

**CHAPTER 3.
MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES,
PUBLIC USE SITES,
AND RECOMMENDATIONS FOR
EACH MANAGEMENT UNIT**

CHAPTER 3. MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES, PUBLIC USE SITES, AND RECOMMENDATIONS FOR EACH MANAGEMENT UNIT

This chapter restates management intent categories, and includes background information, management intent, management guidelines, public use sites, and other unit-specific recommendations for the 25 management units in the planning area. Other guidelines specific to a unit are numbered for easy reference.

PLAN MAP

The management units described subsequently are depicted in Plan Map 3.1, ‘Nushagak & Mulchatna Rivers Recreation Management Plan’, which is contained in an envelope at the end of this document. Refer to that map for the location of management units.

Note that the management units may not be contiguous in many instances, especially in the southern portions of the Nushagak and Mulchatna drainages, since this Management Plan only affects state-owned or state-selected land. Much of the land in this portion of the planning area is owned privately, either by individuals or Native corporations, or by the federal Bureau of Land Management. These areas of non-state land are included in order to show general land ownership within the planning area and to aid in the adjudication of state decisions, which rely heavily on land status information¹.

MANAGEMENT INTENT

The management intents are:

Primitive Use Experience: A use experience characterized by little to no evidence of human use (little to no manmade changes to the environment from development or other human activities).

Semi-primitive Use Experience: A use experience characterized by moderate evidence of human use (moderate level of manmade changes to the environment from development or other human activities).

¹ Note to adjudicators: There are several factors that must be taken into consideration when using this map.

1) Prior to granting authorizations, consult the most current DNR land status information; this is especially important for state-selected land. Land status is only current to the date of plan adoption. 2) The Plan Map depicts all areas of state land, but not all of these areas are affected by the Rivers Recreation Management Plan. Areas not affected by the RRMP are noted on the map and in the Legend. 3) For more detail on spatial information, consult PDF files at www.dnr.state.ak.us/mlw/planning/mgtplans; these files reflect the GIS maps used to generate this map. 4) Consult the maps included in Appendix C for the specific location of Public Use Sites. The Plan Map only provides generalized locations for such Sites.

*Chapter 3 - Management Guidelines, Public Use
Sites, and Recommendations
for each Management Unit*

Semi-developed Use Experience: A use experience characterized by high evidence of human use (high level of manmade changes to the environment from development or other human activities).

Management intent reflects a future desired condition. Private landowners in the planning area may choose to use this plan as a guide for managing their lands.

MANAGEMENT INTENT AND GUIDELINES

Management intent and guidelines are specified for each management unit in the following portion of this chapter. Consult the description of a particular management unit to ascertain the specifics of how the area within the unit is to be managed. For ease of reference, Table 3.1 provides an overview of management intent as well as a listing of the uses that are allowed, prohibited, or may be allowed on a case-by-case basis for each management unit.

