Actions:

- Over snow travel and cross-country travel in support of recreation use is allowed if sufficient snow cover (12-inches or greater) or sufficient ground frost (6-inches or deeper) is present.
- The use of unmanned aerial vehicles (drones) in support of non-commercial activities is allowed.
- Fixed wing access is allowed.
- The use of fixed wing unmanned aerial vehicles, or helicopters for transportation, exploration, or development of mining activities is not subject to any limitations defined within the SRMA.
- Motorized special recreation permits utilizing over snow travel would not be allowed.
- Other special recreation permits will be considered if they support the goals and objectives of the SRMA.
- The BLM would give consideration to the designation of future motorized or non-motorized access routes.
- Visitor facilities would be considered along the road system near the SRMA or on lands acquired in the future near or within the SRMA. Backcountry cabins may be considered by the BLM within the SRMA.
- Temporary structures and camps in support of traditional or recreational use would be permitted.

4. Monitoring:

- The BLM will conduct user surveys/assessments to assess whether targeted experiences and benefits for the Chilkat Mountains SRMA will be achieved, per the SRMA Matrix Table in Appendix B.

B: Haines ERMA

Establishment of Haines Extensive Recreation Management Area (25,1629 Acres) (see Appendix B)

1. Goals:

- The goal of the Haines ERMA is to manage for backcountry recreation activities commensurate with and considered in context with the management of other resources and resource uses.

2. Objectives:

- Provide a setting for backcountry recreation activities, consisting primarily of

Haines Amendment to the Ring of Fire hiking, skiing, and hunting opportunities, while meeting demand for increased commercial recreation opportunities consisting primarily of aviation related special recreation permits.

- Provide up to a maximum of 11,000 helicopter-supported recreation landings annually, or a maximum of 5,500 summer and 5,500 winter landings.
- Ensure at least 85 percent of backcountry users are fulfilling their planned objectives and experiences on BLM-managed lands.

3. Management Actions:

- Minimal management actions would occur within this ERMA. Management actions consistent with overall plan direction may be considered if user conflict or resource issues arise.

Recreation and Visitor Services Program

- Manage commercial recreation activities to maintain quality user experiences while avoiding adverse impacts to Mountain Goats.
- Process and issue special recreation permits to meet demand for commercial recreation activities within the area.
- In years 1 through 4 (2020-2023), the BLM would issue up to 1,600 winter helicopter-supported commercial recreation landings within the buffered high use winter mountain goat habitat. In year 5 (2024), helicopter-supported commercial winter landing allocations within buffered high use winter mountain goat habitat could increase (see Appendix C). Map 9 in Appendix E illustrates the 1,500-meter buffered, high-use winter mountain goat habitat.
- In years 1 through 4 (2020-2023), BLM would permit up to 2,400 summer helicopter-supported commercial recreation landings annually. In year five (2024), summer landing allocations could increase (see Appendix C).
- Commercial helicopter-supported recreation winter permits issued within buffered high use winter mountain goat habitat must achieve an average of 75 percent utilization of landings by combined operators to trigger the need for a step increase of landings. For example, an average annual utilization of 1,200 landings by combined operators in years 1- 4 (2020-2023) could trigger the need for a step increase within winter high-use mountain goat habitat in year 5 (2024). Increases would be considered if operators are in good standing and goat monitoring in consultation with ADF&G indicates goat populations and trends are healthy (see Appendix C).
- Similarly, summer commercial helicopter supported recreation operators must achieve an average 75 percent utilization of summer landings by combined operators over 4 years to trigger a potential increase in permit allocations (see Appendix C).
- Whenever a step increase occurs, for summer or winter operations, four years of monitoring in cooperation with ADF&G would be required before another step increase would be considered. Increases would be considered if 75 percent utilization of permits between combined operators is achieved, operators are in good standing, and goat monitoring indicates goat population and trends are healthy.
- The BLM, in cooperation with ADFG, will work to describe thresholds such as mountain goat health, population estimates, population trends, or kidding rates of concern. The authorized officer, at their discretion, may modify permitted helicopter-supported recreation activities when a threshold is reached.

Modifications could include, but are not limited to, re-distributing permitted use (fly/no-fly zones) (avoidance), establishing timing (season, duration, frequency) restrictions (minimization), and reducing permitted landing allocations (mitigation).

- Minimal recreation and visitor services will be provided to maintain primitive and backcountry setting classes for the physical, social, and operational setting components.

Other Programs

- Maintain VRM Class IV.

Allowable uses:

- OHV's will be managed as "Limited." Use will be limited to existing roads and trails consistent with the State of Alaska Generally Allowed Uses on State Lands, which, among other things, requires OHV's to stay on existing trails when possible.
- Helicopters used in support of permitted recreation activities will adhere to the Required Operating Procedures (Appendix A), which are:
 - Maintain a 500-meter minimum vertical and 1500-meter horizontal distance from visible Dall sheep and mountain goats.
 - Not land or fly within 1500-meters of known mountain goat kidding areas* or Dall sheep lambing areas* between May 1 and June 15.
 - Not land within high-use winter mountain goat habitat between November 15 and April 30 and will maintain a 500- meter minimum aboveground level (AGL) altitude above habitats mapped as high-use. Dall sheep and mountain goat high-use habitats are shown on Map 9, see Appendix E.

4. Monitoring:

- Visitor use surveys of backcountry users may occur. Annual coordination, reporting, and follow up may occur for commercial operators beyond required Special Recreation Permit procedures outlined in 43 CFR 2930 and the associated BLM Policy Manual.
- As part of special recreation permit (SRP) issuance for commercial helicopter supported recreational activities, the BLM will require operators to:
 - Provide track log data in a format agreed upon with the BLM;
 - Provide post use data at times specified;
 - Provide flight path data with a track log and individual point data for each operational day;
 - Provide written documentation for any incursions, including the reason for the incursion, such as weather events and operational safety; and,
 - The BLM will use the data collected to address the performance of the permittee, inform further analysis on any potential impacts to wildlife populations, trends, or health, and to develop recommendations for potential future use.

2.4 Travel Management and OHV

A. Goals

- Manage trails and OHVs consistent with SRMA and ERMA Goals and Objectives;
- Manage trails to provide access to public lands, recreation, and subsistence opportunities if available;
- Manage trails to minimize resource impacts and reduce user conflicts;
- Manage OHV use associated with permitted and development activities to provide for access while protecting resources.

B. Management Actions

- OHVs will be managed as “Limited.” Use will be limited to existing roads and trails consistent with the State of Alaska Generally Allowed Uses on State Lands, which requires OHVs to stay on existing trails when possible.
- Consideration will be given to the designation of future motorized and non-motorized access routes.

Allowable uses

- Over snow travel in support of recreation use is allowed if sufficient snow cover (12” or greater) or sufficient ground frost (6” or deeper) is present;
- The use of unmanned aerial vehicles (drones) in support of non-commercial activities is allowed;
- Fixed wing access is allowed;
- Within SRMA fixed wing SRPs, to include transporters, would be considered if consistent with SRMA objectives;
- Special recreation permits utilizing over snow travel would not be allowed within the Chilkat Mountains SRMA.

C. Monitoring

- Monitoring within the planning area will focus on compliance with primary emphasis on those routes or areas causing the highest levels of user conflicts or adverse impacts to resources. The secondary focus will be to establish trends in trail proliferation, density, and damage. Various methods of monitoring may be employed including aerial monitoring, use of drones, ground patrols, and remote methods such as traffic counters, trail cameras, etc. Route or area closures will be regularly monitored for compliance.

