

# 1 Chapter 3 : Land Management Guidelines 2 for Individual Subunits

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## 3 Introduction

4 The following chapter describes the detailed subunit management plan for managing the Moose Range  
5 and Jonesville Public Use Area. The Moose Range and JPUA are divided into four management subunits -  
6 the Western, Middle, Eastern, and Jonesville Subunits. Each subunit is described individually and includes  
7 a unit description with background information, a summary of planning and land management issues, a  
8 management intent statement, a land use designation summary description, and subunit specific  
9 management guidelines.

## 10 Organization of Chapter

11 This chapter includes the following sections for each of the four management subunits:

- 12 • Subunit Description
- 13 • Planning and Land Management Issues
- 14 • Management Intent
- 15 • Land Use Designations
- 16 • Subunit Management Guidelines

## 17 Subunit Description

18 Unit descriptions include background information on land status, access, use, fish and wildlife habitat,  
19 facilities, trails and easements, and cultural and historical resources.

## 20 Planning and Land Management Issues

21 The Planning and Land Management Issues section discusses issues that are affecting management and  
22 that management guidelines are intended to address and resolve.

## 23 Land Use Designations

24 Land uses are designated in each subunit consistent with enabling legislation and other state statutes.

25 A land use designation recognizes uses or resources that are of major importance in a particular  
26 management subunit. Management subunits may be broken down into further units for land use  
27 designation purposes. Unit designations are based on current and projected future use patterns and the  
28 most significant resources identified in each unit. DNR will manage activities in the unit to encourage,  
29 develop, or protect the uses or resources for which the unit is designated. Plan designations are more  
30 specific than the land use classifications required under 11 AAC 55.040, and such designations are

31 converted to land use classifications, as required by 11 AAC 55.020. DNR will manage State land according  
32 to these designations and the equivalent land use classification.

33 Under AS 38.05.300, all designations are intended for multiple use. Uses other than those receiving  
34 primary designations for a given unit may still be authorized if they are not incompatible with the primary  
35 uses or resources for which a unit is designated. If DNR determines that a proposed use is incompatible  
36 with a primary designation, the proposed use will not be authorized, or will be authorized in a manner  
37 that minimizes the incompatibility. Primary designated uses cannot take precedence over disposals of  
38 interest that have already occurred. Such disposals include property rights such as mining leases, land  
39 leases, and rights-of-way, that once issued, are protected by the Constitution. A primary designation,  
40 however, may take precedence over uses authorized by permits that were issued on a revocable at will  
41 basis.

42 When the plan assigns a designation to a unit, the designation is accompanied by a management intent  
43 specific to that unit. These two pieces of information – designations and statement of intent – as well as  
44 subunit management guidelines, must be taken into consideration in determining how a parcel of state  
45 land is to be managed and when making authorization decisions.

46 **Primary designated use.** Most units are assigned a primary designated use, which indicates, in a general  
47 way, how state land is to be used and managed. Primary designated uses shall take precedence over other  
48 uses. Generally, however, DNR allows multiple uses. DNR initially presumes that all other uses are  
49 compatible with the primary use. However, if DNR determines that a use conflict exists and that the  
50 proposed use is incompatible with the primary use, the proposed use should not be authorized, or it  
51 should be modified so that the incompatibility no longer exists or the impacts from the proposed use have  
52 been effectively mitigated (from 11 AAC 55.040 (c)). The plan may assign a designation to ensure a future  
53 use that will best serve the public interest, even if that use is not imminent.

54 **Co-designated use.** Where a unit has two or more designated uses, DNR will avoid or minimize conflicts  
55 between designated uses by applying the management intent statement and guidelines for the unit and  
56 the Chapter 2 guidelines from this plan together with existing statutes, regulations, and procedures. Only  
57 those co-designations that are generally complementary to or compatible with each other are included in  
58 this plan. Co-designated uses should, therefore, be viewed as compatible unless specific conditions that  
59 exist at the time an agency is evaluating whether to grant an authorization indicate otherwise. In this plan,  
60 co-designated uses are often Habitat, Public Recreation Dispersed, and Forestry. Other co-designations  
61 included in the plan are Coal and Habitat. Within areas so co-designated, mineral  
62 exploration/development is an appropriate use, however such activities and projects must consider their  
63 potential impacts upon wildlife, fisheries, and habitats, and must either avoid or mitigate significant  
64 adverse impacts.

