

## MANAGEMENT UNIT 6 – TALKEETNA RIVER

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### MANAGEMENT INTENT

This unit, which is all either state owned or selected, will be retained in public ownership and managed to protect wildlife habitat and provide opportunities for public recreation. Timber harvest will be an allowed use where it does not disrupt fish and wildlife or recreation values. All public lands in this unit are available for oil and gas leasing. Subunit 6b will remain open to mineral location and be available for coal leasing. Subunit 6a (the recreation river) will be closed to mineral location and unavailable for coal leasing.

The management unit has been divided into two subunits: the Talkeetna River corridor (6a) and the area to the south including Sheep River (6b). See the maps at the end of this section for boundaries of these areas and the accompanying chart for a summary of land uses in each subunit.

**Subunit 6a** is the Talkeetna River corridor. This subunit, in conjunction with subunit 5b, is recommended for legislative designation as a state recreation river. See the discussion under subunit 5b for details of this proposal.

**Subunit 6b** is an area south of the Talkeetna River proposed for retention. It includes the Sheep River corridor and several large lakes. The area is important for moose and caribou fall and winter habitat and provides a buffer between developed uses to the west and the Talkeetna Mountains to the east.

### MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES

The complete set of areawide management guidelines is presented in Chapter 2 of this plan. All of the guidelines potentially apply to uses within the management unit; however, those that are most likely to be applicable in this unit are indicated with asterisks in the list that follows.

- Agriculture
- \*Fish & Wildlife Habitat
- \*Forestry
- \*Recreation
- Settlement
- \*Subsurface
- Transportation
- \*Instream Flow
- \*Lakeshore Management
- \*Public Access
- \*Remote Cabin Permits
- \*Stream Corridors
- \*Trail Management

Wetlands Management  
Resource Management

Management guidelines that apply to this management unit only are presented below by subunit.

#### Subunit 6a (Talkeetna River)

##### Oil and Gas

Oil and gas exploration and development activities will be sited and/or timed to mitigate impacts on the fish and wildlife habitat and public use values of the Talkeetna River Corridor. Specific mitigation measures necessary to protect the values for which the river corridor was established will be developed as part of the lease sale process. Mitigation measures will be developed on a case-by-case basis considering timing, topography, vegetation and other factors affecting the impact of oil and gas exploration and development activities on fish and wildlife, habitat and public use values.

##### Management Planning and Remote Cabins

A management plan should be prepared for subunit 6a. The management plan will determine, among other things, whether remote cabins will be a permitted use in this subunit. Remote cabin permits will not be offered until and unless areas open to remote cabins are designated by a management plan.

# LAND USE DESIGNATION SUMMARY

SUBREGION South Parks HighwayMANAGEMENT UNIT 6 – Talkeetna River

SUBUNIT	LAND OWNERSHIP (GENERALIZED)	LAND USE DESIGNATIONS				PROHIBITED SURFACE USE(S)*	COMMENTS
		SURFACE		SUBSURFACE			
		PRIMARY USE(S)	SECONDARY USE(S)	LOCATABLE MINERALS	LEASEABLE MINERALS		
6a Talkeetna River	State	Public Recreation Wildlife Habitat	Forestry	Closed	Not available for coal leasing or prospecting.	Land Disposals	Recommended for legislative designation
6b Sheep River	State	Public Recreation Wildlife Habitat	Forestry	Open	Available for leasing	Remote Cabins Land Disposals	

\*Other uses such as material sales, land leases, remote cabin permits, etc., that are not specifically prohibited may be allowed. Such uses will be allowed if consistent with the management intent statement and management guidelines of this unit, and with the relevant management guidelines in chapter 2