

# Region 15

## *Cinder River, King Salmon River*

### Summary of Resources and Uses in the Region

#### **Region Boundary**

Region 15 includes the state uplands on a portion of the Alaska Peninsula generally southeast of Pilot Point and north of Port Heiden; it also includes tidelands on both the Bristol Bay side and the Pacific Ocean side of the Alaska Peninsula, northwest and southeast respectively (Map O-3). The upland areas contain most of the Cinder River, and King Salmon drainage system. The Region encompasses portions of the Alaska Peninsula National Wildlife Refuge. There are no communities within the Region.

#### **State Lands: Ownership and Acreage**

State-owned land dominates the western one third of the Region while much of the eastern two-thirds is Federally owned. Native-owned land is only a small percentage of the Region and is concentrated on the northern and southern boundaries. The Cinder River Critical Habitat Area is contained within Region 15. The plan applies to 513,061 acres of state-owned and state-selected uplands and 439,401 acres of state-owned tidelands in this region. The plan also applies to state-owned shorelands (acreages of shorelands have not been calculated).

#### **Physical Geography**

The western portion of Region 15 is within the Bristol Bay Lowlands ecological province; the eastern portion of the Region is in the Alaska Peninsula ecological province. Drainage flow is predominantly westward towards Bristol Bay and eastward toward the Pacific Ocean. The principal drainages are the Dog Salmon, King Salmon, and Cinder Rivers, which flow westward from the National Wildlife Refuge. Yantarni Creek flows eastward into Yantarni Bay. The two coastlines differ significantly – the Bristol Bay side is straight and has little protection while the Pacific side is indented with many bays. Notable embayments include Yantarni, Nakalilok, Chiginagak, and Agripina Bays. The western one-third of the Region is low-lying country with abundant lakes, ponds, and marshes. The eastern two-thirds encompasses the spine of the Aleutian Range and has considerable relief. The most significant feature is Mount Chiginagak, an active volcano that erupted last in 1971, with an elevation exceeding 6,800 feet. Adjacent to Region 15, in Aniakchak National Monument and Preserve, is Aniakchak caldera, which last erupted in 1931; the caldera holds Surprise Lake, the source of the Aniakchak River, which empties from the caldera eastwards through a 1,500-foot deep gorge.

## **Climate**

The climate of Region 15 is predominantly maritime, characterized by cool, humid, and windy weather.

## **Other**

Region 15 is primarily within the Ugashik, Bristol Bay, Sutwik Island, and Chignik Quadrangles. It is within the boundaries of the Bristol Bay Regional Native Corporation, and the Lake and Peninsula Borough.

## **Access**

Access to Region 15 is limited to marine, river, or air transport. Skiffs, ATVs and snowmachines are the primary means of local transportation. Travel on the western beaches is possible with four-wheel drive vehicles.

The Southwest Alaska Transportation Plan (ADOT/PF, November 2002) identified an Alaska Peninsula Transportation Corridor, which in general extends from South Naknek to the Chigniks connecting with the communities of Egegik, Pilot Point, Ugashik, and Port Heiden. The Alaska Peninsula Corridor is an overland route linking the communities of the Alaska Peninsula from Ivanof Bay to Naknek. The key facility in this corridor is the port at Chignik, from which fuel and supplies can be disbursed to other communities via road connection. From Chignik the corridor extends west along the Gulf of Alaska coast to Perryville and Ivanof Bay. It also extends from Chignik to Chignik Lake and Chignik Lagoon, then crosses the Alaska Peninsula to Port Heiden. From Port Heiden the corridor extends north, connecting Pilot Point, Ugashik, Egegik and South Naknek, and tying into the Cook Inlet to Bristol Bay Corridor at Naknek.

## **Resources and Uses**

**Cultural and Historic.** The state Office of History and Archeology lists eleven sites in Region 12; eight of these are prehistoric, two are historic, and two are of mixed origin. Most of the historic and archeological sites occur near Egegik and along the Dog Salmon River, the King Salmon River, and Mother Goose Lake.

**Economic.** Subsistence hunting and fishing activities are an important part of the lifestyle and local diet. Seal, beluga, salmon, trout, smelt, grayling, clams, moose, bear, caribou, porcupine, waterfowl and ptarmigan are utilized. Locals also gather berries and wild greens each season. Commercial recreational hunting and fishing occur sparingly in the region.