2.5 Wildlife

A. Goals

- Manage wildlife habitat to meet BLM’s Alaska Statewide Land Health Standards and the goals of the State of Alaska’s Department of Fish and Game consistent with the Master Memorandum of Understanding (Appendix K of Ring of Fire FEIS);
- Provide for continued opportunity for subsistence uses on public lands in compliance with Title VIII of ANILCA;
- Manage habitat to ensure actions are consistent with the requirements of Federal Threatened and Endangered Species mandates;
- Maintain natural ecosystem functions with the quality and quantity of habitat necessary to support healthy populations of mountain goats and other wildlife;
- Work with the State of Alaska to monitor wildlife populations and habitat on BLM-managed lands to conserve and enhance populations of mountain goats and

other wildlife;

- Protect habitats important to mountain goats and other wildlife populations by the avoidance, minimization, or mitigation of possible adverse effects of permitted land use activities;
- Balance visitor experience with protection of the resources in the area.

B. Management Actions

- Work collaboratively with the State of Alaska Department of Fish and Game to:
 - Ensure continued population monitoring of wildlife resources
 - Ensure continued habitat data collection of wildlife resources
 - Ensure adaptive management indicators and triggers/thresholds are relevant to respond to deviations from goals established within the Adaptive Management Strategy
- Through the NEPA process, ensure that all authorized activities within the planning area are consistent with the conservation needs of BLM Alaska's special status species and that actions do not contribute to the Threatened or Endangered ESA listing of any species.

D. Monitoring:

- BLM will continue to work cooperatively with ADF&G to conduct annual surveys of mountain goats on BLM managed lands. Information resulting from these surveys includes adult: kid ratios and population estimates. These indicators are identified in the Adaptive Management Strategy (AMS). BLM will utilize this information collected annually to inform management decisions relative to permitted activities and resulting effects, should they exist.
- In the event weather precludes the completion of annual surveys, data gaps can be "modeled" with the use of past or known information. This may include utilizing known information from radio-collared mountain goats within the planning area such as productivity, survival and animal movement data.

2.6 Adaptive Management

Adaptive management is a decision process that promotes flexible resource management decision-making based on clearly identified outcomes (goals) that can be adjusted in the face of uncertainties as outcomes from management actions and other events become better understood. Careful monitoring of these outcomes both advances scientific understanding and helps adjust resource management directions as part of an iterative management process. Adaptive management also recognizes the importance of natural variability in contributing to ecological resilience and productivity. It is not a "trial and error" process, but rather emphasizes learning while doing. Adaptive management does not represent an end in itself, but rather a means to more effective decisions and enhanced benefits.

The goals of the BLM's Adaptive Management Strategy in the Planning Area include:

1. Balance visitor experience with protection of the resources in the area.
2. Maintain natural ecosystem functions with the quality and quantity of habitat necessary to support healthy populations of mountain goats and other wildlife.
3. Monitor wildlife populations and habitat while managing BLM-managed lands to conserve and enhance populations of mountain goats and other wildlife.

4. Protect habitats important to mountain goats and other wildlife populations by the avoidance, minimization, or mitigation of possible adverse effects of permitted land use activities.

Adaptive management is a system of management practices based on clearly identified outcomes, monitoring to determine if management actions are meeting outcomes, and, if not, facilitating management changes that will best ensure that outcomes are met or to re-evaluate the outcomes. The following steps are necessary to manage wildlife resources within the Planning Area when incorporating adaptive management:

- ensure continued population and habitat data collection,
- identify monitoring indicators,
- establish soft and hard triggers or thresholds,
- identify implementable management actions and continue to monitor and evaluate for effectiveness.

Continued cooperation and collaboration with ADFG and the establishment of this adaptive management framework is paramount to the success of this strategy.

2.7 Haines Amendment Adaptive Management Strategy

Soft triggers represent a threshold indicating management changes are needed at the project/implementation level to address resource concerns before they become severe. Hard triggers represent a threshold indicating that more immediate and refined actions are necessary to stop a severe deviation from goals established within the Adaptive Management Strategy. The management responses to be applied if a trigger is met may include new or additional terms, conditions, stipulations, design features, BMPs or specific mitigation measures to permitted activities. Specific measures may include but are not limited to: redistribution of permitted use (temporal and/or spatial), avoidance or exclusion zones, restrictions in duration and/or frequency, reduction in permitted landing allocations.

The following are interim indicators and their associated triggers. With additional data collection, increased scientific knowledge and/or academia analysis and review, amendments or modifications may be made to indicators, triggers and their values. In the event that annual surveys are not completed, thus resulting in data gaps, predictive models may be utilized to inform current conditions.

Population Estimates

Utilizing mountain goat population estimates as an indicator, a soft or hard trigger would be met within a geographic region when the following occurs:

Soft Trigger:

- 3 consecutive surveys of 10 percent or greater annual decline in total population OR
- 5 consecutive surveys of decline in total population OR
- 30 percent decline in total population from previous survey

Hard Trigger:

- 3 consecutive surveys of 20 percent or greater annual decline in total population OR
- 60 percent decline in total population from previous survey.

Kid:Adult Ratios

Utilizing mountain goat kid:adult ratios as an indicator, a soft or hard trigger would be met within a helicopter supported recreation permitted geographic goat region (see Map 6 Appendix E) when the following occurs:

Soft Trigger:

- 3 consecutive surveys of ≤ 20 kids:100 adults OR
- 5 consecutive surveys of decline below ≤ 25 kids:100 adults OR
- 10 kids:100 adults surveyed

Hard Trigger:

- 2 consecutive surveys of ≤ 5 kids:100 adults OR
- 0 kids:100 adults surveyed

Appendices

Appendix A: Required Operating Procedures, Stipulations

1.0 Introduction

These Required Operating Procedures (ROPs) and stipulations were developed through the Ring of Fire planning process and modified through this Haines amendment planning process. To be necessary and effective, ROPs and stipulations are based on sound science, current land patterns and uses, resource protection requirements, and are consistent with the requirements of the land use plan, regulations, and laws.

1.1 Required Operating Procedures

ROPs are requirements, procedures, management practices, or design features that the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) adopts as operational requirements. ROPs would apply to all permitted activities, including Federal Land Management Policy Act (FLPMA) leases and permits, SRPs, and right-of-way authorizations. Obviously, not all ROPs would apply to all permitted activities. ROPs have been developed to ensure that objectives identified within the Alaska Land Health Standards are met in carrying out permitted activities and management practices.

2.0 Required Operating Procedures

This section includes the ROPs that are being amended through this Ring of Fire RMP Haines Amendment. No other ROPs in the Ring of Fire RMP will be modified at this time.

2.2 Fish and Wildlife Habitat

2.2.3 Objectives

Heavy concentrations of activities in sensitive wildlife and plant habitats will be avoided (FWH 15 and 16). ROP 16 is modified as shown below.

2.2.4 Requirements

FWH 16	Helicopters used in support of permitted recreation activities will maintain a 500-meter minimum vertical and 1500-meter minimum horizontal distance from visible Dall sheep and mountain goats**. Helicopters used in support of permitted recreation activities will not land or fly within 1500-meters of known mountain goat kidding areas or Dall sheep lambing areas* between May 1 and June 15. Helicopters used in support of permitted recreation activities will not land within high-use winter habitat between November 15 and April 30 and will maintain a 500- meter minimum aboveground level (AGL) altitude above habitats mapped as high-use. Dall sheep and mountain goat high-use habitats are shown on Map 9, Appendix E.
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* Data collection on Dall sheep lambing and mountain goat kidding high-use areas is ongoing. SRP requests will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis to identify flight avoidance areas.

** In the event a 1500-meter horizontal separation cannot be met (i.e., narrow valley), a 500-meter minimum vertical separation distance from animal/s must be maintained.

