



Alaska. Conservation Corps Enrollees Constructing Boardwalk Trails at Buckley Lake.

# MANAGEMENT AND DEVELOPMENT RECOMMENDATIONS

# MANAGEMENT AND DEVELOPMENT RECOMMENDATIONS

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The following actions to be adopted by this plan include new facility and trail development, existing facility redesign, resource enhancement and modification, management actions, and programs intended to improve management capability and public enjoyment.

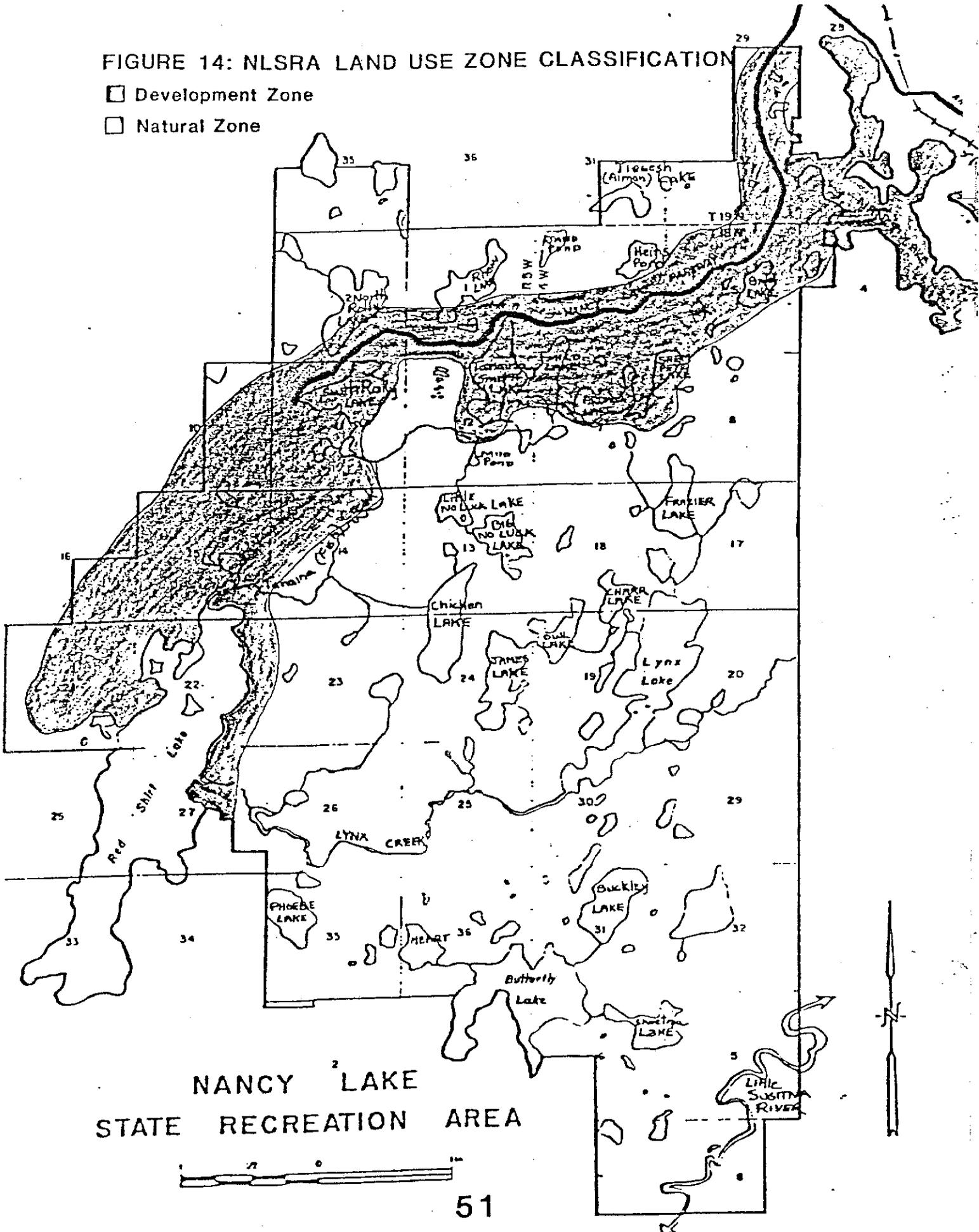
## LAND USE ZONING

Zoning park lands is a process of classifying lands in one or more of four land use zones to clarify management intent and guide facility and program development. Each zone permits different levels of development and intensity of use, responds to existing conditions and uses, and directs future use patterns. The four zones are Recreational Development, Natural, Cultural, and Wilderness. Only the first two zones, Recreational Development and Natural, have been applied to NLSRA. (A detailed description of these two zones appears in the Alaska State Park System: Statewide Framework - 1982).

Figure 14 shows the location of these two zones within Nancy Lake State Recreation Area. The Recreational Development Zone is primarily within one half mile of the parkway, but also includes a corridor extending to Red Shirt Lake. Although this master plan does not recommend the extension of the parkway or other high impact development between South Rolly Lake and Red Shirt Lake, this is the area best able to support additional development if future demand dictates. Figure 15 displays the characteristics of a State Recreation Area.