Table 3.1: Nushagak and Mulchatna Rivers Recreational Management Guidelines

			Management Guidelines Related to Recreation Uses and Structures							
<i>Management Unit</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Management Intent</i>	<i>Perm. Facilities</i>	<i>Temp. Facilities</i>	<i>Trapping Cabins</i>	<i>Boat Storage</i>	<i>Airstrip Development</i>	<i>Docks – Perm.</i>	<i>Docks – Temp.</i>	<i>Other Uses</i>
1	Lower Nushagak River, Keefer Cutoff to Wood River	Semi-developed	Prohibited	Prohibited	Prohibited	May be Allowed	May be Allowed	May be Allowed	May be Allowed	May be Allowed
2	Iowithla River Corridor	Primitive	Prohibited	Prohibited	Prohibited	Prohibited	Prohibited	Prohibited	Prohibited	May be Allowed
3	Lower Nushagak River Corridor, Ekwok Vicinity	Semi-developed	Prohibited	Prohibited	Prohibited	May be Allowed	May be Allowed	May be Allowed	May be Allowed	May be Allowed
4	Kokwok River Corridor	Semi-primitive	Prohibited	May be Allowed	May be Allowed	May be Allowed	May be Allowed	Prohibited	May be Allowed	May be Allowed
5	Lower Nushagak and Mulchatna River Corridors, New Stuyahok Vicinity	Semi-developed	Prohibited	Prohibited	Prohibited	May be Allowed	May be Allowed	May be Allowed	May be Allowed	May be Allowed
6	Lower Nushagak Uplands	Semi-primitive	Prohibited	May be Allowed	May be Allowed	May be Allowed	May be Allowed	Prohibited	May be Allowed	May be Allowed
7	Middle Nushagak River Corridor, Koliganek Vicinity	Semi-developed	Prohibited	Prohibited	Prohibited	Prohibited	Prohibited	May be Allowed	May be Allowed	May be Allowed
8	Nuyakuk River Corridor	Primitive	Prohibited	Prohibited	Prohibited	Prohibited	Prohibited	Prohibited	Prohibited	Prohibited
9	Middle Nushagak Corridor, Harris Creek to Nuyakuk River	Semi-primitive	Prohibited	Prohibited	Prohibited	May be Allowed	May be Allowed	May be Allowed	May be Allowed	May be Allowed
10	Middle Nushagak Corridor, Chichitnok River to Harris Creek	Semi-primitive	Prohibited	May be Allowed	May be Allowed	May be Allowed	May be Allowed	Prohibited	May be Allowed	May be Allowed
11	Middle Nushagak Uplands	Semi-primitive	May be Allowed	May be Allowed	May be Allowed	May be Allowed	May be Allowed	May be Allowed	May be Allowed	May be Allowed
12	King Salmon River Corridor	Primitive	Prohibited	Prohibited	Prohibited	Prohibited	Prohibited	Prohibited	Prohibited	May be Allowed
13	Upper Nushagak and Chichitnok Rivers Corridor	Primitive	Prohibited	Prohibited	Prohibited	Prohibited	May be Allowed	Prohibited	Prohibited	May be Allowed

Chapter 3 - Management Guidelines, Public Use Sites, and Recommendations for each Management Unit

Management Unit	Name	Management Intent	Perm. Facilities	Temp. Facilities	Trapping Cabins	Boat Storage	Airstrip Development	Docks -- Perm.	Docks -- Temp.	Other Uses
14	Nushagak Hills	Semi-primitive	May be Allowed	May be Allowed	May be Allowed	May be Allowed	May be Allowed	May be Allowed	May be Allowed	May be Allowed
15	Lower Mulchatna River Corridor	Semi-primitive	Prohibited	May be Allowed	May be Allowed	May be Allowed	May be Allowed	Prohibited	May be Allowed	May be Allowed
16	Stuyahok River Corridor	Primitive	Prohibited	Prohibited	Prohibited	Prohibited	Prohibited	Prohibited	Prohibited	May be Allowed
17	Koktuli River Corridor	Primitive	Prohibited	Prohibited	Prohibited	Prohibited	Prohibited	Prohibited	Prohibited	May be Allowed
18	Middle Mulchatna River Corridor, Keefer Creek to Koktuli River	Semi-primitive	Prohibited	May be Allowed	May be Allowed	May be Allowed	May be Allowed	Prohibited	May be Allowed	May be Allowed
19	Lower Mulchatna Uplands	Semi-primitive	May be Allowed	May be Allowed	May be Allowed	May be Allowed	May be Allowed	May be Allowed	May be Allowed	May be Allowed
20	Middle Mulchatna River Corridor, Chilikadrotna River to Keefer Creek	Semi-primitive	Prohibited	May be Allowed	May be Allowed	May be Allowed	May be Allowed	Prohibited	May be Allowed	May be Allowed
21	Chilchitna River and Tutna Lake Corridor	Semi-primitive	Prohibited	May be Allowed	May be Allowed	May be Allowed	May be Allowed	Prohibited	May be Allowed	May be Allowed
22	Upper Mulchatna River Corridor	Semi-primitive	Prohibited	May be Allowed	May be Allowed	May be Allowed	May be Allowed	Prohibited	May be Allowed	May be Allowed
23	Chilikadrotna River Corridor	Primitive	Prohibited	Prohibited	Prohibited	Prohibited	Prohibited	Prohibited	Prohibited	May be Allowed
24	Half Cabin Lakes Area	Semi-developed	May be Allowed	May be Allowed	May be Allowed	May be Allowed	May be Allowed	May be Allowed	May be Allowed	May be Allowed
25	Upper Mulchatna Uplands	Semi-primitive	May be Allowed	May be Allowed	May be Allowed	May be Allowed	May be Allowed	May be Allowed	May be Allowed	May be Allowed

