

UPPER YUKON AREA PLAN



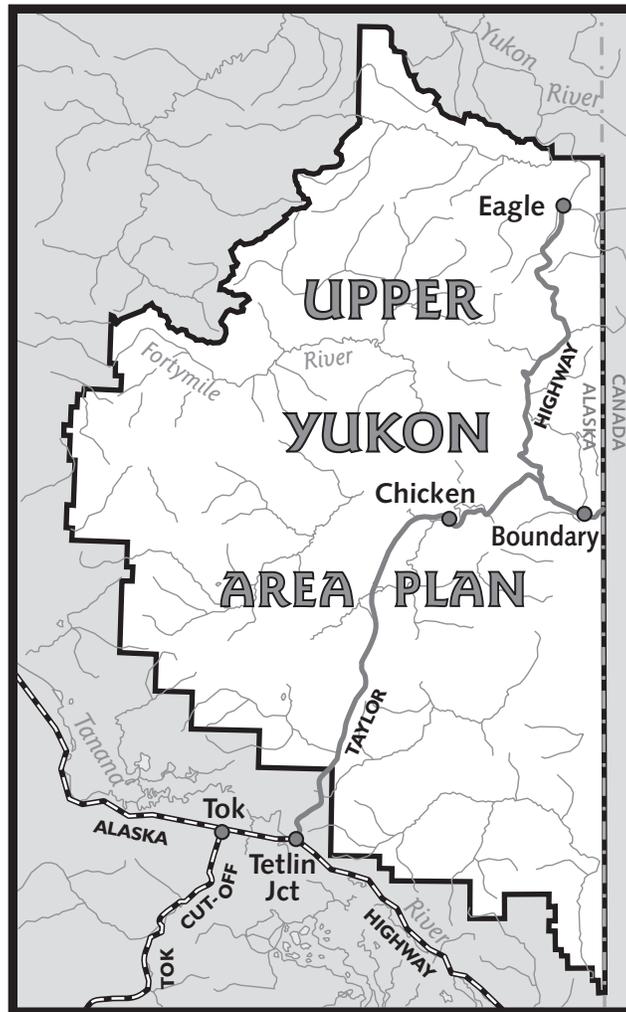
February
2003



Alaska Department of Natural Resources
Division of Mining, Land & Water
Resource Assessment & Development Section

UPPER YUKON AREA PLAN

February 2003



Alaska Department of Natural Resources
Division of Mining, Land & Water
Resource Assessment & Development Section

STATE OF ALASKA

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

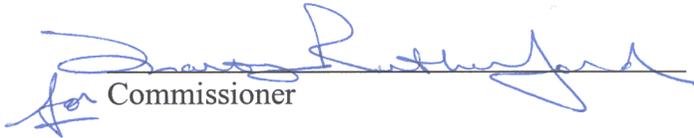
OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER

FRANK H. MURKOWSKI, GOVERNOR

* 400 WILLOUGHBY AVENUE
JUNEAU, ALASKA 99801-1796
PHONE: (907) 465-2400
FAX: (907) 465-3886

* 550 WEST 7TH AVE., SUITE 1400
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99501
PHONE: (907) 269-8431
(907) 269-8918

The Commissioner of the Department of Natural Resources finds that the Upper Yukon Area Plan meets the requirements of AS 38.04.065 and 11 AAC 55.010-55.030 for land use plans, and hereby adopts the plan. The Department of Natural Resources will manage state land in the planning area consistent with the plan.


Commissioner

2/3/03
Date

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

STATE OF ALASKA

DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE

FRANK MURKOWSKI, GOVERNOR

P.O. BOX 25526
JUNEAU, AK 99802-5526
PHONE: (907) 465-4100
FAX: (907) 465-2332

MEMORANDUM

TO: Tom Irwin, Commissioner
Department of Natural Resources

FROM: Kevin C. Duffy, Acting Commissioner *KCD*
Department of Fish and Game

DATE: February 18, 2003

SUBJECT: ADF&G Signature for Upper Yukon Area Plan

The Alaska Department of Fish and Game assisted the Department of Natural Resources in preparing the Upper Yukon Area Plan. We appreciate the opportunity to represent fish and wildlife habitat, harvest, and public use values during the development of the plan.

The Department of Fish and Game will use the plan as guidance when reviewing and commenting on proposed uses of state lands in the planning area.

PLANNING TEAM and PLANNING STAFF

Background

The Upper Yukon Area Plan was prepared by the DNR Division of Mining, Land and Water with assistance from a multi-disciplinary planning team. The planning team included representatives from state and federal agencies. Planning staff from the Resource Assessment and Development Section coordinated the project. The planning team and planning staff are listed below.

DNR Division of Forestry
Ray Kraemer and Steve Clautice

DNR Division of Geological & Geophysical Surveys
David Szumigala

DNR Division of Mining, Land and Water
Mitch Henning and Kathy Means

DNR Division of Mining, Land and Water, Northern Region Office
Jack Kerin

DNR Division of Oil and Gas
Tom Bucceri

DNR Division of Parks and Outdoor Recreation
Mike Goodwin and Joan Dale

DCED Division of Trade and Development
Dick Swainbank, Aneta Synan and Odin Brudie

DEC Division of Air and Water Quality, Northern Region Office
Amy Ash

DF&G Division of Habitat and Restoration
Jim Durst

DF&G Division of Subsistence
Terry Haynes

DF&G Division of Wildlife Conservation
Craig Gardner

Department of Transportation and Public Facilities
Jerry Rafson

U.S. Bureau of Land Management
Mary Figarelle

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES STAFF

Department

Tom Irwin (Commissioner)

Division of Mining, Land and Water staff

Bob Loeffler (Director), **Dick Mylius** (Chief RADS), **Bruce Phelps** (Chief Planning Unit), **Elaine Thomas** (Graphics Unit), **Susan Peck** (Graphics Unit), **Michele Gorham** (Graphics Unit), and **Robin Carlson** (Graphics Unit)

Project Staff

Alison Arians (Project Manager July 2000 – July 2001), **Mark Sprague** (Project Manager September 2001 – February 2003), **Roselynn Ressa Smith** (Assistant Project Manager), **Ruth Booth** (Clerk)

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The Planning Team and staff would like to thank the following individuals in the DNR Division of Mining, Land and Water for their help with developing the plan.

Elaine Thomas, Susan Peck, Michele Gorham and Robin Carlson for preparing the maps, figures, and tables for the plan and related publications.

Dick Mylius, Bruce Phelps and Bruce Talbot for assistance with formulating the planning process, writing, editorial comments, assistance at meetings, and a multitude of plan-related issues.

Ruth Booth and Scott McEwen for assistance with a multitude of tasks that went into producing the plan.

Harry Bader (Northern Region Manager), **Chris Milles, Frank Maxwell, Robert Layne, Joe Sullivan,** and **Jeanne Proulx.**

TABLE OF CONTENTS

CHAPTER 1 : Introduction

Introduction and Background	1 - 1
Summary of Purpose of the Plan.....	1 - 1
The Planning Area.....	1 - 1
How the Plan Is Organized	1 - 2
Why This Plan Was Developed	1 - 3
The Mandate.....	1 - 4
What the Plan Will Do	1 - 4
How This Plan Is Used.....	1 - 4
The Relationship Between the Upper Yukon Area Plan and Other Plans	1 - 5
How the Plan Was Developed.....	1 - 5
Process of Plan Preparation.....	1 - 5
Who Developed the Plan?	1 - 6
Uses and Resources within the Planning Area.....	1 - 6
What the Plan Won't Do	1 - 7
Summary Of Plan Actions	1 - 9
Land Use Designations.....	1 - 9
Management Intent.....	1 - 9
Management Guidelines.....	1 - 9
Classifications	1 - 9
Summary of Plan Implementation and Modification.....	1 - 9

CHAPTER 2 : Areawide Land Management Policies

Introduction.....	2 - 1
Fish & Wildlife Habitat & Harvest.....	2 - 2
Forestry	2 - 8
Heritage Resources	2 - 11
Materials	2 - 13
Recreation and Tourism.....	2 - 15
Settlement	2 - 19
Stream Corridors, Shorelands, and Instream Flow	2 - 25
Subsurface Resources	2 - 32
Trails and Public Access.....	2 - 37
Transportation	2 - 43
Trapping Cabins	2 - 46
Wetland Management	2 - 47

CHAPTER 3 : Management Policies for Regions, Management Units, and Navigable Waterbodies

Introduction	3 - 1
How this Chapter Presents Information and Management Policy	3 - 1
Information Regarding Land Use Designations.....	3 - 2
Land Use Designations Used In This Plan.....	3 - 4
Information Regarding Management Intent.....	3 - 6
Duration and Flexibility of the Plan.....	3 - 7
Glossary.....	3 - 8
Region 1 : Middle Fork.....	3 - 11
Regional Summary.....	3 - 11
Management Intent for Region 1	3 - 14
Region 2 : North Fork.....	3 - 19
Regional Summary.....	3 - 19
Management Intent for Region 2	3 - 24
Region 3 : South Fork.....	3 - 37
Regional Summary.....	3 - 37
Management Intent for Region 3	3 - 40
Region 4 : Walker Fork.....	3 - 49
Regional Summary.....	3 - 49
Management Intent for Region 4	3 - 54
Navigable Waterbodies.....	3 - 75

CHAPTER 4 : Implementation and Recommendations

Introduction	4 - 1
State Land Classification.....	4 - 1
Relationship of Designations to Classifications and Conversion of Plan Designations Into Classifications	4 - 3
Land Classification Order and Acreage of Lands Classified	4 - 4
Surface Leasing	4 - 5
Mineral Leasehold Location Orders	4 - 5
Municipal Entitlement.....	4 - 5
General Grant Land Selections	4 - 5
Coordination with Federal Land Management Plans.....	4 - 6
Public Trust Doctrine	4 - 6
Federal Public Land Orders	4 - 7
Types of Plan Changes.....	4 - 7

APPENDICES

APPENDIX A

Glossary.....	A - 1
---------------	-------

APPENDIX B

Mineral Leasehold Location Order No. 28	B - 1
---	-------

APPENDIX C

Mineral Leasehold Location Order No. 29	C - 1
---	-------

APPENDIX D

Land Classification Order No. NR-02-001	D - 1
---	-------

APPENDIX E

Index.....	E - 1
------------	-------

LIST OF MAPS

CHAPTER 1

Land Status.....	1 - 11
------------------	--------

CHAPTER 3

Planning Area and Region.....	3 - 9
Region 1 : Middle Fork	3 - 17
Region 2 : North Fork	3 - 33
Eagle Inset.....	3 - 35
Region 3 : South Fork	3 - 45
Mount Fairplay Inset.....	3 - 47
Region 4 : Walker Fork.....	3 - 67
Boundary Inset	3 - 69
Chicken Inset.....	3 - 71
Jack Wade Junction Inset	3 - 73

LIST OF FIGURES

CHAPTER 1

1.1 General diagram of the state's uplands, and shorelands	1 - 2
--	-------

LIST OF TABLES

CHAPTER 2

2.1 Minimum widths for reserved public access and building setbacks	2 - 28
---	--------

CHAPTER 3

Resource Allocation Summary for Region 1 : Middle Fork3 - 16
Resource Allocation Summary for Region 2 : North Fork3 - 27
Resource Allocation Summary for Region 3 : South Fork3 - 42
Resource Allocation Summary for Region 4 : Walker Fork.....3 - 58

CHAPTER 4

4.1 ACREAGES Associated with Upland Designations4 - 3
4.2 UPLAND and SHORELAND Designations – Conversion to Classifications.....4 - 3
4.3 ACRES of State Lands Classified.....4 - 4

CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

Introduction and Background	1
Summary of Purpose of the Plan.....	1
The Planning Area.....	1
Figure 1.1 General diagram of the state’s uplands, and shorelands	2
How the Plan Is Organized	3
Why This Plan Was Developed	3
The Mandate.....	4
What the Plan Will Do	4
How This Plan Is Used.....	4
The Relationship Between the Upper Yukon Area Plan and Other Plans	5
How the Plan Was Developed.....	5
Process of Plan Preparation.....	5
Who Developed the Plan?.....	6
Uses and Resources within the Planning Area.....	6
What the Plan Won't Do.....	7
Summary of Plan Actions.....	9
Land Use Designations.....	9
Management Intent.....	9
Management Guidelines.....	9
Classifications	9
Summary of Plan Implementation and Modification	9
Map - Land Status	11

CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

Introduction and Background

Summary of Purpose of the Plan

The role of state land use plans was established by state statute (AS 38.04.005). It is the policy of the State of Alaska "...to establish a balanced combination of land available for both public and private purposes. The choice of land best suited for public and private use shall be determined through the inventory, planning, and classification processes..."

The plan determines land-use designations, management intent, and management guidelines that apply to all state lands in the planning area.

The Planning Area

The Upper Yukon Area Plan includes all state-owned and state-selected uplands, and all shorelands within the area depicted on the Land Status Map at the end of this chapter. This area is situated adjacent to the Canadian border, north of the Alaska Highway and mostly south of the Yukon River. The north and northwest portions of the planning area boundary are contiguous with the Yukon - Charley Rivers National Preserve, and the south and west portions of the planning area boundary are contiguous with the boundary of the state's Tanana Basin Area Plan. Within the planning area boundary is the Fortymile River component of the National Wild and Scenic River System.

Like much of Interior Alaska, the landscape of the Upper Yukon Planning Area is rich in resources yet they are widely dispersed. The Fortymile caribou herd uses this area extensively throughout the year, migrating over large tracts of land. Other wildlife, such as moose, sheep, swans, and hawks occupy this region. While much of the area is considered "lean" by those who harvest animals, parts of the planning area have been traditionally used by people from the communities within and adjacent to the planning area for hundreds of years.

Placer mining has occurred in this region for over 100 years and continues today as a livelihood for many. Dredges, rechanneled river bottoms, airstrips, old log cabins and equipment tell a story of the hardships and perseverance of people who pioneered the Fortymile Mining District. For those working and living in this area, mining is as much a part of the landscape as the streams themselves.

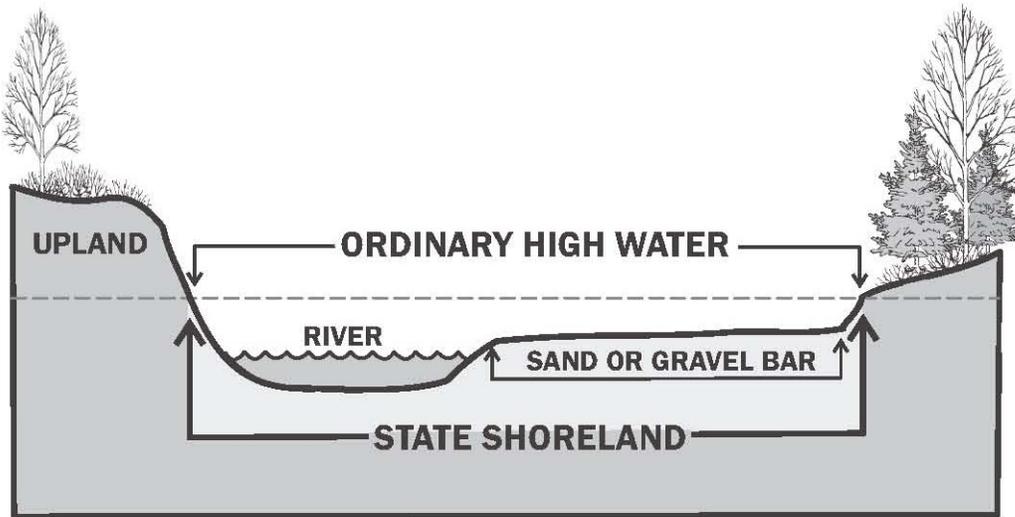
One of the most outstanding natural attractions in the planning area is the open, expansive landscape. Whether a person is driving along the Taylor Highway that bisects the area or flying, the sprawling vistas of distant mountains and low-lying spacious river drainages draw many to this area of the state merely for visual pleasure. Tourism has risen substantially over the past decade and should continue to rise as more people visit Alaska each year.

The planning process includes gathering citizen comments about how state land is used and should be used, identifying important resources, deciding what lands should be made available for sale into private ownership, and developing management intent and guidelines for state land. Important goals were to maintain the visual integrity of the area, protect large blocks of wildlife habitat from fragmentation, and provide accessible areas for settlement.

There are approximately 5.3 million acres in the planning area under all ownerships. The Upper Yukon Area Plan directs how the Alaska Department of Natural Resources (DNR) will manage state uplands and shorelands¹, within the planning boundary. The following is a summary of the acreage² to which the plan will apply:

State-owned uplands	2,586,018
State-selected uplands	1,938,083
Total	4,524,101

Figure 1.1 General diagram of the state’s uplands, and shorelands



¹ Shorelands includes the area between below ordinary high water in non-tidal areas, which in the planning area are considered to be lakes in excess of 50 acres and streams for those portions that are in excess of 10 feet in width.

² The acreage associated with shorelands is included in the acreage estimate of state-owned and state-selected uplands.

How the Plan Is Organized

The plan has four chapters:

Chapter 1 - Introduction includes a summary of the purpose of the plan, description of the planning area, how and why the plan was developed, what the plan covers and does not cover, and a summary of plan actions.

Chapter 2 - Areawide Land Management Policies includes goals of the plan and guidelines that apply throughout the planning area. Guidelines are listed in twelve resource and land-use categories. Guidelines are specific directives that will be applied to land and water management decisions as resource uses and development occur.

Chapter 3 - Management Policies for Regions, Management Units, and Navigable Waterbodies includes detailed descriptions of the land-use designations in the plan's four regions. Each region is described in a regional summary that depicts the location, land ownership pattern, acreage, physical features, access, resources and uses for each region. This section also provides a summary of management constraints and considerations based on resource values and distributions, the policies of state and federal plans that might affect this plan, and other issues that could significantly affect the management of state lands. Most importantly, this chapter provides the land use designations and management intent statements that are used to manage state lands.

Within the planning area are four regions which generally correspond to significant resource features or with communities. In addition, there are individual management units, most of which represent smaller tracts of land or are very large land tracts encompassing important habitat and wildlife concentrations in the Middle Fork Region. Tables in Chapter 3, termed 'Resource Allocation Tables,' describe the resources and uses in each unit, and identify the uses for which the unit was designated. This chapter also includes the management intent and management guidelines for each unit, and location maps. The last section of this chapter addresses navigable waters.

Chapter 4 - Implementation and Recommendations discusses specific actions necessary to implement the plan. These include a description of how land-use designations convert into classifications and the acreages associated with each of the DNR 'Orders' (Land Classification and Mineral Leasehold Location), coordination requirements with federal lands affected by management plans, and a description of the land selection program as it affects the planning area. Finally, procedures for changing the plan are described.

Appendices include a glossary, two Mineral Leasehold Location Orders, the Land Classification Order, and the index.

Why This Plan Was Developed

The planning area is rich in natural resources. There are many different ideas about how these resources should be used or protected. Although some proposed uses may be in conflict with

each other, many different uses can occur throughout the planning area while protecting vital resources, providing the uses are properly managed.

This plan describes the intended uses of state lands. The plan directs which state lands will be retained by the state and which should be sold to private citizens, used for public recreation, or used for other purposes.

With an area plan, state permits and permit review processes become more efficient for both the government and the public. The area plan guides DNR decisions for leases, sales, and permits that authorize use of state lands. Preparation of land-use plans for state lands (except for State Park System lands) is required under Title 38 of Alaska Statutes. Future DNR land and resource management and decision-making will be based on the area plan.

The Mandate

The state has received some of its land entitlement within the Upper Yukon Area Plan boundary, and will eventually receive some of the lands in the planning area that has been selected. The state is responsible for managing the uplands in state ownership. To ensure that these lands are properly managed, the Department of Natural Resources has developed this plan for all land that it currently owns and all selected land that it may eventually own. For those selected lands that do not eventually go into state ownership, this plan will not apply.

The planning process provides a means of openly reviewing resource information and public concerns before making long-term decisions about public land management. The planning process resolves conflicting ideas on land use and informs the public about what choices were made and why. Decisions are made on a comprehensive basis, rather than case-by-case, providing consistency and consideration of the wide diversity of resources and uses within the planning area. This process provides for more efficient use and protection of the area's resources.

What the Plan Will Do

The plan will help ensure that state resource management takes into account the sustained yield of renewable resources, that development is balanced with environmental concerns, and that public access to state land is provided. The plan encourages cooperation with other landowners to better address conflicts caused by land-ownership patterns. Finally, the plan documents the state's intent for land management so that both public and private interests know how the state plans to manage lands over the long term.

How This Plan Is Used

This plan is intended to manage state lands and resources within the planning area, and is the expression of how DNR will pursue this management. Much of the use of this plan is by the DNR Division of Mining, Land and Water. Adjudicators use this plan when reviewing and

making decisions on authorizations for use of state land, including permits, leases, sales, conveyances, and rights-of-way. This plan is also used by the DNR Division of Forestry and the Division of Parks and Outdoor Recreation in the administration of their programs and activities.

The Relationship Between the Upper Yukon Area Plan and Other Plans

Until the development of the area plan, a comprehensive analysis of the land and resources in the planning area had not been undertaken by DNR. The Upper Yukon Area Plan was developed to ascertain the spatial extent and intensity of resources and uses in the plan area, and establish policies for their management. Other plans or reports prepared by agencies and citizen groups were reviewed and their recommendations taken into consideration in the development of this plan:

- Location Study Report for the Taylor Highway, Mile 95 to 160, RS-786(4) (DOT/PF)
- Fortymile Caribou Herd Management Plan (Fortymile Caribou Herd Planning Team)
- Habitat Management Needs Assessment for the Fortymile Caribou Herd (Fortymile Caribou Herd Planning Team)
- River Management Plan for the Fortymile River Component of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System (BLM)

According to the Yukon Land Use Planning Council in Canada, no land use plan has been developed for the Dawson Region, which is the area within the Yukon that is adjacent to this planning area. They are in the early stages of forming a regional planning council, and refining the specifics of the planning process. Although a local plan has been completed for the area near Dawson City (Klondike River basin), they have indicated that there have been no plans for resources or specific areas that would be impacted by the proposals in the Upper Yukon Area Plan.

How the Plan Was Developed

The Upper Yukon Area Plan is the product of over two years of work by state and federal agencies, other land owners, local governments, interest groups and the public. Three rounds of public meetings were held in Boundary, Chicken, Eagle, Tok, Tetlin, Tanacross, Dot Lake, and Fairbanks.

Process of Plan Preparation

The following process was used to develop this area plan:

- Identify issues in the planning area;
- Map and analyze resources and uses;
- Conduct public meetings to further identify issues and discuss preliminary designations;
- Prepare the Public Review Draft (PRD) based in part on comments previously received

from the public and from agencies;

- Conduct public meetings and comment period for PRD;
- Prepare an Issue/Response Summary of public comments on the PRD and prepare the final plan incorporating comments; and
- The Commissioner signs the plan and adopts it as DNR's management intent for state lands in the planning area.

Who Developed the Plan?

The planning team and planning staff directed the planning process, including data collection, draft plan and final plan preparation, and response to public and agency comments. The team included representatives from state agencies, with additional input from federal agencies that manage land or natural resources in the area.

Uses and Resources within the Planning Area

Uses of State Land. The plan outlines management objectives for state land. This includes describing what resources and valid existing uses should be protected, and what uses are most suitable for development or protection on state land during the planning horizon.

State-selected Land and Land Susceptible to Navigation. Some lands have been selected but not yet been conveyed to the state. Other lands are under waterbodies surrounded by federal lands that, if determined navigable, are state-owned. In both cases, the plan determines how to manage these lands if they are state-owned.

Land Sales. The planning process reviewed the state land holdings to determine which undeveloped lands are suitable for settlement uses in the future.

Roads, Trails, and Access. The plan considers access across state lands, including existing and proposed roads, trails, easements, and rights-of-way.

Mining. The plan addresses mineral development on state land. The plan also considered policies concerning areas of state land to be subject to leasehold location or closed to new mineral location. Chapter 2 summarizes these decisions.

Recreation. Recreation is a popular use of state land. The plan includes management intent language pertaining to the nature of recreation, which tends to be of a dispersed, motorized and non-motorized type within the planning area. This language is included in the explanation of the General Use designation that is used to establish DNR management direction for large areas of state land. Recreation is considered an allowed use within the planning area, consistent with the requirements of generally allowed uses under 11 AAC 96 and the standards of AS 38.05.200 as they may apply.

Fish and Wildlife Habitat and Harvest. The plan documents fish and wildlife habitat and harvest areas and provides management intent and guidelines for these resources and uses.

What the Plan Won't Do

The Upper Yukon Area Plan is not the only way in which land management goals are implemented. The area plan is coordinated with a variety of other programs and projects implemented by the Department of Natural Resources and other state agencies. There are some important issues that are not addressed in this plan:

Non-DNR Lands. This plan does not apply to federal, municipal, private, University of Alaska, Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities, or Mental Health Trust lands.

Fish and Wildlife. Allocation of fish and game stocks and regulating methods and means of harvest are the responsibility of the state Boards of Fisheries and Game.

Generally Allowed Uses. The area plan does not regulate activities that do not require a written authorization on state land, such as hiking, camping, boating, hunting, and fishing. Many low intensity forms of use are allowed on state land without authorization, consistent with 11 AAC 96.020. See this section of regulations for a description of these uses and whether certain types of activities are controlled by more specific stipulations.

Decisions on Specific Applications. While this plan provides general management intent for state lands, the plan does not make decisions about specific land-use authorizations. These decisions are made through the application review process. Land-use authorizations must, however, be consistent with the plan, and existing laws and regulations.

Actions by Agencies Other Than DNR. The plan does not provide management intent for prescribing actions and policies for agencies and governments other than DNR.

Navigability Determinations. While this plan provides management intent for shorelands beneath navigable waters (Chapter 3, Navigability), it does not make determinations as to which waters are navigable. Determinations of navigability are made by both the state and federal government, and can be fairly detailed and complex. A listing of these determinations is available from the Division of Mining, Land, and Water. Most of the streams in the planning area do not have navigability determinations and, in at least one instance, there is some degree of uncertainty between the amount and area of navigability (for purposes of navigability determinations) – specifically, on the Fortymile River system. The state and the federal government are considering working to resolve some of the issues of navigability on the Fortymile system and, hopefully, this will provide increased certainty over how the shorelands (state-owned) are to be managed in consideration of the adjacent federal uplands, which are part of the federal Wild and Scenic River System. (For more information regarding navigability, refer to the state's website at <http://www.dnr.state.ak.us/mlw/nav/index.htm>)

Airspace and Military Operations. The plan does not impose restrictions on civilian or military use of airspace above the planning area. This has been an issue because part of the

planning area has been designated as a Military Operations Area (MOA), and Air Force training activity has had impacts on wildlife and human activities. In 1997, the Alaska MOA EIS Record of Decision mandated establishment of the 11 AF (Air Force) Resource Protection Council, which is made up of citizens and representatives from resource management agencies. The Council recommends mitigation measures for the Air Force to implement. (More information regarding Military Operations Areas is available at <http://www.elmendorf.af.mil/Units/611osf/Publications/2-05SUAIspamphlet.pdf>)

Summary of Plan Actions

Land Use Designations

Portions of each region and all management units are assigned a land use designation that represents the uses and resources for which the area will be managed. This has been done to establish the dominant land management objective for state land. These designations are explained and mapped in Chapter 3.

Management Intent

The plan presents management intent and management guidelines that explain DNR's overall resource management objectives for each region and management unit. The plan also provides resource and use information for land managers. This information is presented in Chapter 3.

Management Guidelines

According to the Alaska Constitution, state lands are to be managed for multiple use. When potentially conflicting uses are designated in a management unit, the plan provides guidelines to allow various uses to occur without unacceptable consequences. Management guidelines for specific management units are given in Chapter 3. Guidelines that apply to the entire planning area are identified in Chapter 2.

Reference to the management guidelines is especially critical in this area plan because the vast land area encompassed by the plan necessitates the use of the General Use designation. This is a multiple use designation, and its management intent and guidelines must be consulted in order to get a proper sense of how a tract of land is to be managed when affected by this designation.

Classifications

All state lands in the planning area will be classified consistent with the land use designations in this plan. Classifications made by the plan will be noted to State land status plats. A table that shows how designations convert to classifications is located in Chapter 4. The Land Classification Order (LCO) that is to be adopted with this plan is included as Appendix D. The LCO actually enacts and imposes the classifications that are identified as designations in the area plan.

Summary of Plan Implementation and Modification

The plan is implemented through administrative actions such as leases, permits, land conveyances, classification orders, and mineral orders. The plan serves as the final finding for

land classifications and mineral orders. Chapter 4 presents the details of plan implementation recommendations and procedures.

Economic and social conditions in Alaska and the planning area are sure to change and the plan must be flexible enough to change with them. The plan will be reviewed regularly to monitor progress in implementing the plan and to identify problems that may require amendment or modification.

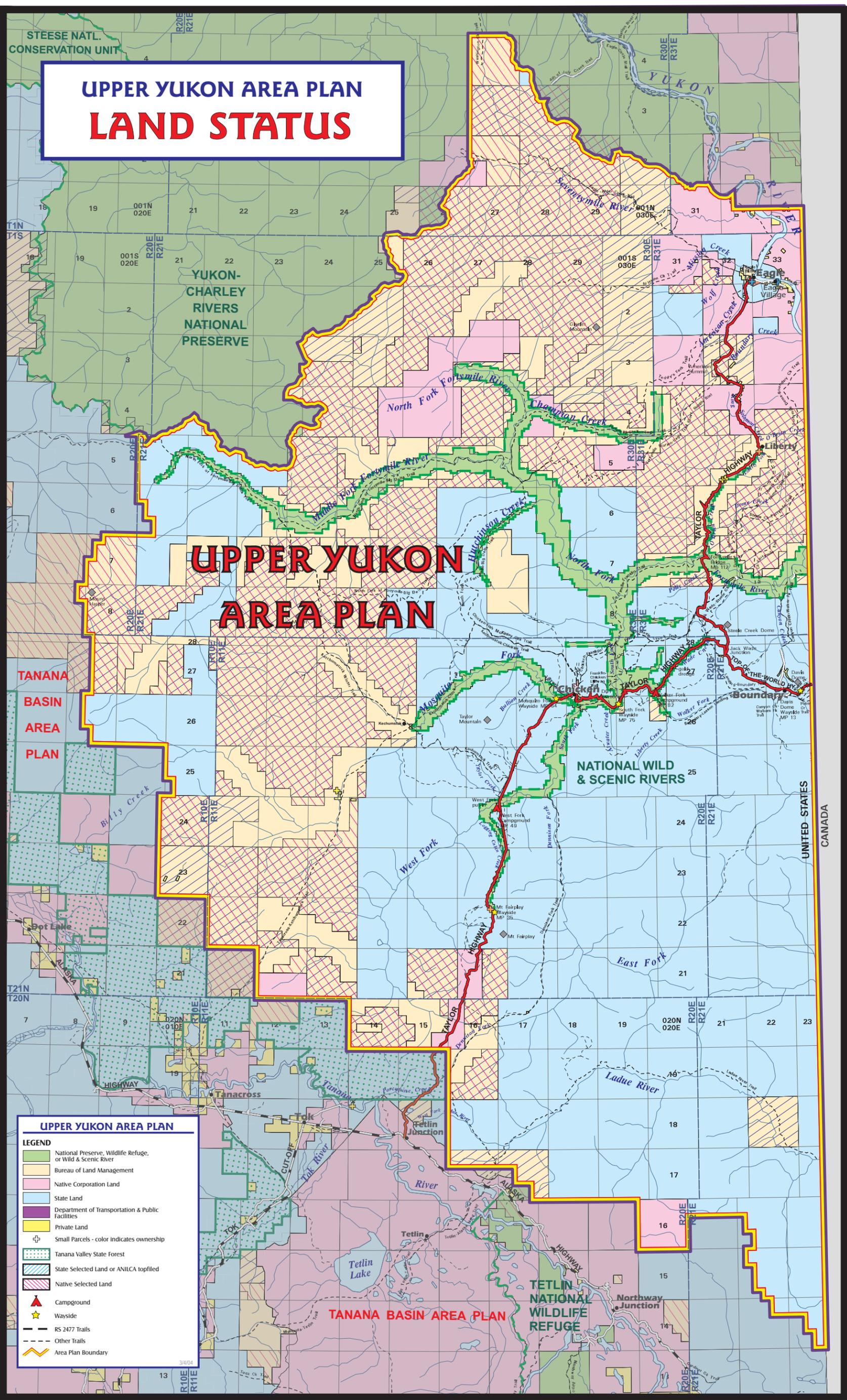
Specific modifications may be made whenever conditions warrant them, though a request for these changes must follow certain procedures. The plan may be amended after public review, consultation with the appropriate agencies, and approval by the Commissioner of DNR. Special exceptions and minor changes must follow certain procedures. See *Chapter 4* for a more detailed description of procedures for plan modifications, amendments, special exceptions, and minor changes.

UPPER YUKON AREA PLAN LAND STATUS

UPPER YUKON AREA PLAN

UPPER YUKON AREA PLAN

- LEGEND**
- National Preserve, Wildlife Refuge, or Wild & Scenic River
 - Bureau of Land Management
 - Native Corporation Land
 - State Land
 - Department of Transportation & Public Facilities
 - Private Land
 - Small Parcels - color indicates ownership
 - Tanana Valley State Forest
 - State Selected Land or ANILCA topfled
 - Native Selected Land
 - Campground
 - Wayside
 - RS 2477 Trails
 - Other Trails
 - Area Plan Boundary



UPPER YUKON AREA PLAN LAND STATUS

CHAPTER 2

AREAWIDE LAND MANAGEMENT POLICIES

Introduction.....	1
Fish & Wildlife Habitat & Harvest	2
Forestry	8
Heritage Resources	11
Materials	13
Recreation and Tourism.....	15
Settlement	19
Stream Corridors, Shorelands, and Instream Flow	25
Table 2.1 Minimum widths for reserved public access and building setbacks.....	28
Subsurface Resources	32
Trails and Public Access.....	37
Transportation	43
Trapping Cabins	46
Wetland Management	47

CHAPTER 2

AREAWIDE LAND MANAGEMENT POLICIES

Introduction

This chapter presents land management policies for each of the major resource or land use categories affected by the plan: heritage resources, fish and wildlife habitat and harvest, forestry, materials, recreation, tourism, settlement, mineral resources, transportation, and trapping cabins. The chapter also presents management policies for several specific land management concerns: public access, stream corridors and instream flow, trail management, and wetland management.

These policies apply to state land throughout the region, regardless of the land use designation.

The policies in this chapter consist of goals and management guidelines. Goals are the general condition the department is trying to achieve, and guidelines are specific directives that will be applied to land and water management decisions as resource use and development occur.

Definitions

For definitions of terms commonly used in this chapter, see the *glossary* in Appendix A.

Fish & Wildlife Habitat & Harvest

Goals

Maintain and Protect Publicly Owned Habitat Base. The state will maintain in public ownership and protect the habitat values of 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.

Ensure Access to Public Lands and Waters. Ensure access to public lands and waters where appropriate to promote or enhance responsible public use and enjoyment of fish and wildlife resources. Access improvements should be designed to match the public use objectives for the area under consideration.

Mitigate Habitat Loss. When resource development projects occur, avoid or minimize reduction in the quality and quantity of fish and wildlife habitat.

Contribute to Economic Diversity. Contribute to Alaska's economy by protecting the fish and wildlife resources that contribute directly or indirectly to local, regional, and state economies through commercial, subsistence, sport, and non-consumptive uses.

Support the Mixed Cash-Subsistence Economy. Recognize the subsistence economy in the planning area and adjacent communities, contribute to the stability of the mixed cash and subsistence economy in the region by providing opportunities for resource development that are in balance with and accommodate traditional uses and subsistence resources and uses.

Mitigate Adverse Effects to Subsistence Activities¹. Avoid or minimize interference with subsistence activities or traditional uses when authorizing land and water use activities.

Adhere to Land Use Requirements. All land use activities will be conducted with appropriate planning and implementation to avoid or minimize adverse effects on fish and wildlife, or their

¹ The allocation of fish and wildlife resources among competing users is managed through the Alaska Boards of Fisheries and Game, not by DNR. DNR manages state lands which support subsistence resources and uses. DNR also authorizes other land uses, and some of these uses may conflict with subsistence activities or traditional uses. DNR has the responsibility to manage state lands for multiple use and resolve or mitigate conflicts among competing beneficial uses including traditional uses and subsistence activities. (See: AS 38.04.015 and AS 38.05.830)

The State of Alaska, through the Boards of Fisheries and Game, manages subsistence resources on all lands and waters in Alaska, and the Federal Government, through the Federal Subsistence Board, is responsible for assuring a federal subsistence priority on federal public lands and waters. Both state and federal laws define subsistence as the “customary and traditional” use of wild resources for food, clothing, fuel, transportation, construction, art, crafts sharing, and customary trade.

Eligibility for subsistence uses differs in state and federal law. Under federal law, only rural residents qualify for subsistence hunting and fishing on federal public lands. Federal subsistence regulations further restrict eligibility only to those rural residents who have customary and traditional use of a particular fish stock or game population in a particular area. Some federal public lands remain open to use by residents who are not federally qualified subsistence users. Under current state law, all state residents qualify for subsistence fishing and hunting on state and private lands of those fish and wildlife populations where subsistence use occurs.

habitats.

Management Guidelines

A. Mitigation. When issuing permits and leases or otherwise authorizing the use or development of state lands, the Department of Natural Resources will recognize the requirements of the activity or development and the benefits it may have to habitat when determining stipulations or measures needed to protect fish and wildlife, or their habitats. When an authorization may result in significant adverse impacts to fish and wildlife or their habitats, DNR will consult with Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G). The costs of mitigation relative to the benefits to be gained will be considered in the implementation of this policy.

The department will enforce stipulations and measures, and will require the responsible party to remedy any significant damage to fish and wildlife, or their habitats that may occur as a direct result of the party's failure to comply with applicable law, regulations, or the conditions of the permit or lease.

When determining appropriate stipulations and measures, the department will apply the following steps in order of priority. Mitigation requirements listed in other guidelines in this plan will also follow these steps.

1. Avoid anticipated, significant adverse effects on fish and wildlife, or their habitats through siting, timing, or other management options.
2. When significant adverse effects cannot be avoided by design, siting, timing, or other management options, the adverse effect of the use or development will be minimized.
3. If significant loss of fish or wildlife habitat occurs, the loss will be rectified, to the extent feasible and prudent, by repairing, rehabilitating, or restoring the affected area to a useful state.
4. DNR will consider requiring replacement with other areas with like resource values or enhancement of fish and wildlife habitat when steps 1 through 3 cannot avoid substantial and irreversible loss of habitat. ADF&G will clearly identify the species affected, the need for replacement or enhancement, and the suggested method for addressing the impact. Replacement with or enhancement of similar habitats of the affected species in the same region is preferable. DNR will consider only those replacement and enhancement techniques that have either been proven to be, or are likely to be, effective and that will result in a benefit to the species impacted by the development. Replacement or enhancement will only be required by DNR if it is determined to be in the best interest of the state either through the Best Interest Finding process AS 38.05.035(e) or permit review process. Replacement may include structural solutions, such as creating spawning or rearing ponds for salmon, creating wetlands for waterfowl; or non-structural measures, such as research or management of the species affected, legislative or administrative allocation of lands to a long-term level of habitat protection

that is sufficiently greater than that which they would otherwise receive, or fire management to increase habitat productivity.

- B. Habitat Enhancement.** 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.
- C. Structures in Fish Habitat.** Structures to be located in fishbearing waters will, to the extent feasible, be designed to minimize impacts on fish migration and other important life stages and activities, including spawning and rearing.
- D. Water Intake Structures.** When issuing appropriations for waters that provide 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.

Where necessary to protect fish, water intake structures will be screened and intake velocities will be limited to prevent entrapment, entrainment, or injury to fish. The structures supporting intakes should be designed to prevent fish from being led into the intake. Other effective techniques may also be used to achieve the intent of this guideline. Screen size, water velocity, and intake design should be reviewed by ADF&G in an authorization request.

This guideline also applies to temporary water removal activities that do not require a DNR authorization.

- E. Threatened and Endangered Species.** All land use activities should be conducted consistent with the federal Endangered Species Act and the state endangered species statutes (AS 16.20.180--210) to avoid jeopardizing the existence of threatened or endangered species of fish or wildlife or their use of an area, and to avoid modification or destruction of their habitat.

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

No species listed as threatened or endangered, or as candidates for such listing, by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) or the National Marine Fisheries Service are known to occur in the Upper Yukon planning area.

Although peregrine falcons are no longer listed under the federal Endangered Species Act, the USFWS encourages the continued conservation of these species by applying protection measures during the nesting period. The recommended protection measures, as well as technical advice on conducting activities near peregrine falcon nest sites, can be obtained from the Fairbanks Ecological Services office of the USFWS. Activities that may disturb nesting peregrines are low-flying aircraft, other noisy activities, ground level activities, and construction near nest sites during critical nesting times. In addition, activities that could have negative impacts throughout the year (not only during nesting periods) include habitat alterations, construction of permanent facilities, and pesticide use.

State of Alaska

No species listed as endangered by the State of Alaska are known to occur in the Upper Yukon planning area. The State of Alaska Species of Special Concern list (maintained by the Commissioner of ADF&G) contains six species that occur within the Upper Yukon planning area: Arctic peregrine falcon (*Falco peregrinus tundrius*), American peregrine falcon (*Falco peregrinus anatum*), Olive-sided flycatcher (*Contopus cooperi*), Gray-cheeked thrush (*Catharus minimus*), Townsend's warbler (*Dendroica townsendi*), and Blackpoll warbler (*Dendroica striata*). Arctic peregrine falcons may occur in the Upper Yukon area, but only during migration. American peregrine falcons nest at a number of sites along the Yukon and Fortymile rivers and their tributaries.

- F. Eagles.** Activities that potentially affect bald and golden eagles will be consistent with the Bald Eagle Protection Act of 1940 as amended. For activities within ¼ mile of known bald or golden eagle nest sites, refer to the bald eagle land management practices for Alaska. Current guidelines and locations of nests, as well as technical advice on conducting activities near eagle nest sites, should be obtained from the Fairbanks Ecological Services office of the USFWS. The recommended practices are designed to prevent human disturbance to eagles, particularly during the nesting season. Specific activities that are likely to cause disturbance to eagles include major land uses such as logging, the development of new commercial and industrial sites, the building of new homes, mining, and road construction. During the critical nesting period, human activities such as human entry into the primary nesting zone (330 feet from the nest) and low-level aircraft operations may also cause disturbance to eagles.
- G. Trumpeter Swan Nesting Areas.** In trumpeter swan nesting areas, all land use activities that would disturb nesting swans or detrimentally alter the nesting habitat will be avoided to the extent feasible and prudent. Leases or permits may include seasonal restriction on activities to avoid disturbance to swans. Consultation with ADF&G should be used to identify current or potential nesting habitat and to determine guidelines to follow and activities to avoid. The standards of Guideline J, Activities in Important Waterfowl Habitat, also apply.
- H. Caribou Calving Areas.** The calving season distribution for the Fortymile caribou herd is located in Region 1, Middle Fork. Activities in this region should avoid or minimize conflicts with caribou calving. Only activities with minimal impact (i.e., mineral or land surveys conducted by a small ground based crew) should be authorized during the calving season in this region, which is generally during the month of May. Specific requirements apply to management units M-01 and M-02. Refer to the *Resource Allocation Summary table for Region 1* in Chapter 3.
- I. Dall Sheep.** A distinct population of Dall sheep is located in the Glacier Mountain area, inside management unit M-03. Activities in this management unit should avoid or minimize impacts to the Dall sheep in this area. Refer to the *Resource Allocation Summary table for Region 1* in Chapter 3.
- J. Activities in Important Waterfowl Habitat.** In important waterfowl habitat, activities requiring a permit, lease, or development plan, and producing high levels of acoustical or

visual disturbance from sources such as boat traffic, blasting, dredging, and seismic operations, will, to the extent feasible and prudent, be avoided during sensitive periods such as nesting, staging, or brood-rearing periods. Where it is not feasible and prudent to avoid such activities, other mitigative measures will be considered to attempt to avoid significant impacts. The Department of Fish and Game will be consulted for assistance in identifying areas of important waterfowl habitat.

