

# TANANA BASIN AREA PLAN

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## SUMMARY OF THE PUBLIC REVIEW DRAFT



STATE OF ALASKA  
Department of Natural Resources  
4420 Airport Way  
Fairbanks, Alaska 99701

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
Soil Conservation Service

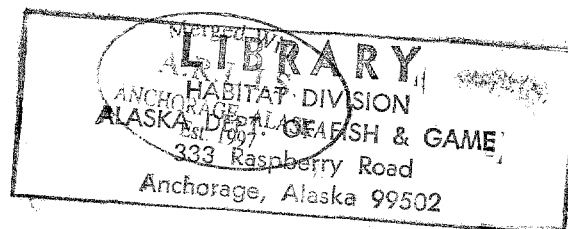
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# **SUMMARY OF THE PUBLIC REVIEW DRAFT**

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# STATE OF ALASKA

## DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

### DIVISION OF LAND AND WATER MANAGEMENT

BILL SHEFFIELD, GOVERNOR

555 Cordova Street  
Pouch 7-005  
Anchorage, Alaska 99510  
Phone: (907) 276-2653

May 4, 1984

Dear Reviewer:

I am pleased to submit for your comments this draft of the Tanana Basin Area Plan. This is a summary of a proposed land use plan for 12.5 million acres of state land in the Tanana River watershed. (This plan does not address private, federal or local government land).

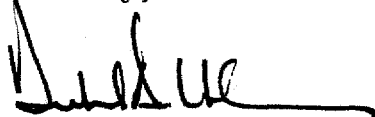
In May and June, 1984, hearings will be held in communities throughout the Basin to receive public comment on this draft. After the hearings, the plan will be revised to incorporate public comments before it is adopted by the Department of Natural Resources. When it is adopted, the plan becomes official policy directing the day-to-day management of state lands in the Basin.

In addition to the hearings, written or oral comments may be directed to Susan Todd, Project Manager, Department of Natural Resources, 4420 Airport Way, Fairbanks, Alaska 99701 (telephone 479-2243). Comments must be received no later than June 29, 1984.

Although the plan appears lengthy, its purpose and organization are not complex. In brief, the plan states what land uses are to be permitted on state lands and establishes guidelines on how these uses are to occur. The land uses that will be emphasized in specific areas are discussed in Chapter 3. If your time is limited, you may wish to concentrate on this chapter. If you would like more detail on a specific area or if you would like to see a copy of the full document, contact the Fairbanks office of DNR. Also, do not be distressed if you find conclusions with which you disagree. Sorting these things out is the purpose of this draft.

We look forward to your comments.

Sincerely,



Tom Hawkins  
Director  
Division of Land and Water Management

### ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Tanana Basin Planning Team would like to extend our special thanks to Melba Oester, Susan Hollett, Elaine Thomas, and Romeo Rescober for their patience and dedication in the preparation of the manuscript and graphic work for this document. Special acknowledgement is due to the Soil Conservation Service of the United States Department of Agriculture for its assistance in data inventory and analysis through the USDA River Basin Studies Program.

# **DRAFT TANANA BASIN AREA PLAN**

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### COOPERATIVE AGENCIES

U.S.D.A. SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE

# **Chapter 1**

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## **Introduction and Land Designation Summaries**

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## I. INTRODUCTION

This document is a draft land use plan for state lands in the Tanana Basin. This draft is intended for public review. In May and June, 1984, hearings will be held in communities throughout the Basin to receive public comment on this draft. After the hearings, the plan will be revised to incorporate the comments before it is formally adopted by the Department of Natural Resources.

This plan will designate the uses that are to occur on much of the state land within the Tanana Basin. It will show areas to be sold for private use and areas to be retained in state ownership. It does not control uses on private, Borough or Federal land, nor does it direct land use on areas that have already been legislatively designated for specific purposes, such as parks or wildlife refuges, and lands which are dealt with in existing management plans, such as Nenana-Totchaket and Delta-Salcha.

Since more than one use is permitted on most state lands, the plan also establishes rules which allow various uses to occur without serious conflicts. For example, in an area intended for residential use, the plan explains how public access to streams and trails is to be maintained.

To present this information, the draft plan is organized into four chapters. Chapter I provides a brief description of the planning area, the reasons why a plan is necessary for the Tanana Basin, and the types of decisions made by the plan. It also provides an introduction to the planning process and the agencies involved in developing the plan. It also includes a summary of the land designations for each type of resource use.

An overview of the goals, management guidelines, land allocations, and implementation procedures that affect each major resource or type of land use is presented in Chapter II. This chapter explains the basic policies for agriculture, settlement, forestry, recreation, fish and wildlife habitat, subsurface resources, transportation, access, lakeshore management, instream flow, stream corridors, trail management, remote cabin permits and resource management designations.

Chapter III is a detailed description of the land use designations in each of the plan's eight subregions. The subregions are major geographic subdivisions of the Basin. Each subregion is further divided into management units, of which there are 79. A management unit is an area that is generally homogeneous with respect to its resources, topography, and land ownership. For each management unit there is a statement of management intent and management guidelines; a chart listing primary and secondary land uses, prohibited land uses, and recommended land classifications. Designated land uses are also shown on maps contained at the end of this document.

The final chapter (Chapter IV) explains how the plan will be imple-



## **A. The Study Area**

The Tanana Basin covers approximately 21 million acres in interior Alaska (see map, page 1-3). All of the lands in the Fairbanks North Star Borough are included within the study area.

The Tanana River Basin is one of interior Alaska's largest drainages, encompassing over 21 million acres, as shown on the location map. The basin is bounded by the Yukon-Tanana Uplands on the north, the Canadian border on the east, the Alaska Range on the south and the Kuskokwim Mountains on the west.

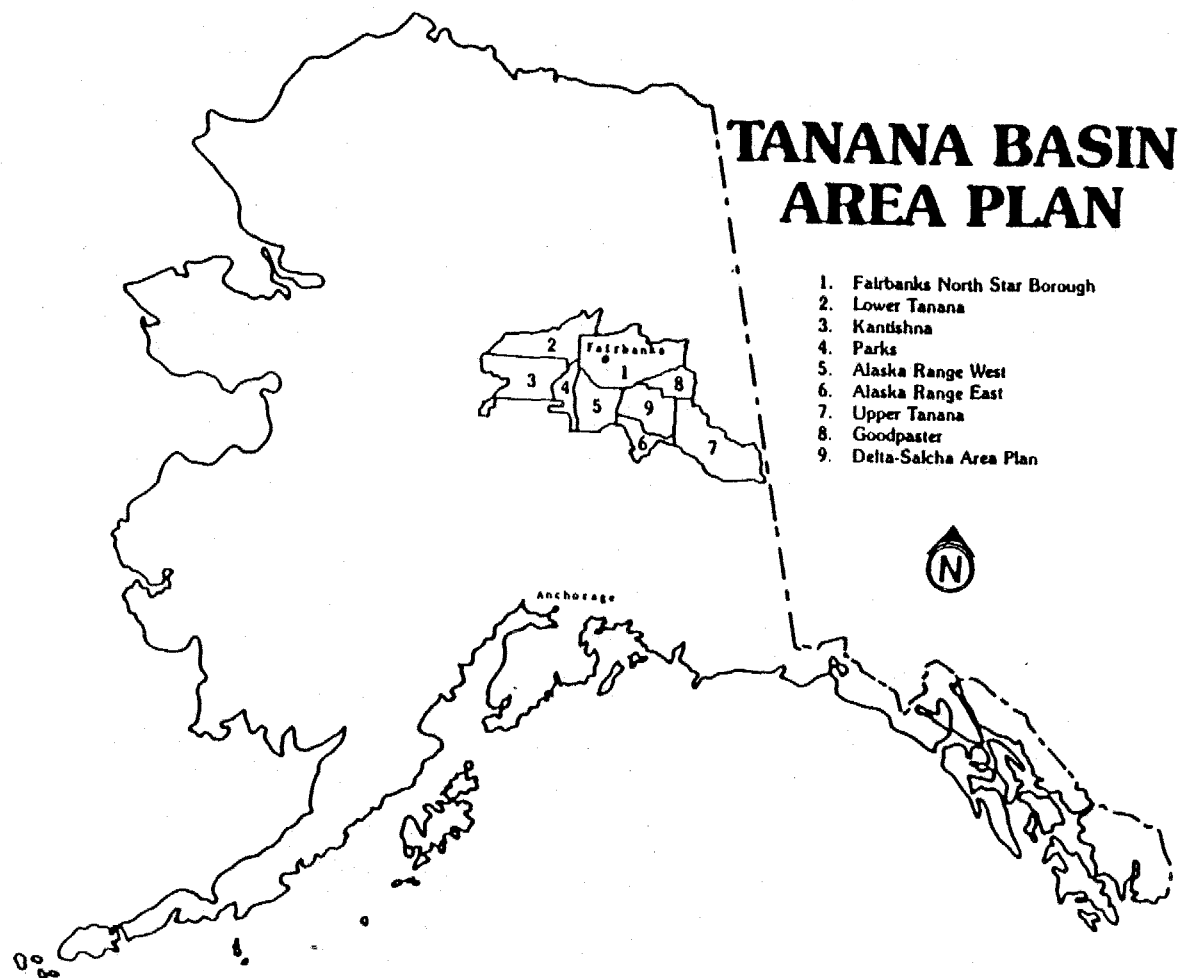
In order to organize the planning process for such a large, diverse region, the study area was subdivided into major subregions. The boundaries of these subregions--East Alaska Range, West Alaska Range, Parks Highway, Kantishna, Lower Tanana, Upper Tanana, Goodpaster, and Fairbanks North Star Borough --are shown on page 1-4.

The State of Alaska owns or has selected approximately 71% of the land in the study area (17 million acres). Another 15% (3.6 million acres) is in federal ownership. Of the remaining land, approximately 110,000 acres are owned by the Fairbanks North Star Borough, 14% (3.5 million acres) are owned or selected by Native village and regional corporations, and 247,000 acres are in other private ownerships.

The 1982 population of the study area was approximately 60,000. Most of these people live in the Fairbanks North Star Borough or one of the smaller communities in the Basin.

## **B. Why Plan for the Use of Public Land?**

Through the management of state lands, the state greatly influences the physical development patterns and the general quality of life in the Tanana Basin. Major development projects such as mining, timber harvests, or agriculture influence local job opportunities. Land sold for residential or private recreational use clearly affects the character of community life, as does land retained for hunting, fishing, and other public uses. Because the use of state land has such great effects on the physical landscape and quality of life, it is essential that there be an open public process of deciding how to manage that land.



Location of the Tanana Basin



# **TANANA BASIN AREA PLAN**

Subregion Boundaries

The Tanana Basin planning process is a means of openly reviewing resource information and public concerns prior to making long-range decisions about public land management. It is also a way of resolving conflicting land use objectives and making clear to the public what choices have been made and the reasons for those choices.

Land managers also face many day-to-day decisions about land use, such as whether to issue permits for roads, timber harvests, or sand and gravel extraction. These people need clear and consistent guidelines for their decisions. Therefore, it is essential for land managers to have a written document which establishes long-range commitments for the use of public land and provides clear policies for public land management.

A land use plan is also valuable for private landowners. If the state is publicly committed to land use patterns and policies, private investors can feel more secure in making decisions about their own land. For example, if someone is contemplating developing a subdivision next to state or borough land, it is important to know whether the public land is likely to become a gravel pit or a recreation area.

### **C. What Decisions are made by the Tanana Basin Area Plan?**

The Tanana Area Plan determines the major land uses on state lands within the study area. These uses are described in a management intent statement for each management unit. As a guide to the statutory requirement for land classification and also to provide a brief shorthand for intended land uses, specific land use designations also are listed in the management intent statements. In addition, the plan sets the management guidelines by which potentially conflicting uses are made compatible within a given area.

#### **1. Land Use Designations**

For each management unit and smaller subunits the plan designates the primary and secondary uses that are permitted within the unit. A primary use is one that is of major importance; the unit will be managed to encourage its use, conservation, and/or development. A secondary use is permitted when its occurrence will not adversely affect achieving the objectives for the primary uses.

The plan also identifies prohibited uses within each management unit. These are uses that will not be permitted in the management unit without specific reconsideration of the land use designations for the unit by the commissioner. In an area identified as critical habitat, for example, year-round roads may be prohibited. Uses that are not specifically prohibited may be permitted on a case-by-case basis if the Alaska Department of Natural Resources determines the proposed uses are consistent with the statement of management intent for the unit in question.

## 2. Resource Management Areas

In some remote areas, lands are designated for resource management rather than a more specific designation such as settlement or forestry. The resource management designation means that the land will be retained in public ownership until the plan is revised (approximately every five years), or until new roads, new information, or development proposals make it necessary to review the resource management designation and assign a permanent classification such as agriculture or wildlife habitat. Until such time as the designation is reviewed the land will be managed for existing public uses. Changes in resource management designations must be reviewed by an interagency planning team and the public.

There are two types of resource management areas. First, some lands have resources that could support a number of different and conflicting land uses. For example, areas with valuable agricultural soils often support good habitat or stands of timber suitable for long term forest management. Existing information on the costs and benefits of alternative types of management is often inadequate to determine the best long range use of these lands. Where the distance from road access makes it unlikely that the lands will be developed in the near term, it is preferable to defer final land use decisions until better information is available. These areas are given a "high value resource management" designation and the values associated with the particular area are described.

The second category of resource management areas consists of remote lands where there are no highly valuable resources identified. These are primarily high mountain areas, glaciers, and occasionally large bogs. They are given a "low value resource management" designation.

## 3. Management Guidelines

Most public lands are intended to be managed for multiple use. For this reason, the plan establishes management guidelines that will allow various uses to occur without serious conflicts. Management guidelines can direct the timing, amount, or specific location of different activities in order to make the permitted uses compatible. For example, timber harvests in river corridors that are important for fishing will be designed to protect the habitat values.

### **D. How was the Plan Developed?**

#### 1. The Statewide Plan

The Department of Natural Resources operates under a statewide land use plan that is updated annually. The purpose of the statewide plan is to give guidance to planning on a regional and local scale and to serve as an aid to decisions that require more than a local perspective. The statewide plan identifies general land use designations and management guidelines for all state land in Alaska. In regions such as the Tanana Basin, where more detailed resource information has been collected and an area plan prepared, the land use designations and management guidelines

developed in the area plan will be used to refine the statewide plan. In the Tanana Basin, therefore, the land use designations in the statewide plan and area plan will be identical once the Tanana Basin Area Plan has been officially adopted.

## 2. The Tanana Basin Planning Process

The Tanana Basin Draft Plan is the product of two years of work by an interagency planning team and more than forty public meetings held throughout the study area. The following paragraphs describe the process in more detail.

In 1982, an interagency planning team was formed to develop a plan for state lands in the Tanana Basin. Team members included representatives from the various divisions within the Department of Natural Resources, and from the Department of Fish and Game, the Department of Transportation and Public Facilities, the Fairbanks North Star Borough and the Department of Environmental Conservation.

The staff held public workshops in March, 1982 to identify land use issues and planning needs in the study area. Following the meetings, data were analyzed for agriculture, forestry, minerals, fish and wildlife, settlement, recreation and water. The team prepared maps and reports describing resource values and identifying existing and potential land uses throughout the study area. Goals relating to the statewide goals but specific to the Tanana Basin were established for each resource. The information collected was used to prepare Element Papers for each resource which served as background information for the remainder of the planning process. (See the Resource Element Papers, available at the Department of Natural Resources, Division of Land and Water Management in Fairbanks).

This information and the issues identified in the public workshops were used to develop four alternative land use scenarios. The land use alternatives represented different ways to resolve land use issues in the Tanana Basin. Each emphasized a different general theme in resolving land use issues. The purpose of the alternatives was to assist decision makers and the public in evaluating the impacts of resource choices. The alternative themes were as follows:

- Alternative 1 -- Emphasis on land sales for settlement
- Alternative 2 -- Emphasis on land sales for agriculture
- Alternative 3 -- Emphasis on fish and wildlife and recreation
- Alternative 4 -- Emphasis on minerals and forestry



The alternatives were reviewed by approximately 170 people at 18 public workshops in communities throughout the study area in May and June, 1983. The Resource Allocation staff then prepared an analysis of the alternatives which evaluated the impacts of the plan alternatives on each of the six natural resources and on the biological, social, fiscal and cultural resources of the Basin. (See the Evaluation of the Alternatives, Tanana Basin Area Plan, Department of Natural Resources, 1983). The RAS developed draft plan used the evaluation of the alternatives and the public comments to develop a preferred alternative which is the draft plan presented in this document.

This draft plan is not the same as any one of the four alternatives, but represents a combination of parts of all of the alternatives plus the incorporation of public comment. Following review of this draft, the plan will be revised based on the public's comments and submitted to the Commissioner of the Department of Natural Resources for adoption, probably in October, 1984.

### 3. Public Participation

The public participation program is an essential part of the planning process. In the spring of 1982 and again in the spring of 1983, public workshops were held throughout the study area and in every community in the Basin. Three hundred four persons attended the 1982 meetings to identify land use concerns for the Tanana Basin. Approximately 170 people attended the 1983 workshops dealing with alternative land use plans, and written comments were received from an additional 50 people. Results of these workshops are summarized in a separate document available from the Department of Natural Resources. Throughout the planning process, members of the planning team and staff met with representatives of many special interest groups to inform them of the plan's progress and provide them an opportunity to review resource data and plan proposals.

Information gathered at these meetings and in written comments was instrumental in identifying important issues, gathering data on local resource values, developing and evaluating land use alternatives, and ultimately in shaping the draft plan.

### **E. Implementation of the Tanana Basin Area Plan**

After the plan is signed by the Commissioner of the Alaska Department of Natural Resources it will be state policy for the management of state lands in the Tanana Basin. All decisions (land disposals, classifications, timber sales, mineral leasing and all other actions on state lands) shall comply with the provisions of this plan.

The land use designations made in this plan will be officially established in state records through the state's land classification system. The system is a formal record of the primary uses for which each parcel of state land will be managed. These classifications will be shown on status plats which are available for public use at various offices of the Department of Natural Resources. These plats will indicate the primary uses designated by this plan and will refer the reader to the plan for more detailed information, including secondary land uses and land management guidelines.

Another important step in DNR's implementation of this plan will be more detailed planning for specific management units in the study area. These detailed plans are referred to as "management plans" as distinguished from this document which is an "area plan." An area plan sets forth permitted land uses, related policies and management guidelines but at less detail than a management plan. For example, an area plan does not design individual land disposals, pinpoint the location of new roads or utility lines, or establish the schedule for timber sales. These design and scheduling decisions on state lands are addressed by management plans which implement the provisions of an area plan on a site specific basis. Chapter IV includes a list of the management plans necessary for implementation of the Tanana Basin Area Plan.

### **F. Modification of the Plan**

A plan can never be so comprehensive and visionary as to provide solutions to all land use problems, nor can it be inflexible. Therefore, the land use designations, the policies, and the management guidelines of this plan may be changed if conditions warrant. The plan will be periodically updated as new data become available and as changing social and economic conditions place different demands on public lands. An inter-agency planning team will coordinate periodic review of this plan when the Alaska Department of Natural Resources considers it necessary. The plan review will include meetings with all interested groups and the general public.

In addition to periodic review, modification of the plan or exceptions to its provisions may be proposed at any time by members of the public or government agencies. Appendix I presents procedures for amendments to and minor modifications of the plan which will be followed by the Department of Natural Resources with regard to state-owned land within the Tanana Basin. Appendix II also presents procedures for making special exceptions to the provisions of the plan when modifications are not necessary or appropriate.

## II. SUMMARY OF LAND USE DESIGNATIONS

The Tanana Basin Area Plan determines the major land uses on state lands within the study area. These uses are described in a management intent statement for each management unit. In addition, the plan sets the management guidelines by which potentially conflicting uses are made compatible within a given area.

For each management unit the plan designates the primary and secondary uses that will be emphasized. A primary use is one that is of major importance; the unit will be managed to encourage its use, conservation, and/or development. A secondary use is permitted when its occurrence will not adversely affect achieving the objectives for the primary uses.

The following section summarizes the land use designations made for each of six resources: agriculture, fish & wildlife, forestry, subsurface, recreation and settlement (land sales).

### A. Agriculture

Most potential agricultural lands in the Tanana Basin lie in the Lower Tanana, Parks Highway and Kantishna subregions. These areas are likely to be primarily class II, III and IV soils as defined by the Soil Conservation Service. These soils have the fewest natural limitations, such as wetness, steepness etc., for farming. Although not always suitable for farming because of extreme isolation, these soils are the state's best potential farm land. The estimates of cultivable soils in most of the Basin are still tentative because they are based on exploratory, not detailed, soil surveys.

Soils in the study area that are further than six miles from access are not recommended in this plan for near term sale. This is because of the expense of providing roads to these remote areas and the administration's policy of emphasizing the development of farm land already in private hands or state lands close to the road system. The plan instead stresses protecting the option of using these potential agricultural lands for possible future agricultural use. A resource management designation is used in these areas to protect this option. A total of 628,000 acres have been placed in this category (high value resource management). Although other uses on these lands, such as forestry, recreation and habitat enhancement are permitted, nothing may be done that precludes future agricultural use until the plan is amended and the land reclassified. A resource management designation does not, however, commit the land to agricultural use: the land may be evaluated for several possible uses based on additional information, improved access or changing social

and economic conditions. It should be noted that some resource management lands are open to mineral entry. If mining activities or claims on these lands increase significantly, the potential for agricultural development may be reduced.

In accessible portions of the Basin that are within six miles of a road, this plan designates approximately 84,800 acres of state land for small-scale agricultural disposals. (This includes areas delineated within the Nenana-Totchaket and Delta-Salcha Area Plans for small-scale agricultural sales).

Improved pasture grazing is a permitted use on these lands and it will be considered on a case-by-case basis in most of the remaining land in the Basin (see also Chapter 2 - Grazing Policies). Unimproved pasture grazing is a permitted use in most road-accessed areas, as well as in much of the lowland remote areas of the Basin. Unimproved pasture grazing is not permitted in many of the highland areas of the Basin due to conflicts with grizzly bears and other fish and wildlife values.

#### SMALL-SCALE AGRICULTURE AND AGRICULTURAL HOMESTEAD LAND DISPOSAL SCHEDULE

PROJECT	SUBREGION MANAGEMENT UNIT	ACRES
Eielson Ag	FNSB-r	2,000
Goldstream Ag	LWTN-k	17,350
Kobe Ag	PARK-f	6,330
Two Mile Lake Ag	LWTN-k	2,500
Windy Ag	PARK-f	5,800
Aggie Creek East Ag	FNSB-q	1,500
Tatalina Ag	LWTN-n	2,500
Julius Creek Ag	PARK-j	1000
Lost Ag	LWTN-l	1,000
Chump Ag	PARK-f	1,000
Globe Creek Ag	LWTN-n	500
Wilbur Ag	LWTN-m	1,000
Snoshoe Pass Ag	LWTN-n	2,500
Tok Ag	UTAN-d	1000
Wilbur Jr. Ag	LWTN-m	750
Nenana-Totchaket Area Plan		29,480
Delta-Salcha Area Plan		8,626
TOTAL		84,836

## B. Fish and Wildlife

Most areas with high habitat values are protected through the designation of habitat as a primary use and/or through the application of guidelines that mitigate the effects of development activities. As a result, under the land use pattern recommended in this plan, significant areas of habitat will continue to support populations of fish and wildlife species.

To reduce the negative effects of land sales on fish and wildlife, sales of public land are concentrated in presently accessible areas where considerable private land already exists, or in areas that are not of extremely high value to fish and wildlife.

Areas of principal concern for the protection of fish and wildlife habitat which have been designated fish and wildlife in this plan include the wetlands south of Lake Minchumina, Fish Lake, the Tanana Flats, the Stampede Trail area and the Chena and Salcha River corridors. Three areas are recommended for legislative designation: the Toklat spawning habitat as critical habitat; Minto Flats and the area around Mt. Neuberger near Tok for Special Wildlife Management Areas.

Habitat designations are recommended for 99% of the critical habitat areas and 84% of the other habitat areas identified by the Alaska Department of Fish and Game as important for wildlife production. Other retained lands in multiple use management will also support wildlife values.

## C. Forestry

In the Tanana Basin the majority of the best forested land was reserved in the Tanana Valley State Forest. The State Forest should adequately meet the need for commercial and personal use timber products over the next 20 years.

Most of the remaining high quality forested land in the Basin that was not included in the State Forest system has been retained in public ownership. Of all lands in the Basin with forest potential 73% are in the State Forest and an additional 25% are designated for forestry as a primary use. Thus, about 98% of the land with forest values has been identified for forestry. In addition, almost all retained lands are managed for multiple use including harvest of forest products.

#### **D. Recreation**

Recreational activities occur in most areas of the Basin. Areas of particular recreational interest, however, are trails and river and certain large relatively untouched areas used for hunting, fishing and trapping. Recreation values are protected largely through public retention and multiple use management.

All identified trails of local, regional or statewide significance in the Tanana Basin will be protected through the use of publicly owned buffers. Two trails of particular importance, the Chena Hot Springs Winter Trail and the Circle-Fairbanks Trail, are recommended for legislative designation as State Trails.

Rivers with recreational value are generally protected through the use of publicly owned buffers. Easements are used to protect public access when land is sold near a water body. A minimum building setback of 100 feet is also required for all disposals that occur near a river. In this plan, two of the rivers in the Basin are considered to possess characteristics outstanding enough to warrant the protection of legislative designation. The rivers proposed for this status are the Chatanika and the Nenana. Several smaller sites and access sites to recreational opportunities provided by trails and rivers are also recommended for single use recreation management by the Division of Parks.

Recreation is designated as either a primary or secondary use in most areas of the Basin that receive significant recreational use. Under the land use pattern recommended in this plan, most significant recreation opportunities currently enjoyed by Interior residents will continue to be available. Two and one-half million acres of the 12.5 million acres of state owned land in the Basin will be retained and managed for multiple use emphasizing recreation. Other retained lands which are managed for multiple use will also be available for recreational use.

#### **E. Settlement**

This plan will result in almost 230,000 net acres of land being available for private ownership over the next 20 years. These areas are shown on Map 1. Approximately 33,000 of this total will be for subdivisions; 110,000 acres for fee homesteading and 85,000 acres for small-scale agriculture or agriculture homesteading.

Table 1 on the following page presents the estimated net acreage designated for settlement in each of the 8 subregions in the Basin.



**Table 1**  
**Subregional Disposal Recommendations By Category of Disposal (net acres)**

Region	Subdivisions		Fee Homesteads		Agriculture		Total		TOTAL
	New	Reoffer	New	Reoffer	New	Reoffer	New	Reoffer	
Fairbanks NSB	8587	1534	13120	9140	20850	0	42,557	10,674	53,231
Lower Tanana	2500	1076	16350	7000	10750	0	29,600	8,076	37,676
Kantishna	1100	744	22400	8800	0	0	23,500	9,544	33,044
Parks Highway	2829	3831	16640	5400	14130	0	33,599	9,231	42,830
Upper Tanana	3175	1662	2600	250	1000	0	6,775	1,912	8,687
Goodpaster	0	0	3400	0	0	0	3,400	000	3,400
East Alaska Range	150	0	0	0	0	0	150	000	150
West Alaska Range	650	0	0	0	0	0	650	000	650
Delta Salcha Plan	2572	1648	2417	1000	8626	0	13,615	2,648	16,263
Nenana Totchaket Plan	500	367	1500	0	29480	0	31,480	367	31,847
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>22,063</b>	<b>10,862</b>	<b>78,427</b>	<b>31,590</b>	<b>84,836</b>	<b>000</b>	<b>185,326</b>	<b>42,452</b>	<b>227,778</b>

## **F. Subsurface Resources**

The overall impact of this plan on mineral exploration and development is strongly positive. Ninety-eight percent of the known mineralized areas in the Basin are open to mineral entry. It was a major objective of this plan not only to keep these areas open to mineral entry but also to emphasize mineral development in their day-to-day management.

Due to this approach, there is much less risk of mineral closures in highly mineralized areas in the future. Also, mining companies will have more certainty in what types of restrictions, if any, they will face in different regions.

With few exceptions, the area closed to mineral entry in this plan does not occur in areas with high potential (see Map 2). A total of 891,000 acres is recommended for closure; 559,000 due to land sales, 60,000 due to very high recreation values and 272,000 due to very important wildlife values. About 2,000 acres are closed due to proposed land sales in mineralized areas; the remaining closures are not located in known mineralized areas.

Another 100,000 acres are open only to leasehold location to protect Dall sheep mineral licks. Leasehold location in these areas will protect the habitat values while still allowing for exploration and development.

Coal prospecting and leasing is allowed throughout the Basin except in areas proposed for sale (a total of 559,000 acres).

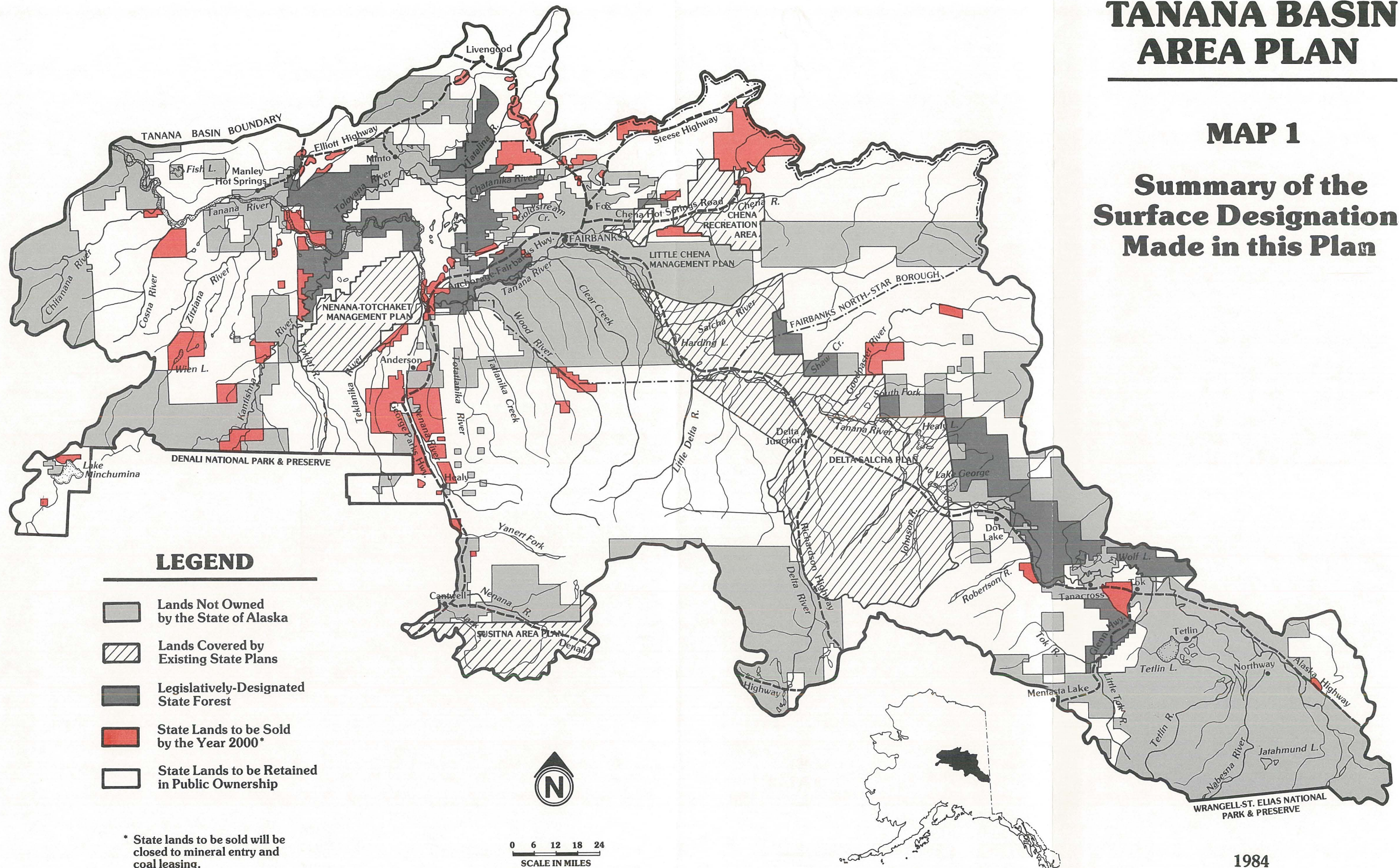
Oil and gas leasing is allowed throughout the Basin. However, directional or seasonal drilling restrictions are recommended in a few critical habitats and recreational river corridors.



# TANANA BASIN AREA PLAN

## MAP 1

### Summary of the Surface Designations Made in this Plan

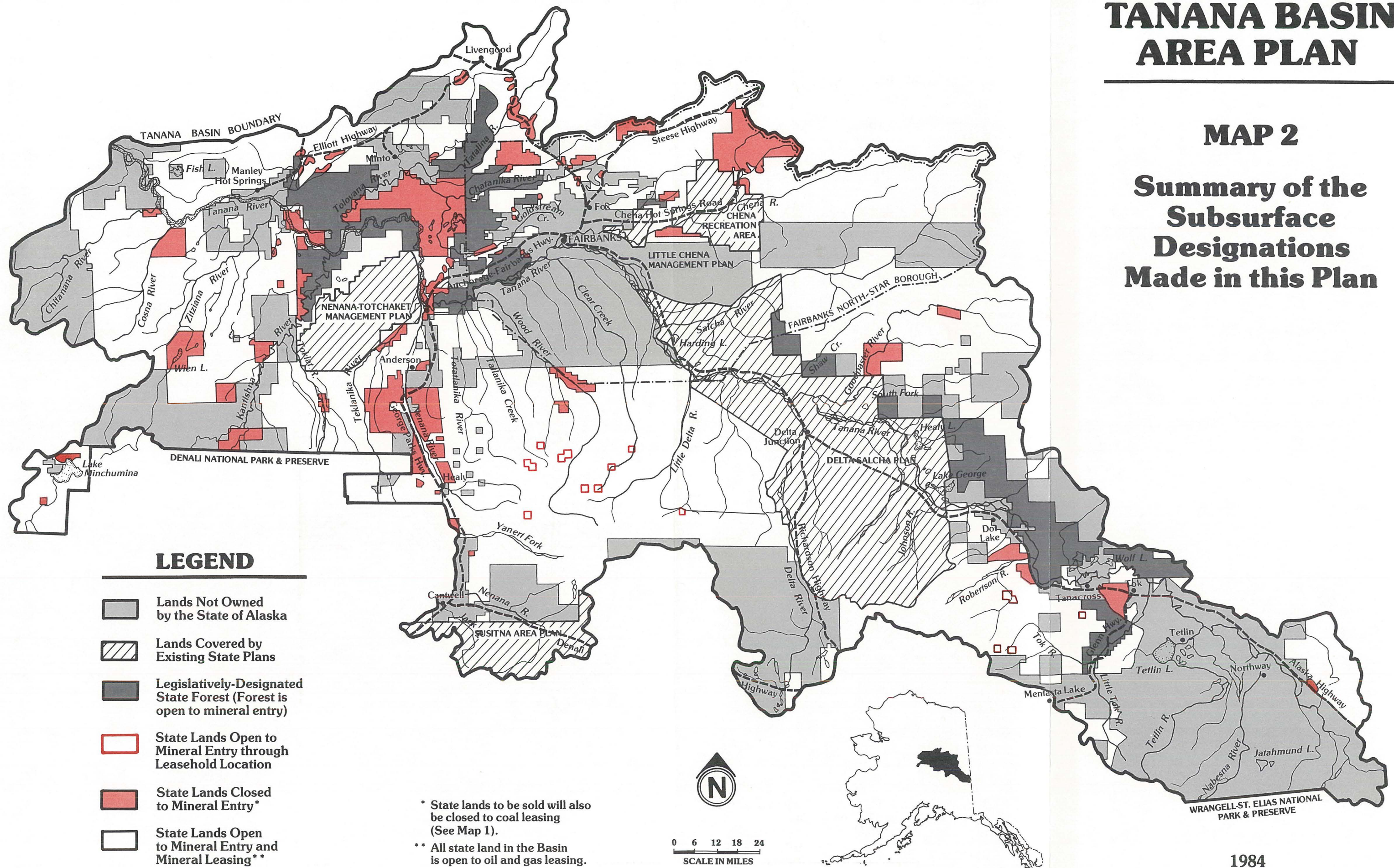




# TANANA BASIN AREA PLAN

## MAP 2

### Summary of the Subsurface Designations Made in this Plan





## **Chapter 2**

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### **Areawide Land Management Policies**

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## AREAWIDE LAND MANAGEMENT POLICIES

### INTRODUCTION

This chapter contains draft land management policies for each of the major resource or land use categories affected by the plan: agriculture, fish and wildlife habitat, forestry, recreation, settlement, subsurface resources, and transportation. These policies will apply to state land throughout the region.

In addition, Chapter 2 also presents region-wide management guidelines for several specific land management concerns: instream flow, lakeshore management, public access, remote cabin permits, stream corridors, trail management, wetland management, and "Resource Management" areas.