**Recreation.** Much of the recreational resources and uses are related to the Alaska Peninsula National Wildlife Refuge and the adjacent Aniakchak National Monument and Preserve. Recreational resource use along the Pacific Coast is limited because of inaccessibility.

**Minerals.** Mineral sands are known to occur along the beaches on the west side of the Alaska Peninsula. An unnamed beach placer enriched in gold, iron, and titanium occurs south of Hook Lagoon. A number of lode occurrences have been identified on Federal lands in the National Wildlife Refuge. Most of these are porphyry copper and polymetallic occurrences. Two

porphyry copper prospects are notable – Mike and Rex. Mike is a porphyry molybdenum prospect of later Tertiary to Quaternary age with grades up to 0.21% Mo. There is potential for moderate reserves to be developed. Rex is a porphyry copper prospect with grades of up to 0.3% copper. The potential is similar to that at Mike.

**Oil and Gas.** Region 15 has high potential for the discovery of oil and gas. The western portion of the Region is underlain by Tertiary Milky River, Bear Lake, Stepovak, and Meshik formations. Elsewhere on the Alaska Peninsula the Milky River and Stepovak formations are known to contain oil and gas shows. Three widely spaced wells have been drilled in Region 15: Chevron USA Inc. drilled the Koniag Chevron USA No. 1, onshore between Yantarni and Nakalilok Bays, in 1981 to a depth of 10,907 feet; Cities Service Oil Co. drilled the Painter Creek No. 1, four miles southwest of Mother Goose Lake, in 1967 to a depth of 7,912 feet; and Great Basins Petroleum Co. drilled the Ugashik No. 1, eleven miles southwest of Pilot Point, in 1966 to a depth of 9,476 feet.

State and Native landowners are currently pursuing a new hydrocarbon exploration licensing and leasing program. The Alaska Department of Natural Resources, Lake and Peninsula, Bristol Bay, and Aleutians East Boroughs have signed a memorandum of understanding (MOU) in support of oil and gas lease sales and licensing of state land in the Bristol Bay and Alaska Peninsula region (March 17, 2004). Similar MOUs are in effect between the DNR and The Aleut Regional Native Corporation (December 18, 2003) and the DNR and Bristol Bay Native Corporation (July 10, 2003).

**Geothermal.** One thermal spring occurs in the Region east of Mother Goose Lake; it has a temperature of 138° F. A second thermal spring, Surprise Lake Hot Spring, occurs within Aniakchak National Monument and has been measured at 78° F. Neither spring is utilized for commercial or residential purposes.

**Materials.** There are no active materials sites in the Region.

**Forestry.** There are no significant forestry resources in Region 15.

**Fish and Wildlife.** Caribou, brown bear, waterfowl, and moose are the major wildlife resources in the Region. The Dog Salmon, Cinder, and King Salmon Rivers and Mother Goose Lake provide habitat for salmon, which are harvested by commercial, recreational, and subsistence users. This is also true for a number of streams on the Pacific side of the peninsula. The Region contains important brown bear habitat; the distribution of important and essential brown bear habitat is mostly within the National Wildlife Refuge and the National Monument; on state land, this habitat is found between Aniakchak National Monument and Preserve and Port Heiden. Much of the lowlands provide calving grounds for caribou. Moose also tend to calve in much of the central portion of the Region. The eastern portion of Region 15 encompasses the Alaska Peninsula National Wildlife Refuge. The Region supports a wide variety of wildlife including caribou, brown bear, river otter, wolves, wolverine, and moose. Moose are relative newcomers

to the area, first observed on the peninsula in the early 1900's. The coastal portions of the region provide nesting areas for eagles and other raptors. Peregrine falcon occur on the eastern coast.

Region 15 also encompasses the Cinder River Critical Habitat Area, managed by the Alaska Department of Fish & Game. This legislatively designated area was created to protect habitat that supports migratory stopover areas for large number of ducks, geese, and shorebirds in the spring on their way to northern nesting grounds and in the fall on their return to southern wintering areas. In the fall, the Cinder River area is an important feeding and staging area for cackling Canada geese. The Cinder River shorelands support a nesting population of marbled godwits and sea ducks winter in the protected ice-free waters.