Haines Block Extensive Recreation Management Area

Extensive Recreation Management Areas (ERMA) are administrative units that require specific management consideration in order to address recreation use, demand, and/or recreation and visitor services program investments. ERMA management is commensurate with and considered in context with the management of other resources and resource uses.

ERMA OBJECTIVES DECISION

Objectives:

- Provide a setting for backcountry recreation activities, consisting primarily of hiking, skiing, and hunting opportunities, while meeting demand for increased commercial recreation opportunities consisting primarily of aviation related special recreation permits.
- Through user survey ensure at least 85 percent of backcountry users are fulfilling their planned objectives and experiences on BLM lands.

Recreation and Visitor Services Program

Management:

- Minimal management actions would occur within this ERMA
- Manage commercial recreation activities to maintain the quality of user experience while avoiding adverse effects to Mountain Goats.
- Process and issue special recreation permits to meet demand for commercial recreation activities within the area.
- Minimal recreation and visitor services will be provided to maintain primitive and backcountry setting classes for the physical, social, and operational setting components.
- ERMA designation applies to all lands in the planning area outside of the SRMA. Isolated parcels relinquished by the State of Alaska that are currently outside of the SRMA or ERMA and are not connected to the road system would be incorporated into the ERMA.

Information and education:

- Minimal information and education actions would occur within this ERMA.

Monitoring:

- Visitor use survey of backcountry users may occur. Annual coordination, reporting, and follow up may occur for commercial operators beyond what is required through special recreation permits.

Other Programs (e.g., stipulations on mineral or other development, OHV designations, visual resource management classes):

- Maintain VRM Class IV.
- OHV's will be managed as "Limited". Use will be limited to existing roads and trails consistent with the State of Alaska Generally Allowed Uses on State Lands, which, among other things, requires OHV's to stay on existing trails when possible.
- Lifting of Monitoring and Control Area (MCA).

Implementation Decisions

- Permit a maximum of 11,000 annual helicopter supported commercial recreation landings, (5500 winter and 5500 summer) through adaptive management process and incremental increase. Increase landings for permitted commercial recreation opportunities would be considered if goat populations and trends healthy; operators demonstrate a need for increased landings; and a 75 percent utilization rate of previously permitted landings is achieved.

Chilkat Mountains Special Recreation Management Area

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

The Chilkat Mountains Special Recreation Management Area (SRMA) provides a unique setting to participate in wildlife dependent recreation activities and backcountry recreation opportunities. In contextual comparison to the rest of Southeast Alaska the SRMA is relatively accessible from road, air, and water yet offers an undisturbed and unfragmented land base providing for outstanding mountain goat habitat and world class backcountry experiences. The SRMA designation would allow for active cooperation with Alaska Department of Fish and Game for goat habitat and populations, recognition of goat hunting and associated activities as traditional uses, preservation of backcountry recreation pursuits, and enhancement of recreation management or visitor services in support of the SRMA.

Objective Statement:

- Provide for world class backcountry hunting, recreational viewing experiences of mountain goats, and supporting backcountry activities in an undisturbed and unfragmented habitat.
- Surveys/assessments of users of the SRMA will report an average 4.0 realization on a probability scale where: 1 = not at all realized, and 5 = totally realized, of the targeted experiences and benefits listed below.

Activities

- Mountain Goat Hunting
- Wildlife Viewing
- Backcountry Camping Experiences
- Depending on and utilizing a wild game resource in support of traditional use through traditional means
- Enjoying a physically and mentally challenging recreation experience in a rugged environment
- Sharing an outdoor adventure with family and friends
- Viewing an array of wildlife in a natural setting
- Testing or demonstrating skills required for successful navigation and traversal of a backcountry environment
- Testing equipment and gear in a harsh environment
- Participating in outdoor recreation pursuits in an undisturbed and natural setting

Benefits:

Personal

- Enhanced relationship with the natural world
- Increased ability to provide sustenance for friends or family
- Improved self-confidence and skills in back country travel
- Increased physical fitness and stamina
- Decreased levels of personal stress or physical ailments

Community/Social

- Maintained supply of traditional foods for community or family
- Stronger ties with community and family
- Increased recognition of hunting as a traditional use on public lands
- Greater appreciation for public lands

Chilkat Mountains Special Recreation Management Area - continued

PRIMARY TARGETED OUTCOMES - continued

Benefits:

Economic

- Enhanced local tourism revenue
- Increased opportunity for small business (such as guides, outfitters, transporters, eco-tourism, concessionaires) to earn a living on public lands by utilizing workinglandscapes.
- Greater recognition of the area as a recreation destination

Environment

- Enhanced recognition of natural landscapes, wildlife, and habitat which support the local community

Physical Components:

The SRMA would retain the current level of remoteness overall. The existing natural landscape is mostly retained with a few temporary structures, camps, or cabins in support of traditional or recreational use. Simple/basic recreation developments such as parking lots, kiosks, tables, or restrooms may be created along the Haines road system.

Social Components:

- a. **Contacts (with other groups)** - Primary use season is September 15 through November 15. During this time period users should contact no more than 2 other user groups per day.
- b. **Group Size:** Throughout the entire SRMA users should expect to encounter groups consisting of 2 individuals on average with the possibility of larger groups of 3-5 during the summer months.
- c. **Evidence of Use:** Area of very minimal disturbance (micro trash, scatted rocks, fire rings) can expect to be encountered on ridgetops or routes within one day proximity to the Haines highway or river valleys. Prominent ridgetops or areas in close proximity to high goat populations may also demonstrate minimal signs of use such as rock shelters, rifle cartridges, or microtrash.

Public Access: Currently routes to and within the SRMA are not maintained and undefined. Future designation, construction, or maintenance of motorized and non-motorized routes will be considered. OHV use within the SRMA is limited to existing or designated routes. No helicopter supported special recreation permits will be issued within the SRMA. Fixed wing access and special recreation permits related to fixed wing access are allowed.

Recreation and Visitor Services:

Special Recreation Permits

- Helicopter supported special recreation permits or special recreation permits utilizing unmanned aerial vehicles (drones) are not permitted within the SRMA.
- Motorized special recreation permits utilizing over snow travel would not be allowed.

Camping Restrictions

- 14 consecutive day camping limit on SRMA lands year-round.
- Camping and overnight use is prohibited at 7 Mile Haines Highway and Dalton Cache BLM lands.

Chilkat Mountains Special Recreation Management Area - continued

Comprehensive Trails and Travel Management

- The area is classified as limited to existing or designated routes. The steep topography and terrain generally prevents the use of OHVs.
- Over snow travel and cross country travel in support of recreation use is allowed if sufficient snow cover (12" or greater) or sufficient ground frost (6" or deeper) is present.
- The use of unmanned aerial vehicles (drones) in support of non-commercial activities is allowed.
- Fixed-wing access is allowed.
- The use of fixed-wing, unmanned aerial vehicles, or helicopters for transportation, exploration, or development of mining activities is not subject to any limitations defined within the SRMA.
- The BLM would give consideration to future motorized or non-motorized access routes.

Visual Resource Management

- The SRMA is classified as VRM Class IV and managed under VRM Class IV objectives.
- Visitor facilities would be considered along the road system near the SRMA.

Information and education:

- Basic safety information may be developed at access points. Detailed maps and other information can be obtained online and at local offices.

Monitoring:

- Monitoring may occur every 5-8 years to measure attainment of objectives and assess impacts to wildlife and other resources.