These policies are intended to ensure that natural resource management in the Tanana Basin is consistent with management in similar situations elsewhere around the state. Relevant policies also will be presented in the Susitna area plan public review draft to be issued in July. These plans provide a testing ground for the policies by allowing people to see how they are applied to local areas. Following review and subsequent revision, those policies that have statewide application will be included in the next edition of the Statewide Natural Resources Plan to be published later this year.

Most of the policies in this chapter have been preliminarily agreed to by the Alaska Department of Natural Resources (ADNR) and other agencies including the Alaska Departments of Fish and Game, Transportation and Public Facilities, and Environmental Conservation, and the Fairbanks North Star Borough. A few exceptions are noted in the text. Further consideration of all the policies by agencies will occur in response to comments received by the public over the next months.

The draft policies on Settlement (state land disposal) are a major exception to this consensus, since no change has been made to them since they were first circulated by ADNR in December 1983, in a publication entitled, "Proposed Policies to Guide State Land Offerings and Disposals." At that time the department stated it would include and test these settlement policies in the Tanana and Susitna area plans.

Following revision of the Settlement policies based on all comments, ADNR intends to issue an up-dated version of the December 1983, publication prior to finalizing the area plans. This additional step is to give the public an opportunity to review a consensus position of ADNR and other agencies on Settlement policies, as can now be done for other policies in this current draft plan.

The policies in this chapter consist of goals and management guidelines, which tie together the general conditions the plan is trying to achieve (goals) and specific directives that can be applied on the ground by land managers as development occurs (guidelines).



The terms Goal and Management Guideline are defined below.

Goal: A general statement of intent, usually not quantifiable nor having a specified date of completion. Goals identify desired long-range conditions.

Management Guidelines: Specific management standards or procedures to be followed in carrying out goals. Guidelines are intended to be sufficiently detailed to guide on-the-ground decisions, such as how far development must be set back from a stream. Guidelines are applied frequently in day-to-day management decisions.

## AREAWIDE LAND MANAGEMENT POLICIES

### AGRICULTURE

#### I. STATEWIDE GOALS

- A. Economic Development. Diversify and strengthen the state's economy by increasing the availability of competitively priced Alaskan food products through:
1. encouraging expanded production and availability of competitively priced farm products from existing agricultural lands;
  2. increasing acres available for agricultural production for both in-state and export production;
  3. preserving the future option to use potential agricultural lands for agricultural uses.
- B. Agrarian Lifestyle. Provide the opportunity for Alaskans to pursue an agrarian lifestyle.
- C. Conservation of Agricultural Resources and Protection of the Environment. Design all agricultural projects in a manner that maintains or enhances the productive capability of the soil and protects or enhances the quality of the natural environment.

#### II. MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES

- A. Disposal of Agricultural Development Rights. Agricultural development rights only will be conveyed to private ownership for state lands that are designated for agricultural use.
- B. Farm Development Schedules and Conservation Plans. When agricultural development rights are conveyed to private ownership, terms of conveyance will include the requirement for a farm development schedule and farm conservation plan. Conservation plans will be developed and approved by ADNR in consultation with ADF&G prior to farm development. The plans will incorporate soil, water and wildlife conservation practices as developed by the SCS and other affected agencies. ADF&G's technical assistance to farmers and soil conservation subdistricts in the preparation of farm conservation plans will be the primary means of incorporating fish and wildlife concerns into these plans.
- C. Agricultural Disposal Program. Large blocks of designated agricultural lands (2,000 acres or more of generally contiguous parcels) should be used primarily to support commercial farming under the state's standard agricultural land disposal program (rather than under the homestead program, which limits farm size to 160 acres, and imposes a relatively lenient development schedule). Scattered, smaller parcels of designated agricultural lands should be considered for disposal under the agricultural homestead program.

D. Protecting Options for Agricultural Development. Remote state land with good agricultural potential, but not scheduled for sale or homesteading, should generally remain in public ownership and be classified resource management to protect the option for agricultural use. Exceptions to this policy may occur when exceptionally high forestry, habitat, or recreation values merit a long-term retention classification. Potential agricultural lands classified resource management will be available for uses that do not preclude agricultural development or impact other primary resource values. Such uses include habitat protection and enhancement, recreation and forestry management.

E. Retention of Publicly-owned Land Adjacent to Wetlands, Waterbodies and Streams. Publicly owned buffers should be retained for all lands slated for disposal for agricultural purposes adjacent to wetlands, streams or other waterbodies that have important hydrologic, habitat or recreational values. The specific width of a buffer shall be determined after consultation with affected agencies and in accordance with the management guidelines contained in the lakeshore, stream corridor, and wetlands sections of this chapter. A minimum buffer width of 100 feet shall apply to agricultural land disposals. This width should be increased as necessary where, because of steep slopes or other conditions, the potential for sedimentation or pollution is high. Buffer widths should also be increased where appropriate to provide or maintain public recreation opportunities or important habitat.

F. Timber Salvage on Agricultural Lands. See forestry management guidelines, this chapter.

G. Depredation

Efforts will be made to minimize depredation of crops by wildlife. Means of achieving this may include avoiding agricultural disposals in areas where depredation is likely to be a major problem and integrating game movement corridors into the design of agricultural projects. When depredation occurs on agricultural land, nonlethal means of wildlife control should be used and alternative crops and practices considered.

H. Floodplains

DNR will generally avoid agricultural disposals in the 10-year floodplain. Where the 10-year floodplain has not been identified, the best available information will be used to identify areas where flooding is likely to be a severe limitation on agriculture. Agricultural disposals in such areas will be avoided.

## I. Grazing

### 1. Improved Pasture Grazing--Tanana Basin

- a. Improved pasture grazing will not be allowed in high value sheep and grizzly habitats nor in habitat categories A-1, A-2, and B-1 as identified in the Fish and Wildlife Element, Tanana Basin Area Plan, ADNR and ADF&G, 1983.\*
- b. Improved pasture grazing will be allowed on those lands classified for agriculture.
- c. Improved pasture grazing may be allowed in areas classified resource management if DNR determines that agriculture is the primary value present, after considering conflicts with other resources.
- d. In the remaining area of the Tanana Basin, improved pasture grazing may be allowed provided that: (1) land included under sections b and c above is not reasonably available, and (2) at a minimum the following criteria are demonstrated:
  - ° The area meets the requirements of (a) above.
  - ° Improved pasture grazing is shown to be consistent with the primary use of the area.
  - ° The activities will not cause access problems such as blocking trails or restricting access to public lands.
  - ° A statement is obtained from the Soil Conservation Service indicating that the soils are suitable without draining for improved pasture grazing.

\*The Department of Fish and Game has categorized and prioritized habitat types for public retention and management. The three categories with highest priority for habitat management are as follows:

- A-1: Critical habitat; recommended by ADF&G for single use habitat management.
- A-2: Special value areas; recommended by ADF&G for single use management with limited compatible activities allowed.
- B-1: Wildlife habitat; recommended for multiple use, conservative management, with other activities allowed under strict management guidelines.

These categories are further defined and mapped in the Fish and Wildlife Element, Tanana Basin Area Plan, ADNR and ADF&G, 1983.

- ° Fencing of the area will generally be required. Riparian habitat adjacent to waterbodies with habitat, watershed, or public recreation values of regional or statewide significance must be protected through fencing, unless other feasible and prudent methods are found.
- ° All improvements must be removed upon termination of the lease at the discretion of the director of DLWM in consultation with ADF&G.
- ° ADEC recommendations regarding possible non-point source pollution problems are addressed.
- ° Livestock feedlots are prohibited.
- ° All activities are subject to a Range Management Plan (depending on scale) and/or a Grazing Operation Plan.

## 2. Unimproved Grazing Lands

In the Tanana Basin grazing generally will be discouraged in roadless areas with little natural grazing potential and where there are no feasible farm headquarters sites. This policy is intended to direct the department's leasing and permit program and range management plans to areas where grazing is economically feasible and to minimize the impacts of grazing on soil stability, water quality and habitat. Grazing will be prohibited in high value dall sheep and grizzly habitats. In other areas grazing will be permitted on a case-by-case basis if consistent with the statement of intent for the management unit in question.

## 3. Multiple Use Management of Grazing Lands

- a. Grazing lands will be managed as multiple use lands to support a variety of public benefits in addition to livestock production, including the following:
  - fish and wildlife maintenance
  - water quality maintenance
  - public recreation
  - timber
  - soil conservation
- b. Grazing lands will be managed to insure sustainable forage for domestic stock and wildlife.

c. Public access across and public use of grazing lands may not be limited by persons holding grazing leases or permits unless approved as part of a grazing operations plan.

4. Grazing Permits and Leases. A grazing lease or permit issued by DNR is required for any person who releases livestock on state grazing lands. Grazing leases will be granted for a period not to exceed 25 years. Permits must be renewed annually. Permits, rather than leases, should be issued in areas especially susceptible to soil erosion, water quality degradation and other environmentally sensitive areas. These areas will be identified through DNR's range management plans (see 5 below).

The requirements stated in these guidelines will be implemented through appropriate lease and permit stipulations.

Provisions of existing grazing leases and permits are not affected by these guidelines. In areas where grazing leases and permits have been issued previously, new permits may be issued and existing leases may be renewed prior to the completion of range management plans. However, such permits or leases will be subject to these management guidelines.

5. Range Management Plans. Where grazing is anticipated to be a significant, widespread land use with potential for creating environmental harm, DNR will develop range management plans (RMP) before issuing grazing leases or permits. RMPs will be developed by DL&WM in consultation with the Divisions of Agriculture and Forestry, ADF&G, SCS and SCS Districts. The provisions of RMPs will provide the basis of approval of grazing operations plans (5 below) and of stipulations to be included in grazing leases and permits. RMPs will not be required where grazing is a minor use with few animals and little land area involved. DNR will determine where range management plans are appropriate based on consultation with other affected agencies, including ADF&G. RMPs shall address, at minimum, the following items:

- a. The state shall use standard United States Department of Agriculture range assessment procedures or other scientifically acceptable methods to identify the abundance, distribution, annual productivity, nutrition, and seasonal availability of range vegetation available for grazing. Forage availability, expressed as animal unit months (AUM's) shall be used with proposed grazing schedule to establish maximum allowable stocking densities, with consideration for meeting wildlife forage requirements, that will provide sustained range production and condition.

- b. Water Quality Protection. Range management plans will state how anadromous fish and streams, other waterways and lakes are to be protected from adverse impacts of grazing. Fencing may be required to protect portions of streams. Specific watering sites, feeding stations, headquarter sites, or other methods, may be required to minimize the adverse impacts of grazing.
- c. Annual Grazing Schedule. Range management plans will establish spring and fall dates for release and removal of stock on grazing lands. This may be necessary to protect the range and to minimize competition between stock and wildlife.
- d. Map of Proposed Grazing Areas. Range management plans will include a map which shows the location, acreages, and configurations of proposed lease and permit areas.
- e. Physical Improvements. Range management plans will show proposed feed lot sites, stock watering sites, supplemental feeding stations, farm headquarter sites, fences and other improvements necessary to minimize conflicts between grazing and other resource values. Range management plans shall include, where appropriate, guidelines for the design, location, and/or use of roads, trails, bridges and other improvements or actions that may be necessary or incidental to grazing operations.
- f. Environmental Monitoring. Range management plans will establish procedures to monitor the impacts of grazing on wildlife vegetation and soil stability and establish conditions under which a lessee's or permittee's grazing operations plan may be modified to prevent environmental degradation.
- g. Disease Transmission and Livestock-Predator Conflicts. Range management plans will establish measures necessary to minimize transmission of disease between domestic stock and wildlife and to minimize livestock-predator conflicts.
- h. Modification of Vegetation. Artificial modification of natural vegetation (e.g., clearing, burning, crushing, seeding, etc.) will be permitted only in the locations and under the guidelines specified by applicable range management plans.

6. Grazing Operations Plan. Before receiving a grazing permit or lease, a person must have an approved grazing operations plan. DNR will assist a lessee or permittee in plan preparation with the consultation of ADF&G and SCS. A grazing operations plan will be included as a condition of a lease or permit. Minimum requirements of a grazing operations plan are as follows:
- a. Cooperative agreement between the lessee and the Alaska Soil Conservation District or appropriate subdistrict.
  - b. A physical resource map identifying: (1) location, acreage, and configuration of the proposed lease or permit area(s); (2) proposed feedlot sites, stock watering sites, and supplemental feeding stations; (3) farm headquarter site, outbuildings, fences, and other proposed improvements.
  - c. A statement of the lessee's proposed management activities, including (1) range management practices considered essential or desirable; (2) livestock species to be stocked; (3) annual grazing schedule and (4) forage balance sheet.
  - d. Proposed stocking densities: a maximum stocking density will be based on DNR's range management plan for the area concerned (if such a plan exists). A minimum stocking density with a schedule for achieving it will also be established as a part of each grazing operations plan to insure efficient use of state grazing land.
6. Standards of Approval--Grazing Operation Plans. A grazing operations plan will be approved only when it is in compliance with an applicable range management plan. Where there is no range management plan in effect, approval will be based on consideration of the potential effects of grazing on water quality, riparian lands, soil stability, disease transmission, livestock-predator conflicts, and competition between wildlife and stock for forage. DNR, in consultation with affected agencies, may require that appropriate measures be specified in a grazing operations plan to minimize adverse impacts.
7. Modification of Grazing Operations Plan. Modifications of grazing operations plans may be required if grazing activities are determined to impair water quality or soil stability or if sustainable forage for stock and wildlife cannot be maintained under an existing grazing operations plan. Determination that modification of a grazing operations plan is necessary will be made by ADNR in consultation with the lease or permit holder, ADEC, and ADF&G.



## AREAWIDE LAND MANAGEMENT POLICIES

### FISH AND WILDLIFE HABITAT

#### I. STATEWIDE GOALS

- A. Maintain Publicly Owned Habitat Base. The state will maintain in public ownership sufficient suitable lands and waters to provide for the habitat needs of fish and wildlife resources necessary to maintain or enhance public use and economic benefits.
- B. Ensure Access to Public Lands and Waters. Ensure access to public lands and waters for the purpose of promoting or enhancing the responsible public use and enjoyment of fish and wildlife resources.
- C. Mitigate Habitat Loss. When resource development projects occur, avoid or minimize reduction in the quality and quantity of fish and wildlife habitat.
- D. Contribute to Economic Diversity. Contribute to Alaska's economy by protecting the fish and wildlife resources which contribute directly and indirectly to local, regional and state economies through commercial, subsistence, sport and non-consumptive uses.

#### II. MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES

- A. Habitat Protection and Enhancement. While recognizing that all lands serve to a degree as fish or wildlife habitat, important habitat lands will be managed to the extent feasible and prudent for the purpose of maintaining and enhancing fish and wildlife production and related public uses. Procedures for this include the following:
  - 1. Through interagency consultation with the Alaska Department of Fish and Game and other affected agencies, identify important fish and wildlife habitat and public use areas. Emphasis will be placed on species and areas with significant subsistence, commercial, recreational or aesthetic values, areas needed for important life functions of species which are limited in supply, and species which are especially vulnerable to impacts associated with human use.
  - 2. Retain in public ownership and classify as wildlife habitat those lands which are important for fish and wildlife production, public use, or their contribution to the livelihood of local residents.
  - 3. Apply mitigative guidelines to ensure the protection and maintenance of fish and wildlife or related public uses, as described in the mitigation guidelines, this section.

4. Habitat manipulation through controlled burning, water control, timber management practices or other measures may be used to improve habitat for certain fish and wildlife species where feasible and compatible with other designated primary uses.
- B. Special Fish and Wildlife Management Areas. Plans will recommend for legislative or administrative designation lands or waters with special values for fish, wildlife or related public uses that require permanent retention and improved protection.
  - C. Threatened and Endangered Species. Identify as endangered species habitat those lands and waters necessary for protection, restoration, and propagation of fish and wildlife species that are now or may be threatened with extinction. All land use activities should be conducted so as to avoid jeopardizing the continued existence of threatened or endangered species of fish or wildlife or their continued use of an area, and to avoid modification or destruction of their habitat. Specific mitigation recommendations should be obtained through interagency coordination for any land use activity potentially affecting threatened or endangered species. At a minimum, activities potentially affecting peregrine falcons, trumpeter swans, and bald and golden eagles will be consistent, respectively, with the federal and state endangered species acts, the Migratory Bird Treaty Act of 1981, and the Bald Eagle Protection Act of 1940 as amended.
  - D. Access. Retain public access sites and corridors in public ownership, or retain sufficient rights to lands which the state leases or sells, in order to protect or improve public access to areas where there is significant existing or potential public use of fish and wildlife resources.
  - E. Mitigation. All land use activities should be conducted with appropriate planning and implementation to avoid or minimize foreseeable or potential adverse effects on fish and wildlife populations or their habitats. Mitigation should include the following:
    1. Attempt to avoid the loss of natural fish and wildlife habitat.
    2. Where habitat loss can not be avoided, minimize loss and the need for habitat restoration or maintenance efforts. Procedures for this include the following:
      - a. Include fish and wildlife habitat and use considerations in the early phases of development project planning and design to minimize the spatial and temporal extent of impacts.

- b. Develop siting and design criteria which will minimize wildlife-caused damage to life and property where conflicts between people and animals may arise.
  - c. Provide information on best management practices to local, state and federal resource and development agencies as well as to private individuals.
- 3. When loss of habitat production potential cannot be minimized, restore and rehabilitate the habitat that was lost or disturbed to its pre-disturbance condition where doing so is feasible and prudent.
  - 4. When loss of existing habitat production potential is substantial and irreversible and the above objectives cannot be achieved, compensation with or enhancement of other habitats will be considered. In general, compensation with similar habitats in the same locality is preferable to compensation with other types of habitat or habitats elsewhere.
- F. Other Guidelines Affecting Fish and Wildlife Habitat. A number of other guidelines affect the protection and management of fish and wildlife habitat. For details of these guidelines, see the following sections of this chapter:

- Agriculture
- Forestry
- Recreation
- Settlement
- Subsurface Resources and Materials
- Transportation
- Instream Flow
- Lakeshore Management
- Public Access
- Remote Cabin Permits
- Stream Corridors
- Trail Management
- Wetlands Management
- Resource Management

## AREAWIDE LAND MANAGEMENT POLICIES

### FORESTRY

#### I. STATEWIDE GOALS

##### A. Economic Development

Contribute to Alaska's economy with an integrated forest products industry that provides a range of job opportunities, competitively-priced products and increased per capita income, while ensuring that personal-use needs of all Alaskans are met within the limitations of the land.

##### B. Land Base for Forestry

Maintain in public ownership a forested land base that is adequate to meet the economic development goal above, and is dedicated to the production of a full range of forest products and associated resources such as recreation, wildlife, soil, water and range.

##### C. Management of Alaska's Forest Resources

Manage the public and private forested land of Alaska to guarantee its long term productivity and the continuous availability of forest products at reasonable cost, while maintaining and enhancing other valuable resources and opportunities for the public to use and enjoy them.

Protect valuable public and private forest lands from wildlife, insects and other destructive agents, and protect human improvements and all human life from wildfire.

#### II. MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES

##### A. Multiple Use Management

Unless particular forms of natural resource use are specifically prohibited, all lands designated for forest use are intended to be managed for the fullest possible range of beneficial uses. The relative importance of each use will be specified in the management intent statements and controlled by the management guidelines for each management unit.

##### B. Timber Salvage

Timber with commercial or personal use value should be salvaged from lands that are to be cleared for other uses, such as farms and transportation or utility corridors. This will be accomplished by adherence to the following guidelines.

1. The Division of Forestry will review proposals for significant land clearing actions to evaluate whether the timber is worth salvaging and to advise the Director of the Division of Land and Water Management on what method of salvage to use.

2. Major projects that involve clearing large amounts of forested land -- such as agricultural projects -- will be planned and scheduled far enough in advance to allow a reasonable period to arrange for and carry out commercial salvage of the timber prior to clearing the land. This advance planning includes sufficient time to secure budget allocations for timber inventories to determine the most appropriate method of harvest, and time to carry out the inventories.
3. If timber is not salvaged prior to sale of land to farmers, the value of the timber will be included in the evaluation of the land and the price paid by the farmers, so that the state will be compensated for the loss of this public resource.
4. Where necessary as part of the most appropriate method of timber salvage, future farm home sites, wood lots, wooded wind breaks and other areas to be left uncleared will be delineated. This may be done whether timber on the project area is to be harvested in large blocks prior to sale of the farms, or whether farms are to be sold with the timber and then individual farmers are to be responsible for land clearing and possible timber harvest. The Division of Forestry will work with the Division of Agriculture, Division of Land and Water Management, Department of Fish and Game and the U.S.D.A. Soil Conservation Service to identify these areas to be left uncut. Identification will include flagging or otherwise marking in the field so the timber harvest operator can distinguish the areas to avoid.
5. If the timber is not salvaged prior to sale of the land, the Division of Forestry will provide technical assistance to farmers in finding and negotiating with a logging contractor, or in carrying out the harvest themselves and marketing the timber.

#### C. Forest Practices Act

Guidelines for forest management in this plan assume compliance with the Forest Resources and Practices regulations. That act will help guide forest management and help ensure protection of non-timber forest resources. The guidelines in this plan apply to forest management in addition to the direction given by the Forest Practices regulations.

#### D. Personal Use Wood Harvest

An objective of forest management is to provide opportunities for people to harvest firewood and houselogs from public land for their personal use. Therefore, when forested lands are available near communities and where personal-use harvest is consistent with other purposes for which the land is being managed, some of this land should be managed to help provide personal-use wood products. (For guidelines on providing personal-use harvest areas near land disposal projects, see Settlement guidelines, this chapter.)

#### E. Management Plans

Management plans will be prepared for all lands where significant forest harvest operations are to be conducted. These plans will guide detailed road construction, timber sale and other resource management decisions on those lands operations and other forest to avoid or minimize conflicts between timber harvest operations and other forest land values and uses such as fish and wildlife habitat, recreation and water. The management plans will be prepared and their implementation assisted and monitored by inter-agency teams.

#### F. Fire Management

Fire management practices, including prescribed burning, will be designed to implement the land management policies laid out in the area plan. These practices will be described in a fire management plan that is in conformance with the area plan and is developed as part of the Alaska Interagency Fire Management Council planning process.

#### G. Other Guidelines Affecting Forest Management

A number of other guidelines may affect forest management practices. For details of these guidelines, see the following sections of this chapter:

- Fish and Wildlife Habitat
- Grazing
- Lakeshore Managment
- Public Access
- Settlement
- Stream Corridors
- Subsurface Resources and Materials
- Trail Management
- Transportation
- Wetlands Management

## AREAWIDE LAND MANAGEMENT POLICIES

### RECREATION

#### I. STATEWIDE GOALS

##### A. Recreation Opportunities

Alaskans and out-of-state visitors desire and expect accessible outdoor recreation opportunities. Well designed, maintained and conveniently located recreation facilities should be provided to aid the physical and mental health of a highly competitive society. These expectations shall be realized by:

1. Developing a state park system of recreation areas, trails, historic parks, rivers and sites which provide a wide range of year-round outdoor recreation opportunities for all ages, abilities and use preferences in close proximity to population centers and major travel routes;
2. Providing recreation opportunities on land and water areas which serve multiple purposes such as habitat protection, timber management, and mineral resource extraction;
3. Assisting communities through cooperative planning, conveyance of state lands and grants-in-aid for parks and trails within population centers; and,
4. Encouraging commercial development of recreation facilities and services through land sales, leases, loans and technical assistance where public recreation needs can most effectively be provided by private enterprise.

##### B. Resource Protection

Alaska's natural and cultural resources are the principal in Alaska's recreation account. It is okay to expend the interest on this account, but the principal must be protected. Soil erosion, dying trees, destruction of historical objects, loss of fish and wildlife habitat, and loss of scenic areas must be prevented if recreation values are to be maintained over time and not thoughtlessly spent from the accounts which also belong to future generations. Long-term public appreciation of Alaska's natural and human history and perpetuation of Alaska's distinctive identity will be accomplished by:

1. Protecting and portraying natural features of regional or statewide significance and cultural features representative of major themes of Alaska history in historic sites, parks and preserves of the State Park System; and,

2. Assisting other land managing agencies to perpetuate natural and historic features on other state lands, in community park systems and on private property by providing technical assistance and grants-in-aid.

### C. Economic Development

Alaska is a beautiful and unique scenic and recreation wonder which has terrific economic potential in the tourism, recreation and hospitality industry which has grown dramatically since statehood to be state's third largest. Areas managed primarily for outdoor recreation and appreciation of scenic and historic resources fulfill expectations of out-of state visitors. Indeed, one fifth of the visitors to Alaska's state parks come from out-of-state. Further contributions to increased recreation industry employment will be achieved by:

1. Rehabilitating and maintaining recreation facilities which enable greater appreciation of Alaska's scenic and historic resources;
2. Increasing the number of attractions through additions to the Alaska State Park System; and,
3. Developing cooperative interagency visitor information centers.

## II. MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES

### A. The Roles of Different Public Land Owners in Providing Public Recreation Opportunities

1. Generally the state's proper role is to retain and manage land supporting recreational opportunities of regional or statewide significance. The state and federal governments are particularly capable of providing recreation opportunities, such as hunting, dispersed wilderness hiking, or boating, that require large land areas. In general the borough's proper role is providing and managing community recreation opportunities.
2. In recognition of the borough's role in meeting community recreation needs, the state should consider eventual transfer under AS 38.05.315 of certain state recreation sites near existing communities to borough ownership. The selection of these sites shall be agreed to by the borough and the state and shall be contingent on the borough's commitment to develop and maintain the recreation values of the sites as required by AS 38.05.315.



**B. Public Use Cabins.**

A system of public use cabins should be established in the Tanana Basin. Public use cabins should be established where analysis indicates a need; and where either the state, federal, or local government, or local non-profit organizations are able to construct and maintain the facilities.

**C. Private Recreation Facilities on Public Land.** Lodges, tent camps, or other private facilities designed to be run as private, profit-making recreation facilities will be permitted or leased where a management plan, land planning report or AS 38.05.035 finding shows the following:

1. There will not be significant public recreation opportunities lost or blocked by the facility.
2. The amount of use generated by the facility will not exceed the best available calculation of the recreation carrying capacity of the area. This calculation will be based on the management intent and management guidelines of this or subsequent plans for the area.
3. The facility will be sited and operated to create the least conflict with traditional uses of the area.
4. The facility will be sited and designed in accordance with the stream corridor, access, wetland, and other guidelines of this plan.

Final approval of a permit or lease for the facility will be given only after consultation with ADF&G and the Division of Parks and Outdoor Recreation.

**D. Promotion of Under-Utilized Areas.** Promote use of under-utilized recreation areas to take pressure off overcrowded recreation areas.

**E. Maximum Use of Sites.** Achieve maximum use of recreation sites while maintaining high quality recreation experiences, environmental quality, and safety.

**F. A number of other guidelines may affect recreation management practices. For details of these guidelines, see the following sections of this chapter:**

Trails  
Public Access  
Stream Corridors  
Lakeshores  
Wetlands

## AREAWIDE LAND MANAGEMENT POLICIES

### SETTLEMENT

#### I. STATEWIDE GOALS

##### A. Private Land Use

Make available to present and future Alaskans suitable public land needed for the following private settlement purposes:

##### 1. Year-round residences or community expansion

For this category of use, DNR will offer land that has road access and is suitable to meet the needs of growing communities. This category serves people whose principal place of residence -- and usually work -- is in the area of the disposal.

Where the state does have land suitable for this purpose disposal will be a high priority, unless there are overriding public values. To address this important category of settlement the state will concentrate its efforts on assisting municipalities with their disposal programs under the provisions of AS 38.04.021.

##### 2. Recreational use or seasonal residences

For this use, DNR will offer high quality sites with characteristics such as proximity to water, views, good hunting, or interesting topography. The state will be selective in land offered for this use.

Although the state will offer a variety of lands for sale commensurate with demand, expenditures of time and money will be directed toward identifying high amenity disposals.

The state also will provide the opportunity for private construction of cabins on state-owned land under a remote cabin permit program. Although not a disposal of title, a remote cabin permit can have many of the same effects as a disposal and enables a person to legally occupy state land. Therefore, area plans and the Statewide Plan will designate areas appropriate for the remote cabin permit program. Remote cabin permits are suitable where, in the short term, settlement is an acceptable land use but where, in the long term, DNR may want to retain land for public management and development and exclude settlement.

##### 3. Year-round, relatively self-sufficient remote residences

For this use, DNR will attempt to provide opportunities for a small number of people who wish to pursue a remote, more or less self-sufficient lifestyle. The land sale program to

achieve this purpose should require residency on the land. Generally, the state will not offer tracts intended to be large enough for families to subsist on those tracts, but rather will offer smaller parcels adjacent to sufficient public land for the gathering of firewood and houselogs, and for hunting and fishing.

This category, although important, will not be a high priority in the disposal program because it requires low-density settlement and thereby satisfies few people, and it is less in demand than the preceding two categories. Committing sufficient land to allow individuals to create a self-sufficient lifestyle in effect allocates a massive land area to a few people.

4. Settlement associated with natural resource development projects

The state will set a high priority on making land available for the development of new towns or the expansion of areas adjacent to such projects. In some cases this will require a decision by the state as to whether leasing lands for a campsite or temporary settlement is preferable to selling land for a townsite.

5. Industrial or commercial development

In order to stimulate or facilitate economic development, DNR will attempt to sell, lease or protect for future use suitable land for private commercial and industrial use. Requirements for these uses are highly site-specific, and disposal decisions will be made on a case-by-case basis as demands arise.

6. Homesteading

DNR will identify suitable lands to provide homesteading opportunities for people who wish to gain a piece of land through "sweat equity." (The homestead program also allows the outright purchase of land, as was possible under the remote parcel program which it replaces.) The state will provide a variety of land types for homesteading, including land with adequate access and farming potential.

B. Resource and Economic Impacts

Attempt to contribute positively to other uses of natural resources, and minimize undesired impacts from land disposals.

C. Pricing

Receive fair market value for public land sold for private use. However, in the case of homesteads and homesites, allow land to be earned by personal investment of time and effort.

D. Fiscal Impacts

Minimize future fiscal costs to local or state government for services and infrastructure resulting from settlement of state lands.

E. Community and Social Impacts

Minimize undesired changes in the character of life among nearby communities or residents as a result of land disposal projects.

F. Coordination with Local Governments

Coordinate state land offering programs with similar programs of local governments to best achieve common objectives.

II. MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES

A. Land Use Needs.

Regional demand assessments for settlement lands will include estimates of land necessary for projected conversion to residential, commercial, industrial, public facility and recreational uses, based on projected population levels. The disposal program will give a high priority to ensuring the availability of an adequate supply of land to meet these needs, including an amount necessary for market choice.

The state also will make available a modest supply of land for investment beyond what is necessary for actual use. However, providing land for specific needs will be a higher priority.

B. Long-Term Program.

The disposal program will be designed to make land available for at least twenty years to ensure that Alaskans in the future have the opportunity to purchase public land.

C. Price and Terms.

The state will make land available to be earned by personal investment of time and effort in homesteads and homesites. This will continue to result in acquisition of those lands at less than fair market value. Aside from this, fair market value should be received for public land sold to private parties. This does not preclude offering generous payment terms. An exception to the policy of receiving fair market value may be made in areas where the price of land is judged exceptionally high based on the price of comparable land throughout the state.

D. Competition with the Private Market.

The state will not seek to minimize competition with private land markets by changing or reducing its land offerings. In fact, a legitimate objective of the disposal program is an

anti-inflationary effect on land prices, which may mean selling enough land in certain areas to reduce the artificial rate of appreciation of private land values. The state, however, will not undercut the market with artificially low prices.

E. Protection and Management of Natural Resources.

In its settlement program, the state will protect the economic potential of public lands with high value for oil and gas development, minerals, coal, commercial forestry, tourism, agriculture and the production of fish and wildlife resources. Exceptions to this guideline may be made where land is needed for community expansion or other important purpose and no other suitable land is available.

When the state sells land in locations and amounts that have high potential for commercial agricultural use, only agricultural rights to that land should be sold. This policy is not intended to mean that all land with high agricultural potential will be designated for agricultural use. Some of these lands may be retained for forestry management or other public uses. However, if lands with high commercial agricultural potential are to be sold they generally should be sold for agricultural use rather than alternative uses such as settlement. An exception to this policy may be made where land is needed for community expansion or other important purpose and no other suitable land is available.

Lands with high commercial forestry potential generally should not be sold for residential use. Also, land offerings generally will be avoided in areas of high mineral potential and where numerous valid active mining claims exist.

F. Protection of Life and Property.

The state will, by retention of public lands, discourage development in areas of flooding, unstable ground, significant avalanche risk, poor percolation for septic tanks and other hazards.

Public lands within the surveyed 100-year floodplain should remain in public ownership except where a regulatory floodway and flood fringe have been identified through detailed hydrologic studies. When such studies have been done, public lands within the flood fringe may be offered for sale. Land offerings within the flood fringe should be for low density development -- for example, private recreation cabins or agriculture -- rather than dense residential subdivisions.

In drainages where the 100-year floodplain has not been surveyed, the best available information will be used to determine the flood hazard zone which should remain in public ownership. In areas where no alternative land is available for development, the Director of the Division of Land and Water Management may make exceptions to these floodplain guidelines.

Lands generally will be retained where slopes are predominantly north-facing and steeper than 25 percent. This will hold in public ownership many lands where permafrost is prevalent, where shadows prevail for four months of the year, and where the vegetation is predominantly black spruce. These sites are among the least appealing residential environments.

G. Protection and Management of Valuable Environmental Processes

The state will attempt to provide a publicly-owned open space system to preserve important fish and wildlife habitats and natural areas such as estuaries, shorelands, freshwater wetlands, watersheds, and surface and ground water recharge areas.

Wetlands with important hydrologic, habitat or recreational values and adjacent buffer strips will be retained for open space.

Systems of publicly owned land will be designed to provide the necessary linkage and continuity to protect or increase values for human uses and wildlife movements.

H. Protection and Enhancement of Scenic Features

The state generally will retain in public ownership unique natural features such as cliffs, bluffs, waterfalls and foreground open space for panoramic vistas. Public access to such amenities also will be preserved.

Land disposal offerings along scenic roads popular for sight-seeing will be selected and designed to minimize their impacts on scenic vistas. Unusual landforms or scenic features will be retained in state ownership for enjoyment and use by the public. Such lands include islands in lakes, rivers or ocean bays unless land disposals can be designed to prevent negative effects on the scenic and recreational values of the area.

I. Protection and Enhancement of Recreational, Educational and Cultural Opportunities

The state will retain areas for outdoor recreation, trails, campsites, boat launches, fairgrounds, historic sites, areas for scientific study, etc. Areas for both intensive and dispersed use will be preserved.

J. Providing Public Land for Communities

The state will reserve greenbelts, public-use corridors, personal-use wood lots, buffer areas, commons, building setbacks, and other open spaces to help create a desirable land use pattern in developing areas.

K. Reservation of Land for Future Urban Development

Public lands will be retained as a transitional tool to help shape community development by precluding premature private development on sites intended for schools, gravel pits, roads, parks, sewer treatment plants, etc.

L. Cost of Public Services

In accordance with AS 38.04.010, the Department will attempt to guide year-round settlement to areas where services exist or can be provided with reasonable efficiency. State land that is located beyond the range of existing schools and other necessary public services, or that is located where development of sources of employment is improbable, may be made available for seasonal recreation purposes or for low density settlement with sufficient separation between residences so that public services will not be necessary or expected.

DNR will set a high priority on seeking funding to implement the provisions of AS 38.04.021 to assist municipalities in their disposal programs with the aim of making land available in and around established communities.

M. Provision of Access

DNR will comply with the capital improvement provisions of local government subdivision ordinances. Where no subdivision ordinance is in effect DNR will ensure the existence of actual physical access (air, water, road or rail) to each new state subdivision.

N. Local Plans

DNR will comply with provisions of local comprehensive plans regarding the pace, location and density of land development, except to the extent that local requirements discriminate against state land or violate a major overriding state interest.

O. Carrying Capacity -- Firewood and Houselogs

Sales in remote areas intended for recreational or seasonal use or homesteads will take into consideration the sustained yield carrying capacity of the area for production of firewood and houselogs. This policy applies only where there is no road access and where firewood is expected to be a substantial source of fuel and/or houselogs are expected to be a substantial source of building material.

In remote areas DNR will attempt to cluster disposal offerings where sufficient public land exists for the gathering of firewood and houselogs and for hunting and fishing. By clustering these offerings, the state will maintain options for later decisions regarding neighboring public land when access develops.

P. Design Review Board

A local design review board will be established when, in the opinion of the Director of the Division of Land and Water Management, it would be a constructive way to involve persons affected by a disposal project. A design review board will consist of a maximum of eight citizens and local government officials appointed by an appropriate local government official. Where local government does not exist or is unwilling to appoint such a board, DNR will make the appointment, if sufficient interest exists.

The design review board will participate in and review all stages of design, including location, design of parcel size, transportation routes, open space, etc. The board will make recommendations to the Director of the Division of Land and Water Management at appropriate points in the design process.

Q. Cumulative Effects

Chances for inadvertent and undesired cumulative effects will be minimized by a planning process that examines the impacts of various region-wide comprehensive land use scenarios. DNR's state-wide and area planning program attempts to do this and will be used to establish regional land offering and disposal policies for state lands (see Guideline U below).