#### 65 [Designations Used in This Plan](#)

66 **Co – Coal.** Areas considered to have coal potential and for which coal mining is an appropriate use, are  
67 designated Coal. This designation converts to a land use classification of Coal Land as defined by 11 AAC  
68 55.055.

69 **F – Forestry.** Land that is or has been forested and is suited for long-term forest management because of  
70 its physical, climatic, and vegetative conditions. This land will remain in State ownership. Approving  
71 authorizations in these areas will be conducted in compliance with the Forest Resources and Practices Act  
72 (AS 41.17 and 11 AAC 95), the specific management guidelines in the Forestry section of Chapter 2, and  
73 any specific requirements that might apply at the management unit level identified for a particular  
74 management unit. Forest Land is to be retained by the state, although timber sales, a type of disposal, are  
75 recognized as appropriate.

76 Certain sites within the plan area contain both habitat and forestry values and, as such, are co-designated  
77 Forestry and Habitat. In these instances, while forest management projects are recognized as appropriate  
78 uses, any proposed activity must take into consideration the impacts upon wildlife, fisheries, and their  
79 associated habitats.

80 This designation converts to a land use classification of Forest Land as defined by 11 AAC 55.070.

81 **Ha – Habitat.** This designation applies to areas of varied size for fish and wildlife species during a sensitive  
82 life-history stage where alteration of the habitat or human disturbance could result in a permanent loss  
83 of a population or sustained yield of a species or that contain a unique or rare assemblage of a single or  
84 multiple species of regional or statewide significance. Land designated Habitat is intended to remain in  
85 state ownership, and is to be maintained in an undisturbed, natural state except for improvements related  
86 to public health, safety, habitat restoration or rehabilitation, and public recreation. Utilities and roads may  
87 be appropriate with appropriate design if habitat functions can be maintained. Authorizations within  
88 areas designated Habitat are to be considered inappropriate unless consistent with these stipulations and  
89 with the management intent for the management unit.

90 This designation converts to a land use classification of Wildlife Habitat Land as defined by 11 AAC 55.230.

91 **Rd – Public Recreation-Dispersed.** This designation applies to those areas that offer or have a high  
92 potential for dispersed recreation and where desirable recreation conditions are scattered or widespread  
93 rather than localized. Developed facilities are generally not necessary other than trails, trail signs,  
94 primitive campsites, and other minor improvements. This land will be retained in public ownership in an  
95 undisturbed, natural state except for improvements related to public health, safety, or recreation.  
96 Authorizations within areas designated Public Recreation-Dispersed are not to be considered appropriate  
97 unless necessary for public health, safety, or recreation. Utilities and roads may be appropriate with  
98 appropriate design if recreation functions can be maintained.

99 This designation converts to a land use classification of Public Recreation Land as defined by 11 AAC  
100 55.160.

101 **Rp – Public Recreation-Public Use Site (Developed).** Areas used by concentrations of recreationists  
102 relative to the rest of the planning area or areas with a high potential to attract concentrations of people  
103 who recreate. These areas offer localized attractions or ease of access, and in many instances developed  
104 facilities. Examples include marinas, cabins, lodges, anchorages, scenic overlooks, road-accessible shore  
105 locations that are used for picnicking, sports, fishing, etc. The recreation uses for which these units are

106 designated may be either public or commercial. This land will remain in state ownership unless otherwise  
107 noted in the management intent for the unit. The primary management intent for these sites is to protect  
108 the opportunity of the public to use these sites, and their public values for recreation. Many of these sites  
109 require additional management attention because of the use they are receiving.

110 This designation converts to a land use classification of Public Recreation Land as defined by 11 AAC  
111 55.160.

## 112 **Management Intent**

113 Management intent provides a statement about the desired future condition of State land consistent with the  
114 purposes of the enabling legislation of the Moose Range and JPUA. Specific management  
115 recommendations are found in the subunit management guidelines.

## 116 **Subunit Management Guidelines**

117 Management guidelines are intended to provide specific management direction for decisions DNR makes  
118 about the planning area. Guidelines range from giving general guidance for decision-making to identifying  
119 specific factors that need to be considered when making on-the-ground decisions. DNR will use the  
120 guidelines when adjudicating applications for the use of state lands within the planning area. In most cases,  
121 these guidelines can be implemented through the authorization of applications for proposed uses or  
122 through agency actions. In other cases, DNR may promulgate regulations to ensure that these guidelines  
123 can be implemented and are enforceable. The guidelines include recommendations for facilities and  
124 Public Use Sites.

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