MANAGEMENT UNIT 5B Fielding Lake

MANAGEMENT INTENT

General. State land in this management unit is retained in public ownership for multiple use management. The emphasis is recreation and maintaining fish and wildlife habitat.

Subunit 5B1 is recommended for legislative designation as a State Recreation Area. (See Chapter 4, Areas Recommended for Legislative Designation).

Fish and Wildlife. Fish and wildlife is designated a primary use in this unit. The Fielding Lake area is prime-rated habitat for caribou, grizzly bear, and upland game (B-1 habitat). Sockeye salmon spawning in Summit Lake and the upper Gulkana River is a significant resource value. There is sport fishing in the lakes.

The area will be managed for hunting, fishing, wildlife viewing, and maintaining important habitat values.

Minerals. The southern half of this unit contains plutonic rocks with moderate to poor potential for mineralization. Access to existing mineral claims will be coordinated to minimize impacts on recreation. Subunit 5B1 is closed to new mineral entry and to coal leasing because of conflicts with recreation values. Subunit 5B2 is closed to new mineral entry because of conflicts with the transportation corridor for the pipeline.

Recreation. The unit has very high recreation values because of its easy accessibility, high eleva-

tion, and panoramas of alpine scenery. There is recreation on Fielding and Summit lakes, and summer and winter back-country exploration.

This alpine environment is very sensitive and its natural landscape is easily damaged.

The Fielding Lake area (Subunit 5B1) is recommended for legislative designation as a State Recreation Area. Subunit 5B2 may also be suitable for designation as a State Recreation Area, and should be re-evaluated after the Trans Alaska Gas Pipeline is constructed, or during the next update of this plan (see Chapter 4, Areas Recommended for Legislative Designation). Public use cabins are recommended because they would serve a greater number of recreation users than private recreation cabins.

The unit will be managed to maintain its important recreation values. Material sales, access to mining operations, and new transportation and utility corridors must be carefully planned to avoid adverse impacts to recreation values.

Transportation corridor. Transportation corridor is a designated primary use within Subunit 5B2. The proposed Trans-Alaska Gas Pipeline crosses this subunit.

MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES

Management guidelines that apply to all state land are listed in Chapter 2. Some or all of those guidelines may apply to uses in this unit.

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LAND-USE DESIGNATION SUMMARY MANAGEMENT UNIT 5B: Fielding Lake

Subunit	Primary Surface Uses	Secondary Surface Uses	Subsurface ¹	Prohibited ² Surface Use	Comments
5B1	Public recreation Wildlife habitat		Closed to location Closed to coal	Land disposals Remote cabins	Fielding Lake recom- mended for a State Recreation Area
5B2	Public recreation Transportation corridor Wildlife habitat		Closed to location		

 $^{^{1}}$ Subsurface designations refer to locatable minerals. All areas are available for leasing for leasable minerals, except as noted for coal.

² Other uses such as material sales, land leases, or permits that are not specifically prohibited may be allowed. Such uses will be allowed if consistent with the management-intent statement, the management guidelines of this unit, and the relevant management guidelines listed in Chapter 2.