## **Management Considerations: Local and State Plans**

A number of local, state, and federal management plans were considered in development of this plan. Local plans include the Lake and Peninsula Borough Coastal Zone Management Plan, the Lake and Peninsula Borough Comprehensive Plan, and the Southwest Alaska Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy 2003-2008. State plans include the Bristol Bay Area Plan and the Southwest Alaska Transportation Plan. Federal plans include the Alaska Peninsula and Becharof National Wildlife Refuges Draft Comprehensive Conservation Plan.

The Bristol Bay Area Plan (1984) affected all state lands in the Region until this revision. The 1984 Area Plan managed this area for fish and wildlife habitat and harvest, recreation, and oil and gas development. This revision supersedes the original Area Plan.

Region 15 is within the Lake and Peninsula Borough. Both the Comprehensive Plan and the District Coastal Management Plan of the Borough apply to Region 15. The Comprehensive Plan focuses on economic and infrastructure development issues and does not contain specific land use standards or a land use map. The Enforceable Policies of the District Coastal Management Plan are extensive; policies affecting anadromous streams, bald eagle nests, oil and gas development, material extraction and mining can be applicable, under certain instances, to state lands. See [www.alaskacoast.state.ak.us/](http://www.alaskacoast.state.ak.us/) for more information on enforceable policies. These policies should be consulted by DNR prior to issuing an authorization.

Region 15 is also within the area covered by the Southwest Alaska Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy 2003-2008, which was developed for the U.S. Department of Commerce Economic Development Administration by the Southwest Alaska Municipal Conference (July 2003). This document developed a number of goals, objectives, and strategies to facilitate and support efforts that retain and grow the region's wealth, including diversifying the economic base.

The Comprehensive Conservation Plan of the Alaska Peninsula National Wildlife Refuge guides the management of federal uplands within the Refuge. See the section on *Local and Federal Plans* in Chapter 3 for a description of these plans and how they apply to federal lands.

### **Municipal Selections**

The Lake and Peninsula Borough has made several selections in Region 15. Selections have been made along the east side of the King Salmon River, on Old Creek, between the Cinder River and Mud Creek, and at a remote landing strip adjacent to Painter Creek. The selections total approximately 8,293 acres in Region 15.

## **Management Summary: Uplands**

State land in Region 15 is to be managed for a variety of multiple uses, including public recreation and tourism, hunting and fishing, minerals exploration and development, oil and gas exploration and development, public facilities, and maintenance of sensitive wildlife habitats. Because of the difficulty associated with development and the absence of discernible demand, all state-owned and state-selected land is designated General Use – except for those uplands within tidelands management units that are designated Habitat (Ha).

### **Plan Designations and Management**

The plan designations that are used within this Region have the following management intent. The policies and management intent guidelines described in Chapter 2 affect all DNR authorizations. Refer especially to those guidelines relating to Fish and Wildlife Habitat and Harvest Areas, and Settlement. See also the descriptions of the plan designations in the first part of this Chapter; this section indicates which lands can be conveyed out of state ownership and those that must be retained.

- **General Use (Gu).** Land that contains one or more resource values, none of which is of sufficiently high value to merit designation as a primary use. The land is to be managed for a variety of uses including protection of fish and wildlife habitat and harvest, dispersed public recreation, minerals, oil and gas exploration and development, and protection of heritage resources. It is expected that little development will occur in these areas during the planning period, and it is not intended as a matter of policy that intensive forms of development occur in these areas other than occasionally and at specific sites. Land in this designation may be appropriate for conveyance to municipalities unless stated otherwise in the unit's management intent.
- **Habitat (Ha).** This designation applies to areas of varied size for fish and wildlife species during a sensitive life-history stage where alteration of the habitat or human disturbance could result in the permanent loss of a population or sustained yield of a species. This land will remain in state ownership except for areas where a tidelands conveyance to a municipality is allowed under AS 38.05.820 and AS 38.05.825. In Region 15 this designation is applied to streams and shorelands cataloged by the Alaska Department of Fish and Game as anadromous.