Unit 1. Lower Nushagak River, Keefer Cutoff to Wood River

BACKGROUND

Land Status. Most of the land adjacent to this unit is owned by Choggiung Ltd. or is federal land selected by the state, Choggiung Ltd., or Bristol Bay Native Corporation (BBNC). The state and BBNC have both selected the mouth of the Iowithla River. It is likely BBNC will receive the selection. The Nushagak River is navigable; the state owns tidelands, submerged lands, and shorelands in the unit. Twenty Native allotments are located in the unit.

Miles of River. The main channel of the Nushagak River extends for 56 miles.

Access. The unit is easily accessible by motorboat, floatplane, and snowmobile and is relatively close to major airports and sport fishing lodges. Portage Creek has a developed public airstrip. The nearest communities are Dillingham and Ekwok. The river is important for use as a corridor for boat travel between Dillingham and upriver villages.

Existing Development. The unit adjoins the village of Portage Creek, many subsistence fish camps near Lewis Point, and a number of cabins which are used seasonally. Temporary camps for commercial sport fishing have been authorized by Choggiung between Black Point and Portage Creek. Most of the camps are supported fly-in day use; some serve as bases of operation. The ADF&G operates a field camp near Portage Creek.

Fisheries. The river serves as a corridor for migration of most species of juvenile and adult salmon, which are generally abundant in the summer.

Subsistence and sport fishing uses are among the highest in the planning area. Most of the subsistence fishing use takes place downstream of Black Point. Most of the sport use is commercial, targets king salmon, and takes place from mid-June to mid-July between Portage Creek and Black Point. Commercial use is based out of lodges, nearby communities, and out of camps in the unit. Motorboats are stored in the unit to support fly-in day use. The king salmon sport fishery is of increasing importance as a recreational opportunity for residents of Dillingham.

Wildlife. Moose density is moderate; caribou density is low.

Subsistence hunting for moose is high, and caribou hunting use is moderate because of relatively easy accessibility. Sport hunting use is low because of private land ownership, competition with local hunters, and relatively low density of game.

Trails and Easements. The winter trail from Dillingham to Naknek is also an RS 2477 right-of-way. (RST 215, RST 195, RST 128). Portions of these rights-of-way overlap 17b easements. The following 17b easements are located in this unit: EIN 1, 1a, 2, 2a, 3, 3a, 6, 8a, 8b, 19, 20, 20b, 34 and 36. (See the table in Appendix B for a detailed description of these easements.)

Other Values. Scenic values are relatively low because of constricted views and low landscape diversity. Floating use is low. Five cultural sites are documented in the unit.

Area Plan Designation: The navigable portions of the river system are co-designated Habitat and Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed. Public Use Sites are designated Public Recreation and Tourism-Public Use Site (retain in public ownership).

MANAGEMENT INTENT

Semi-developed use experience.

MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES

Long-term Use (longer than 14 consecutive days at one site):

Permanent facilities	Prohibited.*
Temporary facilities	Prohibited.*
Trapping cabins	Prohibited.*
Boat storage	May be allowed (case-by-case).
Airstrip development	May be allowed (case-by-case).
Docks: permanent	May be allowed (case-by-case),
temporary	May be allowed (case-by-case).
Other uses	May be allowed (case-by-case).

* The state owns only shorelands in this unit. Permanent facilities and temporary facilities (except for floating facilities) and trapping cabins are prohibited on shorelands.

Short-term Use (14 consecutive days or less at one site):

See Short-term Uses (generally allowed uses) in Chapter 2.

OTHER GUIDELINES SPECIFIC TO THIS UNIT

Ul.1 Short-term Uses at the Mouth of the Iowithla River (Public Use Site 6). Because of high public use, this public use site is designated as a "special use area" (ADL 226852) under 11 AAC 96.010. In most public use sites, short-term uses can take place for 14 consecutive days or less without a permit. In this special use area, allowed short-term uses can take place for 7 consecutive days or less without a permit. Allowed uses that take place for longer than 7 consecutive days are considered long-term uses and require a permit or lease. All other public use site guidelines apply to this special use area (see Chapter 2, Public Use Sites).