R. Subdivision Design

Subdivisions will be designed to preserve and enhance the quality of the natural setting and the recreational opportunities that make an area attractive to potential buyers.

The following slope/lot size standards should generally be applied in state subdivisions (on-site waste disposal assumed):

Percent Average Slope	Minimum Lot Size
0-12	1 acre
13-20	4 acres
21-30	10 acres
>30	No development

Other procedures and standards for subdivisions design will be as set forth in "Design of Residential and Recreational Subdivisions," in the Division of Land and Water Management's Policy and Procedures Manual.

S. Easements

Easements will be used as a means to acquire rights to privately owned lands needed for public use.



Easements generally will not be used as a means of retaining a public interest in lands within a subdivision. Exceptions to this policy may be made where the expense of surveying lands for retention is prohibitive or where the interest protected is very limited such as for local pedestrian access. This policy will minimize confusion between public use rights and private ownership rights.

#### T. Owner Staking

In areas where severe land use conflicts and inefficient use of resources are expected to result from owner staking, DNR will offer homestead parcels with prestaked or predesignated boundaries.

#### U. Statewide and Regional Disposal Plans

The Department will publish annually a statewide land offering and disposal plan. It is important that Alaskans be able to review the amounts and locations of land disposals which would result from the application of DNR's land disposal policies. The statewide disposal plan will incorporate regional land disposal plans and present recommendations for land offerings in each region of the state. The recommendations would be based on DNR's land disposal policies as well as on analyses of land suitability, supply and demand studies, consideration of competing land use values, transportation systems and other factors of regional concern.

The statewide plan will present regional land offering recommendations for two planning periods. Five-year recommendations will be specific regarding location, acreage and project type for each year. A twenty-year disposal pool also will be established consisting of the areas where DNR anticipates future disposals offerings. Because of the need to respond to changing demands, fluctuating funding levels and new information, the statewide plan will be reviewed annually and modified as necessary.

#### V. Coordination with Local Governments

State land offering programs should be coordinated with similar programs of local government to best achieve common objectives.

To this end, DNR proposes the annual development of a joint disposal plan with each borough (for both state and borough lands). This plan would be based on consideration of the borough's road extension priorities and its plans for levels of services in different areas -- in short, on local fiscal planning. If a borough has a comprehensive land use plan, that plan will provide direction for disposal priorities. The disposal plan should demonstrate what community objectives are being met, and how the requested capital improvement funding would support a borough-

wide set of priorities for roads and service extensions to benefit current residents as well as new ones. The disposal plan should demonstrate how increased access and development would serve other resources uses such as agriculture, mining, forestry and recreation, and thus have state as well as regional benefits.

Joint borough/state disposal plans as described here would constitute sections of the statewide disposal plan discussed above. Where there is an ongoing DNR area plan, that plan would provide the means of coordinating borough and state disposal planning.

## AREAWIDE LAND MANAGEMENT POLICIES

### SUBSURFACE RESOURCES\* AND MATERIALS

#### I. STATEWIDE GOALS

- A. Mineral and Energy Supplies. Develop metallic and non-metallic minerals; coal; oil and gas; and geothermal resources to contribute to the energy and mineral supplies and independence of the United States and Alaska.
- B. Economic Development. Contribute to Alaska's economy by developing subsurface resources which will provide stable job opportunities, stimulate growth of secondary and other primary industries, and establish a stable source of state revenues.
- C. Environmental Quality and Cultural Values. Protect the integrity of the environment and affected cultures to the extent feasible and prudent when developing subsurface resources.
- D. State Support for Mining. Aid in the development of infrastructure (ports, roads, railroads, etc.) and continue to provide geologic mapping and technical support to the mining industry.

#### II. MINERAL, MATERIAL AND COAL DEVELOPMENT GUIDELINES

- A. Mineral and Coal Exploration. Recognized exploration methods for mineral location (i.e., core drilling and geochemical sampling) will be allowed on all state lands unless specifically closed to prospecting and will be subject to the conditions of a land use permit.

Prospecting for coal may be permitted adjacent to anadromous fish streams (other than those protected in specific corridors); however, if a lease is given, the Department reserves the right to restrict surface entry where it determines the surface values are significant enough to warrant such a restriction. Decisions on surface entry for coal adjacent to streams will be made in consultation with the affected agencies.

- B. Past Mining Land Use. Land use permits and plans of operation for mineral development will specify measures needed to return the land to a useful state. Determination of the specific measures to be taken and whether or not a performance bond will be required will be done in consultation with the affected agencies. Specific measures may include: storage and reuse of topsoil; disposal of overburden; regrading of tailings and revegetation; reestablishment of natural contours; reestablishment of natural drainage system; and, long-term erosion control measures.

\*See also Appendix III for subsurface designation rules used in this draft.

- C. Access for Mineral and Coal Development. Existing roads should be used to provide access to mine sites wherever feasible.

Access across tundra, wetlands, and other environmentally sensitive areas will be managed in a manner that minimizes damage. (See also Transportation, this chapter.)

- D. Unauthorized Use of State Lands. The Department will place a high priority on taking the appropriate action against mining claimants who are using their claims for facilities which are not necessary for prospecting, extraction or basic processing activities, and which are obstructing significant settlement, public recreation or other surface use.
- E. Control of Visual Impacts. Guidelines will be developed as necessary through the Land Use Permit or leasing process to minimize the adverse visual impacts of mining in settled areas, recreation areas, and in areas viewed from roads. In such areas, guidelines will address, at a minimum, the following items: control of solid wastes; removal of vegetation; siting of mining structures, tailings and overburden; roads; and rehabilitation of mining sites.
- F. Approval of Plans of Operation. DNR may approve plans of operation required for locatable mineral leases if the plans adequately address the guidelines of an Area Plan and DNR has consulted with and given careful consideration to the recommendations of ADF&G and DEC. Violation of the plan of operations is cause for enforced cessation of operations, if after a reasonable period of time a negotiated solution cannot be reached with the operator, or in the event of repeated violations.

### III. GUIDELINES FOR LAND SALES IN AREAS WITH MINERAL, MATERIAL, OR COAL POTENTIAL

- A. Land Sales in Areas with High Mineral or Material Potential. Generally, land sales will not occur in areas of high mineral potential; areas with claims in good standing; or areas containing sand and gravel deposits, rock sources or other similar, high value material resources.
- B. Land Sales in Areas with High or Moderate Coal Potential. Generally, land sales will not occur in areas of existing coal leases, or areas of high coal potential as defined in 11AAC 85.010. Land sales should be avoided in areas of moderate coal potential as defined in 11AAC 85.010 except where land sales are determined to be the highest and best use of the land.

### IV. GUIDELINES FOR THE APPLICATION OF LOCATABLE MINERAL CLOSURES.

Locatable mineral closures are the most extreme management tool that can be employed by the Department to resolve subsurface and other resource conflicts. Therefore:

- A. Before an area can be closed to locatable mineral entry and location, the Commissioner must determine that the tangible and intangible surface values to be protected are significant and that other management options are not adequate to protect the surface resources should subsurface resources be developed (see AS 38.05.185(1));
- B. the area to be closed to mineral entry and location will be limited to the minimum necessary to protect the continued productivity and availability of the surface resources being protected;
- C. land scheduled for commercial, industrial, agricultural, or subdivision sale will be closed to mineral entry and location at the end of the first year of the LADS process. (i.e., approximately two years prior to the anticipated sale of the land.)
- D. Lands available for homesteading (including agriculture homesteading) will be closed to mineral entry and location at the end of the first year of the LADS process (i.e., approximately two years prior to the anticipated sale of the land). These areas will remain closed until the allowed number of homestead entries has occurred. At that time those portions of the project area with few or no homesteads will be reopened for mineral entry and location unless it is determined that the settlement pattern that has resulted creates significant irreconcilable land use conflicts.
- E. Lands proposed for exchange or trade will be closed to mineral entry and location at the time a preliminary agreement to exchange the land is reached.
- F. Lands reserved for transfer to another public agency for development of a public facility or reserved as a future townsite will be closed to mineral entry and location at the time the area is classified "reserved use".

V. GUIDELINES FOR THE APPLICATION OF THE LOCATABLE MINERAL LEASING PROGRAM

Requiring that locatable mineral developments occur under a lease is a more flexible management tool than mineral closure. Therefore:

- A. Mineral leasing is preferred over mineral closure as a management option to resolve conflicts between other significant resources and mining of locatable minerals;
- B. Mineral leasing should be used only where the Commissioner determines that the tangible and intangible resource values to be protected are significant and that other management options cannot adequately resolve the potential conflict between those

resources and mining (see AS 38.05.185(a)), or where the state does not own the land in full fee estate or has previously disposed of other interests in the land.

- C. The area where locatable minerals will be developed under lease will be limited to the minimum necessary to protect the continued productivity and availability of the resources being protected.
- D. Concurrent with the designation of an area as being open to locatable mineral entry under lease only due to potential conflicts between other resources and mining, DNR, after consultation with ADF&G and DEC, will identify the other resources needing protection and state the general nature of stipulations to be used in leases to protect those other resources.

VI. CATEGORIES OF RESOURCE VALUES THAT MAY BE IN CONFLICT WITH COAL OR MINERAL DEVELOPMENT AND REQUIRE CLOSURE, LOCATABLE MINERAL LEASING OR OTHER MANAGEMENT.

In some circumstances, the Commissioner may find that the following categories of resource values require either locatable mineral leasing or closure, or a prohibition of coal leasing and prospecting to protect their continued productivity and availability. In other circumstances, care during mineral development is all that may be necessary to protect these resources. It is impossible to predict the degree of conflict that could occur between mining and any other resource value in all circumstances. Therefore, the following categories of resource values will be evaluated to determine if locatable mineral closure, locatable mineral leasing, prohibition of coal leasing or prospecting, or another management option is needed to protect the continued productivity and availability of the resource in conflict.

The decision to apply mineral closures or locatable mineral leasing will be made by the commissioner within the parameters set by the Alaska Statutes. As 38.05.185(a) requires that the commissioner make a determination that mining is incompatible with a significant surface use before an area can be closed to mining. The same section of the statutes requires the commissioner to make a determination that there is a potential use conflict before requiring the development of locatable minerals under a lease.

In decision memorandum #44 signed by the Commissioner in January of 1984 the Department did set the statewide policy that in legislatively established Critical Habitat Areas and Wildlife Refuges mining will occur under lease. Also, individual legislatively designated areas may be recommended for mineral closure, but such a closure would be decided on a case-by-case basis using the criteria found in AS 38.05.185(a).

A. Retained lands with significant commercial, industrial, or public use values

- Lands with significant coal, oil and gas, timber or other commercial potential.
- Lands recognized as future transportation corridors where access for pipelines, road, railroads, or other surface transportation infrastructure could be blocked or impeded by mining claims. (After the alignment is established, areas will be reopened if they are surplus land.)
- Lands and waters that provide unique or unusual opportunities for the human use and enjoyment of fish or wildlife, including fishing, hunting, trapping, photography, and viewing.
- Lands and waters that provide significant recreation opportunities, such as clearwater rivers that are now or are expected to be important for recreation, key public access sites, and recreation facilities.
- Lands and waters that are the watershed of a community water supply.
- Sand and gravel pits, stone quarries or other significant known material sites that could be lost if mining were to occur may be evaluated as areas where development of locatable minerals will require a lease.

B. Retained Lands with Significant Fish or Wildlife Resources

- Lands and waters that support protected species of plants, fish or wildlife (e.g., bald and golden eagles), threatened species (e.g., tundra and trumpeter swans or peregrine falcons), or endangered species (e.g., short-tailed albatrosses and eskimo curlews).
- Lands and waters that support production or maintenance of fish or wildlife species which have significant economic, recreational, scientific, educational or cultural values which have been given special protection through state or federal legislation or international treaty.
- State game refuges, critical habitat areas and sanctuaries.
- Other lands and waters not included above that are known to support unique or unusually large assemblages of fish or wildlife.



C. Lands Determined Unsuitable for Coal Mining.

There are two sets of criteria which the commissioner must use in making a decision on a petition to have lands determined unsuitable for coal mining. First, there is a "mandatory" criterion. If the commissioner finds that reclamation as required under the surface mining program is not technologically feasible, the commissioner must designate the lands unsuitable for mining.

Second, the commissioner may designate an area unsuitable for all or certain types of mining activity if he or she finds that the activity meets one of the following "discretionary" criteria:

- ° Mining activity would be incompatible with an existing state or local land use program.
- ° Mining activity would affect fragile or historic land in a manner which could result in significant damage to important historic, cultural, scientific and aesthetic values or natural systems.
- ° Mining could affect aquifer recharge areas or other renewable resource lands which could result in a substantial loss or reduction of long-range productivity of water supply, food, or fiber products.
- ° Mining could affect areas subject to frequent flooding and areas of unstable geology or other natural hazard land so as to substantially endanger life and property.

(AS 41.45.260(c))

In addition to other constraints imposed by federal, state, or local agencies, the Alaska Surface Coal Mining Control and Reclamation Act prohibits mining unless the operator can demonstrate a valid existing right (VER):

- ° On any land within the boundaries of a unit of the National Park System, the National Wildlife Refuge System, the National System of Trails, the National Wilderness Preservation System, the Wild and Scenic Rivers System, and National Recreation Areas.
- ° If the operation will adversely affect a publicly owned park or a place included in the National Register of Historic Sites, unless approved by DNR and the agency which has jurisdiction over the park or site.

- ° Within 100 feet of the outside right-of-way of any public road, except where mine access roads or haulage roads join the right-of-way line. DNR may allow roads to be relocated or the mining area to be within 100 feet of the road if, after a hearing, the commissioner finds that the interests of the public and affected landowners will be protected.
- ° Within 300 feet of any occupied dwelling (unless waived by the owner), public building, school, church, community or institutional building, or public park.
- ° Within 100 feet of a cemetery.

#### VII. OIL AND GAS GUIDELINES

Oil and gas guidelines are not addressed here. Oil and gas guidelines specific to a particular management unit are found in Chapter 3. The Department's statewide policies for oil and gas are found in the Five Year Oil and Gas Leasing Schedule and the Statewide Natural Resources Plan. Specific stipulations for oil and gas exploration, development and production activities will be developed and applied on a case-by-case basis for each oil and gas lease sale using the Social, Economic and Environmental Analysis (SEEA) process.

## AREAWIDE LAND MANAGEMENT POLICIES

### TRANSPORTATION

#### I. STATEWIDE GOALS

- A. To develop a transportation system which supports the land use designations made by this plan and is integrated with other area-wide transportation needs.
- B. To develop a transportation system with the lowest possible long run costs, including construction, operations and maintenance.
- C. To develop a transportation system with minimal adverse impact on the aquatic environment, the terrestrial environment, and aesthetic and cultural features.
- D. To develop a transportation system that efficiently uses energy and encourages compact, efficient development patterns.
- E. To develop a transportation system with a high standard of public safety.

#### II. MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES

- A. Identification of Potential Transportation Routes. This plan provides general recommendations for transportation routes necessary to support the land use designations made. However, more detailed route alignment and feasibility analysis will be required before the routes can be considered final.

DNR will avoid actions incompatible with the construction of potential transportation routes identified in this plan until a final decision is made on the feasibility of these routes.

- B. Access Plans for Land Disposals or Resource Development Projects. Prior to a land disposal or the initiation of a resource development project DNR will identify appropriate means of access and responsibilities for design, construction and maintenance of any proposed transportation facilities. Access plans will be developed in consultation with DOT/PF and affected local governments.
- C. Protection of Hydrologic Systems. Transportation facilities should be located to avoid influencing the quality or quantity of adjacent surface water resources, or detracting from recreational use of the waterway.
  - 1. Stream crossings should be avoided when possible. When it is necessary to cross a stream in road construction, the crossing should be as close as possible to a 90° angle to the stream. Where feasible, stream crossings should be made at stable sections of the stream channel.

2. Construction in wetlands, flood plains and other poorly drained areas should be minimized as practicable, and existing drainage patterns maintained. Culverts should be installed where necessary to enable free movement of fluids, mineral salts, nutrients, etc.
  3. Bridges and culverts should be large enough to accommodate or positioned to avoid 1) changing direction and velocity of stream flow, and 2) interference with migrating or spawning activities of fish and wildlife. Bridges and culverts should span the entire nonvegetated stream channel and be large enough to accommodate the 25 year peak discharge (where known). Bridges and culverts should provide adequate clearance for boat, pedestrian, horse and large game passage whenever these uses occur or are anticipated at significant levels.
  4. Expedient recontouring of disturbed streambanks and revegetation or other protective measures should occur to prevent soil erosion into adjacent waters.
  5. During winter, snow ramps, snow bridges or other methods should be used to provide access across frozen rivers, lakes and streams to avoid the cutting, eroding or degrading of banks. These facilities should be removed immediately after final use.
  6. All transportation facility construction and maintenance should comply with water quality standards of the State of Alaska.
- D. Protection of Fish and Wildlife Resources. Important fish and wildlife habitats such as riparian areas, wildlife movement corridors, important wintering or calving areas, and threatened or endangered species habitat should be avoided in siting transportation routes unless no other feasible and prudent alternatives exist. Location of routes and timing of construction should be determined in consultation with ADF&G.
- E. Protection of Cultural Resources. Known historic and archaeological sites should be avoided during construction of transportation facilities unless no other practicable alternative exists.
- F. Road Pull-Outs. Where road corridors contact streams, habitat corridors or other areas of expected recreational use, sufficient acreage should be retained in public ownership to accommodate public access, safety requirements, and expected recreational use. The size and location of pullouts should be determined in consultation with the Division of Parks, Department of Transportation and Public Facilities and Department of Fish and Game.
- G. Timber Salvage From Rights-of-Way. All timber having high value for commercial or personal use should be salvaged on rights-of-way to be cleared for construction.

- H. Material Sites. To minimize the construction and maintenance costs of transportation facilities, material sites should be located as near to material use as practicable. It is recommended that the State Division of Geological and Geophysical Surveys and the Department of Transportation inventory and analyze potential gravel sources near proposed transportation corridors to locate the required material sites.

Material extraction within streams, stream buffers, and habitat/recreation corridors should occur only after design consultation with ADF&G, DOT/PF and the Division of Parks, the Division of Geological and Geophysical Surveys and ADEC.

Material sites should be screened from roads, residential areas, recreational areas and other areas of significant human use. Sufficient land should be allocated to the material site to allow for such screening. Where appropriate, rehabilitation of material sites will be required.

I. Off-Road Access.

1. Temporary Off-Road Access. Permits for temporary off-road access will require that surface disturbance of fragile soils or destruction of wetlands vegetation be minimized. Operations should be scheduled when adequate snow and ground frost is available to protect the ground surface, or should require the use of low ground pressure vehicles, avoidance of problem areas, or other techniques to protect areas likely to be damaged by off-road areas. Before issuing permits the land manager will consult with affected agencies.
2. Repeated Off-Road Access. Repeated off-road vehicle (ORV) use regulated by permit should not be allowed in important wildlife habitats during sensitive periods unless no practicable alternative exists. Before issuing permits the land manager will consult with the ADF&G. Restrictions need be applied only when and where the ADF&G determines there are significant wildlife populations present.

- J. Other Design Standards. For other guidelines affecting the design of transportation structures see DOT/PF's "Preconstruction Guidelines."

## MISCELLANEOUS GUIDELINES

### INSTREAM FLOW

#### I. STATEWIDE GOAL

Maintain water quantity and quality sufficient to protect the human, fish, and wildlife resources and uses of the region.

#### II. MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES

A. Support instream flow studies and reservations necessary to protect and promote resource values and uses identified in the area plan for streams and other waterbodies.

B. All streams and other waterbodies that are retained wholly or in part in public ownership for their public values should be considered for instream flow reservations. Additional streams and other waterbodies may be identified for consideration.

Under DNR's statutes reservation of instream flow is possible for four types of uses:

1. Protection of fish and wildlife habitat, migration and propagation; instream flow reservations to protect habitat may be made for streams that: (a) have significant anadromous or resident fish populations; (b) flow into wetlands that support significant waterfowl, furbearer or other wildlife populations; or, (c) provide the water supply needed for other habitat types that support significant wildlife populations;
2. Recreation and park purposes;
3. Navigation and transportation purposes; and,
4. Sanitary and water quality purposes.

B. High priority streams and other waterbodies for instream flow study and possible reservation are identified in Chapter 4, Implementation. These have been identified because of their high public values, particularly for habitat and recreation, and the high potential for conflicts with these values from resource developments.

C. The process of determining instream flow reservations should include the following steps for each stream or other waterbody.

1. Identify the management objectives.
2. Estimate the quantity of water seasonally available by direct measurement (hydrograph), predictive methods (regional hydrographic models) or other appropriate methods.
3. Determine the quantities of water already appropriated.

4. In consultation with appropriate agencies, use site-specific studies or other information to determine the instream flow requirements for the resources and uses to be protected. For habitat resources this will require cooperative work and consultation with the Alaska Department of Fish and Game to identify necessary conditions for rearing, staging, reproduction, spawning, overwintering and migration of valuable fish and wildlife resources.
5. Specify in advance: (a) study methods; (b) agency or other responsibilities for every aspect of the studies, including funding; (c) schedule for the studies; and, (d) responsibility for applying for instream flow reservation.



## MISCELLANEOUS GUIDELINES

### LAKESHORE MANAGEMENT

#### I. STATEWIDE GOALS

- A. To protect and enhance lakeshore public recreation opportunities.
- B. To provide opportunities for private ownership of lakeshore property.
- C. To maintain water quality.

#### II. MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES

- A. At least 50 percent of all public land within 500 feet of the lakeshore and all islands will be retained in public ownership on all lakes with significant recreation values; retained lands shall include 50 percent of the actual shoreline. These percentages may be increased or decreased on a case-by-case basis if topography, amount or use of other local conditions warrant. A significant portion of the lakefront land retained in public ownership should be suitable for recreational activities. Where feasible, the publicly retained land should include the land adjacent to lake inlets and outlets.
- B. Where lakefront property is conveyed to private ownership, a minimum public access easement of 50 feet will be reserved along the shoreline, and a minimum building setback of 100 feet required.
- C. DNR, through its management of land surrounding different lakes, will provide a full spectrum of public and private recreation opportunities. While there are a great variety of possible lakeshore management strategies, in any given region DNR will attempt to provide at least the following three general types of lake-related land use opportunities:
  - 1. Wilderness Lake - lakes that will be protected in their natural state. This will typically be accomplished through retention of land surrounding the lakeshore so that people using the lake generally do not encounter the sights and sounds of human development.
  - 2. Recreational Development Lakes - lakes managed to retain a primarily natural character. This typically will be accomplished through retention in public ownership of the majority or all of the land within at least 200 feet of the shoreline, while allowing residential development in some areas near the lake beyond this buffer.

3. General Development Lakes - lakes managed to allow a mixture of natural and developed uses. On these lakes the minimum lakeshore protection standards described above in A and B would apply.

Prior to land sales around a lake with significant existing or potential recreational or habitat values, DNR will determine through an interagency process the most appropriate long term management for the lands surrounding the lake.

## MISCELLANEOUS GUIDELINES

### PUBLIC ACCESS

(see also the Transportation and Trails Management sections of this chapter)

#### I. STATEWIDE GOAL

Maintain or enhance access to publicly owned land and resources by protecting rights-of-way or publicly-owned corridors such as trails, winter roads, river corridors, etc.

#### II. MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES

- A. Appropriate public access will be reserved when land is conveyed to private ownership. Section line easements should not be vacated unless alternative physically useable public access can be established. To the greatest extent feasible, public access rights through private use areas and along public waters should be retained.
- B. When an access route is constructed for resource development, existing public access should be maintained or improved to mineralized areas, recreation, fish, wildlife, and forest resources, agriculture areas and other public resources.
- C. Where new or additional access is warranted, such access should be provided on public land where possible. Where suitable public land is not available, attempts should be made to arrange for such access across private land. Possible means of doing this include granting of easements by land owners, purchase by the state of limited rights, fee-simple purchase of the land or land exchange.
- D. Access to public lands may be curtailed at certain times to protect public safety, to allow special uses and to prevent harm to the environment. Examples of conditions that may justify limiting public access are fire management, timber harvest operations, and high soil moisture content when traffic may cause extensive damage to roads and trails.
- E. Public appropriations may be requested to purchase access sites, easements or reservations to public use areas.
- F. Other Guidelines Affecting Public Access. A number of other guidelines affecting public access are stated elsewhere in these policies. For details, see the following sections of this chapter:

Settlement  
Subsurface Resources

Transportation  
Lakeshore Management  
Stream Corridors  
Trail Management

G. The following trails are important multiple use corridors in the Tanana Basin. This list is not all-inclusive; more trails will be added to this list as they are identified.

Toklat River to Lake Minchumina Trail  
Manley Rampart Trail  
Willer Creek Trails  
Delta Creek Trails  
Chitanana Trail  
Cosna Trail  
Cantwell Trails  
Tok Greenbelt  
Equinox Trail  
Chena Slough  
Ester Community Trails  
Cripple Creek-Rosie Creek  
Baldry Creek Trail  
Straight Creek Trail  
Allen Trail  
Glenn Trail  
Tanana Valley Railroad  
Spinach Creek Trail  
Iowa Creek Trail  
Anaconda Creek Trail  
Colorado Creek Trail  
DOT Trail 286 (Moose Creek)  
DOT Trail 262 (Nome Creek)  
DOT Trail 297 (Fairbanks Creek)  
DOT Trail 288  
DOT Trail 293 (Faith Creek)  
DOT Trail 294  
Salcha Caribou Trail  
Salcha Trails  
West Fork Valley Trail  
Dome Spur  
Moose Creek  
Moose Ridge  
O'Connor Creek  
Airfield Ridge  
Eldorado Creek  
Eldorado Ridge  
Silver Creek Trail  
Fox Ridge Trail  
Skyline Trail  
Jeff Studdert Dog Mushing Trail

Skarland Ski Trail  
Noyes Slough  
Chena Lakes Trail  
North Nenana Trail  
23 Mile Slough Trails  
Goldstream to Murphy Dome Greenbelts  
Governer's Cup North Trail  
Robertson River Trail  
Caribou Pass Trails  
Eureka Dog Mushing Trails  
Hutlitakwa Trail  
Tolovana Hot Springs Trail  
Old-New Minto Trail  
Minto Lakes Trail  
Stampede Road Trail  
Nenana Foothills Trails  
Rex to Nenana Trail  
8 Mile Lake Trails  
Dry Creek Ridge Trail  
Carlo Creek Trail  
Carlo-Yanert Trail  
Jack River Trail  
Wells Creek Trail  
Japan Hills Trail  
Dean Creek Trail  
Yanert Trail  
Moose Creek Trail  
Revine Creek Trail  
Black Rapids Trail  
Shaw Creek  
Shaw Creek Trail  
Volkmar River Trail  
Knob Ridge Trail  
Old Tetlin Trail  
Eagle Trail  
Sheep Creek Trail  
Mineral Lakes Trail  
Cheneathda Hill Trail  
Ball Point Trail  
Murphy Dome Ridge Trail  
Chatanika Ridge Trail  
Cache Creek-Left Fork Trail  
Lincoln Creek Trail

Bonanza Forest Trail  
Dunbar Trail  
Ester Dome to Murphy Dome Trail  
Ester Dome Nugget Trail  
Chena-Gilmore Trails  
Mt. Ryan Ridge Trail  
DOT Trail 303  
Cripple Creek Trail  
Far Mountain Trail  
Jenny M. Trail  
Middle Fork Chena Trail  
Sugarloaf Mountain Trail  
Haystack Mountain Trail  
Clearwater Creek Trail  
Toklat River Trail  
Nenana-Kantishna Trail  
Mile 400 to Toklat River Trail  
Rex-Toklat Trail  
Black Bear Lake Trail  
Manley Hot Springs Trail  
Sawtooth Mountains Trail  
Tanana-Woodchopper Trail  
Bean Ridge Trail  
Roughtop Mountain Trail  
Wolverine Creek Trail  
Dugan Hills Trail  
Hutlitakwa Creek Trail  
Minto-Livengood Trail  
Dunbar to Brooks Terminal Trail  
Fairbanks to Gibbon Road Trail  
Nenana-Old Minto Trail  
Washington Creek Trail  
Stampede Road Trail  
Rex to Bonnifield Trail  
Rex to Bonnifield Alternate  
Healy to Rex Trail  
Totatlanika River Trail  
Blair Lakes Trails  
Bonnifield Trail  
Liberty Bell and Daniels Trail  
Healy Creek Trail  
Dry Creek Trail  
Goodpaster Trail  
Black Mountain Trail  
Billy Creek Trail  
Healy River Trail  
George Trails  
Mansfield Trail  
Mansfield-Dot Lake Trail  
Tetlin Lakes Trail  
Tanacross Trails  
Tok River Trails  
Murphy Shovel Trail  
DOT Trail 73c

## MISCELLANEOUS GUIDELINES

### REMOTE CABIN PERMIT PROGRAM

#### I. STATEWIDE GOALS

- A. To provide opportunities for private use of cabins on certain remote, publicly-owned land.

#### II. MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES

##### A. Criteria for the Use of the Program

1. Remote cabin permits will be used only in areas where:
  - a. Disposal of land is not desirable or practical at this time because of public resource values, the area's remoteness, or the expense of surveying.
  - b. The permitted numbers and locations of cabins will not result in significant conflicts with other forms of resource use and management (e.g., wildlife habitat, forestry, agriculture, wildfire management, public recreation) anticipated for the area;
  - c. The area is not likely to be accessible by road or railroad for at least ten years; and,
  - d. Remote cabin permits are approved for the area by an area plan or the statewide plan.
2. Remote cabin permits may be used on land retained in public ownership, land designated Resource Management, or land where future disposal may occur.\*
3. Remote cabin permits are not intended to be converted to fee simple disposal of land that otherwise would be retained in public ownership.
4. If unauthorized cabins are present in an area opened to remote cabin permits, the program may be used to convert those cabins to permitted cabins.
5. An interagency consultation process will be used to establish the management guidelines for the program in each area.

\* The Alaska Department of Fish and Game takes the position that remote cabin permits may be used to satisfy needs or demand in certain areas as an alternative to land disposal.

B. Management Guidelines to be Specified for Each Remote Cabin Permit Area

1. Mandatory

- a. The density of cabins or number of permits allowed.
- b. No new rights-of-way to remote cabin permit sites are intended to be allowed.
- c. Area remains open to mineral entry, unless closed because of some consideration other than the presence of permitted cabins.
- d. No commercial use of cabin permit sites.

2. Optional (Specify as appropriate)

- a. Location Criteria -- e.g., only particular sites to be used, prohibited areas, limit on number of cabins in a locality, spacing, distance from trails with regional or statewide significance, etc.
- b. Allowed (or Prohibited) Uses -- e.g., number or size of buildings.
- c. Other types of access allowed or prohibited.



## MISCELLANEOUS GUIDELINES

### STREAM CORRIDORS

#### I. STATEWIDE GOALS

- A. Recreation. Provide opportunities for a variety of recreational activities within stream corridors, including both wilderness and developed recreational activities.
- B. Habitat. Protect fish and wildlife riparian habitats.
- C. Private Ownership of Land. Provide opportunities for private ownership of land near streams.
- D. Water Quality. Protect water quality to support domestic uses, fish and wildlife production and recreational activities.
- E. Forest Products. Where consistent with the management objectives of a stream corridor, provide for the harvest of timber from riparian forests.

#### II. MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES

- A. Priority of Public Uses in Stream Corridors. "Stream Corridor" as used in these management guidelines refers to the stream itself and adjacent lands with stream-related recreational, residential, habitat, timber and hydrologic values. As a general rule, ADNR will set a higher priority on protecting public use values in stream corridors than providing opportunities for private ownership of land. However, the Department recognizes the strong demand for property along streams and will provide land for private purchase in some stream corridors. Prior to the disposal of stream corridor lands, DNR, in consultation with other affected agencies and the public, will assess existing and projected public use needs associated with the stream corridor. Disposals near streams with important recreation value will be designed to protect access to and along the stream for fishing, hiking, camping and other recreational activities.
- B. Retention of Publicly Owned Buffers as a Management Tool in Stream Corridors.
  - 1. When the management intent for land adjacent to a stream is to permit uses such as fishing, picnicking, hunting, timber harvest, building fires, camping or other similar active uses, public ownership of stream buffers should be used rather than easements to provide for these uses.
  - 2. In state subdivisions stream buffers should, in all cases, be either retained in public ownership or conveyed to a homeowners' association. If streams in subdivisions have recrea-

tion or habitat values of regional or statewide importance, or are identified as public waters, buffers should be retained in public ownership.

3. Publicly owned buffers adjacent to a stream may be retained along the full length of the stream or on the portions determined to have high current or future public use and habitat values.

C. Retention of Access Easements as a Management Tool in Stream Corridors.

1. When the primary management intent is to protect the public's right to travel along a stream bank rather than to establish a public use area, an easement should be used to protect this right. Easements along streams should also protect the right to pause briefly to observe wildlife, take photographs or rest, but not to fish, picnic, hunt or otherwise recreate within the easement.\*
2. Easements along streams should establish, at minimum, the right to travel by foot, dogsled, horseback, snowmobile and two and three-wheeled vehicles. On a case-by-case basis the right to travel by all terrain vehicles and four wheeled vehicles may be reserved. Easements should be reserved for roads or railroads only if they are planned for construction.
3. Easements and publicly owned buffers may be used in combination on a stream to provide opportunities for private ownership near the stream while protecting public use or habitat values on other portions of the stream. Therefore, although easements should not be used where significant public use is to be encouraged, they may be used on portions of a stream with important public recreation and habitat values when most portions of the stream are retained for public use.

D. Establishing Widths of Publicly Owned Buffers, Easements and Building Setbacks in Stream Corridors.

1. Widths of publicly owned buffers along streams will vary according to management intent. In addition, the buffer width for any given stream may vary along the stream course depending on topography, vegetation and land ownership. Establishing buffer widths for particular streams should be based, at a minimum, on objectives for the following: recreational activities to be supported, habitat protection and management, noise abatement, visual quality, water quality, likelihood of erosion of the riverbank (in which case the buffer should be widened to compensate), and land disposal.

\*The Alaska Department of Fish and Game does not endorse excluding fishing from the rights reserved for the public in stream corridor easements.

2. Although buffer and easement widths may vary among streams, a basic level of consistency is needed to avoid confusion about the width of public use and access areas along the state's many streams and because it would be prohibitively expensive to establish separately by fieldwork and site analysis buffer widths for each stream corridor. The following guidelines are intended to establish a reasonable degree of consistency in buffer and easement widths:

- a. When it is determined that a publicly owned buffer is appropriate, a standard minimum buffer width of 200 feet landward from the ordinary high water mark on each bank generally should be established. This width may be reduced to a minimum of 100 feet on each bank in individual cases consistent with the management objectives of the stream corridor.
- b. As a general standard publicly owned buffers of at least one-fourth mile landward from the ordinary high water mark on each bank should be retained on streams recommended for legislative designation as State Recreation Rivers to be managed as part of the State Park System. Exceptions to this policy may be made where land ownership, topography, or the nature of anticipated public uses in a stream corridor warrant.
- c. When it is determined that a public access easement will be reserved on land adjacent to a stream, a minimum easement of 50 feet landward from the ordinary high water mark on each bank will be reserved.
- d. In all cases where land is sold near a stream a minimum building setback of 100 feet landward from the ordinary high water mark on each bank should be established.

E. Permits and Leases for Non-Water Dependent Uses. Permits, leases, and plans of operation for non-water dependent commercial and industrial uses, transportation facilities, and pipelines will, where feasible, require setbacks between these facilities and adjacent water bodies to maintain streambank access and protect adjacent fish habitat, public water supplies, and public recreation. The width of this setback may vary depending upon the type and size of non-water dependent use, but will be adequate to maintain access and protect adjacent waters from degradation below the water quality standard established by DEC. Adjacent to designated anadromous fish spawning habitat this setback will, to the extent feasible, never be less than 100 feet landward of ordinary high water.

Where it is not feasible and prudent to maintain a setback adjacent to fish habitat, public water supplies or recreational waters, other measures will be implemented to meet the intent of this guideline.

- F. Activities in Important Waterfowl Habitat. Activities requiring a permit, lease, or development plan with high levels of acoustical and visual disturbance, such as boat traffic, blasting, dredging, and seismic operations, in important waterfowl habitat will, to the extent feasible and prudent, be avoided during sensitive periods. Where it is not feasible and prudent to avoid such activities, other mitigative measures will be considered to meet the intent of this guideline.
- G. Dredge and Fill in Important Waterfowl Habitat. Permits for dredging and filling in important waterfowl habitat, including permits for gravel extraction and the construction of roads and pads, will not be granted unless it is determined that the proposed activity will not cause significant adverse impacts to essential waterfowl habitat or that no feasible and prudent alternative exists.
- H. Structures in Fish Habitat. To maintain migration of juvenile fish DNR will, to the extent feasible, require that structures in fish habitat be built to minimize impacts on fish migration.
- I. Water Intake Structure. When issuing water appropriations in fish habitat, DNR will require that practical water intake structures be installed that do not entrain or impinge upon fish. The most simple and cost-effective technology may be used to implement this guideline.
- Water intake structures will be screened, and intake velocities will be limited to prevent entrapment, entrainment, or injury to the species of fish found in the water. The structures supporting intakes should be designed to prevent fish from being lead into the intake. Other effective techniques may also be used to achieve the intent of this guideline. Screen size, water velocity, and intake design will be determined in consultation with the ADF&G.
- J. Alteration of the Hydrologic System. To the extent feasible channelization, diversion, or damming that will alter the natural hydrological conditions and have a significant adverse impact on important riverine habitat will be avoided.
- K. Soil Erosion. In addition to the use of publicly owned buffers and building setbacks, soil erosion will be minimized by restricting the removal of vegetation adjacent to streams and by stablizing disturbed soil as soon as possible.