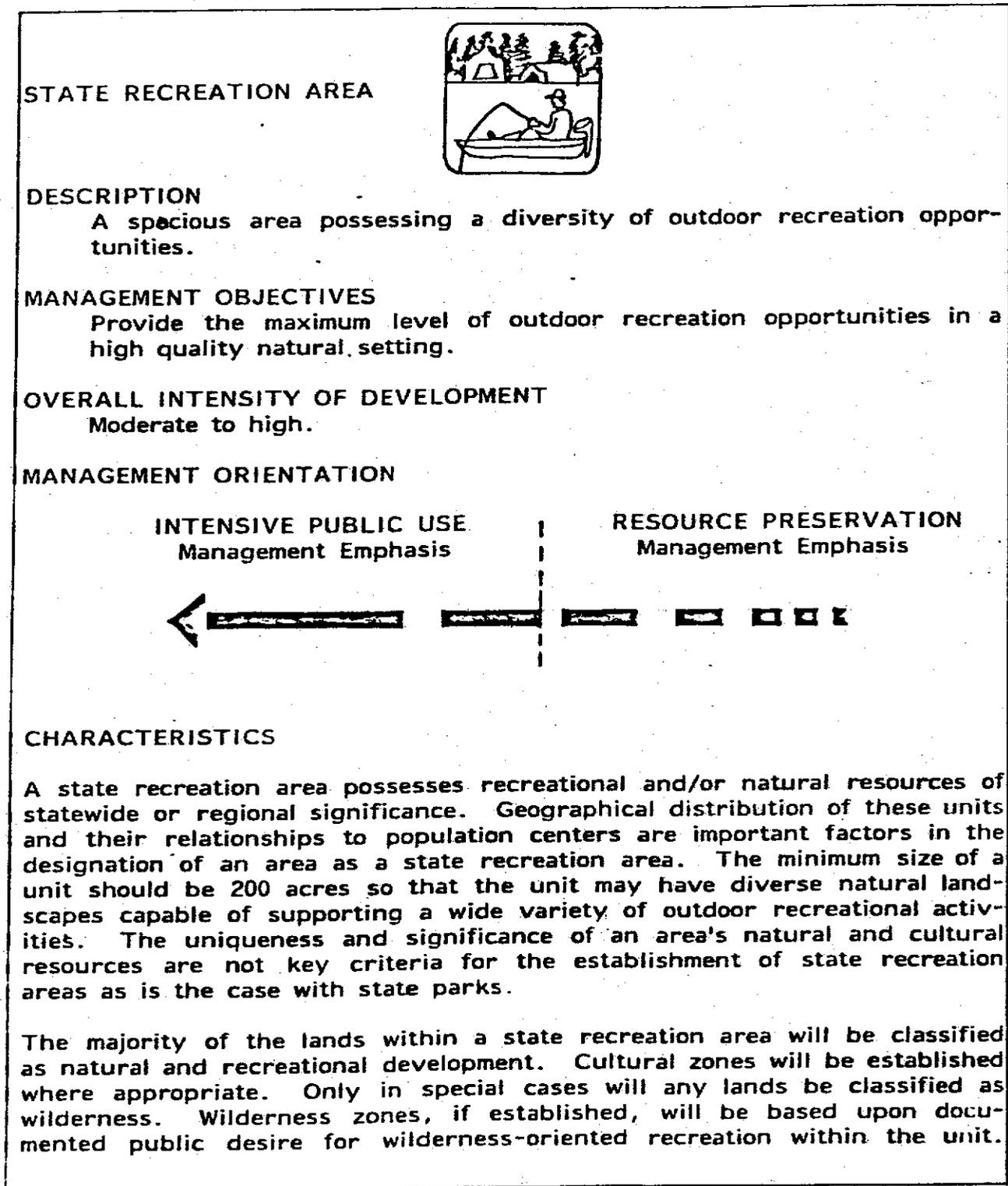
FIGURE 14: NLSRA LAND USE ZONE CLASSIFICATION

- ▣ Development Zone
- ▣ Natural Zone



NANCY LAKE  
STATE RECREATION AREA

**FIGURE 15: CHARACTERISTICS of a STATE RECREATION AREA**



# RECOMMENDATION CHARTS

FACILITY RECOMMENDATION	Pg. No.	No. on Map	MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES
NLSRS Campground Tudli Bena Campground (NLSRS)	85	1	Redesign and rename. Maintain existing visitor capacity. Improve trail and shoreline access to Nancy Lake from picnic area and campground. Improve appearance and visitor satisfaction. Incorporate Lily Creek into site. Eliminate dependence on access agreement with the Alaska Railroad. Rename as Tudli Bena Campground.
<b>NANCY LAKE PARKWAY FACILITIES</b>			
Visitor Contact Kiosk and Station (MP 1.3 Nancy Lake Parkway)	41	2	Improve visitor information, safety, and satisfaction. Provide one location for dissemination of information.
Nancy Lake Camp- ground (MP 1.8 Nancy Lake Parkway)	37	3	Accommodate anticipated and necessary demand for more camping opportunity within NLSRA. Provide public access to Nancy Lake from Nancy Lake Parkway. Expand recreational opportunities within NLSRA.

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

**SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS**

Phase

Redesign, resign, and landscaping of entire area needed. One large rain shelter, incorporating cooking area and seating, should be constructed as part of redesign for all visitors. Entrance needs special attention to insure permanent and visually appealing access.

Construct a visitor information kiosk, on west side of parkway at entrance gate (may need to move location or redesign). Include parking for 15 cars. This site will also serve as a trailhead for summer and winter access to the North Parkway Trail System and as a turnaround when gate is closed.

Locate approximately 30 drive-to campsites and 10-15 walk-to/boat-to tent campsites within this area. Other facilities include an amphitheater; interpretive display; rain shelters - one for walk-to and one for drive-to visitors; small day-use area near lake; trails interconnecting all facilities and the lake; 2 water wells; latrines; picnic tables; fire pits; beach area for hand boat launching and swimming; a parking area for 20 cars near the parkway; and open-space activity area.

Acquire approximately nine (9) acres of Nanlow Park Subdivision on southwest corner of entrance at Parks Highway. Right-of-way agreement with Alaska Railroad for access expires September 30, 1993.

If necessary, construct a 300 square foot log building to serve as a visitor center, registration site, and ranger contact area.

All campsites and facilities should be well back from the shoreline and private property so as to reduce visitor impacts on both. No vehicle access to the lake. Drive-to campground should be to the south with the walk-to camping area to the north to reduce impact on quiet bay immediately north of the area.

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# RECOMMENDATION CHARTS

FACILITY RECOMMENDATION	Pg. No.	No. on Map	MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES
Winter Parking Area and Trailhead (MP 2.2 Nancy Lake Parkway)	41	4	Provide multi-purpose parking and staging area for year-round use of a large number of vehicles in an unobtrusive and functional manner. Reduce winter maintenance costs. Use existing winter parking area to the maximum extent possible.
Bald Lake Group Camp (MP 2.2 Nancy Lake Parkway)	40	5	Promote year-round educational and recreational opportunities within NLSRA for large groups.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION	SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS	Phase
<p>Redesign, enlarge, recontour and landscape existing winter parking area to serve as summer and winter trailhead and staging area for dog teams and snowmobiles and year-round parking for 75 person capacity group camp. Provide contour or vegetative screening from parkway. Revegetate all existing or resulting cuts and fills.</p>	<p>Remain as close to parkway as feasible for maximum separation and minimum encroachment on group camp activity. Only one entrance should be provided onto parkway for safety.</p>	B
<p>Construct a full facility accessible group camp on the east shore of Bald Lake. Design and layout must accommodate approximately 75 people to serve anticipated user groups and to be economical to operate. Parking will be accommodated within the year-round parking area immediately north of the site. Only supply and emergency vehicles should be allowed on-site. Facilities will include 10, 6-8 person heated cabins; one 1140 square foot wash house with 4 shower heads and related facilities; one 2000 square foot combination mess hall and meeting room; one on-site water well with a capacity of at least 10 gallons per minute; a sewage system appropriate for the site; electricity and phone. Accessible boardwalks and trails will connect buildings and provide lake access. A wooden dock or float will be required for swimming, diving, fishing and canoe tie-up. Trails will connect with Nancy Lake and Bald Lake Nature Trail.</p>	<p>This site chosen because of its suitability and because it is close to existing utilities, is within existing winter road maintenance service, close to existing nature trail and lakes, and will not adversely impact other activities in the recreation area. Siting of trails, boardwalks, floats or docks, buildings, and sewage system will require utmost care to avoid wet areas and find suitable soils. YCC use of the facility should not displace scheduled group camp activities.</p>	A

# RECOMMENDATION CHARTS

FACILITY RECOMMENDATION	Pg. No.	No. on Map	MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES
Tulik Nature Trail (MP 2.6 Nancy Lake Parkway)	37	6	Retain existing nature trail in present location and extend its usefulness by connecting to proposed campground and group camp. Redesign entrance to reduce parking area, give a more natural appearance and increase visitor satisfaction.
Shem Pete Campground (MP 3.4 Nancy Lake Parkway)	37	7	Provide additional camping and associated opportunities along parkway with water, trail and canoe trail access. Increase utilization of existing parkway by dispersing uses along it. Integrate new campground with existing facilities to diversify and maximize recreational enjoyment and opportunities and to improve management efficiency.