PUBLIC USE SITES

See Public Use Sites in Chapter 2 for management guidelines. Specific locations of sites are shown on maps in Appendix C.

- Site 1 Shoreland site on lower Nushagak River known as Blood Beach, 7 miles west of Portage Creek, primarily used for angling. The state owns only the shorelands in this public use site. Uplands are owned by Choggiung Ltd.
- Site 2 Shoreland site on lower Nushagak River at the southern mouth of Keefer Cutoff, primarily used for angling. The state owns only the shorelands in this public use site. Uplands are owned by Choggiung Ltd.
- Site 3 Shoreland site on Keefer Cutoff, 1 1/2 miles north of Portage Creek. The state owns only the shorelands in this public use site. Uplands are owned by Choggiung Ltd.
- Site 4 Shoreland site adjacent to upland site designated by Choggiung Ltd. as a public camping site, 1 1/2 miles north of Portage Creek on Keefer Cutoff and the Nushagak River. The state owns only the shorelands in this public use site. Uplands are owned by Choggiung Ltd.
- Site 5 Shoreland site on Keefer Cutoff, 3 miles north of Portage Creek, used for camping and angling. The state owns only the shorelands in this public use site. Uplands are owned by Choggiung Ltd.
- Site 6 This site is a special use area (ADL 226852). See "Other Guidelines Specific to this Unit." Campsite and floatplane landing area on shorelands at the mouth of the Iowithla River. The state owns only the shorelands in this public use site. Uplands are selected by Bristol Bay Native Corporation.

Unit 2. Iowithla River Corridor

BACKGROUND

Land Status. The lower and middle portions of the unit are owned by the state. Other adjacent lands are federal lands, some of which have been selected by the state. The upper portion of the unit is adjacent to the Wood-Tikchik State Park. No Native allotments are in the unit.

Miles of River. The main channel of the Iowithla River extends for 49 miles.

Access. Motorboat and airplane access is difficult. The unit is easily accessed from nearby communities by snowmobile. The unit is located near Dillingham.

Existing Development. No cabins are located in this unit. One site, which has been used for a commercial sport fishing camp, is located near the Nushagak River.

Fisheries. The river supports spawning habitat for all species of salmon and low to moderate populations of freshwater fish.

Sport and subsistence fishing uses are low because of relatively low abundance and difficult access. Except for the use originating from a commercial camp in 1988, little commercial use takes place on the river.

Wildlife. Moose density is moderate; caribou density is low. The Muklung Hills vicinity provides essential brown bear denning habitat.

Subsistence hunting for moose is moderate and takes place in the fall. Sport hunting for moose is low but increasing, mostly unguided, and is generally associated with floating.

Trails and Easements. None.

Other Values. Scenic values are moderate because of landscape diversity near the river and views of the Muklung Hills. Floating use is currently low but increasing.

Area Plan Designation: The navigable portions of the river system and those areas of state owned or selected uplands are co-designated Habitat and Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed. Public Use Sites are designated Public Recreation and Tourism-Public Use Site (retain in public ownership).

MANAGEMENT INTENT

Primitive use experience.

MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES

Long-term Use (longer than 14 consecutive days at one site):

Permanent facilities	Prohibited.
Temporary facilities	Prohibited.
Trapping cabins	Prohibited.
Boat storage	Prohibited.
Airstrip development	Prohibited.
Docks: permanent	Prohibited,
temporary	Prohibited.
Other uses	May be allowed (case-by-case).

Short-term Use (14 consecutive days or less at one site):

See Short-term Uses (generally allowed uses) in Chapter 2.

OTHER GUIDELINES SPECIFIC TO THIS UNIT

U2.1 Siting Criteria. Long-term uses should be sited out of view from the main river channel.

PUBLIC USE SITES

See Public Use Sites in Chapter 2 for management guidelines. Specific locations of sites are shown on maps in Appendix C.

Site 7 Upland wheeled plane landing area on the Iowithla River near the Muklung Hills.

Site 8 Campsite and floatplane landing area on an unnamed lake near the Muklung Hills.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THIS UNIT

None.