- L. Forest Management Practices. Personal use of timber or commercial harvest within 200 feet of a stream will be consistent with management objectives of the stream corridor.
- M. Subsurface Development. See section on Subsurface Resources and Materials, this chapter.
- N. Instream Flow. See section on Instream Flow, this chapter.

## MISCELLANEOUS GUIDELINES

### TRAIL MANAGEMENT

#### I. STATEWIDE GOALS

- A. To insure continued opportunities for public use of important recreation and historic trails of regional and statewide significance.
- B. To assist in establishing local trail systems that provide access to community recreation areas.
- C. To protect or establish trail corridors to meet projected future use requirements as well as protecting current use.

#### II. MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES

- A. Special Trail Corridors. These are trails that require unusual widths or management practices because of historical significance or unique values. Management guidelines should be developed for such trails on a case-by-case basis. As a general policy special trails will be protected by publicly-owned corridors. These corridors will generally be wider than the 100 foot minimum trail buffer width established for trails of regional or statewide significance in C below.
- B. Neighborhood and Community Trails. Local trails which are not of regional or statewide significance will be identified and protected through management plans or disposal design under guidelines recommended in the Department's subdivision design manual. The following criteria should be used to determine whether a local trail should be protected by easement or public ownership:
  - 1. If the trail is of regional or statewide importance or connects to a public open space system, it will be kept in public ownership.
  - 2. If the trail is to be used almost entirely by people within a subdivision, but it provides more than just pedestrian access, for example, if it provides a multiple-use greenbelt for jogging, biking, etc., it should be dedicated to a homeowners' association or local government.
  - 3. If the objective is to provide local pedestrian access that is not part of an integrated neighborhood or community trail system, an easement may be used. This would typically occur when the purpose is to establish access between two lots in order to improve pedestrian circulation within a subdivision where a greenbelt and neighborhood trail system does not provide adequate access or where it is impractical to establish such an integrated trail system.

4. Where there is no homeowners' association, for example, in the case of land opened to homesteading, either a publicly owned buffer or easement will be used to protect designated trails. If a trail has the characteristics described in 1 or 2 above, it will be retained in public ownership. If it has the characteristics described in 3, an easement will be reserved.

C. Standard Trail Corridor of Regional or Statewide Significance.

This category includes the majority of trails on state land that will be identified in area or management plans. These trails provide foot and, sometimes, vehicle access for a variety of purposes. Most have a history of public use and can be expected to see increased use as the state's population increases. The following guidelines are intended to insure consistent management practices on trails throughout the state while allowing the flexibility to base management decisions on site specific conditions.

1. Trail Buffer Width. Trails of regional or statewide significance on state land shall be protected by publicly-owned corridors that have a minimum width of 100 feet (50 feet each side of centerline). The buffer should be designed to protect the quality of the experience of the user and to minimize negative effects such as noise or dust from adjacent land uses. Buffer widths may be increased to minimize land use and ownership conflicts, to protect the privacy of adjacent landowners, to separate motorized from non-motorized uses, to allow future siting of public facilities, to allow flexibility for rerouting, or to adopt the trail to specific public uses or aesthetic or environmental concerns. Buffer widths may vary along the length of a trail because of the above considerations. The width of a buffer on any portion of a trail should also be based on the management intent for adjacent public land as expressed through applicable land use plans. However, in no case should the width of the buffer be less than 100 feet. Trail buffers should be designed in consultation with the Division of Parks, ADF&G and local trail committees. Activity areas of 10-40 acres may be identified along trails for camping areas, rest areas, etc.
2. Rerouting Trails. Rerouting trails may be permitted to minimize land use or ownership conflicts or to facilitate use of a trail if alternate routes provide opportunities similar to the original. If trails are rerouted, provision should be made for construction of new trail segments if warranted by type of use. Rerouting trails should be done in consultation with the Division of Parks, DOT/PF, ADF&G and local trail committees. Historic trails which follow well-established routes should not be rerouted unless necessary to maintain trail use.



3. Trail Crossings. When it is necessary for powerlines, pipelines or roads to cross trail corridors, crossings should be at 90° angles when feasible. An exception is when a trail corridor is deliberately combined with a public facility or transportation corridor. Where feasible, vegetative screening should be preserved when a utility crosses a trail corridor.
4. Lease of Lands Within Trail Corridors. Leasing Land within a trail corridor may be done only when the permitted activity does not adversely affect trail use or the aesthetic character of the trail.

### III. IMPLEMENTATION OF THE POLICY IN THE TANANA BASIN

In the Tanana Basin, two trails are recommended for legislative designation as state trails. They are the Circle-Fairbanks Trail and the Chena Hot Springs Winter Trail including the portion beyond Chena Hot Springs which is known as the North Fork Valley Trail.

Remaining trails that have been identified are protected by retention in public ownership and managed for multiple use. These are listed in the Public Access Section of this chapter.

It is the intent to protect all trails with recreational values. At this time, there is insufficient information to refine the management goals for individual trails. This plan recommends that trails be studied further in an areawide trails planning effort to be started in FY85. Within the Fairbanks North Star Borough this should be coordinated with the trail planning efforts of that agency.

An areawide trails plan will address management authority, existing and proposed uses of trails and protection of those uses. Since recreational uses and access are not wholly independent, trails should be studied as a part of the entire transportation system.

It is possible at this time to identify a few trails as primarily recreational and of a priority for protection of their recreation resource value. The management of these trails will be further defined in a trails plan, and more trails may be added to this list as information improves. They are as follows:

- Chena Dome Trail
- White Mountain Access Trails
- Equinox Marathon Trail
- Cripple Creek-Rosie Creek Trail
- Allen-Dunbar Trail
- Glenn Trail

Tanana Valley Railroad  
O'Connor Creek Trails  
Airfield Ridge  
Skyline Trail  
23 Mile Slough Trails  
Governor's Cup North Trail  
Chena-Gilmore Trail  
Davidson Ditch  
West Fork Ridge Trail (Steese Hwy to Chena Hot Springs)  
Martin to Dunbar  
Big Eldorado Creek  
Left Fork Trail  
Silver Creek Trail  
Murphy Dome Ridge System

## MISCELLANEOUS GUIDELINES

### WETLANDS MANAGEMENT

#### I. STATEWIDE GOALS

##### Protection of Wetland Values

To protect the hydrologic, habitat and recreation values of public wetlands. Land management practices will be directed at avoiding or minimizing adverse impacts on the following important functions of wetlands.

- A. Water quality: Wetlands serve to filter nutrients and sediment from upland run-off.
- B. Water supply: Wetlands serve to stabilize water supply by retaining excessive water during flooding and by recharging groundwater during dry periods.
- C. Habitat/recreation: Wetlands provide important feeding, rearing, nesting, and breeding grounds for many species; related recreational use is also important.

#### II. MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES

- A. Definition of Wetlands. For purposes of inventory and regulation of wetlands, ADNR will use the definition adopted by the State of Alaska under the regulations of the Coastal Management Program (6 ACC 80.919):

Wetlands includes both freshwater and saltwater wetlands. Freshwater wetlands means those environments characterized by rooted vegetation which is partially submerged either continuously or periodically by surface freshwater with less than .5 parts per thousand salt content and not exceeding three meters in depth; saltwater wetlands means those coastal areas along sheltered shorelines characterized by halophytic hydrophytes and macro-algae extending from extreme low tide to an area above extreme high tide which is influenced by sea spray or tidally-induced water table changes.

For purposes of these management guidelines, wetlands are further divided into three classes: Class I, wetlands larger than 100 acres and all wetlands with a locatable stream outlet (the stream shall be considered part of the wetland); Class II, wetlands between 40 and 100 acres with no outlet; and Class III, wetlands less than 40 acres with no outlet.

- B. Retention of Wetlands in Public Ownership. Class I and II wetlands generally will be retained in public ownership. Based on field inventory and analysis, however, DNR may determine, after consultation with affected agencies, that a Class I or II wetland does not have sufficiently high water quality, water supply, habitat, and/or recreation values to merit public ownership.

Class III wetlands will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis to determine whether public retention or other measures are necessary to protect wetland values.

C. Retention of land Adjacent to Wetlands.

1. Class I wetlands and certain surrounding lands (buffers) should remain in public ownership whenever feasible. A Class I wetland buffer shall include, at minimum, a 100-foot strip adjacent to the wetland. Restrictive use covenants and public access easements rather than public ownership may be used to protect Class I wetlands and associated buffers under conditions specified in D below.
2. Class II wetlands and certain surrounding lands (buffers) should remain in public ownership whenever feasible. A Class II wetland buffer shall include, at minimum, a 60-foot strip adjacent to the wetland.

Restrictive use covenants and public access easements, rather than public ownership may be used to protect Class II wetlands and associated buffers under conditions specified in D below.

3. Class III wetlands will be dealt with on a case-by-case basis through the public land disposal process or applicable public land management plans.

D. Restrictive Use Covenants and Public Access Easements. Class I and II wetlands (including outlet streams) and associated buffers should remain in public ownership whenever feasible. Restrictive use covenants and public access easements may be used rather than public ownership under the following conditions:

1. Where the configuration of the wetland is such that survey along the meander of the wetland would be excessively expensive. In this case an aliquot part (rectangular) survey rather than a meander survey may be used along the edge of the wetland. This may result in small portions of the wetland being conveyed to private ownership. Restrictive use covenants and public access easements shall be applied to ensure that those portions of the wetland and associated buffer conveyed to private ownership remain in a natural state and that public access and use are maintained.

2. Where the wetland is entirely included with a parcel of land to be sold for private use. In this case the wetland and associated buffer may be conveyed to private ownership with restrictive use covenants which ensure that the wetland and associated buffer remain in a natural state. If there is a stream outlet from such a wetland, public access easements shall be applied to both the outlet and the wetland.
- E. Dredge and Fill Permits in Wetlands. Permits for dredging and filling in wetlands, including permits for gravel extraction and the construction of roads and pads, will not be granted unless it is determined that the proposed activity will not cause significant adverse impacts to important fish and wildlife habitat or that no feasible and prudent alternative exists. Where it is not feasible and prudent to avoid such activities, other mitigative measures will be considered to meet the intent of this guideline.
- F. Activities in Important Waterfowl Habitat. Activities requiring a permit, lease, or development plan with high levels of acoustic and visual disturbance, such as boat traffic, blasting, dredging, and seismic operations, in important waterfowl habitat will, to the extent feasible and prudent, be avoided during sensitive periods. Where it is not feasible and prudent to avoid such activities, other mitigative measures will be considered to meet the intent of this guidelines.
- G. Operation of Heavy Equipment in Wetlands. Permits issued for activities that require the use of heavy equipment in wetlands that have important hydrologic, recreation or habitat values will, to the extent feasible and prudent, require that damage to wetlands and wetland vegetation be avoided. Winter access only should be used in or across wetlands whenever feasible. DNR will consult with other affected agencies prior to issuing such permits.

## AREAWIDE LAND MANAGEMENT POLICIES

### USE OF RESOURCE MANAGEMENT DESIGNATION

There are two categories of lands designated for resource management by this plan: resource management - high value; and 2) resource management - low value. These categories are described below:

#### A. Resource Management - High Value

This designation is used when land has all four of the following characteristics:

1. Significant existing or potential value for more than one land use when the uses are not compatible and one or more of the potential uses requires land disposal (i.e., settlement or agriculture);
2. Inadequate existing information to establish the highest values of the land for the long term;
3. No existing road access, nor likelihood of access being developed in the next 5 to 10 years. Accessible lands are defined as those within 5 miles of roads that can be traveled by 4-wheel drive vehicles; and
4. Resource development (e.g., farm development, timber harvests, habitat enhancement) is unlikely in the next 5 to 10 years.

#### B. Resource Management - Low Value

This designation is used for lands with no significant existing or potential resource values for either public use or private development. Examples of this category include mountaintops, ice fields and large wetlands with little hydrological or habitat value.

Under a resource management designation, lands will be available for public use in the near term, provided that the uses are not detrimental to the potential long term uses identified when the resource management classification was established. For example, timber may be harvested from potential agricultural areas designated resource management as long as the agricultural potential is not diminished.

Resource management designations will be reevaluated either:

- 1) When plans are revised (approximately every 5 years); or,
- 2) when conditions affecting the potential use of the area change, for example, when road access is improved or when better information is available on the benefits/costs of a possible use.

Reevaluation will be done through an interagency planning team, and with public review.

NOTE: in areas where retention values are high and where there is low potential for settlement or agricultural use, or where retention values are known to be greater than potential disposal values, land generally is designated for retention rather than resource management.



# **Chapter 3**

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## **Land Management Policies for each Management Unit**

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### INTRODUCTION TO CHAPTER 3

In this chapter specific land management policy is presented for each of the Tanana area's 79 management units. A management unit is an area that is generally homogenous with respect to resources, topography and land management.

As was mentioned in the introduction, to help organize the planning process the Tanana area has been divided into 8 subregions. This chapter is organized using these subregion boundaries; for example, all the management units within the Borough Subregion are presented, followed by the management units in the Lower-Tanana Subregion, etc. A map of these subregions is presented in Chapter 1. The order of presentation and page numbers are listed on the divider sheet at the beginning of this chapter.

The land management policies to be presented in each management unit in the area are described below:

- A. Statement of Management Intent
- B. Land Use Summary Chart (primary and secondary land use designations, prohibited uses, minerals management and land ownership).
- C. Management Guidelines (management guidelines that apply only to a single management unit and a reference to applicable area-wide management guidelines in Chapter 2).
- D. Maps of Management Unit and Subunit Boundaries (subunits are divisions of land within management units; maps for each subregion are included at the end of this document).

The statement of management intent defines near and long-term management objectives for the management unit and the methods to achieve these objectives. While the land use designations provide a quick picture of planned uses within a unit, the statement of management intent should be used as the more definitive explanation of management policy.

The land use designations shown on the maps and charts in this chapter are not inflexible. Uses not shown may be permitted on a case-by-case basis if the Alaska Department of Natural Resources determines they are consistent with the statement of management intent for the management unit in question and consistent with applicable management guidelines. Specific boundaries of land use designations shown on the following maps may be modified through on-the-ground implementation activities (site planning, disposal, etc.) as long as modifications adhere to the intent of the plan. For example, field surveys may be necessary to delineate precisely the wetland boundaries shown on management unit maps. In addition, through implementation of the plan, additional areas may be identified which meet the established resource objectives for a particular management unit. This plan should not be construed to preclude site decisions which are clearly in compliance with the management intent and guidelines herein.

A related point is that this plan will not provide direct answers to many site specific issues frequently encountered by department land managers. A plan that deals with a region the size of the Tanana Basin generally cannot provide a predetermined answer to, for example, a question related to a proposed communication site on a ridge of the Alaska Range. The plan can, however, make clear what the general management objectives are for the area in question and thereby provide the basis for a more informed decision.

#### Subsurface Resources Land Use Designations

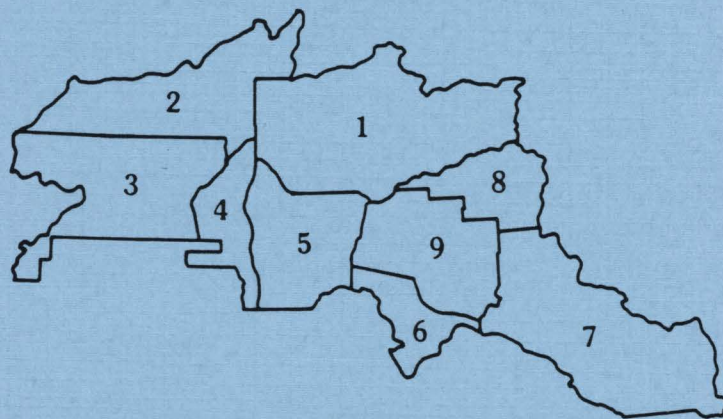
The main policy decision regarding subsurface land use is the decision to open or close areas to mineral location or to make areas available for mineral leasing.

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## **Subregion 1**

### **Fairbanks North Star Borough**

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1. Fairbanks North Star Borough
2. Lower Tanana
3. Kantishna
4. Parks
5. Alaska Range West
6. Alaska Range East
7. Upper Tanana
8. Goodpaster
9. Delta-Salcha Area Plan

### A. Subregion #1 - Fairbanks North Star Borough

This is the most populated subregion in the Basin, and consequently, it receives the most use and also has the potential for many land use conflicts.

Most areas close to Fairbanks have good access. There are numerous roads and trails throughout the subregion and there are also several navigable rivers. Principal land uses include recreation, hunting, fishing, forestry, and mining. Settlement is largely confined to the Fairbanks area.

The future uses of the area which will be emphasized in this plan include forestry, mining, recreation, habitat and recreational subdivisions.

#### 1. Agriculture

Within the Borough, a total of 20,850 acres of state land will be offered for agricultural sale.

All of the state owned land in the Borough with known agricultural potential will be offered for sale before 1987.

**Table**  
**Disposals Recommended for Agricultural**  
**Use in the Borough**

<u>Project</u>	<u>Net Acres</u>
Goldstream Agriculture	17,350
Eielson Agriculture	2,000
Aggie Creek East Agriculture	1,500
	<u>20,850</u>

#### 2. Forestry

The majority of the high value state owned forests within the Borough are now in the legislatively designated State Forest, with the exception of several areas along the Parks Highway. The forest along the Parks Highway is of moderate to low value for minerals, fish and wild-life, settlement and recreation, but it includes some of the most productive timber stands in the Interior. In view of these factors, most of the forest along the Parks Highway which was not included in the State Forest will be designated for primary use forestry.

In the rest of the Borough, the State Forest should provide for commercial forestry and personal use wood cutting and few additional areas will be designated primary use forestry.

### 3. Minerals

Mining is a major industry within the Borough. The area from Ester Dome to Cleary Summit is a highly mineralized region which has many active claims. In the eastern half of the Borough, the Middle Fork of the Chena River is also an important mining area.

These areas will be left open to mineral entry and the areas where there are large blocks of claims (particularly the Cleary Summit and Ester Dome areas) will be managed primarily for minerals.

Other areas within the Borough which have several active claims or high potential will be left open to mineral entry and managed for minerals as a secondary use. There are no known coal and oil and gas resources in this area, but it will remain open to coal prospecting and oil and gas and coal leasing.

### 4. Recreation

There are many important recreational resources within this sub-region. In general, areas of high recreational use will be managed for recreation. These include the Salcha, Chatanika and Chena River corridors, Ester Dome, and the Chena Hot Springs area. The Chatanika River is recommended for legislative designation as a State Recreation River to protect its unique values. The Chena Hot Springs Winter Trail, Circle Fairbanks corridor and the North Fork Valley Trail are recommended for State Trails to preserve their recreational and historic importance. Other trails will be protected through either public easements or public ownership. In addition, all areas retained in public ownership will be available for recreation.

### 5. Fish and Wildlife

Wildlife values in the Borough are concentrated in a few areas due to the high degree of development around Fairbanks. More than in other regions of the Basin, habitat values within the Borough are tied to human use and enjoyment of wildlife.

The Tatalina River and the flats to the east will be retained as special value habitat. The Chatanika corridor is high value and will be protected by retention and habitat management. The Goldstream Creek corridor will be managed similarly for recreation and habitat. The Salcha and Chena River corridors will be managed to protect their fish and wildlife values. Both corridors are open to mineral entry but enforcement of the water quality regulations is a priority.

### 6. Settlement

Within the Borough, a total of 53,200 acres of state land will be offered for sale (10,121 acres for subdivisions, 22,260 acres for fee simple homesteads and 20,850 acres for agricultural homesteads or small-scale agriculture).



#### a. Land for Community Expansion

Land for community expansion in the Borough is usually quite popular. If the site is within reasonable commuting distance (within 25 miles) and has good drainage, most of the parcels are likely to sell.

However, most community expansion land in state ownership has already been sold or is otherwise encumbered. When the state land in the State Forest is excluded and when mining claims, past disposals, and poor soils are taken into account, there are only a limited number of areas of state land left in the Borough which are suitable for community expansion.

The Borough population is expected to grow from 53,983 people in 1980 to 91,400 in the year 2000, an increase of 37,417 people (Socio-economic Paper, RAS/DLWM, 1982). There is currently adequate land in private ownership to meet the needs of the existing population, assuming an average household requires 1 to 4 acres of land and that the average household contains 3.3 people.

This additional population will need between 11,000 and 45,000 acres of land by the year 2000. There are three principal sources of land to meet this need: the state, the Borough and private land.

The state currently has 1,554 acres of land suitable for community expansion available for sale over the counter. The Borough owns 110,000 acres, much of which is expected to be sold. Of this, approximately 54,000 acres are of "high quality" for community expansion (i.e., land that is well drained, easily accessed and within 25 miles of Fairbanks). This land is expected to be sold at a rate of roughly 2,400 acres per year. There are also approximately 100,000 acres of private land, principally in the Fairbanks area.

Thus, there is a total of over 160,000 acres of good quality land currently available for community expansion, compared to a need of between 11,000 and 45,000 acres. Because there is an abundant supply of community expansion land in other ownerships, the fact that the state has only a limited supply to contribute to meeting resident's needs does not pose a serious problem to having adequate land available for residents in the Fairbanks North Star Borough.

The following is a list of the projects that will be sold for community expansion over the next 20 years by the state.

Table 3-1.  
State Land Recommended for Sale as  
Subdivisions in the Borough

<u>Project</u>	<u>Net Acres</u>
Bear's Den (Over-the-Counter)	134
Hayes Creek (Over-the-Counter)	465
McCloud (Over-the-Counter)	143
Haystack (Over-the-Counter)	340
Desperation (Over-the-Counter)	146
Olmes E (Over-the-Counter)	132
Haystack (Over-the-Counter)	97
Wigwam (Over-the-Counter)	77
Alder Creek II	200
Aspenwood	250
Big Eldorado	150
Bigwood	120
Emma Creek I	260
Emma Creek II	140
Fairbanks Odd Lots	40
Fox	250
Little Birch I	150
Little Birch II	250
Little Birch III	250
Little Birch IV	250
Little Willow	100
Martin	1,000
McCloud	150
Murphy	204
Nenana Ridge I*	1,000
O'Connor	200
Riverview I*	1,223
Riverview II*	100
Riverview III*	100
Riverview IV*	300
Riverwood	30
Skiview	300
Smallwood	250
Snoshoe I	300
Snoshoe II	200
Snoshoe III	400
Springview*	300
Tanglewood Heights	120
Total	<u>10,121</u>

\* These projects are not within commuting distance of Fairbanks and are for recreational use rather than for community expansion.

### b. Recreational Subdivisions and Homesteads

These sales are generally very popular if located in areas where recreational opportunities exist. Excluding land purchased for speculation, the cumulative need for recreational land in the Borough is estimated to be between 4,000 and 19,000 acres by the year 2000 (see the Settlement Element, DLWM, 1983).

The two principal owners of this type of land are the Borough and the state. The Borough owns roughly 30,000 acres of land suitable for this use, most of which is likely to be sold within 20 years. The state owns land along the Chatanika River, Chena Hot Springs Road and the Steese and the Elliott Highway which would be suitable for recreational parcels.

Over the next 20 years, the state alone will offer 22,260 acres for private recreation, which is more than the maximum projected need for recreational land.

**Table 3-2.**  
**Land Offered for Sale for**  
**Fee Homesteads in the Borough**

<u>Project</u>	<u>Net Acres</u>
Far Mountain (Over-the-Counter)	2,400
Any Creek (Over-the-Counter)	100
Hunts Creek (Over-the-Counter)	600
Caribou Creek (Over-the-Counter)	1,440
West Fork (Over-the-Counter)	4,000
Chena South (Over-the-Counter)	600
Mariana	1,000
Mt. Ryan	3,000
Aggie Creek	4,000
Aggie Creek East I	1,500
Aggie Creek East II	1,500
White Mountain I	1,000
White Mountain II	1,000
Left Fork Addition	120
Total	22,260



## 7. Transportation

The following access corridors have been identified by the Department of Transportation and Public Facilities. There are no proposals for actual construction of access within these corridors, but the option to eventually develop access in these areas should not be precluded.

Alaska Railroad Extension: A route has been identified, through the Tanana River and Richardson Highway corridors, for an extension of the Alaska Railroad from Fairbanks to the Canadian border.

Twin Mountain Access Route: Three alternatives have been identified as possible access routes to the Twin Mountain area. One route is an extension of Chena Hot Springs Road (approximately 65 miles) along the Middle Fork Chena River valley. This was identified as the most feasible route by the Interior Alaska Transportation Study. Two other less preferable routes are the extension of Johnson Road and a new road up the Salcha River valley. The Salcha River valley route, however, conflicts with land use objectives as defined in this plan.

Alaska Natural Gas Pipeline: A route, basically parallel to the existing Trans-Alaska Pipeline, is proposed for the construction of a gas line from the North Slope to Fairbanks and continuing either to the Canadian border via the Alaska Highway corridor or to Prince William Sound via the Richardson Highway and Trans-Alaska Pipeline corridor. A third alternative follows the Parks Highway - Alaska Railroad corridor from Fairbanks to Cook Inlet. However, this last alternative route would conflict with land use objectives for the Nenana River corridor area (see F-2, in Parks).

Steese and Elliott Highways Realignment: The Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities (DOT/PF) has future plans to reconstruct and realign portions of the Elliott and Steese Highway. DOT/PF will work with the planning team to choose the best routing that meets the land use objectives described in this report while still complying with appropriate highway standards and project costs.

Parks Highway Improvements: The Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities (DOT/PF) is examining possible future improvements to the Parks Highway. This plan does not preclude improvements recommended by DOT/PF for engineering and public safety consideration.

Trails and Revised Statute (RS) 2477 Roads: Numerous trails and minor roads exist in this subregion. See Chapter 2, Public Access and Trails Management for additional information.

**LAND USE SUMMARY**  
**WEST BOROUGH SUBREGION**

(Refer to the maps at the back of this document)

MGMT UNIT/ SUBUNIT	LAND USE DESIGNATIONS - PROPOSED CLASSIFICATIONS		PROHIBITED SURFACE USES	MINERALS	
	PRIMARY USE(S)	SECONDARY USE(S)		MGMT OF LOCATABLE MINERALS	MGMT OF LEASEABLE MINERALS
A-1	Habitat Forestry Recreation		Remote cabins Land Sales Improved pasture grazing	Open	Open
A-2	Settlement	Forestry Recreation Habitat	Remote cabins	Closed	Closed to coal
B-1	Habitat Recreation	Forestry	Remote cabins Land Sales Improved pasture grazing	Open	Open
B-2	Settlement	Habitat Recreation	Remote cabins	Closed	Closed to coal
B-3	Agriculture	Habitat Recreation I.p.grazing	Remote cabins	Closed	Closed to coal
C-1	Recreation	Forestry Habitat	I.p. grazing Remote cabins Land Sales	Open	Open
D-1	Settlement	Forestry	Remote cabins	Closed	Closed to coal
D-2	Low Value Res. Mgmt. Forestry Habitat Recreation		Remote cabins Land Sales	Open	Open
D-3	Recreation		Land Sales Remote cabins Improved pasture grazing	Open	Open
E-1 Chatanika River	Recreation Habitat (Proposed State Rec. River)		Land Sales Remote cabins Leases Grazing	Closed	Closed
E-2	Settlement	Recreation Forestry Habitat	Remote cabins	Closed	Closed to coal
E-3	Forestry	Recreation Habitat	Remote cabins Land Sales Grazing	Open	Open
F-1	Habitat Recreation		Remote cabins Land Sales I. p. grazing	Open	Open
F-2	Settlement	Habitat Recreation	Remote Cabins	Closed	Closed to coal

**LAND USE SUMMARY  
WEST BOROUGH SUBREGION**

(Refer to the maps at the back of this document)

MGMT UNIT/ SUBUNIT	LAND USE DESIGNATIONS- PROPOSED CLASSIFICATIONS		PROHIBITED SURFACE USES	MINERALS	
	PRIMARY USE(S)	SECONDARY USE(S)		MGMT OF LOCATABLE MINERALS	MGMT OF LEASEABLE MINERALS
G-1	Settlement	Recreation	Remote cabins	Closed	Closed to coal
G-2	Recreation	Forestry	Remote cabins Land Sales Improved pasture grazing	Open	Open
H-1	Settlement	Recreation	Remote cabins	Closed	Closed to coal
H-2	Recreation Habitat		Impr.Pas.Grazing Remote cabins Land Sales	Open	Open
I	Recreation Habitat		Imp.Pas.Grazing Remote Cabins Land Sales	Open	Open
J-1	Settlement	Habitat Recreation	Remote cabins	Closed	Closed to coal
J-2	Habitat Recreation	Forestry	Remote cabins Land Sales Improved pasture grazing	Open	Open
K-1	Habitat		Land Sales Improved pas. grazing	Open	Open
K-2	Low Value Res. Mgmt. Habitat Minerals Settlement		Land Sales	Open	Open
L-1	Low Value Res. Mgmt. Habitat Forestry		Land Sales	Open	Open
L-2	Settlement		Remote cabins	Closed	Closed to coal
M	Watershed	Forestry Recreation Habitat	Land Sales Remote cabins Improved pasture grazing	Open	Open

**LAND USE SUMMARY  
WEST BOROUGH SUBREGION**

(Refer to the maps at the back of this document)

MGMT UNIT/ SUBUNIT	LAND USE DESIGNATIONS - PROPOSED CLASSIFICATIONS		PROHIBITED SURFACE USES	MINERALS	
	PRIMARY USE(S)	SECONDARY USE(S)		MGMT OF LOCATABLE MINERALS	MGMT OF LEASEABLE MINERALS
N-1	Low Value Res. Mgmt. Habitat Minerals		Land Sales Improved Pasture Grazing	Open	Open
N-2	Habitat		Land Sales Remote cabins Improved pasture grazing	Open	Open
O-1	Settlement	Habitat	Remote cabins	Closed	Closed to coal
O-2	Low Value Res. Mgmt. Recreation Habitat Minerals		Remote cabins Land Sales	Open	Open
O-3	Habitat	Recreation Forestry	Remote cabins Land Sales Improved pas. grazing	Open	Open
P-1	Settlement & Agriculture	Habitat I. pasture grazing	Remote cabins	Closed	Closed to coal
P-2	Habitat		Remote cabins Land Sales I. p. grazing	Open	Open
Q-1	Habitat	Recreation	Remote cabins Land Seals I. p. grazing	Open	Open
Q-2	Agriculture	Habitat I. pasture grazing	Remote cabins	Closed	Closed to coal

**LAND USE SUMMARY  
EAST BOROUGH SUBREGION**

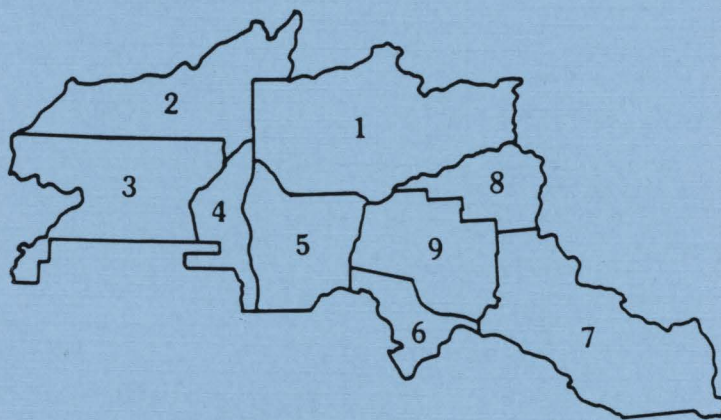
(Refer to the maps at the back of this document)

MGMT UNIT/ SUBUNIT	LAND USE DESIGNATIONS- PROPOSED CLASSIFICATIONS		PROHIBITED SURFACE USES	MINERALS	
	PRIMARY USE(S)	SECONDARY USE(S)		MGMT OF LOCATABLE MINERALS	MGMT OF LEASEABLE MINERALS
A	Habitat	Forestry	Remote cabins Land Sales I. p. grazing	Open	Open
B-1	Habitat Recreation	Forestry	Improved pas. grazing	Open	Open
B-2	Habitat Recreation		Remote cabins Land Sales I. p. grazing	Open	Open
C	Habitat		I. p. grazing Remote cabins	Open	Open
D-1	Habitat Recreation		Land Sales Remote cabins I. p. grazing	Open	Open
D-2	Recreation		Land Sales Remote cabins I. p. grazing	Open	Open
D-3 Chatanika River	Recreation Habitat (Proposed State Rec. River)		Land Sales Remote cabins Grazing Leases	Closed	Closed
D-4	Settlement	Recreation Habitat	Remote cabins	Closed	Closed to coal
E	Habitat		Remote cabins Settlement Imp.pas.grazing	Open	Open

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## **Subregion 2 Lower Tanana**

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1. Fairbanks North Star Borough
2. Lower Tanana
3. Kantishna
4. Parks
5. Alaska Range West
6. Alaska Range East
7. Upper Tanana
8. Goodpaster
9. Delta-Salcha Area Plan

## B. Subregion #2 - Lower Tanana

This subregion extends from the village of Tanana on the west to the borough on the east and from the Serpentine and Cascade Ridges on the north to the Tanana River on the south. It includes the Minto Flats which is a major waterfowl nesting area and the Livengood and Tofty mining districts, which are very active.

The state has selected or owns approximately 185,000 acres, or 70% of the area in this subregion. The unit is very accessible and can be reached via the Elliott Highway or the Tanana River and the numerous trails and mining roads which pass through it.

The major uses of the area include mining, subsistence and sport hunting and fishing. The many trails in the area receive both recreational and mining use.

The resources which will be emphasized in this subregion are mining and habitat. Protection of trails, water quality, and the option to develop the agricultural soils in the area will also be emphasized.

### 1. Agriculture

There have been no previous sales of small agriculture parcels in this subregion. However, based on the popularity of small agriculture sales in other parts of the Basin and the need for between 85,000 and 740,000 acres of small agricultural lands Basinwide by the year 2000, it is likely that small agriculture disposals in this region would sell if offered.

Several areas of potential agricultural land are scattered along the Elliott Highway between Livengood and the Fairbanks North Star Borough. Currently it is inappropriate to sell much land in this area for commercial agriculture because of the distance to markets. However, the following projects will be offered to meet the need for small agriculture parcels and agriculture homesteads.

#### Land Recommended for Agricultural Sale

<u>Project</u>	<u>Net Acres</u>
Two Mile Lake	2,500
Tatalina I	500
Tatalina II	500
Tatalina III	500
Tatalina IV	1,000
Snoshoe Pass I	500
Snoshoe Pass II	500
Snoshoe Pass III	500
Snoshoe Pass IV	1,000
Wilbur Jr.	750
Wilbur	1,000
Globe Creek	500
Lost	1,000
Total	10,750



## 2. Forestry

The State Forest should meet the demand for wood products for both commercial and personal use. No additional land will be designated for primary use forestry, but most of the retained lands in the subregion will be open to timber harvesting.

## 3. Minerals

Development of the subsurface resource is a high priority in this subregion. The subregion contains the core areas of the Hot Springs and Tolovana Mining Districts. Since discovered, these districts have had a combined production of one million ounces of gold, over 600 thousand pounds of tin and minor amounts of antimony, mercury and tungsten. Blocks of active claims are concentrated around Livengood, Manley Hot Springs, Tofty and Eureka (see Mineral Element Map, available at DNR, Fairbanks).

The largest placer gold reserves in North America are located within this subregion. There were nearly 40 active placer mines in the subregion during 1983. The lode potential for gold, mercury, tin, base metals, tungsten and antimony deposits is quite high particularly from the headwaters of Applegate Creek west to Fish Lake and to the north of Cascaden Ridge east to the headwaters of the Tolovana.

There are no known coal, oil or gas resources in this area, however, the Lower Tanana Basin may have hydrocarbon potential. The region will be left open to coal prospecting and oil and gas and coal leasing.

## 4. Recreation

The many historical trails and the Manley and Tolovana Hot Springs are the most important recreational resources in the area. The Tanana River corridor is a major feature of this region. These values are protected through multiple use designations and management guidelines.

In addition, as land is disposed of along the Elliott Highway, areas for access to the backcountry and to natural features such as domes and hot springs will be preserved. An area near Hutlinana Hot Springs will be reserved for recreational use for travellers on the Elliott Highway and residents of the Manley and Livengood communities.

## 5. Fish and Wildlife

The Minto Flats area is of extremely high value as habitat and is recommended for legislative designation as a Special Wildlife Management area. Lowlands surrounding Minto Flats, uplands along the northern ridges bordering the Basin, and the corridors along the Cosna, Chitanana and Zitziana rivers all require habitat protection but are compatible with other resource uses.

Several areas are recommended for joint habitat and recreation management. There are mining interests in these areas also which will be accommodated in management guidelines for the subunits.



