

MANAGEMENT UNIT: KNIK

MANAGEMENT INTENT

- Land in the Knik Unit should be managed to maintain the existing low density residential settlement pattern. This unit has the sub-basin's greatest concentration of publicly owned land suitable for small farms but not feasible for commercial farms. Small farms would be compatible with low density residential settlement. For these reasons, small farms should be encouraged on the good agricultural land in this unit (except areas noted below). Most of this land is in borough ownership.
- Public land in the unit between Goose Creek and Fish Creek (both anadromous fish streams) should be managed to provide a long term low density buffer separating the projected higher intensity uses in Wasilla and Point MacKenzie. To achieve this goal the seven state parcels near these streams (see the following map) will be retained in public ownership and managed for habitat, recreation, and watershed values. These parcels contain limited amounts of potential agricultural land, approximately 160 acres, that would be lost to small farm use as a result of this policy.
- The hydrologic integrity of Fish Creek, Goose Creek, and related wetland system should be maintained by public land buffers around the streams and important wetlands. See Chapter III, Policies and Management Guidelines; Wetlands, and River and Stream Buffers.
- Developable land unsuited for farms and outside the undeveloped Goose/Fish Creek buffer should be made available for low density residential use.
- The integrity of the Iditarod Trail should be maintained. For guidelines regarding the management of publicly owned portions of the Iditarod Trail, see Chapter III, Policies and Management Guidelines; Trails.
- Existing mushing trails should be maintained in public ownership.

Recommended Land Uses

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|---|--------------------------------------|
| - Settlement  | - Small Farms                        |
| - Recreation (Recreation sites, the Iditarod Trail, and other mushing trails) | - Fish and Wildlife (Stream buffers) |
|   | - Forestry (personal use areas)      |