Other Programs:

Lands and Realty:

- ROWs which do not negatively affect the objective statement for the SRMA will be considered.
- Surface occupancy or use will be avoided in high use Mountain Goat habitat in the winter months.
- Land uses previously permitted or analyzed under the Ring of Fire RMP will continue.
- Isolated parcels relinquished by the State of Alaska attached to the Haines road system or bordering the SRMA would be included within the SRMA. Isolated parcels not meeting those two parameters would become part of ERMA lands.
- Backcountry cabins may be considered by the BLM within the SRMA.
- Temporary structures and camps in support of traditional or recreational use would be permitted

Non-energy Solid Mineral Leasing, Salable Minerals/Mineral Material Disposal

- Subject to valid existing rights identified within the Ring of Fire RMP and as permitted through Federal Regulations, FLPMA, and other authorities.

Appendix C: Incremental Increase in Landings by Year Interval

Year of Potential Increase ^a	Total Potential Permitted Winter Landings	Inside Buffered High Use Winter Habitat Maximum Winter Landings	Outside Buffered High Use Winter Habitat Number of Winter Landings	Summer Landings Maximum
1	5,500	1,600	3,900–5,500	2,400
5	5,500	3,600	1,900–5,500	4,400
9	5,500	5,500	5,500	5,500

a. Step increases based on permit utilization of 75 percent over four years, if the results of continued mountain goat monitoring indicate populations are healthy.

Appendix D: Responses to Federally Recognized Tribes

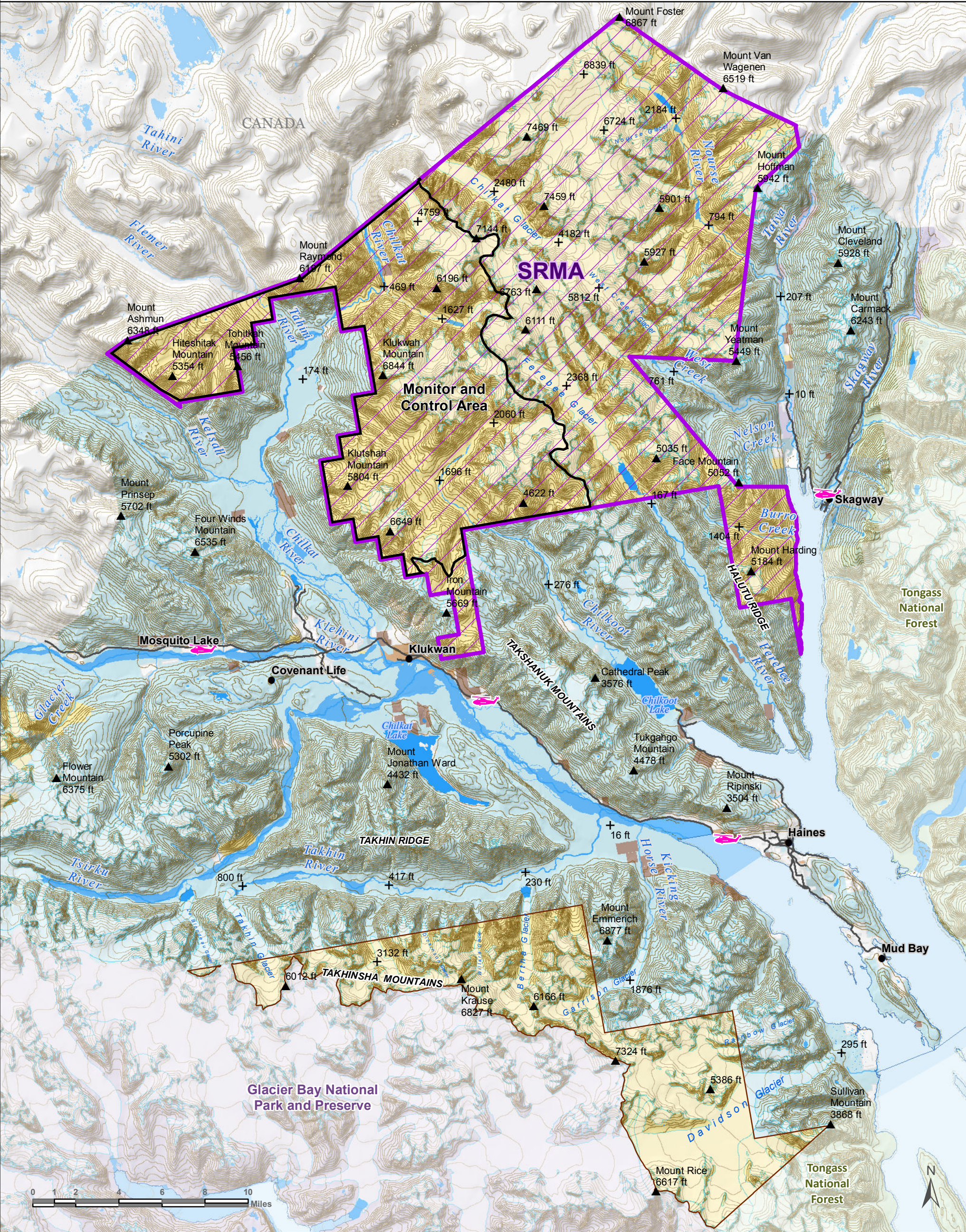
The tribes that have participated in consultation will be notified of the BLM's decision. This correspondence will be sent via certified mail or delivery service and a copy will be included in the permanent decision record. This notification will specifically include a discussion of the BLM's basis for its decision, how the final decision was or was not able to accommodate tribal concerns raised during the consultation process, and the avenues available for protest or appeal of the decision.

Appendix E: Maps



Haines Planning Area- Alternative A

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR | BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT | ALASKA | GLENNALLEN FIELD OFFICE



- | | | |
|---------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------|
| Monitor & Control Area | Forest Service | South Block |
| SRMA | Local Government | Heliports |
| Bureau of Land Management | National Park Service | Road/Highway |
| State of | Private | Mountain Summit |
| Alaska Native | Water | Lower Elevation |
| Alaska Native Corporation | | |

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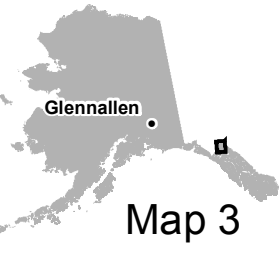
Haines Planning Area- Alternative E

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR | BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT | ALASKA | GLENNALLEN FIELD OFFICE



	Proposed		Forest Service		Heliports
	Proposed ERMA		Local Government		Mountain Summit
	Bureau of Land Management		National Park Service		Other Elevation
	State of Alaska		Private		Road/Highway
	Alaska Native		Water		
	Alaska Native Corporation				

