Management Guidelines

Boating Restrictions. None

Heritage Resources. Historic and prehistoric sites should be evaluated for their interpretive values for tourism and general public interest. This particularly applies to the lower Talkeetna River because of ready public access and concentration of sites.

Public Information. A kiosk which includes information on Talkeetna Recreation River should be constructed at the Talkeetna boat launch.

Public Use Sites

See Public Use Sites in Chapter 2 for management guidelines. Specific locations are shown on maps at the end of this unit.

PU 3a.1 River Mouth and Railroad Bridge (RM 0.0). The river mouth and railroad bridge are heavily used by Talkeetna residents and visitors to the area for fishing and recreation.

PU 3a.2 Boat Launch and Campground (RM 1.0). This site is heavily used for boat launching, parking, and public uses associated with the campground.

PU 3a.3 Larson Creek Mouth (RM 12.8) This site provides public access to the river by road from the Bartlett Earth Station. The area is used for fishing, camping, and launching boats. The site is also one of the most popular areas for recreational use by the residents of nearby subdivisions. Because the area receives such wide use, no permits or leases should be issued which provide exclusive use of any portion of the site.

PU 3a.4 Sheep River (RM 15). This site is used for fishing and camping.

3b. Middle Talkeetna River Subunit

Background

MILES OF RIVER/RIVER CHARACTERISTICS, RM 15.5 to RM 31.1

This subunit begins above the mouth of Sheep River and extends to and includes the mouth of Iron Creek. Less than 5 percent of the area is contiguous wetland.

LAND OWNERSHIP

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Acres</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>State</td>
<td>13,438</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 Private Parcels</td>
<td>82</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>13,520</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

CAMPING

The following undeveloped campsites have been identified:

Primary campsites 3
Secondary campsites 15
Marginal campsites 9 isolated sites and several segments of the river where there is an unlimited number of campsites on gravel bars.
DEVELOPMENT
There are 3 cabins and one known cabin ruin on private land between RM 17 and RM 20.

ACCESS
Access to this portion of the river is by powerboat or by floating from points upstream. There is no air access in the subunit although lakes north of the river are used by floatplanes.

HERITAGE RESOURCES
The heritage site potential is high due to the high level of historic and prehistoric use.

OTHER ACTIVITIES
There is one trapping cabin authorization in this subunit.

Management Intent

Class I. Because of the limited fishing opportunities and the limited number of clear water tributaries, this subunit receives moderate use. The area includes important moose winter habitat. It is also used for camping and hunting. In winter, the subunit receives limited use by snowmachiners, dogmushers, and skiers. Only a few private parcels are within the subunit. The subunit will be managed to provide and enhance these recreation opportunities, and fish and wildlife habitat. Maintaining an essentially unmodified natural environment will be the focus of management. Maintaining public use sites is a high priority. There are no non-motorized areas in this subunit.

Management Guidelines

Boating Restrictions. None.

Trapping Cabins. There is one valid trapping cabin permit on the Talkeetna River. This permit may be renewed if there are no significant conflicts with fish and wildlife habitat, or recreation.

Public Use Sites

See Public Use Sites in Chapter 2 for management guidelines. Specific locations are shown on maps at the end of this unit.

PU 3b.1 Disappointment Creek Junction (RM 23.5). This is an site important creek junction frequently used for camping and day use.

PU 3b.2 Iron Creek Junction (RM 31). This is an important site frequently used for camping and day use.