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

**SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS**

Phase

Remove existing cabin from entrance to temporary location at main gate to serve as interim visitor contact center if necessary, or a camp host shelter in South Rolly Lake Campground. Install latrine and redesign entrance for reduced parking and additional landscaping. Improve trail surface to eliminate wet spots and conceal drainage pipes. Block old road entrance to lake and revegetate.

Natural appearance of entrance and trail should be emphasized. Design entry so trails from Bald Lake Group Camp and Shem Pete Campground merge with nature trail. Appropriate youth program project.

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Provide approximately 50 drive-to campsites between parkway and Shem Pete Lake. Provide approximately 20 walk-to tent campsites between Shem Pete and Ardaw Lakes. All campsites should be well back from lake with trail access to lakes only. Boat docks or floats may be provided as necessary for swimming, fishing, and canoe tie-up. Parking area for 25 vehicles should be provided near parkway for tent campers and trailhead parking. Accessible trails will connect campgrounds and parking area with Bald Lake Nature trail and regular trails to Frazier, Lynx and other recreation area trails. Both drive-to and walk-to campgrounds will have a water well, rain shelter and latrines. An amphitheater and interpretive display will be constructed in drive-to campground for group programs. A sewage dumping station should be incorporated into the drive-to campsite area.

Careful siting of roads, campsites and trails will be necessary on account of intermittent wet areas. Selective filling of small wet pockets should be considered to reduce mosquitoes. Tree thinning should be considered to increase exposure to sunlight and breezes.

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# RECOMMENDATION CHARTS

FACILITY RECOMMENDATION	Pg. No.	No. on Map	MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES
Tanaina Lake Picnic Area (Smith Lake Picnic Area, MP 4.7 Nancy Lake Parkway)	39	8	Improve canoe trail access and parking. Diversify and expand day-use opportunities by providing a beach area near parkway for playing, swimming, fishing and picnicking. Expand use on deepest lake along parkway, as warranted by demand.
Rhein Lake Trailhead (MP 5.1 Nancy Lake Parkway)	37	9	Provide safe and convenient off-roadway parking for visitors to Rhein Lake, Rhein Lake cabin, and Rhein Lake trailhead.
North Rolly Lake Trailhead (MP 5.9 Nancy Lake Parkway)	37	10	Provide safe and convenient off-roadway parking for visitors to North Rolly Lake and associated summer trails.
North Rolly Lake Viewing Tower (MP 6.0-6.2 Nancy Lake Parkway)	39	11	Provide views of the Denali massif, Talkeetna and Chugach mountains.

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

**SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS**

**Phase**

Provide a large grass and sand beach area along north-west shore of Smith Lake. Parking for 50 vehicles near parkway. Other facilities include 10 picnic sites, latrine, canoe launch area with canoe rests, trailhead register, rain shelter, and trail system across parkway to the north. At north end of Tanaina (Smith) Lake where parkway is visible provide enough fill and new vegetation south of roadway shoulder to screen roadway surface from the lake and partially screen vehicular traffic while not totally obstructing motorists' lake views.

Parking off north side of parkway for 5 to 8 cars with trailhead sign.

Parking off north side of parkway for 5 cars with trailhead sign. Combine with viewing tower parking if possible.

Construct a viewing tower that is above most of the trees downslope and pull-out with parking for 6 vehicles. Develop a trail to connect these facilities.

Special populations access including wheelchair, necessary to and via trail to Rhein Lake cabin on west shore of Rhein Lake. Establish accessible canoe launch site on south shore of Rhein Lake.

Trail to North Rolly is for canoe and small boat portaging so trail will have to be carefully laid out to avoid steep grades and tight corners.

Design of tower and parking area must blend in with the surrounding vegetation and not be an eyesore. Natural materials should be used wherever possible.

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# RECOMMENDATION CHARTS

FACILITY RECOMMENDATION	Pg. No.	No. on Map	MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES
South Rolly Lake Overlook (MP 6.1 Nancy Lake Parkway)	36	12	Redesign overlook to improve function and scale. Expand and diversify recreational opportunities. Emphasize this area's natural assets and connect by trail to South Rolly Campground and the trail system north of parkway.
South Rolly Lake Campground (MP 6.6 Nancy Lake Parkway)	37	13	Redesign or remove lakeshore campsites to arrest shoreline erosion. Expand and diversify recreational opportunity. Provide for group activities and shelter.

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

**SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS**

Phase

Reduce parking capacity to 15 to 20 cars and 5 picnic sites near bluff south of parkway. Leave trees to screen vehicles from South Rolly Campground. Route a loop trail along bluff for best views to the south and down along northwest lake-shore for fishing and walking. Additional picnic sites may be located along loop trail where views, soils and vegetation are favorable. Picnic sites should all have fire pits. Loop trail should continue around west shore and connect with a trail to South Rolly Lake campground. Loop trail should also connect with the North Rolly Lake trailhead. Latrine, signs and trash receptacle needed. Revegetate exposed cuts and fills.

Maintain approximately the same drive-to camping capacity except redesign or remove sites close to water which are creating erosion and compaction problems, to provide an open space water front area for all campers to use. Add an amphitheater and interpretive display for group programs and a rain shelter. Provide 10 to 15 walk-to camping sites west of West Rolly Twin Lake separated from drive-to campground. A separate water well plus rain shelter, latrine and trash receptacles should be provided. Provide an activity area, constructed of natural forms, away from campsites, to provide an area

No attempt should be made to expand trail around east shore of South Rolly Lake because of soft quicksand-like soils reported. A total redesign of the overlook area is suggested.

Besides a trailhead at the parking area, a second trailhead should begin in campground for additional access to nature and other trails. The Tulik Nature trail cabin could be located at the campground to serve as a shelter for the campground host.

