

## MANAGEMENT UNIT 7 – BALD MOUNTAIN

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### MANAGEMENT INTENT

This unit, south of Sheep River and including the Bald Mountain area, encompasses several areas that have been offered for remote parcel and subdivision sales in the past. The general intent for this area is to offer additional land for sale (probably through the homestead program) while preserving some important habitat and recreation areas. All public lands in this unit are available for oil and gas leasing. Subunit 7d will remain open to mineral location and be available for coal leasing. All other subunits will be closed to mineral location and not available for coal leasing due to existing or planned disposals.

The management unit has been divided into five subunits: a small parcel of state land proposed for sale in the northern portion of the management unit (7a), three past state land sale areas (7b), the proposed Talkeetna Foothills homestead area (7c), a small retention area on the eastern edge of the management unit (7d), and two small proposed settlement areas (7e). 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 7a** consists of one parcel of fairly steep state land proposed for settlement immediately south of the Sheep River and Talkeetna River. The intent is to allow some sales (probably homesteads) while preserving the integrity of the river corridors.

**Subunit 7b** includes the past Bald Mountain remote parcel area, Bald Mountain Subdivision, and South Bald Mountain Subdivision. No additional acreage has been identified for further settlement offerings, but the option to do so in the future will remain open. Remaining public land along the Middle Fork of Montana Creek which has high fisheries values, and the area south of Bald Mountain which includes peregrine falcon nests should remain in public ownership to protect fish and wildlife habitat and provide opportunities for recreational use.

**Subunit 7c** (the Talkeetna Foothills proposed sale) includes portions of the North Fork of Montana Creek. Access near the area is provided from the Answer Creek Road in the Bartlett Hills area to the west in addition to several platted roads and rights-of-way applications. Additional access may be available in the future south from Larson Lake. A portion of this area will be offered for sale in FY 86. Land outside of this area will remain in the 20-year disposal pool and may be offered at some point in the future.

**Subunit 7d** is approximately 1,280 acres encompassing a large lake in the alpine region just south of the North Fork of Montana Creek. It will be retained in public ownership and managed to protect fish and wildlife and recreation values.

**Subunit 7e** consists of two parcels of state land proposed for settlement. One is just south of the existing South Bald Mountain Subdivision (and the Middle Fork of Montana Creek) and the other is in the western portion of the management unit near Baldy Lake.

### 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 below.

- \*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 7a (Sheep River Sale)**

##### **Stream Corridors**

The management intent for land adjacent to the streams referenced below is to permit fishing, camping and other active uses and to protect water quality and riparian habitat. Consequently, this land should be retained in public ownership. Corridor widths will be set on a case-by-case basis using policies in Chapter 2. The standard minimum buffer width (200' on each side of the river) should be used on most unnamed tributaries to the Talkeetna River which appear on the 1:63,360 USGS topographic map. On the south side of Sheep River a 300' corridor should be retained in public ownership.

# LAND USE DESIGNATION SUMMARY

SUBREGION South Parks HighwayMANAGEMENT UNIT 7 - Bald Mountain

SUBUNIT	LAND OWNERSHIP (GENERALIZED)	LAND USE DESIGNATIONS				PROHIBITED SURFACE USE(S)*	COMMENTS
		SURFACE		SUBSURFACE			
		PRIMARY USE(S)	SECONDARY USE(S)	LOCATABLE MINERALS	LEASEABLE MINERALS		
7a Sheep River Planned Sale Area	State	Settlement	Forestry Wildlife Hab.	Closed prior to disposal	Not available for coal leasing or prospecting	Remote Cabins Trapper Cabins	Estimated net disposal area=340 acres
7b Bald Mtn. Remote and Subdivi- sions	State/ Private	Settlement (past remote parcel & offering existing sub.)	Forestry Public Rec. Wildlife Hab.	Closed	Not available for coal leasing or prospecting	Remote Cabins Portions closed to grazing—see guidelines	
7c Talkeetna Foothills	State	Settlement	Forestry Wildlife Hab.	Closed prior to disposal	Not available for coal leasing or prospecting	Remote Cabins Trapper Cabins Portions closed to grazing—see guidelines	Estimated net disposal area = 3,440 acres
7d North Fork Lake (Lake 2125)	State	Public Recreation Wildlife Habitat	—	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.

# LAND USE DESIGNATION SUMMARY

SUBREGION South Parks Highway

MANAGEMENT UNIT 7 - Bald Mountain

SUBUNIT	LAND OWNERSHIP (GENERALIZED)	LAND USE DESIGNATIONS				PROHIBITED SURFACE USE(S)*	COMMENTS
		SURFACE		SUBSURFACE			
		PRIMARY USE(S)	SECONDARY USE(S)	LOCATABLE MINERALS	LEASEABLE MINERALS		
7e Montana Ck. Planned sale areas	State	Settlement	Public Rec. Wildlife Hab.	Closed prior to disposal	Not available for coal leasing or prospecting	Remote Cabins Trapper Cabins Portions closed to grazing—see guidelines	Estimated net disposal area=560 acres

\*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.

### **Forestry**

Personal use woodlots or small timber sale areas will be identified and reserved in the site plans for disposals in this subunit.

### **Subunit 7b (Bald Mountain Remote and Subdivisions)**

#### **Grazing**

Bald Mountain and South Bald Mountain subdivisions will be closed to grazing to protect important fish and wildlife habitat areas associated with the North Fork and Middle Fork of Montana Creek.

### **Subunit 7c (Talkeetna Foothills)**

#### **Stream Corridors**

The management intent for land adjacent to the streams referenced below is to permit fishing, camping and other active uses and to protect water quality and riparian habitat. Consequently, this land should be retained in public ownership. Corridor widths will be set on a case-by-case basis using policies in Chapter 2. The standard minimum buffer width (200' on each side of the river) should be used on the south side of Answer Creek and on east side of Possum Creek. The corridor on the North and Middle Forks of Montana Creek should be 300' on both sides of the streams to protect important fish and wildlife habitat and guard against flood hazards.

### **Forestry**

Personal use woodlots or small timber sale areas will be identified and reserved in the site plans for disposals in this subunit.

#### **Grazing**

Those corridors described in the stream corridor guideline for the North and Middle Forks of Montana Creek will be closed to grazing.

### **Subunit 7e (Montana Creek Planned Sale Areas)**

#### **Stream Corridors**

The management intent for land adjacent to the streams referenced below is to permit fishing, camping and other active uses and to protect water quality and riparian habitat. Consequently, this land should be retained in public ownership. Corridor widths will be set on a case-by-case basis using policies in Chapter 2. The standard minimum buffer width (200' on each side of the river) should be used on Answer Creek and the stream that runs into Baldy Lake. The South Fork

of Montana Creek is just south of the southern portion of this subunit. A 300' corridor should be retained in public ownership on its north side.

#### **Grazing**

The southern block of this subunit is closed to grazing. The southern ¼ mile of the western parcel is also closed to protect important fish and wildlife habitat associated with the stream corridors.