## 6. Land Sales in the Lower Tanana Subregion

Within the Lower Tanana Subregion a total of 4,107 acres of state land will be offered for community expansion and recreational subdivisions, 23,950 acres for fee simple homesteading and 10,750 acres for agriculture homesteads and small scale agriculture. Thus, within 15 years, about 38,800 acres will be sold.

### a. Land for Community Expansion

The state owns land for community expansion near the communities of Tofty, Livengood and Eureka, but it does not own land that could be used for community expansion purposes in Manley or Minto. Due to the small population in Tofty, Livengood and Eureka, very limited land sales are recommended in these areas.

Table 3-5.  
Land Recommended for Sale for Community Expansion

<u>Project</u>	<u>Net Acres</u>
Eureka Community I	100
Eureka Community II	100
Tofty I	100
Tofty II	100
Total	<u>400</u>

### b. Land for Recreational Use and Self-Sufficient Living.

The state owns large amounts of land between Livengood and Manley that could be sold for recreational use, but the sale of these areas would not be particularly popular. The land is not of high quality and there are few recreational amenities that would draw people to the area. Consequently, only a few disposals are being offered between Livengood and Manley.

The state land between Fairbanks and Livengood is more desirable for settlement. These areas are closer to Fairbanks, and are adjacent to the Steese White Mountain Recreation Area. In this area, several fee homestead areas and subdivisions will be offered for sale.

**Table 3-6.**  
**Land Recommended for Sale for Recreational Subdivisions.**

<u>Project</u>	<u>Net Acres</u>
Kentucky Creek (Over-the-Counter)	543
Deadman Lake (Over-the-Counter)	533
Westridge I	100
Westridge II	100
Westridge III	200
Tatalina I	100
Tatalina II	200
Hutlitakwa	1,400
Total	<u>3,176</u>

**Table 3-7.**  
**Land Recommended for Sale for Recreational Homesteads**

<u>Project</u>	<u>Net Acres</u>
Dugan Hills (Over-the-Counter)	7,000
Cosna Lower I	3,000
Cosna Lower II	3,000
Westridge I	1,000
Westridge II	1,000
Westridge III	4,500
Snoshoe Pass I	500
Snoshoe Pass II	500
Snoshoe Pass III	500
Tatalina	500
Chitanana	850
Globe Creek	1,000
Total	<u>23,350</u>

## 7. Transportation

The following access corridors have been identified by the Department of Transportation and Public Facilities. There are no proposals for actual construction of access within these corridors, but the option to eventually develop access in these areas should not be precluded.

Elliott and Dalton Highways Realignment: The Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities (DOT&PF) has future plans to reconstruct and realign much of the Elliott and Dalton Highways. DOT&PF will work with the planning team to choose the best routing that meets the land use objectives described in this report while still complying with appropriate highway standards and project costs.

Western Access Railroad Corridor: A construction corridor for a possible railroad extension to the western area of the state has been identified through this subregion. The corridor in this area runs from Nenana to the vicinity of Tanana south of the Tanana River.

Trails and Revised Statute (RS) 2477 Roads: Numerous trails and minor roads exist in this subregion. See Chapter 2, Public Access and Trails Management for additional information.

**LAND USE SUMMARY  
LOWER TANANA SUBREGION**

(Refer to the maps at the back of this document)

MGMT UNIT/ SUBUNIT	LAND USE DESIGNATIONS - PROPOSED CLASSIFICATIONS		PROHIBITED SURFACE USES	MINERALS	
	PRIMARY USE(S)	SECONDARY USE(S)		MGMT OF LOCATABLE MINERALS	MGMT OF LEASEABLE MINERALS
A-1	Recreation		Remote cabins Land Sales Roads Improved pasture grazing	Closed	Closed
A-2	High Value Res. Mgmt. Agriculture		Land Sales Remote Cabins	Open	Open
A-3	Low Value Res. Mgmt. Forestry Settlement			Open	Open
B-1	High Value Res. Mgmt. Agriculture Habitat		Land Sales Remote Cabins	Open	Open
B-2	Habitat	Forestry Recreation	Land Sales Improved pasture grazing	Open	Open
B-3	Settlement	Habitat	Remote cabins	Closed	Closed to coal
C-1	Habitat		Remote cabins Land Sales Improved pasture grazing	Open	Open
D-1	High Value Res. Mgmt. Agriculture Minerals		Land Sales Remote cabins	Open	Open
D-2	Habitat	Recreation Forestry	Remote cabins Land Sales Imp. pasture grazing	Open	Open
D-3	Settlement	Habitat	Remote cabins	Closed	Closed to coal
E-1	Habitat Recreation	Forestry	Remote cabins Settlement Imp. pasture grazing	Open	Open
E-2	Settlement	Recreation Habitat	Remote cabins	Closed	Closed

**LAND USE SUMMARY  
LOWER TANANA SUBREGION**

(Refer to the maps at the back of this document)

MGMT UNIT/ SUBUNIT	LAND USE DESIGNATIONS- PROPOSED CLASSIFICATIONS		PROHIBITED SURFACE USES	MINERALS	
	PRIMARY USE(S)	SECONDARY USE(S)		MGMT OF LOCATABLE MINERALS	MGMT OF LEASEABLE MINERALS
E-3	Recreation (State Rec. Area)	Habitat	Improved pas. grazing Remote cabins Land Sales	Closed	Closed
F-1	High Value Res. Mgmt. Agriculture Habitat Minerals		Remote cabins Land Sales	Open	Open
F-2	Habitat Forestry	Recreation	Improved pas. grazing Remote cabins Land Sales	Open	Open
G-1	Habitat	Recreation	Land Sales Remote cabins Grazing	Open	Open
H	(Special Wildlife Mgmt. Area) Habitat Recreation		Grazing Land Sales Roads Utility Corridors Material Sales Remote Cabins	Closed	Open with seasonal restrictions
I	Habitat	Recreation	Land Sales Grazing Remote cabins	Open	Open
J-1	Settlement	Recreation Habitat	Remote cabins	Closed	Closed to coal
J-2	Habitat	Recreation	Grazing Land Sales Remote cabins	Open	Open
J-3	Agriculture	I.p.grazing	Remote cabins Land Sales	Closed	Closed to coal
J-4	Forestry	Habitat Recreation	Grazing Remote cabins Land Sales	Open	Open
K-1	Agriculture	I.P.Grazing	Remote cabins Land Sales	Closed	Closed to coal
K-2	Habitat	Forestry	Land Sales	Open	Open
K-3	High Value Res. Mgmt. Agriculture Habitat		Land Sales Remote Cabins	Open	Open

**LAND USE SUMMARY  
LOWER TANANA SUBREGION**

(Refer to the maps at the back of this document)

MGMT UNIT/ SUBUNIT	LAND USE DESIGNATIONS - PROPOSED CLASSIFICATIONS		PROHIBITED SURFACE USES	MINERALS	
	PRIMARY USE(S)	SECONDARY USE(S)		MGMT OF LOCATABLE MINERALS	MGMT OF LEASEABLE MINERALS
K-4	Low Value Res. Mgmt. Habitat		Land Sales	Open	Open
K-5	Recreation (Proposed State Rec. Area)		Remote cabins Land Sales Grazing Leases	Closed	Closed
K-6	Settlement	Habitat	Remote cabins	Closed	Closed to coal
L-1	Low Value Res. Value Recreation Forestry Habitat		Land Sales Remote cabins	Open	Open
L-2	Agriculture	Improved pasture grazing	Land Sales Remote cabins	Closed	Closed to coal
L-3	High Value Res. Mgmt. Agriculture Habitat Minerals		Land Sales Remote cabins	Open	Open
L-4	Forestry	Habitat Recreation	Remote cabins Land Sales Grazing	Open	Open
M-1	Agriculture	Imp. pas. grazing	Land Sales Remote Cabins	Closed	Closed to coal
M-2	High Value Res. Mgmt. Agriculture Minerals		Remote Cabins Land Sales	Open	Open
M-3	Habitat	Recreation Forestry	Remote cabins Land Sales Grazing	Open	Open
M-4	Recreation Habitat  Grapefruit Rocks - 640 acres		Leases Land Sales Remote cabins Timber Sales or Permits Material Sales Trapper cabins Grazing	Closed	Open

**LAND USE SUMMARY  
LOWER TANANA SUBREGION**

(Refer to the maps at the back of this document)

MGMT UNIT/ SUBUNIT	LAND USE DESIGNATIONS- PROPOSED CLASSIFICATIONS		PROHIBITED SURFACE USES	MINERALS	
	PRIMARY USE(S)	SECONDARY USE(S)		MGMT OF LOCATABLE MINERALS	MGMT OF LEASEABLE MINERALS
M-5	Low Value Res. Mgmt. Habitat Minerals Forestry Recreation		Land Sales	Open	Open
M-6	Settlement	Habitat Recreation	Remote cabins	Closed	Closed to coal
M-7	Forestry	Habitat Recreation	Remote cabins Land Sales Improved pasture grazing	Open	Open
N-1	Low Value Res. Mgmt. Habitat			Open	Open
N-2	Low Value Res. Mgmt. Agriculture Habitat Minerals		Remote Cabins Land Sales	Open	Open
O	Habitat		Grazing Land Sales Remote cabins Leases	Open	Open

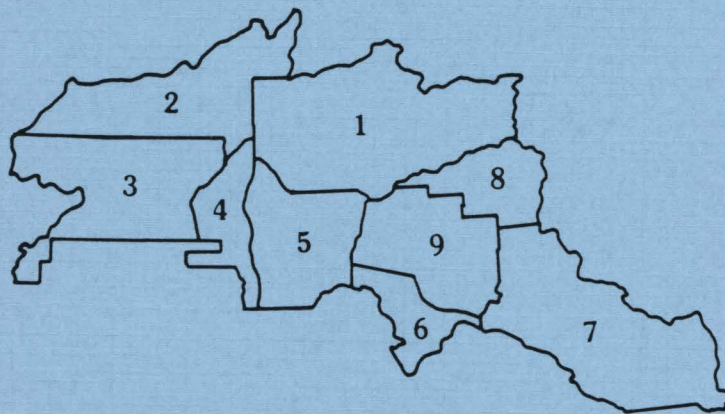


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## **Subregion 3**

### **Kantishna**

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1. Fairbanks North Star Borough
2. Lower Tanana
3. Kantishna
4. Parks
5. Alaska Range West
6. Alaska Range East
7. Upper Tanana
8. Goodpaster
9. Delta-Salcha Area Plan



### C. Subregion #3 - Kantishna

This subregion is accessible only by riverboats and airplanes. Despite its relatively remote location, it receives considerable use by trappers, hunters and homesteaders.

The management intent for this region is basically an extension of current uses of the area. There will be some homesteading and large recreational subdivisions, but the major emphasis will be on protecting the habitat and recreational resources of the area and also maintaining the option to develop the agricultural lands if access and market conditions change. With the exception of the Toklat Springs, the entire subregion is open to mineral entry.

#### 1. Agriculture

Lack of road access to this subregion makes agricultural development unlikely in the near future. State lands with agricultural potential exist on the Kantishna River and near East Twin Lake. There are several additional areas of cultivable soils scattered throughout the subregion. At present most of these lands should be given protection through resource management and reevaluated as development becomes more imminent.

There have been no previous sales of small agriculture parcels in this subregion. Due to the lack of access, the distance from markets and the high cost of farming in this region, it is not likely to be feasible to meet the development schedules required on agricultural homesteads and small scale agriculture parcels. Therefore, none of these are recommended at this time. Meanwhile, lands in this subregion with agricultural potential will be placed in the resource management category with agriculture a primary value.

#### 2. Forestry

In this subregion, the most productive forests have been legislatively designated in the State Forest. However, there is also valuable timber on the northeast shore of Lake Minchumina which is needed for local use. This area will be held in public ownership and left open to timber harvesting.

The large area of good forest land between the Zitziana and the Kantishna is too remote to be of use in meeting the overall goals for forestry. However, this area will be of use as a source of wood products for local disposals and therefore the area will be left open to timber harvesting.

### 3. Minerals

The principal mineral potential in this subregion occurs near the Bitzshtini, Chitanatala and Chitsia Mountains. Active mineral claims are located in the Bitzshtini Mountains, Clear Creek and Cosna River areas. No coal bearing units or basins with potential hydrocarbon formations are known within the Kantishna Subregion. The state land in the area will generally be left open to mineral entry, coal prospecting and leasing, oil and gas leasing, and industrial leasing for mill sites.

### 4. Recreation

Recreational opportunities in this subregion are of low to moderate value overall due to the limited accessibility of the area. Recreational use is concentrated on rivers, including the Kantishna and Teklanika and around lakes, including Lake Minchumina and some of the smaller lakes west of the Kantishna River. For residents of the region, winter trails are of high recreational value.

Areas around disposals and along navigable rivers will be protected by buffers. The Twin Lakes and portions of Wien Lake away from the waterfront are recommended for private recreation.

### 5. Fish and Wildlife

The area near the junction of the Sushana and the Toklat Rivers is extremely important habitat requiring protection and recommended for legislative designation as "Critical Habitat." Waterfowl habitats south of Lake Minchumina and the habitat area south of the Bearpaw disposal are designated primary use habitat.

The balance of the lands surrounding Lake Minchumina and along the Kantishna, Toklat and Teklanika River drainages and the headwaters of the Cosna and the Zitziana Rivers will be retained in public ownership and managed primarily for multiple use, including habitat.

### 6. Land Sales in the Kantishna Subregion

#### a. Introduction

In the Kantishna Region, a total of 1,844 acres of state land are recommended to be sold for subdivisions and 31,200 acres for fee simple homesteading. Because the region is not accessible, no agricultural disposals are recommended at this time.

#### b. Land for Community Expansion

The only community in the Kantishna Subregion is Lake Minchumina. Parcels of land in this area are used for both recreation and year-round residential use. Further land sales in the vicinity of Lake Minchumina are therefore discussed in the section on land for recreational use.

c. Recreational Land and Land for Self-Sufficient Living

Of the total acres offered in the past four years for recreational subdivisions in this unit, approximately 40% have sold, but only 7% of the remote parcel offerings have sold. The state owns most of the land in this region, however the vast majority of it is inaccessible and of very poor quality. Popular land sale areas lie on fly-in lakes and along the navigable portions of the rivers of the region. Most of the lakes and a few of the rivers already have land sales on them. The remaining lakes and some of the remaining riverfront property are recommended for sale.

**Table 3-9.**  
**Land Recommended for Sale for**  
**Recreational Subdivisions**

<u>Project</u>	<u>Net Acres</u>
Geskamina Lake (Over-the-Counter)	205
Iksgiza Lake (Over-the-Counter)	227
Kindamina Lake (Over-the-Counter)	193
West Twin Lake (Over-the-Counter)	100
Wein Lake I	119
Wein Lake II	75
Wein Lake III	75
Wein Lake IV	450
Snohomish Lake I	50
Snohomish Lake II	50
Snohomish Lake III	200
Lake Minchumina	100
Total	<u>1,844</u>

Table 3-10  
Land Recommended for Sale for  
for Fee Homesteads

<u>Project</u>	<u>Net Acres</u>
Cannon (Over-the-Counter)	1,700
Kantishna (Over-the-Counter)	6,000
Snoshoe (Over-the-Counter)	1,600
Zitziana (Over-the-Counter)	2,500
Bearpaw	2,500
Wein Lake I	1,000
Wein Lake II	1,000
Wein Lake III	1,000
Wein Lake IV	1,000
Mucha Lake I	1,000
Mucha Lake II	1,500
Geskakmina I	750
Geskakmina II	750
Snohomish Lake	1,000
Cosna Upper	6,000
Kindamina	1,500
Lake Minchumina	400
Total	<u>31,200</u>

If all of the above projects were offered, there would be approximately 1,644 acres of subdivision land and 31,200 acres of fee simple homesteading land available over the next twenty years.

In addition to state land available for sale it is likely that a portion of the 2,700 acres the state has sold in the past four years will be available on the private land market within the next few years. Native corporations also own land in the region, some of which is likely to be available.

Thus, there is a minimum of over 30,000 acres of land available to meet people's desire for land in this region over the next twenty years. This is more than double the maximum projected need for this type of land for the entire Basin to the year 2000. This abundant supply should allow for investment and provide buyers with a large degree of choice.

#### 7. Transportation

The following access corridors have been identified by the Department of Transportation and Public Facilities. There are no proposals for actual construction of access within these corridors, but the option to eventually develop access in these areas should not be precluded.

Western Access Railroad Corridor: A corridor for construction of a possible railroad extension to the western area of the State has been identified through this subregion. The corridor in this area, runs from Nenana to the vicinity of Tanana south of the Tanana River.

Nenana - Kantishna - McGrath Highway Corridor: A corridor for construction of a possible highway to Kantishna and McGrath has been identified in this subregion. The main concern is the connection to the Kantishna area. The route runs west from the Parks Highway at Ferry, then southwesterly toward Kantishna. This is an alternate route to the Lignite-Kantishna proposal which utilizes portions of Stampede Road.

Lignite - Kantishna Highway Corridor: This corridor would connect Kantishna to the Parks Highway near Lignite (Healy) and would utilize portions of Stampede Road. This route was analyzed by the Interior Alaska Transportation Study and is an alternative to the east end of the Nenana-Kantishna-McGrath route.

Nenana - Totchaket Area Access: With the development of the Nenana-Totchaket Agriculture Project, access routes for roads and/or railroad spurs have been identified and these rights-of-way shall be protected. Additionally, this route could be extended to the Kantishna River to provide access to any future forestry area.

Trails and Revised Statute (RS) 2477 Roads: Numerous trails and minor roads exist in this subregion. See Chapter 2, Public Access and Trails Management for additional information.

**LAND USE SUMMARY  
KANTISHNA SUBREGION**

(Refer to the maps at the back of this document)

MGMT UNIT/ SUBUNIT	LAND USE DESIGNATIONS- PROPOSED CLASSIFICATIONS		PROHIBITED SURFACE USES	MINERALS	
	PRIMARY USE(S)	SECONDARY USE(S)		MGMT OF LOCATABLE MINERALS	MGMT OF LEASEABLE MINERALS
A-1	Habitat Recreation		Grazing Remote cabins Land Sales	Open	Open
A-2	Settlement	Habitat Recreation	Remote cabins	Closed	Closed to Coal
A-3	Habitat		Grazing Remote cabins Land Sales	Open	Open
B-1 & B-2	Habitat (Critical)	Recreation Forestry	Land Sales Material Sales Grazing Roads Utility corridors Remote cabins	Open to leasehold location	Open
C-1	Settlement	Forestry Habitat	Remote cabins	Closed	Closed to coal
C-2	Habitat Forestry	Recreation	Remote cabins Land Sales Grazing	Open	Open
D	Habitat		Land Sales Grazing	Open	Open
E-1	Settlement		Remote cabins	Closed	Closed to coal
E-2	Low Value Res. Mgmt. Habitat	Recreation	Remote cabins	Open	Open
E-3	Recreation Habitat		Roads Utility Corridors Remote cabins Leases Grazing	Closed	Closed
E-4	High Value Res. Mgmt. Agriculture Habitat		Land Sales Remote cabins	Open	Open
F-1	Habitat	Settlement	Grazing	Open	Open

**LAND USE SUMMARY  
KANTISHNA SUBREGION**

(Refer to the maps at the back of this document)

MGMT UNIT/ SUBUNIT	LAND USE DESIGNATIONS- PROPOSED CLASSIFICATIONS		PROHIBITED SURFACE USES	MINERALS	
	PRIMARY USE(S)	SECONDARY USE(S)		MGMT OF LOCATABLE MINERALS	MGMT OF LEASEABLE MINERALS
F-2	High Value Res. Mgmt. Agriculture Minerals Habitat		Remote cabins Land Sales	Open	Open
G-1	High Value Res. Mgmt. Agriculture Habitat Minerals		Remote cabins Land Sales	Open	Open
G-2	Habitat		Land Sales Imp. pas. grazing	Open	Open
H-1	Settlement	Habitat	Remote cabins	Closed	Closed to coal
H-2	Habitat		Remote cabins Land Sales I. p. grazing	Open	Open
H-3	High Value Res. Mgmt. agriculture habitat minerals		Land Sales Remote cabins	Open	Open
I-1	Habitat		Remote cabins Land Sales Imp. pas. grazing	Open	Open
I-2	Settlement	Habitat Recreation	Remote cabins	Closed	Closed to coal
I-3	High Value Res. Mgmt. Agriculture Habitat Minerals		Land Sales Remote cabins	Open	Open
J-1	Forestry	Recreation Habitat	Land Sales Imp. pas. grazing	Open	Open
J-2	Settlement	Forestry	Remote cabins	Closed	Closed to coal
J-3	High Value Res. Mgmt. Agriculture Forestry Minerals		Land Sales Remote cabins	Open	Open

**LAND USE SUMMARY  
KANTISHNA SUBREGION**

(Refer to the maps at the back of this document)

MGMT UNIT/ SUBUNIT	LAND USE DESIGNATIONS - PROPOSED CLASSIFICATIONS		PROHIBITED SURFACE USES	MINERALS	
	PRIMARY USE(S)	SECONDARY USE(S)		MGMT OF LOCATABLE MINERALS	MGMT OF LEASEABLE MINERALS
J-4	Recreation	Habitat	Land Sales Remote Cabins	Closed	Closed
K-1	Habitat		Grazing	Open	Open
K-2	Settlement	Habitat	Remote Cabins	Closed	Closed to coal
L-1	Habitat		Remote cabins Land Sales Grazing	Open	Open
L-2	Settlement	Habitat	Remote cabins	Closed	Closed to coal
M-1	High Value Res. Mgmt. Agriculture Minerals		Remote cabins Land Sales	Open	Open
M-2	Low Value Res. Mgmt. Habitat Minerals		Land Sales	Open	Open
N-1	Habitat	Recreation	Airstrips New Roads Grazing Utility Corridors Trapping Cabins Remote cabins Land Sales Leases	Open	Open
N-2	High Value Res. Mgmt. Agriculture Habitat		Land Sales Remote cabins	Open	Open
O	Habitat (Critical)		Timber harvesting Material Sales Grazing Roads Trapper cabins Leases Remote cabins Land Sales	Closed	Closed
P-1	Habitat		Grazing	Open	Open
P-2	High Value Res. Mgmt. Agriculture Habitat Minerals		Land Sales Remote cabins	Open	Open



**LAND USE SUMMARY  
KANTISHNA SUBREGION**

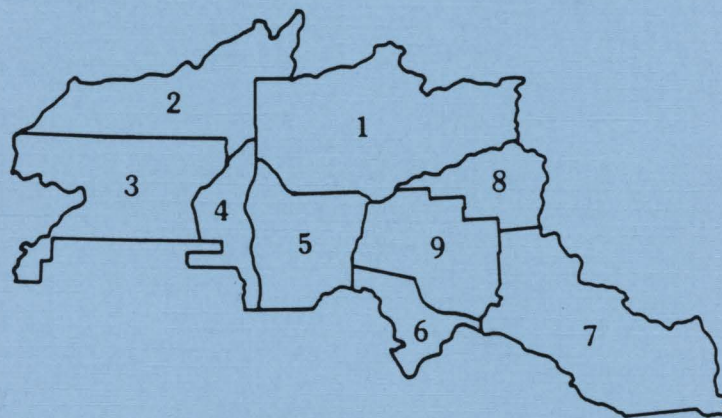
(Refer to the maps at the back of this document)

MGMT UNIT/ SUBUNIT	LAND USE DESIGNATIONS- PROPOSED CLASSIFICATIONS		PROHIBITED SURFACE USES	MINERALS	
	PRIMARY USE(S)	SECONDARY USE(S)		MGMT OF LOCATABLE MINERALS	MGMT OF LEASEABLE MINERALS
Q-1	Habitat	Recreation Forestry	Land Sales I. p grazing Remote cabins	Open	Open
Q-2	Forestry Habitat	Recreation	Remote cabins Land Sales I. p. grazing	Open	Open
Q-3	Habitat	Settlement Forestry	I. p. grazing	Open	Open
R	Habitat	Recreation	Land Sales Grazing Remote cabins	Open	Open

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## **Subregion 4 Parks Highway**

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1. Fairbanks North Star Borough
2. Lower Tanana
3. Kantishna
4. Parks
5. Alaska Range West
6. Alaska Range East
7. Upper Tanana
8. Goodpaster
9. Delta-Salcha Area Plan

#### D. Subregion #4 - Parks Highway

This is one of the most accessible subregions in the Basin. The Parks Highway unit is bisected by the highway and the railroad and there are numerous trails, roads and rivers which extend into the backcountry.

Commercial guiding, hunting, trapping, recreation and coal mining are the major land uses in the area along with some grazing. Settlements extend along the highway throughout the unit. This area has been the location of several state disposals over the past four years.

The management intent for this heavily used region is to sell some land in the Anderson and Healy areas, retain some land for local wood products, place agricultural soils in a resource management category, leave the high value mineral land open to mineral entry and protect the habitat and recreational resources of the area.

##### 1. Agriculture

This subregion contains several areas of accessible agricultural lands along the Nenana River/Parks Highway corridor. This land will be sold for small-scale agriculture. In the past four years, 100% of the acreage offered under this program (4876 acres) has been sold in the Parks Highway Subregion. It is assumed that future sales will be equally popular.

Since 147,000 acres are recommended for sale for commercial agriculture in the Nenana-Totchaket area, no additional large-scale projects are recommended for this subregion. Most of the accessible agriculture soils in this region will be offered for small-scale agriculture or agriculture homesteading.

Table  
Land Recommended for Agricultural Sale

<u>Project</u>	<u>Net Acres</u>
Kobe I	1,500
Kobe II	1,830
Kobe III	750
Kobe IV	750
Kobe V	750
Kobe VI	750
Windy I	750
Windy II	5,050
Julius Creek	1,000
Chump	1,000
Total	14,130

Areas of agricultural land also exist in more remote areas along the Teklanika, Toklat and Sushana Rivers. With the exception of the critical habitat along the Toklat and the proposed settlements along the Teklanika, these areas will be protected by resource management and reevaluated for possible sale as the Nenana-Totchaket region develops.

## 2. Forestry

The Tanana Valley State Forest should meet the demand for wood products for Nenana. However, Anderson and Healy are located too far from the State Forest and therefore these areas need to have some nearby land in public ownership which is open to timber harvesting. The state land along Seventeen-Mile Slough north of Anderson could serve that community's woodcutting needs and the area east of Lignite (see Forestry Element Map) will be a source of wood products for Healy. Both areas will be retained in public ownership and open to timber harvesting for both commercial and personal use.

## 3. Minerals

The area east of Healy is one of the most active mineral exploration and production areas in the state. Most of the activity occurs to the east, but protection of mining activity in this subregion and access to the backcountry are important management objectives.

In the area extending east of Ferry, subsurface development will be a primary management objective. In general, most conflicts with the recreation and wildlife values in this area can be resolved through management guidelines.

## 4. Recreation

River valleys, historical trails, and alpine country which is accessible to Fairbanks and local communities are significant recreational resources in this area.

Trails, historic sites and access sites along the Parks Highway corridor will be protected by recreational designation. Kobe Summit and Slate Creek will be designated recreation sites with trails leading from the highway. Access sites along the Parks Highway and the Nenana River will be protected by recreation designation. Important recreation values in Reindeer Hills, Walker Dome, and Rex Dome will be protected. Open space close to communities will be retained for multiple use including recreation.

## 5. Fish and Wildlife

The Parks Highway subregion contains several areas of high value habitat. Near the highway and in accessible mountain valleys, human use of wildlife can be intensive. In this subregion, habitat is one of several designated uses on many retained lands. There is an area for caribou calving near the end of the Stampede Trail. This area will be protected through designation as habitat - and through management guidelines.

## 6. Possible Land Exchanges

Township 11 South, Ranges 9, 10 and 11 West, which are located along the Stampede Trail, should be considered for a land exchange. This area was included as part of the original Denali National Park extension proposal.

The primary resource values are recreation and habitat, with some coal. The area is an important caribou calving region. These townships and adjoining lands are designated for recreation and habitat management, and park service management will be compatible with this intent.

## 7. Settlement

In the Parks Highway Subregion, a total of 6,660 net acres of subdivisions, 22,040 acres of fee simple homesteads and 14,130 acres of small agriculture parcels and agricultural homesteads are recommended for sale.

### a. Land for Community Expansion

There are 5 communities in this region. Land sales are recommended in the vicinity of Nenana, Healy, McKinley Village and Anderson to meet the community expansion needs of those communities. The population of this area is expected to increase by 1900 people by the year 2000, and the land needs of this new population are estimated to be between 575 and 2,300 acres.

In the Nenana area, land for community expansion is in both native and state ownership. Several areas of state land will be offered in the vicinity of Nenana. The amount of land offered will greatly exceed projected land conversion needs of the Nenana area, even if the Nenana-Totchaket area is developed.

In the Anderson area, people want more land sales immediately adjacent to the town. To meet this need, several areas have been identified for sale. These sales would allow for a wide degree of consumer choice and provide abundant land in the Anderson area.

In Healy, the same situation exists. Although the state has sold large acreages of land in the vicinity of Healy, more land is wanted. The new areas identified for sale in the Healy area, along with the land that was sold in the past should more than adequately meet resident's needs, even if the coal operations in Healy greatly expand.

In McKinley Village, the limited amount of state land that could be used for community expansion is recommended for sale. This land includes the areas that were proposed for a land trade with the National Park Service.

Table 3-11  
Disposals Recommended for  
Community Expansion

<u>Project</u>	<u>Net Acres</u>
<u>Nenana</u>	
Berg	329
Farmview (over the counter)	349
Nenana South (over the counter)	147
Whoopie I	100
Whoopie II	100
Whoopie III	250
Nenana North	300
<u>Anderson</u>	
Anderson New I	200
Anderson New II	800
<u>Healy</u>	
Otto Lake I	75
Otto Lake II	75
Otto Lake III	150
<u>McKinley Village</u>	
Village View	200
Land Swap	300
Village View Ext.	100
Total	<u>3,518</u>

b. Recreational Land and Land for Self Sufficient Living.

Past land sales in the Parks Highway region for this type of use have not sold particularly well: 20% of past subdivisions and 27% of remotes were taken. The state has already offered for sale the majority of accessible state owned land in the region and there are 3,681 acres of subdivision and 9,840 acres of homestead left in past sale areas along the Parks Highway that will continue to be offered for sale. In addition to these past sale areas the majority of the remaining accessible land along the Parks Highway will be sold.

**Table 3-12**  
**Disposals Recommended for**  
**Recreational Use**

<u>Project</u>	<u>Net Acres</u>
<u>I. Subdivisions</u>	
Panguingue (over the counter)	827
Anderson (over the counter)	1,200
June Creek (over the counter)	1,115
Total	<u>3,142</u>
<u>II. Fee Homesteads</u>	
Bear Creek (over the counter)	400
Slate Creek (over the counter)	1,000
Windy Creek (over the counter)	4,000
Healy	4,840
Teklanika I	500
Teklanika II	250
Teklanika III	250
Teklanika IV	1,000
Ridge Rock	400
Clear Sky	5,000
Anderson New I	500
Lignite	1,000
Anderson New II	1,500
Southwind I	1,000
Montana Creek	400
Total	<u>22,040</u>

### 8. Transportation

The following access corridors have been identified by the Department of Transportation and Public Facilities (DOT/PF). There are no proposals for actual construction of access within these corridors at this time, but the option to eventually develop access in these areas should not be precluded.

Nenana - Kantishna - McGrath Highway Corridor: A corridor for construction of a possible highway to Kantishna and McGrath has been identified in this subregion. The main concern is the connection to the Kantishna area. The route runs west from the Parks Highway at Ferry, then southwesterly toward Kantishna. This is an alternate route to the Lignite-Kantishna proposal which utilized portions of Stampede Road.

Lignite - Kantishna Highway Corridor: This corridor would connect Kantishna to the Parks Highway near Lignite (Healy) and would utilize portions of Stampede Road. This route was analyzed by the Interior Alaska Transportation Study and is an alternative to the east end of the Nenana-Kantishna-McGrath route.

Nenana - Totchaket Area Access: With the development of the Nenana-Totchaket Agriculture Project, access routes for roads and/or railroad spurs have been identified and these rights-of-way shall be protected. Additionally, an extension south could form a loop to the Parks Highway at Rex which would provide access to previous State land disposals.

Upper Wood River (Bonnifield Mining District) Access: Any mineral development in this area would require road access. A corridor has been identified through this subregion that extends from the Parks Highway at Ferry, easterly along the foothills of the Alaska Range.

Anderson Northeastern Access Road: The City of Anderson has requested additional access from the Parks Highway. A corridor has been proposed from the city, east-northeasterly to the Parks Highway in the southern portion of Township 6 South, Range 8 West, Fairbanks Meridian. The road would be either a winter road or a year-round road depending upon needs.

Parks Highway Improvements: DOT/PF is examining possible future improvements to the Parks Highway. Additional lanes, climbing lanes and shoulder widening are some of the improvements proposed.

Alaska Natural Gas Pipeline: One of the alternative routes for the gas pipeline would follow the Parks Highway - Alaska Railroad corridor from Fairbanks to Cook Inlet.

Trails and Revised Statute (RS) 2477 Roads: Numerous trails and minor roads exist in this subregion. See Chapter 2, Public Access and Trails Management for additional information.



# LAND USE SUMMARY

## PARKS HIGHWAY SUBREGION

(Refer to the maps at the back of this document)

MGMT UNIT/ SUBUNIT	LAND USE DESIGNATIONS- PROPOSED CLASSIFICATION		PROHIBITED SURFACE USES	MINERALS	
	PRIMARY USE(S)	SECONDARY USE(S)		MGMT OF LOCATABLE MINERALS	MGMT OF LEASEABLE MINERALS
A	Habitat		-Remote Cabins -Land Sales -Grazing	Open	Open
B	Habitat Recreation		-Remote Cabins -Land Sales -Grazing	Open	Open
C-1	Settlement	Habitat Recreation	-Remote Cabins	Closed	Closed to coal
C-2	Habitat Recreation	Forestry	-Remote Cabins -Land Sales -Grazing	Open	Open
D-1	Habitat	Recreation Forestry	-Remote cabins -Land Sales -Improved pasture grazing	Open	Open
D-2	Settlement	Recreation Forestry Habitat	-Remote cabins	Closed prior to sale	Closed to coal prior to sale
D-3	Recreation Habitat (Prop. St. Rec. River)		-Leases -Land Sales -Remote Cabins -Grazing	Closed	Open
E	Recreation Habitat		-Remote cabins -Land Sales -Grazing	Open	Open
F-1	Settlement	Habitat Forestry Recreation	-Remote Cabins	Closed	Closed to coal
F-2	Habitat Recreation	Forestry	-Remote cabins -Land Sales -Improved pasture grazing	Open	Open
F-3	Agriculture	Habitat Recreation Forestry Improved pasture gr.	-Remote cabins -Land Sales	Closed	Closed to coal

**LAND USE SUMMARY  
PARKS HIGHWAY SUBREGION**

(Refer to the maps at the back of this document)

MGMT UNIT/ SUBUNIT	LAND USE DESIGNATIONS - PROPOSED CLASSIFICATIONS		PROHIBITED SURFACE USES	MINERALS	
	PRIMARY USE(S)	SECONDARY USE(S)		MGMT OF LOCATABLE MINERALS	MGMT OF LEASEABLE MINERALS
G-1	High Value Resource Management Agriculture Forestry Habitat		-Remote cabins -Land Sales	Open	Open
G-2	Habitat	Forestry	-Land Sales -Improved pasture grazing	Open	Open
H-1	Settlement	Habitat Recreation Forestry	-Remote cabins	Closed	Closed to coal
H-2	Low Value Res. Mgmt. habitat		-Remote cabins -Land Sales	Open	Open
H-3	Low Value Res. Mgmt. agriculture habitat forestry mining		-Land Sales -Remote Cabins	Open	Open
I-1	Settlement	Habitat Forestry Recreation	-Remote cabins	Closed	Closed to coal
I-2	Habitat		-Land Sales -Improved pasture grazing	Open	Open
J-1	Habitat Recreation Forestry		-Remote cabins -Land Sales -Improved pasture grazing	Open	Open
J-2	Settlement	Habitat Forestry Recreation	-Remote cabins	Closed	Closed to coal
J-3	Agriculture	Habitat Forestry Recreation Grazing	-Remote cabins -Land Sales	Closed prior to sale	Closed to coal prior to sale
J-4	High Value Res. Mgmt. Agriculture Forestry Habitat		-Remote cabins -Land Sales	Open	Open

**LAND USE SUMMARY  
PARKS HIGHWAY SUBREGION**

(Refer to the maps at the back of this document)

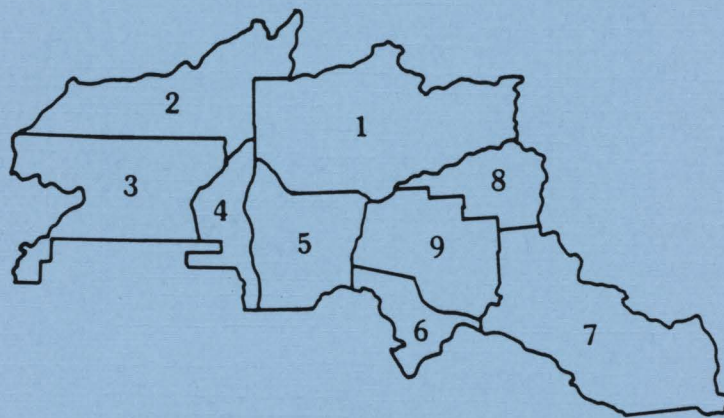
MGMT UNIT/ SUBUNIT	LAND USE DESIGNATIONS- PROPOSED CLASSIFICATIONS		PROHIBITED SURFACE USES	MINERALS	
	PRIMARY USE(S)	SECONDARY USE(S)		MGMT OF LOCATABLE MINERALS	MGMT OF LEASEABLE MINERALS
K-1	Recreation Forestry	Settlement	Remote Cabins Improved pasture grazing	Open	Open
K-2	Settlement	Forestry Recreation	Remote cabins	Closed	Closed to coal
L	Habitat Recreation		-Remote cabins -Land Sales -Improved pasture grazing	Open	Open
M	Habitat	Recreation	-Remote cabins -Land Sales -Grazing	Open	Open

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## **Subregion 5**

### **West Alaska Range**

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1. Fairbanks North Star Borough
2. Lower Tanana
3. Kantishna
4. Parks
5. Alaska Range West
6. Alaska Range East
7. Upper Tanana
8. Goodpaster
9. Delta-Salcha Area Plan

### **E. Subregion #5 - West Alaska Range**

This area includes the largely mountainous region from Healy east to the Little Delta River and from the Fairbanks North Star Borough south to the Denali Highway. The region is not readily accessible, but there are several trails in the area. Most of the subregion is owned by the State of Alaska.