- K. Dredge and Fill in Important Waterfowl Habitat.** Permits for dredging and filling in important waterfowl habitat, including permits for gravel extraction and 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 waterfowl or that no feasible and prudent alternative exists. Where dredging or filling does take place, other mitigative measures will be considered to attempt to avoid significant impacts.
- L. Alteration of the Riverine 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.
- M. Soil Erosion.** Soil erosion will be minimized by restricting soil disturbance along water bodies and by stabilizing disturbed soil as soon as possible.
- N. Conflicts with Traditional and Subsistence Uses of Fish and Game.** Authorizations by DNR will consider the effect on and minimize significant conflicts with traditional uses of fish and wildlife resources as described in AS 38.04.200 (b) (3), and subsistence uses of fish and wildlife resources. Significant conflicts will be avoided or minimized, when feasible and prudent, through project design, siting, timing, or other management options. When an authorization may result in significant adverse impacts to traditional or subsistence uses of fish and wildlife or their habitats, DNR will consult with ADF&G. The costs of mitigation relative to the benefits to be gained will be considered in the implementation of this policy.
- O. Mineral Licks.** There are several mineral licks in the planning area that are identified in the Leasehold Location Order in Appendix B. Mineral licks near Merry Christmas, Joseph, and Pittsburgh creeks are used annually by a high proportion of the Fortymile caribou herd during May. Access to these licks is of particular importance to pregnant cows. The Utah Creek mineral lick is used primarily by a small, disjunct Dall sheep population on Glacier Mountain. On a daily basis, up to 30% of that sheep population will use the lick during mid-May through June. Authorizations in the area of these licks will protect or mitigate impacts to the licks and access routes to the licks used by the wildlife. Development will minimize or avoid disturbance to the animals during May for the Merry Christmas, Joseph, and Pittsburgh Creek licks; and during May and June for the Utah Creek lick. There may be other, as yet unidentified, mineral licks within the planning area. Additional licks found in the future should be evaluated for appropriate levels of protection in future amendments to this plan. In addition to protection of the routes themselves, activities that may divert animals from the routes or otherwise affect usage patterns shall be avoided or mitigated.
- P. Other Guidelines Affecting Fish and Wildlife Habitat.** Other guidelines may affect the protection and management of fish and wildlife habitat. Sections in this chapter that should also be referred to include but are not limited to:

Forestry
Heritage Resources
Materials
Recreation and Tourism
Settlement
Stream Corridors, Shorelands and Instream Flow
Subsurface Resources
Trails and Public Access
Transportation
Trapping Cabins
Wetlands Management

Forestry

The timber resources within the planning area are limited primarily to riverine bottoms and some midslope elevations. Pole timber around the City of Eagle and Eagle Village has been identified for fuelwood cutting areas. Because of the limited timber resources on state land and the lack of inventory, no lands are assigned a Forestry designation. Forest products are available for use from state lands with other designations provided the use is consistent with the management intent of the unit. The vast majority of state land within the planning area is designated General Use, a multiple use designation. Forest management, including timber sales, is considered appropriate in this designation subject to plan management intent and guidelines.

The ecology of the planning area is heavily influenced by the occurrence of fire. Some form of disturbance, natural or man-caused, is necessary to maintain the forest and its biological diversity.

Goals

Economic Development. Provide an adequate supply of timber for a forest products industry that provides jobs to Alaskans.

Support Recreation and Tourism. Support tourism and maintain opportunities for diverse recreational activities in a variety of settings.

Personal Use Timber. Provide timber to meet the personal needs of Alaskans.

Timber Salvage. Where appropriate, salvage trees damaged due to windthrow, insect, or disease conditions.

Resource Management. Manage forest resources on a sustained yield basis to maintain continuous productivity, the maintenance or enhancement of other public resources over the long term, protection or enhancement of fish and wildlife habitat, and maintenance of land and water quality.

Management Guidelines

A systematic program of scheduled commercial timber sales is not anticipated within the Upper Yukon planning area, although a few sales are possible on an opportunistic basis. Should such sales occur during the planning horizon, they are likely to be small, isolated sales or sales that extend from the Tanana Valley State Forest. The provision of forest products for personal uses or salvaged from disease (or other destructive agents) are likely components of a management program during the planning horizon. Timber management activities are subject to the following management guidelines in addition to the requirements of the state Forest Resources and Practices Act and any Forest Land Use Plan for a specific sale area.

- A. Forest Resources and Practices Act and Regulations.** In addition to the guidelines below, the Forest Resources and Practices Act (AS 41.17) and Regulations (11 AAC 95) provide statewide policy and guidance for managing forestry related activities. Site-specific guidelines for forestry management activities will be addressed through the Forest Land Use Plan prior to any commercial timber sale or harvest (AS 38.05.112). Timber harvest activities must be compatible with the guidelines in this section and with the management intent statements and land-use designations identified for each unit in Chapter 3.
- B. Multiple Use Management.** Unless particular forms of natural resource use are specifically prohibited, timber harvests may occur consistent with the management intent for the unit.
- C. Commercial Timber Sales.** A systematic program of scheduled timber harvests in the planning area is not planned or anticipated. However, there may be instances where an isolated commercial timber sale may occur or where timber sales in the Tanana Valley State Forest include areas of adjacent land within the planning area. These sales shall follow the requirements of this plan and of the Forest Resources and Practices Act. The standards of the Tanana Valley State Forest Plan should apply to those operations that emanate from the State Forest and use general state land in the planning area.
- D. Timber Salvaged from Land Cleared for Non-Forest Use.** Timber with commercial or personal use value should be salvaged from lands that are to be cleared for other uses such as for roads, transmission lines, materials sites, mining, and habitat enhancement projects (AS 41.17.083).
- E. Personal Use Wood Harvest.** An important 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, consideration should be given by the Department to providing wood products for personal use. Dead and down wood on state land may be gathered for personal use. However, harvesting of dead and down wood or cutting live trees for personal use or for other uses requires a permit.
- F. Transportation and Access for Forestry Management Activities.** The location, design, and development of roads shall consider multiple use values of state lands, and reflect the management intent and primary uses for the affected area. The goal is to optimize long term public use benefits from new access while minimizing adverse effects on existing public uses, including maintaining a range of recreation opportunities and wildlife habitat values. Forest road standards for the Northern Region will be used for constructing roads to commercial timber sources.
- G. Fire Disturbance.** The intent for fire management is to identify areas where wildland fire can be allowed or prescribed fire can be used to reduce costs of fire suppression, reduce risk of damaging fires, and maintain natural diversity and productivity of forest stands. Fire suppression will continue to be a priority near residential areas, infrastructure developments, and other investments. Consistent with AS 41.15.010 and AS 41.15.020, the Division of Forestry will protect forest resources from destructive agents commensurate with the values needing protection. However, where feasible, wildland fires will be allowed to burn and

suppression will be limited in other areas to decrease the long-term risk of damaging fires and to maintain natural diversity of forest stands, stand ages, and habitat types. Where allowing wildland fire is not feasible, timber harvest, prescribed fire, and habitat enhancement techniques will be used to disturb the forest and maintain a natural range of forest types and stand ages. Specific recommendations for changes in fire suppression levels will be developed through the Alaska Interagency Fire Management plan review process. (Also see *Habitat Enhancement* under the section *Fish and Wildlife Habitat and Harvest*.)

H. Other Guidelines Affecting Forestry. Other guidelines may affect forestry. Sections in this chapter that should also be referred to include but are not limited to:

- Fish and Wildlife Habitat and Harvest
- Heritage Resources
- Recreation and Tourism
- Settlement
- Stream Corridors, Shorelands and Instream Flow
- Subsurface Resources
- Trails and Public Access
- Transportation
- Trapping Cabins
- Wetlands Management

Heritage Resources

Goal

Heritage Resources. The Alaska Historic Preservation Act establishes the State’s basic goal: to preserve, protect, and interpret the historic, prehistoric, and archaeological resources of Alaska so that the scientific, historic, and cultural heritage values embodied in these resources may pass undiminished to future generations.

Management Guidelines

A. Heritage Resources Identification. Identify and determine the significance of all heritage resources on state land through the following actions:

1. Heritage resources surveys conducted by Division of Parks and Outdoor Recreation;
2. Research on heritage resources on state land by qualified individuals and organizations; and
3. Cooperative efforts for planned surveys and inventories between state, federal, local, and/or Native groups.

B. Heritage Resources Protection. Protect significant heritage resources through the following actions:

1. As part of the agency review process, the Office of History and Archaeology within DPOR reviews authorizations for potential conflict with heritage resources. The office determines if there may be an adverse effect on heritage resources and makes recommendations to mitigate these effects. Heritage resource surveys or inventories should be conducted in areas the Office of History and Archaeology determines have a high potential to contain important heritage sites and for which information is inadequate to identify and protect these sites.
2. Cooperating with concerned government agencies, Native corporations, statewide or local groups, and individuals to develop guidelines and recommendations on how to avoid or mitigate identified or potential conflict.

C. Heritage Resource Surveys Prior to Land Offerings. Heritage resource surveys or inventories should be conducted prior to the design of land offerings in areas the state Office of History and Archaeology determines have high potential to contain important heritage sites and for which information is inadequate to identify and protect these sites.

D. Heritage Resources in Timber Management Areas. The Division of Parks and Outdoor Recreation Office of History and Archaeology (OHA) will review proposals for timber

management activities through the interagency review processes for the Five-Year Schedule of Timber Sales and Forest Land Use Plans for individual sales. Areas of known historic, archaeological, or paleontological sites should not be disturbed. Timber operations shall not occur within 300 feet from the boundaries of known sites unless the OHA determines, in consultation with the Division of Forestry, that certain activities can occur without significantly impacting the heritage resource. The OHA shall, within the limits of staffing and funding, assess the extent and significance of the heritage resource and work with Division of Forestry to develop site-specific mitigation measures to protect the heritage sites while allowing timber management.

- E. Heritage Resources Adjacent to Recreation Facilities.** Recreation facilities that might subject heritage sites to vandalism because of the increased public use should not be placed adjacent to the heritage sites.
- F. Heritage Sites Should be Reported to the Office of History and Archaeology When Found.** The Office of History and Archaeology (OHA) will add information to the Alaska Heritage Resources Survey (AHRS), an inventory of all reported historic and prehistoric sites within the State of Alaska. The AHRS is used to protect heritage resource sites from unwanted destruction. By knowing about possible heritage remains prior to construction, efforts can be made to avoid project delays and prevent unnecessary destruction of heritage sites. While over 22,000 sites have been reported within Alaska, this is probably only a very small percentage of the sites that may actually exist but are as yet unreported. The AHRS is not complete or static, so heritage sites, when found, should be reported to the OHA.
- G. Other Guidelines Affecting Heritage Resources.** Other guidelines may affect the protection and management of heritage resources. Sections in this chapter that should also be referred to include but are not limited to:

- Fish and Wildlife Habitat and Harvest
- Forestry
- Recreation and Tourism
- Stream Corridors, Shorelands and Instream Flow
- Trails and Public Access

Materials

Goal

Land for State-owned Materials Sites. Maintain in state ownership and make available to public and private users sufficient, suitably located materials sites to economically meet the area's long term need for materials.

Management Guidelines

- A. Preferred Material Sites.** When responding to a request for a material sale or identifying a source for materials, the highest priority should be to use existing material sources. Using materials from wetlands and lakes should be avoided unless no feasible alternative exists. Sales or permits for sand, silt, or gravel extraction will not be permitted in fish spawning areas identified by ADF&G unless extraction would enhance the site for rearing and ADF&G determines that the activity is compatible with fish habitat values.
- B. Material Sites.** To minimize the construction and maintenance cost of transportation facilities, material sites should be located as near as is feasible to the site where the material will be used.

Design of projects will be on a case-by-case basis in consultation with other agencies. The following are general guidelines for extracting materials:

- 1. Material Sources.** Consideration should be given to all potential material sources. Location and design of sites should take into account factors such as scenic quality, transportation to the site, and effects to fish and wildlife habitat.
 - 2. River Size and Recharge Rates.** Selection of gravel sites in floodplains should take into account the volume of gravel available from various stream types. Generally, the largest river feasible, or the one with the largest gravel recharge rates should be chosen.
 - 3. Reclamation.** Reclamation of material sites will be accomplished consistent with AS 27.19 and 11 AAC 97.250. See also *Guideline E*, below.
 - 4. Extraction from Active Channels.** When extracting gravel in active or inactive floodplains, maintain buffers that will minimize sedimentation and will contain active channels in their original locations and configurations in the short term.
- C. Maintaining Other Uses and Resources when Siting and Operating Material Sites.** Before allowing the extraction of materials, the manager will ensure that the requirements of the permit or lease give adequate protection to other important resources and uses including existing water rights, water resource quantity and quality, navigation, fish and wildlife habitat and harvest, commercial forest resources, recreation resources and opportunities,

historic and archaeological resources, adjacent land uses, and access to public or private lands. Disposal of materials should be consistent with the applicable management intent statement and management guidelines of the plan. The manager should also determine if other existing material sites can be vacated and rehabilitated as a result of opening a new material site.

- D. Land Sales in Areas of High Materials Potential.** Generally, if a unit is designated Settlement but contains sand and gravel deposits, rock sources, or other similar, high-value materials resources, a pit area should be identified and retained in public ownership for future use before lands are offered for sale.
- E. Screening and Rehabilitation.** Where topographic and vegetative features allow, 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. Rehabilitation of the site shall follow the requirements of AS 27.19.020 and 11 AAC 97.250.
- F. Designation of Material Sites in Plan.** Material sites are designated General Use (Gu); this includes both existing material sites as well as those yet to be identified. The Gu designation is applied in order to provide flexibility in the management of these areas, especially to accommodate other potential uses in the future, and because the large number of existing and potential future sites along the Taylor Highway made use of the Materials designation cumbersome. The continued use of material extraction sites is recognized in this plan as appropriate under the Gu designation.
- G. Other Guidelines Affecting Materials.** Other guidelines may affect materials. Sections in this chapter that should also be referred to include but are not limited to:

- Fish and Wildlife Habitat and Harvest
- Settlement
- Subsurface Resources
- Transportation

Recreation and Tourism

Goals

Commercial and Private Recreation Opportunities. Provide the full spectrum of accessible, developed, and undeveloped recreation opportunities for Alaskans and visitors.

Tourism Opportunities. Recognize the importance of the tourism industry to the local and state economy and provide opportunities to appreciate the natural environment, history and culture, and other features important to the visitor industry.

Resource Protection. Protect ecologic, scenic, and other recreation resources for present and future generations.

Economic Development. Manage Alaska's recreation resources to support a commercial recreation industry that supplies jobs, income, and revenue.

Meet the four goals above through:

- 1. State Park System.** Develop a system of parks, recreation areas, trails, historic parks, rivers, and sites that provide a wide range of year-round outdoor recreation opportunities, and areas of unchanged scenic landscape for all ages, abilities and use preferences.
- 2. Recreation on State Lands.** Provide recreation opportunities on land and water areas which serve multiple purposes such as habitat protection, timber management, and mineral resource extraction.
- 3. Community Assistance.** Assisting communities through cooperative planning of state and municipal lands and grants-in-aid for parks and trails within population centers.
- 4. Commercial Recreation Facilities.** Encouraging commercial development of recreation facilities and services through land sales, leases, and technical assistance where recreation needs can most effectively be provided by private enterprise.
- 5. Optimum Use of Sites.** Achieve the optimum use of recreation and tourism sites consistent with maintaining high quality recreation experiences, wildlife harvest, environmental quality, and safety.

Management Guidelines

A. The Roles of Different Public Land Owners in Providing Public Recreational 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 recreational opportunities, such as hunting, dispersed wilderness hiking, or boating, that require large land areas. In general, the role of a municipality or borough is to provide and manage community recreational opportunities.
2. In recognition of a municipality's role in meeting community recreational needs, the state should consider, under AS 38.05.810, eventual transfer of certain state recreation sites near communities to municipal ownership. Selection of these sites shall be agreed to by the municipality and the state and shall be contingent on the municipality's commitment to develop and maintain the recreational values of the sites as required by AS 38.05.810.

B. Shelter Cabins. A system of shelter cabins should be established in the Upper Yukon area for public, non-profit use. The development and maintenance of these facilities is to be the responsibility of private, non-profit or other non-state organizations. State land may be made available to support the development of this program.

C. Commercial Recreational Facilities on State Land. Lodges, tent camps, or other private facilities designed as private recreational facilities will be permitted or leased where a management plan or AS 38.05.035 finding shows the following.

1. **Commercial and Private Recreation Opportunities.** Commercial recreation development adds to or enhances available recreation opportunities.
2. **Impacts on Other Uses.** The commercial facility and the use it generates will avoid significant negative impacts on the amount and quality of existing uses, including fish and wildlife harvest. It is recognized that a quantitative determination of the effects of the proposed facility will rarely, if ever, be possible, but an assessment of the impacts should use information as available from DNR, ADF&G, or other available sources.
3. **Siting, Design, Construction, and Operation.** The facility will be sited, designed, constructed, and operated in a manner that creates the least conflict with natural values and traditional uses of the area.
4. **Other Guidelines.** The facility will be sited and designed in accordance with stream corridor, access, wetlands, and other guidelines in 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. Commercial Recreation Leasing Processes. Two processes exist for leasing state land for commercial recreational facilities – one process is described by AS 38.05.073, the other by

AS 38.05.070 and .075. Unless Chapter 3 specifically requires the .073 commercial leasing process for a management unit, applications may be adjudicated under either process. DNR will determine the appropriate process on a case-by-case basis. DOT/PF has its own leasing process that applies to land it manages in rights-of-way, airports, materials sites, and other lands and facilities it manages.

1. **The .070 / .075 Process.** The .070 / .075 process is simpler and faster, but it offers the state less flexibility in choosing the lessee and in structuring lease payments. This process is generally suited to small projects with few anticipated impacts. The management intent for the unit need not specifically state that this type of leasing is an allowed use for it to be authorized under this process.
2. **The .073 Process.** The .073 process is longer, but it allows submission of alternative proposals for a particular lease, requires more public involvement in reviewing a proposed lease, and offers the state more choices for structuring payments on the lease. The .073 process is generally suited to large projects that are likely to have significant impacts on surrounding areas. Under the .073 process, DNR will give public notice that it intends to solicit proposals for a lease. DNR will then prepare a “request for proposals” that must include specific information on the lease and must be advertised in state and local newspapers. Once a prospective lessee has been chosen, DNR must give public notice and hold public meetings on the preliminary decision to issue the lease.

DNR may impose eligibility standards, including proof of the developer’s financial backing and capability, experience in this type of development, ability to meet bonding or insurance requirements, and ability to comply with resource and environmental analysis requirements.

The .073 process requires that potential economic, social, and environmental impacts of the proposed project must be evaluated. DNR may require the prospective developer to fund additional studies; the studies must involve the appropriate state agencies, and ADF&G must approve any studies involving fish and game.

For a .073 lease to be considered in a unit, the plan must specifically allow for this type of leasing in a given unit before it can be authorized. Since no units are identified in this area plan specifically for commercial recreation leasing under the .073 process, a plan amendment is required.

- E. Optimum Use of Sites.** Achieve optimum use of recreation sites consistent with maintaining high quality recreation experiences, wildlife harvest, environmental quality, and safety.
- F. Other Guidelines Affecting Recreation and Tourism.** Other guidelines may affect recreation and tourism. Sections in this chapter that should also be referred to include but are not limited to:

- Fish and Wildlife Habitat and Harvest
- Forestry
- Heritage Resources

Trails and Public Access
Transportation

Settlement

Goals

Private Land Ownership. Provide a pool of state land available for conveyance into private ownership over the long term. The State's goal is to provide individuals a range of options for acquiring title to state land. Generally, state lands offered for private ownership under the state's land disposal program will be sold for current fair market value. DNR can identify and offer lands that have characteristics which make them suitable for year-round residence, seasonal residence, or self-sufficient remote residence, but once the land is sold, the owner will decide how to use the land. DNR can not guarantee that, for instance, land sold to satisfy the demand for seasonal residences will not be used for permanent residences.

Resource and Economic Impacts. Contribute positively to other uses of natural resources and minimize the undesired impacts of land offerings on opportunities for resource use.

Community Land Needs. To accommodate potential needs for community expansion and public facilities, DNR should make land available for both private and public ownership. DNR should sell, lease, or reserve suitable land for future community use. Requirements for these uses are highly specific and disposal decisions will be made on a case-by-case basis as demands arise.

Fiscal Impacts. Minimize future fiscal costs to local or state government for services, wildfire suppression, and infrastructure requirements that result from settlement of state lands.

Community and Social Impacts. Minimize undesired changes in the character of life among nearby communities or residents caused by land disposal projects while considering the needs and demands of all state residents.

Coordination with Local Governments and Landowners. Coordinate state land offering programs with similar programs of local governments and major landowners to best achieve common objectives. Consider availability of land in private ownership when determining the amount, type, and location of state land offerings.

Management Guidelines

A. Planning and Coordination

1. **Long-term Program.** Land sales programs in the planning area will be designed to make land available for at least 20 years to ensure that Alaskans have the opportunity to acquire state land. The pacing of land disposals will be controlled through the statewide land sales program and through the guidelines in Chapter 3.
2. **Local Plans.** DNR will comply with provisions of local comprehensive plans regarding

the pace, location, and density of land development to the extent that local requirements are consistent with the state’s best interest.

B. Types of Settlement Land and Land Offerings. The nature of state land available for private ownership is influenced by both the characteristics of land designated for settlement, and the type of land sales program that makes it available. The Upper Yukon Area Plan identifies and designates certain lands for settlement and provides guidelines for land sales, but does not develop or require a specific land sales program.

1. Settlement Land. Various types of state lands are identified for settlement in order to accommodate a broad range of options for Alaskans to acquire land. In determining the location and extent of lands to be designated for settlement, the state must balance settlement needs with other resource values and land uses. Once an area has been identified for settlement, its size and location may make it more suitable for a certain type of sales program, but that does not necessarily preclude other types of sales.

Two types of settlement areas are identified and designated in this plan:

a. Community Settlement Areas. These areas are relatively small, usually closer to communities, and are accessible from the road system. They are generally suitable in meeting potential needs for community expansion, public facilities, or other purposes that do not require a large amount of acreage. Management units of this type of settlement land, which would be available for residential or commercial use, are designated Settlement or Settlement-Commercial and occur at Jack Wade Junction and near the communities of Chicken, Eagle, and Boundary. These management units are affected by a Leasehold Location Order. See *Appendix C*. At the discretion of the Department, land in these management units may be offered through a land sales program or may be sold in response to individual requests to purchase land. When considering individual requests for the purchase of land, the Department may find it necessary to exercise its discretion by requiring sales to be done through an organized program, so that the impacts of land sales in the area can be more carefully considered.

b. Remote Settlement Areas. These settlement areas are larger in size and further away from communities and the road system. They include a relatively large amount of acreage, making them suitable for meeting the potential need for dispersed land sales. There are two management units that are designated Settlement for this purpose within the Walker Fork Region, and are identified on the Plan Map for that region as management units W-01 and W-02. Land within these management units is only to be sold through a state initiated land sales program. These management units are currently not affected by a Mineral Closing Order.

2. Land Offerings. Specific types of state land offerings are established by the legislature, and are subject to change. Since statehood, there have been many different land sales programs, and it is possible that new programs will be developed in the future. Generally, land offerings can be categorized by the way the parcels are established. Both types of land offerings should be made available:

- a. **Presurveyed Parcels.** In this type of land offering, the state identifies an area of suitable land, surveys and plats parcels, and then offers them for sale. These are also referred to as “subdivision” sales. They can include a large number of parcels or just a few, and the size of the parcels, sometimes called “lots,” can vary. This type of land offering is usually more suitable for smaller, Community Settlement Areas, but may also occur in large Remote Settlement Areas where appropriate.
 - b. **Staked Parcels.** In this type of land offering, eligible applicants are allowed to identify a parcel of land within a specified area by staking it, and the parcel is surveyed prior to actual sale. Staking is usually subject to certain restrictions such as parcel size limits and setbacks from sensitive areas in order to protect other resources within the staking area.
- C. **Isolated Parcels of State Land.** The state has acquired (and will continue to acquire) isolated parcels of land through foreclosure, escheat, and other methods. The following guidelines apply to management and possible disposal of these parcels.
 - 1. **In or Near Existing Communities.** If the parcel is in or immediately adjacent to an existing community or past state land offering, the parcel can be offered for settlement unless it is appropriate as a site(s) for schools, gravel pits, roads, parks, sewer treatment plants, or other public facilities.
 - 2. **Parcels Near Other State Land.** If the parcel adjoins or is surrounded by other state land, it should be managed according to the management intent and guidelines applicable to the adjacent lands.
 - 3. **Parcels not Near Other State Land.** Isolated parcels, such as property acquired through foreclosure or escheat, which is surrounded by federal land, should be considered for sale or exchange to the adjacent federal land owner.
- D. **Leases for Private Recreation Cabins.** Leases for private (non-commercial) recreational cabins are prohibited.
- E. **Protection, Management, and Enhancement of Other Resources.**
 - 1. **Protection of Life and Property.** The state will, to the extent feasible and prudent, discourage development in areas of flooding, unstable ground, fire risk, significant avalanche risk, and other hazards. The department will achieve this objective by retaining public land, requiring building setbacks, and providing public education.

DNR will discourage development of nonwater-dependent structures in the 100-year floodway by requiring necessary residential building setbacks and by providing available information about flood zones in land disposal brochures when a disposal is in a potential flood hazard area.

In drainages where the 100-year floodway has not been surveyed, the best available information will be used to determine the flood hazard zone that should remain in public ownership.

- 2. Protection and Management of Valuable Environmental Processes.** In areas to be conveyed to private ownership, the state should provide a publicly owned open-space system to preserve important fish and wildlife habitats and natural areas such as shorelands, freshwater wetlands, riparian lands, watersheds, and surface and ground water recharge areas. (See policies on these subjects for details, especially *Fish and Wildlife Habitat and Harvest Guideline I, Conflicts with Traditional Uses of Fish and Game*).

Wetlands with important hydrologic, habitat, or recreational values, and adjacent buffer strips, will be retained for open space. Systems of publicly owned open space will be designed to provide the necessary linkage and continuity to protect or increase values for human uses and wildlife movements. In some places, large areas may be retained to provide adequate terrestrial habitat.

- 3. Protection and Enhancement of Scenic Features.** Generally, the state will retain in public ownership unique natural features such as cliffs, bluffs and waterfalls, and foreground open space for panoramic vistas. Public access to such amenities will also be preserved. Islands in rivers or lakes will be retained in public ownership for enjoyment and use by the public.
- 4. Protection and Enhancement of Recreational, Educational, and Cultural Opportunities.** Protect the need for and retain appropriate areas for outdoor recreation, trails, campsites, boat launches, historic sites, and areas for scientific study. Areas for intensive and dispersed use will be preserved. (See also *Heritage Resources* guidelines regarding heritage resource surveys for land offerings).
- 5. Protection of Material Sources.** Generally if a designated settlement area contains sand and gravel deposits, rock sources, and other similar high value material resources, a pit area will be identified and retained in public ownership for future use.
- 6. Cumulative Effects.** As land offerings and sales proceed, the impacts from them should be examined to minimize the chances for inadvertent and undesired cumulative effects of the land sales programs.

F. Design and Development.

- 1. Provision of Public Land for Communities.** Protect the need for and retain appropriate greenbelts, public-use corridors, personal-use woodlots, buffer areas, commons, building setbacks, sites for schools, gravel pits, roads, parks, and other public facilities, such as sewer treatment plants and health clinics, and other open spaces to help create a desirable land use pattern in developing areas.
- 2. Cost of Public Services.** In accordance with AS 38.04.010, DNR will attempt to direct year round settlement toward 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 will be sited and designed to encourage seasonal use with

sufficient separation between residences so that public services will not be necessary or expected. Wildland fire management costs that result from settlement will be considered and minimized to the extent feasible.

3. **Ensure Access.** The state will ensure that legal, practical public access (landing areas, rivers, trails and road easements, or other options most appropriate to the particular situation) is identified and reserved within land offerings. However, the state is not legally obligated to construct roads. The location of access points onto the road system should be coordinated with DOT/PF.
4. **Personal Use of Nearby Resources.** One of the considerations in deciding the location, size, and design of land disposal projects will be the nearby supply of resources, such as gravel, sand, firewood or houselogs, and the expected demand from people who will own the parcels.

Where it is anticipated that land recipients will want to use timber resources, nearby woodlots may be retained instead of selling individual parcels large enough to meet the personal use demands of the owner. This would provide some nearby public land on which firewood and houselogs can be gathered while keeping open options for other uses of those lands when access develops or new demands are identified.

5. **Subdivision Design.** If subdivisions are offered, they 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. State subdivision design will take account of site limitations and opportunities such as slope, drainage, soils, erosion, riparian zone and coastal buffer, and other features to ensure that sites offered are buildable and can be developed without the need for extensive public infrastructure. Timber harvests are considered appropriate in areas designated Settlement or Settlement-Commercial if intended to support the costs of subdivision development, access to the subdivision, or ancillary facilities, subject to the other requirements of the Forestry standards in this Chapter. Selective harvesting of timber before construction of the subdivision is considered appropriate, if authorized by the Regional Manager, DMLW.
6. **Boundaries of Settlement Designations.** Boundaries of land use designations shown on the maps in Chapter 3 may be modified through on-the-ground implementation activities (for example, site planning for disposals) if the modifications adhere to the management intent for the units affected.
7. **Easements.** Easements will be used as one means to retain public use rights needed on privately owned lands.

Easements generally will not be used to retain a public interest in lands within a subdivision. Instead, DNR will generally retain such lands in public ownership. Exceptions to this policy may be made where the interest protected is very limited, such as for local pedestrian access that is not part of an integrated neighborhood or community trail system. This policy will minimize confusion between public use and private ownership rights.

- 8. Design of Settlement Areas near Mineralized Areas.** When siting a settlement area near or adjacent to a mineralized area is unavoidable, DNR will take measures to reduce conflicts between existing or future mineral development and settlement. These measures may include retaining buffers that will remain closed to mineral entry in the design of the settlement area. See also, *Subsurface Resources, management guideline E, 'Control of Impacts.'*
- 9. Water Availability.** The availability of groundwater in the Upper Yukon planning area is limited, and can vary greatly from one location to another. This should be taken into consideration when DNR implements a land sale program in the area.
- G. Other Guidelines Affecting Settlement.** Other guidelines may affect settlement. Sections in this chapter that should also be referred to include but are not limited to:

- Fish and Wildlife Habitat and Harvest
- Forestry
- Heritage Resources
- Materials
- Recreation and Tourism
- Stream Corridors, Shorelands, and Instream Flow
- Subsurface Resources
- Trails and Public Access
- Transportation
- Wetland Management

Stream Corridors, Shorelands, and Instream Flow

Goals

Recreation and Tourism. Protect and enhance a variety of public recreation and tourism opportunities along waterbodies including developed and undeveloped recreational and tourism activities.

Habitat. Protect riparian fish and wildlife habitats. Maintain fish and wildlife habitat and harvest opportunities.

Private Ownership of Land. Provide opportunities for private ownership of land near streams.

Water Quality. Maintain water quality to achieve and protect state water quality standards, and to protect streambeds and wetlands from degradation. Also, protect watersheds that supply community drinking water.

Scenic Qualities. Protect the visual quality of waterbodies and wetland habitats.

Access. Provide public access to and along state-owned waterbodies. Access across streams will be provided on a case-by-case basis.

Resource and Economic Opportunities. Contribute positively to other uses of natural resources and economic opportunities.

Shorelands. Provide for needed water-dependent and water-related uses.

Management Guidelines - General

A. Alaska Clean Water Actions (ACWA). In accordance with the ACWA program, DNR will work with the Departments of Fish and Game and Environmental Conservation to protect and improve water quality, water quantity and fish habitat.

Management Guidelines - Stream Corridors

A. Priority of Public Uses in Stream Corridors. Along most streams, DNR will set a higher priority on protecting public use values in stream corridors than on 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. State land sales programs near streams having important recreation value will be designed to protect access to and along the stream for fishing, hiking, camping,

and other recreational activities.

B. Retain Public Access Adjacent to Waterbodies.

- 1. Public Access Adjacent to Waterbodies.** Pursuant to AS 38.05.127, some form of legal public access will be reserved in order to protect the public's right to travel to and along the shore of a waterbody without encouraging trespass. Some uses on access routes may be limited on a case-by-case basis. On an individual basis, the state may reserve specific rights (for example, the right to fish or to picnic) to protect the public interest.
- 2. State Land Sales.** In state subdivision sales, when it has been determined that access to waterbodies should be preserved (see *criteria in B-1*, above), land adjacent to waterbodies will either be retained in state ownership or dedicated for public access through establishment of an easement or right of way.
- 3. Length of Stream Buffers.** Publicly owned buffers adjacent to a stream may be retained along the full length of the stream or on the segments determined to have high current or future use and habitat values.

C. Retention of Access Easements.

- 1. Easements for Travel.** An easement rather than a publicly owned stream corridor may be reserved where the primary management intent is to protect the public's right to travel along or across a stream rather than to retain an area for public use. An easement should state the rights that it reserves. State access easements should reserve the rights of ingress and egress plus associated or incidental uses of the public resources of the water body, such as resting, loading and unloading boats, and fishing. Boat storage and camping are not considered incidental uses of the water body and usually should not be reserved. On a case-by-case basis, the state should decide which rights are appropriate for individual easements and may reserve more or fewer rights than are listed above. Easements established before adoption of this plan are not affected by this guideline.
- 2. Type of Travel in the Easement.** Easements along streams should establish the right to travel by foot, dogsled, horseback, and snowmobile. On a case-by-case basis the right to travel by all terrain vehicles and wheeled vehicles may be reserved, where doing so is in the public interest. Easements should be reserved for roads or railroads only if they are likely to be built.
- 3. Easements in Combination With Buffers.** Easements and publicly owned buffers may both be used on a waterbody to provide opportunities for private ownership near the waterbody 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 land adjacent to the stream is retained for public use.

D. Establishing Widths of Buffers, Easements, and Setbacks.

1. **Reasons for Varying Widths.** Width of easements, setbacks, and publicly owned buffers along a stream will vary according to management intent for the stream and adjacent uplands. 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 will be based, at a minimum, on the following: recreational activities to be accommodated, habitat protection and management, noise abatement, visual quality, water quality, prevention of riverbank erosion (in which case the buffer should be widened to compensate), retention of a significant hydraulic feature (such as a wetland), and land disposal.
2. **Guidelines for Establishing Widths.** Although buffer, easement, and setback widths may vary from stream to stream, a basic level of consistency is necessary to avoid confusion about the width of public use and access areas along the state's many streams; also fieldwork and site analysis to establish separate buffer widths for each stream corridor would be prohibitively expensive. The following guidelines are intended to establish a reasonable degree of consistency in buffer, easement, and setback widths used by the department when disposing of an interest in state land.
 - a. **Standard Buffer Width.** To provide separation between uses or to protect a sensitive environment or habitat zone, 100 to 300 feet. When it is determined that a publicly owned buffer is appropriate, a standard minimum buffer width of 100 feet should generally be established landward from the ordinary high watermark on each bank unless the use or activity is water-dependent or water-related. This width may be reduced to a minimum of 100 feet on each bank in individual cases when consistent with the management objectives for the stream corridor. The width of the setback may be increased to 300 feet on each bank if necessary, to maintain public access to riparian areas and protect water quality in accordance with water quality standards established by the Department of Environmental Conservation and the Forest Practices Act (see *Guideline F*).
 - b. **Standard Easement Widths.** 50-foot minimum. 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.²
 - c. **Building Setbacks in Land Sale Areas.** When state land is conveyed through a land sales program, including subdivisions, or if leased for a period greater than five years, a minimum building setback of 100 feet landward from the ordinary high watermark on each bank will be established.³ The width may be reduced when land adjacent to the stream is stable and development or use does not pose a risk to water quality or other values, such as wildlife or recreation. In some cases stream buffers

² Note: A public use easement of 50 feet must be established whenever state interests in land are transferred. This includes disposals or transfer of land.

³ A minimum setback of 100 feet applies to all high value resident fish streams or cataloged anadromous fish streams. A minimum setback of 50 feet applies to all streams that are 10 feet or greater in width.

Table 2.1 Minimum widths for reserved public access and building setbacks

Guideline/ Description	Minimum Width	Where It Applies	Primary Purpose	Guidelines
1. Public access Adjacent to all navigable waters ⁴	<u>50 feet</u> Landward from ordinary high water	Along: Lakes Streams	Provide public access along navigable and other waterbodies.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prohibited: Residential structures, fences, and other non-water-dependent structures that will obstruct passage.
2. Building setback Adjacent to all waters <u>except</u> anadromous and high-value resident fish waters (see <i>guideline 3</i> below)	<u>50 feet</u> Landward from ordinary high water	Non-anadromous and non-high-value resident fish: Lakes Streams	Protect public values, including public access, recreation, and water quality along all waterbodies.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Where feasible and prudent, and necessary to protect public values along the stream. Does not apply to exceptions listed at bottom of table.
3. Building setback Adjacent to anadromous and high-value resident fish waters	<u>100 feet</u> Landward from ordinary high water	Anadromous and high-value resident fish: Lakes Streams	Protect fish habitat, water quality, and recreation values along anadromous and high-value resident fish.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Where feasible and prudent. Applies only to non-water-dependent uses. Does not apply to exceptions listed at bottom of table. The setback shall be vegetated or revegetated to maximize shade on the stream. Incorporate measures to prevent adverse changes including erosion, turbidity, sedimentation, and temperature differences within the waterbody or adjacent wetlands.
4. State Retention areas Adjacent to anadromous and high-value resident fish waters	<u>200 feet</u> Landward from ordinary high water	Anadromous and high-value resident fish: Streams and lakes	Maintain or enhance anadromous and high-value resident fish habitat, recreation, and water quality values.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The state will retain these corridors in conveyances to private owners, municipalities, and other entities. Alternately, land conveyed will be subject to a conservation easement or other management tool that meets the principal purposes of this buffer.

For the definition of *anadromous waters* and *high-value resident fish waters* (derived from AS 41.17.950) see the *Glossary* in Appendix A. Exceptions that apply to Sections 2 and 3 above: a) Structures such as docks, bridges, and culverts whose purpose is access to or across the stream or lake; b) Uses that must be in or adjacent to the waterbody in order to function, such as placer mining activities, fish culturing, water supply intakes, and similar uses.

⁴ Other waters may be considered on a case-by-case basis.

may be reduced to allow for an adequate publicly owned buffer or setback on a nearby, more valuable wetland or lake.

3. **Uses Allowed in Easements, Setbacks, and Buffers.** Water-dependent structures, such as docks and boathouses, are allowed within easements, setbacks, and publicly owned buffers. If a structure would block public access, alternative access must be provided. Commercial or industrial uses and activities that are neither water-dependent nor water-related may occur within 100 feet only if there is no feasible and prudent alternative to meet the public need. 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 used to mitigate the impacts.
4. **Timber Harvest Near Streams.** Timber harvest near streams will be consistent with the Forest Practices Act and regulations (AS 41.17 and 11 AAC 95). See AS 41.17.118(a)(l) for harvest within 100 feet of an anadromous or high value resident fish water body.
5. **Structures in Fish Habitat.** See *Fish and Wildlife Habitat and Harvest Guideline C*.
6. **Water Intake Structures.** See *Fish and Wildlife Habitat and Harvest Guideline D*.
7. **Alteration of the Hydrologic System.** To the extent feasible, channelization, diversion, or damming that will alter natural hydrologic conditions and have a significant adverse impact on important riverine habitat will be avoided.
8. **Soil Erosion.** Soil erosion will be minimized by restricting the removal of vegetation adjacent to streams and by stabilizing disturbed soil as soon as possible. Projects to stabilize a streambank require an authorization.

Management Guidelines for Shorelands

- A. **Public Trust Doctrine.** For information on the Public Trust Doctrine, see the *Management Intent for Navigable Rivers* section at the end of Chapter 3.
- B. **Uses on Shorelands Adjacent to Non-State Land**⁵. Permanent facilities and temporary facilities⁶ will be prohibited on shorelands. Floating facilities, boat storage, airstrip development, docks, and other long-term uses⁷, such as trails and waterlines, may be allowed if consistent with management intent and applicable guidelines.
- C. **Avoiding Conflicts With Adjacent Upland Owners.** Before DNR issues a land use authorization on shorelands, DNR will require applicants to use areas that will reduce the likelihood of possible land ownership disagreements with upland owners (such as

⁵ See *Director's Policy File 91-03, Shorelands Adjacent to Non-State Land*.

⁶ Camping at one site on state land for longer than 14 consecutive days is considered a temporary facility.

⁷ Use that takes place at one site on state land for longer than 14 consecutive days.

unvegetated gravel bars). DNR will carefully consider comments from private landowners and others before making a decision. DNR will retain the right to issue a land use authorization over the objection of adjacent landowners.

- D. Written Agreements With Upland Owners.** Applications for use of shorelands that require use of adjacent uplands in non-state ownerships will not be considered until there is a written agreement between the applicant and the upland owner(s) approving the necessary use. The term of the authorization should not be longer than the term of agreement between the applicant and the upland owner. If the applicant has not applied for use of the adjacent uplands, the application must show how all necessary, associated uses will be accommodated on the shorelands.
- E. Modification of Authorizations to Protect Other Resources.** Shoreland uses that will result in significant conflicts with habitat, harvest, or historic or archaeological sites should be modified to avoid or mitigate the effects on these resources and uses or be located elsewhere.
- F. Disposal of Land Under Waterbodies.** Shorelands may be made available for lease or less than fee-simple disposal. These lands can also be assigned to other state agencies for management. These lands cannot be sold or conveyed to private entities but can, under certain conditions, be conveyed to municipalities. Under municipal ownership, these lands are still subject to the Public Trust Doctrine.⁸

Management Guidelines for Instream Flow

- A. Streams and Uses to Consider.** Under AS 46.15, reservation of instream flow is possible for four types of uses: (1) protection of fish and wildlife habitat, migration and propagation; (2) recreation and park purposes; (3) navigation and transportation purposes; and (4) sanitary and water quality purposes.
- B. Process for Determining Reservations.** The process for determining instream flow reservations is outlined in 11 AAC 93.141 – 11 AAC 93.147. Before beginning the process to determine instream flow reservations, an applicant should contact the Water Management Section of the Northern Region Office of DNR. If the application will involve fishbearing waters, the applicant should contact ADF&G as well.
- C. Other Guidelines Affecting Stream Corridors, Shorelands, and Instream Flow.** Other guidelines may affect stream corridors, shorelands, and instream flow. Sections in this chapter that should also be referred to include but are not limited to:

Fish and Wildlife Habitat and Harvest
Forestry
Heritage Resources
Materials

⁸ See the *Management Intent for Navigable Waterbodies* section at the end of Chapter 3 for an explanation of the Public Trust Doctrine.

Recreation and Tourism
Subsurface Resources
Trails and Public Access
Transportation
Wetland Management

Subsurface Resources

Subsurface resources within the planning area are related to the extraction of mineral resources from the Subsurface Estate, and the following requirements pertain to such operations. The requirements for the extraction of materials (part of the Land Estate) are covered under the section, ‘Materials’ of this chapter. Hydrocarbon resources are not known to be significant in the Upper Yukon planning area, and the plan defers any decisions regarding leasing for oil and gas and other energy resources to DNR's existing leasing processes. Oil and gas lease sales are specifically not subject to this planning process and follow the requirements of AS 38.05.180.

Almost all state land within the planning area is managed for multiple use and is open to mining. The state-selected much of the land in the planning area because of its mineral potential, as well as its recreation and wildlife values. Exploration and development of mineral resources involves considerable investment of time and monetary resources. A small fraction of prospects that are investigated actually result in identification of a site that is economical to develop. If a deposit proves economical for development, state and federal regulations and additional stipulations determined through the permitting process will ensure that other resource values are protected.

Goals

Mineral Supplies. Make metallic and non-metallic resources available to contribute to the energy and mineral supplies and economy of Alaska.

Economic Development. Contribute to Alaska's economy by making subsurface resources available for development, which will provide job opportunities, and stimulate economic growth.

Environmental Quality and Cultural Values. When developing subsurface resources, protect the integrity of the environment and affected cultures to the extent feasible and prudent.

State Support for Mining. Aid in the development of infrastructure such as ports, roads, and railroads and continue to provide geologic mapping and technical support for the mining industry.

Management Guidelines – Mineral Development

- A. Mineral Exploration.** Recognized exploration methods for locatable minerals will be allowed on all state lands unless specifically closed to prospecting. Exploration methods may be subject to the conditions of a land use permit.
- B. Open to Mineral Entry.** By statute, all state lands are open to mineral entry unless specifically closed to location through a Mineral Closing Order or legislative action. Except

for the few areas designated Settlement and Settlement-Commercial, all other state lands are multiple use areas where mineral development will be accommodated and encouraged consistent with applicable state law and the policies of this plan.

- C. Reclamation of Mined Land.** Mining operations should be conducted in a manner that prevents unnecessary and undue degradation of land and water resource. Mining operations, including placer mining, shall be consistent with the reclamation standards given in AS 27.19, which apply both during and after mining operations. 11 AAC 97 (Mining Reclamation) details the specific requirements that must be followed. Consistent with AS 27.19 and 11 AAC 97, land use permits and plans of operation will specify measures necessary to return land used in mining operations to a useful condition. In designated habitat areas, annual reclamation will be required concurrent with mining.
- D. Access for Mineral Development.** Existing roads should be used for access to mine sites wherever feasible. Access across tundra, wetlands, and other environmentally sensitive areas will be managed in a manner that minimizes damage.
- E. Control of Impacts.** The Department should consider the inclusion of management stipulations in its authorizations where necessary to minimize the adverse impacts of mining, especially in settled areas, recreation areas, and in areas viewed from roads. In such areas, management stipulations may be appropriate to control of the placement of solid wastes; removal of vegetation; noise and particulate generation; the design and location of mining access roads; and the siting of mining structures, tailings and overburden. These management stipulations may be in addition to standard statute and regulatory requirements.
- F. Management Requirements for the Middle Fork Region.** Management units M-01 and M-02 are identified as high concentration calving areas in the report, “Habitat Management Needs Assessment for the Fortymile Caribou Herd” (2001). Mining activities, including mineral exploration, during calving season are to be limited to operations with only short term disturbance effects. See also *management intent statements for management units M-01 and M-02* in the Resource Allocation Tables.
- G. Recreational Panning Areas.** Recreational mining areas have been established in other parts of the state to provide a permanent recreational mining experience for the general public. Where this has occurred, an area of state land with placer mining potential but without existing mining claims has been reserved for recreation use by the general public. In the Upper Yukon planning area, areas appropriate for this type of activity would occur near communities and have reasonable access.
- H. Commercial Recreational Mining Activities.** Commercial recreational mining opportunities can be developed on state mining claims to provide tourists and others interested in mining the opportunity to experience mining firsthand. Typically, there is a fee paid by the public for this experience. In the Upper Yukon planning area, areas appropriate for this type of activity would occur near communities, have reasonable access, and occur on existing mining claims. Development of a commercial tourist business on a mining claim requires a separate authorization from the Division of Mining, Land and Water, such as a lease under AS 38.05.070.