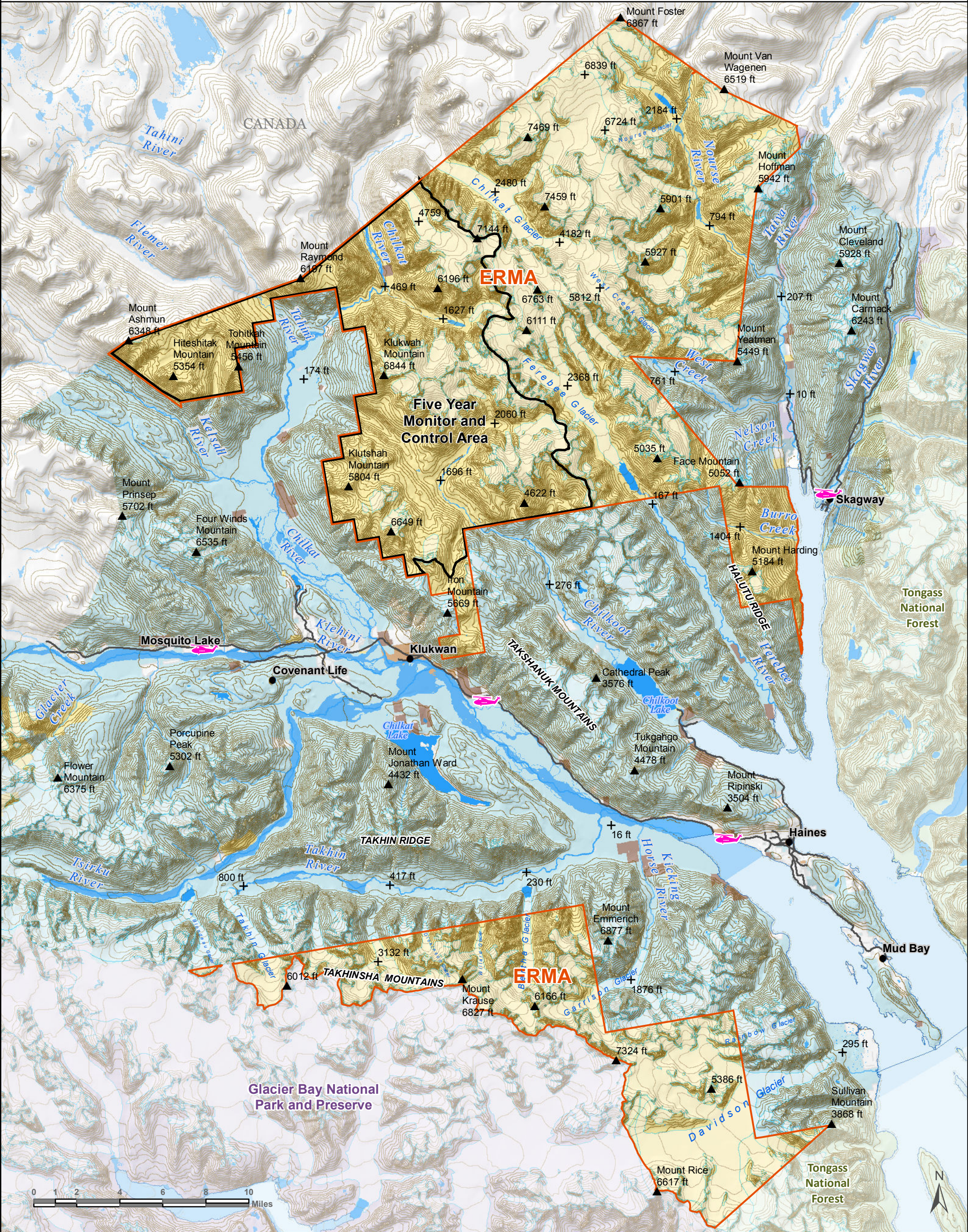
Disclaimer: No warranty is made by the Bureau of Land Management as to the accuracy, reliability, or completeness of these data for individual or aggregate use with other data. Original data were compiled from various sources. This information may not meet National Map Accuracy Standards. This product was developed through digital means and may be updated without notification. The information displayed on this map should be used for graphic display only. For official land status information, refer to Cadastral Survey plats, Master Title Plats, and land status case-files.





Haines Planning Area- Alternative F

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR | BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT | ALASKA | GLENNALLEN FIELD OFFICE

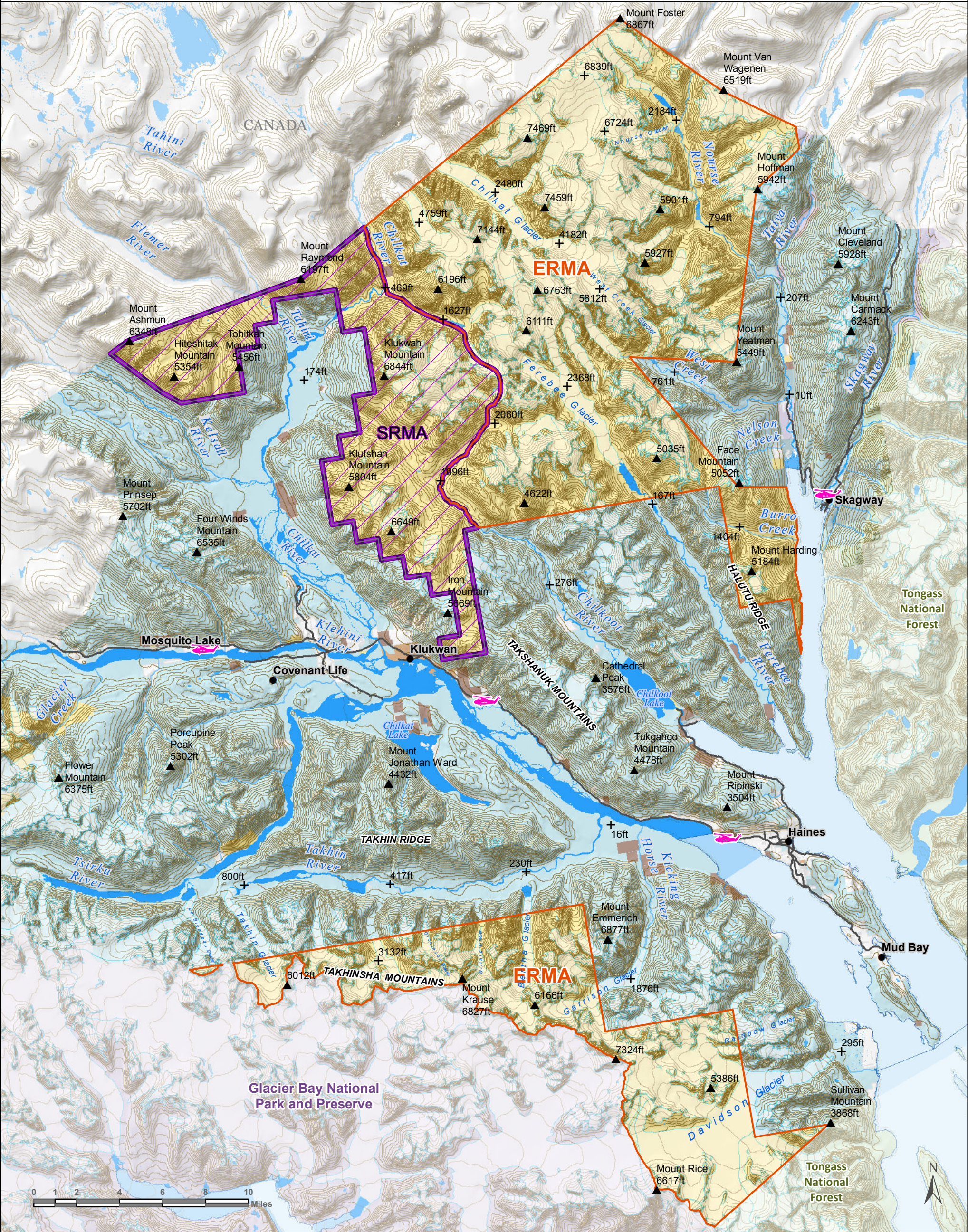


<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Proposed ERMA 5 Year Monitor & Control Area Bureau of Land Management State of Alaska Alaska Native Allotment Alaska Native Corporation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Forest Service Local Government National Park Service Private Water 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Heliports Road/Highway Mountain Summit Lower Elevation 	<p>Disclaimer: No warranty is made by the Bureau of Land Management as to the accuracy, reliability, or completeness of these data for individual or aggregate use with other data. Original data were compiled from various sources. This information may not meet National Map Accuracy Standards. This product was developed through digital means and may be updated without notification. The information displayed on this map should be used for graphic display only. For official land status information, refer to Cadastral Survey plats, Master Title Plats, and land status case-files.</p>	<p>Glennallen</p> <p>Map 4</p>
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Haines Planning Area- Alternative G

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR | BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT | ALASKA | GLENNALLEN FIELD OFFICE