Unit 3. Lower Nushagak River Corridor, Ekwok Vicinity

BACKGROUND

Land Status. Most of the adjacent land is owned or selected by Ekwok Ltd. Except for a number of small, scattered, non-contiguous tracts of state land, no uplands are owned by the state in this unit. The Nushagak River is navigable; the state owns the shorelands in this unit. A number of Native allotments are located in the unit. Mineral Closing Order (MCO) 393 closes the navigable portions of the Nushagak River to mineral exploration and development.

Miles of River. The main channel of the Nushagak River extends for 30 miles.

Access. The corridor is easily accessible by motorboat, floatplane, and snowmobile. The unit is located near a major airport in Dillingham and a developed public airstrip exists in Ekwok. The river is important for use as a corridor for boat travel between Dillingham and upriver villages.

Existing Development. The unit contains the village of Ekwok, a number of cabins used seasonally, and the Ekwok Lodge and Big Bend Lodge, both of which are sport fishing lodges.

Fisheries. The lower Nushagak River is a major salmon migration route, as well as an important king and chum salmon spawning habitat.

Subsistence fishing use is high, particularly near Ekwok. Sport fishing use is moderate in the downstream portion of this unit and low in the upstream portion. Most of the sport fishing use is guided and targets king and silver salmon. Most commercial use originates from the Ekwok Lodge or fly-in users.

Wildlife. Moose density is moderate; caribou density is low.

Subsistence hunting for moose is high; the unit is an important hunting area for local residents. Subsistence hunting for caribou is low. Little sport hunting use takes place in the unit because of private land ownership.

Trails and Easements. The following 17b easements are located in this unit: EIN 10b, 10a, 11, 11a, 37 and 38. (See the table in Appendix B for detailed description of these easements.)

Other Values. Scenic values are low because of constricted views and low landscape diversity. Floating use is low. The corridor is important for local trapping and woodcutting uses. Seven cultural and historic sites are located along the river corridor.

Area Plan Designation. The navigable portions of the river system are co-designated Habitat and Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed. The RRMP only applies to navigable waters affected by this co-designation. Public Use Sites are designated Public Recreation and Tourism-Public Use Site (retain in public ownership).

MANAGEMENT INTENT

Semi-developed use experience.

MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES

Long-term Use (longer than 14 consecutive days at one site):

Permanent facilities	Prohibited. ²
Temporary facilities	Prohibited. ²
Trapping cabins	Prohibited. ²
Boat storage	May be allowed (case-by-case).
Airstrip development	May be allowed (case-by-case).
Docks: permanent	May be allowed (case-by-case),
temporary	May be allowed (case-by-case).
Other uses	May be allowed (case-by-case).

Short-term Use (14 consecutive days or less at one site):

See Short-term Uses (generally allowed uses) in Chapter 2.

OTHER GUIDELINES SPECIFIC TO THIS UNIT

U3.1 Short-term Uses at the Mouth of the Kokwok River (Public Use Site 9). Because of high public use, this public use site is designated as a "special use area" under 11 AAC 96.010. In public use sites, short-term uses can take place for 14 consecutive days or less without a permit. In this special use area, allowed short-term uses can take place for 7 consecutive days or less without a permit. Allowed uses that take place for longer than 7 consecutive days are considered long-term uses and require a permit or lease. All other public use site guidelines apply to this special use area (see Chapter 2, Public Use Sites).

² The state generally owns only shorelands in this unit. Permanent facilities and temporary facilities (except for floating facilities) and trapping cabins are prohibited on shorelands.

PUBLIC USE SITES

See Public Use Sites in Chapter 2 for management guidelines. Specific locations of sites are shown on maps in Appendix C.

Site 9 This site is a special use area (ADL 226852). See “Other Guidelines Specific to this Unit.” Campsite and floatplane landing area on shorelands on the Nushagak River at the mouth of the Kokwok River. The state owns only the shorelands in this public use site. Uplands are owned by Ekwok Natives Ltd.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THIS UNIT

None.

Unit 4. Kokwok River Corridor

BACKGROUND

Land Status. Ekwok Natives Ltd. owns most of the uplands on the lower course of the river, the state owns most of the middle and upper portions of the river, and Aleknagik Natives Ltd. owns the land around Okstukuk Lake. The Kokwok River and Okstukuk Lake are navigable; the state owns the shorelands. A number of Native allotments are in the unit. MCO 393 closes the river corridor to mineral entry.