- I. Coordination With Local Governments.** Where local governments exist, the Department should coordinate its mineral development authorizations with local land use plans and zoning.

Application of Locatable Mineral Closures and the Locatable Mineral Leasing Program

A. Background.

Mineral Closing Orders. Locatable mineral closures are the most restrictive management tool that can be used by DNR to resolve subsurface and other resource conflicts. AS 38.05.185(a) requires that before an area of state land can be closed to mining or mineral location, the Commissioner must make a written finding that mining would be incompatible with significant surface uses. Closure of an area to mining is not, however, the basis for denying access across state land. Mineral closures do not affect valid existing mineral rights.

Leasehold Location Orders. Requiring that locatable mineral developments occur under a lease is a more flexible management tool than mineral closure. Therefore, mineral leasing is preferred over mineral closure as a management option to resolve conflicts between other significant resources and mining and mineral location. AS 38.05.185(a) requires that for mining to be allowed only under written leases issued under AS 38.05.205, the commissioner must determine that there are potential use conflicts on state land or the land was mineral in character at the time of state selection. Under 11 AAC 86.135(b), if a surface disposal area is not closed entirely to mineral entry, it will be made available only by leasehold location.

B. Areas Closed To Mineral Entry.

Areas Closed to Mineral Entry at the Time of Plan Adoption

No Mineral Closing Order is established with the adoption of the Upper Yukon Area Plan.

Areas to be Closed to Mineral Entry during the Planning Horizon.

- Areas identified as ‘Remote Settlement Areas’ in the Walker Fork Region are not closed to mineral entry by a Mineral Closing Order. Closure of some or all of these areas to mineral entry and location will occur before the state disposes of land, which may occur through subdivision, remote staking, or another authorization that may exist at the time of disposal. The timing of the closure is at the discretion of the Department but should be early enough in the planning process to avoid the inadvertent staking of mining claims.
- Lands that may be part of a land exchange are to be closed at the time of the approval of the Preliminary Exchange Agreement and lands that may be conveyed to another public agency for the 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” or when an Interagency Land Management Agreement is signed.

C. Leasehold Location Areas.

Using the criteria established in AS 38.05.185, DNR has determined that on certain lands in the planning area mining will be allowed only under leases issued under AS 38.05.205. See *Leasehold Location Orders 28 and 29*, included as Appendices B and C, respectively. The areas subject to leasehold location requirements are certain mineral licks that are important for wildlife populations, and settlement units near communities. The location of the mineral licks and relevant guidelines for leaseholds, are described in the Leasehold Location Orders.

A Leasehold Location Order does not close land to mineral entry. In these areas, a location is referred to as a “leasehold location,” and must be converted to an upland mining lease before mining can occur. State land is designated for leasing only if potential use conflicts require that mining be allowed only under written leases.

In Leasehold Location Order 28, mining is being restricted to lease to provide extra tools to the department to ensure that mining will avoid impacts to the particular area of a mineral lick that is critical to wildlife populations and to protect specific trails leading to the licks.

Mining activity must avoid direct impacts to the mineral licks and the routes that animals use to access them, or mitigate adverse impacts to these resources. If a game trail or mineral lick is affected, mitigation alternatives may include a variety of measures to address lick accessibility. In addition to protection of the routes themselves, activities that may divert animals from the routes or otherwise affect usage patterns shall be avoided or mitigated. Development will minimize or avoid disturbance to the animals during May for the Merry Christmas, Joseph, and Pittsburgh Creek licks; and during May and June for the Utah Creek lick.

The mineral licks within the areas identified in Leasehold Location Order 28 for Joseph Creek, Pittsburgh Creek, and Merry Christmas Creek are important to the Fortymile caribou herd. They are used by a high proportion of the Fortymile caribou herd during May. Leasehold location areas larger than the actual mineral licks are established for these licks because of the intensity of annual use that they receive from large numbers of caribou, and because of the well defined traditional access routes used by caribou to access the licks. The mineral lick within the area identified for Utah Creek is important to the Dall sheep population on Glacier Mountain. Because a very high percentage of the sheep in this isolated population use this lick every year during May and June, a leasehold location area larger than the actual lick has been established to protect the well defined traditional access routes. Furthermore, it appears that geographical barriers are minimizing colonization of other suitable habitat by this sheep population, causing the population to be more vulnerable to human activity. The mineral licks within the areas identified for Walker Fork and Logging Cabin Creek are important to moose. These leasehold location areas are smaller in size because the mineral licks are less defined and their use is not as intense as the other licks.

D. Other Guidelines Affecting Subsurface Resources. Other guidelines may affect subsurface resources. Sections in this chapter that should also be referred to include but are not limited to:

Fish and Wildlife Habitat and Harvest
Forestry
Settlement
Stream Corridors, Shorelands and Instream Flow
Trails and Public Access
Wetlands Management

Trails and Public Access

Goals

Public Use Opportunities. Ensure adequate opportunities for summer and winter public use of important recreation, public access, and historic trails of regional and statewide significance. Also provide for future trail and access needs.

Local Trails. Assist in establishing local trail systems that provide access to community recreation areas.

Trail Corridors. Protect or establish trail corridors to meet projected future use requirements as well as protecting current use.

Management Guidelines

I. General

- A. Retain Access.** Improve or maintain public access to areas with significant public resource values by retaining access sites and corridors in public ownership, by reserving rights of access when state land is sold or leased, by acquiring access, or by managing rights-of-way through Revised Statutes Section 2477 (RS 2477). Generally, section line easements should not be vacated unless reasonable alternative usable access can be established.
- B. Public Use of Trails.** DNR should keep trails available for public use. DNR should not authorize land uses that foreclose the ability of the public to use important trails. If a land use authorization is issued that blocks a public access route, an alternate route should be identified and established prior to the authorization. On occasion, there are trail routes, designs, or areas where a trail authorization is not appropriate because of potential resource damage, sensitive habitats, or public safety concerns.
- C. Adequate Access Rights.** Where practical and within the limits of available funding, full public rights of access should be provided when roads and trails are constructed by state or local governments. Easements should be acquired and recorded when the state acquires access rights across property in other ownerships.
- D. Limiting Access.** Developed access to public lands may be curtailed to protect public safety, to allow special uses and to prevent harm to public resources. 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. Off-Road Travel.** Authorization for cross-country travel across sensitive tundra, wetlands, or other surface susceptible to damage should be directed toward appropriate existing trails

and roads. Appropriate trails are defined as having similar widths to the proposed mode of transportation. If no hardened trails exist, DNR should authorize transport only in winter when there is adequate ground frost or snow cover or both. This kind of authorization is usually for one-time use only, for example, for moving machinery. If the authorization is for one-time use, additional clearing that results from larger vehicle use on the trail will be discouraged. See *11 AAC 96* for Generally Allowed Uses and conditions for those uses. www.legis.state.ak.us/cgi-bin/folioisa.dll/aac/query

F. Off Road Vehicle Management and Potential Special Use Areas. If there is significant damage to wetlands, stream banks, and other areas with poorly drained soils, or erosion and wildlife disturbance or displacement, mitigation measures should be considered. Such measures would include stabilization, such as hardening or corduroying. Other possible methods of addressing trail damage are to install educational road signs, develop a trail management plan (through acquisition of grant money), and work through cooperative agreements with other land-owners and interested groups. If these methods are not feasible, it may be appropriate for DNR to designate certain state lands within the planning area as “Special Use Lands” under *11 AAC 96*. A Special Use Lands designation that addresses trail issues may be established after mapping existing trails and analyzing trail use.

The following guidelines would be considered in the development of a Special Use Lands designation. See *11 AAC 96*.

1. DNR will map trails and designate certain trails for off-road vehicle (ORV) use. ORV trails would be designated based on their ability to support year-round ORV use without damage to public resources and the need for public access.
2. Standards may be established for Special Use Lands that specify when snow cover is sufficient to prevent damage to surface vegetation and when travel off designated trails is allowed.
3. When snow cover is not sufficient to prevent damage to surface vegetation, off-road vehicle use would be allowed only on designated trails or by permit.

II. Corridor Widths and Uses

Corridors 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. Corridor widths may be increased to include a buffer to minimize land use and ownership conflicts, to protect 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 adapt a trail to allow specific public uses or aesthetic or environmental concerns. Corridor widths may vary along the length of a trail because of the above considerations. The width of a corridor 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. (See *Regulations 11 AAC 51 Public Easements*.)

A. Corridors for Standard Trails. Trails of regional or statewide significance, including RS 2477 trails, on state land will be protected by publicly owned corridors that have a minimum width of 100 feet (50 feet each side of centerline). However, in no case should the width of the corridor be less than 100 feet. Local groups or users are encouraged to maintain existing

trails. Trail corridors should be designed in consultation with affected divisions of DNR, ADF&G, and DOT/PF. Activity areas of 10-40 acres may be identified along trails for activities such as camping areas and rest areas.

B. Corridors for Special Trails. Some trails 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 corridor width (50 feet each side of centerline) established for standard trails.

C. Corridors for Neighborhood and Community Trails. Local trails that are not of regional or statewide significance will be identified and protected through management plans or disposal design. The following criteria should be used to determine whether a local trail should be protected by easement or public ownership.

1. If the local trail serves as a neighborhood collector trail that connects to a public open space system or a regional statewide trail and is identified prior to staking for sale, it will be kept in public ownership.
2. Use by Neighborhood Residents. If the trail is to be used mostly by neighborhood residents for their own use, it should be dedicated to the public or local government.
3. Local Pedestrian Access. 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 the 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. Buffers and Easements. In cases of land disposals where lots are not pre-designated, either a publicly owned corridor or an 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 above, an easement will be reserved.

D. Land Use in Trail Corridors. Land use activities within a trail corridor, such as, permits, leases, timber sales, traplines, and material sales, should be managed to avoid adversely affecting trail use over the long term or the aesthetic character of the trail. This does not preclude trail crossings or rerouting of trails as described below.

III. Location and Construction of Trails or Roads

A. Trails in Wetlands. DNR may authorize trails across wetlands if it is determined that the proposed activity will not cause significant adverse impacts to important fish and wildlife habitat, important ecological processes, or scenic vistas, a feasible and prudent alternative does not exist, and it is determined to be in the state's best interest. A trail across a wetland may be restricted to winter use only.

Easements and rights-of-way that are issued for motorized vehicle use in summer that will not use fill should follow well-drained routes and be located away from riparian zones and wetlands wherever possible. ADF&G will be consulted to provide recommendations on easement alignment to avoid wetlands and sensitive wildlife habitats. The intent of this guideline is to avoid motorized vehicle use across wetland areas that could result in paralleling trails that eventually extend outside the easement. This in turn could result in damage to wetlands and the unauthorized use of state land.

- B. Identification of Trails.** Prior to lease or disposal of state lands, trails that merit protection by one of the methods described above should be identified and reserved. The Division of Mining, Land and Water will be the lead agency for identification of trails and will consult with the other divisions of DNR, DOT/PF and ADF&G. In addition, any agency, organization, or individual may identify public trails to be considered for protection.
- C. Trail Crossings.** When it is necessary for powerlines, pipelines, or roads to cross trail corridors, crossings should be perpendicular whenever feasible. An exception is when a trail corridor is deliberately combined with a public utility or transportation corridor. Where feasible, vegetation screening should be preserved when a utility crosses or co-locates within a trail corridor.
- D. Rerouting or Vacation of Trails or Easements.** Rerouting trails for a short distance may be authorized to minimize land use 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. Historic trails that follow well-established routes should not be rerouted unless necessary to maintain trail use. The sections of trails that have been rerouted and are no longer intended for use should be rehabilitated.
- E. Trailhead Reservations and Information Signs.** Sufficient acreage for trailheads should be retained in public ownership to accommodate public access need, safety requirements, and provide for expected recreational use. The size and location of trailheads should be determined in consultation with ADPDR, ADOT/PF, and ADF&G. These trailheads should be marked, especially the ones adjacent to or near private property to prevent trespass problems.

Non-profit user groups, ANCSA Corporation landowners, and federal and state agencies are encouraged to provide information about land ownership, access, and allowable uses on lands owned by the various entities.

- F. Section-line Easements.** AS 19.30.400 is the statute governing RS 2477 rights-of-way. Additionally it applies to section-lines that are 33' or 66' wide, and to the inner part of some wider section-line easements. Section-line easements and RS 2477 rights-of-way are public access easements managed by DNR. Regulation 11 AAC 96 sets out permit requirements for various uses on state land, including state-owned easements along surveyed and unsurveyed section lines and RS 2477 rights-of-way across state land. Access-related activities that require a DNR permit include road construction, use, and transportation of heavy equipment.

G. Upgrading Trails to Roads or New Construction of Roads. Construction of either a new road or upgrade of an existing trail may be approved after consideration of the guidelines above. Forest road standards are used as guidelines. Higher construction standards may be needed for site-specific projects and conditions.

H. Management of RS 2477 Routes Across Non-State Land. The Department of Natural Resources has the management authority of all RS 2477 rights-of-way regardless of land ownership under AS 19.30.400. The department requires an authorization for use or development on a public easement that would either displace or preclude a traditional means of access. The Department will provide notice and a comment opportunity before a decision is rendered regarding the proposed activity on the easement. A survey will be required for new access construction across non-state land unless the location of the public easement is clearly determined and if a dispute does not exist regarding whose land the easement crosses. A state authorization is not required on a valid RS 2477 right-of-way for those uses that are generally allowed on state land. (See *11 AAC 51.100 (e-j)*).

Rerouting of trails should be done in consultation with DNR. An easement or RS 2477 right-of-way may be rerouted or vacated, according to 11 AAC 51.065, if a reasonably comparable, established alternate right-of-way or means of access exists that is sufficient to satisfy all present and reasonably foreseeable uses.

Width determinations have not been made on most routes. Therefore, any user should proceed as if the right-of-way width is confined to ditch-to-ditch width until a width determination is made following additional research. Furthermore, the exact location of the RS 2477 right-of-way may be unclear if the route has not been surveyed.

I. Roads in Wetlands. Summer use roads that do not use fill shall be located away from riparian zones and wetlands to discourage the formation of parallel trails and very wide river crossings. DNR may authorize construction of trails or roads across wetlands if it is determined that the proposed activity will not cause significant adverse impacts to important fish and wildlife habitat, important ecological processes, or scenic vistas. The department will write a decision that considers alternatives and whether the proposed activity is in the state's best interest.

J. RS 2477 Trails in the Upper Yukon Planning Area. There are many RS 2477 trails in the planning area. For the most part, these trails are indicated on the plan maps where scale allows. During the RS 2477 Project conducted by DNR, hundreds of trails throughout the state were researched to identify which trails would qualify as RS 2477 rights of way. A case file number (RST prefix) was assigned to each trail that was researched. Further information regarding the RS 2477 Project can be found at www.dnr.state.ak.us/mlw/trails. Trails in the planning area that qualify as RS 2477 trails include the following:

RST 10	Chicken-Franklin
RST 11	Eagle-Alder Creek Trail
RST 67	Eagle-Circle Mail Trail
RST 78	Fortymile-Franklin
RST 130	Lillywig Creek Winter Sled Road

RST 159 Lillywig Creek Summer Pack Trail
RST 258 Dome Creek-Steel Creek
RST 260 Canyon Creek-Walkers Fork
RST 284 Franklin-Steele Creek
RST 302 Liberty Cabin-Dome Creek
RST 379 North Fork of Fortymile-Big Delta
RST 391 Tanancross-Kechumstuk
RST 409 Jack Wade-Steele Creek (Winter)
RST 410 Jack Wade-Steele Creek (Summer)
RST 421 Ketchumstuk-Chicken
RST 656 Dennison Fork Trail
RST 465 Fortymile Dome–Boundary Creek
RST 787 Teddy’s Fork Trail
RST 789 Ketchumstuk Winter Trail
RST 792 Boundary-Lassen Landing
RST 797 Napoleon Creek Trail
RST 803 Trout Creek Trail
RST 1065 Jack Wade Landing-Boundary
RST 1594 Fortymile Station-Eagle
RST 1801 Lost Chicken to Wall Street
RST 1832 Chicken–Fish McKinley Creeks
RST 1854 Ladue River Trail
RST 1871 Steele Creek–Fortymile (U.S. / Canadian Boundary)
RST 1883 Walker Fork–Davis Creek–Border
RST 1891 Mission Creek Trail
RST 1892 Fortymile Station–Eagle: Government Supply Route
RST 1903 Poker Creek Trail
RST 1921 Washington Creek Trail

K. Other Trails in the Upper Yukon Planning Area. In addition to RS 2477 trails, there are many other trails in the planning area. For the most part, these trails are indicated on the plan maps where scale allows.

L. Other Guidelines Affecting Trails and Public Access. Other guidelines may affect trails and public access. Sections in this chapter that should also be referred to include but are not limited to:

- Fish and Wildlife Habitat and Harvest
- Forestry
- Materials
- Settlement
- Stream Corridors, Shorelands and Instream Flow
- Subsurface Resources
- Transportation
- Trapping Cabins

Transportation

Goals

Support Plan Designations. Through coordination with other state agencies, develop a transportation system needed to implement this plan and integrate it with other areawide transportation needs.

Minimize Costs. Design a transportation system that minimizes the long run costs, including construction, operations, and maintenance.

Minimize Adverse Impacts. Provide for a transportation system with minimal adverse impacts on local residents, the environment, fish and wildlife resources, and aesthetic and cultural features.

Promote Efficiency. Provide for a transportation system that uses land and energy resources efficiently and encourages compact, efficient development patterns. Avoid unnecessary duplication of transportation facilities.

Ensure Public Safety. Provide for a transportation system with a high standard of public safety.

Management Guidelines

A. Access for Land Offerings, Townsite Development, or Resource Development Projects.

The development of road access to new town sites, resource development projects, and some areas of land disposal may be necessary. Such access development is recognized as appropriate. Specific route alignment decisions are to be made at the time of route analysis that precedes road construction. Before a land offering or the start of a resource development project, DNR will work with DOT/PF to identify appropriate locations for access to the State Highway system and identify responsibilities for design, construction, and maintenance of any proposed transportation facilities. Access plans will be developed in consultation with affected local governments.

B. Joint Use and Consolidation of Surface Access.

Joint use of surface access routes and facilities will be encouraged wherever it is feasible and prudent to do so. Surface access also should be sited and designed to accommodate future development and avoid unnecessary duplication. The feasibility of using an existing route or facility should be evaluated before the use of a new route or facility is authorized.

C. Protection of Hydrologic Systems.

Transportation facilities will, to the extent feasible and prudent, be located to avoid significant adverse effects on quality or quantity of adjacent surface water resources, or to avoid detracting from recreational use of the waterway.

- 1. Minimize the Number of Stream Crossings.** Stream crossings should be minimized. When it is necessary to cross a stream for road construction, the crossing should be as close as possible to a 90° angle to the stream, consistent with good road alignment practices. Stream crossings should be made at stable sections of the stream channel.
 - 2. Minimize Construction in Wetlands.** Construction in wetlands, floodplains, and other poorly drained areas should be minimized, and existing drainage patterns maintained. Culverts should be installed where necessary to enable free movement of water, mineral salts, and nutrients.
 - 3. Design Bridges and Culverts.** Bridges and culverts should be large enough to accommodate, or be positioned to avoid altering direction and velocity of stream flow, or interfering with migrating or spawning activities of fish and wildlife. Bridges and culverts intended for permanent use should be large enough to accommodate the 50-year peak discharge (where known). Bridges should provide adequate clearance for boats, pedestrian, horse, and large game passage whenever these uses occur or are anticipated at significant levels. DOT/PF will be consulted for design requirements and best management practices.
 - 4. Rehabilitate Disturbed Stream Banks.** Disturbed stream banks will be recontoured, revegetated, or protected by other measures to prevent soil erosion into adjacent waters.
 - 5. Winter Stream and Lake Crossing.** During winter, snow ramps, snow bridges, or other methods should be used to provide access to frozen rivers, lakes, and streams to avoid cutting, eroding, or degrading banks.
- 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 the Department of Fish and Game.
- E. Road Pull-Outs.** Where road corridors intersect streams, habitat corridors, or other areas of expected recreational use and tourism, sufficient acreage should be retained in public ownership to accommodate public access, safety requirements, and expected recreational and tourism use. The size and location of pullouts should be determined in consultation with the Division of Parks and Outdoor Recreation, Department of Transportation and Public Facilities, and Department of Fish and Game.
- F. Timber Salvage from Right-of-Way.** See *Forestry Guideline D*, “Timber salvaged from land cleared for non-forest use.” All timber having high value for commercial or personal use should be salvaged on rights-of-way to be cleared for construction.
- G. Scenic Resources.** Scenic resources should be considered during planning for transportation needs to avoid significant degradation to visual quality along these routes.
- H. Other Guidelines Affecting Transportation.** Other guidelines may affect transportation. Sections in this chapter that should also be referred to include but are not limited to:

Forestry
Materials
Recreation and Tourism
Settlement
Stream Corridors, Shorelands and Instream Flow
Subsurface Resources

Trapping Cabins

Goal

Trapping Economy. Support the trapping economy and tradition of the region by providing opportunities for trapping cabin permits.

Management Guidelines

A. Trapping Cabins in Settlement Areas. New trapping cabin permits may be allowed in designated settlement areas before the area is scheduled for sale. Permits may be issued or renewed in designated settlement areas for up to 10 years or until the time the area is offered for sale or staking, whichever is shorter.

Existing trapping cabin permits will be renewed in proposed disposal areas. When an area is offered for sale or staking, permittees will be given the opportunity to:

1. relinquish the trapping cabin permit and take a chance on acquiring fee simple title to the cabin site through staking, or
2. keep the trapping cabin subject to the Department's trapping cabin policies (not acquiring title). If the permittee keeps the cabin, the cabin site will be deleted from the staking area prior to the offering.

B. Other Guidelines Affecting Trapping Cabins. Other guidelines may affect trapping cabin management practices. Sections in this chapter that should also be referred to include but are not limited to:

Fish and Wildlife Habitat and Harvest
Forestry
Settlement
Trails and Public Access

Wetland Management

Goal

Protect Wetland Values. Maintain the hydrologic, habitat, and recreational functions of public wetlands. Land management practices will be directed to avoid or minimize adverse impacts on the following important functions of wetlands:

- Wetlands filter nutrients, pollutants, and sediment from surface run-off.
- Wetlands stabilize water supplies by storing excessive water during flooding and by recharging and discharging groundwater, regulating flow, and controlling erosion.
- Wetlands provide important feeding, rearing, nesting, and breeding grounds for many species. Related recreational use and aesthetic values also are important.

Management Guidelines

A. Definition of Wetlands. For purposes of inventory and regulation of wetlands, DNR will use the definition adopted by the State of Alaska under the regulation of the Coastal Management Program (6 AAC 80.900(19):

Freshwater wetlands means those environments characterized by rooted vegetation which is partially submerged either continuously or periodically by surface freshwater with less than 0.5 parts per thousand salt content and not exceeding three meters in depth.

For purposes of these management guidelines, wetlands are 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.

National Wetland Inventory maps, when available, should be used to determine the presence of wetlands and for the classification of wetlands, described. Deviation from the boundaries of these maps can occur if more precise field observations are available and if the definition of wetlands in 6 AAC 80.900(19) is applied.

B. Retention of Wetlands in Public Ownership. In areas designated ‘General Use,’ ‘Resource Management – High Value,’ or ‘Habitat,’ Class I and II wetlands will be retained in public ownership unless DNR determines, after evaluation and consultation with affected agencies, that they do not have sufficiently important 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 if public retention or other measures are necessary to protect their values. Generally, Class III wetlands of less than 5 acres will not be retained.

Within areas designated Settlement, Settlement-Commercial, or Public Facilities – Retain in this plan, consideration shall be given in land disposals to the protection of high value wetlands that perform critical hydrologic, water quality, or habitat functions. In general, such areas should not be developed and the state should retain these lands. Wetlands identified in the National Wetlands Inventory as Lacustrine or Riverine should, specifically, be retained in state ownership. Development related to settlement or public facilities should avoid wetlands but may occur where less critical functions exist. Hydrologically isolated, forested palustrine wetlands are often associated with less critical functions.

C. Retention of Land Adjacent to Wetlands – Standard Buffers. The following standards apply to those wetlands that are to be retained by the state, as described in B above:

- 1. Class I Wetlands.** Class I wetlands that remain in public ownership will 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.** Class II wetlands that remain in public ownership will 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.** Class III wetlands will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis through the public land disposal process or applicable public land management plans.
- 4. Criteria for Changing Buffer Size.** Wetland buffers may be increased from the previous standards if necessary to avoid adverse impacts on wetlands from development on adjacent lands. If, for instance, surrounding lands are steep and have high erosion potential or the proposed use poses a high risk to water quality or other values, buffer widths will be increased accordingly.

When steep conditions exist, general guidelines should be used for increasing buffer width: if a 10 to 40 percent slope exists, the buffer width should increase 25 percent; if the slope exceeds 40 percent, the buffer width should increase 50 percent.

Wetland buffers may be decreased if land adjacent to the wetland is stable and the proposed development or use does not pose a risk to water quality or other values. A minimum buffer width of 100 feet will apply to agricultural land disposals.

D. Restrictive Use Covenants and Public Access Easements. Restrictive use covenants for public access easements may be used rather than public ownership on wetlands retained by the state:

1. **Where Surveying a Meandering Boundary Would be Excessively Expensive.** Where the configuration of the wetland is such that surveying the meandering boundary of the wetland would be excessively expensive, an aliquot-part (rectangular) survey rather than a meander survey may be used along the edges of wetlands. This may result in small portions of the wetland being conveyed to private ownership. Where justified by the value of the wetland, restrictive use covenants, public access easements, or staking setbacks will be applied to ensure that those portions of wetlands and associated buffers conveyed to private ownership remain in a natural condition and that public access and use are maintained.

 2. **Where An Entire Wetland Is 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. Where justified by the value of the wetland, restrictive use covenants should be used to ensure that the wetland and associated buffer remain in a natural state. If there is a stream outlet from the wetland, public access easements shall be reserved adjacent to both the outlet and the wetland.
- E. Dredge and Fill Permits in Wetlands.** Permits⁹ for dredging and filling in wetlands, including permits for gravel extraction and the construction of roads and pads, should not be granted when significant adverse impacts to important, fish and wildlife habitat or ecological processes can be expected and permit stipulations will be inadequate in maintaining wetland functions or values. Exceptions to this standard may be granted if no feasible and prudent alternative exists. Where it is not feasible and prudent to avoid such activities, mitigation or other appropriate measures should be applied to meet the intent of this guideline.
- F. Operation of Heavy Equipment in Wetlands.** Permits issued for activities that require heavy equipment in wetlands that have important hydrologic, recreation, or habitat values will, to the extent feasible and prudent, avoid damage to wetlands and wetland vegetation. Only winter access should be used in or to access wetlands whenever feasible. DNR will consult with other affected agencies prior to issuing such permits.
- G. Defining Wetlands and Wetland Buffer Boundaries.** The National Wetland Inventory maps should be used in ascertaining the boundary of wetlands. If more precise boundary locations are required, they should be defined through field inspection, interpretation of aerial photographs, or both. Field inspection is preferred but will not always be possible because of cost. Where wetlands are particularly valuable and field inspection is not possible, boundaries should be sufficiently generous to allow for errors in interpretation. This will often be the case where aliquot parts are used to define wetlands.

Where a covenant is used to protect wetlands conveyed to private ownership, aliquot parts may define boundaries where the covenant applies, or otherwise described so the landowner can clearly define where the covenant applies.

⁹ Permits from other agencies, including U.S. Army Corps of Engineers 404 and Department of Environmental Conservation 401 permits, are necessary for most dredging and filling activities in wetlands.

- H. Approval of Other Activities in State-owned Wetlands and Buffers.** Activities such as establishing trails or issuing leases for commercial or noncommercial uses shall be considered on an individual basis. Such activities will be allowed if they can occur without sufficient damage to the water, habitat, or recreation values of the wetland. These activities often require other permits, including a U.S. Army Corps of Engineers 404 permit.
- I. Other Landscape Features Providing Similar Wetland Functions.** Some types of landscape features are similar in many respects to the functions of wetlands, but do not specifically meet the ACMP definition of (emergent) wetlands. Areas of scrub-shrub and forest vegetation with hydric soils and hydrophytic plants can provide water flow regulation, erosion control, sediment and nutrient retention, contaminant removal, nutrient cycling, and fish and wildlife habitat. If such features exist and can be identified spatially, the effects of proposed activities on the equivalent wetland functions shall be considered during permit review. Activities will be allowed if they can occur, individually and cumulatively, without significant reductions to the identified functional values.
- J. Other Guidelines Affecting Wetland Management.** Other guidelines may affect wetland management. Sections in this chapter that should also be referred to include but are not limited to:

- Fish and Wildlife Habitat and Harvest
- Forestry
- Materials
- Settlement
- Stream Corridors, Shorelands and Instream Flow
- Trails and Public Access
- Transportation

CHAPTER 3

MANAGEMENT POLICIES FOR REGIONS, MANAGEMENT UNITS, AND NAVIGABLE WATERBODIES

Introduction.....	1
How this Chapter Presents Information and Management Policy	1
Information Regarding Land Use Designations.....	2
Land Use Designations Used In This Plan.....	4
Information Regarding Management Intent.....	6
Duration and Flexibility of the Plan.....	7
Glossary.....	8
Map - Planning Area and Regions.....	9
Region 1 : Middle Fork.....	11
Regional Summary	11
Management Intent for Region 1	14
Resource Allocation Summary for Region 1 : Middle Fork	16
Map - Region 1 : Middle Fork.....	17
Region 2 : North Fork.....	19
Regional Summary	19
Management Intent for Region 2	24
Resource Allocation Summary for Region 2 : North Fork.....	27
Map - Region 2 : North Fork.....	33
Map - Eagle Inset	35
Region 3 : South Fork.....	37
Regional Summary	37
Management Intent for Region 3	40
Resource Allocation Summary for Region 3 : South Fork.....	42
Map - Region 3 : South Fork.....	45
Map - Mount Fairplay Inset.....	47
Region 4 : Walker Fork.....	49
Regional Summary	49
Management Intent for Region 4	54
Resource Allocation Summary for Region 4 : Walker Fork	58
Map - Region 4 : Walker Fork	67
Map - Boundary Inset.....	69
Map - Chicken Inset	71
Map - Jack Wade Junction Inset.....	73
Navigable Waterbodies.....	75

CHAPTER 3

MANAGEMENT POLICIES FOR REGIONS, MANAGEMENT UNITS, AND NAVIGABLE WATERBODIES

Introduction

This chapter provides land management policy for each of the four regions, navigable waterbodies, and over 40 management units in the plan area. The narrative and tables in this chapter also describe resources and uses on state lands. Land management prescriptions in this plan do not apply to non-state lands.

How this Chapter Presents Information and Management Policy

For each region, the following elements are used to provide information and establish management policy:

1. Regional Summary

Describes the location, land ownership pattern, acreage, physical features, access, resources and uses for each region. This section also provides a summary of management constraints and considerations based on existing plans, legislative designations, and other issues that significantly affect the management of state lands.

2. Management Intent

Management intent is established at various levels of specificity and geographic context. This element provides management intent for the entire region, certain areas within the region, and groups of management units within the region.

3. Resource Allocation Summary Tables

Provides information and establishes management intent at the management unit level. These tables have columns that provide the following for each unit:

Unit Number - Where resources, uses, or special characteristics of a certain area of land warrants special attention, a management unit is created, and a number is assigned for each unit. Unit numbers have a letter prefix that is common among management units that are in the same vicinity or region (for example, "C-01," "C-02" for units in the

vicinity of Chicken).

Unit Location / Unit Name - Each unit has a name that provides a brief description or general location.

Designations - These two-letter land-use designations indicate the primary and co-primary uses and resources for each unit. Land use designations are described in more detail later in this chapter. With very few exceptions, this plan only uses a primary designation in order to identify the principal theme of state land management and to minimize confusion in interpreting this intent.

Acreage - The approximate acreage of each unit is listed in this column. The acreages for smaller management units were taken from surveys, patents and plats. The acreages for larger management units were calculated from maps developed in the GIS mapping program.

Management Intent - Provides guidance to land managers and the public regarding the use of land within each unit.

Other Resources and Uses - This column describes the resources and uses that currently exist within the unit. Where applicable, additional information is provided.

4. Maps of Regions and Management Units

Maps for each region show unit numbers for each unit. Note that some of the roads and trails shown on these maps do not have legal public access.

The maps in this chapter are not legal documents and only represent generalized land status. They are a graphic representation of official state and federal land records, current to January of 2003. For complete information, refer to the official records of the Department of Natural Resources, the U.S. Bureau of Land Management, and Doyon, Ltd. The official government records are located in their respective public information offices and on the web. Consult Doyon, Ltd. for the most current land status pertaining to their holdings.

Certain lands within the planning area were withdrawn by the federal government through Public Land Orders (see the *Federal Public Land Orders* section in Chapter 4). These orders are listed on the maps for the four regions. For more specific information on the location of these Public Land Orders, refer to the federal Master Title Plats published by the Bureau of Land Management, and available online at: <http://www.dnr.state.ak.us/cgi-bin/Iris/landrecords>.

Information Regarding Land Use Designations

Primary Designated Uses (also called *Primary Designations*) help determine how best to manage state lands, how uses will be authorized, and which uses may or may not be authorized. Primary designated uses are applied to state lands and identify uses or resources that are of

major importance. These lands will be managed to encourage these uses and their conservation or development. The designations are based on resources or uses listed by unit in the Resource Allocation Summary Tables in this chapter.

Under AS 38.05.300 and 11 AAC 55.010, all designations are intended for multiple use. Uses other than those receiving primary designations for a given unit may still be authorized if they are not incompatible with the primary uses or resources for which a unit is designated. If DNR determines that a proposed use is incompatible with a primary designation, the proposed use will not be authorized, or will be authorized in a manner that minimizes the incompatibility. Activities exempt from this guideline include *Generally Allowed Uses* listed under 11 AAC 96.020. Primary designated uses cannot take precedence over disposals of interest that have already occurred. Such disposals include property rights such as mining leases, land leases, and rights-of-way that, once issued, are protected by the Constitution. A primary designation, however, may take precedence over uses authorized by permits that were issued on a revocable-at-will basis.

When the plan assigns a designation to a unit, the designation is accompanied by region-wide management guidelines and by management intent specific to that unit. These three pieces of information (designations, management guidelines, and management intent) promote the most beneficial use(s) and set conditions for allowing non-designated uses. Further explanation of management guidelines and management intent follows in this chapter.

The acreage of land under each of the various land use designations applied in this plan and their corresponding land classifications is summarized in Chapter 4, Implementation and Recommendations. Land use designations must be converted to land classifications under Alaska statute.

Co-designated Uses

Where a unit has two or more designated uses, DNR will avoid or minimize conflicts between designated uses by applying the management intent statement for the unit, areawide guidelines found in Chapter 2, statutes, regulations, and procedures.

Designations Are Based on Resource and Use Inventories

The best available information has been analyzed and mapped for the following resources and uses:

- fish and wildlife habitat and harvest;
- recreation areas and facilities;
- mineral potential and material sites;
- access and transportation; and
- heritage resources.

Land Use Designations Used In This Plan

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, or, because of the size of the management unit, a variety of uses can be accommodated with appropriate siting and design considerations. General Use may also apply where there is a lack of resource, economic, or other information with which to assign a specific land use designation, and/or the lack of current demand implies that development is unlikely for the duration of the plan. Uplands in this classification are available for conveyance to municipalities unless stated otherwise in the unit's management intent, but cannot be sold to individuals. Areas not specifically identified with a designation on the Plan Maps; not otherwise classified in this plan; or that are acquired by the state subsequent to the approval date of this plan, are designated General Use. Shorelands are not available for conveyance.

Habitat

Ha This designation applies to areas of varied size for fish and wildlife species during a sensitive life-history stage where human disturbance or alteration of the habitat could result in a permanent loss of a population or sustained yield of a species. This land will remain in state ownership.

Mining

Mn A resource designation for Mining generally is not applied as a surface land use designation. The problems in locating and measuring subsurface resources make it difficult and misleading to apply this category in the same way designations are used for surface resources, such as timber. However, a primary surface designation of Minerals is used where intensive mineral exploration or development is currently taking place or is highly likely in the near term (5 to 10 years). The Department's policy for mineral development is determined by whether the management unit is open or closed to new mineral locations. All state land is open for new mineral locations except where previously closed under AS 38.05.185.

Public Facilities - Retain

Pr These sites are reserved for a specific infrastructure to serve state interests. These management units are classified Reserved Use Land and are not selectable by municipalities under state law (except under AS 38.05.810), and may not be sold to individuals.

Public Recreation -Undeveloped

Ru This designation applies to those areas that offer or have a high potential for dispersed recreation or tourism and where desirable recreation conditions are scattered or widespread rather than localized. Developed facilities are generally not necessary other than trails, trail signs, primitive campsites, and other minor improvements. Land in this designation may be conveyed to municipalities depending on the unit's management intent and the relative value of the recreation resources for which the unit was designated. These lands cannot be sold to individuals.

Resource Management - High Value

Rh Land that may have a number of important resources but a specific resource allocation decision is not possible because of the lack of information; or an allocation decision is not necessary at this time even though the unit may have two or more potential uses that may or may not conflict. Management units with this designation cannot be sold to individuals. They can, however, be conveyed to a municipality unless the unit's management intent states otherwise.

Settlement

Se Uplands suitable for sale, leasing, or permitting of state lands to allow private recreational, residential, commercial, industrial, or community use. This designation will generally be used for areas appropriate for land offerings for residential or residential and commercial uses. Unsettled or unsold land in the unit will be managed for uses compatible with settlement. This may include uses such as selling additional lots, laying out new subdivisions, Native allotment reconveyances, identifying greenbelts through subdivisions, reserving materials sites for subdivision roads and building lots, placing easements on access routes, or reserving lots for community facilities and open space. This land may be conveyed to municipalities.

Settlement-Commercial

Sc This designation applies to uplands suitable for sale, leasing, or permitting of state lands to allow private commercial, industrial, recreational, or community use. This designation will generally be used for areas appropriate for land offerings for industrial or commercial uses. Unsettled or unsold land in the unit will be managed for uses compatible with eventual commercial or industrial activities. Areas designated Settlement-Commercial should be closed to mineral entry prior to sale. This land may be conveyed to municipalities.

Mineral Entry

Where a management unit is open to new mineral location and has a primary surface designation, such as wildlife habitat or public recreation, the surface designation will not be construed to automatically prevent mineral development. All lands in the planning area are open to mineral entry. DNR area plans usually do not apply mineral resource designations to large areas. The problems in locating and measuring subsurface resources make it difficult and potentially misleading for this plan to apply designations for subsurface resources in the same way they are applied to surface resources.

DNR proposes to subject certain limited areas to leasehold location where significant conflicts could occur between mining activities and wildlife or settlement. The plan includes Mineral Leasehold Location Order 28 to protect mineral licks, affecting portions of land throughout the planning area, particularly in the Middle Fork Region (see *Appendix B*). It also includes Mineral Leasehold Location Order 29 for settlement units in the Walker Fork Region (see *Appendix C*). Chapter 2, *Subsurface Resources*, also includes additional guidelines and a summary of mining and reclamation regulations and statutes as well as a description of the Leasehold Location Orders.

Information Regarding Management Intent

The plan can provide management guidance for a resource without designating it. For example, the plan may address the resource by providing management intent for a specific area or areawide guidelines. In addition, other state, federal, or local regulations will determine the conditions for using undesignated resources.

In some cases, the management intent for a unit discourages specific uses because these uses may create conflicts with designated uses. In this plan, only a few discouraged uses are identified. Discouraged uses may be allowed if DNR determines that the use does not conflict with the management intent, designated uses, and the management guidelines. Discouraged uses include activities that should not be authorized or will not be allowed if there are feasible and prudent alternatives. If DNR determines that the discouraged use conflicts with the management intent or designated uses, and cannot be made compatible by following the management guidelines, DNR would allow it only through a plan amendment.

The plan also identifies prohibited uses. These are uses that have significant conflicts with other uses or resources and will not be permitted without a plan amendment. Prohibitions are rare, because the plan seeks to minimize land use conflicts through plan guidelines and intent rather than through prohibitions.

Management intent statements for each unit refer only to management of state land. While these statements accommodate certain proposed uses on state lands, there is no guarantee that other regulatory agencies will issue permits necessary for the proposed use. All proposed development uses referenced in the plan's management intent statements are assumed to employ best management practices in siting and operating the proposed use.

Conveyance to Municipalities or Retention in State Ownership

New cities or boroughs may be formed during the planning horizon. Certain land use designations, by definition, allow land to be sold or conveyed to municipalities under the municipal entitlement program. Other land use designations and classifications require DNR to retain lands in state ownership.

Land use designations and classifications are general indicators of whether land should be retained in state ownership, or made available for conveyance to municipalities. In this plan, areas affected by the Habitat and Public Facilities – Retain designations are required to be retained by the state. However, some management units have management intent that precludes conveyance even though the designation and classification might otherwise allow conveyance. These include units under management, or proposed for management, by another state agency or division within DNR, such as the Department of Transportation and Public Facilities, Division of Forestry or the Department of Fish and Game. In addition, certain lands with Resource Management – High Value or General Use designations that would otherwise be available for conveyance to municipalities may be retained. When this occurs, the management intent and management guidelines pertinent to those lands specify this action. In no case can

DNR convey the mineral estate to municipalities or individuals. Shorelands must also be retained in state ownership.

Shorelands

DNR will provide reasonable access across state shorelands to upland owners. Upland access across state shorelands, including developed access facilities, may be allowed within all land use designations where DNR determines the proposed facilities are consistent with the management intent and applicable guidelines of the plan. Shoreland designations do not give the public access rights to adjacent private uplands. See the *Navigable Waterbodies* section at the end of this chapter for an explanation of the *Public Trust Doctrine*.

Management Guidelines

Most state lands will be managed for multiple uses. Exceptions are lands that will be offered for private lease or ownership, and recreation sites that are less than 640 acres. The plan establishes management guidelines that allow various uses to occur without serious conflicts. Management guidelines can direct the timing, amount, or specific location of different activities to make the permitted uses compatible. For example, the plan provides guidelines that land disposals must be designed to protect public access and recreational opportunities.

Duration and Flexibility of the Plan

This plan guides land uses for the next 20 years, subject to periodic reviews, for areas with designations involving settlement, industrial or commercial uses, or other forms of economic or community development. The area plan is intended to guide the management of land within these areas until the plan is formally revised. In some instances, areas designated General Use may not be appropriate for development for the duration of the plan, and this is indicated in the management intent language.

The land-use designations shown on the maps in this chapter are intended to allow some degree of flexibility. DNR may permit uses not originally designated if DNR determines they are consistent with the management intent for the unit and consistent with applicable management guidelines.

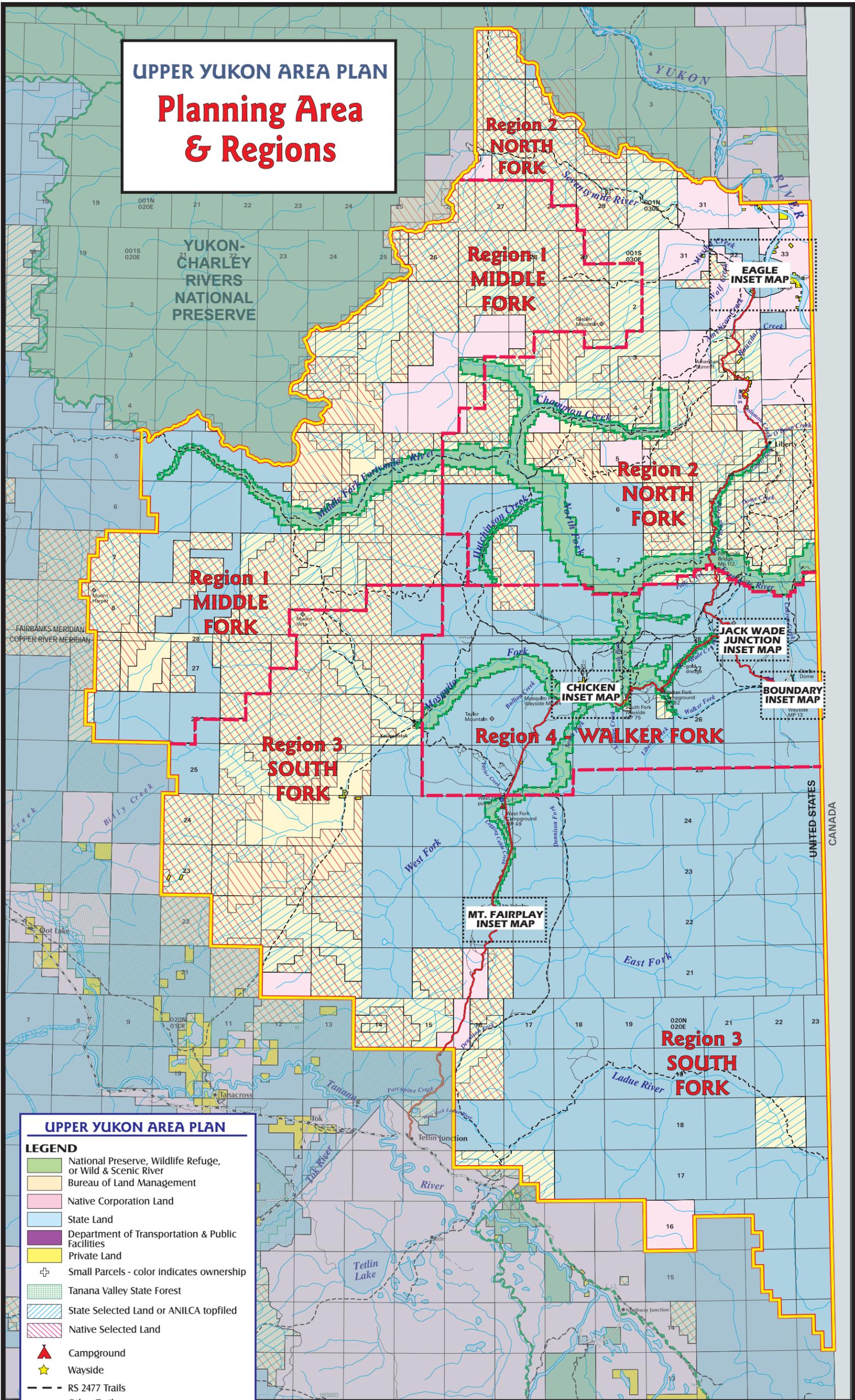
This plan will not provide direct answers to many of the site-specific issues frequently encountered by state land managers. The plan can, however, clarify the general management objectives for the area and thereby provide the basis for more informed decisions.