- **Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed and Habitat (Co-designation).** Certain navigable waterbodies (lakes and streams) are co-designated Habitat (Ha) and Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed (Rd). Authorizations within these waterbodies should not interfere with important habitat or public recreation values. See Table 3.1 in the Navigability section of this Chapter for a listing of these streams. Note: Certain waterbodies may (only) be designated Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed, (Rd), Habitat (Ha), General Use (Gu).

### **Specific Management Considerations**

- **Generally Allowed Uses.** The Generally Allowed Uses in 11 AAC 96.020 can occur on state-owned land throughout the Region with the exception of the Cinder River Critical Habitat Area.
- **Proposed Transportation Corridor.** The area identified on the Region Map as a “Potential Transportation Corridor” should be retained by the state during the planning period. Authorizations granted by DNR within this corridor should not preclude the future development of transportation access. Authorizations or disposals within and adjacent to this corridor should only be allowed after consultation with ADOT/PF.
- **The Alaska State Legislature has designated the Cinder River Critical Habitat Area for the protection of fish and wildlife habitat.** Management of this area is the responsibility of the Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G). A special area permit is required for any habitat altering work, including any construction activity. A special area permit application form can be obtained from any Department of Fish and Game office and should be submitted to the Division of Sport Fish Regional Office in Anchorage representing the area in which the proposed activity will occur. See also tideland management unit R15T-01.
- **Mineral Closing Leasehold Location Orders.** There are no Mineral Closing Orders that affect this Region, and no MCOs or Leasehold Location Orders are recommended.
- **Mineral Order No. 791 is an interim order (as of July 11, 2003) that precludes shallow natural gas leasing and oil and gas exploration licensing.** This order has no effect on locatable or leaseable minerals other than shallow natural gas leasing and oil and gas exploration licensing. This order is retained and affects all state land in Region 15.
- **Retained Lands.** There are no state lands within this Region that are designated to be retained except for those that are reserved as a ‘Potential Transportation Corridor’ and those designated Habitat (Ha).
- **Navigable Waters.** Shorelands (rivers and lakes) that are believed to be navigable are listed in Table 3.1 in the Navigability section of this Chapter. Authorizations in these waters must ensure the continued use of a waterway by the public for purposes of trade, travel, and commerce. Note: These waterbodies are assigned a plan designation of Habitat, Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed, a co-designation of Habitat and Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed, and, sometimes, General Use. Authorizations issued by DNR are to maintain the habitat and public recreation values of these waterbodies.

See the Resource Allocation Table for more detail on these upland management units.

## Management Summary: Tidelands and Submerged Lands

Region 15 includes tidelands in the northern part of the Region that adjoin Bristol Bay as well as tidelands that adjoin the Pacific Ocean in its southern part.

**Bristol Bay Tidelands.** The tidelands in this area consist almost uniformly of coarse sand beaches, although extensive areas of exposed and sheltered tide flats occur at the mouth of the Cinder River and in the extensive wetland areas that adjoin the Cinder River, especially to the south thereof. The most critical habitat area within this Region occurs at and within the Cinder River CHA (R15T-01). This CHA provides habitat for spring and fall concentrations of waterfowl (including tundra swans), waterfowl molting concentrations, spring concentrations of brown bear, and a harbor seal haulout concentration area at the mouth of the Cinder River. This biologically productive area extends south from the mouth of the Cinder River, including the area of Hook Lagoon (R15T-02), which is not within the Cinder River CHA. The Hook Lagoon management unit includes the area of the lagoon and coastal near shore area. These areas are important habitats for spring and fall brown bear concentrations, spring and fall waterfowl concentrations, and waterfowl molting concentrations.

Sockeye, pink and chum salmon are commercially harvested (purse seine) along the Bristol Bay coastline and coho salmon at mouth of Cinder River (purse seine). Seining for salmon is not currently allowed east of Cape Seniavin along the Bering Sea Coastline. Chinook, sockeye, and coho salmon are targeted by set gillnets and occasionally by drift gillnets in Cinder River Lagoon. Coho salmon are fished by drift gillnet gear outside of Cinder Lagoon after August 1.