- Proposed ERMA

Proposed SRMA

Bureau of Land Management

State of

Alaska Native

Alaska Native Corporation
- Forest Service

Local Government

National Park Service

Private

Water
- Heliports

Road/Highway

Mountain Summit

Lower Elevation

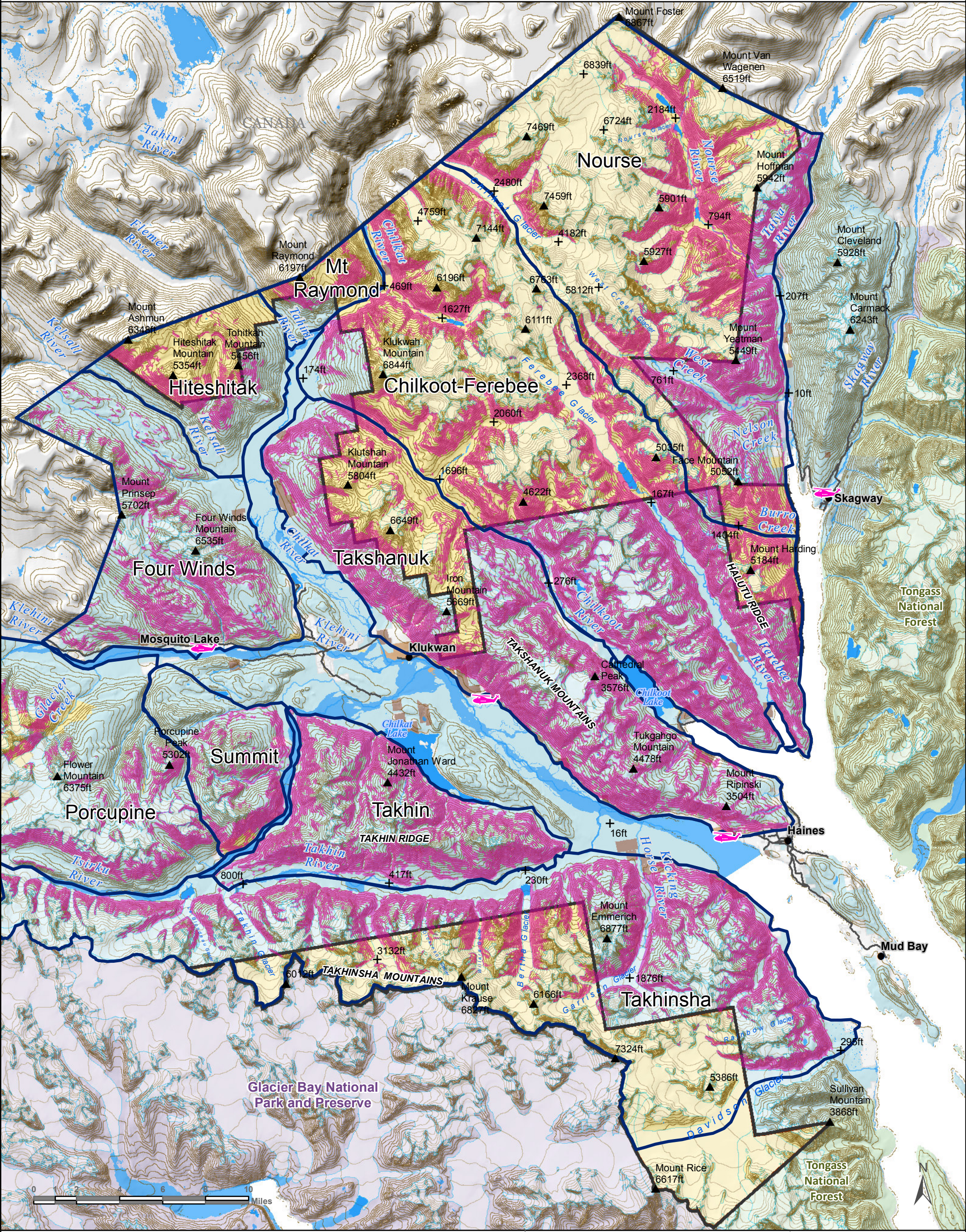
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Map 5

Haines Planning Area- Mountain Goat Winter Habitat by Geographic Region/Population

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR | BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT | ALASKA | GLENNALLEN FIELD OFFICE



Mountain Goat Study Regions

Mountain Goat High Use Winter Habitat

Bureau of Land Management

State of

Alaska Native

Alaska Native Corporation

Forest Service

Local Government

National Park Service

Private

Water

Heliports


Road/Highway

Mountain Summit

Lower Elevation

North & South Blocks

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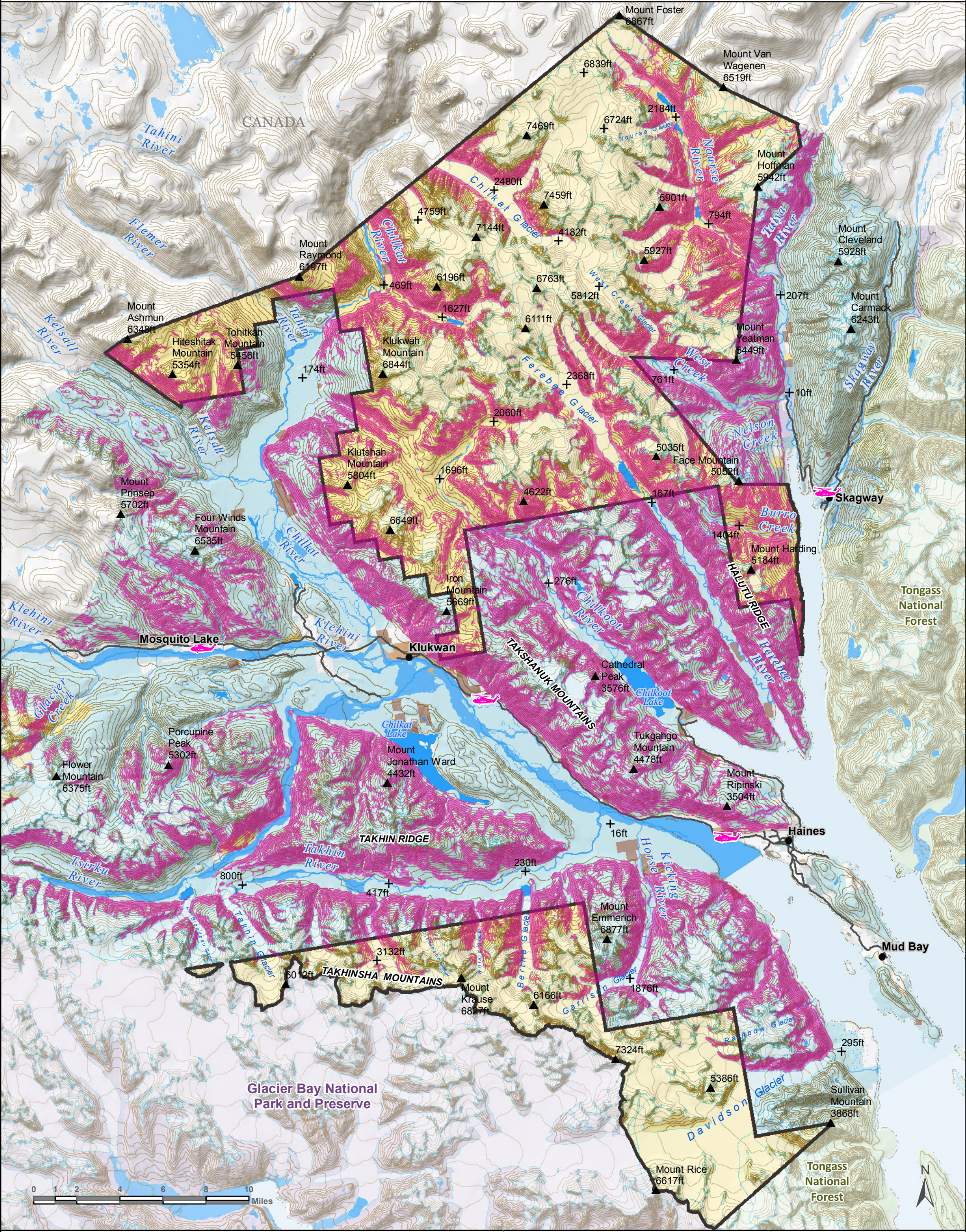
Glennallen