Boundaries of land-use designations shown on the following maps may be modified through implementation activities, such as site planning or disposal, as long as modifications adhere to the intent of the plan and follow the procedures described in Chapter 4 under the section *Procedures for Plan Changes*.

Glossary

Definitions of terms used frequently in the plan are found in the *Glossary, Appendix A*.

UPPER YUKON AREA PLAN
Planning Area & Regions



UPPER YUKON AREA PLAN

LEGEND

- National Preserve, Wildlife Refuge, or Wild & Scenic River
- Bureau of Land Management
- Native Corporation Land
- State Land
- Department of Transportation & Public Facilities
- Private Land
- Small Parcels - color indicates ownership
- Tanana Valley State Forest
- State Selected Land or ANILCA topfiled
- Native Selected Land
- Campground
- Wayside
- RS 2477 Trails
- Other Trails
- Area Plan Boundary

Region 1 : Middle Fork

Regional Summary

Background

Region 1 occupies most of the northwestern portion of the planning area. Its western boundary, which is also that of the planning area, is adjacent to the Yukon - Charley Rivers National Preserve and the eastern limit of DNR's Tanana Basin Area Plan. This region is largely comprised of the eastern portion of the calving season distribution of the Fortymile caribou herd. It also encompasses most of the post-calving season distribution that extends into the planning area. Region 1 includes the historic settlement of Joseph, which is at the confluence of the Middle Fork and Joseph Creek. There are no permanent residents in Joseph or the remainder of the region.

State Lands

In this region, there is a larger proportion of state-selected land than state-owned land. Approximately 714,965 acres are state-selected, and approximately 231,586 acres are state-owned. For the most part, state-owned and state-selected land in this region consists of large blocks of contiguous acreage, but is divided by the Wild and Scenic River corridor along Joseph Creek and the lower Middle Fork. (For more information regarding the National Wild and Scenic River corridors, refer to the *Navigable Waterbodies* section of this chapter.)

Land that is owned by the state occupies the headwaters of Middle Fork, and almost all of the Joseph Creek drainage. State-selected land is interspersed throughout the region. Most of the land selected by the state has also been selected by Doyon, Ltd., the regional ANCSA corporation in this area (see *Land Status map* in the Appendix). Currently, Doyon, Ltd. owns approximately 75,000 acres within this region, in the Slate Creek and lower Independence Creek drainages. Land was selected by the state in this region mostly for its high mineral potential, but also for its habitat values.

Physical Features

The northwestern edge of this region is defined mostly by the ridge along the Mertie Range, which separates the watersheds of the Fortymile and Charley Rivers. With rounded, even-topped ridges separated by broad river valleys, terrain and vegetation are representative of the Yukon-Tanana Upland physiographic province. The region is mostly made up of the Middle Fork drainage, but also includes the drainages of Slate Creek, Independence Creek, and Upper Butte Creek. The north end of the region includes most of Granite Creek and upper Mogul Creek, which drain into the Seventymile River. Prominent peaks are Mount Harper at the westernmost edge of the region, rising to 6,543 feet, and North Peak at 5,745 feet in the north.

Vegetation consists mostly of mixed and pure stands of white spruce and black spruce, with balsam poplar, birch, and aspen occurring mostly in river valleys and on alluvial flats.

Access

While the other regions in the planning area have some degree of accessibility from the Taylor Highway, this region does not. Ground access is provided by the RS 2477 trails (listed below) and other trails. These trails provide access mostly to the northern portion of the region, particularly Joseph, and the headwaters of Independence Creek. Most of the access into and within the region is on the rivers or by air. Landing opportunities exist on ridges, gravel bars, and the airstrip at Joseph.

RS 2477 Trails in the Middle Fork Region:

North Fork of the Fortymile–Big Delta Trail. This trail is a historic trail that connected the Fortymile district with the Fairbanks/Valdez military road. Portions of the trail are also segments of the Washington-Alaska Military Cable and Telegraph System (WAMCATS).

Kechumstuk Winter Trail. Originally, this trail was part of the trail along the Washington-Alaska Military Cable and Telegraph System (WAMCATS). It was used as an access and supply route for Kechumstuk and Chicken and for mining activities in the region.

Resources and Uses

Fish and Wildlife, Habitat, and Harvest. Much of the planning area is part of the range for the Fortymile caribou herd, and all of Region 1 is within that range. Overall, the herd's distribution currently covers an area southeast of the Steese Highway, between the Yukon River and the Alaska Highway, and extends into the Ladue and Sixtymile River drainages in Canada. This is much smaller than the historic range that existed in the early 1900's. A great deal of study and public discourse has taken place in an effort to increase the size of the herd, and game management actions are currently under way to accomplish this. (For further information, see *Habitat Management Needs Assessment for the Fortymile Caribou Herd* and *Fortymile Caribou Herd Management Plan*, developed by the Fortymile Caribou Herd Planning Team.)

To obtain adequate forage and protection from predators during calving season, the cows and calves of the Fortymile herd are concentrated in the highlands of upper Salcha River and Birch Creek, the Charley River, and the North Fork and Middle Fork of the Fortymile River. About half of this calving season distribution extends into the planning area, and occupies most of Region 1. Almost all of the post-calving distribution that extends into the planning area is also within this region.

Dall sheep in this region are concentrated in the higher elevations around Glacier Mountain, Mount Harper and the headwaters of Joseph Creek, where they can access terrain suitable for predator evasion.

This remote region is used for harvest of caribou, sheep, moose, bear, and furbearers, particularly in the upper Middle Fork drainage. Little if any fishing occurs in this area.

Forestry. Vegetation in this region is largely comprised of alpine tundra with a variety of forest types depending on localized factors such as slope, aspect, soils, and fire patterns. These forest communities are characteristic of interior Alaska spruce-hardwood forest, containing white and black spruce, balsam poplar, birch, and aspen in various combinations. For the planning area in general, commercial timber harvest is considered unlikely because of stand characteristics and market proximity. While this region is a considerable distance from the Taylor Highway, it is relatively close to portions of the Tanana Valley State Forest that are just west of the planning area. This may become a factor in commercial harvest feasibility if access is developed to those portions of the state forest and extended into the region.

Heritage Resources. There are sites reported by the Alaska Heritage Resources Survey (AHRs) in this region. Cabins, burial sites, and other remnants represent activity during the late 1800's and early 1900's, which included hunting, trapping, and construction of the WAMCATS line. Alaskan Natives have lived in the area for thousands of years. The village of Joseph was one of the largest settlements of the Upper Tanana people during the late 1800's and early 1900's. Since RS 2477 trails are historic trails, they are also considered heritage resources. Refer to the RS 2477 trails listed in this region. (Note: Few heritage resource surveys have been conducted in this area, and the database for the Alaska Heritage Resources Survey is continually being updated.)

Materials. Because of the remoteness of this region and absence of roads, there is no use of materials at this time.

Mineral Resources. The geology of this region is similar to the rest of the planning area, consisting primarily of felsic and mafic intrusive and metamorphic rock, including schist and gneiss. Mining has mostly focused on placer deposits of gold-bearing gravel and colluvium. Region 1 continues to be under exploration for minerals and is believed to have excellent potential for hard rock minerals.

Recreation. Because of the remoteness of this region, the level of recreational activity is not as high as the rest of the planning area. The majority of recreation is rafting and boating along Joseph Creek, and on the Middle Fork below its confluence with Joseph Creek. These streams are part of the National Wild and Scenic River system. An airstrip at Joseph provides access to the rivers and surrounding land.

Tourism. Unlike the other regions in the planning area that have a broad range of tourism activities facilitated by the highway system, tourism in this region is a component of harvest and recreational activity.

Management Constraints and Considerations

There are no state management plans or site specific plans for this region.

A portion of the Fortymile National Wild and Scenic River corridor extends into the region along the Middle Fork and up Joseph Creek. Another portion of the corridor very briefly extends into the region along the North Fork. The Bureau of Land Management is responsible for management of these lands, which is guided by the *River Management Plan for the Fortymile River Component of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System* (1983). There are conflicts between management of the federally owned uplands and the mining activity permitted on the adjacent state-owned shorelands. (For further information on this issue, see the discussion in the *Navigable Rivers* section of this chapter.) Resolution of this issue is outside the scope of this area plan, but it is anticipated that the Bureau of Land Management and the Department of Natural Resources will cooperate in the development of appropriate solutions.

Management Intent for Region 1

Management intent in this section applies to state-owned and state-selected land. Also refer to Chapter 2, *Areawide Land Management Policies*.

Management unit R-01 consists of all lands in Region 1 that are not within the smaller management units, M-01, M-02, and M-03. Refer to the management units listed in the Resource Allocation table and delineated on the maps at the end of this section.

All lands within unit R-01 are designated Resource Management - High Value (Rh). Although this region has a number of important resource values, specific information is very limited on mineral resources, and an allocation decision between uses is not necessary at this time.

Region 1 is to be managed for multiple uses, primarily habitat, recreation, and mining. Activities in this region should avoid or minimize conflicts with caribou calving and other wildlife values. Only activities with minimal impact (i.e., mineral or land surveys conducted by a small ground based crew) should be authorized during the calving season in this region. Calving season for this herd occurs during the month of May. Since the timing of calving season can vary from year to year, the Department of Fish and Game should be consulted.

Management units M-01 and M-02 are identified for the high concentration calving areas indicated in the “Habitat Management Needs Assessment for the Fortymile Caribou Herd,” completed in 2001. These units are designated Habitat (Ha) to protect these areas (see the *Resource Allocation Table* for this region for management intent).

To maintain habitat, recreational and mineral values, and to minimize conflicts between uses, no settlement areas are designated in Region 1. The need for private ownership of land is not anticipated in this region during the planning horizon.

Commercial and residential development should be kept to a minimum in Region 1. Such development should be directed to management units near communities in Regions 2 and 4 that have appropriate land use designations and management intent. Resource development activities, most of which are likely to be related to mining, are appropriate only if the impacts from these uses can be addressed. If construction of a road is necessary for any DNR

authorization, it should use an existing RS 2477 route whenever feasible and prudent.

Management Intent for Mineral Licks in Region 1

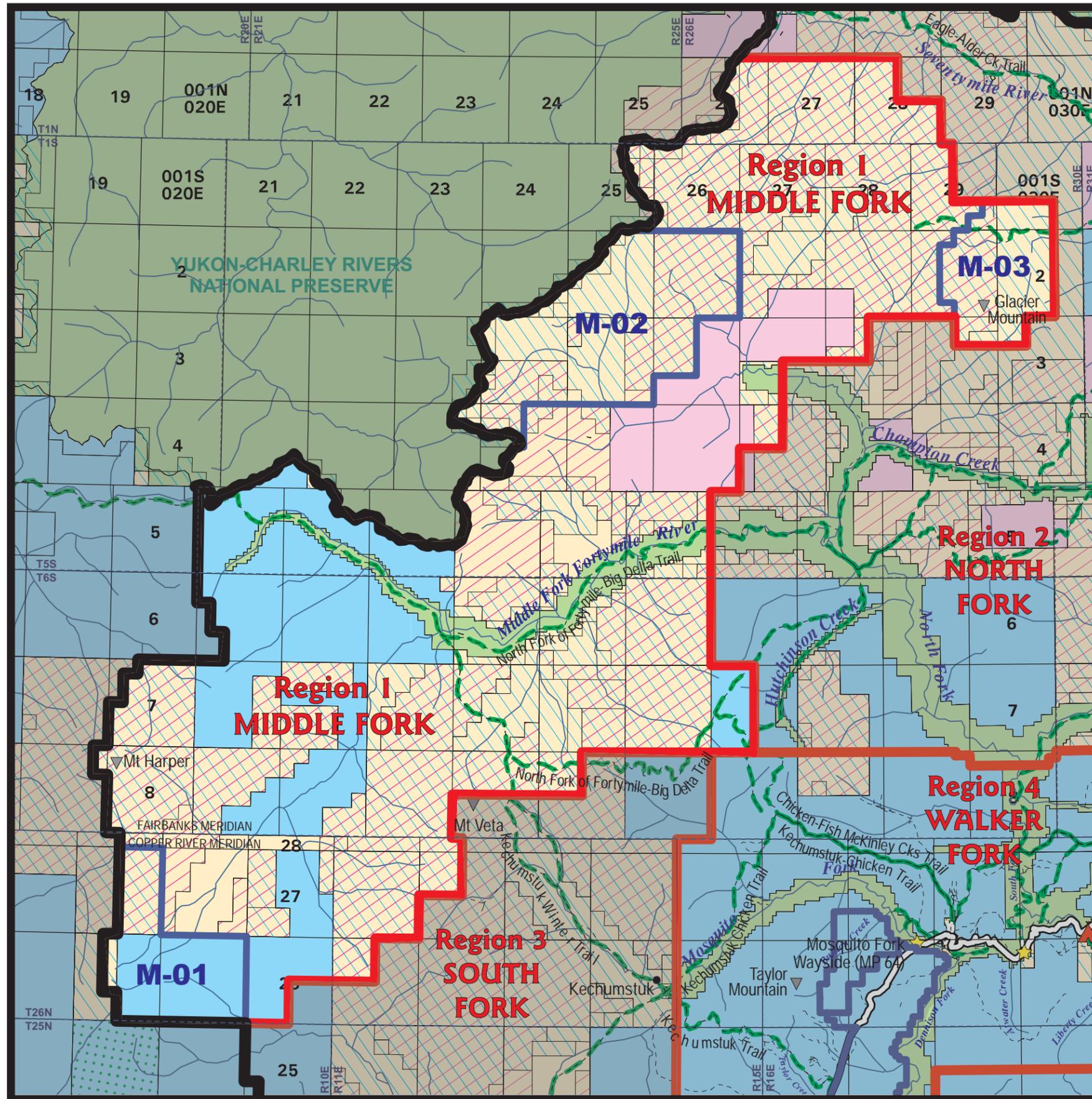
Several mineral licks within the planning area are identified in Mineral Leasehold Location Order 28 in Appendix B. Mineral licks near Merry Christmas, Joseph, and Pittsburgh creeks are used annually by a high proportion of the Fortymile caribou herd during May. Access to these licks is of particular importance to pregnant cows. The Utah Creek mineral lick is used primarily by a small, disjunct population of Dall sheep on Glacier Mountain. On a daily basis, up to 30% of that sheep population will use the lick during mid-May through June. Authorizations in the area of these licks will protect or mitigate impacts to the licks and access routes to the licks used by the wildlife. Development will minimize or avoid disturbance to the animals during May for the Merry Christmas, Joseph, and Pittsburgh Creek licks; and during May and June for the Utah Creek lick. In addition to protection of the routes themselves, activities that may divert animals from the routes or otherwise affect usage patterns shall be avoided or mitigated.

Resource Allocation Summary for Region 1 : Middle Fork

Unit Number	Unit Name or Location	Designation	Acres	Management Intent	Resources / Uses / Additional Information
R 01	Predominant state land base in the Middle Fork Region	Rh	740,000	See <i>Management Intent for Region 1</i> in this chapter.	See <i>Regional Summary</i> for Region 1. This unit consists of all state-owned and state-selected lands in Region 1 that are not within specific management units listed below.
M 01	Upper Middle Fork	Ha	48,494	During the month of May, human activities will be avoided where calving is taking place, and limited to short term activity in unused portions of the calving grounds to minimize disturbance to calving. Refer also to <i>Management Intent for Region 1</i> in this chapter.	This management unit is one of the core calving areas for the Fortymile caribou herd. For further information regarding the herd, refer to <i>Habitat Management Needs Assessment for the Fortymile Caribou Herd</i> (2001).
M 02	Upper Slate Creek	Ha	101,947	During the month of May, human activities will be avoided where calving is taking place, and limited to short term activity in unused portions of the calving grounds to minimize disturbance to calving. Refer also to <i>Management Intent for Region 1</i> in this chapter.	This management unit is one of the core calving areas for the Fortymile caribou herd. For further information regarding the herd, refer to <i>Habitat Management Needs Assessment for the Fortymile Caribou Herd</i> (2001).
M 03	Glacier Mountain	Ha	42,554	See <i>Management Intent regarding Mineral Licks in Region 1</i> in this chapter.	Management unit includes the Glacier Mountain and Mount Eldridge area that is used by a distinct, resident population of Dall sheep, and also is a part of the post-calving season and summer range of the Fortymile caribou herd. A Mineral Leasehold Location Order affects this unit; see <i>Appendix B</i> .

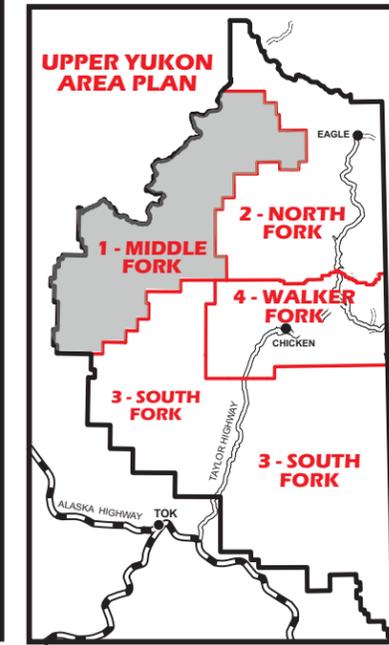
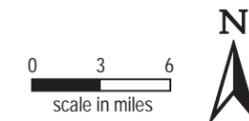
UPPER YUKON AREA PLAN

Region I MIDDLE FORK



LEGEND

- National Preserve, Wildlife Refuge, or Wild & Scenic River
- Bureau of Land Management
- Private Land
- Native Corporation Land
- State Land
- Managed by Department of Transportation & Public Facilities
- Municipality
- Tanana Valley State Forest
- State Selected or ANILCA topfiled
- Native Selected
- Campground
- Wayside
- RS 2477 Trails
- Other Trails
- Area Plan Boundary
- Region Boundary
- Management Unit Boundary



- NOTES:
1. All state lands are open to mineral entry unless closed by a mineral closing order.
 2. Trails shown on this map do not necessarily represent all trails in this area.
 3. There are many Public Land Orders (PLOs) that affect lands in this region, the most significant of which are PLO 5179, PLO 5180, and PLO 5250. For detailed information regarding these Public Land Orders, refer to the Master Title Plats and Historical Index published by the Bureau of Land Management.
 4. This map represents general land status and is not the official record. For more detailed information regarding land status, refer to Status Plats published by DNR and the Master Title Plats published by the Bureau of Land Management.

Region 2 : North Fork

Regional Summary

Background

This region is the second largest and constitutes most of the northern half of the planning area. The City of Eagle and Eagle Village are situated on the shores of the Yukon River. Most of the land in this region is either owned by the federal government and managed by the Bureau of Land Management or owned by Doyon, Ltd. The State of Alaska or Doyon, Ltd. has selected nearly all of the available federal land. Some land around the City of Eagle and Eagle Village is in private ownership. The eastern boundary of the region is the U.S. - Canada border, and the northern boundary is formed by the southern limits of the Yukon-Charley Rivers National Preserve.

The City of Eagle is a second-class city with a long history as a Han Kutchin Indian settlement and later as a trading post for gold miners and a U.S. army camp. Today, roughly 170 people live in the City of Eagle and another 30 people live in Eagle Village. Many of the structures within the City are part of the Eagle Historic District. The need for additional commercial development and public facilities is very low at this time as the majority of employment is provided by a few retail businesses, the school, mining and seasonal employment such as tourism and BLM fire-fighting. Subsistence activities supplement some food sources.

The City of Eagle and Eagle Village has access to the state road system and Canada only during summer months via the Taylor and Top of the World Highways. In addition, a State-owned 4,500 foot gravel airstrip is available; scheduled commercial flights originate from Fairbanks and Tok. Float planes land on the Yukon River. While there is no dock, a public boat landing is available. During the summer, boat tours are available between Dawson City and Eagle on the Yukon River.

Most residents haul water from the community well, dug by hand in 1909. The school uses its own well and septic system. Several households have individual wells and septic tanks. The City landfill has been closed by the BLM; residents use the landfill in Eagle Village. The City has a small school, electric company and health clinic.

State Lands

Within Region 2, approximately 165,000 acres are in state ownership, and approximately 603,000 acres have been selected by the state. Land in Region 2 was selected for its mineral potential and its habitat and recreational values. A portion of the land owned by the state is located in the southwest corner of the region, and is fragmented by the National Wild and Scenic River corridor along Hutchinson Creek and the North Fork (for more information regarding the National Wild and Scenic River corridors, refer to the *Navigable Waterbodies*

section of this chapter). A small block of state-owned land is at the northern edge of this region, adjacent to the Yukon-Charley Rivers National Preserve. The remainder of state-owned land in this region is near and around the City of Eagle and Eagle Village, interspersed with land owned by Doyon, Ltd., the regional native corporation in this area (see *Land Status map* at the end of Chapter 1). State-selected land is interspersed throughout the region. The majority of the land selected by the state has also been selected by Doyon, Ltd.

Physical Features

This region is composed of rounded low mountains rising to 2,000 – 4,000 feet in altitude, along with plateaus and highlands of rolling topography and gentle slopes interspersed with frequent valleys. They are underlain by a complex geologic matrix of metamorphic, igneous, and sedimentary rocks. The entire area is underlain by discontinuous permafrost.

Region 2 encompasses the main stem of the North Fork, the lower segment of the Middle Fork, O'Brien Creek, Champion Creek, and the Seventymile River. In addition, a short section of the Yukon River weaves into the northeast corner of the planning area from the Alaska-Canada border. Some of the higher peaks in the region include: Glacier Mountain, Mount Eldridge, North Peak, and Wallcut Mountain. Elevations are upward of 6,200 feet.

The City of Eagle sits above the Yukon River on fairly high ground. Nevertheless, in May 1962, an ice jam caused flooding to an elevation of 35.94 feet, and 70 percent of the town was damaged. On June 12, 1964, an open water flood reached an elevation of 33.85 feet causing damage to 60 percent of the town. The 1937 flood was reported to have caused water depths of up to 5 feet (Eagle - from Corps of Engineers Flood Data for Alaskan Communities available from DCBD or COE websites). According to a report prepared by Arctic Hydrologic Consultants (1984), the maximum annual water surface elevations have been over the top of the bank at the village of Eagle during four events since 1927. On two other occasions during this period, the maximum water surface has apparently had an elevation approximately equal to the top of the bank.

Bank erosion along the Yukon River is a problem as well. The erosion rate is variable; in some years no erosion occurs while in other years as much as 10-15 feet of erosion can occur in localized areas. The erosion appears to occur mainly during spring breakup in years with large discharges of water or ice jams.

Access

Access to and within this region is mainly by road on the Taylor Highway, by boat on the Yukon River and its tributaries, or by aircraft into Eagle or several of the remote ridges and landing strips. In addition, a fairly extensive network of trails exists, many of which have been used since the early part of the last century. Among the four regions in the planning area, Region 2 ranks high with respect to the number of trails that are well documented and have RS 2477 status. This can mostly be attributed to the history associated with Fort Egbert and the

WAMCATS communication line and the Fortymile mining district.

RS 2477 Trails in the North Fork Region:

Eagle-Alder Creek Trail. This trail was established by the Alaska Road Commission (ARC) beginning in 1907 to facilitate the route for miners and prospectors into the Seventymile River district. The trail is described in early ARC documents as 4 miles of wagon road, 16 miles of sled road ending in 40 miles of pack trail.

Eagle–Circle Mail Trail. This trail served as the primary winter mail, travel, and supply route between the communities of Circle and Eagle. Supplies and mail from Fairbanks would be freighted to Circle, and then to Eagle, which would then supply the smaller communities in the Fortymile region.

Mission Creek Trail. This trail was historically used to access mining claims in the upper Seventymile River area.

Teddy’s Fork Trail. This trail was used as a mining transportation within the Fortymile mining district since the turn of the century.

Fortymile Station-Eagle Trail. This trail is part of the old Washington-Alaska Military Cable and Telegraph System and was necessary for the operations of military forts in Alaska.

Fortymile Station-Eagle Trail (Government Supply Route). This trail was historically used as a supply route to the Washington Alaska Military Cable and Telegraph System (WAMCATS) line.

Fortymile Dome–Boundary Creek Trail. This trail is a historic mining access and transportation route. The route is described by quartermaster's clerk John F. Rice in his 1900 account of an 1899 journey from Valdez to Eagle and is depicted on an 1899 USGS reconnaissance map of the Fortymile quadrangle.

Liberty Cabin–Dome Creek Trail. This trail is a historic trail which was a part of an extended system of trails from the Yukon River to the Fortymile River.

Fortymile–Franklin Trail. This trail is a historic trail which was used as a connecting route for the mining operations along the Fortymile River.

Dome Creek–Steele Creek Trail. This trails is a historic trail, which was part of a summer pack trail to Chicken.

Steele Creek–Fortymile Trail. This trail was used as a mining transportation route in the Fortymile mining district since the turn of the century (1899-1900).

North Fork of the Fortymile–Big Delta Trail. This trail is a historic trail that connected the Fortymile district with the Fairbanks/Valdez military road. Portions of the trail are also

segments of the Washington-Alaska Military Cable and Telegraph System (WAMCATS).

Resources and Uses

Fish and Wildlife, Habitat, and Harvest. As seasons progress from spring to fall, the Fortymile caribou herd extends its range into much of the North Fork Region, west of the Taylor Highway. During the post-calving season, the herd's concentration generally moves eastward into the areas around Glacier Mountain and north of Champion Creek. The herd is also distributed throughout the North Fork drainage during summer. Dall sheep use the higher elevations around Glacier Mountain. There are also many raptor nesting sites distributed throughout the watercourses in this region.

Residents of the planning area and nearby communities harvest a variety of resources for subsistence purposes in the North Fork Region, including moose, caribou, sheep, bear, small game, furbearers, plants, and wood. The Taylor Highway corridor and areas accessible from the highway are most heavily utilized. Non-local residents also hunt big and small game in this region, primarily during the fall months.

ADF&G is currently conducting a fish study to determine the extent of anadromous fish in the Seventymile River. If anadromous fish are present in the river, the river will be nominated to catalog it as an anadromous river. In general, the fish and wildlife populations are sparse in this region. In addition, during the past two years, salmon returns on the Yukon River have significantly dropped thereby affecting harvest. Residents of the region occasionally fish for grayling in areas accessible from the Taylor Highway.

Several guided moose hunts occur in the Seventymile River drainage and most of the harvest activities are concentrated around Glacier Mountain and along the highway corridor from just south of the American Summit to the Upper Seventymile River.

Forestry. Vegetation in this region is largely comprised of alpine tundra with a variety of forest types depending on localized factors such as slope, aspect, soils, and fire patterns. These forest communities are characteristic of interior Alaska spruce-hardwood forest, containing white and black spruce, balsam poplar, birch, and aspen in various combinations. Harvest of timber in this region is limited to personal use, for house logs and firewood. Conditions related to market proximity and stand characteristics make commercial timber harvest unlikely, or at least limited to a small scale if it should occur.

Heritage Resources. The North Fork Region is rich in heritage resources of both a historical and paleontological nature. Evidence of the early mining, military presence, trading center, and native Alaskan occupation in this region is widespread. Mining camps, trails, historic cabins, historic and prehistoric native camp sites have been recorded in the Alaska Historic Resources Survey, maintained by the State Historic Preservation Office within the Division of Parks and Outdoor Recreation, DNR. The Eagle Historic District National Historic Landmark includes portions of the City of Eagle, Fort Egbert, part of the Yukon River and surrounding areas. This nationally significant site was the first incorporated city in interior Alaska (1901) and played a

significant role in the turn of the 20th century (Klondike Gold Rush era) development of transportation, communications, and military networks of the state. Several islands in the Yukon River adjacent to the City of Eagle are of historical significance as well. One of these islands, Belle Isle, is reportedly the site of the fur trading post that was Eagle's genesis. Since RS 2477 trails are historic trails, they are also considered heritage resources. Refer to the RS 2477 trails listed in this region.

Materials. There are many sites along the Taylor Highway and the Top of the World Highway that DOT/PF uses for materials. Most of these are within the highway right of way, but there are some sites outside the right of way that DOT/PF has under contract with DNR. Usually, material sites are located fairly close to the road and are spaced as frequently as practical to minimize haul distances for materials. Since they are cleared and level, they are often used for other purposes, both authorized and unauthorized. These characteristics also make the sites desirable for other uses after DOT/PF no longer needs them for materials.

Mineral Resources. The geology of this region is similar to the rest of the planning area, consisting primarily of felsic and mafic intrusive and metamorphic rock including schist and gneiss. It is within the Tintina Gold Belt and has been actively mined since the late 1800's. Mining has mostly focused on placer deposits of gold-bearing gravel and colluvium. Mineral exploration is occurring in Region 2, as it is generally considered to have excellent potential for hard rock minerals. The southern portion of the Yukon-Kandik oil and gas basin extends into this region from the north, and the Seventymile River drainage northwest of Eagle contains known coal deposits. The quality and accessibility of these coal deposits are not economical for commercial extraction, but have historically been used for heating by locals in the area.

Recreation. Local residents of the City of Eagle and Eagle Village recreate in a variety of ways on state land. Telegraph Hill is a popular area because of its proximity to the town and access for hiking, skiing, and snowboarding. Residents use trails for snowmachining and riding all-terrain vehicles. Boating is also popular on the Yukon River. The City of Eagle is a popular take-out point for float trips on the Fortymile River.

Settlement. The City of Eagle and Eagle Village are surrounded by State-owned land that at one time was set aside for community expansion. The demand for saleable land is not great as some private land is on the market. The private land that is available is usually in large acreages of 40 acres or more or small lots in the City area. State land near the City of Eagle and Eagle Village that is designated for settlement could satisfy the current and future demand for land. This land was designated for settlement because of its location, accessibility, suitability for building, and lack of competing uses.

Tourism. The City of Eagle attracts a growing number of tourists because of the quaint historical nature of the town and the organized trips scheduled by some of the larger tour companies. A popular trip is a boat ride on the Yukon Queen from Dawson City, Canada to the City of Eagle then a bus ride to Tok. Independent travelers often make the long drive on the Taylor Highway in a day from Tok. There are no RV campgrounds in the City of Eagle.

Transportation. The Department of Transportation and Public Facilities has resurfaced most of

the Taylor Highway from Tetlin Junction to Jack Wade Junction, and is scheduled to resurface the Top of the World Highway to the Canadian border. There is currently no schedule for work on the Taylor Highway from Jack Wade Junction to Eagle.

Management Constraints and Considerations

There are no state management plans or site specific plans for this region.

In addition to ANCSA corporation owned land and private land, Champion Creek, Hutchinson Creek, O'Brien Creek, the Middle Fork, the North Fork, and the main stem of the Fortymile River are within the National Wild and Scenic River corridor. The Bureau of Land Management is responsible for management of these lands, which is guided by the *River Management Plan for the Fortymile River Component of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System* (1983). There are conflicts between management of the federally owned uplands and the mining activity permitted on the adjacent state-owned shorelands (for further information on this issue, see the discussion in the *Navigable Rivers* section of this chapter). Resolution of this issue is outside the scope of this area plan. The Bureau of Land Management and the Department of Natural Resources are working to develop appropriate solutions.

Under Alaska Hunting Regulations, Game Management Unit 20 contains the Glacier Mountain Controlled Use Area. This area is closed to any motorized vehicle hunting, including transportation of hunters, their hunting gear, and/or parts of game, from August 5 to September 20. This does not include transportation on the Taylor Highway.

State land near Eagle and Eagle Village is rather limited, and surrounded by private lands (Doyon, Ltd.). Because of this, state land plays a critical role in providing for public uses such as harvest and recreation.

Management Intent for Region 2

Management intent in this section applies to state-owned and state-selected land. Also refer to Chapter 2, *Areawide Land Management Policies*.

Management unit R-02 consists of all lands in Region 2 that are not within the smaller management units near the City of Eagle and Eagle Village. Refer to the management units listed in the Resource Allocation table and delineated on the maps at the end of this section.

All lands within unit R-02 are designated General Use (Gu). This is to maintain flexibility in management, since these lands consist of large amounts of acreage, current levels of demand for their use is relatively low, and a variety of uses can be accommodated with appropriate siting and design considerations.

The North Fork region does not have any lands designated for fish and wildlife habitat and harvest. However, these resources will be recognized and considered when authorizing

activities on state land. The Glacier Mountain area has populations of several important species of wildlife. The harvest in this area is managed by ADF&G.

The management intent for this region is to facilitate the transportation needs related to state maintained roads and airports. There are several materials sites along the Taylor Highway and one site near Eagle Village. These sites are managed by or under contract with the Department of Transportation and Public Facilities. The Northern Region Office will work with ADOT/PF to authorize additional material sites as the present site along the highway no longer meets the need and cannot be expanded beyond the highway right-of-way.

The management units around the City of Eagle that are designated Settlement will be managed to provide for expansion of the community and an opportunity for individuals to purchase mid-sized parcels of land.

Access to state land should be facilitated through authorizations for travel and/or construction of existing and new trails or roads.

The management intent for Region 2 is to preserve scenic values along the Taylor Highway, minimize the number of access points onto the Taylor Highway, and reduce impacts to wildlife and other natural resources.

Commercial development should be kept to a minimum in unit R-02. Commercial and residential development should be restricted to management units near the City of Eagle and Eagle Village that are designated Settlement (Se). Resource development activities, most of which are likely to be related to mining, are appropriate only if the impacts from these uses can be addressed. If construction of a road is necessary for any DNR authorization, it should use an existing RS 2477 route whenever feasible and prudent.

Management Intent for Management units E-18 and E-19

State land within the management units indicated on the Eagle inset map as E-18 and E-19 are designated Settlement (Se) to accommodate the potential need for residential land in the future. Although immediate demand for settlement land in this vicinity is anticipated to be relatively low, sufficient land is designated settlement to allow flexibility in siting, design, lot size and density, and to provide a pool of state land that would be available for private ownership over the long term. These areas are community settlement areas and considered appropriate for land sale programs that offer pre-surveyed parcels. However, programs that offer land for staking may also be implemented in these areas.

Before land can be offered in these areas, DNR is required to prepare a best interest finding in accordance with AS 38.05.035. At that time, the areas are examined more closely to determine which portions are most suitable to offer, and to resolve site specific issues. Public notice is issued, and comments from the public are taken into consideration.

The management intent for conveyance of land is to use a land sales program that has been or

will be established by DNR or the legislature. DNR uses these programs to issue public notice, conduct agency review, solicit public comment, and resolve site specific issues that may not have been addressed by the area plan. This results in a more efficient and cost effective means of land disposal. Land is not to be conveyed in response to individual requests.

Land sales are to be done in phases. Making land available in increments will provide opportunity to examine impacts of each previous disposal, and ensure long-term availability of land suitable for settlement.

When DNR implements a land disposal program, it will ensure that existing access and RS 2477 trails are protected. For guidelines regarding access and trails, refer to the *Public Access* section in Chapter 2.

Prospective purchasers of state land should be made aware that much of the Upper Yukon planning area has historically been used for mining, and that it is considered to have good mineral potential for the future. Although land prepared for sale will be closed to mineral entry prior to conveyance, other lands are open to mineral entry, and mining activity can be conducted. Refer to the Mineral Resources and Settlement sections in Chapter 2 for further guidelines.

Management Intent for Management Units E-20, E-21, and E-22 - Yukon River Shorelands Adjacent to or Near the City of Eagle and Eagle Village

These management units include the shorelands adjacent to or near the City of Eagle and Eagle Village. It is intended that the more centrally situated shoreland unit, E-20, will accommodate uses and structures that support upland water-dependent or water-related uses and facilities, both commercial and recreational. Residential uses that are ancillary to the principal commercial and public uses are also considered appropriate, but floathomes are not allowed. Presently three boat landing sites are being used for public and commercial use. Shoreland units E-21 and E-22 are not intended for intensive development, being more peripherally situated, although development related to adjoining areas in management unit E-20 is considered appropriate. See *Resource Management Table* for more detailed information on these units.

Resource Allocation Summary for Region 2 : North Fork

Unit Number	Unit Name or Location	Designation	Acres	Management Intent	Resources / Uses / Additional Information
R 02	Predominant state land base in the North Fork Region	Gu	758,961	See <i>Management Intent for Region 2</i> in this chapter.	See <i>Regional Summary</i> for Region 2. This unit consists of all state-owned and state-selected lands in Region 2 that are not within specific management units listed below.
E 01	Eagle	Pr	37	To be retained in state ownership.	Lease for Public and Charitable Use to the City of Eagle (ADL 34008 and OSL 192).
E 02	Eagle	Gu	28	Retain in state ownership.	Reserve Use Request (ADL 67663).
E 03	Eagle Airport	Pr	5	To be retained in state ownership, and managed for airstrip purposes.	Interagency Land Management Agreement (ADL 414009) with DOT/PF for the Eagle Airport.
E 04	Land near Eagle Airport	Pr	103	To be retained in state ownership, and managed for airstrip purposes.	Other State Land (OSL 37 and U.S. Survey 3190) for the Eagle Airport which is managed by DOT/PF.
E 05	Land near Eagle Airport	Pr	41	To be retained in state ownership, and managed for airstrip purposes.	Interagency Land Management Agreement (ADL 414009) for the Eagle Airport.
E 06	Eagle	Pr	35	To be used for future expansion of apron for the Eagle Airport. Unit is to be retained in state ownership.	Management unit is located on the south side of the Eagle Airport, near the west end.

Resource Allocation Summary for Region 2 : North Fork

Unit Number	Unit Name or Location	Designation	Acres	Management Intent	Resources / Uses / Additional Information
E 07	Eagle	Pr	22	Management unit is proposed to be used for future expansion of apron for the Eagle Airport (long term). Unit is to be retained in state ownership.	Management unit is located on the south side of the Eagle Airport, near the east end.
E 08	Eagle	Gu	8	May be included with unit E-7 under an Interagency Land Management Agreement for the Eagle Airport.	Management unit of state land adjacent to the Eagle Airport.
E 09	Eagle	Gu	105	Residential and/or commercial use is not expected to occur on this management unit in the near term, but because of its level terrain and proximity to the airport, portions may be suitable for such uses if and when there is sufficient demand.	Level terrain south and southwest of Eagle Village.
E 10	Old Eagle school site	Pr	2	To be retained in state ownership.	Other State Land (OSL 439 and U.S. Survey 4060) for school site.
E 11	Eagle materials site	Gu	5	To be managed as a materials site during the time that it is under contract with DOT/PF. During this time, other uses may be authorized if they do not conflict with or cause impediment to fulfillment of the contract. After the contract is either expired or terminated, this management unit may be suitable for other purposes, including but not limited to residential or commercial use. Reclamation work shall take future uses into consideration.	Under contract (ADL 411940) with DOT/PF for materials. Sale of all or any portion of this management unit would require reclassification to Settlement (Se).

Resource Allocation Summary for Region 2 : North Fork

Unit Number	Unit Name or Location	Designation	Acres	Management Intent	Resources / Uses / Additional Information
E 12	Eagle school disposal site	Pr	1	To be retained in state ownership.	Disposal site for asbestos from old Eagle school. (ADL 416105, ASLS 97-67)
E 13	Eagle	Pr	62	To be retained in state ownership as buffer for asbestos landfill and materials site.	Management unit is located south of Eagle Village, near Buckeye Creek.
E 14	North side of Yukon River at Eagle	Gu	2,116	Manage for dispersed recreation. To be retained in state ownership, and reevaluated at the end of the planning horizon for possible re-designation to Settlement (Se).	Management unit is on the north side of the Yukon River, east of Eagle Bluff.
E 15	Yukon River islands near Eagle	Ru	70	To be retained in state ownership and preserved for historic values.	Islands in the Yukon River east of Eagle. Important to Eagle and Eagle Village for recreational, heritage and scenic values.
E 16	Eagle	Ru	1,120	Manage for dispersed recreation. To be retained in state ownership.	Management unit is located south of the City of Eagle and the Eagle Airport. Much of it consists of low, wet soils, and is used by local residents for recreation.
E 17	Eagle	Gu	3,137	To be managed for dispersed recreation, harvest, and woodcutting.	This unit consists of both high ridges and low flat areas south of Eagle, and is used mostly for recreation.
E 18	Eagle	Se	360	Manage for settlement purposes.	Located adjacent to the Taylor Highway, south of Eagle.

Resource Allocation Summary for Region 2 : North Fork

Unit Number	Unit Name or Location	Designation	Acres	Management Intent	Resources / Uses / Additional Information
E 19	Eagle	Se	1,120	Portions of this management unit may be appropriate for dispersed settlement offerings, such as “remote staking” or “open to entry” types of programs. Further analysis and siting considerations will be done to determine most appropriate locations prior to land being offered for sale. See also <i>Management Intent for the North Fork Region</i> .	Located west of Eagle. For the most part, this is level but well drained land.
E 20	Yukon Rivers shorelands near Eagle	Rh	713	To be managed to accommodate adjacent upland uses that are water-dependent or water-related, including commercial and public. Residential uses ancillary to a principal commercial or public use are considered appropriate as well. Floathomes are prohibited. See also <i>Management Intent for the North Fork Region</i> .	This unit includes the shorelands adjacent to the City of Eagle and Eagle Village. Presently there are three boat landing sites being used for public and commercial use.
E 21	Yukon River shorelands	Gu	3,000	Management unit is designated General Use in order to classify this section of the Yukon River into Resource Management Land. It is anticipated that more intensive water related uses will occur in shoreland unit E-20, although portions of the shorelands adjacent to unit E-20 may also be appropriate for such more intensive uses.	Consists of shorelands of the Yukon River, extending from the north edge of unit E-20 to the boundary of the planning area. There are no known present structures within the shorelands of this unit.

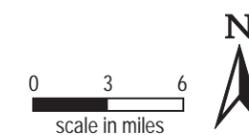
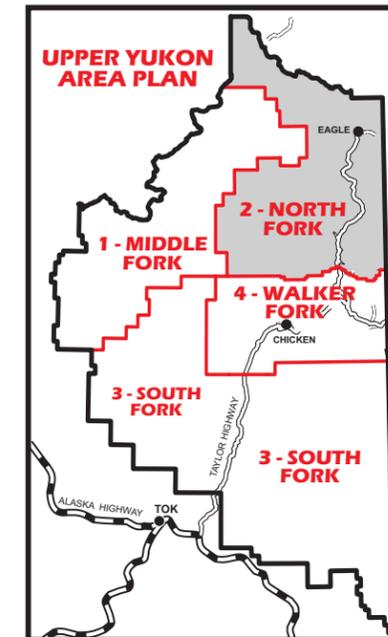
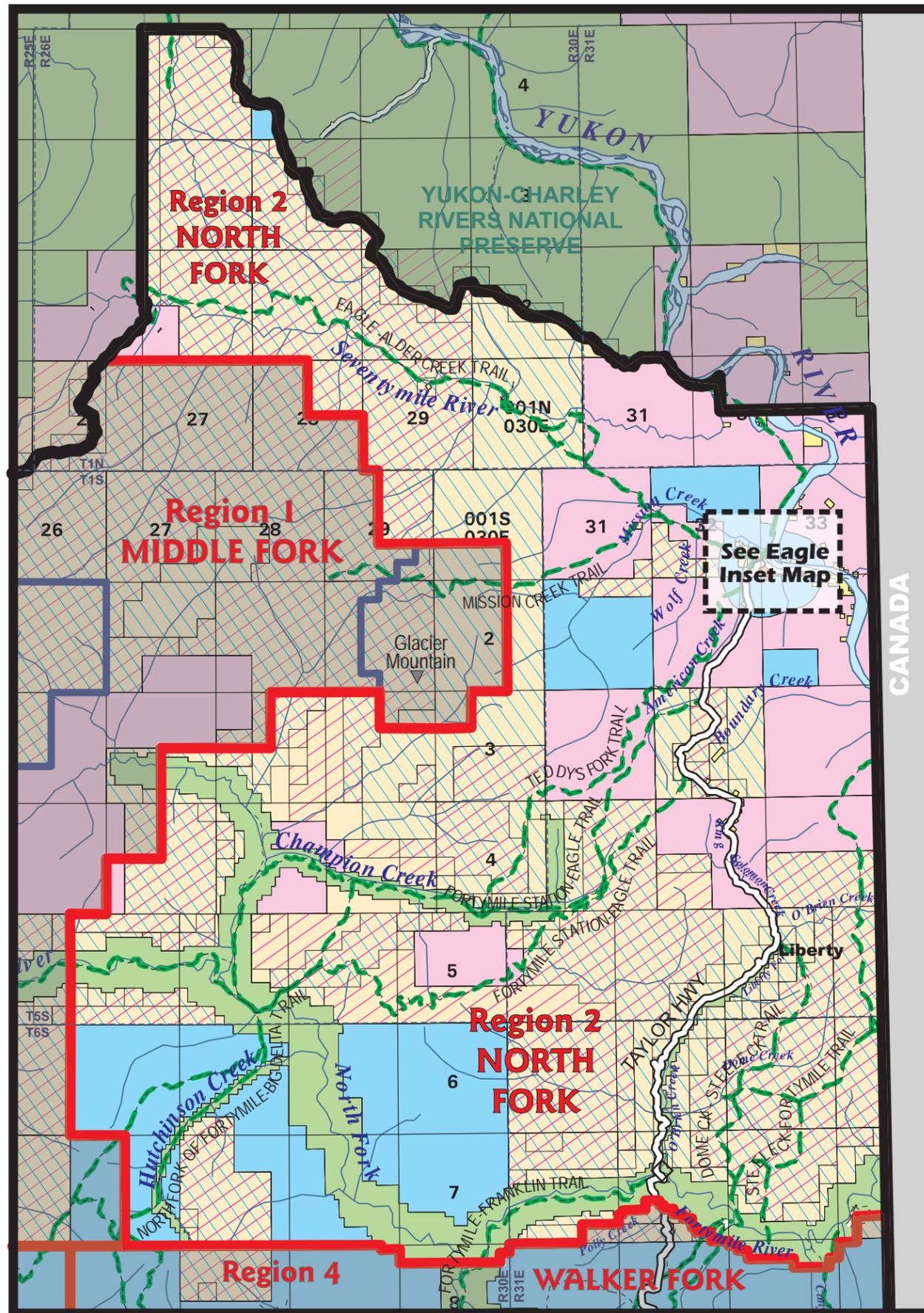
Resource Allocation Summary for Region 2 : North Fork

Unit Number	Unit Name or Location	Designation	Acres	Management Intent	Resources / Uses / Additional Information
E 22	Yukon River shorelands	Gu	2,117	Management unit is designated General Use in order to classify this section of the Yukon River into Resource Management Land. It is anticipated that more intensive water related uses will occur in shoreland unit E-20, although portions of the shorelands adjacent to unit E-20 may also be appropriate for such more intensive uses.	Consists of shorelands of the Yukon River, extending from the east edge of unit E-20 to the boundary of the planning area. There are no known present structures within the shorelands of this unit.
E 23	Eagle	Gu	2,090	To be managed for dispersed recreation, harvest and woodcutting.	Located west of the City of Eagle.