**Pacific Ocean Tidelands.** The tidelands in this area primarily provide habitat for seabird colonies situated along the coast on rocky islets and several offshore islands. Kelp concentrations are reported along much of the coastline and on several offshore islands. Some of the tidelands are known sea otter concentration areas, and several harbor seal and sea lion haulouts exist. Most of the tidelands in the northern part of the region adjoin the Alaska Peninsula NWR. The southern half adjoins areas of private and Native corporation land.

Red king, tanner and dungeness crab are harvested in the tidelands that adjoin the Pacific Ocean, concentrating in the bays and lagoons. Shrimp harvest is concentrated in Amber Bay, Nakalilok Bay, and Chiginagak Bay. Guided sport fishing occurs in the coastal tidelands on the Pacific side of the Alaska Peninsula.

## Plan Designations and Management Intent

### Plan Designations and Management Intent: Bristol Bay

**Bristol Bay Coastal Tidelands.** Areas of tideland in Bristol Bay not within the CHA (R15T-01) or the Hook Lagoon tideland management unit (R15T-02) are designated General Use. Development authorizations in this area are considered appropriate subject to the protection of sensitive resources and habitats.

**Cinder River CHA (R15T-01).** The CHA is designated Habitat and is to be managed to protect the concentrations of waterfowl, brown bear, and harbor seal haulouts. Development authorizations are prohibited within the CHA unless the requirements of AS 16.20.530 and AS 16.20.530 are fulfilled.

**Hook Lagoon (R15T-02).** Hook Lagoon and the area adjacent to it (R15T-02) are designated Habitat and are to be managed to protect the hydrology of the lagoon, eel grass and areas of salt marsh, and habitats essential to brown bear and waterfowl concentrations. Tideland authorizations may be appropriate in the areas designated Habitat subject to the protection of sensitive resources and habitats.

### Plan Designations and Management Intent: Pacific Ocean

**Pacific Coast Tidelands.** Areas of tideland along the Pacific Ocean not within the Alaska Peninsula NWR are designated General Use. Development authorizations in this area are considered appropriate subject to the protection of sensitive resources and habitats.

**Tidelands adjacent to the Alaska Peninsula NWR (R15T-03).** Tidelands adjacent to the Alaska Peninsula NWR<sup>18</sup> are to be managed to protect habitat values and public recreation resources and are affected by a Tideland Resource Management Zone (TRMZ). See the description of a TRMZ in the section on *Tidelands Summary in Chapter 3* for a more detailed description of management intent for such zones. See also the footnote. This TRMZ also applies to the Aniakchak National Monument and Preserve.

See the Resource Allocation Table for more details on these tideland management units.

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<sup>18</sup> Note: The requirements of the TRMZ also apply to the Aniakchak National Monument and Preserve. This National Monument is not included within a region in the BBAP, but the tidelands of this area need to be classified.

# Resource Allocation Table for Upland Units - Region 15

<b>Unit #: / Name</b>	<b>Acres / Designation(s)</b>	<b>MTRS</b>	<b>Management Intent</b>	<b>Resources, Uses, Additional Info</b>
AN-01 Aniakchak	5,486 Gu -- General Use	Map O-3 S36S51W	The unit is designated General Use (Gu) and is to be managed for a variety of uses including protection of anadromous fish and wildlife resources and habitat, dispersed recreation, and mineral and oil and gas exploration and development. Development authorizations may be considered appropriate subject to the protection fish and wildlife resources and the specific requirements of Chapter 2. The unit is not suitable for settlement.	This unit consists of state-owned land that extends into the northern portion of Aniakchak National Monument and Preserve. It consists of approximately eight sections of land in steep terrain near the headwaters of Pumice Creek. Pumice Creek is cataloged as an anadromous fish stream and the area is used by brown bear for denning.
R15-01 Cinder River	499,667 Gu -- General Use	Map O-3	The unit is designated General Use (Gu). It is to be managed for a variety of uses including minerals or oil and gas exploration and development, the protection of fish and wildlife resources and their associated habitat, and dispersed recreation. Authorizations should carefully review the guidelines provided in the Fish and Wildlife section of Chapter 2 prior to issuance, particularly those related to caribou calving areas, anadromous streams, and tundra swans. Intensive development is not expected within this unit during the planning period except occasionally and at specific locations related to mineral development or oil and gas extraction, if found economically practicable to develop. The Alaska Peninsula transportation corridor transects the unit; the actual position of the road alignment has yet to be determined. No authorizations or disposals should be considered that are within or near the corridor until the road alignment is known or without consultation with the ADOT/PF.	This is a large state-owned unit that comprises most of the state land in Region 15. It consists mostly of low-lying, poorly drained, wetlands on the west side of the Alaska Peninsula. Vegetation consists of low shrub and tundra. Caribou calving grounds have been identified in the western portion of the unit and moose calving areas are found in the eastern portion of the unit. Large areas are also considered denning areas for brown bear. Tundra swan concentrations occur northeast and southwest of Cinder River estuary. The unit contains several large anadromous fish streams. Commercial and other recreational sport fishing and hunting uses occur. The unit has significant potential to contain deposits of oil and gas.