Map 6



Haines Planning Area- Mountain Goat Winter Habitat

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR | BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT | ALASKA | GLENNALLEN FIELD OFFICE



- | | | |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|
| Mtn Goat High Use Winter Habitat | Forest Service | Heliports |
| Bureau of Land Management | Local Government | Road/Highway |
| State of Alaska | National Park Service | Mountain Summit |
| Alaska Native Allotment | Private | Lower Elevation |
| Alaska Native Corporation | Water | North & South Blocks |

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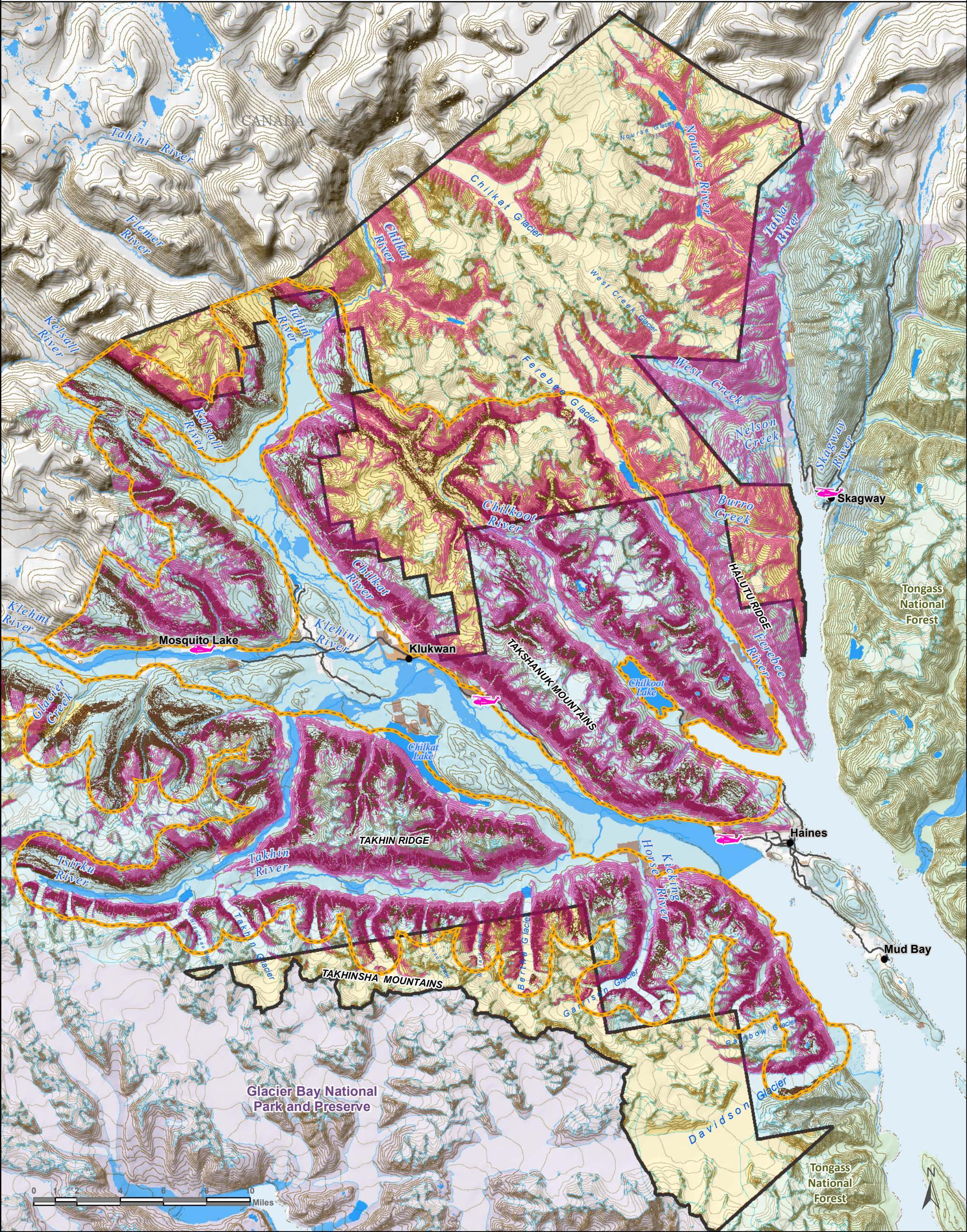


Map 7



Haines Planning Area- Mountain Goat and Brown Bear Winter Habitat

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR | BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT | ALASKA | GLENNALLEN FIELD OFFICE



- | | | |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------|
| Brown Bear Study Extent | Alaska Native Corporation | Heliports |
| Mtn Goat/Brown Bear Habitat Overlap | Forest Service | Road/Highway |
| Mtn Goat High Use Winter Habitat | Local Government | North & South Blocks |
| Brown bear den | National Park Service | |
| Bureau of Land Management | Private | |
| State of Alaska | Water | |
| Alaska Native | | |

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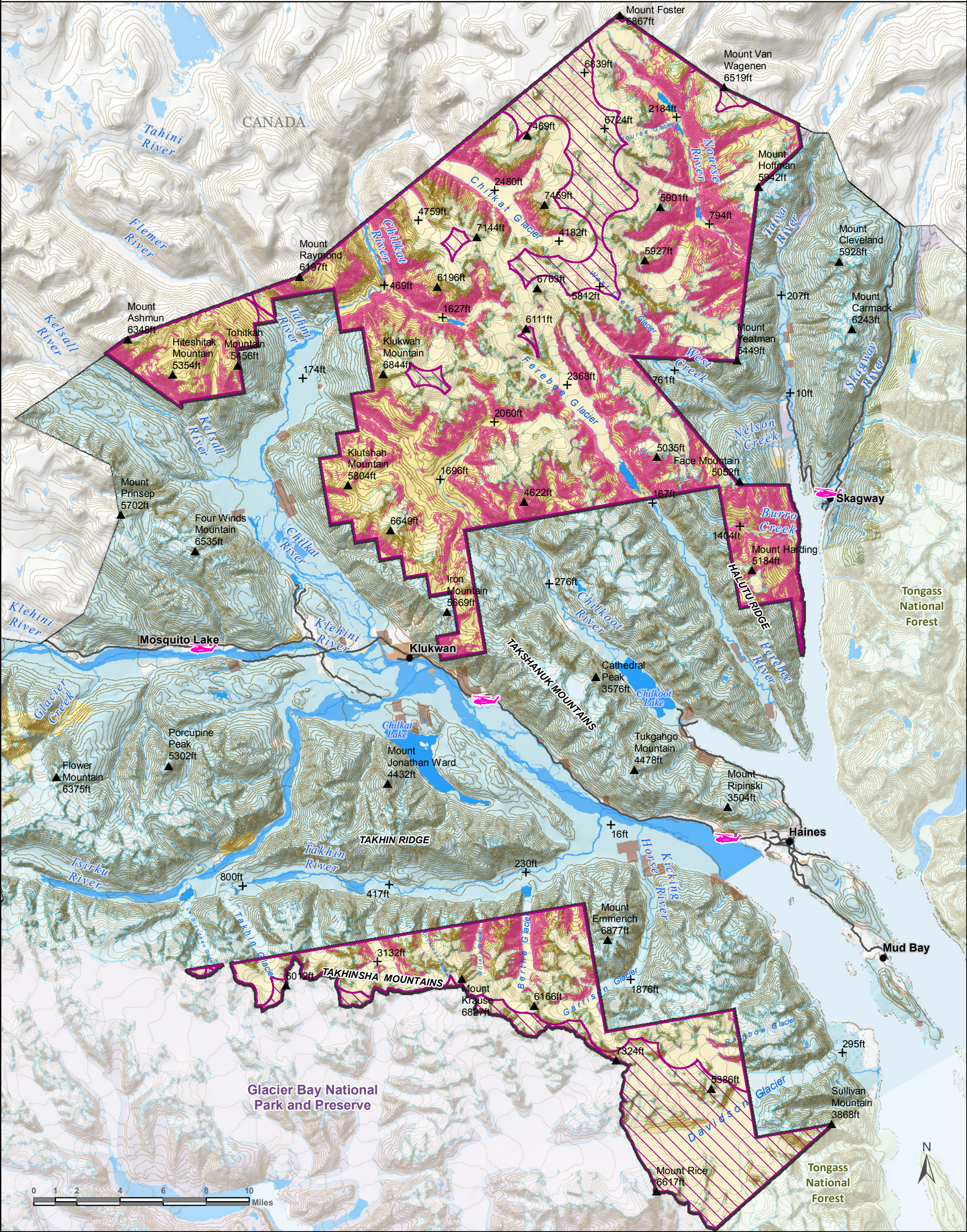