UPPER YUKON AREA PLAN

Region 2

NORTH FORK



LEGEND

- National Preserve, Wildlife Refuge, or Wild & Scenic River
- Bureau of Land Management
- Private Land
- Native Corporation Land
- State Land
- Managed by Department of Transportation & Public Facilities
- Municipality
- Tanana Valley State Forest
- State Selected or ANILCA topfiling
- Native Selected
- Campground
- Wayside
- RS 2477 Trails
- Other Trails
- Area Plan Boundary
- Region Boundary
- Management Unit Boundary

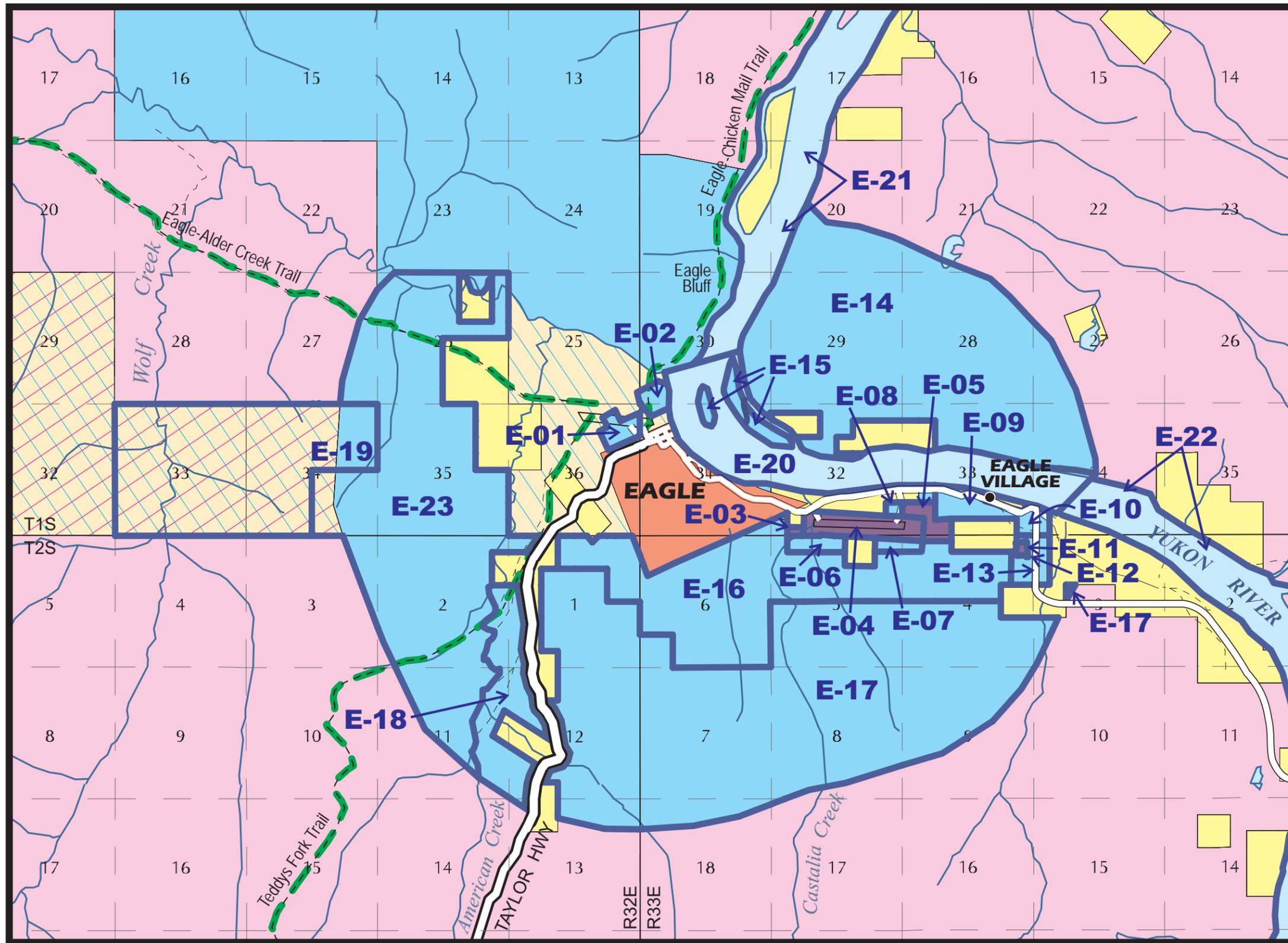
NOTES:

1. All state lands are open to mineral entry unless closed by a mineral closing order.
2. Trails shown on this map do not necessarily represent all trails in this area.
3. There are many Public Land Orders (PLOs) that affect lands in this region, the most significant of which are PLO 5179, PLO 5180, and PLO 5250. For detailed information regarding these Public Land Orders, refer to the Master Title Plats and Historical Index published by the Bureau of Land Management.
4. This map represents general land status and is not the official record. For more detailed information regarding land status, refer to Status Plats published by DNR and the Master Title Plats published by the Bureau of Land Management.

UPPER YUKON AREA PLAN

Region 2 - North Fork

Eagle Inset Map

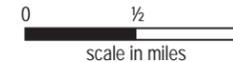


LEGEND

- National Preserve, Wildlife Refuge, or Wild & Scenic River
- Bureau of Land Management
- Private Land
- Native Corporation Land
- State Land
- Managed by Department of Transportation & Public Facilities
- Municipality
- Tanana Valley State Forest
- State Selected or ANILCA topfiled
- Native Selected
- Campground
- Wayside
- RS 2477 Trails
- Other Trails
- Area Plan Boundary
- Region Boundary
- Management Unit Boundary

NOTES:

1. All state lands are open to mineral entry unless closed by a mineral closing order.
2. Trails shown on this map do not necessarily represent all trails in this area.
3. Units E-21 and E-22 extend along the Yukon River to the boundary of the planning area.
4. There are many Public Land Orders (PLOs) that affect lands in this region, the most significant of which are PLO 5179, PLO 5180, and PLO 5250. For detailed information regarding these Public Land Orders, refer to the Master Title Plats and Historical Index published by the Bureau of Land Management.
5. This map represents general land status and is not the official record. For more detailed information regarding land status, refer to Status Plats published by DNR and the Master Title Plats published by the Bureau of Land Management.



Region 3 : South Fork

Regional Summary

Background

Region 3 is the largest of the four regions. It comprises most of the south half of the planning area, and is situated south and west of Chicken. The portion of the Taylor Highway between Tetlin Junction and Chicken runs through the center of the region. Mount Fairplay is the most noted feature in this region, because of its proximity to the highway. There are no permanent residents in the region.

State Lands

This region includes the largest contiguous block of state-owned and state-selected land in the planning area. There are approximately 1,587,623 acres in state ownership, and approximately 598,605 acres that are selected. Land in Region 3 was selected for its mineral potential and its habitat and recreational values. Most of the state-owned land is in the eastern portion of the region, with a large block of contiguous acreage on the east side of the Taylor Highway, and state-selected land lies mostly in the upper Mosquito Fork drainage.

Physical Features

Region 3 consists of low mountains and rolling terrain that are characteristic of the Yukon-Tanana Upland physiographic province. It encompasses most of the upper Mosquito Fork, the upper West Fork, the Dennison Fork, and the Ladue River drainages. In addition, the headwaters of the Sixtymile River extend into this region from Canada. Prominent peaks are Mount Veta, at 5,825 feet, and Mount Fairplay, at 5,120 feet. Vegetation consists mostly of mixed and pure stands of white spruce and black spruce, with balsam poplar, birch, and aspen occurring mostly in river valleys and on alluvial flats.

Access

The Taylor Highway bisects this region, and there are several trails and streams that provide access to its remote areas.

RS 2477 Trails:

Kechumstuk-Chicken Trail. Historic trail which served as an access route to the Fortymile area. The northern spur of the trail encompasses part of the Washington-Alaska Military Cable and Telegraph System (WAMCATS) line, where it passes from Kechumstuk Station, and crosses

the divide to Hutchinson Creek.

Kechumstuk Winter Trail. Originally, this trail was part of the trail along the Washington-Alaska Military Cable and Telegraph System (WAMCATS). It was used as an access and supply route for Kechumstuk and Chicken and for mining activities in the region.

Dennison Fork Trail. One of the earliest access and freighting routes for the Fortymile Mining District.

Ladue River Trail. This trail was used for mining access and as a transportation route through the area.

Airstrips:

There are several primitive landing areas on gravel bars and alpine areas. Most of these landing sites were established for mining exploration and operations.

Resources and Uses

Fish and Wildlife, Habitat, and Harvest. Residents of the planning area and from the neighboring communities use much of the South Fork Region for subsistence purposes. Hunting for moose, caribou, bear, and small game, trapping of furbearers, and berry picking are fairly predominant uses of this region. The Ladue River and the East, West, and the Mosquito Forks of the Fortymile River are important wintering range for the Fortymile and Nelchina caribou herds. The quality of range is excellent relative to other caribou ranges in Alaska. The spruce forests in much of this area are at optimum age to support rich mats of lichen and wide spread modification should be avoided. Once these spruce stands are over 150 years old or have been heavily grazed by caribou, prescribed burns or managed logging would enhance the area for wildlife habitat.

Mosquito Flats, which centers on the confluence of Mosquito Fork and Wolf Creek, has been noted as an area that has a concentration of harvest activity. Although most of this harvest area is on federal land, some of it is adjacent to or overlaps onto state land. Another area important for harvest is along the ridge that separates the Fortymile and Ladue River drainages, beginning near Tetlin Junction and extending northeast. The Atwater Creek and Liberty Creek areas have been noted as important for harvest activity. Harvest activity by local and non-local residents is concentrated in the areas accessible from the Taylor Highway, mostly within five miles of the road.

There are no streams in this region that are listed in the Department of Fish and Game's Anadromous Waters Catalog and Atlas at this time. Resident fish species include Arctic grayling, sheefish, and whitefish. The Ladue River has been identified as being productive for whitefish and grayling.

Several raptor and trumpeter swan nesting sites have been identified in the region.

Forestry. Vegetation in this region is largely comprised of alpine tundra with a variety of forest types depending on localized factors such as slope, aspect, soils, and fire patterns. These forest communities are characteristic of interior Alaska spruce-hardwood forests, containing white and black spruce, balsam poplar, birch, and aspen in various combinations. Generally, forests of white spruce, paper birch, and aspen cover most lower slopes. Black spruce forest vegetation grows at higher elevations, on all north-facing slopes and lower south-facing slopes with impeded soil drainage throughout the area. Above the black spruce forest, the vegetation is alpine meadow characterized by sedges on poorly drained sites and by low-growing shrubs on drier sites. Harvest of timber in this region is limited to personal use, for house logs and firewood. Conditions related to market proximity and stand characteristics make commercial timber harvest unlikely.

Heritage Resources. Few heritage sites have been reported by the Alaska Heritage Resources Survey for this region. However, this does not necessarily mean that few exist. The Survey is continually being updated as more areas are studied. Since RS 2477 trails are historic trails, they are also considered heritage resources. Refer to the RS 2477 trails listed in this region.

Materials. There are many sites along the Taylor Highway and the Top of the World Highway that DOT/PF uses for materials. Most of these are within the highway right of way, but there are some sites outside the right of way that DOT/PF has under contract with DNR. There are four of these sites that are under contract in this region. Usually, material sites are located fairly close to the road and are spaced as frequently as practical to minimize haul distances for materials. Since they are cleared and level, they are often used for other purposes, both authorized and unauthorized. These characteristics also make the sites desirable for other uses after DOT/PF no longer needs them for materials.

Mineral Resources. The geology of this region is similar to the rest of the planning area, consisting primarily of felsic and mafic intrusive and metamorphic rock including schist and gneiss. It is within the Tintina Gold Belt and has been actively mined since the late 1800's. Mining has mostly focused on placer deposits of gold-bearing gravel and colluvium. In this region, mineral exploration has mostly occurred in the northwestern portion, and also within the Ladue River drainage to the south. So far, the overall level of mining activity in this region is low compared to the other regions, particularly Region 4.

Recreation. The majority of recreation in Region 3 is associated with harvest, which is dispersed throughout most of the region (see *Fish and Wildlife, Habitat, and Harvest*). A more concentrated form of recreation occurs at the West Fork bridge on the Taylor Highway, which is one of the put-ins for boating in the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System (for further information regarding the Wild and Scenic Rivers, see the discussion in the *Navigable Rivers* section of this chapter). The region is also used for hiking, skiing, camping, snowmachining, and dog mushing by both residents and visitors.

Settlement. There are remnants of settlement activity in the past, most notably Kechumstuk, but there are currently no permanent residents in this region.

Management Constraints and Considerations

This region is less fragmented by National Wild and Scenic River corridors than the other regions. Although Wild and Scenic corridors occur along portions of the Mosquito Fork, Dennison Fork, and Logging Cabin Creek, they do not extend very far into the region. The Bureau of Land Management is responsible for management of these lands, which is guided by the *River Management Plan for the Fortymile River Component of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System* (1983). There are conflicts between management of the federally owned uplands and the mining activity permitted on the adjacent state-owned shorelands (for further information on this issue, see the discussion in the *Navigable Rivers* section of this chapter). Resolution of this issue is outside the scope of this area plan, and the Bureau of Land Management and the Department of Natural Resources are working to develop appropriate solutions.

The Mount Fairplay area is valued for harvest, mineral values, scenic values, recreation opportunities, and berry picking. It also has a location that is highly favorable for communications facilities. The area around the Mount Fairplay survey bench mark was classified Reserved Use Land under Classification Order NC-92-004, and there are currently three leases for communications facilities that have been issued.

The Ladue River drainage has been under consideration as a segment of a potential route for a railroad line to Canada. A route was identified, and a 300 foot wide strip of land along the Ladue River was classified Reserved Use Land (NC-81-001). Although the application for the right of way was closed (ADL 402805), the classification still exists.

Management Intent for Region 3

Management intent in this section applies to state-owned and state-selected land. Also refer to Chapter 2, *Areawide Land Management Policies*.

Management unit R-03 consists of all lands in Region 3 that are not within the smaller management units near Mount Fairplay. Refer to the management units listed in the Resource Allocation table and delineated on the maps at the end of this section.

All lands within unit R-03 are designated General Use (Gu). This is to maintain flexibility in management, since these lands consist of large amounts of acreage, current levels of demand for their use is relatively low, and a variety of uses can be accommodated with appropriate siting and design considerations.

Region 3 is to be managed for multiple uses, primarily harvest, recreation, and mining. Activities in this region should avoid or minimize conflicts with habitat and harvest.

To maintain habitat and recreation values, and to minimize conflicts between uses, no settlement areas are designated for Region 3. It is not anticipated that the need for private ownership of land will occur in this region for the duration of the plan.

The management intent for Region 3 is to preserve scenic values along the Taylor Highway, minimize the number of access points onto the Taylor Highway, and reduce impacts to wildlife and other natural resources.

Commercial and residential development should be kept to a minimum in Region 3. Such development should be directed to management units near communities in Regions 2 and 4 that have appropriate land use designations and management intent. Resource development activities, most of which are likely to be related to mining, are appropriate if the impacts from these uses can be addressed. If construction of a road is necessary for any DNR authorization, it should use an existing RS 2477 route whenever feasible and prudent.

Management Intent for Mineral Licks in Region 3

The mineral lick within the area identified for Logging Cabin Creek is important to moose (see *Mineral Leasehold Location Order 28*, Appendix B). Mining activity must avoid direct impacts to the mineral licks and the routes that animals use to access them, or mitigate adverse impacts to these resources. If a game trail or mineral lick is affected, mitigation alternatives may include a variety of measures to address lick accessibility. In addition to protection of the routes themselves, activities that may divert animals from the routes or otherwise affect usage patterns shall be avoided or mitigated.

Resource Allocation Summary for Region 3 : South Fork

Unit Number	Unit Name or Location	Designation	Acres	Management Intent	Resources / Uses / Additional Information
R 03	Predominant state land base in the South Fork Region	Gu	2,172,962	See <i>Management Intent for Region 3</i> in this chapter.	See <i>Regional Summary</i> for Region 3. This unit consists of all state-owned and state-selected lands in Region 3 that are not within specific management units listed below.
F 01	Mount Fairplay	Gu	13,266	Manage for harvest, mineral values, recreation (particularly dispersed recreation, which is primarily hiking and foraging), and scenic values. The development of additional material extraction sites is unlikely, but may occur subject to the requirements of Chapter 2. Management unit to be retained in state ownership. Development, should it occur, is to be sited and developed in a way that minimizes effects upon scenic values and the traditional uses characteristic of this area/management unit. Note: The scenic values that require maintenance (or minimal impact upon) are those viewed from the Taylor Highway. The habitat values within this management unit are not considered to be high, but consultation with ADF&G on wildlife and habitat impacts is recommended. The potential impacts of development upon the resource values described above are to be taken into consideration during the review of the land use permit issued by the Division of Mining, Land, and Water.	This unit excludes the area previously classified Reserved Use Land in Section 24, T22N, R16E. A number of used extraction sites occur adjacent to the Taylor Highway.

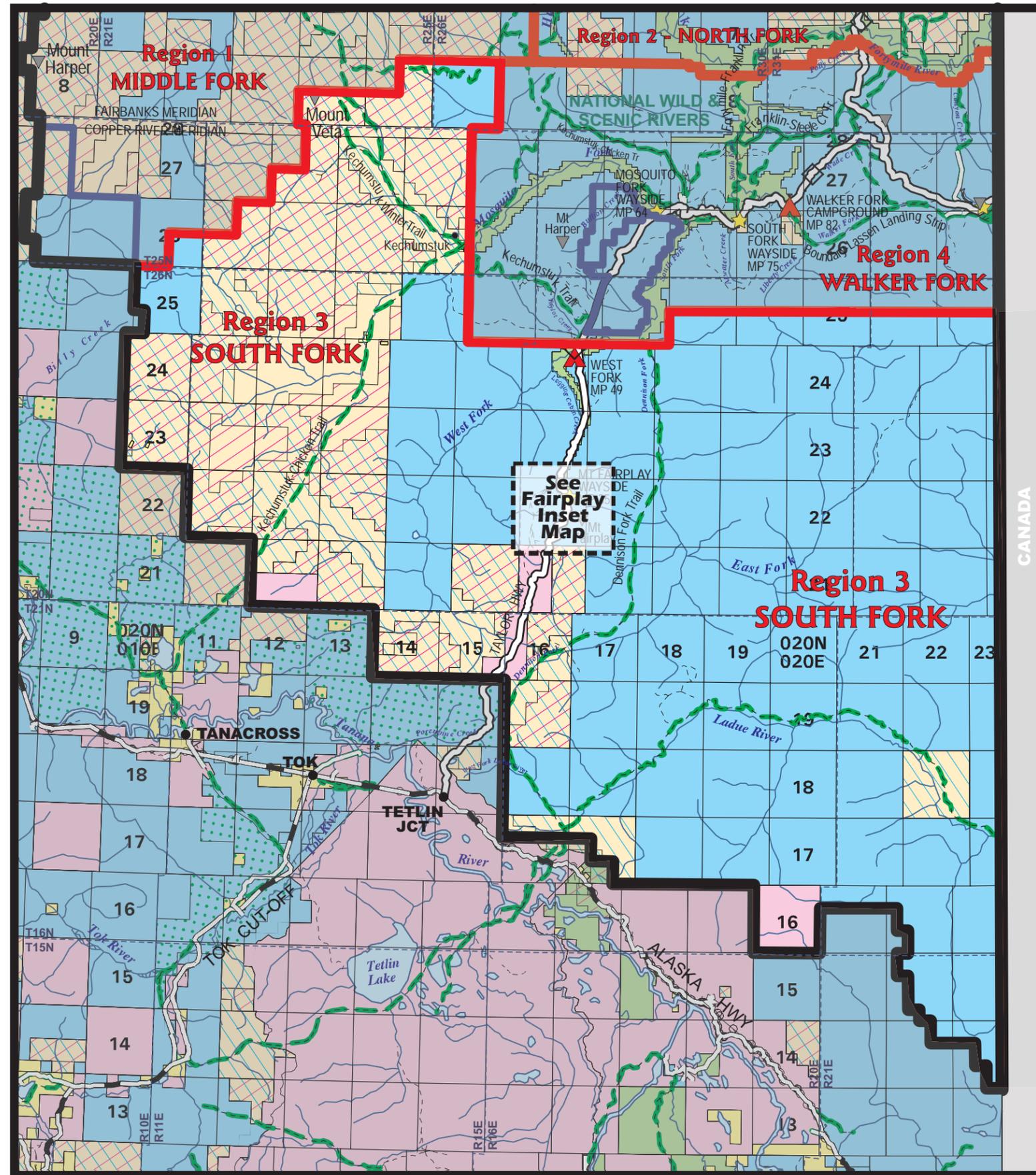
Courtesy noticing of certain DNR authorizations may be required for this management unit. The Department should provide courtesy notice for authorizations within this management unit that have a long-term effect on the uses of this area, create significant visual effect from the road for most of the summer season, or create significant environmental impact. Examples of actions that may create this effect include new permanent access or a temporary change that creates a noticeable season-wide change visible from the Taylor Highway, or uses that are likely to displace people from frequently used or traditional hiking, berry picking or similar use areas. Examples of actions that generally do not create these effects include soil sampling, drilling that is temporary and does not leave a significant, permanent new work area, or temporary overland access. In distributing the notice, the department will use practical methods designed to reach the affected public within the planning area. These may include direct mailings to interest groups, communities, or agencies; posting at post offices; newspaper notices; or similar practical means. Failure to give notice under this management intent does not constitute a legal basis for invalidation or delay of the action.

F 02	Mount Fairplay	Gu	5	<p>To be managed for communications facilities. The visual impacts of new installations or changes to current installations, as viewed from the Taylor Highway, are to be taken into consideration in authorizations granted by the Department. The impacts to scenic values are to be kept to a practical minimum.</p> <p>Courtesy noticing of certain DNR authorizations may be required for this management unit. The Department should provide courtesy notice for authorizations within this management unit that have a long-</p>	<p>This management unit is located at the Mount Fairplay survey monument. There are currently three leases for communications facilities that have been issued. It was previously classified Reserve Use Land under Classification Order NC-92-004. This Plan reclassifies this unit to General Use, with a management intent that specifically authorizes the development and use of communication facilities.</p>
-------------	----------------	----	---	---	---

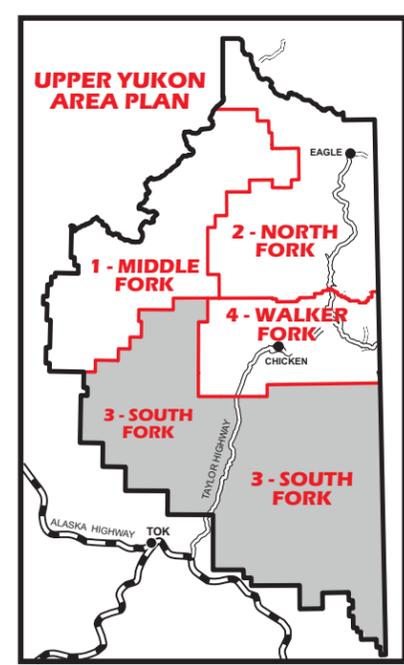
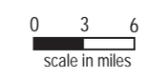
term effect on the uses of this area, create significant visual effect from the road for most of the summer season, or create significant environmental impact. Examples of actions that may create this effect include new permanent access or a temporary change that creates a noticeable season-wide change visible from the Taylor Highway, or uses that are likely to displace people from frequently used or traditional hiking, berry picking or similar use areas. Examples of actions that generally do not create these effects include soil sampling, drilling that is temporary and does not leave a significant, permanent new work area, or temporary overland access. In distributing the notice, the department will use practical methods designed to reach the affected public within the planning area. These may include direct mailings to interest groups, communities, or agencies; posting at post offices; newspaper notices; or similar practical means. Failure to give notice under this management intent does not constitute a legal basis for invalidation or delay of the action.

UPPER YUKON AREA PLAN

Region 3 SOUTH FORK



CANADA



LEGEND

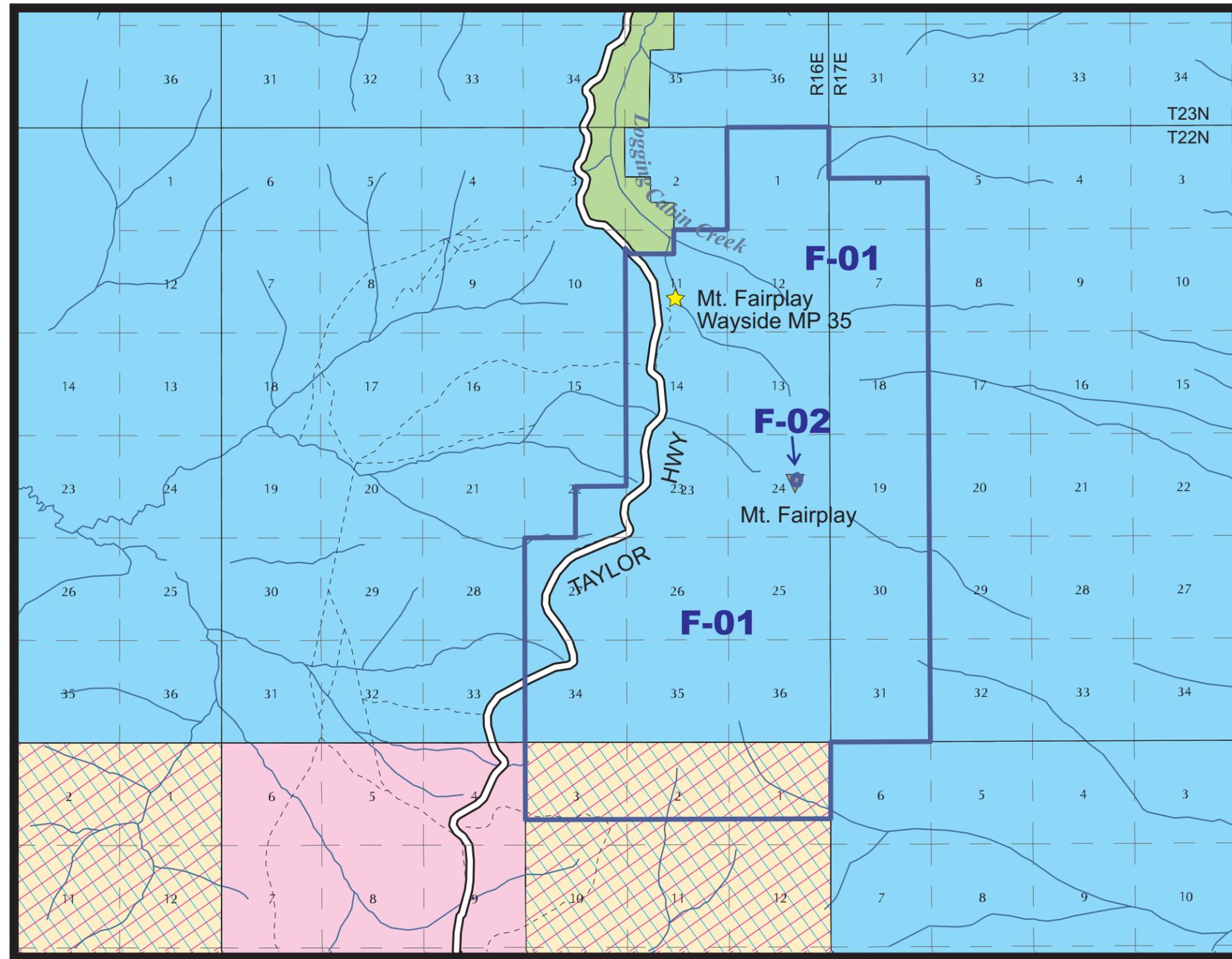
- National Preserve, Wildlife Refuge, or Wild & Scenic River
- Bureau of Land Management
- Private Land
- Native Corporation Land
- State Land
- Managed by Department of Transportation & Public Facilities
- Municipality
- Tanana Valley State Forest
- State Selected or ANILCA topfiled
- Native Selected
- Campground
- Wayside
- RS 2477 Trails
- Other Trails
- Area Plan Boundary
- Region Boundary
- Management Unit Boundary

- NOTES:
1. All state lands are open to mineral entry unless closed by a mineral closing order.
 2. Trails shown on this map do not necessarily represent all trails in this area.
 3. There are many Public Land Orders (PLOs) that affect lands in this region, the most significant of which are PLO 5179, PLO 5180, and PLO 5250. For detailed information regarding these Public Land Orders, refer to the Master Title Plats and Historical Index published by the Bureau of Land Management.
 4. This map represents general land status and is not the official record. For more detailed information regarding land status, refer to Status Plats published by DNR and the Master Title Plats published by the Bureau of Land Management.

3/8/04

UPPER YUKON AREA PLAN

Region 3 - South Fork Mount Fairplay Inset Map



LEGEND

- National Preserve, Wildlife Refuge, or Wild & Scenic River
- Bureau of Land Management
- Private Land
- Native Corporation Land
- State Land
- Managed by Department of Transportation & Public Facilities
- Municipality
- Tanana Valley State Forest
- State Selected or ANILCA topfiled
- Native Selected
- Campground
- Wayside
- RS 2477 Trails
- Other Trails
- Area Plan Boundary
- Region Boundary
- Management Unit Boundary

NOTES:

1. All state lands are open to mineral entry unless closed by a mineral closing order.
2. Trails shown on this map do not necessarily represent all trails in this area.
3. There are many Public Land Orders (PLOs) that affect lands in this region, the most significant of which are PLO 5179, PLO 5180, and PLO 5250. For detailed information regarding these Public Land Orders, refer to the Master Title Plats and Historical Index published by the Bureau of Land Management.
4. This map represents general land status and is not the official record. For more detailed information regarding land status, refer to Status Plats published by DNR and the Master Title Plats published by the Bureau of Land Management.



Region 4 : Walker Fork

Regional Summary

Background

Region 4 is situated in the center of the planning area, with its eastern edge formed by the international border with Canada. Currently and historically, the level of human activity in this region has been somewhat higher than in the rest of the planning area. This activity has covered a broad range of land uses, including mining, harvest, recreation, and tourism. Because of the region's central location and the presence of the Taylor Highway and the Top of the World Highway, this will most likely continue, and may increase. The region includes the communities of Chicken and Boundary.

Boundary is located on the ridge separating the drainages of the South Fork and main stem of the Fortymile, and has exceptional scenic values. Because its location on the Top of the World Highway is favorable for tourism activity, some degree of growth may occur. It is the first community that travelers encounter when coming from Dawson, and traffic on this route has been increasing. The Boundary Airport is managed by DOT/PF.

Chicken is located near the confluence of the Dennison Fork and Mosquito Fork. Its economy has been based mostly on mining. Tourism has become important to the local economy, and this importance is likely to increase in the future. Under the 2000 U.S. Census, Chicken became a Census Designated Place for the first time, with a population of 17 and a total of six households. During the summer, there are more people in the area because of mining and tourism. There is no state operated school or central water or sewer system.

State Lands

Most of the land in Region 4 is state-owned. There are approximately 597,297 acres that are in state ownership, and approximately 21,501 acres that are selected. The state-owned land in this region is divided into three large blocks of land by the National Wild and Scenic River corridors (for more information regarding the National Wild and Scenic River corridors, refer to the *Navigable Waterbodies* section of this chapter).

Physical Features

Centrally located in the Fortymile River basin, Region 4 consists of low mountains and rolling terrain that are characteristic of the Yukon-Tanana Upland physiographic province. Prominent streams in this region are the main stem of the South Fork, the lower portion of the Mosquito Fork, and the Walker Fork. The highest peaks, found in the western portion of the region are Mount Warbelow, at 5,553 feet, and Taylor Mountain, at 5,059 feet. Most of this region is

mountainous, with the exception of certain areas in the lower Mosquito Fork valley, in areas south of Taylor Mountain, and near the Taylor Highway. Vegetation consists mostly of mixed and pure stands of white spruce and black spruce, with balsam poplar, birch, and aspen occurring mostly in river valleys and on alluvial flats.

Access

Region 4 is the smallest region in the planning area, and most of it is quite accessible. In addition to the Taylor and Top of the World Highways (see *Area Plan Map*), there is an extensive network of trails in the area.

RS 2477 Trails:

Kechumstuk-Chicken Trail. Historic trail which served as an access route to the Fortymile area. The northern spur of the trail encompasses part of the Washington-Alaska Military Cable and Telegraph System (WAMCATS) line, where it passes from Kechumstuk Station, and crosses the divide to Hutchinson Creek.

Kechumstuk Winter Trail. Originally, this trail was part of the trail along the Washington-Alaska Military Cable and Telegraph System (WAMCATS). It was used as an access and supply route for Kechumstuk and Chicken and for mining activities in the region.

Chicken-Fish-McKinley Creeks Trail. Historical transportation and mining access route.

North Fork of the Fortymile–Big Delta Trail. This trail is a historic trail that connected the Fortymile district with the Fairbanks/Valdez military road. Portions of the trail are also segments of the Washington-Alaska Military Cable and Telegraph System (WAMCATS).

Lilliwig Creek Trail. This trail was used to access placer and lode mines on Ingle and Lilliwig Creeks.

Chicken-Franklin Trail. Sometimes referred to as the Chicken-Franklin Landing Strip Trail, it served as the mail and freight route between the mining communities of Chicken and Franklin.

Franklin-Steele Creek Trail. One of the earliest trails to be used for exploration, mining, and supplies.

Fortymile–Franklin Trail. This trail is a historic trail which was used as a connecting route for the mining operations along the Fortymile River.

Jack Wade-Steele Creek Trail. A route used for getting supplies to Jack Wade Creek and Walker Fork during the peak of mining activity on those streams.

Jack Wade Landing-Boundary Trail. This trail connects Jack Wade, Boundary, Chicken, and Franklin.

Boundary-Lassen Landing Strip Trail. A route which runs along the Walker Fork, it was used for mining access and homestead entry.

Walker Fork-Davis Creek-Border Trail. Originally, these trails used for prospecting and mining access connected with the Poker Creek Trail and other trails in Canada.

Canyon Creek-Walker Fork Trail. This route runs northward from Boundary and connects with the Fortymile River.

Steele Creek–Fortymile Trail. This trail was used as a mining transportation route in the Fortymile mining district since the turn of the century (1899-1900).

Highway System:

The Taylor Highway crosses the Fortymile River tributaries at several points, providing convenient points of access to the West Fork, Mosquito Fork, South Fork, and Walker Fork. Although these locations are used mostly for recreational purposes, they also provide access for mining, harvest, and other uses. Access on streams in the area varies, as water level can fluctuate greatly during the summer months.

Airstrips:

The airstrips located at Chicken and Boundary are listed in the official Federal Aviation Administration's Airport / Facility Directory. There are several primitive landing areas on gravel bars and alpine areas, but information regarding serviceability is very limited.

Resources and Uses

Fish and Wildlife, Habitat, and Harvest. The Fortymile caribou herd, which is mostly concentrated in the Middle Fork Region during calving season, moves into this region from the northwest in late summer. They remain during rut and through the winter season. Although the herd remains concentrated mostly in the northwest portion of Region 4, it does cross the Taylor Highway, and this expansion is likely to increase as the herd grows (for further information, see the report *Habitat Management Needs Assessment for the Fortymile Caribou Herd* developed by the Fortymile Caribou Herd Management Planning Team).

The Nelchina caribou herd also winters in this area. Extensive lichen mats are common. The spruce forests in much of this area is at optimum age to support rich mats of lichen and wide spread modification should be avoided. Once these spruce stands are over 150 years old or have been heavily grazed by caribou, prescribed burns or managed logging would enhance the area for wildlife habitat.

Several nesting sites for golden eagles, bald eagles, merlins, and peregrine falcons have been identified in this region.

There are no streams in this region that are listed in the Department of Fish and Game's Anadromous Waters Catalog and Atlas at this time. Resident fish species include Arctic grayling, sheefish, and whitefish.

Important harvest and trapping areas for residents of the planning area and adjacent communities have been identified in the Mosquito Fork, Taylor Creek, Buckskin Creek, Atwater Creek and Liberty Creek drainages, and along the Dennison Fork.

Forestry. Vegetation in this region is largely comprised of alpine tundra with a variety of forest types depending on localized factors such as slope, aspect, soils, and fire patterns. These forest communities are characteristic of interior Alaska spruce-hardwood forest, containing white and black spruce, balsam poplar, birch, and aspen in various combinations. Harvest of timber in this region is limited to personal use, for house logs and firewood. Conditions related to market proximity and stand characteristics make commercial timber harvest unlikely, or at least limited to a small scale if it should occur.

Heritage Resources. There are over 40 heritage sites reported by the Alaska Heritage Resource Survey in this region. Most of them are classified as historical, with the remainder classified as either prehistoric or paleontological. There are a number of representations of the mining era that occurred in the late 1800's and early 1900's, in the form of cabins, roadhouses, barns, and dredges. Many of these sites are concentrated around Chicken, which is a historic district listed on the National Register of Historic Places. These features are a source of local pride, and a major part of the attraction that visitors have to the area. Since RS 2477 trails are historic trails, they are also considered heritage resources. Refer to the RS 2477 trails listed in this region.

Materials. There are many sites along the Taylor Highway and the Top of the World Highway that DOT/PF uses for materials. Most of these are within the highway right of way, but there are some sites outside the right of way that DOT/PF has under contract with DNR. There are 11 of these sites that are under contract in this region. Usually, material sites are located fairly close to the road and are spaced as frequently as practical to minimize haul distances for materials. Since they are cleared and level, they are often used for other purposes, both authorized and unauthorized. These characteristics also make the sites desirable for other uses after DOT/PF no longer needs them for materials.

Mineral Resources. The geology of this region is similar to the rest of the planning area, consisting primarily of felsic and mafic intrusive and metamorphic rock including schist and gneiss. It is within the Tintina Gold Belt and has been actively mined since the late 1800's. Mining has mostly focused on placer deposits of gold-bearing gravel and colluvium. Though mining has occurred throughout the Upper Yukon planning area, the level of past and present mining activity in this region ranks high. The South Fork, Walker Fork, Mosquito Fork and their tributaries are well documented for gold discoveries, and the presence of claims currently located on these streams demonstrates continued interest.

Recreation. Recreation takes many forms in this region, but the area is most widely known for rafting and boating on the South Fork, Mosquito Fork, Dennison Fork, Walker Fork, and tributary creeks. These streams were part of the Fortymile River component that was added to

the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System by the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (for further information regarding the Wild and Scenic Rivers, see the discussion in the *Navigable Rivers* section of this chapter). The streams' road accessibility mentioned previously, and the range of difficulty they offer (Class I-V) have made them very popular for river trips. Two of the access points, or "put-ins," are within this region, at South Fork and Mosquito Fork, and two of them are just outside the region, at West Fork and the main stem of the Fortymile. The region is also used for hiking, skiing, camping, snowmachining, and dog mushing by both residents and visitors.

Settlement. Almost all of the permanent residents in the region are within or near the communities of Chicken and Boundary. Both permanent and seasonal residents expressed interest in obtaining land for residential use or storage. There is limited private land in the region that is available, and there is no federal land is not available. State land provides an opportunity for private ownership.

Tourism. Tourism is an important part of the local economy in Region 4. While the total number of visitors to the area has gradually increased, a larger portion of those visitors are on tour buses, reflecting a significant shift in visitors' mode of travel. Most of the bus traffic is from tour companies operating out of Dawson in the Yukon Territory.

Transportation. The Department of Transportation and Public Facilities has resurfaced most of the Taylor Highway from Tetlin Junction to Jack Wade Junction, and is scheduled to resurface the Top of the World Highway to the Canadian border. There is currently no schedule for work on the Taylor Highway from Jack Wade Junction to Eagle. If work is performed on this segment, it is possible that a portion would be realigned through the Gilliland Creek drainage (for further information refer to *Location Study Report for Taylor Highway Mile 95 to 160, RS-786(4)*, by DOT/PF).

Management Constraints and Considerations

There are no state management plans or site specific plans for this region.

State land in Region 4 is fragmented by federal land within the National Wild and Scenic River corridors along the South Fork, Mosquito Fork, Walker Fork, and tributary creeks. The Bureau of Land Management is responsible for management of these lands, which is guided by the *River Management Plan for the Fortymile River Component of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System* (1983). There are conflicts between management of the federally owned uplands and the mining activity permitted on the adjacent state-owned shorelands. (For further information on this issue, see the discussion in the *Navigable Rivers* section of this chapter.) Resolution of this issue is outside the scope of this area plan, and the Bureau of Land Management and the Department of Natural Resources are working to develop reasonable and appropriate solutions.

There is no land in this region that has been patented to Doyon, Ltd.; however, there is land that has been selected by them.

Management Intent for Region 4

Management intent in this section applies to state-owned and state-selected land. Also refer to Chapter 2, *Areawide Land Management Policies*.

Management unit R-04 consists of all lands in Region 4 that are not within the smaller management units near Chicken, Boundary, and Jack Wade Junction. Refer to the management units listed in the Resource Allocation table and delineated on the maps at the end of this section.

All lands within unit R-04 are designated General Use (Gu). This is to maintain flexibility in management, since these lands consist of large amounts of acreage, current levels of demand for their use is relatively low, and a variety of uses can be accommodated with appropriate siting and design considerations.

The management intent for Region 4 is to preserve scenic values along the Taylor Highway and Top of the World Highway, minimize the number of access points onto these highways, and reduce impacts to wildlife and other natural resources.

Commercial and residential development should be kept to a minimum in unit R-04. Residential development (including private recreational development) should be directed to the Remote Settlement Areas. Commercial and residential development should be restricted to management units near Chicken, Jack Wade Junction, and Boundary that are designated Settlement (Se) or Settlement-Commercial (Sc), or units that are designated General Use (Gu) and have management intent allowing development. Resource development activities, most of which are likely to be related to mining, are appropriate if the impacts from these uses can be addressed. If construction of a road is necessary for any DNR authorization, it should use an existing RS 2477 route whenever feasible and prudent. For development in the Remote Settlement Areas (W-01 and W-02), careful consideration should be given to protection of scenic values.

Management Intent for all Management Units Designated Settlement (Se) or Settlement-Commercial (Sc)

The sale of land within this region is to be phased. Making land available in increments will provide opportunity to examine impacts of each previous disposal, and ensure long-term availability of land suitable for settlement. Land disposal programs assist in achieving this management intent.

Land designated Settlement should be offered in the following order of priority:

1. Management units within the Chicken and Boundary areas
2. Settlement areas southwest of Chicken (units W-01 and W-02)

When DNR implements a land sales program, it will ensure that existing access and RS 2477

trails are protected. For guidelines regarding access and trails, refer to the “Public Access” section in Chapter 2.

Snowmachine travel in the area and participation in events sponsored by local snowmachine clubs are likely to increase. When developing a land sales program in this region, DNR should locate offerings far enough from travel routes to minimize potential conflicts with these activities.

Prospective purchasers of state land should be made aware that much of the Upper Yukon planning area has historically been used for mining, and that it is considered to have good mineral potential for the future. State lands are open to mineral entry, and mining activity can be conducted. See the *Subsurface Resources and Settlement* sections in Chapter 2 for further information.