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# RECOMMENDATION CHARTS

FACILITY RECOMMENDATION	Pg. No.	No. on Map	MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES
TRAILS			
South Rolly Nature Trail	37	14	Expand recreational and educational opportunities at South Rolly Campground - the largest campground in the recreation area. Preclude the necessity of visitors having to drive to Tulik (Bald Lake) Nature Trail (4 miles) for a similar experience.
Red Shirt Lake Trail	42 86	15	Improve year-round access to Red Shirt Lake and existing and planned facilities there. Reroute existing trail to avoid wetlands to protect wetlands and to improve visitor enjoyment and safety. Trail routing should offer a great variety of experiences. Expand the number of trails available for use by non-motorized means.

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

**SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS**

**Phase**

for physical activity. Improve waste water and sewage disposal. Provide a few picnic sites, parking and waterfront beach area for swimming and other day-use activities that are separated from the camping sites. Provide a parking and trailhead area for 20 cars for access to nature trail, other trails and walk-to camping area. Include latrine, trash receptacle, signs and trail register.

One to two miles of self-guiding nature trail with surface material, widths and grades suitable for exercise trail, bicycle trail, and use by special populations. West leg will be used for X-C skiing. East leg will be used for snowmobile and dog sled.

Improve the trail to a high standard. Route a loop trail on well drained soils between South Rolly Campground and Red Shirt Lake. Achieve maximum enjoyment of trail use by careful routing of trail over varying terrain, through a variety of vegetation types and changing views. West side of loop follows ridge to highest point in recreation area in the center of section 21, then drops down to lake and returns over lower elevation to rejoin nature trail. Improve the trailhead parking area.

If asphalt paving is used for the trail surface, an unpaved trail next to bike trail should be considered where nature trail passes an observation station to reduce possible pedestrian/bicycle conflicts. Nature trail must serve several purposes, both summer and winter, so must be carefully laid out to best adapt to multiple use for multiple objectives. Appropriate youth program project.

Trail alignment, turns and grades must consider winter use by X-C skiers. Public cabins on Red Shirt Lake should be off of the main trail on a separate loop or spur-trail.

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# RECOMMENDATION CHARTS

FACILITY RECOMMENDATION	Pg. No.	No. on Map	MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES
Lynx Creek Trail	37	16	Provide access to Lynx Creek, the largest creek in the recreation area, from South Rolly Lake campground. Provide trails for long distance hiking to remote areas. Improve winter access and increase the number of trails for winter use. To take visitors to a remote area of NLSRA where they can observe a disproportionately high amount of spawning salmon, working beavers, and other wildlife activity.
Phoebe Lake Trail	37	17	Provide trail access to Phoebe and Heart Lakes.
Lynx Lake Trail	37	18	Provide trail access to Lynx Lake from Shem Pete Lake campground.
Shem Pete - Lynx Creek Connecting Trail	37	19	Provide trail access to connect Shem Pete campground with the Lynx Creek and Phoebe Lake trails.
Chicken Lake Trail	37	20	Provides access to Chicken and No Luck Lakes from the winter Red Shirt Lake and south Rolly Lake Nature Trails.
Connecting Trail (old oilwell road)	37	21	Provide optional trail routes so user doesn't have to retrace their steps returning to starting point. Improve access. Expand route options for traveling through the backcountry.

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

**SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS**

Phase

<p>Trail begins at South Rolly Lake campground and follows ridgelines for the most part, past Chicken and Little Chicken Lakes, to Lynx Creek. This loop trail crosses to the south side of Lynx Creek on a wooden bridge and continues along the creek and completes the loop by crossing Lynx Creek on a second wooden bridge.</p>	<p>Two foot bridges required to span Lynx Creek in two locations. Must not impede snowmobile access. Carefully route trail along Lynx Creek for best observation and access to creek while at the same time not encroaching too closely on sensitive areas like beaver houses and dams. Trail should be set back from creek bank to avoid causing erosion and to reduce conflicts with small game.</p>	<p>B</p>
<p>Departs south from the Lynx Creek Trail in two locations and follows high ground in a loop which provides access to Phoebe and Heart Lakes.</p>		<p>B</p>
<p>Trail originates in Shem Pete Lake drive-to campground and follows the highest ground south along the east shore of Shem Pete Lake. Remains on high ground along east shore of Frazier Lake and terminates at northeast corner of Lynx Lake.</p>	<p>Stay on dry ground. Use bridges across small streams and boardwalk where wet areas must be crossed.</p>	<p>B</p>
<p>Follow Shem Pete-Lynx Lake trail in a southwesterly direction until intercepting the winter route to Red Shirt Lake and the Lynx Creek Trail.</p>	<p>Keep trail back from canoe trail lakes so users of the canoe trails will not be able to see pedestrians on the trail. Cross any existing trails at right angles.</p>	<p>C</p>
<p>Follow high ground from the winter Red Shirt Lake trail to the north end of Chicken Lake.</p>		<p>C</p>
<p>Begins where Red Shirt #1 well road crosses the Lynx Lake trail. Follows old road bed west until reaching a good connecting point with the Lynx Creek Loop Trails. Place latrine at latter intersection.</p>		<p>D</p>

# RECOMMENDATION CHARTS

FACILITY RECOMMENDATION	Pg. No.	No. on Map	MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES
Canoe Trails	37	22	Maintain an environment of quiet solitude through which to paddle.
Iditarod National Historic Trail	37	23	Recognize the existence of a branch route of the Iditarod National Historic Trail through NLSRA.
North Parkway Ski and Hike Trails (Rhein Lake Loop Trail, Jano Pond Loop Trail and Parkway Trail)	37	24	Upgrade and expand a series of interconnecting loop trails designed exclusively for use by foot and cross-country skiing.

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

**SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS**

Phase

The only major rerouting of existing canoe trail system is to by-pass the small lake immediately south of Tanaina (Smith) Lake by routing the portage onto high ground west of the lake. General repair of many of the portage trails and launch/landing sites is needed to reduce trail and bank erosion and to improve user safety, convenience and enjoyment. Canoe rests are needed for each 10-15 minute walking interval, or top of uphill grade. A trail register should be placed at each end of the system: one at the Little Susitna River takeout and one at Tanaina (Smith) Lake.

Identify the historic trail route as accurately as possible from its origin on Nancy Lake to the point where it exits NLSRA. Where exact alignment is in question, align as much of the trail as practical with existing winter trail routes, selecting an alignment which requires minimum maintenance. Minimize crossings of or travel on creek beds which are subject to overflow and soft ice conditions.

Realign existing winter ski trails north of parkway as necessary to accommodate summer hiking, where possible. Install bridges and harden trails as necessary for all-season use. Access to the trails will be from

Experimentation is encouraged with petroleum based fabrics to hold the banks and wet portage areas from erosion caused by hauling out canoes and trampling on wet ground. Emphasis should be placed on maintaining the natural appearance of all portage trails and canoe launch/landing sites. Any structural modification such as boardwalks, corduroy, punchin or bridges must not impede winter use of the trail.

Sign intersections of the Iditarod Trail where it crosses other summer and winter trails. Nominate to the National Register of Historic Places.