Map 8



Haines Planning Area- Mountain Goat Winter Habitat, plus 1500 meter Buffer Zone

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR | BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT | ALASKA | GLENNALLEN FIELD OFFICE



- | | | |
|--|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">Mtn Goat High Use Winter HabitatMtn Goat Winter Habitat Buffer-1500mAreas Outside 1500m BufferBureau of Land ManagementState of AlaskaAlaska Native Allotment | <ul style="list-style-type: none">Alaska Native CorporationForest ServiceLocal GovernmentNational Park ServicePrivateWater | <ul style="list-style-type: none">HeliportsRoad/HighwayMountain SummitOther ElevationNorth & South Blocks |
|--|---|---|

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Haines Planning Area- Historic Trade Routes

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR | BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT | ALASKA | GLENNALLEN FIELD OFFICE



Historic Trade Routes

- Chilkat Trail
- Chilkoot Trail
- Dalton Trail

- Bureau of Land Management
- State of
- Alaska Native

- Alaska Native Corporation
- Forest Service
- Local Government
- National Park Service
- Private
- Water

- North & South Blocks
- Heliports
- Road/Highway
- Mountain Summit
- Lower Elevation

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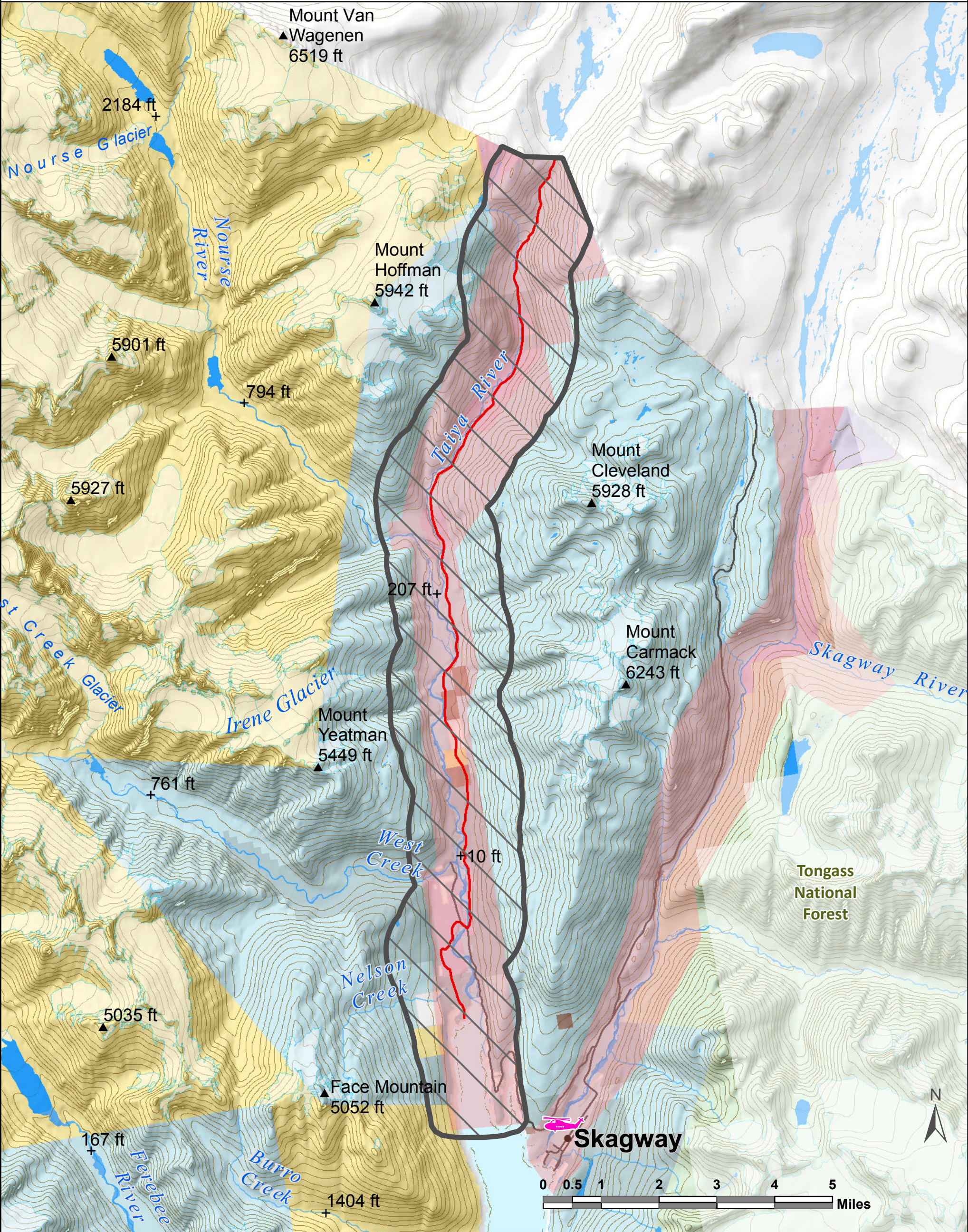


Map 10



Haines Planning Area- Chilkoot Trail, plus 1500 meter Buffer Zone

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR | BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT | ALASKA | GLENNALLEN FIELD OFFICE



- | | | |
|---|---------------------------|-----------------------|
| Chilkoot Trail Buffer-1500 meters | Bureau of Land Management | Forest Service |
| Chilkoot Trail | State of | Local Government |
| Chilkoot Trail National Historic Landmark | Alaska Native Allotment | National Park Service |
| Road/Highway | Alaska Native Corporation | Private |
| | | Water |

Disclaimer: No warranty is made by the Bureau of Land Management as to the accuracy, reliability, or completeness of these data for individual or aggregate use with other data. Original data were compiled from various sources. This information may not meet National Map Accuracy Standards. This product was developed through digital means and may be updated without notification. The information displayed on this map should be used for graphic display only. For official land status information, refer to Cadastral Survey plats, Master Title Plats, and land status case-files.