Miles of River. The main channel of the Kokwok River extends for 55 miles.

Access. The corridor is moderately accessible by motorboat and floatplane and easily accessible by snowmobile. The unit is near a major airport in Dillingham.

Existing Development. Several cabins, a sport fishing lodge, and one site which has been used for a commercial sport fishing camp are located in the unit.

Fisheries. The Kokwok provides spawning and rearing habitat for all species of salmon.

Subsistence fishing use is low because of relatively low abundance. Sport use is low. Occasional commercial fly-in day use is based out of nearby lodges.

Wildlife. Moose density is moderate; caribou density is low but has been increasing in recent years.

This unit is closed to caribou hunting. Subsistence hunting for moose is high and takes place in fall and winter. Sport hunting use is low due to expense of access, land ownership, and relatively low density of game.

Trails and Easements. The following 17(b) easements are located in this unit: 14, 14a, 16 and 16a. (See the table in Appendix B for a detailed description of these easements.)

Other Values. Floating use is currently low, but increasing. Most floating use is unguided and associated with hunting. Scenic values are moderate because of high landscape diversity near the river.

Area Plan Designations. The navigable portions of the river system and the adjacent uplands are co-designated Habitat and Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed. Public Use Sites are designated Public Recreation and Tourism-Public Use Site (retain in public ownership).

MANAGEMENT INTENT

Semi-primitive use experience.

MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES

Long-term Use (longer than 14 consecutive days at one site):

Permanent facilities	Prohibited.
Temporary facilities	May be allowed (case-by-case).
Trapping cabins	May be allowed (case-by-case).
Boat storage	May be allowed (case-by-case).
Airstrip development	May be allowed (case-by-case).
Docks: permanent	Prohibited,
temporary	May be allowed (case-by-case).
Other uses	May be allowed (case-by-case).

Short-term Use (14 consecutive days or less at one site):

See Short-term Uses (generally allowed uses) in Chapter 2.

OTHER GUIDELINES SPECIFIC TO THIS UNIT

U4.1 Siting Criteria. Long-term uses will be sited to minimize evidence of human use.

PUBLIC USE SITES

See Public Use Sites in Chapter 2 for management guidelines. Specific locations of sites are shown on maps in Appendix C.

Site 10 Campsite on the Kokwok River near Okstukuk Hills.

Site 11 Campsite and floatplane landing area near the outlet of Okstukuk Lake. The state owns only the shorelands in this public use site. Uplands are owned by Aleknagik Natives Ltd.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THIS UNIT

None.

Unit 5. Lower Nushagak and Mulchatna River Corridors, New Stuyahok Vicinity

BACKGROUND

Land Status. Most of the uplands are owned by Stuyahok Ltd. No uplands are owned by the state in the unit, although there are a number of scattered, non-contiguous small land areas of state-selected land. The Nushagak River and Nunachuak Creek are navigable; the state owns the shorelands. There are a number of Native allotments in the unit.

Miles of River. The main channel of the Nushagak River extends for 29 miles. The main channel of the Mulchatna River extends for 17 miles.

Access. The corridor is easily accessible by motorboat, floatplane, and snowmobile. The river is important for use as a corridor for boat travel between Dillingham and upriver villages. The unit is near a major airport in Dillingham and a developed public airstrip exists in New Stuyahok.

Existing Development. The unit contains the city of New Stuyahok and a number of cabins that are used seasonally.

Fisheries. The lower Nushagak and Mulchatna rivers are a major salmon migration route, as well as important king and chum salmon spawning habitat.

Subsistence fishing use is high, particularly near New Stuyahok and the mouth of the Mulchatna. Sport fishing use is low to moderate.

Wildlife. Moose density is moderate; caribou density varies by season and is occasionally high.

Subsistence hunting use is high. Little sport hunting use takes place in the unit because of private land ownership and competition with local hunters.

Trails and Easements. The following 17(b) easements are located in this unit: EIN 119, 119a, 32, 32a, 33, 33a, 35 and 36. (See the table in Appendix B for a detailed description of these easements.)

Other Values. Scenic values are relatively low because of constricted views and low landscape diversity. The corridor is important for local trapping and woodcutting uses. Six cultural sites are documented in the unit.