Trails should be set back far enough from water bodies to prevent bank erosion, visual impact on the lake, and disturbance of nesting waterfowl and small game activity. Tract setter and packer should be used in winter to maintain ski trails. That por-

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# RECOMMENDATION CHARTS

FACILITY RECOMMENDATION	Pg. No.	No. on Map	MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES
Rhein Lake Access Trail	37	25	Provide easy access for people in wheelchairs and other disabled persons between the Rhein Lake trailhead and the proposed public cabin on Rhein Lake.
North Rolly Lake Access Trail	37	26	Provide a convenient summer canoe portage trail between North Rolly Lake trailhead and North Rolly Lake.
Willow Winter Access Trail	37 86	27	Provide a single corridor through which both motorized and non-motorized trail access to NLSRA can be gained from areas north of the recreation area.
REMOTE FACILITIES			
Little Susitna River Canoe Landing	43	28	Improve Little Susitna River access to the Nancy Lake Canoe Trail System.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION	SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS	Phase
<p>the visitor contact kiosk; Bald Lake Group Camp parking area; Tanaina (Smith) Lake Picnic Area; Rhein Lake trailhead; and North Rolly lake trailhead.</p> <p>Approximately ¼ mile of hard surfaced trail of appropriate design to accommodate wheel-chairs between the Rhein Lake trailhead and proposed public cabin on Rhein Lake. Same trailhead will be used as part of the ski/hike trails system north of the parkway.</p> <p>Establish a trail for small boat portaging between North Rolly Lake trailhead and the southeast shore of North Rolly Lake. Grades should be gentle. Lake shore stabilization should be considered to control erosion from trampling.</p> <p>Brush and sign a winter only trail that begins at MP 6.2 on the parkway and proceeds north across North Rolly Lake, Rolly Creek, West Rolly Lake, and Big Darrell Lake.</p> <p>Identify a site best suited for canoe landing and launching. Bank stabilization may be required to preclude erosion from heavy use. Facilities will include a trail register, latrine, canoe rests and signing.</p>	<p>tion of the trail from Rhein Lake trailhead to the public cabin on Rhein Lake should be of high standard construction with grades permitting access by the disabled.</p> <p>Trailhead and trail should be barrier free to accommodate persons with disabilities.</p> <p>Sign trail at north boundary of NLSRA, at the parkway, and at other places as necessary.</p> <p>Site selection criteria include a low bank, slow water or eddy, well drained soils and visible from long distance upstream.</p>	<p>C</p> <p>C</p> <p>D</p> <p>A</p>

# RECOMMENDATION CHARTS

FACILITY RECOMMENDATION	Pg. No.	No. on Map	MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES
Skeetna Lake Campsite	82	29	Upgrade existing site on north shore of Skeetna Lake and locate additional sites.
Butterfly Lake Campsite	82	30	Provide an area for camping and shelter near the lower, remote portion of the canoe trail.
Phoebe Lake Campsite	82	31	Provide emergency shelter and campsite on Phoebe Lake for trail users.
West Lynx Creek Campsite	82	32	Provide a destination campsite on Lynx Creek for remote camping, fishing and wildlife observation.
East Lynx Creek Campsite	82	33	Provide a destination campsite on Lynx Creek for remote camping, fishing and wildlife observation.
Lynx Lake Campsite (East Shore)	82	34	Provide shelter and tent camping area on Lynx Lake, largest lake on canoe trail system, accessible to both paddlers and hikers.
Lynx Lake Campsite (West Shore)	82	35	Consolidate public campsites on Lynx Lake to reduce user impacts and improve maintenance efficiency.
Charr Lake Campsite	82	36	Provide additional campsites along canoe trail near midpoint.

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

**SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS**

**Phase**

<p>Develop and harden campsites with latrines, fire pits and tent platforms.</p>		A
<p>Provide 3 to 5 campsites with latrine, fire pits, and backcountry, Adirondack style shelter on the best drained soils along canoe portage between Skeetna and Butterfly Lake.</p>		A
<p>Select a suitable site on the east shore of Phoebe Lake for 3 to 5 campsites, a backcountry Adirondack style shelter, latrine and fire pits.</p>		B
<p>Select a suitable site north of Lynx Creek for 2 campsites, fire pits and latrine.</p>		C
<p>Select a suitable site north of Lynx Creek for 2 campsites, fire pits and latrine.</p>		C
<p>On suitable soils near the northeast shore of Lynx Lake, install 5 to 10 campsites, fire pits, latrine, and backcountry Adirondack style shelter. Select best location on bank for canoe launching and landing. Provide canoe rests.</p>	<p>Be aware of proximity to private property and avoid use and visual conflicts between campsite and private property.</p>	A
<p>Remove existing facilities at canoe portage on northwest shore of Lynx Lake. Restore and revegetate as necessary.</p>		A
<p>Provide 3 to 5 campsites near west shore of Charr Lake near canoe portage. Facilities should include fire pits, latrine, backcountry Adirondack style shelter, and canoe rests.</p>		D

# RECOMMENDATION CHARTS

FACILITY RECOMMENDATION	Pg. No.	No. on Map	MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES
No Luck Lakes Campsite	82	37	Refurbish existing campsites to improve appearance and function. Develop new, hardened sites on the lake.
Tanaina (Smith) Lake Campsite	82	38	Provide easily accessible tent camping site on canoe trail that can be reached without portaging.
Milo-Ardaw Lakes Campsite	82	39	Remove poorly located campsites to a more suitable location on the canoe trail. Reduce number of crossings of hiking trails and canoe portages.
Ardaw Lake Campsite	82	40	Provide additional campsites with suitable soils and vegetation at convenient intervals along canoe trail.
Red Shirt Lake Campsite	82	41	Provide campground facilities on Red Shirt Lake that can accommodate walk-in and fly-in users and provide shelter.
Tanlhtun Ridge (Red Shirt Ridge) Viewing Tower	39	42	Emphasize and maximize 360 degree views from highest point in NLSRA.

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

**SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS**

**Phase**

A total of 8 to 10 campsites should be constructed away from portage and lake shore, with fire pits, latrine and canoe rests. Widen and rehabilitate launch and landing areas on Big and Little No Luck Lakes. Locate and develop 3 campsites on the lake.

Provide 2 or 3 campsites with fire pits and latrine on southwest end of Smith Lake. Sites should be made accessible to those with disabilities or reduced mobility.

Remove existing campsites and facilities between Milo and Ardaw Lakes. Restore area to natural appearance.

Select most suitable site near extreme eastern shore of Ardaw Lake and canoe portage for 3 to 5 campsites, latrine and fire pits.

Identify most suitable area near west shore of bay at northwest end of Red Shirt Lake and construct 10 campsites with latrine, fire pits, and backcountry Adirondack style shelter.

