

## **Unit 5. Lower Nushagak and Mulchatna River Corridors, New Stuyahok Vicinity**

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### **Background**

**Land Status.** Most of the land is owned by Stuyahok Ltd. No uplands are owned by the state in the unit. The Nushagak River and Nunachuak Creek are navigable; the state owns the shorelands. Eight Native allotments are in the unit.

**Miles of River.** The main channel of the Nushagak River extends for 29 miles. The main channel of the Mulchatna River extends for 17 miles.

**Access.** The corridor is easily accessible by motorboat, float plane, and snowmobile. The river is important for use as a corridor for boat travel between Dillingham and upriver villages. The unit is near a major airport in Dillingham and a developed public airstrip exists in New Stuyahok.

**Existing Development.** The unit contains the city of New Stuyahok and three cabins used seasonally.

**Fisheries.** The lower Nushagak and Mulchatna rivers are a major salmon migration route, as well as important king and chum salmon spawning habitat.

Subsistence fishing use is high, particularly near New Stuyahok and the mouth of the Mulchatna. Sport fishing use is low to moderate.

**Wildlife.** Moose density is moderate; caribou density varies by season and is occasionally high.

Subsistence hunting use is high. Little sport hunting use takes place in the unit because of private land ownership and competition with local hunters.

**Trails and Easements.** The following 17(b) easements are located in this unit: EIN 17, 17a, 19, 19a, 32, 32a, 33, 33a, 35, and 36. (Refer to the maps in the envelope in the back of this document for descriptions of these easements.)

**Other Values.** Scenic values are relatively low because of constricted views and low landscape diversity. The corridor is important for local trapping and woodcutting uses. Eight cultural sites are documented in the unit.

## **Management Intent**

Semi-developed use experience.

## **Management Guidelines**

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

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

\* The state owns only shorelands in this unit. Permanent facilities and temporary facilities (except for floating facilities) and trapping cabins are prohibited on shorelands.

### **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**

None.

## **Public Use Sites**

None.

## **Recommendations for this Unit**

None.