Commercial guiding, hunting, trapping, and mining are the major land uses in the area.

The management intent for this subregion is to encourage mineral development while protecting the wildlife habitat values to the maximum extent possible.

#### 1. Agriculture

There are no potential agricultural values due to the high elevations in mountainous portions and swampy conditions of the lowlands in this subregion.

#### 2. Forestry

Forest values in the subregion are very low.

#### 3. Minerals

The area east of Healy is one of the most active mineral exploration and production areas in the state. There are large blocks of active claims and the entire area has very high potential for coal, gold, and other minerals.

In the area extending east of Ferry to the Little Delta River and south to Anderson Mountain, mineral development is a primary management objective. This area will be left open to mineral entry, coal prospecting, and oil and gas and coal leasing. In general, conflicts with the recreation and wildlife values in this area can be resolved through management guidelines. However, there are several peregrine falcon nests, mineral licks, and a caribou calving area which require certain restrictions to protect the habitat. These restrictions are specified in the management guidelines following this discussion.

#### 4. Recreation

Despite its relatively remote location, this subregion supports a moderate level of recreational use for climbing, hiking, and camping. In addition, all retained lands in the subregion will be managed for multiple use including recreation.

#### 5. Fish & Wildlife

This subregion includes considerable high value habitat and several biologically critical habitats.

Habitat is a primary use in the entire subregion and protection of the habitat values is the principal management objective in the critical habitat areas. The rest of the area will be managed for multiple use, including mining. Conflicts between these uses will be resolved to the greatest extent possible through the management guidelines specified in each unit and through the standard permit procedures.

#### 6. Settlement

There are two areas designated for settlement in this subregion. 650 acres will be offered for sale within the existing Wood River and Gold King disposal projects.

#### 7. Transportation

The following access corridors have been identified by the Department of Transportation and Public Facilities. There are no proposals for actual construction of access within these corridors, but the option to eventually develop access should not be precluded.

Upper Wood River (Bonnifield Mining District) Access: Any mineral development in this area would require road access. A corridor has been identified through this subregion from the Parks Highway at Ferry, easterly along the foothills of the Alaska Range.

Trails and Revised Statute (RS) 2477 Roads: Numerous trails and minor roads exist in this subregion. See Chapter 2, Public Access and Trails Management for additional information.

**LAND USE SUMMARY  
WEST ALASKA RANGE SUBREGION**

(Refer to the maps at the back of this document)

MGMT UNIT/ SUBUNIT	LAND USE DESIGNATIONS- PROPOSED CLASSIFICATIONS		PROHIBITED SURFACE USES	MINERALS	
	PRIMARY USE(S)	SECONDARY USE(S)		MGMT OF LOCATABLE MINERALS	MGMT OF LEASEABLE MINERALS
A	Habitat	Recreation	-Remote cabins -Land Sales -Grazing	Open	Open
B	Habitat	Recreation	-Remote cabins -Land Sales -Grazing	Open	Open
C-1	Habitat	Recreation	-Remote cabins -Land Sales -Grazing	Open	Open
C-2	Habitat		-Remote cabins -Land Sales -Grazing	Open Through Leasehold Location	Open
D-1	Settlement	Habitat Recreation	Remote cabins  Improved pas. grazing on remaining public lands	Closed	Closed to coal
D-2	Habitat		-Remote cabins -Land Sales -I.P. Grazing	Open	Open
E	Habitat		-Remote cabins -Land Sales -I.P. Grazing	Open	Open

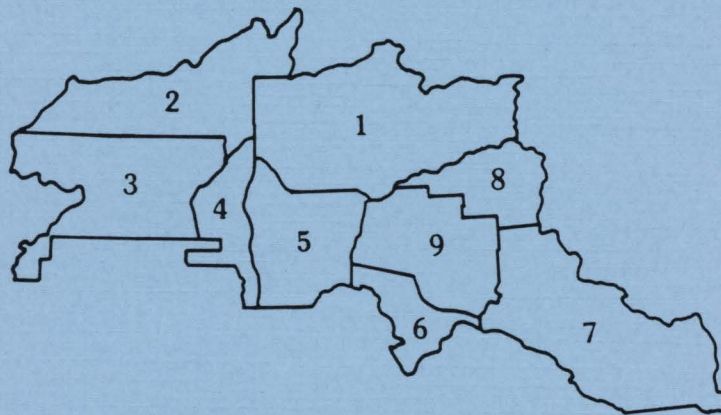


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## **Subregion 6**

### **East Alaska Range**

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1. Fairbanks North Star Borough
2. Lower Tanana
3. Kantishna
4. Parks
5. Alaska Range West
6. Alaska Range East
7. Upper Tanana
8. Goodpaster
9. Delta-Salcha Area Plan



## **F. Subregion #6 - East Alaska Range**

The East Alaska Range subregion is a mountainous area in the south-central portion of the Basin. Access to the area is via the Richardson Highway running north-south through the region and the Denali Highway running east-west.

Commercial guiding for big game, trapping, hunting and recreation are the principal land uses in this area. Some mining occurs in the northern part of the unit. Settlement in the unit is confined to areas very close to the road.

Future uses in this subregion are for the most part an extension of existing uses, i.e., recreation, fish and wildlife use and mineral extraction.

### **1. Agriculture**

There are no known agricultural areas in this subregion.

### **2. Forestry**

This area is located at too high an elevation to be a productive forest area. Consequently, no land has been designated for forestry.

### **3. Minerals**

This area has several scattered blocks of active claims north of Wildhorse Creek. The subregion will be left open to mineral entry, coal prospecting and oil and gas and coal leasing.

### **4. Recreation**

This subregion contains the second highest peaks of the Alaska Range and extensive glaciers and rivers. Central features include Summit and Fielding Lakes and the surrounding high country, and the Delta River with its boating opportunities. Access provided by the Denali and Richardson Highways increases the value of the area for tourism.

Fielding Lake has high value for public recreation. It is recommended for designation as a State Recreation Area.

The Castner, Canwell and Gulkana Glaciers will be retained in public ownership and managed for recreation. The Delta River corridor flows through a variety of terrain with some portions being highly scenic and some stretches challenging for boating. The river corridor will be protected in a recreation designation.

The scenic values along the Richardson and Denali Highways will be protected through management guidelines consistent with the Denali Scenic Highway Study (DNR, 1982).

## 5. Fish and Wildlife

The East Alaska Range subregion contains habitat that is extremely important for a variety of species. Mineral licks and peregrine falcon areas throughout the Alaska Range require habitat designation and protection.

## 6. Settlement

The opportunities for land sales in this region are limited due to the terrain. No areas have been identified for sale in this unit.

## 7. Transportation

The following access corridors have been identified by the Department of Transportation and Public Facilities. There are no proposals for actual construction of access within these corridors at this time, but the option to eventually develop access in these areas should not be precluded.

Richardson and Denali Highway Realignment: The Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities (DOT/PF) has future plans to reconstruct and realign portions of the Richardson and Denali Highways. DOT/PF will work with the planning team to choose the best routing that meets the land use objectives described in this report while still complying with appropriate highway standards and project costs.

Alaska Natural Gas Pipeline: A route, basically parallel to the existing Trans-Alaska pipeline, is proposed for the construction of a gas line from the North Slope to Fairbanks, and continuing either to the Canadian border via the Alaska Highway corridor or to Prince William Sound via the Richardson Highway and Trans-Alaska Pipeline corridor.

Trails and Revised Statute (RS) 2477 Roads: Numerous trails and minor roads exist in this subregion. See Chapter 2, Public Access and Trails Management for additional information.

**LAND USE SUMMARY  
EAST ALASKA RANGE SUBREGION**

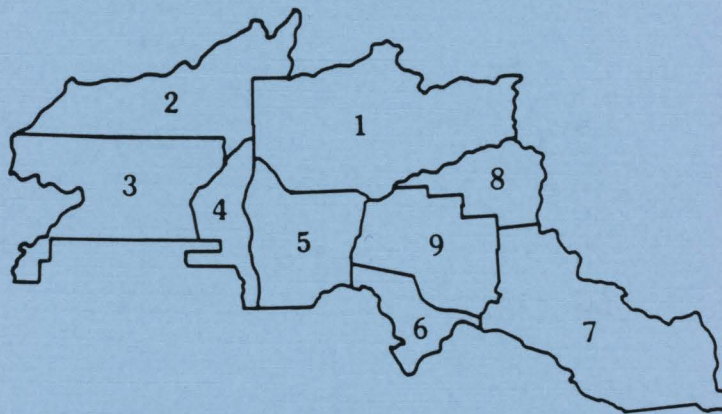
(Refer to the maps at the back of this document)

MGMT UNIT/ SUBUNIT	LAND USE DESIGNATIONS- PROPOSED CLASSIFICATIONS		PROHIBITED SURFACE USES	MINERALS	
	PRIMARY USE(S)	SECONDARY USE(S)		MGMT OF LOCATABLE MINERALS	MGMT OF LEASEABLE MINERALS
A	Habitat		-Remote cabins -Land Sales -Grazing	Open	Open
B-1	Habitat Recreation		-Remote cabins -Land Sales -Grazing	Open	Open
C-1	Habitat		-Remote cabins -Land Sales -Grazing	Open through Leasehold Location	Open
C-2	Recreation Habitat		-Remote cabins -Land Sales -Grazing	Open	Open

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## **Subregion 7 Upper Tanana**

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1. Fairbanks North Star Borough
2. Lower Tanana
3. Kantishna
4. Parks
5. Alaska Range West
6. Alaska Range East
7. Upper Tanana
8. Goodpaster
9. Delta-Salcha Area Plan

## H. Subregion #7 - Upper Tanana

This subunit includes the communities of Northway, Mentasta Lake, Tok, Tanacross, and Dot Lake. The Alaska Highway and the Tanana River pass through the center of the unit, while the Glenn Highway extends from Tok to Mentasta on the southwestern boundary of the subunit. Although these highways provide excellent access to the communities in the region, much of the area is mountainous and inaccessible.

Commercial guiding for big game, tourism, hunting, recreation, mineral exploration, forestry, and sport and subsistence hunting are major land uses in the subregion. Settlement in the subunit is largely confined to areas along the Alaska Highway.

The area outside the State Forest will be managed for multiple use including fish and wildlife and recreation. The northwestern part of the region will also be managed to encourage subsurface development. Approximately 8,687 acres are recommended for sale in this region. All lands retained in state ownership will be open to mineral entry.

### 1. Agriculture

There are no areas recommended for large scale agriculture in this subregion due to the high elevation and harsh climate. There is interest in small scale agriculture in the area, however, and an area of 1,000 acres will be available for this purpose. The area most suitable for this is to the east of Tok and the area southwest of Tok near the junction of the two highways but north of the Eagle Trail.

#### Disposals Recommended for Agriculture

<u>Project</u>	<u>Net Acres</u>
Tok Ag I	600
Tok Ag II	400
Total	<u>1,000</u>

### 2. Forestry

In this region, the legislatively-designated State Forest will supply the wood needs of most of the communities. However, timber harvesting will be allowed on all retained lands in the subregion.

### 3. Minerals

The Tok Massive Sulfides, located on the western edge of this subregion, represent one of the more significant mineral concentrations in the state. The active claim blocks in the area between the Tok River and Johnson Glacier will be managed for minerals as a primary use. There are no known oil and gas or coal resources in this area.

There are also several areas of high potential for minerals north of the highway between Dot Lake and Northway and around Berry Creek south of Dot Lake. These areas should be retained in public ownership and left open to mineral entry.

#### 4. Recreation

In this unit the Alaska and Glenn Highways provide physical and visual access to high mountain recreation opportunities. Glaciers provide important routes into the high country. Numerous trails and wildlife are important additional recreation resources. This subregion is important to both tourists and local residents in the communities of Dot Lake, Tanacross, Tok, and Mentasta.

Several lakes, trails and access sites in this subregion will be designated for recreation. Robertson Lakes are recommended for legislative designation.

Visual quality along the Alaska and Glenn highway corridors will be protected.

#### 5. Fish and Wildlife

There are high wildlife values in most of this subregion. Many areas of this region have high human use value, including the area south of Tok along the Glenn Highway.

Mineral licks along the Tok and Robertson Rivers and Clearwater Creek will be managed to protect them as critical habitat. The area around Mt. Neuberger is recommended for legislative designation as a Special Wildlife Management Area.

Areas along Yerrick Creek south of Cathedral Rapids, along the Tok and Tanana Rivers near proposed disposals, and the majority of state-owned land in the Tanacross and Northway areas will be managed for joint recreation and habitat values. The remaining state-owned areas of this region with the exception of the State Forest and disposal areas will be managed for multiple use, including wildlife habitat.

#### 6. Land Sales in the Upper Tanana Subregion

In the Upper Tanana region, a total of 4,837 acres of subdivisions, 2,850 acres of fee simple homesteads and 1,000 acres of agricultural homestead land will be offered for sale.

##### a. Land for Community Expansion

The Upper Tanana Region population is expected to increase by 425 people by the year 2000 (Socio-Economic Paper, RAS/DLWM, 1982). If the current population of 1,120 people has adequate land to live on, then between 425 and 1,700 acres would be required to meet the building needs of the growing population (Settlement Element, DLWM, 1983).

Sales of community expansion land have been fairly popular in the past: 59% of the acres offered have sold. This leaves a total of 1,662 acres available over-the-counter for community expansion needs in the future. In addition to the land available over-the-counter, another 3,175 acres are proposed for sale over the next 20 years. This new acreage however will not be sold before a significant percent of the land currently available over the counter has been taken.

The Native Corporations also own land in the immediate vicinity of most of the communities. Some of this land is likely to be sold over the next 20 years.

Native landholdings and past state sales are likely to create a large surplus of community expansion land in the subregion for all of the villages except Northway where no state land has been offered (the Native corporation is planning to offer some near Northway, however). In this area, the state should offer a small subdivision of approximately 200 acres.

#### Disposals Recommended for Community Expansion In the Upper Tanana

<u>Project</u>	<u>Net Acres</u>
Eagle (over the counter)	159
Three Mile (over the counter)	163
Tok Area (over-the-counter)	1,080
Tower Bluffs (over-the-counter)	260
Eagle II	55
Glenn	1,000
Glenn Ext.	120
Northway I	100
Northway II	100
Seven Mile	800
Tok New	1,000
Total	<u>4,837</u>

#### b. Recreational and Self-Sufficient Subdivisions and Homesteads

Past state sales of this type of land in the subregion have not been particularly popular due largely to poor drainage and difficult access. Only 10% of the available remote acreage has been staked. Native lands, however, may offer higher quality land on lakes and rivers. Dot Lake is considering offering land on Lake George and over the next 20 years other corporations are likely to offer recreational land.

In this area it is proposed that the state continue to offer the acres of land still available in past disposals before offering new projects.

### Disposals Recommended for Recreation Homesteads

Project	Net Acres
Fireweed (over the counter)	250
Robertson River	400
Tower Bluffs I	200
Tower Bluffs II	200
Tower Bluffs III	800
Tok Area I	200
Tok Area II	800
Total	2,850

### 7. Transportation

The following access corridors have been identified by the Department of Transportation and Public Facilities (DOT/PF). There are no proposals for actual construction of access within these corridors at this time, but the option to eventually develop access in these areas should not be precluded.

Alaska Natural Gas Pipeline: A route, basically parallel to the existing Trans-Alaska Pipeline, is proposed for the construction of a gasline from the North Slope to Fairbanks, and continuing either to the Canadian Border via the Alaska Highway corridor or to Prince William Sound via the Richardson Highway and Trans-Alaska Pipeline corridor.

Alaska, Tok Cutoff and Taylor Highways Realignment and Northway Road: DOT/PF has future plans to reconstruct and realign portions of the Alaska, Tok Cutoff (Glenn) and Taylor Highways and Northway Road. In some areas, this includes replacement of major bridges. DOT/PF will be working with the planning team to choose the best routing that meets the land use objectives described in this report while still complying with appropriate highway standards and project costs.

Alaska Railroad Extension: A route has been identified through the Tanana River and Alaska Highway corridors for an extension of the Alaska Railroad from Fairbanks to the Canadian Border.

Prince William Sound - Upper Tanana Railroad Corridor: In this subregion, a corridor has been identified by the Interior Alaska Transportation Study for a railroad from Prince William Sound at Valdez or Cordova to the Interior near Tok. Such a railroad would provide access to the Delta Belt and other mining areas along the route. The route follows the Richardson and Tok Cutoff Highway corridors.

Delta Belt Access: In this subregion, corridors to the Delta Belt mineral area have been identified by the Interior Alaska Transportation Study. Access would be via a railroad spur line from either the Prince William Sound railroad route or a spur line from an extension of the Alaska Railroad from Fairbanks. An alternative would be road access from either the Alaska Highway or the Tok Cutoff.



Trails and Revised Statute (RS) 2477 Roads: Numerous trails and minor roads exist in this subregion. See Chapter 2, Public Access and Trails Management for additional information.

**LAND USE SUMMARY  
UPPER TANANA SUBREGION**

(Refer to the maps at the back of this document)

MGMT UNIT/ SUBUNIT	LAND USE DESIGNATIONS- PROPOSED CLASSIFICATIONS		PROHIBITED SURFACE USES	MINERALS	
	PRIMARY USE(S)	SECONDARY USE(S)		MGMT OF LOCATABLE MINERALS	MGMT OF LEASEABLE MINERALS
A	Habitat		-Remote cabins -Land Sales -Improved pasture grazing	Open	Open
B-1	Low Value Res. Mgmt. Habitat Recreation Forestry Settlement			Open	Open
B-2	Settlement	Habitat Recreation	Remote cabins	Closed	Closed to coal
C-1	Habitat Recreation	Forestry	Remote cabins Land Sales Grazing	Open	Open
C-2	Habitat Recreation		Remote cabins Land Sales Grazing	Open	Open
C-3	Habitat	Recreation Forestry	Remote cabins Land Sales Grazing	Open	Open
D-1	Agriculture Settlement	Forestry	Remote cabins	Closed	Closed to coal
E-1	Habitat		Remote cabins Land Sales Grazing	Open	Open
E-2	Habitat		Remote cabins Land Sales Grazing	Open Through Leasehold Location	Open
F-1	Settlement	Habitat Forestry Recreation	Remote cabins	Closed	Closed to coal
F-2	Habitat Forestry	Recreation	Remote cabins Land Sales Imp. pasture grazing	Open	Open
F-3	Recreation (State Rec. Area)		Remote cabins Land Sales Grazing Leases	Closed	Closed

**LAND USE SUMMARY  
UPPER TANANA SUBREGION**

(Refer to the maps at the back of this document)

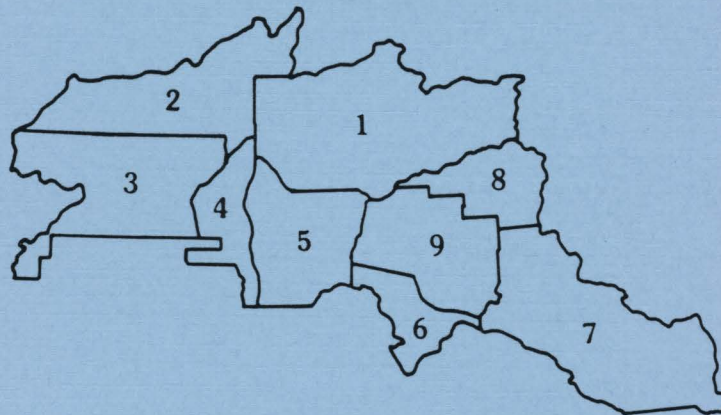
MGMT UNIT/ SUBUNIT	LAND USE DESIGNATIONS- PROPOSED CLASSIFICATIONS		PROHIBITED SURFACE USES	MINERALS	
	PRIMARY USE(S)	SECONDARY USE(S)		MGMT OF LOCATABLE MINERALS	MGMT OF LEASEABLE MINERALS
G	Forestry Habitat		Remote cabins Land Sales Imp. pasture grazing	Open	Open
H-1	High Value Res. Mgmt. Agriculture Habitat Recreation Forestry Minerals		Remote cabins Land Sales	Open	Open
H-2	Habitat	Recreation Forestry	Remote cabins Land Sales Improved Pasture Grazing	Open	Open
I	Forestry Habitat Recreation		Remote cabins Land Sales Improved pasture grazing	Open	Open
J-1	High Value Res. Mgmt. Agriculture Settlement Forestry Habitat Recreation Minerals		Remote cabins Land Sales	Open	Open
J-2	Forestry Habitat	Recreation	Remote cabins Settlement Imp. pasture grazing	Open	Open

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## **Subregion 8**

### **Goodpaster**

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1. Fairbanks North Star Borough
2. Lower Tanana
3. Kantishna
4. Parks
5. Alaska Range West
6. Alaska Range East
7. Upper Tanana
8. Goodpaster
9. Delta-Salcha Area Plan

## **G. Subregion #8 - Upper Goodpaster**

This is one of the most remote subregions in the Basin. Located about 30 miles east of Delta Junction, the unit is a rugged area with no roads and few settlements.

Some trapping and hunting occurs in the area, but the major land use is mining exploration through most of the unit and active mining in the eastern third of the subregion. There are habitats and forests of moderate value in this subregion, but existing information indicates that minerals are the principal resource in much of the region. A few trapping cabins and mining cabins exist, but settlement is sparse due to the lack of access.

This area will be managed primarily for minerals and fish and wildlife habitat.

### **1. Agriculture**

Land in this subregion is at elevations in excess of 2000 feet and is not recommended for agricultural designation.

### **2. Forestry**

In the Upper Goodpaster Subregion of the Tanana Plan, the State Forest will meet the demands for both local use and economic development. There are some fairly high value forests in this subregion which were not included in the State Forest, but they are too remote to be of significance in meeting the foreseeable commercial or personal need for wood products. However, these lands will be open to timber harvesting and other multiple uses.

### **3. Minerals**

The principal mineral potential in this subregion occurs in the Upper Goodpaster River and the Tibbs Creek area. Active placer mining occurs in numerous tributaries of Tibbs Creek. Although there are currently few mining claims located in the subregion, there is moderate to high potential for discovery of economic deposits. No coal or hydrocarbon formations are known within the area, but the Goodpaster Subregion will be left open to mineral entry, coal prospecting, oil and gas leasing, coal leasing and leasing for millsites.

### **4. Recreation**

Due to its remote location and lack of navigable rivers, this area does not have high value for public recreation. However, the trails in the area will be protected and recreational use of the rivers will be ensured.

## 5. Fish and Wildlife

The habitat of this region is of moderate value. The Goodpaster River corridor, however, is of high value and will be protected for its habitat values. Two settlement areas are designated along the river and will be designed to minimize the impact on fish and wildlife. The rest of this unit will be retained in public ownership and managed jointly for habitat and minerals. Conflicts between these two uses will be addressed in the subunit guidelines.

## 6. Land Sales in the Upper Goodpaster Subregion

Within the Goodpaster Subregion, a total of 3,400 acres of state land are recommended to be sold for fee simple homesteading.

In the past, there have been no land sales in this region. Because the area is largely inaccessible, only two areas have been identified for sale. These projects are expected to provide adequate opportunity for those wishing to settle or recreate in this remote region of the Basin.

### Fee Simple Homesteads:

Sand Creek	400 acres
Upper Goodpaster	3,000 acres

## 7. Transportation

The following access corridors have been identified by the Department of Transportation and Public Facilities. There are no proposals for actual construction of access within these corridors, but the option to eventually develop access in these areas should not be precluded.

The only identified major transportation impact in this subregion is in the extreme western portion near the Trans-Alaska Pipeline. The construction of a natural gas pipeline could pass through this area. No other major transportation corridors have been identified through this subregion.

Trails and Revised Statute (RS) 2477 Roads: Numerous trails and minor roads exist in this subregion. See Chapter 2, Public Access and Trails Management for additional information.

**LAND USE SUMMARY  
UPPER GOODPASTER SUBREGION**

(Refer to the maps at the back of this document)

MGMT UNIT/ SUBUNIT	LAND USE DESIGNATIONS- PROPOSED CLASSIFICATIONS		PROHIBITED SURFACE USES	MINERALS	
	PRIMARY USE(S)	SECONDARY USE(S)		MGMT OF LOCATABLE MINERALS	MGMT OF LEASEABLE MINERALS
A	Forestry Habitat	Recreation	Land Sales Improved pasture grazing	Open	Open
B-1	Settlement	Recreation Habitat	Remote cabins	Closed	Closed to coal
B-2	Habitat Recreation	Forestry	Grazing	Open	Open
C	Habitat		Remote cabins Land Sales Grazing	Open	Open



# **Chapter 4**

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## **Implementation**

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## I. Introduction

This chapter summarizes the actions necessary to implement the land use policies proposed by this area plan. These actions include proposals for legislative designation of certain lands, recommended land selections, and preparation of management plans. Most of these proposed actions are discussed in more detail in other portions of the plan. For example, proposals for legislative designations are included in the management intent summaries for several of the subregions.

In addition to the implementation recommendations, this chapter discusses several proposed transportation corridors. These corridors will require substantially more study before they are recommended for construction. However, the option to develop access in these corridors should not be precluded.

Once the plan is adopted these implementation actions will be used as a basis for budget preparation including requests for changes in staff levels and requests for legislative funding of capital improvements, data collection or other actions necessary to implement the plan.

A. Priorities for Legislative and Administrative Designation

A number of areas within the Tanana Basin are being considered for recommendation for legislative designation as either a State trail, recreational river, recreational area, critical habitat, or wildlife management area. These proposed designations serve as official recognition of the outstanding public values in these areas and of the state's intent to retain these areas in public ownership in perpetuity. A legislative designation is recommended when an area proposed by the plan for long-term retention possesses such high resource values that:

1. It is clear that the area should remain in public ownership permanently; and/or
2. The nature and value of the resources present require more restrictive management for their protection than is possible under a general multiple use classification.

The areas being considered for special designations are shown below in order of the priority for such designations. The total area proposed for legislative designation is approximately 500,000 acres or 2% of the total study area. For additional information on individual proposals, see the management unit summaries in Chapter 3.

The following areas proposed for legislative designation will have management prescriptions prepared by Division of Parks and Outdoor Recreation (DPOR). DPOR will also present the proposals to the legislature and manage the trail, area or river if it is approved. Interim management will be the responsibility of the Division of Land and Water Management, following the guidelines specified in the management units in Chapter 3.

1. State Recreation Rivers

<u>River or Stream</u>	<u>Acreage</u>	<u>Subregion</u>
a. Chatanika	57,700 ✓	Borough
b. Nenana River	3,000 ✓	Parks Highway

These streams and rivers are extremely valuable to the region's economy and environment. They are heavily used by the public for floating, boating and transportation to hunting areas. The riparian habitat is also important for moose and other mammals. The Chatanika is a popular fishing area.

The proposed state recreational river boundaries run approximately one-quarter mile landward on each side of the river. Within these areas, land and water would be managed for multiple use, including hunting, fishing, and other recreational activities, habitat management, timber harvesting, and water quality protection. Timber management activities are secondary uses in the corridors; they will be designed to protect and enhance habitat and recreation values and water quality. Land sales will be prohibited in these corridors; however, public use cabins and in some instances commercial recreation facilities will be allowed. Provisions will be made for access across the river and for existing mining claims. The corridors will be closed to new mineral entry.

## 2. State Trails

<u>Trail</u>	<u>Length</u>	<u>Subregion</u>
a. Circle-Fairbanks Trail	approx. 60 mi.	Borough

The Circle-Fairbanks Historic Trail is the original route between Circle City and Fairbanks. Portions of the trail within the Borough and Tanana Basin boundaries are separated into a summer ridgetop trail and a winter sled route along the Chatanika River. The portion of the trail between Cleary Summit and Coffee Dome is used extensively for mining access. With the exception of a small block of patented mining claims near the beginning of the trail at Cleary Summit, this trail lies on State lands.

Because of the high mineral potential of this area, major efforts have been made to coordinate development of the trail with mining interests. Careful planning of this trail to coordinate mining and recreation use could help promote a more balanced public perception of the role of mineral development in the economy of Interior Alaska.

b. Chena Hot Springs Winter Trail	approx. 50 mi.	Borough
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The Chena Hot Springs Winter Trail is the original winter sled route between Chena Hot Springs and Fairbanks. The trail originated in the early 1900's and has been used extensively since that time. Current uses of the trail include dogmushing, snowmachining, horseback riding and moving farm equipment.

c. North Fork Valley Trail	13 mi.	Borough
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The North Fork Valley Trail extends approximately 13 miles northeast from Chena Hot Springs Road toward the Borough and Tanana Basin boundaries. The trail is an extension of the Chena Hot Springs Winter Trail and was used in the 1983 Yukon Quest Dogsled Race.

The trail is used mainly by cross country skiers, dogmushers and snowmachines. A major portion of this trail passes through the Far Mountain disposal and is used for access through this area.

The minimum width of each of these trails is 200' where they pass through disposals. Actual trail widths will be determined when the management prescription for each trail is written. It is likely that widths along each trail may vary depending on topography and adjacent uses.

### 3. Recreation Areas

- a. Robertson Lakes State Recreation Area -- approximately 15,000 acres -- Upper Tanana Subregion

This is a very popular fishing and camping area. It would be managed for multiple use provided that these uses are consistent with the primary goal of providing recreation and protecting the visual quality of the area.

- b. Fielding Lake State Recreation Area -- 30,700 acres -- East Alaska Range

The area proposed for designation is highly scenic with opportunities for recreational activity on both Fielding and Summit Lake and summer and winter back country exploration. Due to the lack of trees, high water table and permafrost, the area is very susceptible to degradation of wild and natural landscapes. The area would be managed to protect the integrity of the landscape and maintain the recreational values.

- c. Other Recreation Areas and Sites

There are several additional recreation areas and sites recommended in the plan. Although they are less than 640 acres in size and may be handled administratively by an ILMA to DPOR rather than requiring legislative designation, they are included here because the overall intent of protecting an outstanding public value through long term retention is the same.

- (1) White Mountains Access Sites -- up to 8 - 100 acre sites -- Borough
- (2) Brown Lake State Recreation Area -- 640 acres -- Lower Tanana
- (3) Grapefruit Rocks State Recreation Area -- 600 acres -- Lower Tanana
- (4) Forrest Lake State Recreation Area -- 5 acres -- Upper Tanana
- (5) Tanana Valley Overlook -- 2 acres -- Borough
- (6) Davidson Ditch Historic Sites -- number of sites and acreage to be determined by DPOR -- Borough

- (7) June Creek State Recreation Site -- 500 acres -- Parks
- (8) Hutlinana Hot Springs Recreation Site -- 640 acres -- Lower Tanana
- (9) Paradise Hill Recreation Site -- 640 acres -- Upper Tanana

#### 4. Wildlife Areas

The ADF&G will prepare management prescriptions in conjunction with DNR for the following wildlife area proposals and present them to the legislature. After these areas are approved, the Special Wildlife Management Areas will be managed by DNR in consultation with ADF&G. The Toklat Critical Habitat area will be managed by ADF&G.

- a. Tok River Special Wildlife Management Area -- approximately 166,000 acres -- Upper Tanana Subregion

This area is one of the most productive grizzly, moose and sheep habitats in the state and is a heavily-used hunting area. It would be managed for multiple use to the extent consistent with the primary goal of protection of the habitat. Land sales, remote cabins and grazing would be prohibited due to the conflict with the wildlife values. The unit is open to mineral entry.

- b. Toklat Critical Habitat Area -- 2,000 acres -- Kantishna Subregion

An area of about 2,000 acres on the Toklat River which is critical salmon spawning habitat and prime grizzly habitat is recommended for legislative designation as a Critical Habitat Area. The area would be managed primarily for fish and wildlife and it would be closed to mineral entry.

- c. Minto Flats Special Wildlife Management Area -- 270,000 acres -- Lower Tanana Subregion

The Minto Flats is a large wetland which is outstanding habitat for many species of wildlife and critical habitat for some species of waterfowl. The area is also very important for both subsistence and sport hunters. It would be managed primarily for fish and wildlife and it would be closed to mineral entry.

### B. Land Trades, Relinquishments and Selections

#### 1. Land Trades and Relinquishments

The planning team recommends that the Stampede Trail area (three townships) be exchanged with the Park Service. The unit is discussed in more detail in Parks Highway Subregion, Management Unit E.

### C. Management Plans

One management plan is proposed for the Basin which would involve a detailed study of trails. This plan should locate and map important trails, determine the principle uses, recommend whether public ownership or easements are warranted and what widths these should be, recommend priorities for surveying and provide management guidelines for protecting the principal uses. The plan should be done cooperatively with the Borough and it should specify management intents for each trail.

### D. Instream Flow Reservations

The following is a list of the rivers identified in the Tanana Basin which require instream flow reservations. These may not be the only streams on which a reservation is needed and it is likely that further study will identify others. These rivers represent priorities in terms of needing instream flow reservations.

First priority rivers include the Chatanika, the Salcha and the Toklat. These rivers require regulation in order to protect their high habitat quality. In addition, the Chatanika and the Salcha have recreation values for boating and fishing and are important clearwater streams. The Toklat is a critical salmon spawning river.

The Delta, The Goodpaster, and the Nenana rivers are the next order of priority for instream flow reservations. These rivers are important for both habitat and recreation.

Finally, the Tolovana, Teklanika, Cosna, Kantishna and Robertson rivers should be studied for necessary instream flow reservations to protect habitat and recreation values and to provide for the settlements on the Teklanika, Cosna and Kantishna rivers.

The relative importance and method of preserving instream flow in these rivers will need to be determined by further study. It is recommended that examination of these rivers should be jointly undertaken by DLWM, ADF&G and where appropriate, DPOR.

### E. Transportation

#### 1. Introduction

The design of an efficient regional transportation system will be key to resource development and a major determinant of land use patterns within the Tanana Basin.

Due to the scale of this plan, it is not possible to identify actual routes of proposed roads and railroads. However, general transportation corridors have been identified. These corridors could facilitate resource development, increase opportunities for public recreation and tourism and open land for settlement. The corridors are consistent with the Interior Alaska Transportation Study, the Western and Arctic Alaska Transportation Study and various studies conducted by the Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities (DOT/PF) and others.

Before any of these corridors are actually built, it will be necessary to see if: 1) the resources to be transported would economically justify the capital improvements necessary; 2) the total benefit of building the road or railroad would exceed the financial, environmental and social costs.

These corridors are not recommendations for construction. They are mentioned here because the option to eventually construct roads or railroads through them should be protected.

## 2. Proposed Transportation Corridors

### a. Alaska Natural Gas Pipeline

Three alternative routes for the construction of a pipeline to carry natural gas from the North Slope to the Lower 48 have been identified. The route from the North Slope to Fairbanks basically follows the existing Trans-Alaska Pipeline. One alternative would construct the gasline from Fairbanks via the Richardson/Alaska Highway and Tanana River corridor to Delta Junction and the Canadian Border. The second alternative follows the same route to Delta Junction but continues via the Richardson Highway and Trans-Alaska Pipeline corridor to Prince William Sound. The third route would follow the Parks Highway and Alaska Railroad corridor from Fairbanks to Cook Inlet. However, this last alternative route would conflict with land use objectives for the Nenana River Corridor area (see F-2, in Parks).

