

## **Chandalar Region (H)**

The Chandalar Region is a remote area comprised of rugged mountains and steep river valleys within the central Brooks Range. It is situated south of the ANWR boundary to the Umiat meridian, from the Dalton Highway corridor boundary extending approximately 35 miles to the east. Most of the lands in this region are state-owned, except 1,291 acres in the northwest that are owned by BLM. The upper reaches of the East Fork Chandalar and Your Creek are the two major drainages that flow out of this region south to the main fork of the Chandalar River. There are no roads in the region, so access is limited to aircraft or jetboats in the summer and by snowmobile in the winter. Aside from some seasonal hunting camps and trap lines, the region is generally devoid of permanent habitation.

### **Distribution and Characteristics**

There are 219,638 acres of land in the region; this includes 217,186 acres of state-owned land and 1,162 acres of state-selected land. Much of these state lands were conveyed from BLM during the planning process or are in tentatively approved status. The remaining state-selected lands exist in the southeast corner of the region. It is not known at this time if these lands will be conveyed to the state.

The terrain throughout this region is mountainous. Vegetative patterns are characterized by a mix of high brush and alpine tundra with some bottomland spruce-hardwood forest in lower lying areas.

### **Access, Resources, and Uses of State Land**

There are no roads in this region, as it is situated 5 miles from the Dalton Highway corridor. While it is possible to access parts of the region by boat, most occurs by aircraft or by snowmobile in the winter. The closest airstrip is at Chandalar Shelf, but there are no airstrips within the region itself. Gravel bar and float landings occur along river corridors and larger lakes. No RS 2477 trails or 17b easements exist in this unit.

Dall sheep, grizzly bear and moose are present, and caribou migrate through the region. Subsistence, trapping and sport hunting occur. Tourism occurs but is widely dispersed, including dog sledding and ski touring. All state land in this region is within the fall zone for activities related to the Poker Flats rocket test facility. Subsistence occurs throughout the region for caribou, moose and sheep, as well as berries and other plants. Anaktuvuk Pass community members utilize the western portions of this region for subsistence activities including trapping. Recreation also occurs however it is widely dispersed.

The western portion of this region has medium potential for locatable minerals including rare earth minerals.

### **Management Planning Constraints and Considerations**

No state and local management plans have previously affected this area. The North Slope Borough maintains both a comprehensive plan and a district coastal management plan. Both were consulted in the development of this plan.

### **Management Summary**

State land will be managed consistent with its designation(s); as specifically articulated through management intent found in the Resource Allocation Table in Chapter 3 and the applicable goals, objectives, and guidelines found in Chapter 2. Some lands have one designation while other lands are co-designated. The acreages listed below provide a quick reference of the designations and co-designations used in this region, and the acreages of designation(s).

<b>Designation or Co-Designations</b>	<b>Acreage</b>
Resource Management	210,169ac
Settlement	9,469ac

**Resource Allocation Table – Chandalar Region (H)**

Unit # / Name	Designation(s) / Acres	Map	Management Intent	Resources and Uses
<b>H-01</b> <b>Upper Chandalar</b>	Rm 210,169ac	Map 3-6	<p>Manage the unit for multiple resources and uses, with an emphasis in retaining the natural character of the area, maintaining wildlife habitat, research and recreational opportunities.</p> <p>Protect heritage sites.</p> <p>These lands shall be retained in state ownership to continue to provide opportunities for subsistence, hunting, fishing, material sales, timber sales, among other beneficial uses.</p> <p>Lands are available for lease, permit, or other less-than-fee disposal.</p>	<p>Bordering the Umiat Meridian and a large area of adjacent state lands to the south, this large unit covers the entire Chandalar Region and consists of state-owned lands with a small portion of state-selected lands in the lower southeast corner and the western portion of the unit. The area is remote and is comprised of relatively steep rugged mountains within the central Brooks Range. Two relatively large drainages (North Fork Chandalar and Your Rivers) flow through the unit and vegetation is limited mainly consisting of tundra and shrubs at the lower elevations.</p> <p>Brown bears are present in the drainage areas, Dall sheep in the higher elevations and caribou are present throughout. Dispersed recreation and hunting/subsistence occurs within the unit and there are several DMLW issued permits for various types of research, including LAS 19102 issued for the Poker Flats Research Range.</p> <p>The AHRS reports heritage sites in or around this unit.</p>
<b>H-02</b> <b>Your Creek</b>	Se 9,469ac	Map 3-6	<p>Land disposal is appropriate within this unit.</p> <p>Manage unit with an emphasis in maintaining wildlife habitat and recreational opportunities.</p> <p>These lands shall be retained in state ownership for purposes of supporting the State’s land disposal program.</p> <p>Lands are available for lease, permit, or other less-than-fee disposal.</p>	<p>Lands in this unit have been identified as a potential settlement area for disposal through the state land sales program.</p> <p>The area is remote and is comprised of steep rugged mountains within the central Brooks Range. Vegetation is limited mainly consisting of tundra and shrubs at the lower elevations.</p> <p>Brown bears are present in the drainage areas, Dall sheep in the higher elevations and caribou are present throughout. Dispersed recreation and hunting/subsistence occurs within the unit.</p>



**Map 3-6: Chandalar Region Planning Units and Designations**