Management Intent for Remote Settlement Areas: Management Units W-01 and W-02

State land within the management units indicated on the region map as W-01 and W-02 are designated Settlement (Se), to accommodate the potential need for residential land in the future. Sufficient areas of land are designated Settlement to allow flexibility in siting, lot size and density, to accommodate needs for open space and local use of resources, and to provide a pool of state land that would be available for private ownership over the long term.

These areas are Remote Settlement Areas and are considered appropriate for land sale programs that offer land through staking. However, pre-surveyed parcels may also be offered in these areas where appropriate (refer also to the description of Remote Settlement Areas in the section on *Settlement* in Chapter 2).

Before land can be offered in these areas, DNR is required to prepare a best interest finding in accordance with AS 38.05.035. At that time, the areas are examined more closely to determine which portions are most suitable to offer, and to resolve site specific issues. Public notice is issued, and comments from the public are taken into consideration.

The management intent for land conveyance is to use a land sale program that has been or will be established by DNR or the legislature. DNR implements these programs to issue public notice, conduct agency review, solicit public comment, and resolve site specific issues that may not have been addressed by the area plan. This results in a more efficient and cost effective means of land disposal. Land in these areas is not to be conveyed in response to individual requests.

Development in W-01 is to be located a minimum of 1200 feet from the right of way of the Taylor Highway, and in a manner that will have minimal impact on scenic values from the highway. Access points onto the Taylor Highway are to be kept to a minimum, and where feasible and prudent, new leases, permits, and conveyances shall be directed to use existing access. For land sales or other DNR authorizations adjacent to federal Wild and Scenic River corridors, consideration should be given to protection of the values for which the corridors were established.

There is a need for a landfill in Region 4. Because of its location and general characteristics, management unit W-01 may contain land that would be appropriate for this purpose. If site analysis by DNR and ADEC confirms suitability and a location could be determined that would minimize conflicts with other uses, this would be an appropriate use within this management unit.

Management Intent for the Boundary Area

State land in this area is to be managed in a way that will retain the historical character of Boundary as much as possible, yet allow for further settlement and economic opportunity. Residential and commercial development, whether by lease, permit, or conveyance is to be in the management units designated for settlement near Boundary. The sizes of the units designated Settlement-Commercial are meant to allow some degree of flexibility in siting, design, lot size and density, and to accommodate possible economic expansion over the duration of the plan. Within these management units, it is intended that new commercial development be located close to existing commercial development, and that the number of access points onto the Top of the World Highway are minimized.

Settlement and Settlement-Commercial designations were applied to management units that are more likely and/or appropriate to have development occur during the planning horizon, and are in close proximity to existing development.

A General Use designation was applied to management units that are less likely to have development occur during the planning horizon and are further from existing development, but have some potential for development in the future. Although the need to develop these units is not expected to arise for the duration of the plan, they are identified in the event that this should happen. These management units would first need to be reclassified through a plan amendment process to Settlement or Settlement-Commercial before portions of them could be conveyed into private ownership.

Management Intent for the Chicken Area

State land near Chicken is to be managed to provide opportunities for residential land, public facilities, and some degree of commercial development. The sizes of the management units designated Settlement Commercial are meant to allow some degree of flexibility in siting, design, lot size and density, and to accommodate possible economic expansion over the duration of the plan. Within these units, new commercial development should be located close to existing commercial development, and that the number of access points onto the Taylor Highway should be minimized.

Settlement and Settlement-Commercial designations were applied to management units that are more likely and/or appropriate to have development occur during the planning horizon, and are in close proximity to existing development.

A General Use designation was applied to management units that are less likely to have development occur during the planning horizon and are further from existing development, but have some potential for development in the future. Although the need to develop these units is not expected to arise for the duration of the plan, they are identified in the event that this should happen. These units would first need to be reclassified through a plan amendment process to Settlement or Settlement-Commercial before portions of them could be conveyed into private ownership.

Management Intent for the Jack Wade Junction Area

Jack Wade Junction is situated at the intersection of the Taylor Highway and Top of the World Highway, and has good potential for commercial development. Management unit J-01 has been designated Settlement-Commercial (Sc), which would allow for commercial uses if or when demand occurs. Management intent for this area is to allow for economic opportunity, and to provide additional options with respect to siting of commercial development.

The size of the management unit designated Settlement-Commercial is meant to allow some degree of flexibility in siting, design, lot size and density, and to accommodate possible economic expansion over the duration of the plan. Development should be clustered to minimize the number of access points onto the Taylor Highway and Top of the World Highway.

Among other factors, the economic potential of this site could be affected by road realignments. Currently, the Department of Transportation and Public Facilities does not plan to realign either of the highways. However, a potential short cut for the Taylor Highway through the Gilliland Creek drainage has been identified (Location Study Report, Taylor Highway Mile 95 to 160, RS-786 [4], DOT/PF, 1989). No portion of the Taylor Highway would be abandoned, but the volume of Chicken-to-Eagle traffic going through Jack Wade Junction could decline if the short cut was constructed.

Management Intent for Mineral Licks in Region 4

The mineral lick within the area identified for Walker Fork is important to moose (see *Mineral Leasehold Location Order No. 28*, Appendix B). Mining activity must avoid direct impacts to the mineral licks and the routes that animals use to access them, or mitigate adverse impacts to these resources. If a game trail or mineral lick is affected, mitigation alternatives may include a variety of measures to address lick accessibility. In addition to protection of the routes themselves, activities that may divert animals from the routes or otherwise affect usage patterns shall be avoided or mitigated.

Resource Allocation Summary for Region 4 : Walker Fork

Unit Number	Unit Name or Location	Designation	Acres	Management Intent	Resources / Uses / Additional Information
R 04	Predominant state land base in the Walker Fork Region	Gu	568,648	See <i>Management Intent for Region 4</i> in this chapter.	<p>See <i>Regional Summary</i> for Region 4. This unit consists of all state-owned and state-selected lands in Region 4 that are not within specific management units listed below.</p> <p>A previous land classification occurred within this unit in the NE1/4 of the SE 1/4 of Section 31, T27N, R18E, CRM. A parcel of state land was classified Reserved Use for a Public and Charitable Use sale to the Fortymile Miner's Association. (LCO NC 01-002, ADL 416494, MCO 763) The area plan does not supercede or alter this previous classification.</p>
B 01	Boundary	Gu	240	Commercial and/or residential use is not expected to occur in this management unit for the duration of the plan. If such development is proposed during the planning horizon, consideration should be given to protection of scenic values from the Top of the World Highway.	This management unit is situated on the north side of the Boundary Airport and the Top of the World Highway, and consists of north facing slopes. Most of the portion in the S1/2NW1/4 of Section 32 is relatively level, and has access to the Top of the World Highway. Sale of all or any portion of this unit would require reclassification to Settlement (Se) or Settlement-Commercial (Sc).
B 02	Boundary Airport	Pr	130	To be retained in state ownership, and managed for airstrip purposes.	This management unit is under an Interagency Land Management Agreement with DOT/PF for the Boundary Airport. (ADL 414039, U.S. Survey 8835)

Resource Allocation Summary for Region 4 : Walker Fork

Unit Number	Unit Name or Location	Designation	Acres	Management Intent	Resources / Uses / Additional Information
B 03	Boundary	Gu	489	Commercial and/or residential use is not expected to occur in this management unit for the duration of the plan. If such development is proposed during the planning horizon, consideration should be given to protection of scenic values from the Top of the World Highway.	This management unit has gradual south facing slopes, but direct access to the Top of the World Highway is limited. There are a public easement (ADL 414351) and RS 2477 trails, including the Canyon Creek-Walker Fork Trail, that cross the east end of the unit, providing access to the Top of the World Highway. Sale of all or any portion of this unit would require reclassification to Settlement (Se) or Settlement-Commercial (Sc).
B 04	Boundary	Gu	157	Manage for mining, dispersed recreation, and harvest.	Most of this unit has north facing slopes.
B 05	Boundary	Sc	6	Since this management unit is adjacent to existing commercial and residential use, it is considered appropriate for the same types of uses. Refer also to <i>Management Intent for the Boundary Area</i> in this chapter.	This unit is situated on the north side of the Top of the World Highway, between U.S. Survey 3001 and the DOT/PF materials site. It is relatively level, and has direct access to the Top of the World Highway.
B 06	Boundary Materials Site	Gu	36	To be managed as a materials site during the time that it is under contract with DOT/PF. During this time, other uses may be authorized if they do not conflict with or cause impediment to fulfillment of the contract. After the contract is either expired or terminated, this management unit may be suitable for other purposes, including but not limited to residential, commercial, or use as a staging area. Reclamation work shall take potential future uses into consideration.	This management unit is a materials site on the north side of the Top of the World Highway, and is under contract with DOT/PF (ADL 411679). Sale of all or any portion of this unit would require reclassification to Settlement (Se) or Settlement-Commercial (Sc).

Resource Allocation Summary for Region 4 : Walker Fork

Unit Number	Unit Name or Location	Designation	Acres	Management Intent	Resources / Uses / Additional Information
B 07	Boundary	Gu	60	Manage for mining, dispersed recreation, and harvest. Leasing may be authorized. Refer also to <i>Management Intent for the Boundary Area</i> in this chapter.	This management unit is located on the south side of the Top of the World Highway and has gradual, south facing slopes. Access is directly onto the highway and the western portion is adjacent to existing residential and commercial use. There are a public easement (ADL 414351) and RS 2477 trails, including the Canyon Creek-Walker Fork Trail, that cross the east end of the unit, providing access to the Top of the World Highway.
B 08	East Boundary	Gu	41	Manage for mining, dispersed recreation, and harvest. Leasing may be authorized. Refer also to <i>Management Intent for the Boundary Area</i> in this chapter.	This unit is situated on the north side of the Top of the World Highway, adjacent to the DOT/PF material site. Much of it is relatively level, and has direct access to the Top of the World Highway.
B 09		Sc	3	Commercial and residential uses are considered appropriate for this management unit.	This unit is adjacent to the Top of The World Highway and contains level areas suitable for development.
B 10		Se	40	Commercial and residential uses are considered appropriate for this management unit.	Unit has some relatively level terrain, and is accessible from the Top of The World Highway.

Resource Allocation Summary for Region 4 : Walker Fork

Unit Number	Unit Name or Location	Designation	Acres	Management Intent	Resources / Uses / Additional Information
C 01	Chicken	Sc	57	Commercial and residential uses would be considered appropriate for this management unit. Use of this unit for a public facility is appropriate, if compatible with residential or commercial use, or located in a manner that will minimize conflicts. Refer also to <i>Management Intent for the Chicken Area</i> in this chapter.	Management unit is on the west side of the Chicken Airport, and on the south side of the Taylor Highway. Terrain is very level for the most part, and the southern portion is close to the Mosquito Fork.
C 02	Chicken	Gu	118	Refer to <i>Management Intent for the Chicken Area</i> in this chapter.	This unit is on the east side of the Chicken Airport, and on the south side of the Taylor Highway. It is relatively flat, and the eastern portion is skirted by privately owned parcels with commercial uses along the access road to the airport.
C 03	Chicken	Gu	9	Refer to <i>Management Intent for the Chicken Area</i> in this chapter.	This unit is located on the south side of the Taylor Highway, and on the west side of the road leading to the airport.
C 04	Chicken	Sc	210	Commercial and residential uses are considered appropriate for this management unit. Ensure continued access to public land northwest of Chicken.	Located north of the Taylor Highway and west of Chicken Creek, this unit has some areas of relatively level land and south facing slopes. This and other management units on the north side of Chicken are regarded as gateways to areas used for harvest, recreation, and mining. Sale of all or any portion of this unit would require reclassification to Settlement (Se) or Settlement-Commercial (Sc).

Resource Allocation Summary for Region 4 : Walker Fork

Unit Number	Unit Name or Location	Designation	Acres	Management Intent	Resources / Uses / Additional Information
C 05	Chicken	Gu	291	Manage for mining, dispersed recreation, and harvest. Residential and commercial use is not expected to occur in this unit for the duration of the plan, but because of its fairly level terrain and proximity to the Taylor Highway, portions may be suitable for such uses if and when there is sufficient demand. Ensure continued access to public land north of Chicken.	Located north of the Taylor Highway and east of Chicken Creek, this unit has some areas of relatively level land and south facing slopes. The Alaska Heritage Resources Survey (AHRs) reports heritage sites located in or near this unit. This and other management units on the north side of Chicken are regarded as gateways to areas used for harvest, recreation, and mining. Sale of all or any portion of this management unit would require reclassification to Settlement (Se) or Settlement-Commercial (Sc).
C 06	Chicken	Gu	95	To be retained in state ownership. Residential and commercial use is not expected to occur in this unit for the duration of the plan.	This unit is located on both sides of the Taylor Highway on the east side of the valley for Chicken Creek. Most of the unit is relatively steep, and the Walker Fork Trail crosses the southwest portion. The Alaska Heritage Resources Survey (AHRs) reports a historic site and a prehistoric site located in or near this unit.
C 07	Chicken	Se	47	Residential uses are considered appropriate for this management unit. Consideration should be given to protection of scenic values from the Taylor Highway.	Located on both sides of the Taylor Highway and includes southeast slopes of Lost Chicken Hill. The Alaska Heritage Resources Survey (AHRs) reports heritage sites located in or near this unit. Sale of all or any portion of this management unit would require reclassification to Settlement (Se) or Settlement-Commercial (Sc).

Resource Allocation Summary for Region 4 : Walker Fork

Unit Number	Unit Name or Location	Designation	Acres	Management Intent	Resources / Uses / Additional Information
C 08	Chicken	Se	414	Commercial and residential uses are considered appropriate for this management unit. Consideration should be given to protection of scenic values from the Taylor Highway.	Located east of Lost Chicken Creek on the north side of the Taylor Highway. Most of the unit consists of steep slopes.
C 09	Chicken materials site	Gu	42	To be managed as a materials site during the time that it is under contract with DOT/PF. During this time, other uses may be authorized if they do not conflict with or cause impediment to fulfillment of the contract. After the contract is either expired or terminated, this unit may be suitable for other uses, including but not limited to residential, commercial, or use as a staging area. Reclamation work shall take potential future uses into consideration.	This unit is a materials site on the north side of the Taylor Highway, and is under contract with DOT/PF (ADL 416030). Sale of all or any portion of this unit would require reclassification to Settlement (Se) or Settlement-Commercial (Sc).
C 10	Chicken	Gu	101	Manage for mining, dispersed recreation, and harvest. Leasing may be authorized. Residential and commercial use is not expected to occur in this unit for the duration of the plan, but because of its fairly level terrain and proximity to the Taylor Highway, portions may be suitable for such uses if and when there is sufficient demand. If such development is proposed during the planning horizon, consideration should be given to protection of scenic values from the Taylor Highway.	This unit is located east of Lost Chicken Creek on the south side of the Taylor Highway. Portions of this unit have gradual, south facing slopes with direct access to the highway. An unnamed creek crosses the eastern portion of the unit, and the Walker Fork Trail crosses the southern portion. Sale of all or any portion of this management unit would require reclassification to Settlement (Se) or Settlement-Commercial (Sc).

Resource Allocation Summary for Region 4 : Walker Fork

Unit Number	Unit Name or Location	Designation	Acres	Management Intent	Resources / Uses / Additional Information
C 11	Chicken	Gu	168	Manage for mining, dispersed recreation, and harvest. Leasing may be authorized. Residential and commercial use is not expected to occur in this unit for the duration of the plan, but because of its fairly level terrain and proximity to the Taylor Highway, portions may be suitable for such uses if and when there is sufficient demand. If such development is proposed during the planning horizon, consideration should be given to protection of scenic values from the Taylor Highway.	Located on the south side of the Taylor Highway. Portions of this unit have gradual, south facing slopes with direct access to the highway. Sale of all or any portion of this management unit would require reclassification to Settlement (Se) or Settlement-Commercial (Sc).
C 12	Chicken Airport	Pr	14	To be retained in state ownership, and managed for airstrip purposes.	This unit is under an Interagency Land Management Agreement with DOT/PF for the Chicken Airport (ADL 415243).
J 01	Jack Wade Junction	Sc	379	Commercial and residential uses would be considered appropriate for this unit. Refer also to <i>Management Intent for the Jack Wade Junction Area</i> in this chapter.	This unit is located at the junction of the Taylor Highway and the Top of the World Highway. Most of the unit is relatively flat, with direct access to the highways. The Alaska Heritage Resources Survey (AHRs) reports a heritage site in or near this unit. There is a Native Allotment adjacent to the western portion of this unit that is currently under negotiation with the State of Alaska (F12554, U.S. Survey 11428).

Resource Allocation Summary for Region 4 : Walker Fork

Unit Number	Unit Name or Location	Designation	Acres	Management Intent	Resources / Uses / Additional Information
J 02	Jack Wade Junction materials site	Gu	22	To be managed as a materials site during the time that it is under contract with DOT/PF. During this time, other uses may be authorized if they do not conflict with or cause impediment to fulfillment of the contract. After the contract is either expired or terminated, this management unit may be suitable for other uses, including but not limited to residential, commercial, or use as a staging area. Reclamation work shall take future uses into consideration.	This management unit is a materials site on the north side of Jack Wade Junction, under contract with DOT/PF (ADL 411680). Sale of all or any portion of this unit would require reclassification to Settlement (Se) or Settlement-Commercial (Sc).
J 03	North of Jack Wade Junction	Gu	2,870	Potential development of the management unit for dispersed recreation may be considered. Because of the site and access qualities of this unit, the potential for a low-intensity, dispersed recreation area exists, probably consisting mostly of trails. The development of scenic/safety road pullouts should be considered, either as part of a general road improvement project or as a stand-alone project. Design decisions by DOT/PF should take the recreation potential into consideration. No authorizations for use or development (leases, etc.) are to be issued. Commercial and other forms of development are intended to concentrate in management unit J-01. This unit, including the management intent described above, should be carefully reevaluated at the time of plan revision, if no recreational development occurs.	Management unit occupies a ridge top, and the topography is such that it could accommodate hiking trails and perhaps other low intensity recreational facilities. Good panoramic views exist from the top of the ridge; it is possible to see 360-degree views. This unit is currently used for dispersed recreation. Commercial development and other forms of authorizations in the general Jack Wade area are to occur in unit J-01. The Taylor Highway traverses the middle of the unit, providing excellent access.

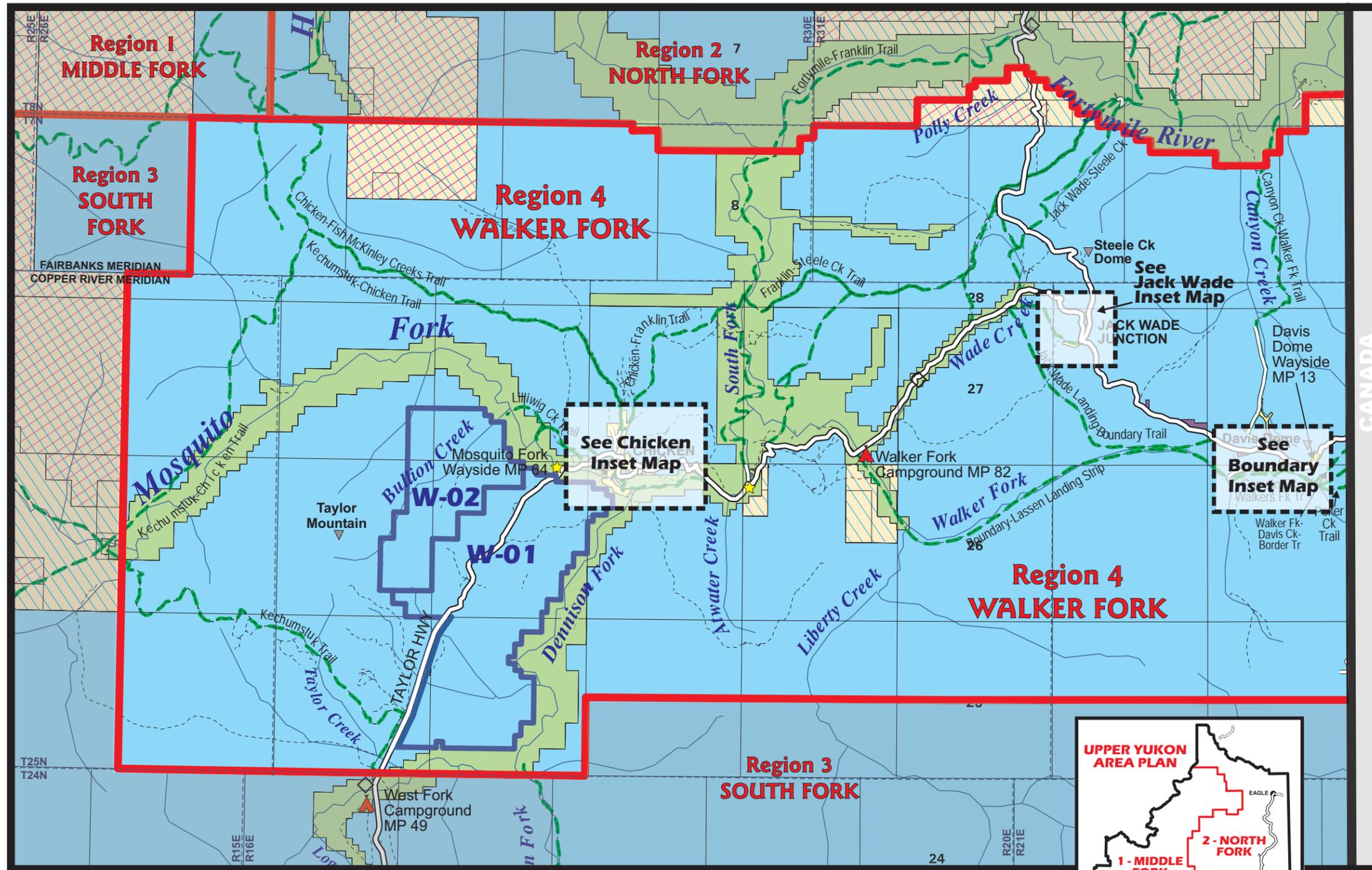
Resource Allocation Summary for Region 4 : Walker Fork

Unit Number	Unit Name or Location	Designation	Acres	Management Intent	Resources / Uses / Additional Information
W 01	Walker Fork Region settlement area / southwest of Chicken	Se	30,799	See <i>Management Intent for Region 4</i> and <i>Management Intent for Management units W-01 and W-02</i> in this chapter. Because of its location and topography, a portion of this unit, W-01, may be suitable for a landfill depending on siting considerations and ADEC requirements. For land sales or other DNR authorizations adjacent to federal Wild and Scenic River corridors, consideration should be given to protection of the values for which the corridors were established.	See <i>Regional Summary</i> in the section on Region 4 in this chapter.
W 02	Walker Fork Region settlement area / west of Chicken	Se	13,516	See <i>Management Intent for Region 4</i> and <i>Management Intent for Management units W-01 and W-02</i> in this chapter. For land sales or other DNR authorizations adjacent to federal Wild and Scenic River corridors, consideration should be given to protection of the values for which the corridors were established.	See <i>Regional Summary</i> in the section on Region 4 in this chapter.

UPPER YUKON AREA PLAN

Region 4

WALKER FORK

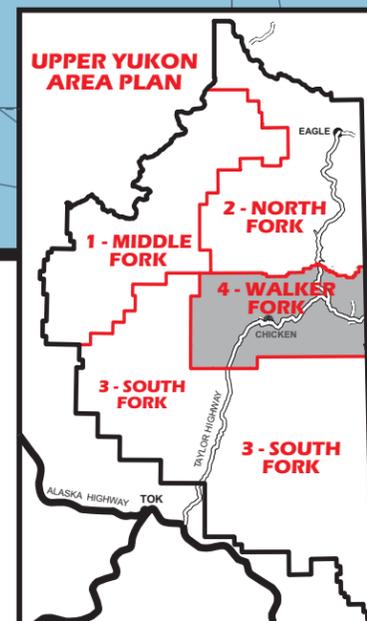
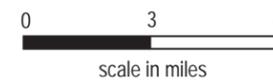


LEGEND

- National Preserve, Wildlife Refuge, or Wild & Scenic River
- Bureau of Land Management
- Private Land
- Native Corporation Land
- State Land
- Managed by Department of Transportation & Public Facilities
- Municipality
- Tanana Valley State Forest
- State Selected or ANILCA topfiled
- Native Selected
- Campground
- Wayside
- RS 2477 Trails
- Other Trails
- Area Plan Boundary
- Region Boundary
- Management Unit Boundary

NOTES:

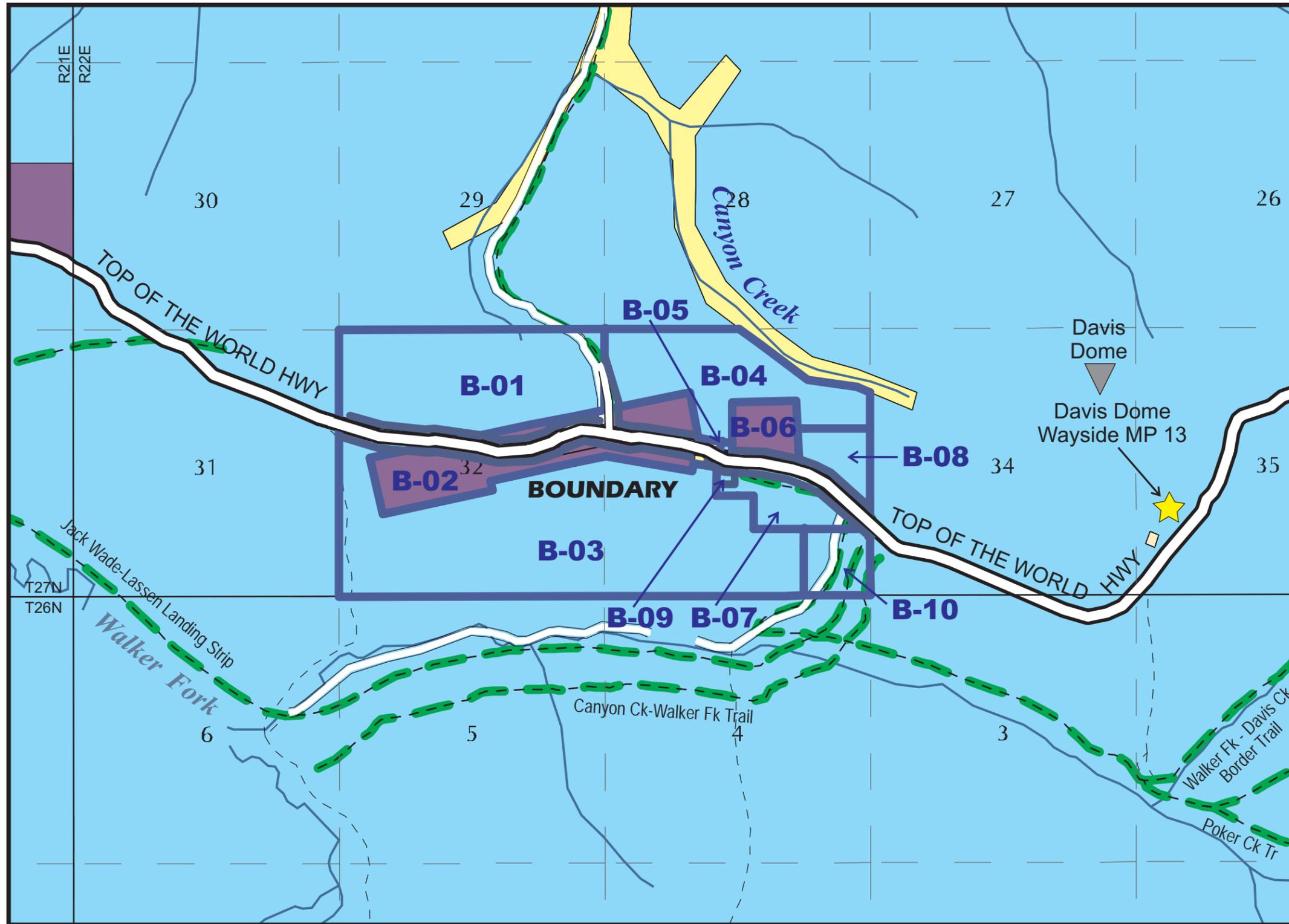
1. All state lands are open to mineral entry unless closed by a mineral closing order.
2. Trails shown on this map do not necessarily represent all trails in this area.
3. There are many Public Land Orders (PLOs) that affect lands in this region, the most significant of which are PLO 5179, PLO 5180, and PLO 5250. For detailed information regarding these Public Land Orders, refer to the Master Title Plats and Historical Index published by the Bureau of Land Management.
4. This map represents general land status and is not the official record. For more detailed information regarding land status, refer to Status Plats published by DNR and the Master Title Plats published by the Bureau of Land Management.



UPPER YUKON AREA PLAN

Region 4 - Walker Fork

Boundary Inset Map



LEGEND

- National Preserve, Wildlife Refuge, or Wild & Scenic River
- Bureau of Land Management
- Private Land
- Native Corporation Land
- State Land
- Managed by Department of Transportation & Public Facilities
- Municipality
- Tanana Valley State Forest
- State Selected or ANILCA topfiled
- Native Selected
- Campground
- Wayside
- RS 2477 Trails
- Other Trails
- Area Plan Boundary
- Region Boundary
- Management Unit Boundary

NOTES:

1. All state lands are open to mineral entry unless closed by a mineral closing order.
2. Trails shown on this map do not necessarily represent all trails in this area.
3. There are many Public Land Orders (PLOs) that affect lands in this region, the most significant of which are PLO 5179, PLO 5180, and PLO 5250. For detailed information regarding these Public Land Orders, refer to the Master Title Plats and Historical Index published by the Bureau of Land Management.
4. This map represents general land status and is not the official record. For more detailed information regarding land status, refer to Status Plats published by DNR and the Master Title Plats published by the Bureau of Land Management.

3/12/04

Corrections are being made to the Region 4 – Walker Fork - Chicken Inset Map.

When corrections are completed, the web site will be updates.

UPPER YUKON AREA PLAN

Region 4 - Walker Fork

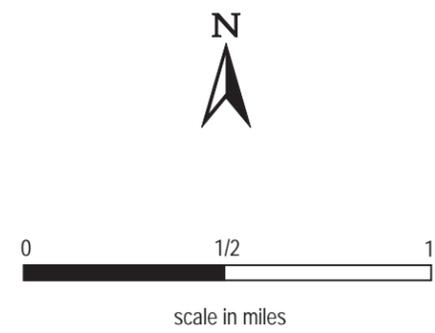
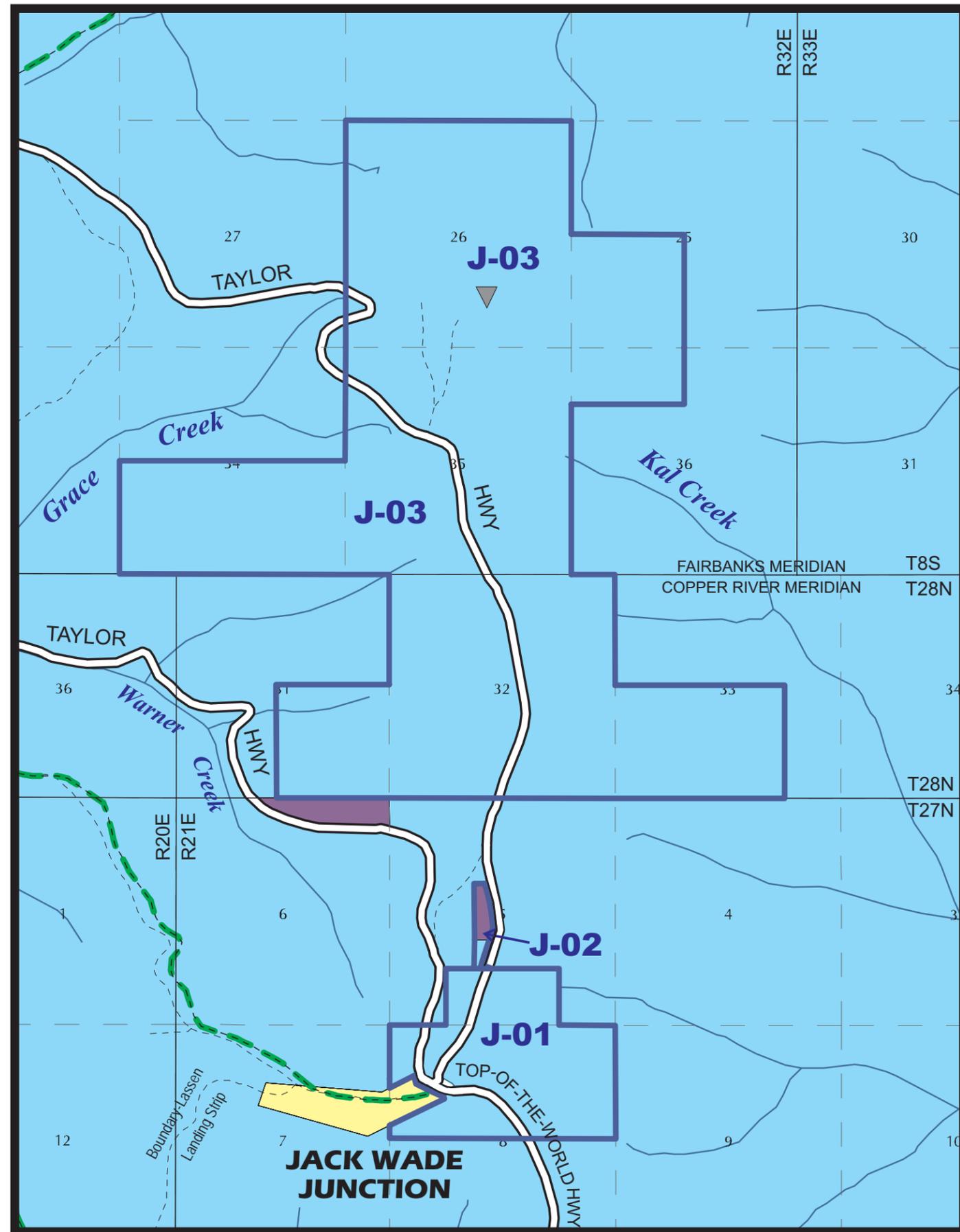
Jack Wade Junction Inset Map

LEGEND

-  National Preserve, Wildlife Refuge, or Wild & Scenic River
-  Bureau of Land Management
-  Private Land
-  Native Corporation Land
-  State Land
-  Managed by Department of Transportation & Public Facilities
-  Municipality
-  Tanana Valley State Forest
-  State Selected or ANILCA topfiled
-  Native Selected
-  Campground
-  Wayside
-  RS 2477 Trails
-  Other Trails
-  Area Plan Boundary
-  Region Boundary
-  Management Unit Boundary

NOTES:

1. All state lands are open to mineral entry unless closed by a mineral closing order.
2. Trails shown on this map do not necessarily represent all trails in this area.
3. There are many Public Land Orders (PLOs) that affect lands in this region, the most significant of which are PLO 5179, PLO 5180, and PLO 5250. For detailed information regarding these Public Land Orders, refer to the Master Title Plats and Historical Index published by the Bureau of Land Management.
4. This map represents general land status and is not the official record. For more detailed information regarding land status, refer to Status Plats published by DNR and the Master Title Plats published by the Bureau of Land Management.



Navigable Waterbodies

Background

The intent of the plan is to designate and provide management intent for the shorelands under all navigable waterbodies and their waters. Since it is not practical to state the individual management intent for each and every navigable waterbody, the plan identifies general types of waterbodies, and some that are assigned unit numbers, management intents, and designations.

The term “shorelands” used below is defined as land belonging to the state which is covered by nontidal water that is navigable under the laws of the United States up to the ordinary high water mark as modified by accretion, erosion, or reliction [AS 38.05.965]. See *Figure 1-1* at the beginning of Chapter 1 for a generalized diagram that illustrates the difference between shorelands, submerged lands, tidelands, and uplands.

Shorelands are not identified on the plan maps within this Chapter. Identification of all such water bodies is impractical on maps of the scale used in this plan. However, navigable water bodies may be identified on DNR maps (titled "Navigability Status") at the 1:250,000 scale at DNR offices.

These maps identify navigable water bodies based upon court decisions, state and federal written determinations of navigability, and other waters that may be navigable, based on certain criteria. "Waters are navigable when they are used or susceptible of use in their natural and ordinary condition as highways for commerce over which trade and travel may be conducted."

Generally, shorelands are navigable if, at the time of statehood, they were unreserved (not subject to a federal withdrawal), and they were used, or were susceptible to use, for travel, trade or commerce. Case law indicates that an inflatable raft can be used as a standard for determining navigability (*Alaska v. Ahtna, Inc.*, 1989). If a waterway can float a fully loaded, medium size inflatable raft weighing 1000 pounds, it is presumed to be navigable. Streams six or more feet in channel width and 5 to 7 inches in depth are presumed navigable. See *DNR Department Order 125* for detailed information on navigability.

Public Trust Doctrine

The Public Trust Doctrine provides that public trust lands, waters and living resources in a state are held by the state in trust for the benefit of all the people, and establishes the right of the public to fully utilize the public trust lands, waters, and resources for a wide variety of public uses. Each state has the authority and responsibility for managing these public trust assets to assure the public's rights are upheld.

The Public Trust Doctrine applies whenever navigable waters or the lands beneath those waters are altered, developed, conveyed, or otherwise managed. It also applies whether the trust lands are publicly or privately owned. Public trust lands are generally those lands below navigable waters, with the upper boundary being the ordinary high water mark. Tidelands, shorelands of

navigable lakes and rivers, as well as the land beneath oceans, lakes and rivers are usually considered public trust lands.

The Alaska Constitution contains numerous provisions embracing principles of the Public Trust Doctrine that require the state to exercise authority to ensure that the right of the public to use navigable waters for navigation, commerce, recreation, and related purposes is protected. In Alaska, the Public Trust Doctrine extends beyond those submerged lands in which the state holds title to include all waters that are navigable. The state's waters are themselves reserved to the people for common use. The state has enacted laws that provide similar protections as those provided by the Public Trust Doctrine and apply to broader areas.

The Alaska Constitution (Article VIII, Sections 1, 2, 3, 6, 13, and 14) and Alaska Statutes (38.05.127 and 38.05.128) contain some of the provisions which are the legal basis for applying the Public Trust Doctrine in Alaska. In Alaska, this doctrine guarantees the public's right to engage in activities such as commerce, navigation, fishing, hunting, trapping, and swimming, while also providing for the protection of areas for ecological study.

The Alaska Constitution provides that "free access to the navigable or public waters of the state, as defined by the legislature, shall not be denied any citizen of the United States or resident of the state, except that the legislature may by general law regulate and limit such access for other beneficial uses or public purposes." The Alaska Supreme Court has concluded that "the provisions in article VIII [of the Constitution] were intended to permit the broadest possible access to and use of state waters by the general public." *Wernberg v. State*, 516 P. 2d 1191, 1198-9 (Alaska 1973). The Alaska legislature has broadly defined the navigable and public waters available for public use in AS 38.05.965. Moreover, the legislature has endorsed a broad interpretation of the Public Trust Doctrine constitutionalized in article VIII in finding that:

Ownership of land bordering navigable or public waters does not grant an exclusive right to the use of the water and any rights of title to the land below the ordinary high water mark are subject to the rights of the people of the state to use and have access to the water for recreational purposes or any other public purposes for which the water is used or capable of being used consistent with the public trust. (sec. 1, ch. 82, SLA 1985)

The legislature has also declared that the right to use state waters does not include the right to enter or trespass upon private lands. Nevertheless, with 99 percent of Alaska in public ownership at statehood, state laws providing that the transfer of land to private parties also provide for public access to navigable waters have had broad effect. For instance, AS 38.05.127 implements the state constitutional guarantee of access to navigable waters under Article VIII, Section 14. Under the statute, the Commissioner of the Alaska Department of Natural Resources must "provide for the specific easements or rights-of-way necessary to ensure free access to and along the body of water, unless the Commissioner finds that regulating or eliminating access is necessary for other beneficial uses or public purposes."

The State's responsibilities to implement the Public Trust Doctrine are considered and used throughout this plan. Any management actions will be consistent with the Public Trust Doctrine

as defined by the Alaska Constitution, statutes, court decisions, and public involvement.

On a related issue, the Director's Policy File 91-03 *Shorelands Adjacent to Non-State Land* outlines DNR's policy for consulting with adjacent landowners and considering their concerns when uses on adjacent state-owned shorelands are proposed.

For more information on state policies on navigable waters see the following website:

<http://www.dnr.state.ak.us/mlw/nav/index.htm>

Fortymile National Wild and Scenic River Corridor

Located within the planning area is the Fortymile River component of the National Wild and Scenic River system, which was established by the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (ANILCA)¹, and is administered by the Bureau of Land Management. It consists of a corridor of federal uplands along the main stem of the Fortymile River and some of its tributaries (see *Land Status Map*). Within this corridor, the main stem and certain portions of the tributaries have been determined to be navigable either through federal navigability determinations or state assertions of navigability. Those portions of the Fortymile River system determined navigable constitute shorelands; i.e., areas of state-owned and managed land. Such areas require designation in state area plans. A description of the designations that apply to the Fortymile River system follows.

The basic conflict concerning the Fortymile Wild and Scenic River corridor is the difference in management approach. The Bureau of Land Management views the Fortymile River corridor and its adjacent uplands as components of the Wild and Scenic River system, and associates this area with a corresponding management philosophy. The state has authorized mining activities within certain shorelands of the Fortymile River, and to some this kind of activity is inconsistent with the Wild and Scenic River designation. The area plan cannot resolve this disagreement in management approach, and makes no specific attempt to do so. A potential method of resolving some of the issues of navigability and shoreland / upland management would be through a joint planning process between the state and BLM. Such a process, or something similar, should be further examined.

Management Intent for Specific Rivers and River Types

Certain rivers and lakes, because of their importance for recreation, commerce, and habitat, are given specific designations. The designations applied to the shorelands are identical to those used for uplands.

¹ Under ANILCA all private and state lands are excluded from the boundaries of the Fortymile River Wild and Scenic River designation. See *ANILCA Sec. 606(a)*, which modifies Sec. 15 of the Wild and Scenic River Act, 94 STAT 2416.

Navigable Waters of the Fortymile River System

The Fortymile River system is codesignated ‘Mining’ and ‘Public Recreation – Undeveloped’ within areas of shorelands.² The ‘Mining’³ designation recognizes the importance of the long term mining activities in this area and the ‘Public Recreation’ designation⁴, the use of this system for a variety of recreation uses conducted by both personal and commercial users. The extent of the ‘Mining’ designation generally coincides with areas of historical or actual mining use.⁵

Yukon River within Management Unit E-20

Management unit E-20 consists of shorelands within a segment of the Yukon River adjacent to the City of Eagle and Eagle Village. For management intent and the land use designation for this unit, refer to the section on Region 1 and the Resource Allocation Table in this chapter.

Management Intent for Other Rivers and Lakes

The designation and management intent for water bodies that cross or are surrounded by state-owned, state-selected, and top filed lands are the same as those of the upland tract.

The designation of General Use applies to all other navigable water bodies; i.e., those rivers and lakes that do not meet the previous standard and are not within state-owned, state-selected, or top filed upland management units. When in the best interests of the state, these water bodies are to be managed to allow a diversity of uses, consistent with the uses authorized on adjoining uplands in federal, private, or other state-owned land (i.e., Mental Health, University, and tracts quit claimed to a state agency other than DNR).

² Areas of shoreland asserted by the state as navigable or navigable through state or federal determinations of navigability include: the main stem of the Fortymile River, the North Fork of the Fortymile River to its confluence with Independence Creek, the Middle Fork of the North Fork of the Fortymile River to its confluence with Joseph Creek, the South Fork of the Fortymile River, the Walker Fork of the South Fork of the Fortymile River, the Dennison Fork of the South Fork of the Fortymile River to its confluence with the West Fork, the West Fork of the Dennison Fork of the South Fork of the Fortymile River to its confluence with Logging Cabin Creek, and the Mosquito Fork of the South Fork of the Fortymile River to its confluence with Kechumstuk Creek, and any navigable tributaries associated with these waterbodies.

³ This designation converts to the classification of ‘Mineral Land’. Mining is allowed and is specifically recognized as the primary use for which will be managed. (In this instance, the shorelands will be managed under the co-designations of Mining and Public Recreation – Undeveloped.)

⁴ This designation converts to the classification of ‘Public Recreation’. Recreation of a variety of forms, both personal and commercial as well as motorized and non-motorized, are allowed. (In this instance, the shorelands will be managed under the co-designations of Mining and Public Recreation – Undeveloped.)

CHAPTER 4

IMPLEMENTATION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Introduction.....	1
State Land Classification.....	1
Relationship of Designations to Classifications and Conversion of Plan	
Designations Into Classifications.....	3
Table 4.1 ACREAGES Associated with Upland Designations.....	3
Table 4.2 UPLAND and SHORELAND Designations -- Conversion to Classifications	4
Land Classification Order and Acreage of Lands Classified	4
Table 4.3 ACRES of State Lands Classified	4
Surface Leasing	5
Mineral Leasehold Location Orders	5
Municipal Entitlement.....	5
General Grant Land Selections	5
Coordination with Federal Land Management Plans.....	6
Public Trust Doctrine	6
Federal Public Land Orders	7
Types of Plan Changes	7

CHAPTER 4

IMPLEMENTATION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Introduction

This chapter includes information and recommendations necessary to implement plan goals, management intent, and guidelines.