### b. Alaska Railroad Extension

An extension of the Alaska Railroad from Fairbanks would provide access to the Delta Belt and could provide a connection to Canada and the Lower 48. Additionally, spur lines could provide access to the Slate Creek asbestos deposit off the Taylor Highway. A route has been identified through the Tanana Basin via the Tanana River and Richardson and Alaska Highway corridors for an extension of the railroad from Fairbanks to the Canadian Border.

c. Prince William Sound - Upper Tanana Railroad Corridor

The Interior Alaska Transportation Study identified the construction of a railroad from either Valdez or Cordova as an alternate to the extension of the Alaska Railroad. This would serve as the transportation system for development of the Delta Belt and possibly the Slate Creek asbestos deposit. This route follows the Richardson and Tok Highway corridors from Prince William Sound toward Tok.

d. Western Access Railroad Corridor

Should the development of minerals in the western portion of the State occur, the construction of a railroad has been identified as a possible means of transporting goods to and from the area. The Interior Alaska Transportation Study and the Western and Arctic Alaska Transportation Study identified a corridor from Nenana to Tanana south of the Tanana River. From Tanana the rail line would continue toward the Bornite area and possibly to Nome. An alternate to the railroad would be a highway which would not pass through the area covered by this plan.

e. Twin Mountain Access Route

The Twin Mountain area has the most potential for mineral development within the Fairbanks North Star Borough. Three alternatives have been identified as possible access routes. The route identified by the Interior Alaska Transportation Study as the most feasible one is an extension of Chena Hot Springs Road. This would follow the Middle Fork Chena River and would extend the road approximately sixty-five miles. Two other possible routes are: an extension of Johnson Road or a new road up the Salcha River Valley. However, the Salcha River Valley route would conflict with land use objectives as defined in this plan and it is not recommended.

f. Lignite - Kantishna Highway Corridor

Any mineral development of the Kantishna Hills would require an access route. The existing Denali Park Road is substandard in all respects and is inadequate for transporting the vehicles needed for mining. This corridor would connect Kantishna to the Parks Highway near Lignite (Healy) and would utilize portions of the existing Stampede Road. In addition to mineral development, this route could provide an alternate road for tourists wanting to see Mount McKinley and Denali National Park and Preserve, depending on the degree of mining development that occurs. This corridor was analyzed by the Interior Alaska Transportation Study. This plan strongly recommends that this new route, if constructed, be located to minimize adverse impacts on the caribou calving grounds found in this area.



g. Nenana - Kantishna - McGrath Highway Corridor

The main aspect of this corridor is that it provides an alternate access route to the Kantishna area. Overall, the route would connect the Parks Highway from Ferry in a westerly direction, then southwesterly to Kantishna and possibly onto McGrath should a connection there be desired.

h. Upper Wood River (Bonnifield Mining District) Access

This area has significant potential for hardrock mining development of lead, zinc, gold and silver with and has active exploration and development projected through the 1980's. A corridor has been identified to this area from the Parks Highway at Ferry, easterly along the foothills of the Alaska Range. A less desirable alternate is along the Bonnifield Trail from Fairbanks which passes through the Blair Lakes Bombing and Gunnery Range.

i. Nenana - Totchaket Area Access

With the future development of the Nenana-Totchaket area for agriculture, the need for access will certainly increase. Routes for roads and/or railroad spurs have been identified and these rights-of-way shall be protected. Additionally, this route could be extended to the Kantishna River to provide access to the forestry area. At the current time it is unlikely that sufficient timber volume exists to justify a road, but changing market conditions could make this route viable in the long term. Another possibility would be an extension south to form a loop to the Parks Highway at Rex which would provide access to previous state land disposals.

3. Existing Transportation Routes

a. Highway Reconstruction, Realignment and Improvements

Many highways or segments of highways are substandard in width, curvature, design speed or capacity. These would possibly include all or portions of the Alaska, Richardson, Parks, Dalton, Steese, Elliott, Taylor, Denali and Tok Cutoff Highways and Northway Road. The Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities (DOT/PF) has proposed some of these projects and will seek funding according to regional priorities. DOT/PF will work with various agencies and the planning team to choose the best routing that meets the land use objectives described in this report while still complying with Legislative mandates, appropriate highway standards and project costs. This plan does not preclude improvements recommended by DOT/PF for engineering and public safety considerations.

#### b. Trails and Revised Statute (RS) 2477 Roads

Numerous trails and minor roads, some of which are claimed under Revised Statute (RS) 2477, traverse the area in this report. See Chapter 2, Public Access and Trails Management for additional information.

### F. Land Sales Program in the Tanana Basin: 1986 - 2000

#### 1. Introduction

The following section discusses the land sales program in the Tanana Basin for the next 20 years. Included is a section on what will be done with past subdivision and remote sale areas; changes that should be made in the 1986 land disposal program; and a list of the short and long term sale areas in the Basin.

#### 2. Disposal Schedule

The Department will publish annually a statewide land offering and disposal plan. It is important that Alaskans be able to review the amounts and locations of land disposals which would result from the application of DNR's land disposal policies. The statewide disposal plan will incorporate regional land disposal plans and present recommendations for land offerings in each region of the state. The recommendations would be based on DNR's land disposal policies as well as on analyses of land suitability, supply and demand studies, consideration of competing land use values, transportation systems and other factors of regional concern.

The statewide plan will present regional land offering recommendations for two planning periods. Five-year recommendations will be specific regarding location, acreage and project type for each year. A twenty-year disposal pool also will be established consisting of the areas where DNR anticipates future disposals offerings.

This disposal plan that is included in this section will be a guide for the Division of Land and Water as it nominates projects into the LADS process. The Division of Land and Water needs flexibility to change from this plan and alter the specific acreages and the year certain projects are offered, however the following minimum guidelines must be met by the disposal section when they develop each years program:

1. To ensure that there is adequate land for sale in the Tanana Basin over the life of this plan the state will offer, starting in 1987 no more than 1,000 acres of new subdivisions per year; 3,000 acres of new fee homesteading per year; and 1250 acres of new agriculture sales per year. These projects will come from areas identified for sale in the Tanana Basin, Nenana-Totchaket, and Delta Salcha Area Plans. The maximum acreage for agriculture may change if it is decided that agriculture homesteading or small agriculture sales will be allowed in the Nenana-Totchaket area.

2. The state will attempt to offer at least one new project each year in each of the 8 regions of the Tanana Basin.

3. The state will spread the sale of the high quality lands equally over the life of this plan.

To meet goals 2 and 3, the Division of Land and Water will begin offering certain projects in phases, rather than all at once. For example, a large sale of high quality land like the one on Wein Lake and the one on the Teklanika will be offered over 7 or 8 years. This will ensure that there are high quality offerings available through the life of the plan, and that there are enough areas available so a project can be offered each year in the various regions of the Basin.

Because of the need to respond to changing demands, fluctuating funding levels and new information, the Division of Land and Water will periodically review the plan's allowed level of annual disposals. Minor departures from the disposal target figures (less than 25% increase in one year or less than a 10% increase over any five year period) can be made by the Division without a plan amendment. Substantial departures from the plans disposal targets, however, require a plan amendment as described in Appendix I.

If an interagency planning team determines that more settlement land needs to be identified, the settlement policies in Chapter 2 of the plan as well as the management intent statements for each subregion and management unit should be used as a guide to identifying the additional acreage. The first areas the planning team will examine, in light of these policies, for possible inclusion into the settlement pool are the following areas: Eureka Remote, Overland Agriculture, Sam Creek and Dot Lake Remote. If more land is needed the planning team will look for further settlement land in management units that have settlement as a secondary use.

### 3. Past Sale Areas

This section of the plan outlines what should be done with the areas that have been offered for sale in the past.

#### a. Past Subdivisions

All subdivisions that have been offered in the past that still have acres that were not sold should remain available for sale over the counter. The following is a list of those projects.

<u>Project</u>	<u>Net Acres</u>
Bears Den	134
Desperation	146
Hayes Creek	465
Haystack Ext.	340
Haystack	97
McCloud	143
Olmes E.	132
Wigwam	77
Deadman Lake	533
Kentucky Creek	543
Geskamina Lake	205
Iksgiza	227
Kindamina Lake	193
West Twin Lake	119
Anderson	1200
Farmview	349
June Creek	1115
Nenana South	147
Panguingue	827
Rex	43
Eagle	159
Three Mile	163
Tok Area	1080
Tower Bluffs	260
<b>Total</b>	<b>8,697</b>

#### b. Past Remote Projects

The following remote project areas should be changed over to homesteading areas and offered over the counter as soon as possible.

<u>Project</u>	<u>Acres Available as of (4/84)</u>
Any Creek	100
Caribou Creek	1440
Chena South	600
Far Mountain	2400
Hunts Creek	600
West Fork	4000
Dugan Hills	7000
Cannon	1700
Snoshoe	1600
Zitziana	2500
Bear Creek	400
Slate Creek	1000
Windy Creek	4000
Fireweed	250

Total 27,590

There are several past remote projects that should be offered for sale through the homesteading program, however because of the popularity of the projects and the limited number of sales of similiar quality in the Basin, the areas should be offered over several years rather than all at once. Outlined below is a list of projects and years that the area should be offered. In the years the project is scheduled for sale only a limited number of packets should be offered.

<u>Project</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>Acre</u>
Kantishna I	Over the Counter	3000
Kantishna II	After 1991	3000
Lake Minchumina	After 1991	400
Gold King I	1987	100
Gold King II	1991	100
Gold King III	After 1991	200
Wood River I	1989	100
Wood River II	After 1991	150

Total 7,050

## 2. 1986 Disposal Program

The 1986 disposal program, as it currently stands, contains approximately 40% of the high quality community expansion land identified by the plan in the Borough. Rather than sell such a signifigant portion of the total available land in one year, the land will be spread over 20 years. Only one project (probably Emma Creek) will be sold in 1986 and the rest of the projects will be delayed for sale in later years (this includes Big Eldorado, Fairbanks Odd Lots, Little Birch, U'Connor, Riverwood, Skiview, Smallwood, and Tanglewood Heights).

### 3. New Disposal Projects

The following tables are a tentative listing of projects that will be sold in the short term (before 1991) and the long term (after 1991). The Division of Land and Water Management will use these lists as a guide for developing its yearly disposal program.

#### a. Short Term Projects

##### Short Term Agricultural Disposals (before 1991)

Project	Net Acres
Aggie Creek East I Ag	750
Aggie Creek East II Ag	750
Eielson II Ag	2000
Goldstream Ag	5735
Goldstream I Ag	6615
Goldstream II Ag	5000
Kobe I Ag	1500
Kobe II Ag	1830
Kobe III Ag	750
Kobe IV Ag	750
Kobe V Ag	750
Snoshoe Pass I Ag	500
Snoshoe Pass II Ag	500
Snoshoe Pass III Ag	500
Tatalina I Ag	500
Tatalina II Ag	500
Tatalina III Ag	500
Tok Ag I	400
Two Mile Lake Ag	2500
Windy I Ag	750
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>33,080</b>

Short Term  
Fee Simple Homesteads  
(before 1991)

Project	Net Acres
Aggie Creek East I HS	1500
Aggie Creek East II HS	1500
Aggie Creek HS	4000
Anderson New I HS	500
Bearpaw HS	2500
Clear Sky HS	5000
Cosna Lower I HS	3000
Cosna Lower II HS	3000
Geskakmina Lk I HS	750
Gold King I HS	100
Gold King II HS	100
Healy HS	4840
Left Fork Addition HS	120
Mariana HS	1000
Montana Creek HS	400
Mt Ryan HS	3000
Mucha Lake I HS	1000
Mucha Lake II HS	1500
Ridge Rock HS	400
Sand Creek HS	400
Snohomish Lake HS	1000
Snoshoe Pass I HS	500
Snoshoe Pass II HS	500
Southwind HS	1000
Tatalina HS	500
Teklanika I HS	500
Teklanika II HS	250
Teklanika III HS	250
Tok Area I HS	200
Tower Bluffs I HS	200
Tower Bluffs II HS	200
Upper Goodpaster I HS	500
Upper Goodpaster II HS	500
Wein Lake I HS	1000
Wein Lake II HS	1000
Wein Lake III HS	1000
Westridge I HS	1000
Westridge II HS	1000
White Mountain I HS	1000
Wood River I HS	100
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>46,810</b>

Short Term  
Subdivisions  
(before 1991)

Project	Net Acres
Alder Creek II S	200
Anderson New I S	200
Aspenwood S	250
Berg S	329
Eagle II S	55
Emma Creek I S	260
Emma Creek II S	140
Eureka Community I S	100
Eureka Community II S	100
Glenn S	1000
Little Birch I S	150
Little Birch II S	250
Little Birch III S	250
Little Birch IV S	250
Little Willow S	100
Martin S	1000
Murphy S	204
Northway I S	100
Otto Lake I S	75
Otto Lake II S	75
Riverview I S	1223
Riverview II S	100
Riverview III S	100
Snohomish Lake I S	50
Snohomish Lake II S	50
Snoshoe I S	300
Snoshoe II S	200
Springview S	300
Summit Lake I S	50
Summit Lake II S	50
Tatalina I S	100
Tofty I S	100
Tofty II S	100
Village View S	200
Wein Lake I S	100
Wein Lake II S	75
Wein Lake III S	75
Westridge I S	100
Westridge II S	100
Whoopie I S	100
Whoopie II S	100
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>8,661</b>



#### 4. Long Term Projects

The following charts show the amount of land in different programs recommended for sale in the long term (after 1991). Many of these projects will require further study or will likely be more feasible if better access becomes available.

#### Long Term Subdivisions (after 1991)

Project	Net Acres
Anderson New II S	800
Big Eldorado S	150
Bigwood	120
Fbks Odd Lots	40
Fox S	250
Glenn Ext. S	120
Hutlitakwa S	1400
Lake Minch New S	100
Land Swap S	300
Nenana North S	300
Nenana Ridge I S	1000
Northway II S	100
O'Conner S	200
Riverview IV S	300
Riverwood S	30
Seven Mile S	800
Skiview S	300
Smallwood S	250
Snohomish Lake III S	200
Snoshoe III S	400
Summit Lake III S	50
Tanglewood Hts S	120
Tatalina II S	200
Tok New S	1000
Village View Ext. S	100
Wein Lake IV S	450
Westridge III S	200
Whoopie III S	250
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>9,530</b>

Long Term  
Agricultural Disposals  
(after 1991)

Project	Net Acres
Chump Ag	1000
Globe Creek Ag	500
Julius Creek Ag	1000
Kobe VI Ag	750
Lost Ag	1000
Snoshoe Pass IV Ag	1000
Tatalina IV Ag	600
Tok Ag II	1000
Wilbur Ag	1000
Wilbur Jr. Ag	750
Windy II Ag	5050
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>13,650</b>

Long Term  
Fee Homesteads  
(after 1991)

Project	Net Acres
Anderson New II HS	1500
Chitanana HS	850
Cosna Upper HS	6000
Geskakmina Lk II HS	750
Globe Creek HS	1000
Gold King III HS	200
Kantishna II HS	3000
Kindamina Lake HS	1500
Lake Minch HS	400
Lignite HS	1000
Robertson River HS	400
Snoshoe Pass III HS	500
Teklanika IV HS	1000
Tok Area II HS	800
Tower Bluffs III HS	800
Upper Goodpaster III HS	2000
Wein Lake IV HS	1000
Westridge III HS	4500
White Mountain II HS	1000
Wood River II HS	150
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>28,350</b>

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**Appendix I**  
**Procedures for Plan Modification**  
**and Amendment**

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## APPENDIX I

### PROCEDURES FOR PLAN MODIFICATION AND EXCEPTIONS TO ITS PROVISIONS

#### PLAN MODIFICATION

The land use designations, the policies, the implementation actions, and the management guidelines of this plan may be changed if conditions warrant. The plan will be updated periodically as new data and new technologies become available and as changing social and economic conditions place different demands on public lands. The Department of Natural Resources will review proposed modifications of the plan.

#### A. Periodic Review

An interagency planning team, led by the Division of Land and Water Management, will coordinate periodic review of this plan at the request of the Commissioner of the Department of Natural Resources. The plan review will include meetings with all interested groups and the general public.

#### B. Amendments

The plan may be amended. An amendment adds to or modifies the basic intent of the plan. Changes to the planned uses, policies, guidelines or certain implementation actions constitute amendments. A proposal to change an agricultural area to residential use, or a proposal to sell land up to the river's edge where a guideline requires that a buffer be retained in public ownership are examples of changes requiring amendment. Amendments require public notice and public hearings. They must be approved by the Commissioner. Management plans developed by the Division of Land and Water Management may recommend amendments to the plan. Amendments may be proposed by agencies, municipalities, or members of the public. Requests for amendments are submitted to the Fairbanks office of the Division of Land and Water Management, Alaska Department of Natural Resources.

#### C. Minor Changes

A minor change is one which does not modify or add to the basic intent of the plan. Minor changes may be necessary for clarification, consistency, or to facilitate implementation of the plan. Minor changes do not require public review. Minor changes may be proposed by agencies, municipalities, or members of the public. Requests for minor changes are submitted to the Fairbanks office of the Division of Land and Water Management, Alaska Department of Natural Resources.

SPECIAL EXCEPTIONS - DNR PROCEDURES

Exceptions to the provisions of the plan may be made without modification of the plan. Special exceptions shall occur only when complying with the plan is excessively difficult or impractical and an alternative procedure can be implemented which adheres to the purposes and spirit of the plan.

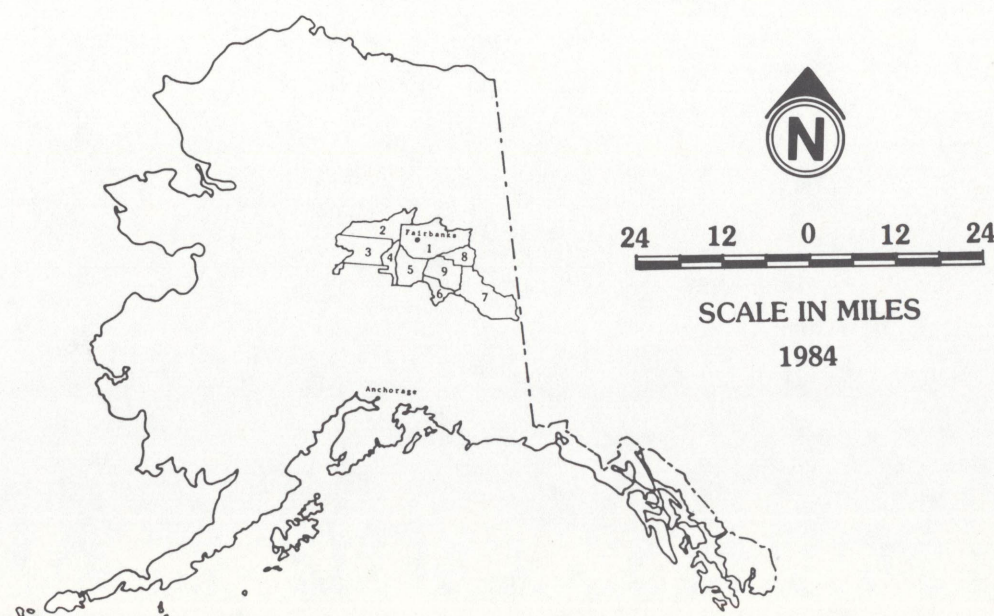
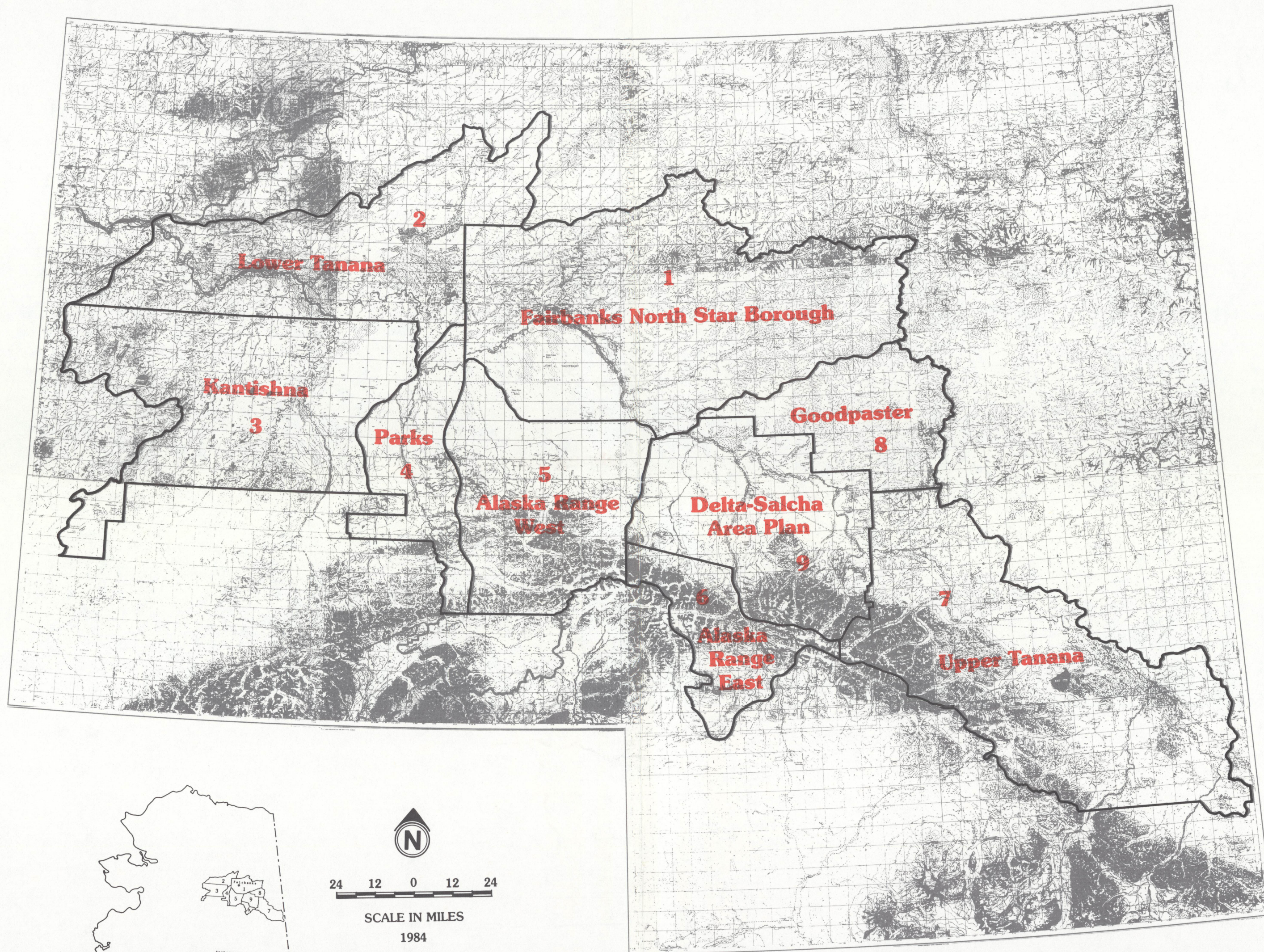
The Department of Natural Resources may make a special exception in the implementation of the plan through the following procedures:

- A. The District Manager of the Division of Land and Water Management shall prepare a finding which requires a special exception. This shall include:
  - 1. The extenuating conditions which require a special exception.
  - 2. The alternative course of action to be followed.
  - 3. How the intent of the plan will be met by the alternative.
- B. Agencies having responsibility for land uses with primary or secondary designations in the affected area will be given an opportunity to review the findings. In the event of disagreement with the District Manager's decision, the decision may be appealed to the Director of the Division of Land and Water Management, and the Director's decision may be appealed to the Commissioner. If warranted by the degree of controversy, the Commissioner will hold a public hearing before making her or his decision.

# **Tanana Basin Area Plan Location Map**



# TANANA BASIN AREA PLAN

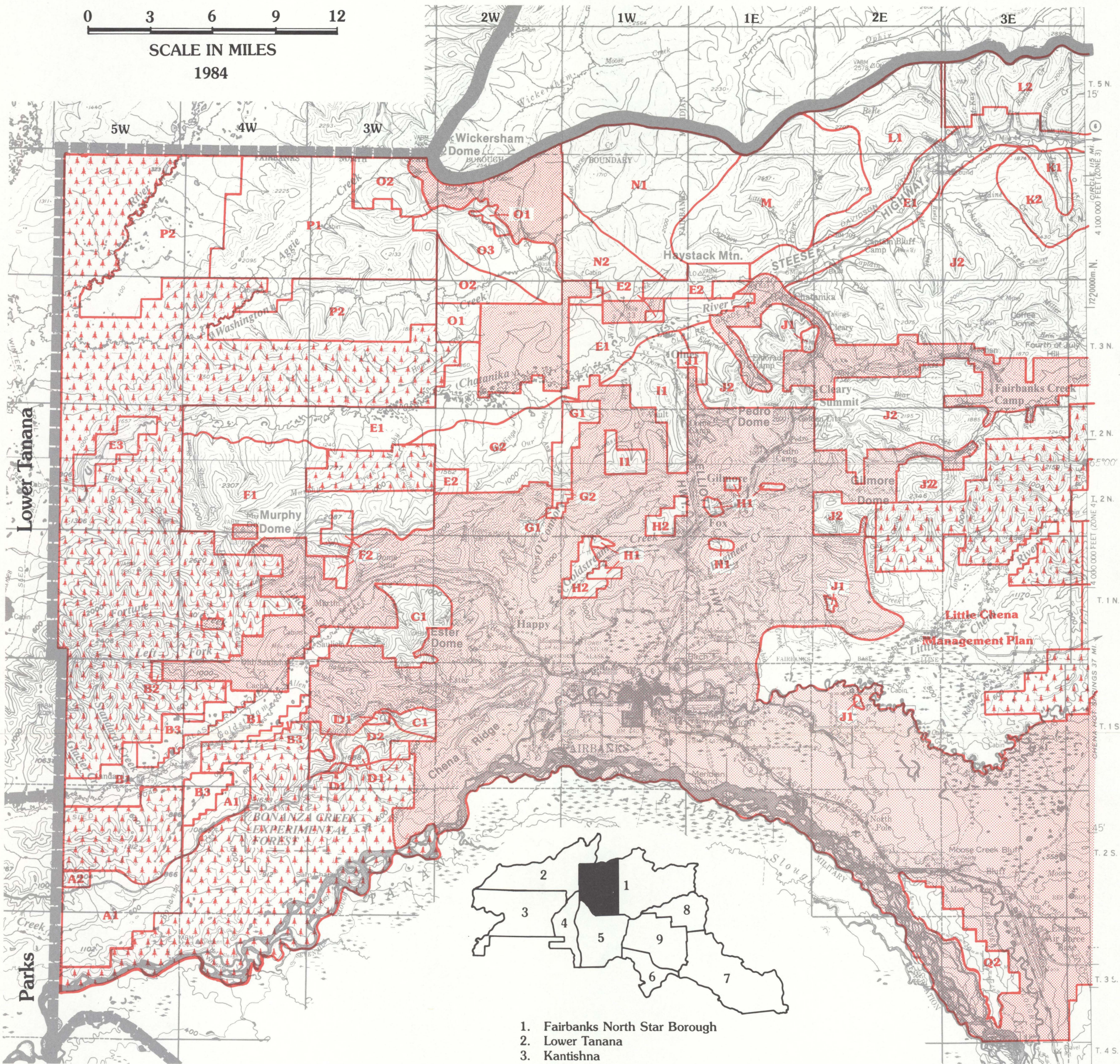
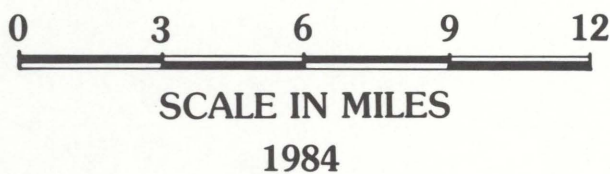




**Subregion 1**  
**Fairbanks North Star**  
**Borough West**



TANANA BASIN  
AREA PLAN



1-W. Fairbanks North  
Star Borough - West

Land Use Designation

MANAGEMENT UNIT	SUBUNIT	PRIMARY USES	SECONDARY USES
A. Nenana Ridge West	A-1	Habitat Forestry Recreation	
	A-2	Settlement	Forestry Recreation Habitat
B. Goldstream Creek	B-1	Habitat Recreation	Forestry
	B-2	Settlement	Habitat Recreation
	B-3	Agriculture	Habitat Improved pasture grazing Recreation
C. Ester Dome	C-1	Recreation	Forestry Habitat
D. Alder Creek	D-1	Settlement	Forestry
	D-2	Resource Management Forestry Habitat Recreation	
	D-3	Recreation (too small to map at this scale)	

MANAGEMENT UNIT	SUBUNIT	PRIMARY USES	SECONDARY USES
E. Chatanika River Corridor	E-1	Recreation Habitat (Proposed State Recreation River)	
	E-2	Settlement	Recreation Forestry Habitat
	E-3	Forestry	Recreation Habitat
F. North Slope of Murphy Dome	F-1	Habitat Recreation	
	F-2	Settlement	Habitat Recreation
G. Our Creek	G-1	Settlement	Recreation
	G-2	Recreation	Forestry
H. Upper Goldstream	H-1	Settlement	Recreation
	H-2	Recreation Habitat	
I. Vault Creek	I-1	Recreation Habitat	
J. Cleary Summit/ Pedro Dome	J-1	Settlement	Habitat Recreation
K. Juniper Creek	J-2	Habitat Recreation	Forestry
	K-1	Habitat	
	K-2	Resource Management Habitat Minerals Settlement	

MANAGEMENT UNIT	SUBUNIT	PRIMARY USES	SECONDARY USES
L. Belle Creek	L-1	Resource Management Habitat Forestry	
	L-2	Settlement	
M. Caribou (Creek)	M	Watershed	Forestry Recreation Habitat
N. Upper Washington Creek	N-1	Resource Management Habitat Minerals	
	N-2	Habitat	
O. Pipelinee	O-1	Settlement	Habitat
	O-2	Resource Management Recreation Habitat Minerals	
P. Tatalina River	P-1	Settlement Agriculture	Habitat Improved pasture grazing
	P-2	Habitat	
Q. Tanana R.River	Q-1	Habitat (islands which are too small to map at this scale)	Recreation
	Q-2	Agriculture	Improved pasture grazing Habitat





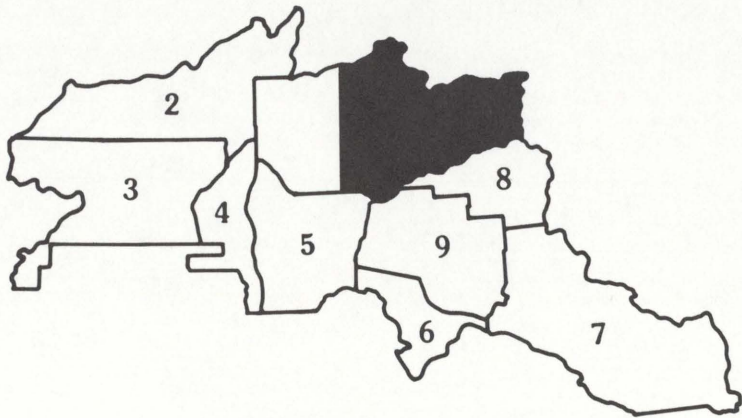
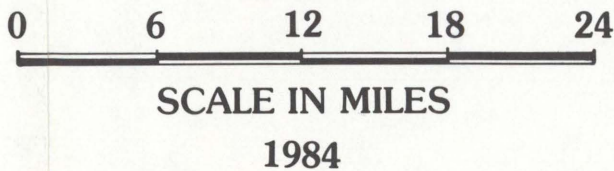
**Subregion 1**  
**Fairbanks North Star**  
**Borough East**



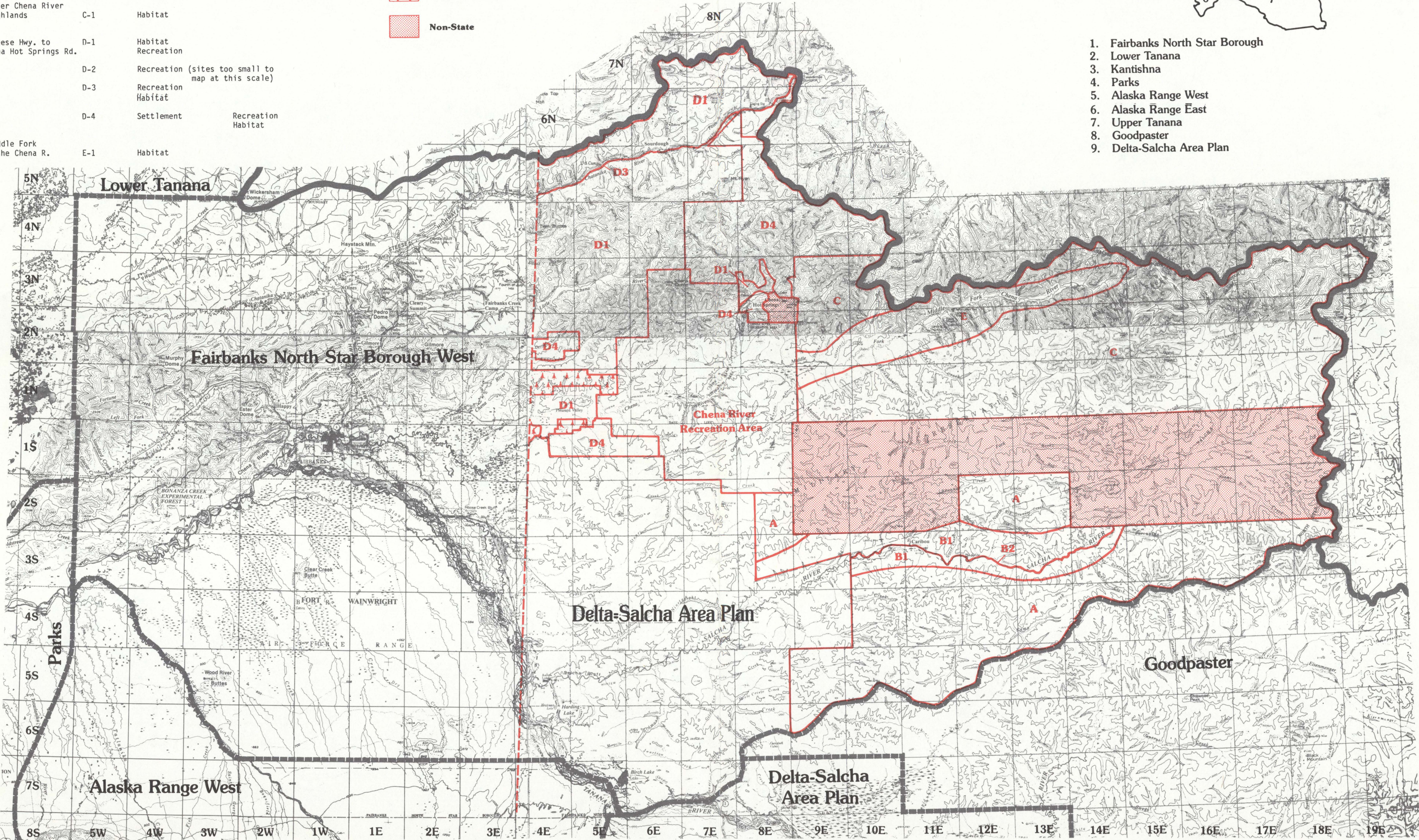
# 1-E. Fairbanks North Star Borough - East

## Land Use Designation

MANAGEMENT UNIT	SUBUNIT	PRIMARY USES	SECONDARY USES
A. Salcha-Goodpaster Uplands	A-1	Habitat	Forestry
B. Salcha River	B-1	Habitat Recreation	Forestry
	B-2	Habitat Recreation	
C. Upper Chena River Highlands	C-1	Habitat	
D. Steese Hwy. to Chena Hot Springs Rd.	D-1	Habitat Recreation	
	D-2	Recreation (sites too small to map at this scale)	
	D-3	Recreation Habitat	
	D-4	Settlement	Recreation Habitat
E. Middle Fork of the Chena R.	E-1	Habitat	