Construct a wooden viewing tower of sufficient height to permit unobstructed viewing from the highest point in NLSRA (375.4 feet) west of Red Shirt Lake. Access to and from tower will be via the Red Shirt Lake Trail. No facilities other than the trail and tower are to be provided at this site.

This is a heavily used area between the two lakes and needs considerable "hardening" to accommodate day-use fishing pressure, canoe parking/tie-up, and overnight use.

Soils and vegetation are not suited for intensive uses at this location.

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# RECOMMENDATION CHARTS

FACILITY RECOMMENDATION	Pg. No.	No. on Map	MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES
Other Remote Campsites	82	43	Over-used existing campsites, established by Parks staff or the public should be hardened and developed, or revegetated if appropriate.
<b>CABINS</b>			
Red Shirt Lake Public Cabins	40	44	Initiate a pilot program similar to the Forest Service's public cabin reservation system. Objective is to encourage and enable year-round use of high amenity remote areas for public recreation by a large segment of the population. Develop a concession policy to allow for possible private operation of the system within NLSRA.
Chicken Lake Public Cabins	40	45	Initiate a pilot program similar to the Forest Service's public cabin reservation system. Objective is to encourage and enable year-round use of high amenity remote areas for public recreation by a large segment of the population. Develop a concession policy

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION****SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS**

Phase

Sites receiving resource damage should be developed to withstand use, or be posted for 'no camping' if the site cannot withstand use.

Construct three cabins, approximately 170 square feet each, near northwest shore of Red Shirt Lake. Cabins should be set back from lakeshore with trail access to lake for float plane tie-up, fishing, swimming, and the like. Select sites with well drained soils which have access to beach area suited for the activities above. Dock or float construction may be desirable. Two cabins will be clustered within sight of each other. While this may reduce the feeling of privacy, it is believed that maintenance capability, security and safety will be enhanced. The third cabin will replace the existing cabin #5 to standardize design and replace with a more safe, sound and functional cabin. Cabins will be approximately 12x14 feet plus a porch. Each will be heated and contain table, seating, counter and bunks.

Construct a cluster of two cabins, approximately 175 square feet each, back from the west shore of Chicken Lake. Cabins should be set back from lakeshore with trail access to lake for water activities such as swimming,

The park management staff needs to carefully monitor ongoing back-country conditions and establish a carrying capacity for the back-country area.

Cabin construction and reservations on a daily or weekly basis are dependent on adequate staffing to administer the program and maintain the cabins, or operation by a private concessionaire.

Cabin construction and reservations on a daily or weekly basis are dependent on adequate staffing to administer the program and maintain cabins, or operation by a private concessionaire.

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# RECOMMENDATION CHARTS

FACILITY RECOMMENDATION	Pg. No.	No. on Map	MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES
Rhein Lake Public Cabin	40	46	to allow for possible private operation of the system within NLSRA.
			Initiate a pilot program similar to the Forest Service's public cabin reservation system. An objective is to encourage and enable use of high amenity areas for public recreation by people with disabilities or with limited mobility. Develop concession policy to allow for possible private operation of the system within NLSRA.

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

**SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS**

Phase

fishing and boating. Select sites with well drained soils which have access to good beach area. Dock or float construction may be required. Two cabins will be clustered within sight of each other for efficiency of maintenance and for safety and security of occupants. Each cabin will be heated and contain a table, seating, counter and bunks.

Construct a single cabin near the southwest shore of Rhein Lake that is accessible by wheelchair from the Rhein Lake trailhead. Cabin should be sited on well-drained soil and positioned so as to be inconspicuous from the ski/hike trail system.

Adaptation for handicapped use of the cabin required.

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## OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS

### Aircraft Operation

It is recommended that all lakes within NLSRA be closed to aircraft operation except Nancy Lake, Red Shirt Lake, Lynx Lake and Butterfly Lake. Practice touch-and-go landings should be prohibited from all lakes. The closures are for the purpose of enhancing public safety and enjoyment. The following message will be requested to be published in the Alaska Supplement to the Airmens' Information Manual.

Message: "All lakes within Nancy Lake State Recreation Area (NLSRA) are closed to aircraft operation except Nancy Lake, Red Shirt Lake, Lynx Lake, and Butterfly Lake. Touch-and-go landing practice is prohibited on all lakes within NLSRA (under authority of Alaska Statutes 38.05.295 and 41.20.020, and the Alaska Administrative Code 11 AAC 12.030)."

In the event that aircraft operation on any of the four approved lakes results in unreconcilable conflicts with other users of the recreation area, endangers visitor safety, or results in a reduction of water quality, the Division of Parks will either 1) issue a permit for individual operation of aircraft under stipulated times or conditions, 2) impose restrictions on all aircraft on specified lakes, or 3) prohibit the use of all aircraft.

### Fishery Management

With the recent discovery of northern pike in Red Shirt Lake, an immediate study is necessary to determine their potential spread to other lakes and streams, possible impact on other fish and food sources, and to recommend remedial action as necessary.

Rainbow trout fingerling stocking programs should concentrate on producing higher numbers of catchable trout in Tanaina (Smith) Lake (outlet structure needed), South Rolly Lake, North Rolly Lake, Little No Luck Lake, Big No Luck Lake, and Chicken Lake.

Experimentation with a new hardy strain of trout and fish control structures by the Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) is strongly encouraged. Fertilization experiments and poisoning programs to enhance the game fish environment are also encouraged so long as side effects are carefully monitored to prevent undesirable changes or adverse affects to the water quality and plant animal communities.

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## Wildlife Management

All procedures for improving wildlife habitat, stream enhancement, fish stocking, trapping or hunting should be coordinated with the Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G). Any regulation change in fish or game harvest must be prescribed by ADF&G. Any major policy changes dealing with wildlife or fisheries management should involve the public and appropriate agency staff before any final decision is made.

## Gravel Sites

Due to the low quality of gravel within NLSRA and resulting adversity of taking gravel on site, all gravel needed for trail, road or other facility construction shall be obtained from commercial sources outside the recreation area when possible. The only exceptions would be 1) permitting the use of gravel produced as a by-product of grading, foundation or other excavation required for facility construction, or 2) the necessity of utilizing small amounts of on-site gravel for remote trail, portage, or tent platform construction or maintenance projects for which hauling gravel from outside sources would be too costly or logistically difficult. Old gravel pits should be reclaimed where feasible. These sites should not be used for trail bikes. Use of trail bikes should occur outside of NLSRA in more appropriate areas.

## Forestry Management

A fire management plan within NLSRA should be developed with the consultation of the Division of Forestry by the management and planning staff of the Division of Parks.

## Firearm and Explosive Discharge

Discharge of firearms and explosives will be regulated according to the Division of Parks standard regulations. Any change in the current procedures will be through a revision of park regulations.

## Sewage Disposal

Disposal of raw sewage and waste water should occur only at specific disposal locations within campgrounds. Backcountry waste water should be filtered through sand or rocky soil, well away from any source of fresh-water. Backcountry latrines will be constructed at developed sites to reduce sewage disposal problems.