State Land Classification

To implement the plan on state lands, DNR must classify state lands to reflect the intent of land use designations made by the plan. State law requires that classification precede most leasing of state uplands, tidelands, or submerged lands and most conveyances of state uplands and tidelands. According to state regulations, classification means, ". . .the designation of land according to its primary use, and in a manner that will provide maximum benefit to the people of Alaska." (11 AAC 55.280) Classification ". . . identifies the primary use for which the land will be managed, subject to valid existing rights and to multiple use." (11 AAC 55.040 [c]) Although a classification identifies a primary use, all classifications are intended for multiple use (11 AAC 55.010 [a]). In this plan almost all units are assigned a single, principle designation.¹

The General Use (Gu) designation is frequently used in this plan, typically applying to the larger tracts of state land where two or more uses are judged to be compatible within specific portions of the tract and/or where there are one or more resource values, none of which is of sufficiently high value to merit designation as a primary use. Compatibility between uses should be achieved through distance separation between uses or through the use of siting and design techniques applied to reduce or preclude the undesirable effects of certain uses. This designation is also used when there is an absence of adequate resource, economic or other relevant information, or when development is not likely to occur during the planning horizon.

Following is a list of land classifications, and their associated definitions in Alaska regulations, which will apply to state lands in the planning area as a result of plan adoption. DNR will manage state lands and resources consistent with these classifications and with the management directions given in Chapter 3 for specific management units of state land.²

¹ For further information regarding classification of state land, see AS 38.04.005, AS 38.05.300, and 11 AAC 55.010 - 11 AAC 55.280.

² Land not otherwise classified on the plan maps within the planning area are classified General Use (Gu) or if reconveyed to the state and previously classified, under the previous applicable classification order.

11 AAC 55.130. Mineral Land. Land classified mineral is land where known mineral resources exist and where development is occurring or is reasonably likely to occur, or where there is reason to believe that commercial quantities of minerals exist.

11 AAC 55.160. Public Recreation Land. Land classified public recreation is land that is suitable for recreation uses, waysides, parks, campsites, scenic overlooks, hunting, fishing or boating access sites, trail corridors, or greenbelts along bodies of water or roadways.

11 AAC 55.170. Reserved Land Use.

A. Land classified reserved use is land that:

1. is reserved for transfer to another governmental or non-governmental agency that is performing a public service;
2. is reserved for transfer through land exchanges; or
3. has been designated for a public facility.

B. Nothing in this section requires classification of land identified for a future land exchange under AS 38.05.50.

11 AAC 55.200. Resource Management Land. Land classified resource management is either:

Land that might have a number of important resources but for which a specific resource allocation decision is not possible because of a lack of adequate resource, economic, or

1. other relevant information, or is not necessary because the land is presently inaccessible and remote and development is not likely to occur within the next 10 years; or
2. land that contains one or more resource values, none of which is of sufficiently high value to merit designation as a primary use.

11 AAC 55.202. Settlement Land. An upland area classified settlement is land that is, by reason of its physical qualities and location, suitable for year-round or seasonal residential or private recreational use or for commercial or industrial development. Tidelands are to be managed to support those existing or proposed upland settlement uses.

11 AAC 55.215. Waterfront Development Land. Land classified waterfront development is tideland, submerged land, or shoreland that is suitable to be used for commercial or industrial activities such as fish processing, aquatic farming, mineral and log transfer facilities, or commercial recreation.

11 AAC 55.230. Wildlife Habitat Land. Land classified wildlife habitat is land which is primarily valuable for:

1. fish and wildlife resource production, whether existing or through habitat manipulation, to supply sufficient numbers or a diversity of species to support commercial, recreational, or traditional uses on an optimum sustained yield basis; or

2. a unique or rare assemblage of a single or multiple species of regional, state, or national significance.

Relationship of Designations to Classifications and Conversion of Plan Designations Into Classifications

The classifications contain no specific land management directives; those directives are expressed through the use of plan designations, described in detail for individual management units included in Chapter 3. However, the designations used in the area plan must be converted into classifications outlined in state regulation (11 AAC 55) that reflect the intent of the plan.

Since plan designations are central to the management of state land in this area plan, knowledge of the amount of area associated with particular designations is important, allowing a comparison between plan designations and classifications. Table 4-1 identifies the acreage associated with the designations recommended in this plan, specified for upland tracts³. Descriptions of each of the following designations are also provided in Chapter 3 pages 2-5. Note: Acreages associated with plan classifications are given in Table 4-3.

Table 4.1 ACREAGES Associated with Upland Designations

<u>Symbol</u>	<u>Designation</u>	<u>Acreage</u>
Gu	General Use	3,528,247
Ha	Habitat	192,995
Pr	Public Facilities - Retain	452
Rh	Resource Management - high value	754,270
Ru	Public Recreation - Undeveloped	1,190
Se	Settlement	46,296
Sc	Settlement-Commercial	651

The conversion of land use designations used by this plan into state land classifications is indicated in the table below. These are intended to identify the allowable uses of a state upland or tideland area, consistent with the definitions described previously and with any management intent given in Chapter 3. Only those designations and classifications that are used in this plan are identified.

³ Shoreland acreages are not included in the acreage estimates of the uplands.

Table 4.2 UPLAND and SHORELAND Designations -- Conversion to Classifications

<u>Symbol</u>	<u>Designation</u>	<u>Classification</u>
Gu	General Use	Resource Management Land
Ha	Habitat	Wildlife Habitat Land
Mn	Mining	Mineral Land
Pr	Public Facilities - Retain	Reserved Use Land
Ru	Public Recreation - Undeveloped	Public Recreation Land
Rh	Resource Management - high value	Resource Management Land
Se	Settlement	Settlement Land
Sc	Settlement - Commercial	Settlement Land

Land Classification Order and Acreage of Lands Classified

State land is classified under the authority of AS 38.04.005, AS 38.05.300, and 11 AAC 55.010 - 11 AAC 55.280 according to the management intent set forth in this area plan.

Classification Order NR-02-001 classifies all state lands within the plan area. See *Appendix D*. Lands not specifically classified in the plan maps or plan text are classified Resource Management Land. Approximately 4.2 million acres of state-owned and state-selected land is classified. See *Table 4-3*.

Table 4-3 provides estimates of the acreage by classification for uplands⁴.

Table 4.3 ACRES of State Lands Classified

<u>Classification</u>	<u>Acreage</u>
Reserved use land	452
Resource management land	4,282,517
Settlement land	46,947
Wildlife habitat land	192,995
Public recreation land	1,190
Total	4,524,101

⁴ Estimates of shoreland acreage are not included in the estimates of upland acreage.

Surface Leasing

Under the authority of AS 38.05 and 11 AAC 58.300-.350, state land within the planning area is available for surface leasing, provided that the leasing is allowed under the classification and is consistent with the management intent set forth in this area plan.

Mineral Leasehold Location Orders

A leasehold location order is used to authorize mineral entry and subsequent development in those instances when a higher level of review is required of a proposed mineral development. This higher level of review generally coincides with the presence of sensitive historic, cultural, habitat, wildlife, hydrologic, or recreation features or activities in an area that is likely to have mineral development at some time. The plan includes Mineral Leasehold Location Order 28 for protection of mineral licks, which affects portions of land throughout the planning area, particularly in the Middle Fork region (see *Appendix B*). It also includes Mineral Leasehold Location Order 29 for settlement units in the Walker Fork region (see *Appendix C*). Additional information regarding these Leasehold Location Orders can be found in the *Subsurface Resources* section of Chapter 2, and in the management intent for applicable units in Chapter 3.

Municipal Entitlement

It is possible that new cities or boroughs may be formed during the planning horizon. The Municipal Entitlement Act (AS 29.65) establishes the state land classification categories that determine a municipal general grant land entitlement and identify what lands are available for transfer to a municipality. The term "municipality" includes both incorporated cities and organized boroughs. The size of a municipality's entitlement is 10 per cent of the vacant, unappropriated, unreserved (VUU) state uplands in the municipal boundaries.

The designations of Settlement, Settlement-Commercial, Resource Management – High Value, and General Use in this plan are to form the basis for the definition of VUU lands within these areas under the municipal entitlement act. It should be noted that certain of the management units within the previous listing are not available for selection. The management intent statement of each management unit described in the Resource Allocation Tables with these designations must be carefully reviewed since, at times, all or portions of these management units are recommended for retention by the state.

General Grant Land Selections

Under the Statehood Act, Alaska is entitled to approximately 103 million acres of federal land. Large areas (about 2.6 million acres) have already been conveyed by the federal government to

the state within the plan boundary. These areas are depicted on the Land Status Map as ‘State Land.’ Most of the state owned land is concentrated in the South Fork and Walker Fork Regions, with smaller concentrations occurring in the western portion of the South Fork Region, the far western portions of the Middle Fork Region, and in several parts of the North Fork Region. The state has also selected extensive areas within this area, totaling about 1.6 million acres, for eventual conveyance to the state. These areas are noted as ‘state selected’ land on this map, with most of these selections concentrated in the western portions of the South Fork Region, and throughout the Middle Fork and North Fork Regions.

Not all of the state selected lands depicted on these maps will be conveyed to the state. This will result from the competing selections of Native Corporations and from the over selection of federal land by the state. Native Corporations under the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (ANCSA) can select land, and these entities may have priority over the state selections. The Native Corporation (Doyon) has selected approximately 1,595,000 million acres for conveyance, and has already been conveyed approximately 351,000 million acres of federal land. Over-selection (by the state) occurs on a statewide basis and decisions on what land are to be conveyed are based on the conveyance priority (assuming there is no overriding native or other selection) the state assigns. To deal with this uncertainty, the Department has identified selection priorities, identified as Groups I, II, III, and IV, with Group I being the highest and Group IV being the lowest. The lowest two tiers are not likely to be conveyed to the state, and there are significant concentrations of both groups throughout each of the regions except for the South Fork Region. Thus, it is likely that some significant portion of the land selected by the state will not be transferred into state ownership. The amount that will not be conveyed cannot be determined with any certainty at this time, but it may be considerable.

This plan does not make changes to the areas of selections or to the state conveyance priority ranking.

Coordination with Federal Land Management Plans

There is only one federal land management plan within the planning area, the ‘Fortymile River River Management Plan’ (1983). This plan provides management guidance for the administration of federal lands adjoining that portion of the Fortymile River that is a federally designated Wild and Scenic River. This plan was reviewed in the development of the Area Plan. When consistent with the state’s best interest, state lands that adjoin the WSR should be managed to minimize conflicts with the management theme described in the River Management Plan for the adjoining uplands.

Public Trust Doctrine

See the *Management Intent for Navigable Rivers* section at the end of Chapter 3.

Federal Public Land Orders

Some of the lands in the planning area were withdrawn by the federal government through Public Land Orders (PLO) for various federal land management purposes. Since the time of the withdrawals, the lands needed for these purposes have been more specifically delineated. In many cases, lands affected by the original PLO are no longer needed for the original management purpose and should be made available for other purposes. The state should pursue release of these lands through revocation of Public Land Orders by the federal government.

Types of Plan Changes

Two basic types of changes are allowed by regulations in 11 AAC 55.030:

1. A revision to a land use plan is subject to the planning process requirements of AS 38.04.065. For the purposes of this section and AS 38.04.065, a “revision” is an amendment or special exception to a land use plan as follows:
 - a. An “amendment” permanently changes the land use plan by adding to or modifying the basic management intent for one or more of the plan's subunits or by changing its allowed or prohibited uses, policies, or guidelines. For example, an amendment might close to new mineral entry an area that the plan designated to be open, allow a land use in an area where the plan prohibited it, or allow land to be opened to homestead entry in an area that the plan designated for retention in public ownership.
 - b. A “special exception” does not permanently change the provisions of a land use plan and cannot be used as the basis for a reclassification of the subunit. Instead, it allows a one-time, limited-purpose variance of the plan's provisions, without changing the plan's general management intent or guidelines. For example, a special exception might be used to grant an eligible applicant a preference right under AS 38.05.035 to purchase land in a subunit designated for retention in public ownership. A special exception might be made if complying with the plan would be excessively burdensome or impractical or if compliance would be inequitable to a third party, and if the purposes and spirit of the plan can be achieved despite the exception.
2. A minor change to a land use plan is not considered a revision under AS 38.04.065. A “minor change” is a change that does not modify or add to the plan's basic intent, and that serves only to clarify the plan, make it consistent, facilitate its implementation, or make technical corrections.

APPENDICES

APPENDIX A

Glossary.....A - 1

APPENDIX B

Mineral Leasehold Location Order No. 28B - 1

APPENDIX C

Mineral Leasehold Location Order No. 29C - 1

APPENDIX D

Land Classification Order No. NR-02-001D - 1

APPENDIX E

Index.....E - 1

APPENDIX A

GLOSSARY

AAC. Alaska Administrative Code

Access. A way or means of approach. Includes transportation, trail, easements, rights of way, and public use sites.

ACMP. Alaska Coastal Management Plan

ADF&G. Alaska Department of Fish and Game

ADEC. Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation

ADOT/PF. Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities

Anadromous fish stream. A river, lake or stream from its mouth to its uppermost reach including all sloughs and backwaters adjoining the listed water, and that portion of the streambed or lakebed covered by ordinary high water used by salmon to spawn. Anadromous streams are shown in "The Atlas to the Catalog of Waters Important for Spawning, Rearing, or Migration of Salmon" (referred to as the Anadromous Fish Stream Catalog) compiled by ADF&G.

ANCSA. Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act

ANILCA. Alaska National Interest Land Conservation Act

Area Plan. Prepared by DNR, area plans allocate resources and identify allowed and prohibited uses on state lands including uplands, tidelands, and submerged lands.

AS. Alaska Statutes

ASLS. Alaska State Land Survey

ATS. Alaska Tideland Survey

Authorized Use. A use allowed by DNR by permit or lease.

Buffer. An area of land between two activities or resources used to reduce the effect of one activity upon another.

Classification. Land classification identifies the purposes for which state land will be managed. All classification categories are for multiple use, although a particular use may be considered primary. Land may be given a total of three classifications in combination.

Closed to mineral entry. Areas where the staking of new mineral claims is prohibited because mining has been determined to be in conflict with significant surface uses in the area. Existing mineral claims that are valid at the time of plan adoption are not affected by mineral closures.

Co-designation. Refers to those instances where two designations apply to state land or state selected land. Both designations are of equal importance. Authorizations issued by the Department should accommodate uses associated with each designation applied to state land.

Commissioner. The Commissioner of the Alaska Department of Natural Resources.

Consultation. Under existing statutes, regulations, and procedures, the Department of Natural Resources informs other groups of its intention to take a specific action and seeks their advice or assistance. Consultation is not intended to be binding on a decision. It is a means of informing affected organizations and individuals about forthcoming decisions and getting the benefit of their expertise. DNR replies to parties offering advice or assistance by sending them the decision and the reasons for which the decision was made, or notifying them that the decision and finding are available upon request.

Designated use. An allowed use of major importance in a particular management subunit. Activities in the subunit will be managed to encourage, develop, or protect this use. Where a subunit has two or more designated uses, the management intent statement and guidelines for the unit and subunit, Chapter 2 guidelines together with existing statutes, regulations, and procedures, will direct how resources are managed, to avoid or minimize conflicts between designated uses.

Designation. A category of land allocation determined by a land use plan. Designations identify the primary and co-primary uses for state land. See also *Land Use Designations*.

Director. The division director of the state division responsible for managing state land. Most often, director refers to the Director of the Division of Mining, Land and Water; for lands administered by DPOR, director refers to the Director of DPOR.

DMLW. Division of Mining, Land and Water, a division of DNR.

DNR. Alaska Department of Natural Resources

DOF. Division of Forestry, a division of DNR

DPOR. Division of Parks and Outdoor Recreation, a division of DNR

Easement. An interest in land owned by another that entitles its holder to a specific limited use.

17(b) Easement. Easement across Native corporation land reserved through the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (ANCSA). Uses of the easements are limited to transportation purposes and other uses specified in the act and in conveyance documents.

Feasible. Capable of being accomplished in a successful manner within a reasonable period of time, taking into account economic, environmental, technical, and safety factors.

Feasible and prudent. Consistent with sound engineering practice and not causing environmental, social or economic problems that outweigh the public benefit to be derived from compliance with the guideline modified by the term "feasible and prudent" [from ACMP regulations: 6 AAC80.900(20)]. A written decision by the land manager is necessary justifying a variation from a guideline modified by the terms "feasible" or "feasible and prudent". See also, Procedures for Plan Review, Modification, and Amendment: Discretion within Guidelines.

Fish and wildlife. Any species of aquatic fish, invertebrates and amphibians, in any state of their life cycle, and all species of birds and mammals, found or that may be introduced in Alaska, except domestic birds and mammals. The term "area(s)" in association with the term "fish and wildlife" refers to both harvest and habitat areas.

FLUP. Forest Land Use Plan. Prepared by the Division of Forestry, Alaska Department of Natural Resources

Forestry. Any activity or structure for the harvest or management of timber resources.

Generally allowed use. An activity conducted on state land managed by the Division of Mining, Land and Water that is not in a special category or status. For the most part these uses are allowed for 14 days or less, and a permit is not required. Uses that are generally allowed are described under 11 AAC 96.

Goal. A statement of basic intent or general condition desired in the long term. Goals usually are not quantifiable and do not have specified dates for achievement.

Guideline. A course of action to be followed by DNR resource managers or required of land users when the manager permits leases, or otherwise authorizes the use of state land or resources. Guidelines also range in their level of specificity from giving general guidance for decision making or identifying factors that need to be considered, to setting detailed standards for on-the-ground decisions. Some guidelines state the intent that must be followed and allow flexibility in achieving it.

High value resident fish. Resident fish populations that are used for recreational, personal use, commercial, or subsistence purposes. In the Yukon River drainage, there are a number of resident fish species: Dolly Varden, lake trout, Arctic grayling, sheefish, northern pike, and burbot. Whitefish, including round whitefish and least cisco, are taken for subsistence and personal use.

ILMA. See *Interagency Land Management Agreement/Transfer*.

ILMT. See *Interagency Land Management Agreement/Transfer*.

Instream flow. An instantaneous flow rate of water through a stream during specified periods of time, from a designated location upstream to a designated location downstream.

Instream flow reservation. The legal water reservation for instream uses such as fish, wildlife, recreation, navigation, and water quality.

Interagency Land Management Agreement/Transfer (ILMA/ILMT). An agreement between DNR and other state agencies that transfers some land management responsibility to these other agencies.

Land disposal. Same as *Land offering*, defined below.

Land manager. A representative of the state agency or division responsible for managing state land.

Land offering. Transfer of state land to private ownership as authorized by AS 38.04.010, including fee simple sale, homesteading, and sale of agricultural rights. This does not include leases, land-use permits, water rights, rights-of-way, material sales, or other disposals of interest in lands or waters. (See also, *Land disposal*.)

Land sale. Same as *Land offering* as defined above.

Land use designations. Allocations that set out primary or secondary land uses. See definitions of primary and secondary land uses. (Chapter 4 sets out how the land use designations of this plan will be classified according to 11 AAC55.)

Leasable mineral. Leasable minerals include deposits of coal, sulfur phosphates, oil shale, sodium potassium, oil and gas.

Lease. A Department of Natural Resources authorization for the use of state land according to terms set forth in AS 38.05.070-105.

Legislative designation. An action by the state legislature that sets aside a specific area for special management actions and ensures the area is kept in public ownership.

Leasehold Location Order. An order, issued by the Department of Natural Resources that require the exploration, development, and extraction of locatable minerals to occur under the leasing provisions of AS 38.05.135.

Locatable mineral. Locatable minerals include both metallic (gold, silver, lead, etc.) and nonmetallic (flourspar, asbestos, mica, etc.) minerals.

Management intent statement. The statements that define the department's near and long-term management objectives and the methods to achieve those objectives.

Materials. "Materials" include but are not limited to common varieties of sand, gravel, rock, peat, pumice, pumicite, cinders, clay and sod.

MCO. See *Mineral Closing Order*.

Mineral Closing Order (MCO). All state lands are open for the prospecting and production of locatable minerals unless the lands are specifically closed to mineral entry. The Commissioner of the Department of Natural Resources may close land to mineral entry if a finding has been made that mining would be incompatible with **significant surface use** on state land [AS 38.05.205]. A significant surface use of the land has been interpreted by DNR to include not only residential and commercial structures, but also fish and wildlife habitat, recreational, and scenic values.

Mineral entry. Acquiring exploration and mining rights under AS 38.05.185-38.05.275.

Mining. Any structure or activity for commercial exploration and recovery of minerals, including, but not limited to resource transfer facilities, camps, and other support facilities associated with mineral development. The term "mining" does not refer to offshore prospecting.

Mining claim. Rights to deposits of minerals subject to AS 38.05.185-38.05.275 in or on state land that is open to claim staking may be acquired by discovery, location and recording as prescribed in AS 38.05.185-38.05.275. The locator has the exclusive right of possession and extraction of the minerals subject to AS 38.05.185 -38.05.275 lying within the boundaries of the claim.

Minor Change. A minor change to a land use plan is not considered a revision under AS 38.04.065. A minor change is a change that does not modify or add to the plan's basic intent, and that serves only to clarify the plan, make it consistent, facilitate its implementation, or make technical corrections. [11 AAC 55.030]

Multiple use. Means the management of state land and its various resource values so that it is used in the combination that will best meet the present and future needs of the people of Alaska, making the most judicious use of the land for some or all of these resources or related services over areas large enough to provide sufficient latitude for periodic adjustments in use to conform to changing needs and conditions; it includes:

- a. the use of some land for less than all of the resources, and
- b. a combination of balanced and diverse resource uses that takes into account the short-term and long-term needs of present and future generations for renewable and nonrenewable resources, including, but not limited to, recreation, range, timber, minerals, watershed, wildlife and fish, and natural scenic, scientific, and historic values. [AS 38.04.910]

Native owned. Land that is patented or will be patented to a Native corporation.

Native selected. Land selected from the federal government by a Native corporation but not yet patented.

Navigable. Used in its legal context, it refers to lakes and rivers that meet federal or state criteria for navigability. Under the Equal Footing Doctrine, the Alaska Statehood Act, and the Submerged Lands Act, the state owns land under navigable waterbodies.

NRO. Northern Regional Office of the Division of Mining, Land and Water, Alaska Department of Natural Resources.

Ordinary high water mark. The mark along the bank or shore up to which the presence and action of the nontidal water are so common and usual, and so long continued in all ordinary years, as to leave a natural line impressed on the bank or shore and indicated by erosion, shelving, changes in soil characteristics, destruction of terrestrial vegetation, or other distinctive physical characteristics [from 11 AAC 53.900(23)].

Permanent use. A use that is more than two years in duration requiring a state lease, easement, or right-of-way and may include a structure that is not readily removable.

Permit. A Department of Natural Resources authorization for use of state land according to terms set forth in 11 AAC 96.

Personal use. The harvest of fish and wildlife for personal consumption, including but not limited to subsistence and recreational harvest. Commercial harvest is not included.

Plan Amendment. A permanent change to the Area Plan, which occurs by adding to or modifying basic management intent or by changing its allowed or prohibited uses, policies, or guidelines.

Plan Boundary. The boundary of the area encompassed by the Upper Yukon Area Plan.

Planning Area. The area encompassed by the Upper Yukon Area Plan.

Planning horizon. The period of time during which most of the plan's designations and management policies are expected to be appropriate, given normal changes in economic, social and technological conditions. Generally, this period is considered to be twenty years or more.

Policy. An intended course of action or a principle for guiding actions; in this plan, DNR policies for land and resource management include goals, management intent statements, management guidelines, land use designations, implementation plans and procedures, and various other statements of DNR's intentions.

Primary use. See *Designated use*.

Prohibited use. A use not allowed in a management unit because of conflicts with the management intent, designated primary or secondary uses, or management guideline. Uses not specifically prohibited nor designated as primary or secondary uses in a management unit are allowed if compatible with the primary and secondary uses, the management intent statements for the unit, and the plan's guidelines. Changing a prohibited use to an allowable use requires a plan amendment.

Public Trust Doctrine. A doctrine that requires the state to manage tidelands, shorelands, and submerged lands for the benefit of the people so that they can engage in such things as commerce, navigation, fishing, hunting, swimming, and ecological study. (See also Chapter 3.)

Public use. Any human use of state land, including commercial and non-commercial uses.

Recreation. Any activity or structure for recreational purposes, including but not limited to hiking, camping, boating, anchorage, access points to hunting and fishing areas, and sightseeing. "Recreation" does not refer to subsistence or sport hunting and fishing.

Retained Land. Uplands, shorelands, tidelands, submerged lands, and water that are to remain in state ownership.

Right-of-way. The legal right to cross the land of another.

Shall. Same as "will." See *will*.

Shoreland. Land belonging to the state that is covered by navigable, nontidal water up to the ordinary high water mark as modified by accretion, erosion or reliction. (See definition of *Navigable*.) Shorelands are generally lake bottoms or the beds of navigable rivers and streams.

Shoreline development. Any water-dependent or water-related structure or facility that is permanent and/or used for private, public, commercial, or industrial purposes. "Shoreline Development" excludes log or other resource transfer facilities, log storage, floating A-frame logging, or camps and other resource development support facilities associated with forestry or mineral development.

Should. States intent for a course of action or a set of conditions to be achieved. Guidelines modified by the word "should" state the plan's intent and allow the manager to use discretion in deciding the specific means for best achieving the intent or whether particular circumstances justify deviations from the intended action or set of conditions. A guideline may include criteria for deciding if such a deviation is justified. (See Procedures for Plan Changes, Chapter 4.)

Significant impact, significant effect, significant conflict, or significant loss (adapted from the ACMP statutes, AS 46.40.210). A use, or an activity associated with that use, which proximately contributes to a material change or alteration in the natural or social characteristic of the land on which:

- a. the use, or activity associated with it, would have a net adverse effect on the quality of the resources;
- b. the use, or activity associated with it, would limit the range of alternative uses of the resources; or
- c. the use would, of itself, constitute a tolerable change or alteration of the resources but which, cumulatively, would have an adverse effect.

Special Exception. A modification to the Area Plan that does not change the provisions of the plan, but allows for a one-time, limited purpose variance of the plan's provisions.

State lands. All lands, including uplands, tidelands, submerged lands, and shorelands belonging to or acquired by the State of Alaska, excluding lands owned by the University of Alaska, the Mental Health Trust Authority, or by state agencies acquiring land through deed.

State-owned land. Land that is patented or will be patented to the state, including uplands, tidelands, shorelands, and submerged lands.

State-selected land. Federally owned land that is selected by the State of Alaska, but not yet patented.

Subsistence. From the Alaska National Interest Land Conservation Act (ANILCA) [PL 96-486, Sec. 803]. The customary and traditional uses by rural Alaska residents of wild, renewable resources for direct personal or family consumption as food, shelter, fuel, clothing, tools, or transportation; for the making and selling of handicraft articles out of non-edible byproducts of fish and wildlife resources taken for personal or family consumption; for barter or sharing of personal or family consumption; and for customary trade.

Suitable. Land that is physically capable of supporting a particular type of resource development.

Temporary use. A use that is one year or less in duration requiring a state permit. Any structure associated with the use must be readily removable.

Unsuitable. Land that is physically incapable of supporting a particular type of resource development (usually because that resource doesn't exist in that location).

Uplands. Lands above mean high water (See Figure 1-1, Chapter 1.)

Viewshed. Viewsheds are surfaces visible from a viewpoint on a road corridor or from marine waters. Viewsheds may be determined in the field by marking them on U.S. Geologic Service topographic quadrangles.

Water-dependent. From 6 AAC 80.900(17): "water-dependent" means a use or activity which can be carried out only on, in, or adjacent to water areas because the use requires access to the water body.

Water-related. From 6 AAC 80.900(18): "water-related" means a use or activity which is not directly dependent upon access to a water body, but which provides goods or services that are directly associated with water-dependence and which, if not located adjacent to water, would result in a public loss of quality in the goods or services offered.

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 salt tolerant, marshy plants and large algae extending from extreme low tide which is influenced by sea spray or tidally induced water table changes.

USFWS. United States Fish and Wildlife Service.

Will. Requires a course of action or a set of conditions to be achieved. A guideline modified by the word "will" must be followed by land managers and users. If such a guideline is not complied with, a written decision justifying the noncompliance is required.

APPENDIX B

**STATE OF ALASKA
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF MINING, LAND, AND WATER**

MINERAL LEASEHOLD LOCATION ORDER NO. 28

1.0 ORDER RESTRICTING TO LEASEHOLD LOCATION

After the effective date of this order (see paragraph 5), and unless otherwise closed to mineral entry, rights to locatable minerals in the land covered by this order may be acquired only under the leasehold location system, AS 38.05.205, and may not be acquired by locating a mining claim under AS 38.05.195.

2.0 LAND SUBJECT TO THE TERMS OF THIS ORDER IS DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS:

<u>Legal Description</u>	<u>Acreage</u>
See attached map and Attachment 1	approximately 3,840

3.0 AUTHORITY FOR THE ORDER

This order is issued under the authority granted by AS 38.05.185.

4.0 FINDINGS AND DETERMINATIONS

The following findings and determinations are made:

The land described in paragraph 2.0 is found and determined to be subject to potential use conflicts which require that mining be allowed only under written leases issued under AS 38.05.205. These potential use conflicts include, but are not limited to, the following:

These lands encompass 8 mineral licks which are heavily used by caribou, Dall's sheep, and moose . Although the specific biological function of mineral licks for wildlife is not known for each site, their intensive and regular use suggests an important role. Areas adjacent to the

mineral licks support resting areas and heavily used converging trails. Mineral licks can also be an indicator of mineral value.

Because of the potential mineralized nature of these areas, mining may be an important use of these lands. Leasehold location is an appropriate measure to allow mineral development to occur with minimal impacts to the licks.

Mineral licks near Merry Christmas, Joseph, and Pittsburgh creeks are used annually by a high proportion of the Fortymile caribou herd during May. Access to these licks is of particular importance to pregnant cows. They are used by a high proportion of the Fortymile caribou herd during May. Leasehold location areas larger than the actual mineral licks have been established for these licks because of the intensity of annual use that they receive from large numbers of caribou, and because of the well defined traditional access routes used by caribou to access the licks.

The Utah Creek mineral lick is used primarily by a small, disjunct Dall's sheep population on Glacier Mountain. On a daily basis, up to 30% of that sheep population will use the lick during mid-May through June. Because such a high percentage of the sheep in this isolated population use this lick during this time, a leasehold location area larger than the actual lick has been established to protect the well defined traditional access routes. Furthermore, it appears that geographical barriers are minimizing colonization of other suitable habitat by this sheep population, causing the population to be more vulnerable to human activity.

The mineral licks within the areas identified for Walker Fork and Logging Cabin Creek are important to moose. These leasehold location areas are smaller in size because the mineral licks are less defined and their use is not as intense as the other licks.

The following stipulations are to be applied in the approval of Plans of Operations for all areas of leasehold location under this order within the planning area:

1. Mining activity must avoid direct impacts to the mineral licks and the routes that animals use to access them, or mitigate adverse impacts to these resources. If a game trail or mineral lick is affected, mitigation alternatives may include a variety of measures to address lick accessibility.
2. In addition to protection of the routes themselves, activities that may divert animals from the routes or otherwise affect usage patterns shall be avoided or mitigated.

The following stipulation is to be applied in the approval of Plans of Operations for the areas of leasehold location for the Merry Christmas, Joseph, and Pittsburgh Creek mineral licks under this order:

1. Development will minimize or avoid disturbance to the animals during May.

The following stipulation is to be applied in the approval of Plans of Operations for the areas of leasehold location for the Utah Creek mineral lick under this order:

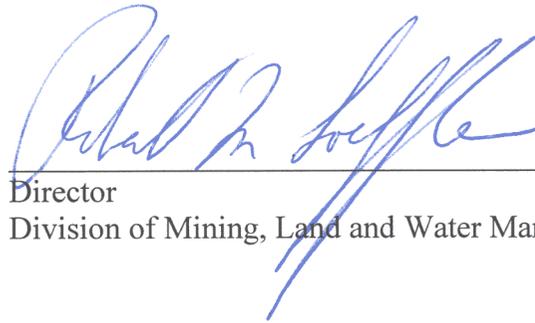
1. Development will minimize or avoid disturbance to the animals during May and June.

5.0 EFFECTIVE DATE

This order is effective as of:

[] _____(thirty days after the first public notice of this action.)

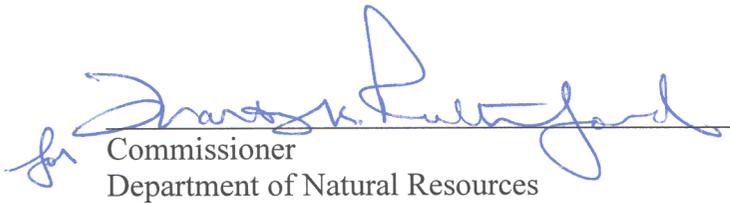
[x] The following (later) date: March 14, 2003



Director
Division of Mining, Land and Water Management

Dated: 2/3/03

Approved and ratified by:



Commissioner
Department of Natural Resources

Dated: 2/3/03

ATTACHMENT 1
LEGAL DESCRIPTION OF LANDS SUBJECT TO LEASEHOLD LOCATION
FOR MINERAL LEASEHOLD LOCATION ORDER NO. 28

Joseph Creek

T5S R22E, F.M.
Section 24 E1/2, E1/2W1/2, SW1/4SW1/4
Section 25 NE1/4, E1/2NW1/4, NW1/4NW1/4

T5S R23E, F.M.
Section 19

Pittsburgh Creek

T5S R24E, F.M.
Section 12 SE1/4, E1/2SW1/4, SE1/4NW1/4, S1/2NE1/4
Section 13 N1/2NE1/4, NE1/4NW1/4

T5S R25E, F.M.
Section 7 W1/2SW1/4, SW1/4NW1/4
Section 18 NW1/4NW1/4

Merry Christmas Creek

T3S R26E, F.M.
Section 16 S1/2SW1/4
Section 17 S1/2SE1/4
Section 20 NE1/4, N1/2SE1/4
Section 21 NW1/4, N1/2SW1/4

Utah Creek

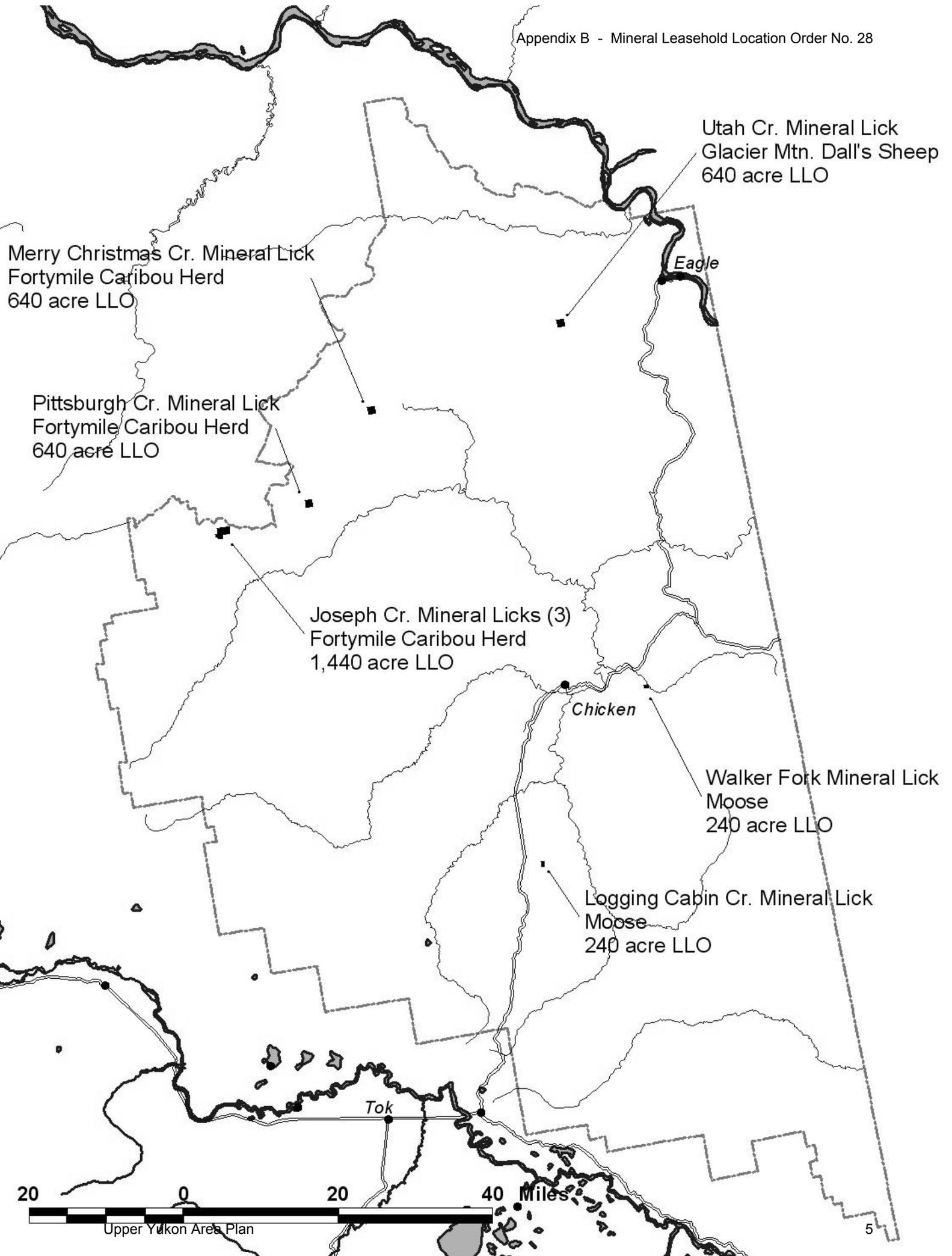
T2S R30E, F.M.
Section 14 W1/2, W1/2E1/2
Section 15 E1/2E1/2

Walker Fork

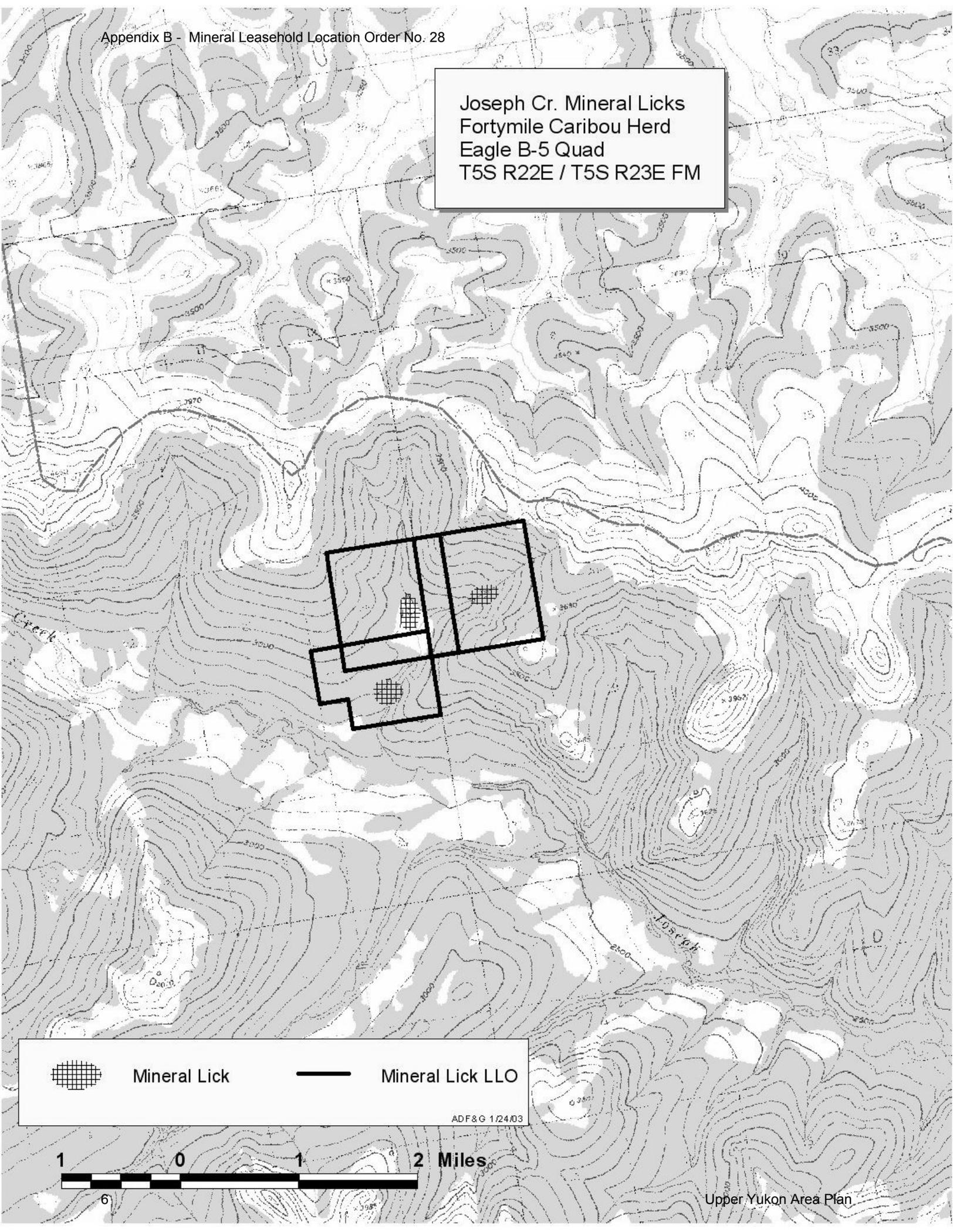
T26N R19E, C.M.
Section 12 SW1/4, W1/2SE1/4

Logging Cabin Creek

T23N R17E, C.M.
Section 20 SW1/4
Section 29 N1/2NW1/4



Joseph Cr. Mineral Licks
Fortymile Caribou Herd
Eagle B-5 Quad
T5S R22E / T5S R23E FM



Mineral Lick

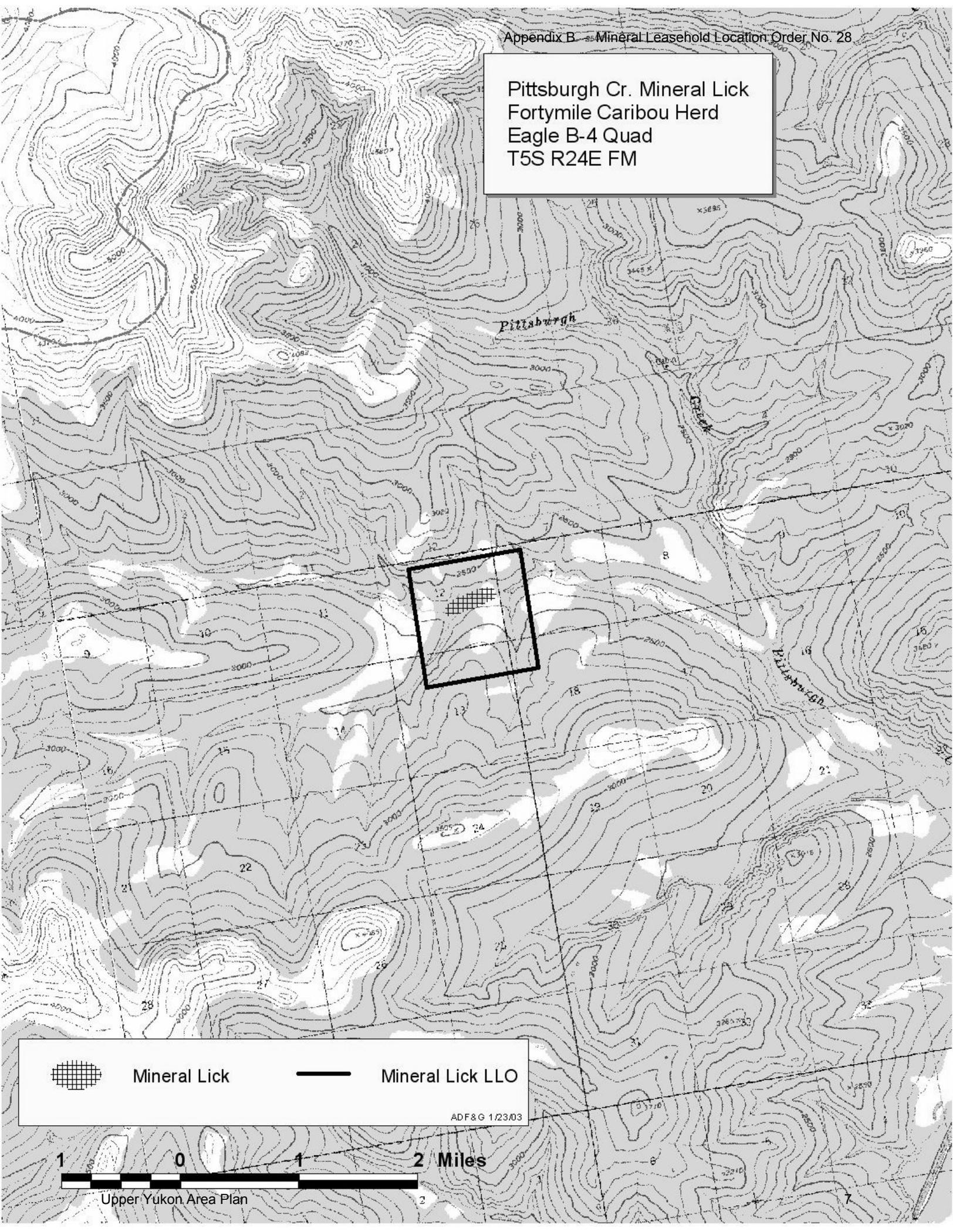


Mineral Lick LLO

ADF&G 1/24/03



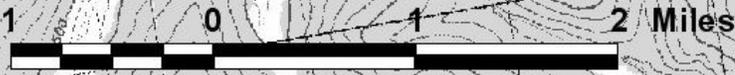
Pittsburgh Cr. Mineral Lick
Fortymile Caribou Herd
Eagle B-4 Quad
T5S R24E FM



