

Unit 19. Lower Mulchatna Uplands

Background

Land Status. Most of the unit is owned or selected by the state. Smaller amounts of land are owned or selected by Koliganek Natives Ltd. and Stuyahok Ltd. Twenty-six Native allotments are located in the unit. The eastern portion of the unit is within the Lake and Peninsula Borough. Mining claims are located in the northern portion of the unit.

Access. The unit is easily accessed by floatplane at many lakes and on the lower Swan River, except in the hilly northern portion of the unit where relatively few airplane landing sites exist. The southern portion of the unit is easily accessed by snowmobile from Nushagak River communities. Most of the unit is about a one-hour flight from Iliamna.

Existing Development. Two cabins are located in this unit. Three sites have been used as guided/outfitted hunting camps.

Fisheries. Fisheries values are generally low.

Subsistence and sport fishing uses are low.

Wildlife. Moose density is moderate; caribou density is high; brown bear density is high in the Jack Rabbit Hills and moderate elsewhere. Portions of the unit provide essential caribou calving habitat.

Subsistence hunting for caribou is high in the winter. Sport hunting use in the fall is high for caribou and moderate to high for moose, primarily by nonresident and non-local Alaskans. Guided brown bear hunting use is moderate in the Jack Rabbit Hills vicinity.

Trails and Easements. The following 17(b) easements are located in this unit: EIN 25a and 35a. (Refer to the maps in the envelope in the back of this document for descriptions of these easements.)

Other Values. The northern and eastern portions of the unit are hilly and have moderate scenic value. Low relief and tundra in much of the western portion of the unit provide low scenic value.

Management Intent

Semi-primitive use experience.

Management Guidelines

Long-term Use (longer than 14 consecutive days at one site)

Permanent facilities	Prohibited.
Temporary facilities	May be allowed (case-by-case).
Trapping cabins	May be allowed (case-by-case).
Boat storage	May be allowed (case-by-case).
Airstrip development	May be allowed (case-by-case).
Docks: permanent	Prohibited.
temporary	May be allowed (case-by-case).
Other uses	May be allowed (case-by-case).

Short-term Use (14 consecutive days or less at one site)

See Short-term Uses (generally allowed uses) in Chapter 2.

Other Guidelines Specific to this Unit

- U19.1 Caribou Calving Habitat. This unit contains caribou calving habitat (see following map). Temporary facilities, trapping cabins, boat storage, airstrip development, temporary docks, and other long-term uses may be allowed in caribou calving habitat if, based on consultation with ADF&G, uses can be sited and operated in a manner that is not likely to cause significant impact to caribou calving.
- U19.2 Long-term Uses Associated with Mineral/Oil and Gas Activity. For long-term uses associated with mineral and oil and gas exploration and development, see Chapter 2 guideline.
- U19.3 Siting Criteria. Long-term uses will be sited to minimize evidence of human use.

Public Use Sites

None.

Recommendations for this Unit

None.