<b>Unit #: / Name</b>	<b>Acres / Designation(s)</b>	<b>MTRS</b>	<b>Management Intent</b>	<b>Resources, Uses, Additional Info</b>
R15-02 King Salmon River	3,195 Gu -- General Use	Map O-3	The unit is designated General Use (Gu). It is to be managed for a variety of uses including minerals or oil and gas exploration and development, the protection of fish and wildlife resources and their associated habitat, and dispersed recreation. Authorizations should carefully review the guidelines provided in the Fish and Wildlife section of Chapter 2 prior to issuance, particularly those related to caribou moose calving areas. Intensive development is not expected within this unit during the planning period except occasionally and at specific locations related to mineral development or oil and gas extraction, if found economically practicable to develop.	This unit consists of approximately five sections of state-selected land west of the King Salmon River in the northern part of Region 15. The unit contains areas used by waterfowl, for moose calving, and has oil and gas potential.
R15-03 Reindeer Creek	10,200 Gu -- General Use	Map O-3	This unit is designated General Use (Gu). If conveyed by the federal government, these lands are to be managed for a variety of uses including oil and gas exploration and development, the protection of fish and wildlife resources and their associated habitat, and dispersed recreation. Authorizations should carefully review the guidelines provided in the Fish and Wildlife section of Chapter 2 prior to issuance, particularly those related to caribou calving areas. Intensive development is not expected within this unit during the planning period except occasionally and at specific locations related to oil and gas extraction, if found economically practicable to develop. The Lake and Peninsula Borough has made a number of land selections within the unit as part of its municipal entitlement. These include lands at Painter Creek and the landing strip, lands east of the King Salmon River, a selection on Old Creek, and several selections between Mud Creek and the Cinder River. Conveyance of these selections is considered appropriate, subject to a separate, subsequent Best Interest Finding. The Alaska Peninsula transportation corridor transects the unit; the actual position of the road alignment has yet to be determined. No authorizations or disposals should be considered that are within or near the corridor until the road alignment is known or without consultation with the ADOT/PF.	The unit consists of approximately sixteen sections of state-selected land along the southeast margin of Region 15 in the vicinity of Reindeer Creek. The unit contains anadromous fish streams, may have brown bear denning areas, and is within a caribou calving area. The unit is utilized for dispersed recreation, primarily related to fishing and hunting. The Alaska Heritage Resources Survey (AHRS) reports a heritage site in or near this unit near the coast. The unit has potential for the discovery of oil and gas.