1. Fairbanks North Star Borough
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9. Delta-Salcha Area Plan





# **Subregion 2**

## **Lower Tanana**



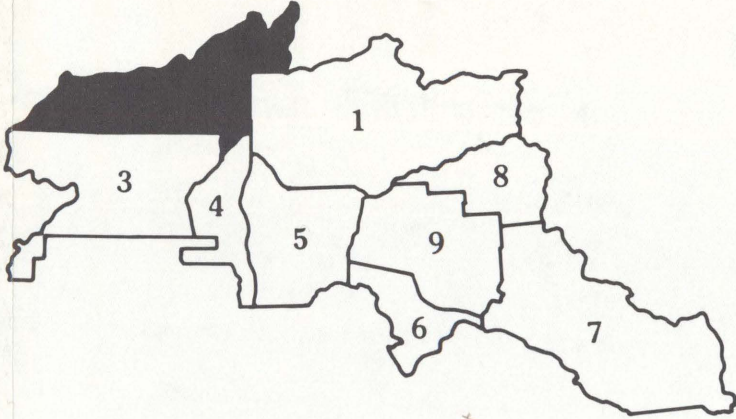
2. Lower Tanana

Land Use Designation

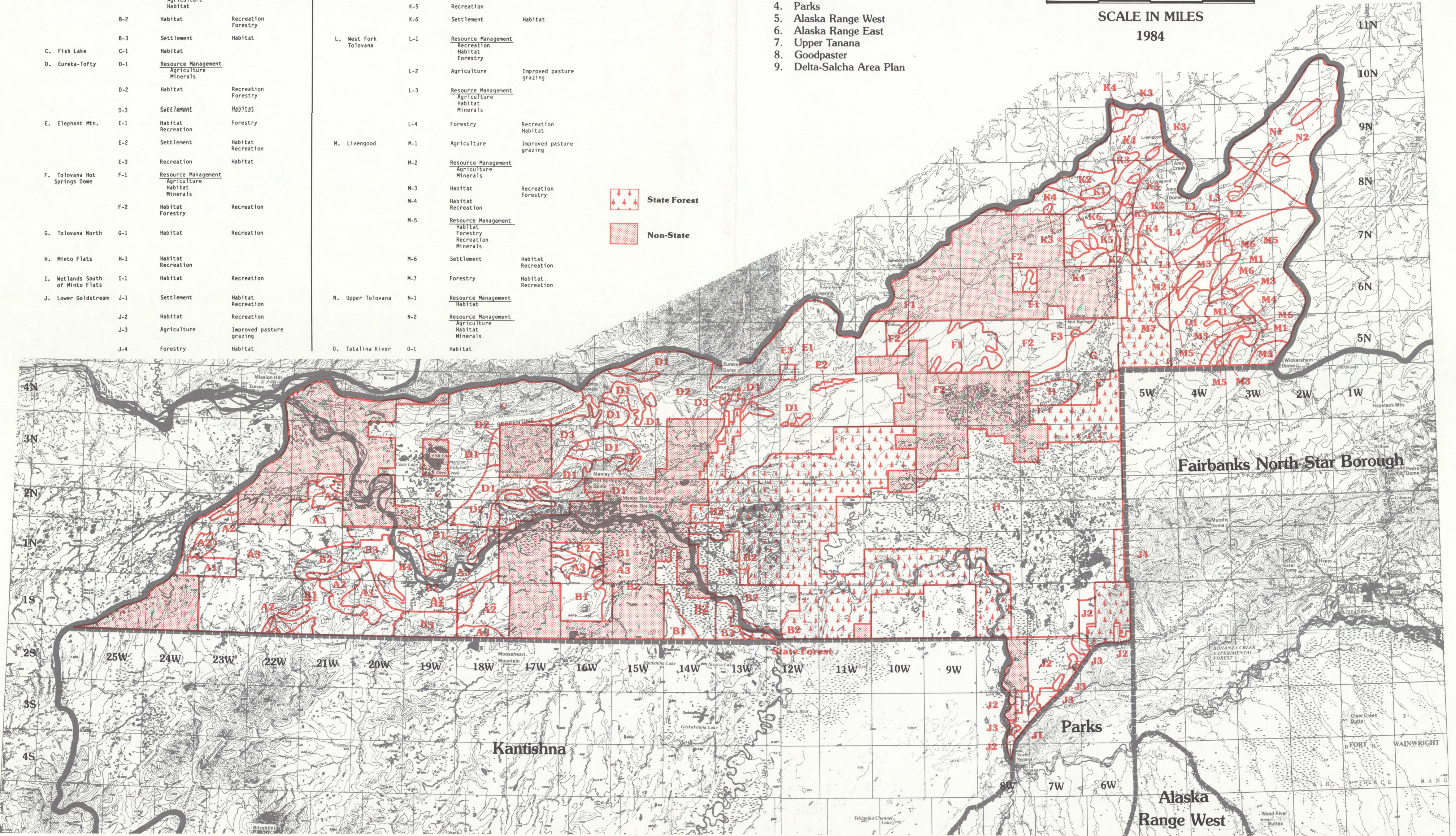
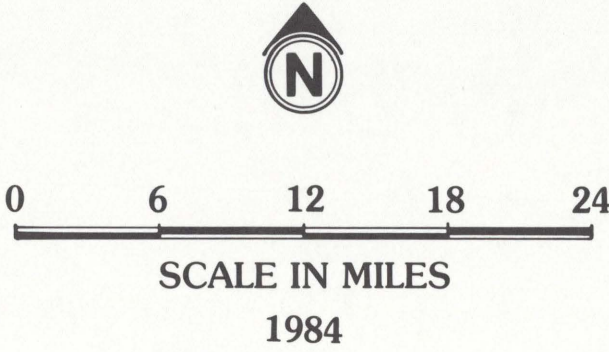
MANAGEMENT UNIT	SUBUNIT	PRIMARY USES	SECONDARY USES	MANAGEMENT UNIT	SUBUNIT	PRIMARY USES	SECONDARY USES
A. Upper Chitanana	A-1	Recreation		K. Lower Goldstream	K-1	Agriculture	Improved pasture grazing
	A-2	Resource Management			K-2	Habitat	Forestry
	A-3	Resource Management			K-3	Resource Management	
B. Lower Tanana River Corridor	B-1	Resource Management			K-4	Resource Management	
	B-2	Habitat	Recreation		K-5	Recreation	
	B-3	Settlement	Habitat		K-6	Settlement	Habitat
C. Fish Lake	C-1	Habitat		L. West Fork Tolovana	L-1	Resource Management	
D. Eureka-Tofty	D-1	Resource Management			L-2	Agriculture	Improved pasture grazing
	D-2	Habitat	Recreation		L-3	Resource Management	
	D-3	Settlement	Habitat		L-4	Forestry	Recreation
E. Elephant Mtn.	E-1	Habitat	Forestry	M. Livengood	M-1	Agriculture	Improved pasture grazing
	E-2	Settlement	Habitat		M-2	Resource Management	
	E-3	Recreation	Habitat		M-3	Habitat	Recreation
F. Tolovana Hot Springs Dome	F-1	Resource Management			M-4	Habitat	Recreation
	F-2	Habitat	Recreation		M-5	Resource Management	
G. Tolovana North	G-1	Habitat	Recreation		M-6	Settlement	Habitat
	H-1	Habitat	Recreation	N. Upper Tolovana	N-1	Resource Management	
	I-1	Habitat	Recreation		N-2	Resource Management	
J. Lower Goldstream	J-1	Settlement	Habitat		O-1	Habitat	
	J-2	Habitat	Recreation				
	J-3	Agriculture	Improved pasture grazing				
	J-4	Forestry	Habitat				

**State Forest**

**Non-State**



- 1. Fairbanks North Star Borough
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- 5. Alaska Range West
- 6. Alaska Range East
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- 8. Goodpaster
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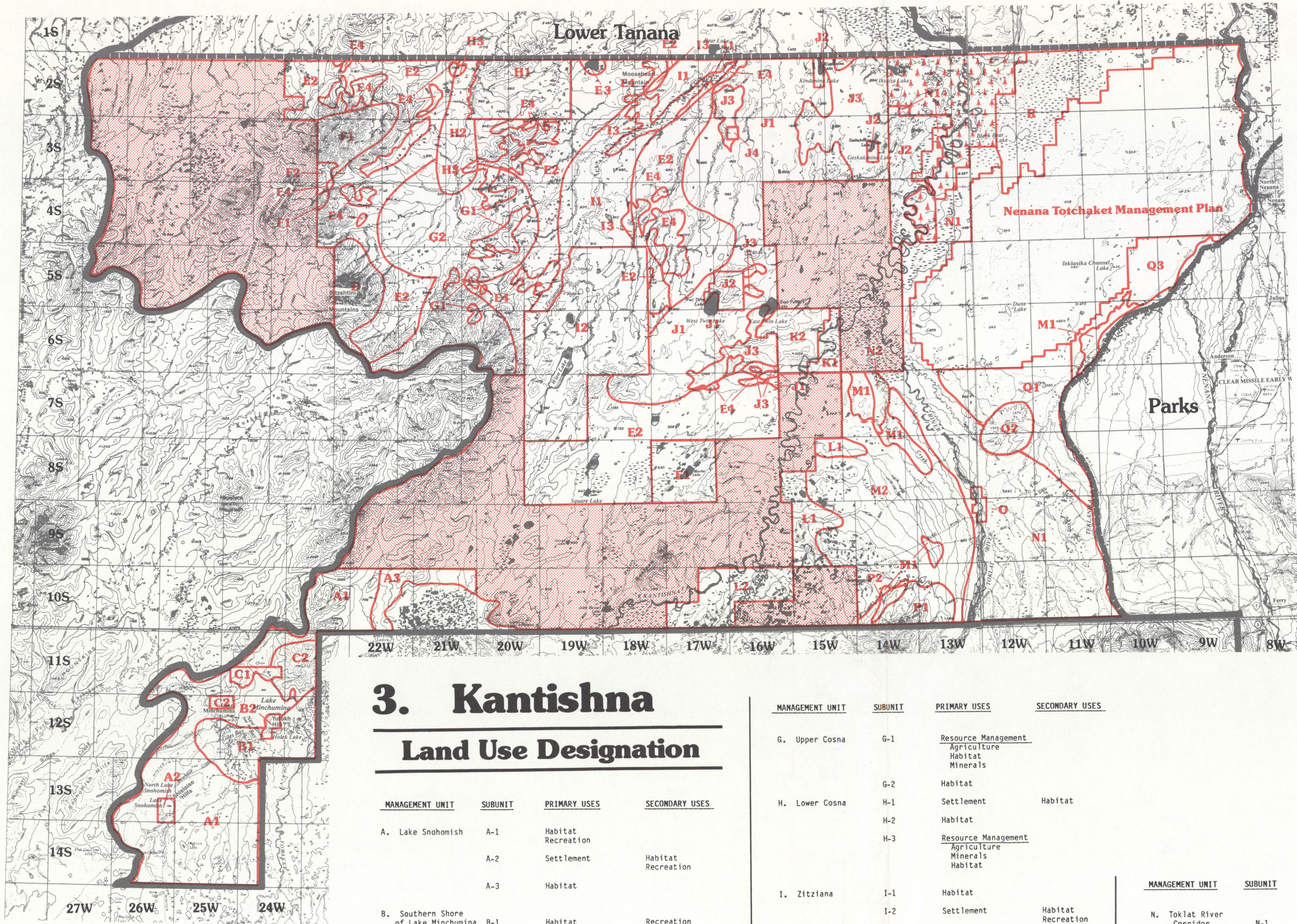
# **Subregion 3**

## **Kantishna**



A map of the Iberian Peninsula with the nine regions of Spain numbered 1 through 9. Region 4, which corresponds to Galicia, is shaded in black. The regions are: 1. Castile and León, 2. Castile and the León, 3. Aragon, 4. Galicia (shaded), 5. Castile-La Mancha, 6. Andalusia, 7. Valencia, 8. Balearic Islands, and 9. Catalonia.

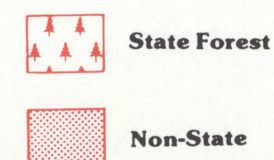
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<u>MANAGEMENT UNIT</u>	<u>SUBUNIT</u>	<u>PRIMARY USES</u>	<u>SECONDARY USES</u>
A. Lake Snohomish	A-1	Habitat Recreation	
	A-2	Settlement	Habitat Recreation
	A-3	Habitat	
B. Southern Shore of Lake Minchumina	B-1	Habitat (Critical)	Recreation Forestry
	B-2	Habitat Recreation	
C. North Shore of Lake Minchumina	C-1	Settlement	Forestry Habitat
	C-2	Habitat Forestry	Recreation
D. Bitsztshini Mtn.	D	Habitat	
E. Cosna/Zitziana	E-1	Settlement	
	E-2	<u>Resource Management</u> Habitat	Recreation
	E-3	Recreation Habitat	
	E-4	<u>Resource Management</u> Agriculture Habitat	
F. Chitanatala Mtns.	F-1	Habitat	Settlement
	F-2	<u>Resource Management</u> Agriculture Minerals Habitat	

MANAGEMENT UNIT	SUBUNIT	PRIMARY USES	SECONDARY USES
G. Upper Cosna	G-1	<u>Resource Management</u> Agriculture Habitat Minerals	
	G-2	Habitat	
H. Lower Cosna	H-1	Settlement	Habitat
	H-2	Habitat	
	H-3	<u>Resource Management</u> Agriculture Minerals Habitat	
I. Zitziana	I-1	Habitat	
	I-2	Settlement	Habitat Recreation
	I-3	<u>Resource Management</u> Agriculture Minerals Forestry	
J. East Twin Lake	J-1	<u>Resource Management</u> Forestry	Recreation Habitat
	J-2	Settlement	Forestry
	J-3	<u>Resource Management</u> Agriculture Forestry Minerals	
	J-4	Recreation	Habitat
K. Upper Kantishna	K-1	Habitat	
	K-2	Settlement	Habitat
L. Bearpaw	L-1	Habitat	
	L-2	Settlement	Habitat
M. Flats South of Upper Toklat	M-1	<u>Resource Management</u> Agriculture Minerals	
	M-2	<u>Resource Management</u> Habitat Minerals	

<u>MANAGEMENT UNIT</u>	<u>SUBUNIT</u>	<u>PRIMARY USES</u>	<u>SECONDARY USES</u>
N. Toklat River Corridor	N-1	Habitat	Recreation
	N-2	<u>Resource Management</u> Agriculture Habitat	
O. Toklat Critical Habitat	0	Habitat	
P. Chitsia Mtns.	P-1	Habitat	
	P-2	<u>Resource Management</u> Agriculture Habitat Minerals	
Q. Comma Lake	Q-1	Habitat	Recreation Forestry
	Q-2	Forestry Habitat	Recreation
	Q-3	Habitat	Settlement
R. Blackbear Wetlands	R-1	Habitat	Recreation



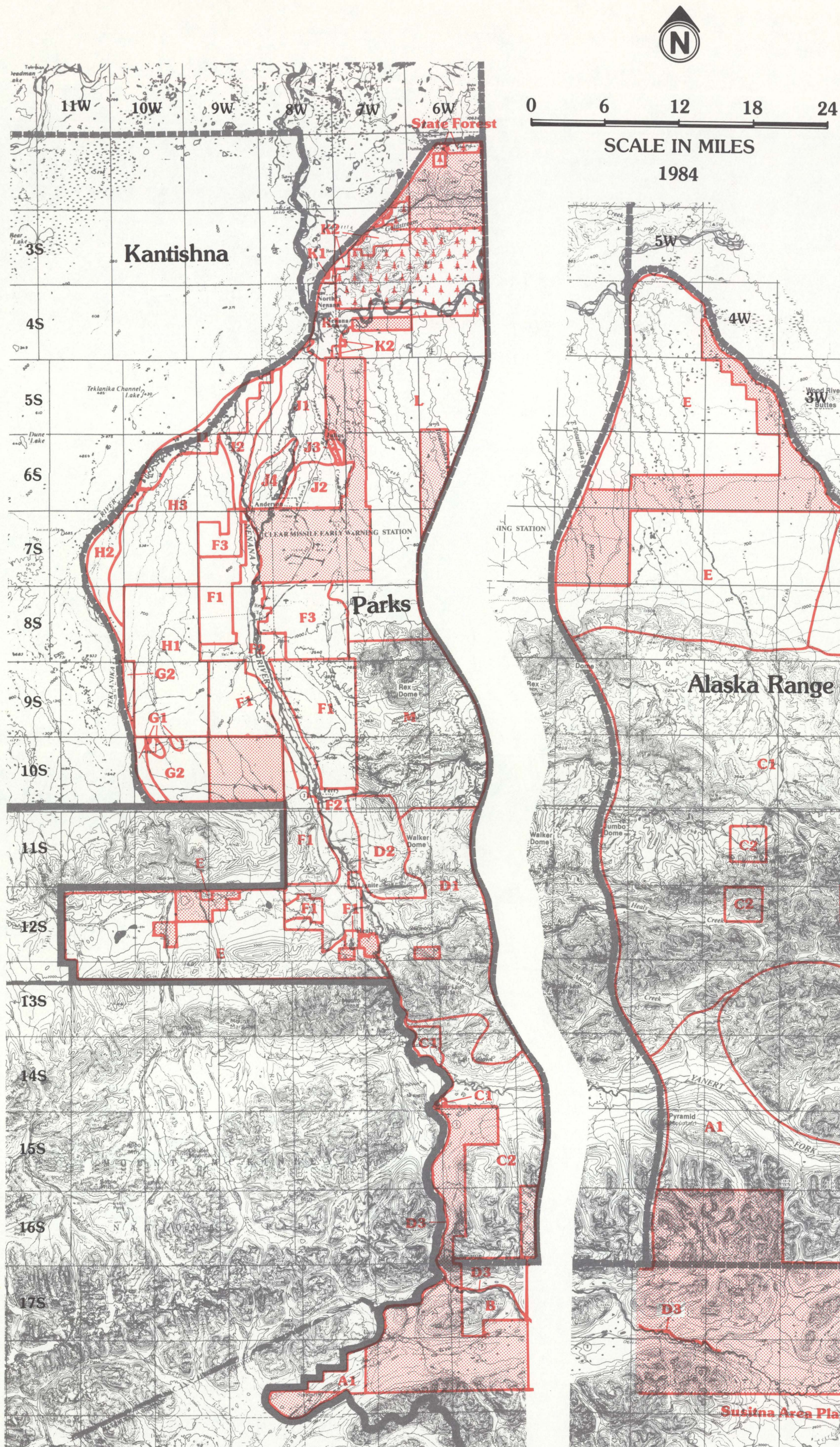


**Subregion 4**  
**Parks Highway**

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**Subregion 5**  
**West Alaska Range**

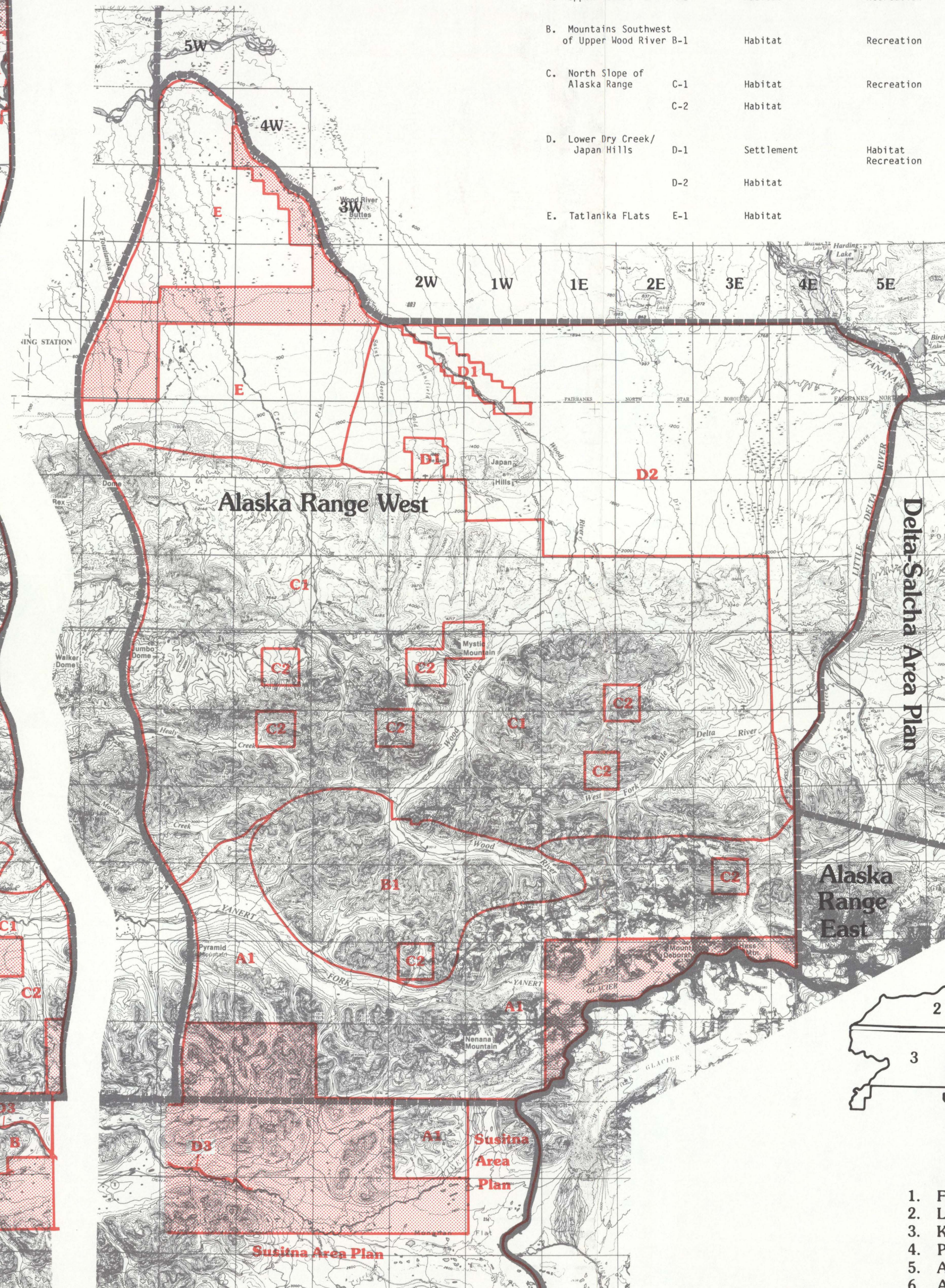




## 5. Alaska Range West

### Land Use Designation

MANAGEMENT UNIT	SUBUNIT	PRIMARY USES	SECONDARY USES
A. Upper Yanert Fork	A-1	Habitat	Recreation
B. Mountains Southwest of Upper Wood River	B-1	Habitat	Recreation
C. North Slope of Alaska Range	C-1	Habitat	Recreation
	C-2	Habitat	
D. Lower Dry Creek/Japan Hills	D-1	Settlement	Habitat Recreation
	D-2	Habitat	
E. Tatlanika Flats	E-1	Habitat	

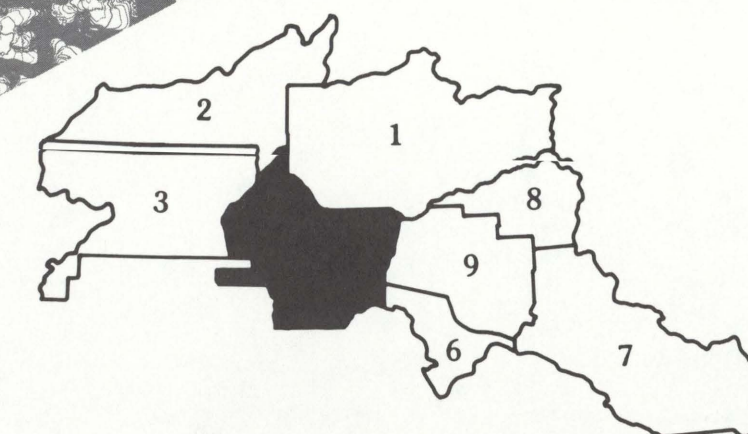


## TANANA BASIN AREA PLAN

### 4. Parks

#### Land Use Designation

MANAGEMENT UNIT	SUBUNIT	PRIMARY USES	SECONDARY USES
A. Jack River	A-1	Habitat	
B. Reindeer Hills	B-1	Habitat Recreation	
C. Yanert River	C-1	Settlement	Habitat Recreation
	C-2	Recreation Habitat	Forestry
D. Usibelli	D-1	Habitat	Recreation Forestry
	D-2	Settlement	Recreation Forestry Habitat
	D-3	Recreation (proposed State Recreation River) Habitat	
E. Stampede Trail	E-1	Recreation Habitat	
F. Parks Highway	F-1	Settlement	Habitat Forestry Recreation
	F-2	Habitat Recreation	Forestry
	F-3	Agriculture	Habitat Recreation Forestry Improved pasture grazing
G. Upper Teklanika East	G-1	Resource Management Agriculture Forestry Habitat	
	G-2	Habitat	Forestry
H. East Teklanika	H-1	Settlement	Habitat Recreation Forestry
	H-2	Resource Management Habitat	
	H-3	Resource Management Agriculture Forestry Habitat Minerals	
I. Teklanika Delta	I-1	Settlement	Habitat Forestry Recreation
	I-2	Habitat	
J. Seventeen Mile Slough	J-1	Habitat Recreation Forestry	
	J-2	Settlement	Habitat Forestry Recreation
	J-3	Agriculture	Habitat Forestry Recreation
	J-4	Resource Management Agriculture Forestry Habitat	
K. Nenana Ridge	K-1	Recreation Forestry	Settlement
	K-2	Settlement	Forestry Recreation
L. Totalanika Flats	L-1	Habitat Recreation	
M. Rex Dome to Liberty Bell Mine	M-1	Habitat	Recreation



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# **Subregion 6**

## **East Alaska Range**



# TANANA BASIN AREA PLAN

## 6. Alaska Range East Land Use Designation

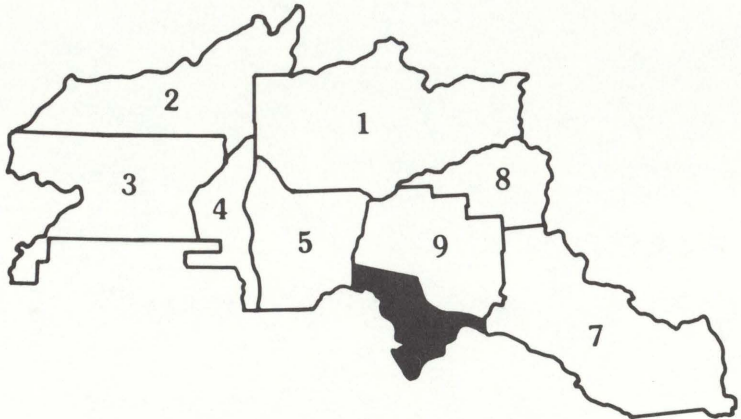
MANAGEMENT UNIT	SUBUNIT	PRIMARY USES	SECONDARY USES
A. Johnson Glacier	A-1	Habitat	
B. Fielding Lake	B-1	Habitat Recreation	
C. North Slope of the Alaska Range	C-1	Habitat	
	C-2	Recreation Habitat	



State Forest



Non-State



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SCALE IN MILES

1984



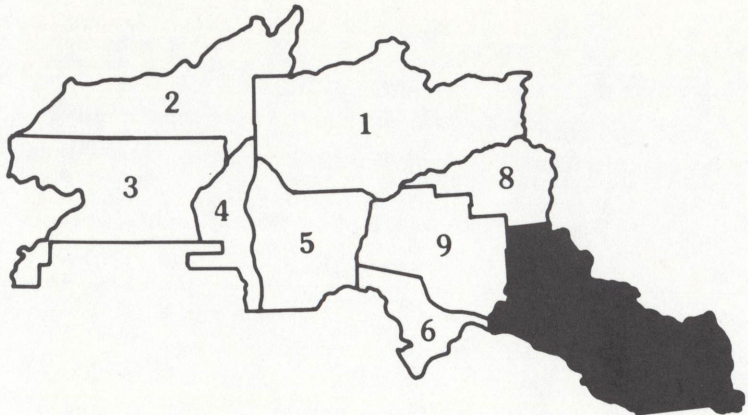
# **Subregion 7**

## **Upper Tanana**



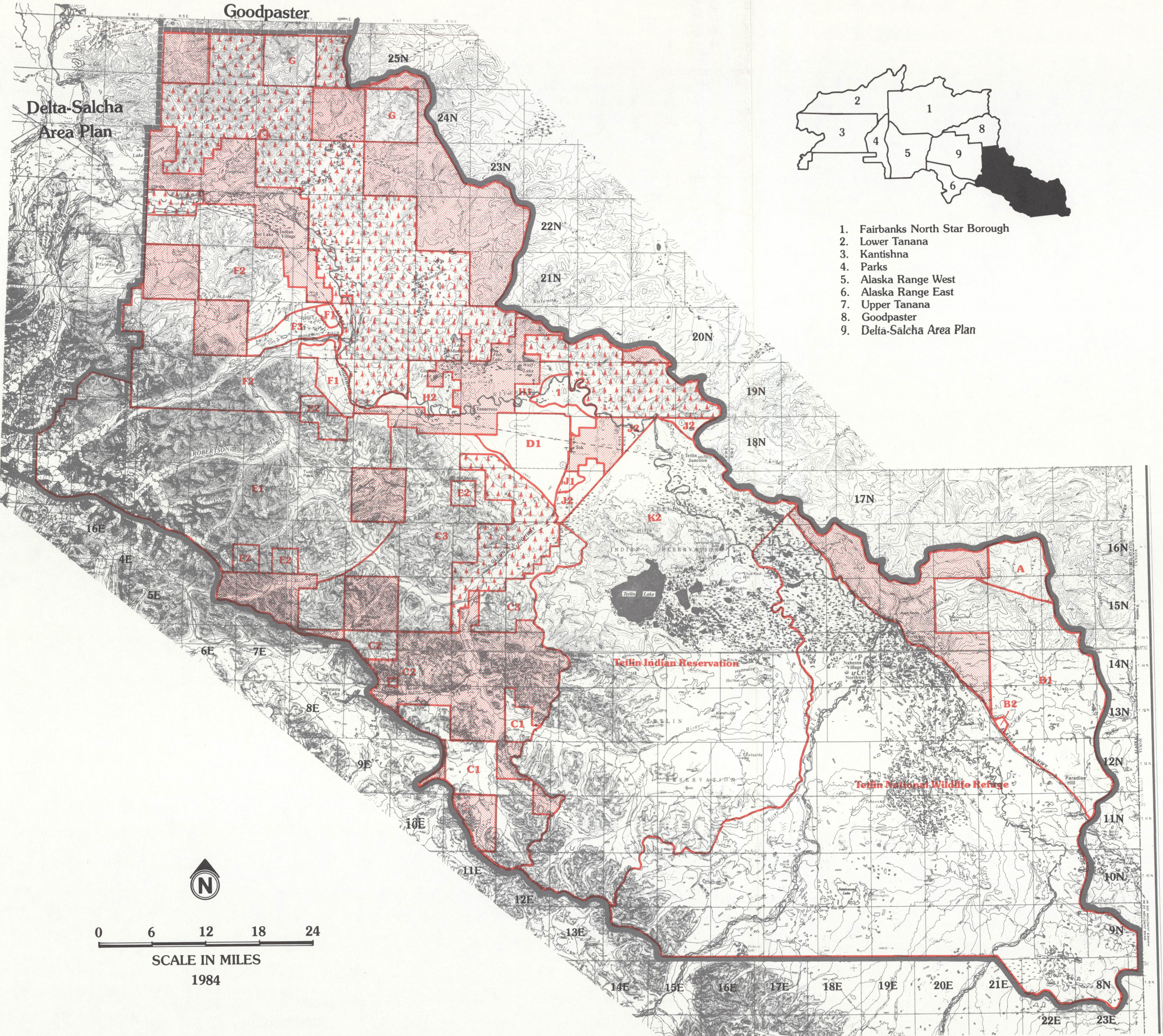
# TANANA BASIN AREA PLAN

## 7. Upper Tanana Land Use Designation



- 1. Fairbanks North Star Borough
- 2. Lower Tanana
- 3. Kantishna
- 4. Parks
- 5. Alaska Range West
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MANAGEMENT UNIT	SUBUNIT	PRIMARY USES	SECONDARY USES
A. Gardiner Creek	A-1	Habitat	
B. Paradise Mtn.	B-1	Resource Management Habitat Recreation Forestry Settlement	
	B-2	Settlement	Habitat Recreation
C. Buck Creek	C-1	Habitat Recreation	Forestry
	C-2	Habitat Recreation	
	C-3	Habitat	Recreation Forestry
D. Mt. Neuberger	D-1	Settlement Agriculture	Forestry
E. Upper Tok River	E-1	Habitat	
	E-2	Habitat	
F. Robertson River	F-1	Settlement	Habitat Forestry Recreation
	F-2	Forestry Habitat	Recreation
	F-3	Recreation	
G. Sand Creek & Billy Creek	G-1	Forestry Habitat	
H. West Fork	H-1	Resource Management: Agriculture Forestry Minerals Recreation Habitat	
	H-2	Habitat	Recreation Forestry
I. Tok North	I-1	Forestry Habitat Recreation	
J. Lands Bordering Tetlin Reservation	J-1	Resource Management: Agriculture Settlement Forestry Habitat Recreation Minerals	
	J-2	Forestry Habitat	Recreation





# **Subregion 8**

## **Goodpaster**

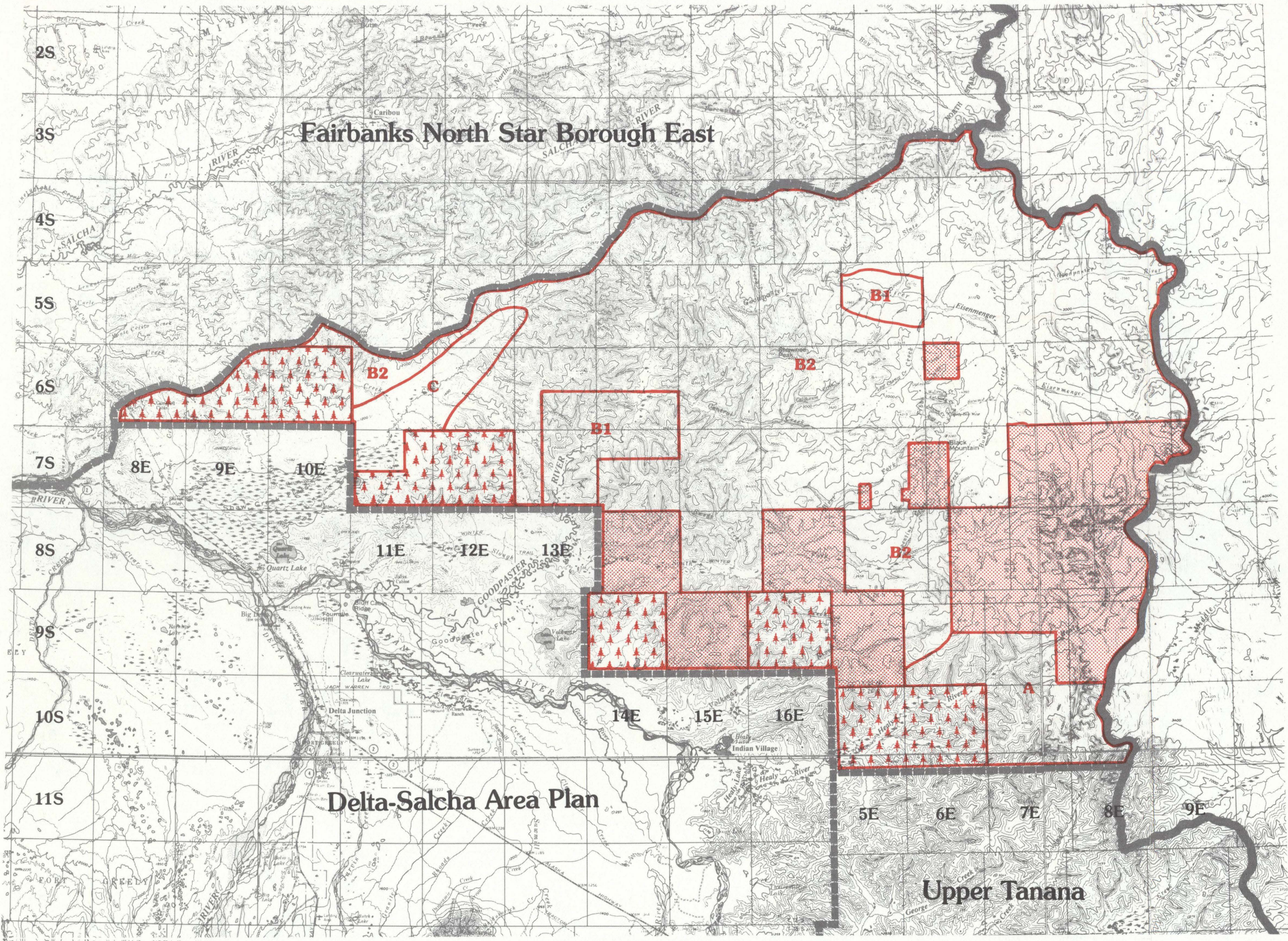


# TANANA BASIN AREA PLAN

## 8. Goodpaster

### Land Use Designation

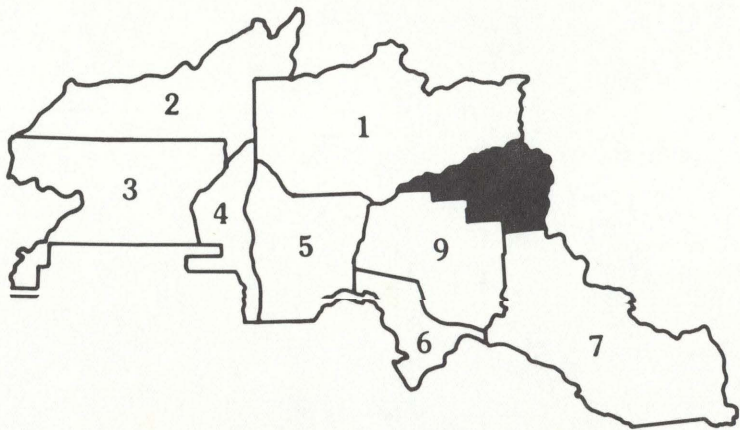
MANAGEMENT UNIT	SUBUNIT	PRIMARY USES	SECONDARY USES
A. Healy River	A-1	Forestry Habitat	Recreation
B. Watershed	B-1	Settlement	Recreation Habitat
	B-2	Habitat recreation	Forestry
C. Shaw Creek Flats	C-1	Habitat	



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SCALE IN MILES

1984



1. Fairbanks North Star Borough
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3. Kantishna
4. Parks
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6. Alaska Range East
7. Upper Tanana
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