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## Backcountry Campsites

As the backcountry becomes more popular, specific campsites receiving heavy use will need hardening. This includes placing of a firering, latrine, tent platform, and in some cases a three-sided Adirondack style shelter. The Division of Parks must pursue a carrying capacity study of the canoe and hiking trail systems to establish a plan of action for controlling increased use. Sites may need to be hardened, the use of sites may be based on a reservation system and specified use limitations, the use of fires may be limited, and camping in non-designated, undeveloped sites may need to be eliminated. The "optimum" capacity level established will allow for quality recreational experiences, yet protect the park resources by following established procedures.

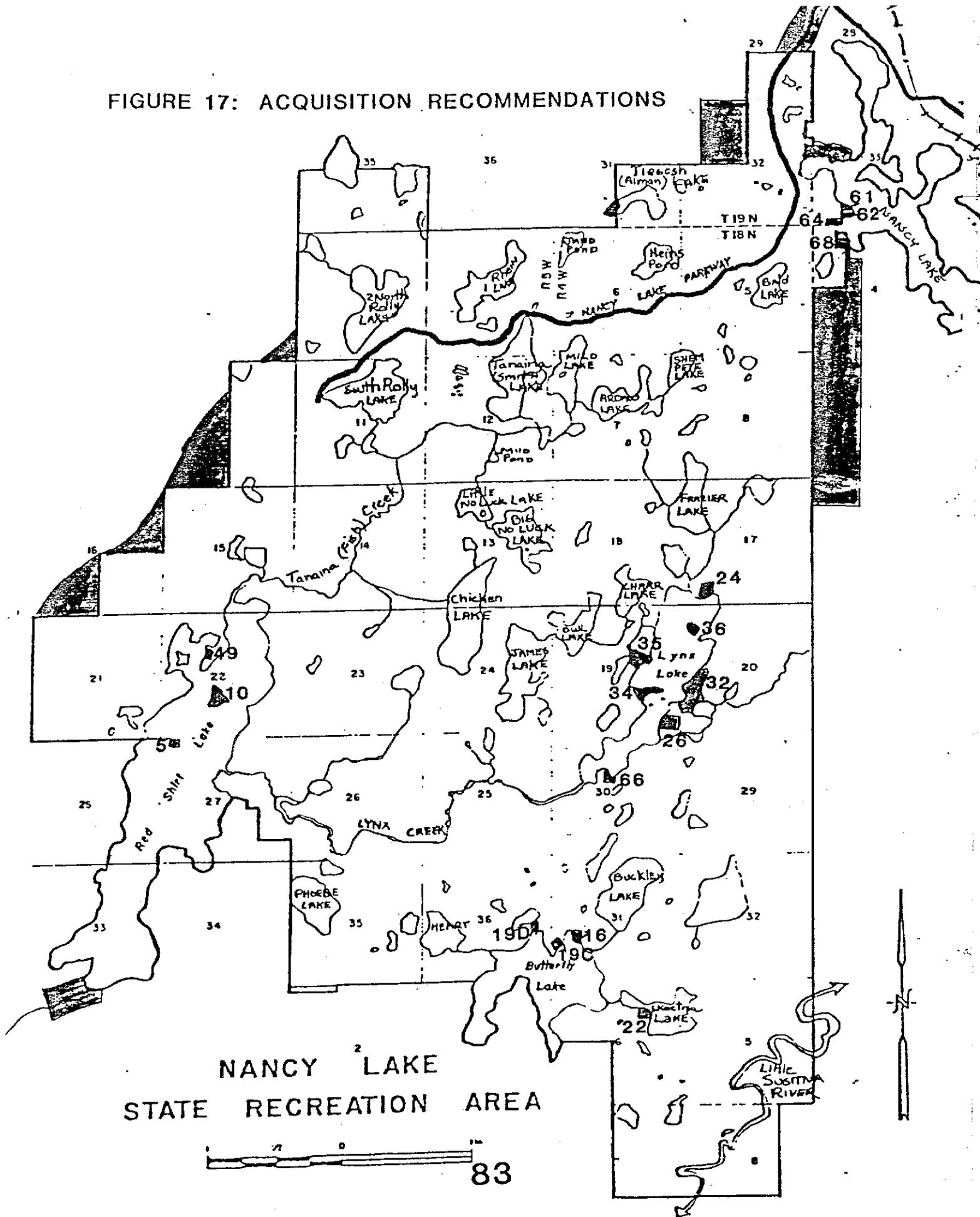
## Information and Education

Informational and educational programs and facilities should be designed and carried out on a year-round, continuing basis. Focus should be on those natural and cultural values which are present within or influence the recreation area. Programs may relate to local native culture, historic sites and events, geologic features, plant communities, birds, terrestrial animals, environmental interrelationships and others. Bald Lake Group Camp; campground amphitheaters and shelters; nature trails; and the visitor contact Kiosk are facilities which have been recommended to enhance these information and education programs.

## Land Acquisition

Several parcels of private land within and adjacent to NLSRA are recommended for acquisition. Acquisition is recommended to enhance public use and enjoyment of NLSRA and to reduce conflicts that would otherwise likely arise from future development and increased public use. Acquisitions will be made on a willing owner basis. It is also recommended that the Division of Parks establishes cooperative relationships with the Matanuska-Susitna Borough on all acquisitions and easement proposals. Figure 17 shows those parcels of land that are recommended for acquisition. The Implementation chapter refers to this figure in establishing priorities for each acquisition. Facility redesign, or relocation may be necessary in the event a critical acquisition cannot be made.

FIGURE 17: ACQUISITION RECOMMENDATIONS



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### Little Susitna River

The Willow Subbasin Plan, adopted in 1982 by the Department of Natural Resources, the resolution passed by the Matanuska-Susitna Borough (Resolution No. 82-17), and recommendation of the Alaska State Park System: Southcentral Region Plan, adopted by the Division of Parks in February, 1982, all advocate the legislative designation and management of a corridor of land encompassing the Little Susitna River between the Parks Highway and the Susitna Flats State Game Refuge as part of the State Park System. That portion (approximately 1½ miles) flowing through NLSRA will continue to be managed as part of the recreation area. The remaining sections of the Little Susitna River should be considered for inclusion into the State Park System as a State Recreation River.

### Long Lake Road

Access to the NLSRA along the Long Lake Road should be continued on a permit basis only, and phased out as alternative access to subdivided land is provided by land development outside NLSRA.

### Lynx Lake Road

The Division of Parks shall not contribute to the maintenance of the Lynx Lake Road. It shall remain gated at the recreation area boundary and its use restricted to existing property owners authorized and holding access permits issued by the Director or designee; or by official vehicles authorized entry for management of NLSRA. A signed turnaround area shall be established within the recreation area prior to reaching the gate.