# Resource Allocation Table for Tideland Units - Region 15

Unit # / Name	Acres / Designation(s)	MTRS	Management Intent	Resources, Uses, Additional Info
R15T-01 Cinder River CHA	22,930 Ha -- Habitat	Map O-3 S33S55W, S33S56W	Unit is designated Habitat and is to be managed to protect the sensitive upland and tideland resources associated with this Critical Habitat Area. Only development authorizations that meet the requirements of AS 16.20.520 and AS 16.20.530 are appropriate. Applications must be submitted to ADF&G for review and approval. Ensure that authorizations are consistent with the requirements of the Bristol Bay Fisheries Reserve. Consult with NMFS and USFWS prior to granting authorizations.	This tideland unit consists of the uplands and tidelands within the Cinder River CHA, created under AS 16.20.560. Tideland resources include a harbor seal haulout concentration area at the mouth of Cinder River, and both waterfowl seasonal concentrations (spring and fall periods) and molting concentration areas. This is an important staging area for sandhill cranes. The southern portion of the unit contains areas used by brown bears during spring concentrations. A caribou calving area is located in the vicinity of the Cinder River lagoon. A number of anadromous streams empty into the extensive area of sheltered tidal flats that occur to the south of the mouth of Cinder River. See also unit R15T-02, which contains tidelands immediately to the south of the CHA.
R15T-02 Hook Lagoon	26,220 Ha and Hv -- Habitat and Harvest	Map O-3 S35S57W	This unit is designated Habitat. Management intent: protect areas of eel grass and estuarine wetlands, waterfowl seasonal and molting concentration areas, and areas along the coast used during brown bear spring concentrations. Tideland authorizations may be appropriate in this unit but must protect these resources and habitats.	A portion of this unit occupies the lagoon; extensive wetland areas adjoin the lagoon. Tideland resources include areas of eel grass and salt marsh and habitats essential to brown bears and waterfowl. Brown bears use the area adjacent to the coast as spring concentration areas. Waterfowl also use this area extensively for seasonal concentrations (spring and fall) and as molting concentration areas.  Harvest: Commercial harvest of pink, chum and sockeye salmon (purse seine) occurs along the western coastline of Region 15. Purse seine harvest of coho salmon occurs at the mouth of Cinder River and set net harvest of coho salmon occurs in the vicinity of Hook Lagoon.

<b>Unit # / Name</b>	<b>Acres / Designation(s)</b>	<b>MTRS</b>	<b>Management Intent</b>	<b>Resources, Uses, Additional Info</b>
R15T-03 Tidelands adjacent to the Alaska Peninsula NWR and Aniakchak National Monument and Preserve	75,200 Ha, Rd -- Habitat and Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed	Map O-3	Tidelands adjacent to the Alaska Peninsula NWR and the Aniakchak National Monument and Preserve (National Preserve) are to be managed to protect sensitive habitat values, fisheries and wildlife resources, and the public recreation resources of the National Preserve. Offshore islands are also included in the Alaska Maritime NWR. A Tideland Resource Management Zone (TRMZ) affects tidelands adjacent to the NWRs and the National Preserve. See "Management Summary, Tidelands" in Chapter 3 for a more detailed description of TRMZs and the management intent and requirements for such zones. Consult with the National Preserve, USFWS, and NMFS prior to issuing authorizations.	<p>The tidelands adjacent to the Aniakchak National Monument and Preserve primarily provide habitat for sea bird colonies, most of which are situated on offshore islands. Many of the tidelands adjacent to this part of the Alaska Peninsula contain eel grass beds, some are known sea otter concentration areas, and several harbor seal haulout sites are present. Eel grasses and kelp concentrations are also reported on several offshore islands. Bald eagle concentrations are high along this portion of the Alaska Peninsula coast.</p> <p>Harvest: Commercial harvest of red king, tanner and dungeness crab occurs in the tidelands adjacent to the Pacific shore of this region concentrating in bays and lagoons. There is a concentration of shrimp harvest in Amber Bay, Nakalilok Bay and Chiginagak Bay. Commercial harvest of halibut and Pacific herring occurs in the offshore tidelands of this unit (domestic trawl and longline) particularly around Sutwik Island. Recreational halibut fishing also occurs in the Pacific tidelands of this region.</p>
R15T-04 Tide and Submerged Lands, Bristol Bay	439,401 Gu -- General Use	Map O-3	Manage for a variety of uses and resources. Minimize impacts to shorebird and waterfowl concentrations. Consult with NMFS prior to issuing authorizations. Maintain opportunities for commercial and subsistence harvest.	<p>This unit consists of two relatively small areas of tide and submerged lands; one part being located north of the Cinder River Critical Habitat Area and the other, south of unit R15T-02. Consult Plan Map O-3 for location.</p> <p>The majority of the significant biological resources within tidelands in this Region are associated with the Critical Habitat Area (R15T-01) and R15T-02. See these units for a description of sensitive resources.</p> <p>The shoreline consists almost uniformly of coarse sand beaches. Waterfowl and seabirds are known to be present within the unit. Portions of the walrus range exist.</p> <p>Commercial harvest of pink, chum, and sockeye salmon occurs along the western coastline of this Region.</p>