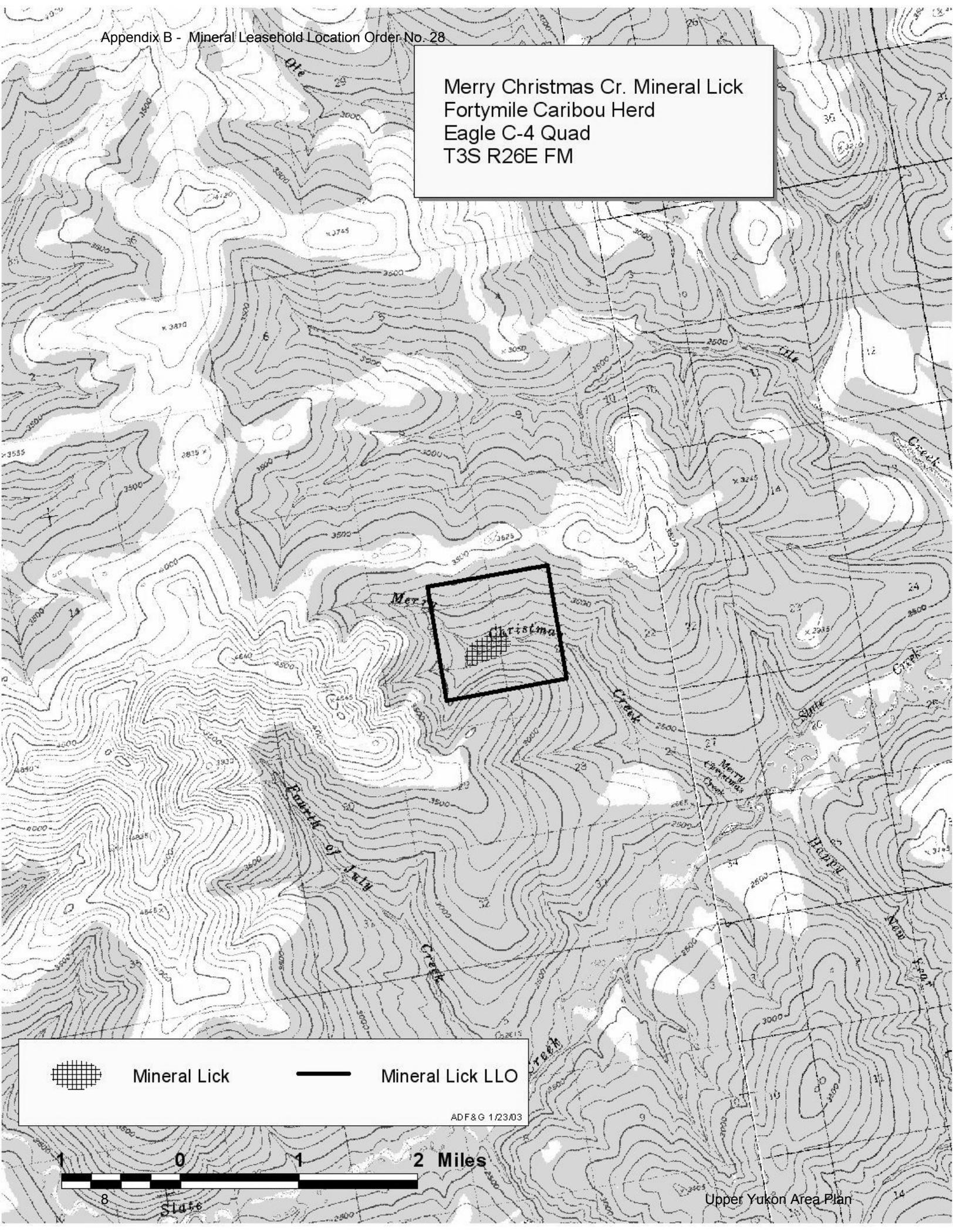
Mineral Lick

Mineral Lick LLO

ADF&G 1/23/03

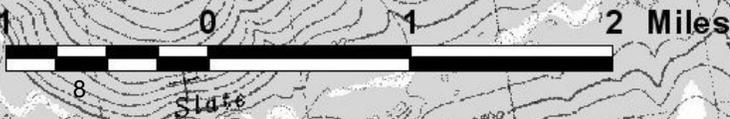


Merry Christmas Cr. Mineral Lick
Fortymile Caribou Herd
Eagle C-4 Quad
T3S R26E FM

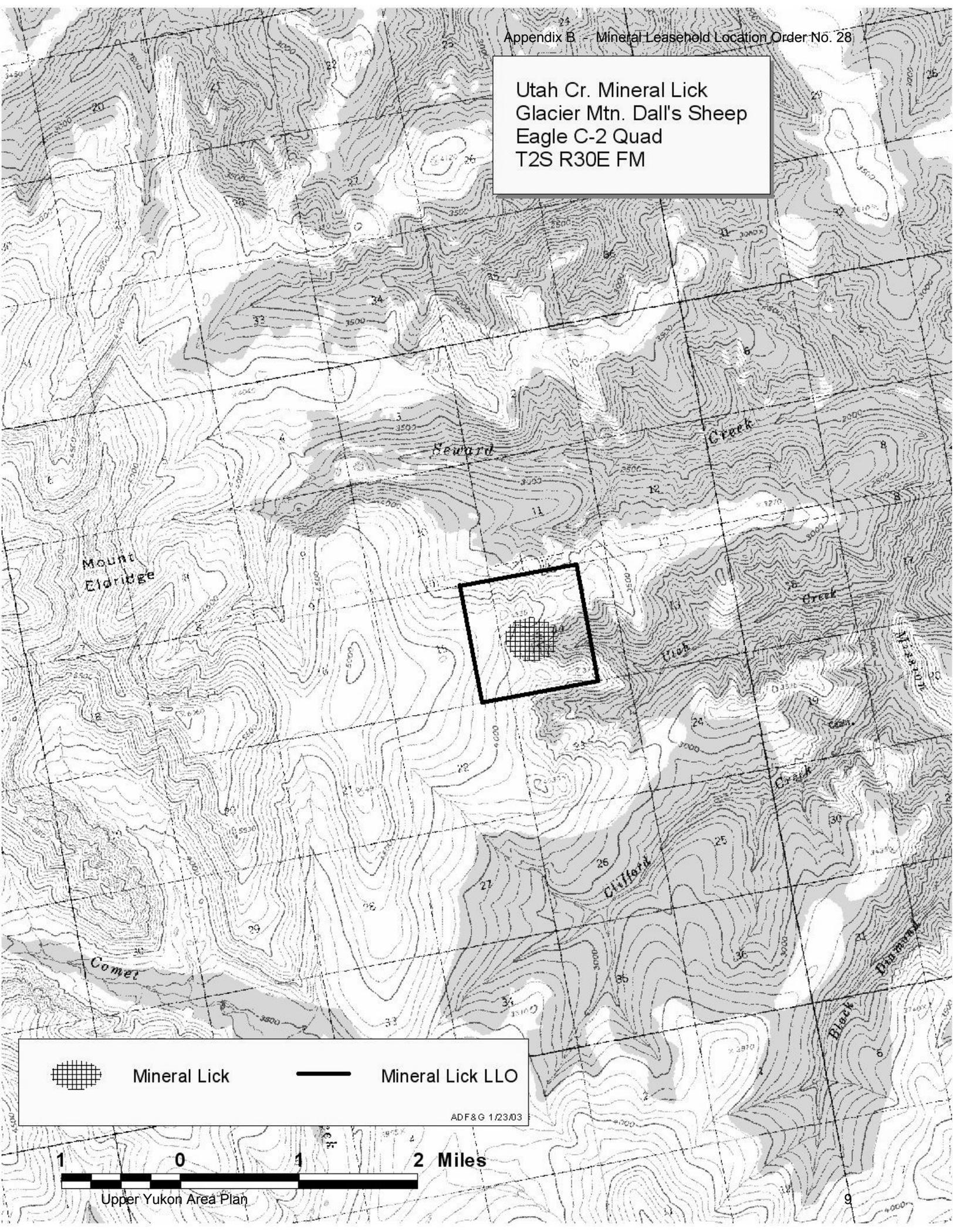


 Mineral Lick  Mineral Lick LLO

ADF&G 1/23/03



Utah Cr. Mineral Lick
Glacier Mtn. Dall's Sheep
Eagle C-2 Quad
T2S R30E FM



 Mineral Lick  Mineral Lick LLO

ADF&G 1/23/03



Walker Fork Mineral Lick
Moose
Eagle A-2 Quad
T26N R19E CRM



Mineral Lick

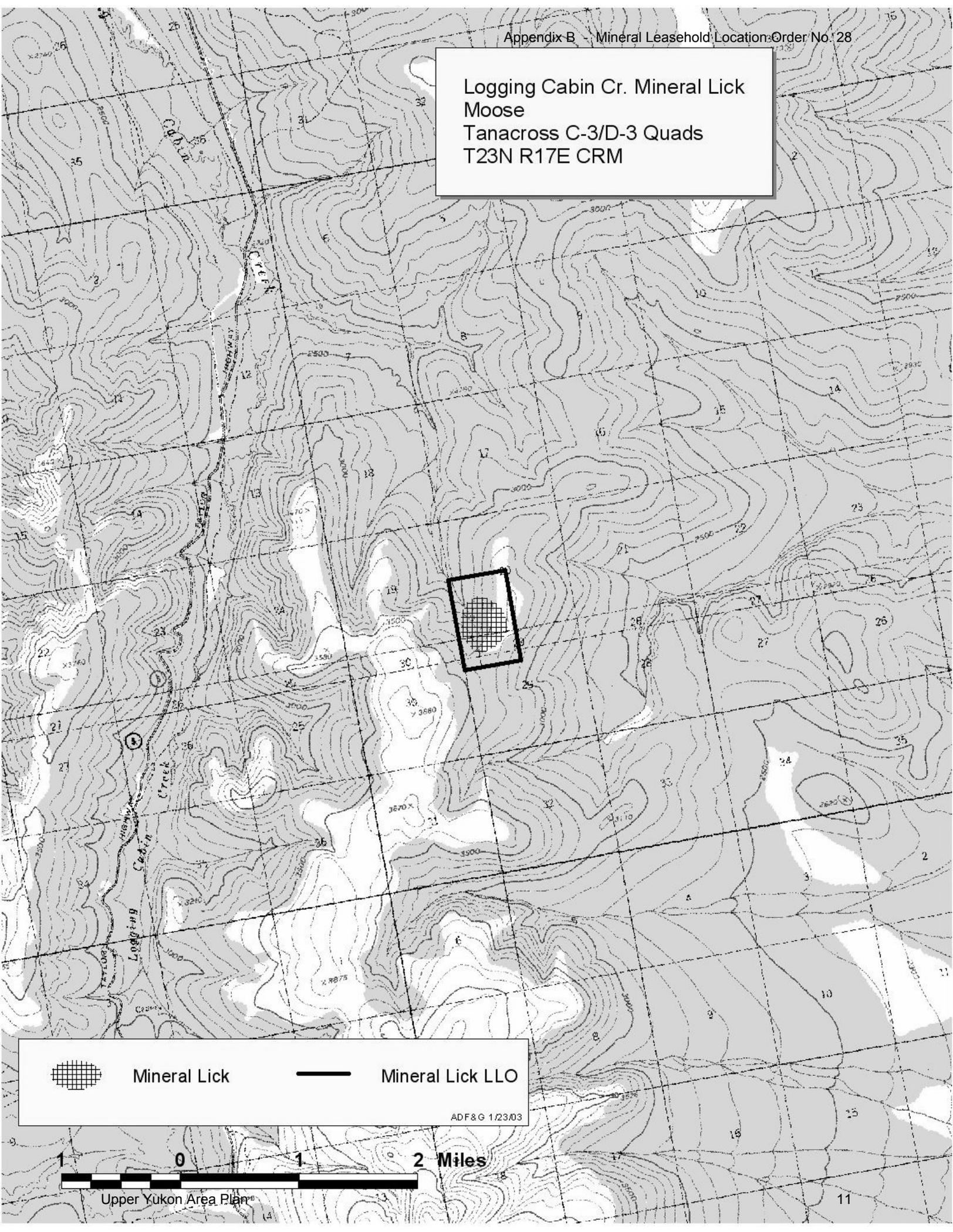


Mineral Lick LLO

ADF&G 1/23/03



Logging Cabin Cr. Mineral Lick
Moose
Tanacross C-3/D-3 Quads
T23N R17E CRM



 Mineral Lick  Mineral Lick LLO

ADF&G 1/23/03



APPENDIX C

**STATE OF ALASKA
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF MINING, LAND, AND WATER**

MINERAL LEASEHOLD LOCATION ORDER NO. 29

1.0 ORDER RESTRICTING TO LEASHOLD LOCATION

After the effective date of this order (see paragraph 5), and unless otherwise closed to mineral entry, rights to locatable minerals in the land covered by this order may be acquired only under the leasehold location system, AS 38.05.205, and may not be acquired by locating a mining claim under AS 38.05.195.

2.0 LAND SUBJECT TO THE TERMS OF THIS ORDER IS DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS:

<u>Legal Description</u>	<u>Acreage</u>
See attached map and Attachment 1	approximately 820

3.0 AUTHORITY FOR THE ORDER

This order is issued under the authority granted by AS 38.05.185.

4.0 FINDINGS AND DETERMINATIONS

The following findings and determinations are made:

The land described in paragraph 2.0 is found and determined to be subject to potential use conflicts which require that mining be allowed only under written leases issued under AS 38.05.205. These potential use conflicts include, but are not limited to, the following:

These lands are proposed for designation as Settlement (Se) by the Upper Yukon Area Plan, to make land available for private ownership near the communities of Chicken and Boundary. Because of the potential mineralized nature of these areas, mining may be an important use of these lands. Mining activity within these lands must avoid direct

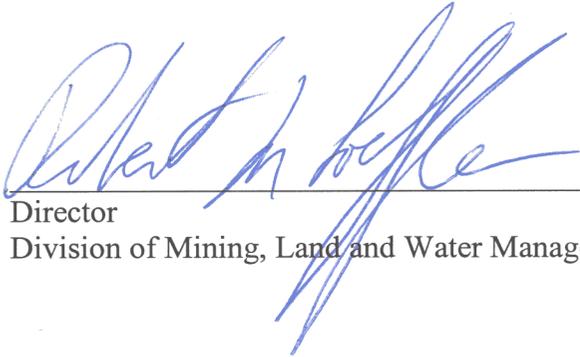
impacts on settlement, and mitigate other negative impacts. Leasehold location is an appropriate measure to allow mineral development to occur with minimal impacts to settlement.

5.0 EFFECTIVE DATE

This order is effective as of:

[] _____ (thirty days after the first public notice of this action.)

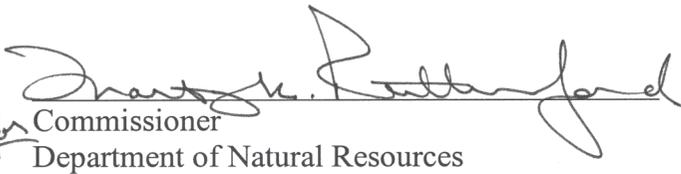
[x] The following (later) date: March 14, 2003



Director
Division of Mining, Land and Water Management

Dated: 2/3/03

Approved and ratified by:



Commissioner
Department of Natural Resources

Dated: 2/3/03

**ATTACHMENT 1
LANDS SUBJECT TO LEASEHOLD LOCATION
FOR MINERAL LEASEHOLD LOCATION ORDER NO. 29**

The following management units identified in the Upper Yukon Area Plan:

<u>Unit</u>	<u>Acres</u>
B - 05	1
B - 09	3
B - 10	40
C - 01	60
C - 04	240
C - 07	62
C - 08	414

Total	approximately 820

See maps in the 2003 Upper Yukon Area Plan.

APPENDIX D

STATE OF ALASKA
 DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
 DIVISION OF MINING, LAND AND WATER

LAND CLASSIFICATION ORDER NO. NR-02-001

- I. Name: **Upper Yukon Area Plan**
- II. The classifications in Part III are based on written justification contained in one of the following plans:

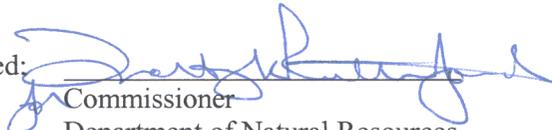
Area Plan: **Upper Yukon Area Plan**
 Adopted (x) Revised () Dated _____

Management Plan:
 Adopted () Revised () Dated _____

Site Specific Plan:
 Adopted () Revised () Dated _____

III. Legal Description	Acreage	Acquisition Authority	Existing Classification	Classification by this action
See maps, Upper Yukon Area Plan	4,235,000		None	Upper Yukon Area Plan

IV. This order is issued under the authority granted by AS 38.04.065 and AS 38.05.300 to the Commissioner of the Department of Natural Resources. The above described lands are hereby designated and classified as indicated. Nothing shall prevent the reclassification of these lands if warranted in the public interest.

Classified:  Commissioner
 Department of Natural Resources

Date: 2/3/03

APPENDIX E

INDEX

A

Access, 1-6, 2-2, 2-7, 2-9, 2-10, 2-12, 2-16, 2-18, 2-20, 2-22, 2-23, 2-24, 2-25, 2-27, 2-31, 2-35, 2-36, 2-42, 2-46, 2-50, 3-1, 3-3, 3-7, 3-12, 3-20, 3-26, 3-37, 3-41, 3-51, 3-54, 3-55, 3-61, 3-65
 Easements, 2-23, 2-26, 2-27, 2-28, 2-39, 2-48, 3-5, 3-59, 3-60
 Mineral Development, 2-33
 Acreage, 3-1, 3-2, 3-3, 3-7
 Classified Lands, 4-4
 Doyon, Ltd., 3-11, 4-6
 Shorelands, 4-3, 4-4
 State-Owned Uplands, 1-2, 3-11, 3-19, 3-37, 3-49
 State-Selected Uplands, 1-2, 3-11, 3-19, 3-37, 3-49
 Upland Designations, 4-3, 4-4
 Ahtna, Inc, 3-75
 Airspace and Military Operations, 1-7
 Airstrips, 3-38, 3-51
 Alaska
 Clean Water Actions, 2-25
 Constitution, 3-76, 3-77
 National Interest Lands Conservation Act (ANILCA), 3-53, 3-77
 Native Claims Settlement Act (ANCSA), 4-6
 American Summit, 3-22
 Aquatic Farming, 4-2
 Asbestos Landfill, 3-28, 3-29

B

Belle Isle, 3-23
 Boundary, 1-5, 3-49, 3-50, 3-51, 3-53, 3-54, 3-56, 3-58, 3-59, 3-60
 Airport, 3-49, 3-51, 3-58
 Buffers, 2-38, 2-48, 2-49, 2-50

C

Canada, 1-5, 3-12, 3-19, 3-37, 3-40, 3-49, 3-51
 Charley River, 3-11, 3-12
 Chicken, 1-5, 3-12, 3-21, 3-37, 3-38, 3-49, 3-50, 3-52, 3-53, 3-54, 3-56, 3-61, 3-62, 3-63, 3-64, 3-66
 Airport, 3-51, 3-61, 3-64
 Circle, 3-21
 Communication Facilities, 3-43

Corridors, 2-38

Creeks

- Atwater, 3-38, 3-52
- Birch, 3-12
- Buckskin, 3-52
- Champion, 3-20, 3-22, 3-24
- Chicken, 3-61, 3-62
- Gilliland, 3-53, 3-57
- Granite, 3-11
- Hutchinson, 3-19, 3-24
- Independence, 3-11, 3-12, 3-78
- Ingle, 3-50
- Jack Wade, 3-50
- Joseph, 2-6, 3-11, 3-12, 3-13, 3-14, 3-78
- Kechumstuk, 3-78
- Liberty, 3-38, 3-52
- Lilliwig, 3-50
- Logging Cabin, 3-40, 3-41, 3-78
- Lost Chicken, 3-63
- Merry Christmas, 2-6
- Mogul, 3-11
- O'Brien, 3-20, 3-24
- Pittsburgh, 3-15
- Slate, 3-11
- Taylor, 3-52
- Upper Butte, 3-11
- Upper Slate, 3-16
- Wolf, 3-38

Cultural Opportunities, 2-22

D

Dawson

- City, 1-5, 3-19, 3-23, 3-49, 3-53
- Region 1-5

Disposal Site, 3-28

Dot Lake, 1-5

Doyon, Ltd, 3-2, 3-11, 3-19, 3-20, 3-24, 3-53

E

Eagle. 1-5, 2-8, 3-19, 3-20, 3-21, 3-22, 3-23, 3-24, 3-25, 3-26, 3-27, 3-28, 3-29, 3-30, 3-31, 3-53, 3-57, 3-78

- Airport, 3-27, 3-28, 3-29
- Bluff, 3-29
- Historic District, 3-19, 3-22

Eagle Village, 2-8, 3-19, 3-20, 3-23, 3-24, 3-25, 3-26, 3-28, 3-30, 3-78

Eagles, 2-5

Economics, 2-2

- Development, 2-8, 2-32, 3-7, 3-56, 3-57
- Diversity, 2-2
- Impacts, 2-19
- Opportunities, 2-25, 3-56, 3-57
- Trapping, 2-46
- Educational Opportunities, 2-22

F

- Fairbanks, 1-5, 3-19
- Fairbanks/Valdez Military Road, 3-21, 3-50
- Fire, 2-8, 2-9, 2-10, 2-23, 2-37, 3-13, 3-52
 - Prescribed Burn, 3-38, 3-51
- Fish and Wildlife, 1-7, 2-5, 2-6, 2-27, 2-28, 2-35, 2-38, 2-43, 4-2
 - Habitat, 2-3, 2-4, 2-6, 2-22, 2-25, 2-29, 2-33, 2-35, 2-39, 2-41, 2-47, 2-48, 2-49, 2-50, 3-4, 3-11, 3-14, 3-37, 3-38, 3-40, 3-77, 4-4
 - Habitat and Harvest, 1-6, 2-1, 2-2, 2-10, 2-12, 2-13, 2-14, 2-17, 2-24, 2-30, 2-36, 2-42, 2-46, 3-3, 3-12, 3-22, 3-24, 3-38, 3-39, 3-51
 - Harvest, 3-29, 3-31, 3-38, 3-40, 3-42, 3-49, 3-51, 3-52, 3-59, 3-60, 3-61, 3-62, 3-63, 3-64
 - Threatened and Endangered Species, 2-4
- Fish Processing, 4-2
- Floathomes, 3-30
- Floods, 3-20
- Forestry, 2-1, 2-7, 2-8, 2-12, 2-17, 2-24, 2-30, 2-36, 2-42, 2-45, 2-46, 2-50, 3-13, 3-22, 3-39, 3-52
 - Firewood, 3-22, 3-39, 3-52
 - Forest Land Use Plan, 2-8, 2-12
 - Forest Resources, 2-13, 2-23
 - Forest Resources and Practices Act, 2-8, 2-9, 2-27
 - Houselogs, 2-23, 3-22, 3-39, 3-52
 - Log Transfer Facilities, 4-2
 - Tanana Valley State Forest, 2-8
 - Timber
 - Harvest, 2-29, 2-37, 3-22, 3-38, 3-39, 3-51, 3-52
 - Management Areas, 2-11
 - Personal Use Wood Harvest, 2-9, 2-22, 3-29, 3-31, 3-39, 3-52
 - Sales, 2-8, 2-9, 2-12, 2-39
 - Salvage, 2-8, 2-9, 2-44
- Fort Egbert, 3-20, 3-22
- Fortymile
 - Caribou Herd, 1-5, 2-5, 2-6, 2-33, 2-35, 3-11, 3-12, 3-14, 3-15, 3-16, 3-22, 3-38, 3-51
 - Caribou Herd Management Plan, 1-5, 3-12
 - Miner's Association, 3-58
 - Mining District, 1-1, 3-21, 3-38, 3-50, 3-51
 - Region, 3-21, 3-37
 - River, 1-1, 1-7, 2-5, 3-11, 3-14, 3-21, 3-23, 3-24, 3-38, 3-49, 3-50, 3-51, 3-52, 3-53, 3-77, 3-78, 4-6
 - Dennison Fork, 3-37, 3-40, 3-49, 3-52, 3-78

- Dennison Fork of the South Fork, 3-78
- East Fork, 3-38
- Middle Fork, 3-12, 3-13, 3-20, 3-24
- Middle Fork of North Fork, 3-78
- Mosquito Fork, 3-37, 3-38, 3-40, 3-49, 3-50, 3-51, 3-52, 3-53, 3-61
- Mosquito Fork of the South Fork, 3-78
- North Fork, 3-12, 3-14, 3-19, 3-20, 3-22, 3-24, 3-78
- South Fork, 3-49, 3-51, 3-52, 3-53, 3-78
- Walker Fork, 3-49, 3-50, 3-51, 3-52, 3-53, 3-57
- Walker Fork of the South Fork, 3-78
- West Fork, 3-37, 3-38, 3-51, 3-53, 3-78
 - Bridge, 3-39
- West Fork of the Dennison Fork of the South Fork, 3-78

Franklin, 3-50

G

- Gu, 2-14, 3-4
- Generally Allowed Uses, 1-7
- Glacier Mountain, 2-5, 2-35, 3-12, 3-15, 3-16, 3-20, 3-22, 3-25
 - Controlled Use Area, 3-24

H

- Ha, 3-4
- Han Kutchin Indian, 3-19
- Heritage Resources, 2-1, 2-7, 2-10, 2-11, 2-14, 2-17, 2-22, 2-24, 2-30, 3-3, 3-13, 3-22, 3-39, 3-52, 4-5
 - Alaska Heritage Resources Survey, 2-12, 3-13, 3-22, 3-39, 3-52, 3-62, 3-64
 - National Register of Historic Places, 3-52
- Highways, 2-42, 3-51
 - Alaska, 1-1, 3-12
 - Steese, 3-12
 - Taylor, 1-2, 1-5, 2-14, 3-12, 3-13, 3-19, 3-20, 3-22, 3-23, 3-24, 3-25, 3-29, 3-37, 3-38, 3-39, 3-41, 3-42, 3-43, 3-49, 3-50, 3-51, 3-52, 3-53, 3-54, 3-55, 3-56, 3-57, 3-61, 3-62, 3-63, 3-64, 3-65
 - Top of the World, 3-19, 3-23, 3-24, 3-39, 3-49, 3-50, 3-52, 3-53, 3-54, 3-56, 3-57, 3-58, 3-59, 3-60, 3-64

I

- Interagency Land Management Agreements, 3-27, 3-28, 2-34, 3-58, 3-64

J

- Jack Wade, 3-50
 - Junction, 3-24, 3-53, 3-54, 3-57, 3-64, 3-65
- Joseph, 3-11, 3-13
 - Airstrip, 3-12

K

Kechumstuk, 3-12, 3-38, 3-39
 Station, 3-37, 3-50
 Klondike Gold Rush, 3-23
 Klondike River, 1-5

L

Ladue River, 3-12, 3-37, 3-38, 3-39, 3-40

Land

Classifications, 1-9, 3-6, 4-1, 4-3, 4-4, 4-5
 Classification Order, 1-3, 1-9, 4-1, 4-4
 Community Impacts, 2-19
 Disposals, 2-43, 3-7, 3-54
 Management Policies, 1-3, 2-1, 3-1
 Mental Health, 1-7, 3-78
 Municipal Ownership, 2-30
 Non-DNR, 1-7
 Offerings, 2-11, 2-43, 3-5
 Private, 2-19, 2-25
 Riparian, 2-22
 Sales, 1-6, 2-14, 2-25, 2-26, 3-55, 3-66
 Cumulative Effects, 2-22
 Shorelands, 1-2, 1-7, 2-7, 2-10, 2-12, 2-22, 2-25, 2-28, 2-29, 2-36, 2-42, 2-45, 2-50, 3-7,
 3-14, 3-75, 3-77, 3-78, 4-2
 Special Use Designation, 2-38
 State, 1-9, 3-53, 3-55, 3-56, 4-1, 4-6
 Submerged, 1-2, 3-75, 4-1, 4-2
 Susceptible to Navigation, 1-6
 Tidelands, 1-2, 3-75, 4-1, 4-2
 University, 3-78
 Uplands, 1-2, 2-28, 2-29, 3-5, 3-7, 3-75, 4-1, 4-6
 Use Designations, 1-9, 3-2, 3-3, 3-4, 3-5, 3-6, 3-7, 4-3, 4-4
 Conversion to Classifications, 4-4
 General Use, 3-4, 3-7, 4-1, 4-5
 Habitat, 3-4, 3-6, 3-14
 Mining, 3-4
 Public Facilities, 3-4, 3-6
 Public Recreation, 3-4, 4-2
 Reserved Use, 4-2
 Resource Management, 3-5, 3-6, 3-14, 4-2, 4-4
 Settlement, 3-5, 4-2
 Settlement-Commercial, 3-5
 Waterfront Development, 4-2
 Wildlife Habitat, 4-2
 Landfill, 3-56
 Lost Chicken Hill, 3-62

M

Management

Guidelines, 2-3

Policies, 1-3

Materials, 2-1, 2-7, 2-13, 2-24, 2-30, 2-42, 2-45, 2-50, 3-13, 3-23, 3-39, 3-52

Reclamation, 2-13, 2-33, 3-63

Sand and Gravel, 2-22, 2-49

Screening, 2-14

Sites, 2-13, 2-14, 3-3, 3-5, 3-28, 3-39, 3-52, 3-59, 3-60, 3-63, 3-65

Sitings, 2-13

Sources, 2-22

Mertie Range, 3-11

Middle Fork Region, 2-33, 3-5, 3-11, 3-12, 3-13, 3-14, 3-16, 3-51, 4-5, 4-6

Mineral, 4-2

Coal, 3-23

Development, 4-5

Entry, 2-32, 3-5, 4-7

Exploration, 2-32

Land, 3-78, 4-2

Leasehold Location Orders, 1-3, 2-6, 2-34, 3-5, 3-15, 3-16, 3-41, 3-57, 4-5

Licks, 2-6, 2-35, 3-5, 3-15, 3-41, 3-57, 4-5

Joseph, 2-35, 3-15

Logging Cabin, 2-35, 3-41

Merry Christmas, 2-35, 3-15

Pittsburgh Creek, 2-35, 3-15

Utah Creek, 2-35, 3-15

Walker Fork, 2-35

Orders, 1-9, 2-34

Potential, 3-3, 3-11, 3-32, 3-37, 3-55

Resources, 2-1, 2-32, 3-13, 3-14, 3-23, 3-39, 3-52

Values, 3-42

Mining, 1-6, 2-5, 2-32, 3-13, 3-14, 3-26, 3-40, 3-41, 3-49, 3-50, 3-51, 3-52, 3-53, 3-54, 3-55, 3-59, 3-60, 3-61, 3-62, 3-63, 3-64, 3-78

Commercial Recreational Activities, 2-32

Recreational Panning Areas, 2-32

Tintina Gold Belt, 3-23, 3-39, 3-52

Mosquito Flats, 3-38

Mount Eldridge, 3-16, 3-20

Mount Fairplay, 3-37, 3-40, 3-42, 3-43

Mount Harper, 3-11, 3-12

Mount Veta, 3-37

Mount Warbelow, 3-49

Municipalities, 3-5, 3-6

Entitlement Program, 3-6, 4-5

N

Native

- Allotment, 3-5, 3-64

- Corporations, 2-11, 4-6

Navigability, 2-29, 3-75

- Determinations, 1-7, 3-75, 3-77

- Navigable Waterbodies, 1-3, 3-1, 3-7, 3-11, 3-14, 3-49, 3-53, 3-75, 3-76, 3-77, 3-78

- Nelchina Caribou Herd, 3-38, 3-51

- North Fork Region, 3-21, 3-22, 3-24, 3-27, 4-6

- North Peak, 3-11, 3-20

O

Off-Road

- Travel, 2-37

- Vehicle Management, 2-38

- Oil and Gas, 2-32

- Open Space, 2-22

P

- Pr, 3-4

- Permits, 2-49, 2-50

- Dredge and Fill Permits, 2-49

Plan

- Changes, 4-7

- Amendment, 4-7

- Minor Change, 4-7

- Special Exception, 4-7

Other Plans

- Fortymile Caribou Herd Management Plan, 1-5

- Habitat Management Needs Assessment for the Fortymile Caribou Herd, 1-5, 3-16, 3-51

- Local, 2-19

- Location Study Report for the Taylor Highway, 1-5

- Tanana Basin Area Plan, 3-11

- River Management Plan for the Fortymile River, 1-5, 3-14, 3-24, 3-40, 3-53, 4-6

- Preliminary Exchange Agreement, 2-34

- Public Facilities, 2-48, 3-4

- Public Land Orders, 3-2, 4-7

- Public Safety, 2-43

- Public Trust Doctrine, 2-29, 3-7, 3-75, 3-76, 4-6

R

- Rh, 3-5

- Ru, 3-4

- Recreation, 1-6, 2-1, 2-7, 2-8, 2-9, 2-10, 2-12, 2-13, 2-15, 2-23, 2-24, 2-29, 2-31, 2-44, 2-45, 2-47, 2-50, 3-3, 3-4, 3-13, 3-14, 3-23, 3-24, 3-29, 3-31, 3-37, 3-39, 3-40, 3-42, 3-49, 3-51, 3-52, 3-53, 3-59, 3-60, 3-61, 3-62, 3-63, 3-64, 3-65, 3-77, 3-78, 4-5

- .070 / .075 Process, 2-17
- .073 Process, 2-17
- Cabins, 2-21
- Commercial, 3-78, 4-2
- Commercial Facilities, 2-16
- Commercial Leasing Processes, 2-16
- Opportunities, 2-22, 3-7
- Siting, 2-16
- Resource Allocation Summary Tables, 3-1, 3-3
- Resource
 - Development, 3-14, 3-25, 3-41
 - Management, 2-9, 3-5
- Revised Statutes Section 2477 (RS 2477), 2-37, 2-38, 2-40, 2-41, 3-12, 3-13, 3-15, 3-20, 3-21, 3-25, 3-26, 3-37, 3-39, 3-41, 3-50, 3-52, 3-54
- Rivers, 2-6, 3-77, 3-78
 - Wild and Scenic River Corridor, 3-11, 3-14, 3-19, 3-24, 3-40, 3-49, 3-53, 3-55, 3-66, 3-77
 - National Wild and Scenic River System, 1-1, 1-7, 3-13, 3-39, 3-53, 3-77, 4-6
- Roads, 1-6, 3-2, 3-13, 3-14, 3-25, 3-41, 3-54

S

- Sc, 3-5
- Se, 3-5
- Salcha River, 3-12
- Scenic Features, 2-22, 2-25, 2-44
- Settlement, 2-1, 2-7, 2-10, 2-14, 2-19, 2-33, 2-34, 2-36, 2-42, 2-45, 2-46, 2-48, 2-50, 3-5, 3-7, 3-23, 3-25, 3-29, 3-30, 3-39, 3-40, 3-53, 3-54, 3-55, 3-56, 3-57, 3-58, 3-59, 3-61, 3-62, 3-63, 3-64, 3-65, 4-5
 - Commercial, 3-5, 3-14, 3-56, 3-58, 3-59, 3-61, 3-62, 3-63, 3-64, 3-65, 4-5
 - Community Impacts, 2-19
 - Coordination with Landowners, 2-19
 - Coordination with Local Governments, 2-19
 - Design and Development, 2-22
 - Cost of Public Services, 2-22
 - Mineralized Areas, 2-24
 - Public Land for Communities, 2-22
 - Subdivision, 2-23
 - Land, 2-20
 - Community Settlement Areas, 2-20
 - Offerings, 2-20
 - Parcels, 2-21
 - Remote Settlement Areas, 2-20, 2-34
 - Protection of Life and Property, 2-21
 - Social Impacts, 2-19
- Seventymile River, 3-11, 3-20, 3-21, 3-22, 3-23
- Shelter Cabins, 2-16
- Sixtymile River, 3-12, 3-37
- Soil Erosion, 2-6, 2-29, 2-38, 2-48, 2-50, 3-20, 3-75

South Fork Region, 3-38, 3-42, 4-6

State of Alaska, 2-5, 3-19, 3-22

- Boards of Fisheries and Game, 2-2
- Department of Environmental Conservation, 2-24, 2-27, 3-56, 3-66
- Department of Fish and Game, 2-3, 2-4, 2-5, 2-6, 2-13, 2-16, 2-25, 2-39, 2-40, 2-44, 3-6, 3-14, 3-22, 3-25, 3-38, 3-42, 3-52
- Department of Natural Resources, 1-4, 2-2, 2-3, 2-4, 2-6, 2-16, 2-17, 2-19, 2-21, 2-22, 2-23, 2-24, 2-25, 2-29, 2-30, 2-32, 2-33, 2-37, 2-38, 2-39, 2-40, 2-41, 2-43, 2-46, 2-47, 2-49, 3-2, 3-3, 3-4, 3-5, 3-6, 3-7, 3-11, 3-14, 3-24, 3-25, 3-26, 3-39, 3-40, 3-43, 3-52, 3-53, 3-54, 3-55, 3-56, 3-66, 3-75, 3-76, 3-77, 3-78, 4-1, 4-6
 - Division of Forestry, 1-4, 2-12, 3-6
 - Tanana Valley State Forest, 3-13
 - Division of Mining, Land and Water, 1-4, 1-7, 2-33, 2-40
 - Division of Parks and Outdoor Recreation, 1-4, 2-11, 2-16, 2-40, 2-44, 3-22
 - Office of History and Archaeology, 2-11, 2-12
 - Park System, 2-15
 - State Historic Preservation Office, 3-22
- Department of Transportation and Public Facilities, 2-17, 2-39, 2-43, 2-44, 3-6, 3-23, 2-44, 3-25, 3-27, 3-28, 3-39, 3-49, 3-52, 3-53, 3-57, 3-58, 3-59, 3-60, 3-63, 3-64, 3-65
- Road Commission (ARC), 3-21
- Species of Special Concern, 2-5
- State-Owned Land, 3-20, 3-23, 3-27, 3-37, 3-40, 3-42, 3-49, 3-54, 3-58, 3-77, 3-78, 4-6
- State-Owned Shorelands, 3-24, 3-26, 3-30, 3-31, 3-40, 3-53
- State-Selected Land, 1-6, 3-20, 3-27, 3-37, 3-40, 3-42, 3-54, 3-58, 3-78, 4-6
- Statutes, 1-1, 1-4, 1-6, 1-7, 2-2, 2-3, 2-4, 2-6, 2-9, 2-13, 2-14, 2-16, 2-22, 2-26, 2-28, 2-29, 2-30, 2-32, 2-33, 2-34, 2-35, 2-38, 2-40, 2-41, 2-47, 3-3, 3-4, 3-25, 3-55, 3-75, 3-76, 4-1, 4-2, 4-3, 4-4, 4-5, 4-7

Subsistence, 2-2, 2-6

Subsurface Resources, 2-7, 2-10, 2-14, 2-24, 2-31, 2-34, 2-42, 2-45, 3-5

Surface Leasing, 4-5

T

Tanacross, 1-5

Tanana Basin Area Plan, 1-1

Taylor Mountain, 3-49, 3-50

Telegraph Hill, 3-23

Tetlin, 1-5

- Junction, 3-24, 3-37, 3-38, 3-53

Tok, 1-5, 3-19, 3-23

Tourism, 1-2, 2-1, 2-7, 2-8, 2-10, 2-12, 2-15, 2-24, 2-25, 2-31, 2-44, 2-45, 3-13, 3-23, 3-49, 3-53

Trails, 1-6, 2-7, 2-10, 2-12, 2-18, 2-24, 2-31, 2-35, 2-36, 2-37, 2-38, 2-39, 2-40, 2-46, 2-50, 3-20, 3-25, 3-26, 3-39, 3-55

- Corridors, 2-37, 2-38
- RS 2477 Trails, 3-23, 3-52, 3-59, 3-60
 - RST 10 Chicken-Franklin, 2-41, 3-50
 - RST 11 Eagle-Alder Creek Trail, 2-41, 3-21

- RST 67 Eagle-Circle Mail Trail, 2-41, 3-21
- RST 78 Fortymile-Franklin, 2-41, 3-21, 3-50
- RST 130 Lillywig Creek Winter Sled Road, 2-41
- RST 159 Lillywig Creek Summer Pack Trail, 2-41, 3-50
- RST 258 Dome Creek-Steel Creek, 2-42, 3-21
- RST 260 Canyon Creek-Walkers Fork, 2-42, 3-51, 3-59, 3-60
- RST 284 Franklin-Steele Creek, 2-42, 3-50
- RST 302 Liberty Cabin-Dome Creek, 2-42, 3-21
- RST 379 North Fork of Fortymile-Big Delta, 2-42, 3-12, 3-21, 3-50
- RST 391 Tanancross-Kechumstuk, 2-42
- RST 409 Jack Wade-Steele Creek (Winter), 2-42, 3-50
- RST 410 Jack Wade-Steele Creek (Summer), 2-42, 3-50
- RST 421 Ketchumstuk-Chicken, 2-42, 3-37, 3-50
- RST 465 Fortymile Dome-Boundary Creek, 2-42, 3-21
- RST 656 Dennison Fork Trail, 2-42, 3-38
- RST 787 Teddy's Fork Trail, 2-42, 3-21
- RST 789 Ketchumstuk Winter Trail, 2-42, 3-12, 3-38, 3-50
- RST 792 Boundary-Lassen Landing, 2-42, 3-51
- RST 797 Napoleon Creek Trail, 2-42
- RST 803 Trout Creek Trail, 2-42
- RST 1065 Jack Wade Landing-Boundary, 2-42, 3-50
- RST 1594 Fortymile Station-Eagle, 2-42, 3-21
- RST 1801 Lost Chicken to Wall Street, 2-42
- RST 1832 Chicken-Fish McKinley Creeks, 2-42, 3-50
- RST 1854 Ladue River Trail, 2-42, 3-38
- RST 1871 Steele Creek-Fortymile (U.S. / Canadian Boundary), 2-42, 3-21, 3-51
- RST 1883 Walker Fork-Davis Creek-Border, 2-42, 3-51
- RST 1891 Mission Creek Trail, 2-42, 3-21
- RST 1892 Fortymile Station-Eagle: Government Supply Route, 2-42, 3-21
- RST 1903 Poker Creek Trail, 2-42, 3-51
- RST 1921 Washington Creek Trail, 2-42
- Walker Fork, 3-62, 3-63
- Trailheads, 2-40
- Transportation, 2-1, 2-7, 2-9, 2-10, 2-14, 2-18, 2-24, 2-30, 2-31, 2-38, 2-42, 2-43, 2-50, 3-3, 3-23, 3-25, 3-53
 - Bridges, 2-44
 - Culverts, 2-44
 - Road Pull-Outs, 2-44, 3-65
- Traplines, 2-39
- Trapping Cabins, 2-1, 2-7, 2-10, 2-42, 2-46
 - Permits, 2-46

U

- Upper Middle Fork, 3-16
- Upper Seventymile River, 3-22
- U.S. - Canada Border, 1-1, 3-19, 3-20, 3-24, 3-49, 3-53
- U.S. Federal Government, 2-2

Army Corps of Engineers, 2-50, 3-20
 Aviation Administration, 3-51
 Bureau of Land Management, 3-2, 3-14, 3-19, 3-24, 3-40, 3-53, 3-77
 Federal Subsistence Board, 2-2
 Fish and Wildlife Service, 2-4, 2-5
 Legislation, 2-5
 National Marine Fisheries Service, 2-4
 Park Service
 Yukon - Charley Rivers National Preserve, 1-1, 3-11, 3-19, 3-20

V

Valdez, 3-21

W

Wallcutt Mountain, 3-20
 Walker Fork Region, 2-34, 3-5, 3-49, 3-58, 3-66, 4-5, 4-6
 Washington-Alaska Military Cable and Telegraph System (WAMCATS), 3-21, 3-22, 3-37, 3-38, 3-50
 Water
 Availability, 2-24
 Flooding, 2-47
 Hydrologic System, 2-29, 2-43, 2-47, 2-48, 2-49, 4-5
 Intake Structures, 2-4, 2-29
 Instream Flow, 2-7, 2-10, 2-12, 2-24, 2-30, 2-36, 2-42, 2-45, 2-50
 Lakes, 2-28, 3-77, 3-78
 Quality, 2-13, 2-25, 2-28, 2-30, 2-48
 Recharge Areas, 2-22
 Resource Quantity, 2-13
 Rights, 2-13
 Stream, 2-27, 2-28, 2-29
 Buffers, 2-26, 2-27
 Corridors, 2-7, 2-10, 2-12, 2-16, 2-24, 2-36, 2-42, 2-45, 2-50
 Crossings, 2-43
 Watersheds, 2-22
 Wetlands, 2-16, 2-22, 2-28, 2-37, 2-38, 2-39, 2-40, 2-44, 2-49, 2-50
 Classes, 2-47, 2-48
 Heavy Equipment Use, 2-49
 Management, 2-7, 2-10, 2-24, 2-31, 2-36, 2-47, 2-50
 National Wetlands Inventory, 2-48, 2-49

Y

Yukon
 Kandik Oil and Gas Basin, 3-23
 Land Use Planning Council, 1-5
 River, 1-1, 2-5, 3-12, 3-19, 3-20, 3-21, 3-22, 3-23, 3-29, 3-30, 3-31, 3-78
 Territory, 1-5, 3-53
 Yukon-Tanana Upland, 3-11, 3-37, 3-49