### Geothermal Energy

Continue research for using geothermal energy as a heating source for NLSRA facilities.

### Water Craft Operation

It is recommended that water craft with motors be restricted from use on all lakes within NLSRA except Nancy Lake, Red Shirt Lake, Butterfly Lake, and Lynx Lake. In the event that operation of boats with motors on any of these lakes results in unreconcilable conflicts with other users of the recreation area, endangers visitor safety, or results in a reduction of water quality, the Division of Parks will either 1) issue a permit for individual operation of boats with motors under stipulated times or conditions, 2) zone the lakes and impose restrictions on all boats with motors on specified lakes, or 3) prohibit the use of boats with motors.

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## Name Changes

Presently, the public is often confused by two existing facility names, 1) Nancy Lake State Recreation Area and 2) Nancy Lake State Recreation Site. Visitors trying to locate the larger recreation area often follow highway signs into the recreation area site. Since the smaller site is only a part of the entire recreation area, it is recommended that the site be incorporated as a single facility within NLSRA and be renamed. Tudli Bena, the original name used for Nancy Lake, is recommended as the new name for this campground and picnic area.

Before white settlement in the area, the Tanaina Indians had given names to many of the dominant features (islands, ridges, lakes, streams) that lie within NLSRA. With respect to these early inhabitants and in memory of their presence which predated our own, several aboriginal names are suggested to replace contemporary ones. Additional name changes to reflect local names are also suggested. Below are the existing names followed by the proposed names.

<u>Existing Name</u>	<u>Proposed Name</u>	<u>Meaning</u>
Nancy Lake State Recreation Site	Tudli Bena Campground	Original name for Nancy Lake
Alman Lake	Tlegesh Lake	Leech
Smith Lake	Tanaina Lake	Athapaskan Indians inhabiting upper Cook Inlet
Unnamed ridge west of Red Shirt Lake	Tanlhtun Ridge	Athapaskan name for this ridge
Unnamed pond between Smith and Little No Luck Lakes	Milo Pond	
Creek between Smith and Red Shirt Lake	Tanaina Creek	Athapaskan Indians inhabiting upper Cook Inlet
Unnamed creek be- tween North Rolly Lake and Susitna River	Tutitnu Creek	Athapaskan name for this creek
Unnamed lake north- west of West Rolly Lake	Tutitnu Lake	Athapaskan name for this lake

These names, along with locally used names of other major water bodies within NLSRA, should be submitted in accordance with official procedures for adoption and become recorded on all USGS maps.

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## Public Cabins

Initiate a pilot program for providing public rental cabins within NLSRA. Such a program will consider standardized cabin design; rental on a daily or weekly basis; staffing to administer the program; interfacing reservations similar to the U.S. Forest Service procedures; construction and maintenance costs; their contribution to public recreation; and cabin siting and spacing for user enjoyment, safety, and economy. Six such cabins are recommended, and their location is shown in Figure 16, Proposed Facility Summary. All six existing cabins are recommended for demolition or salvage, and reconstruction. All proposed cabin locations consider site amenities; access; remoteness; security; and avoidance of conflict with other public facilities or private property. Depending on the success of this pilot program; an expansion of the state public use cabin system could be made on other state park land or other state public lands. Initiating a concession operation for this program will be considered.

## Section Line Vacation

The state should reinstitute vacation procedures for all section lines in NLSRA. Although vacation procedures were initiated in September, 1967, by memorandum signed by the Commissioners of Natural Resources and Highways (memo dated August 22, 1967) the procedure should be completed. Vacation of section lines is necessary to avoid future claims of right to access through NLSRA which could affect management, resource values, public use and enjoyment of the recreation area. Section line use will be vacated when alternative access exists, including water and air access. The vacating of section lines will not prevent private landowners from obtaining legal access to their lands.

## Signing

A signing plan should be prepared to insure appropriate signing of existing facilities and new developments as they are added to the recreation area. This will insure standardization, avoid confusion and over-signing, and improve the public safety and enjoyment. Areas needing special attention are Lynx Lake Road, Parks Highway, Nancy Lake Parkway, and the trails system.

## Trail Design for Multiple Use

All trail routing and design should consider multiple use to avoid over building and over signing. Winter as well as summer use should be considered when redesigning each trail. Cross-country ski trails should be suitable hiking trails in the summer, wherever feasible. Hiking and canoe trails south of the parkway and east of the Red Shirt Lake Trail should be

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designed for snowmobile use in winter. Specialized trails for equestrian use can be considered for development on suitable soils out of the Red Shirt Lake parking area, if local horse riding groups are willing to volunteer labor to construct and maintain the trails. Trail construction by other specialized user groups volunteering services can also be considered, as long as the overall trail plan is followed.

#### Tree Thinning to Improve Views

Selective hand thinning of forest trees near mile 5.9 and 6.1 of the Parkway should be done to improve or open distant vistas and views of lakes along the parkway. Forest trees located near the proposed viewing towers and along the Red Shirt Lake Trail may also require selective hand thinning to improve views.

#### Utility and Transportation Corridors

Corridors which would alter the landscape or otherwise detract from the enjoyment of recreation area visitors shall not be routed through NLSRA. Corridors adjacent to the recreation area should be planned to avoid or minimize their impact. All utility lines within or through NLSRA will be placed underground with vegetation being restored to a natural appearance. All new and existing roadways will be designed to follow existing contours, and any necessary cuts or fills will be revegetated and returned to a natural appearing condition.

#### Visitor Count

Accurate and complete visitor statistics must be maintained for the recreation area. Attendance figures are necessary to measure user preferences and trends so the construction of new facilities and the redesign of existing facilities can be carried out to meet real demand. Trail registers should be kept at the beginning and end of the canoe trail system. Trail registers should be placed at all major trailheads. A method of counting visitors who enter at the main gate should be devised. The methodology developed should also be applied to other units within the State Park System.

#### Water Quality

Water quality should be measured and ongoing records kept for all lakes within NLSRA. The highest priority for testing should be those lakes which receive the most human use. A system for establishing, maintaining and utilizing base line data on water quality must be devised.

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### Winter Separation of Motorized from Non-Motorized Uses

The present system of separating winter uses by restricting snowmobiles to the area south of the parkway has worked well and should be continued. Access into NLSRA by snowmachine from the north is allowed only on the Willow winter access trail.

### Concessions

Private enterprise is encouraged to partake in business dealings outside of the recreation area. The unit should be used as a conduit for these private enterprises. Should a concession policy be developed within NLSRA boundaries for competitive, exclusive use of the unit, the appropriate concession opportunities will be identified and bids will be issued for proposals. All concession operations will follow state park regulations and procedures. General guiding opportunities will be dealt with by use permits.

### ATV's

Access by hunters using ATV's to lands west of NLSRA is prohibited. ATV use in the park is closed by park regulations and any changes in these procedures require the Director's approval. This plan does not recommend any ATV improvements or access.