Area Plan Designations. The navigable portions of the river system and the state-selected uplands are co-designated Habitat and Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed.

MANAGEMENT INTENT

Semi-developed use experience.

MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES

Long-term Use (longer than 14 consecutive days at one site):

Permanent facilities	Prohibited. ³
Temporary facilities	Prohibited. ³
Trapping cabins	Prohibited. ³
Boat storage	May be allowed (case-by-case).
Airstrip development	May be allowed (case-by-case).
Docks: permanent	May be allowed (case-by-case),
temporary	May be allowed (case-by-case).
Other uses	May be allowed (case-by-case).

Short-term Use (14 consecutive days or less at one site):

See Short-term Uses (generally allowed uses) in Chapter 2.

OTHER GUIDELINES SPECIFIC TO THIS UNIT

None.

PUBLIC USE SITES

None.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THIS UNIT

None.

³ The state owns only shorelands in this unit. Permanent facilities and temporary facilities (except for floating facilities) and trapping cabins are prohibited on shorelands.

Unit 6. Lower Nushagak Uplands

BACKGROUND

Land Status. Most of the land is owned by the state. Smaller amounts of land are owned by Choggiung Ltd., Ekwok Natives Ltd., Stuyahok Ltd., Saguyak Inc. and the Bristol Bay Native Corporation. The western portion of the unit is adjacent to Wood-Tikchik State Park. Thirteen Native allotments are located in the unit. Nunachuak Creek is navigable; the state owns the shorelands.

Access. The unit is easily accessible by snowmobile. Floatplanes can access lakes west of Kemuk Mountain and east of the Nushagak River. The unit is near a major airport in Dillingham.

Existing Development. Only one cabin is documented in the unit; it is likely that others exist.

Fisheries. Fisheries values are generally low.

Subsistence fishing use is moderate for freshwater species. Sport fishing use of Nushagak tributary streams is low now, but may increase slowly.

Wildlife. Moose density is low to moderate. Caribou are sometimes abundant east of the river. The Muklung Hills vicinity provides essential brown bear denning habitat.

Subsistence moose hunting use is moderate near drainages; caribou hunting use is high in winter. Sport hunting use is low because of the expense of access and extent of private land ownership.

Trails and Easements. The winter trail from Dillingham to Naknek is also an RS 2477 right-of-way. (RST 215, RST 195, RST 128). Portions of these rights-of-way overlap 17(b) easements. The following 17(b) easements are located in this unit: EIN 1a, 2a, 3a, 6, 8b, 10a, 11a, 14a, 16a, 19, 20, 33a, 34, 38 and 119a. (See the table in Appendix B for a detailed description of these easements.)

Other Values. The northwest portion of the unit, near Wood-Tikchik State Park, is forested and hilly and has moderate scenic value because of high landscape diversity. Low relief and tundra in much of the unit provide low scenic value. Local residents trap in drainages during the winter.

Area Plan Designations. The navigable portions of the river system are co-designated Habitat and Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed. State-owned and state-selected uplands are designated General Use. Public Use Sites are designated Public Recreation and Tourism-Public Use Site (retain in public ownership).

MANAGEMENT INTENT

Semi-primitive use experience.

MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES

Long-term Use (longer than 14 consecutive days at one site):

Permanent facilities	Prohibited
Temporary facilities	May be allowed (case-by-case).
Trapping cabins	May be allowed (case-by-case).
Boat storage	May be allowed (case-by-case).
Airstrip development	May be allowed (case-by-case).
Docks: permanent	Prohibited,
temporary	May be allowed (case-by-case).
Other uses	May be allowed (case-by-case).

Short-term Use (14 consecutive days or less at one site):

See Short-term Uses (generally allowed uses) in Chapter 2.

OTHER GUIDELINES SPECIFIC TO THIS UNIT

- U6.1 Siting Criteria. Long-term uses will be sited to minimize evidence of human use.
- U6.2 Siting Criteria. Impacts to adjacent riverine areas from permanent or temporary facilities situated in uplands are to be avoided or reduced to the maximum extent possible.

PUBLIC USE SITES

See Public Use Sites in Chapter 2 for management guidelines. Specific locations of sites are shown on maps in Appendix C.

- Site 12 Campsite and floatplane landing area on an unnamed lake, 15 miles north of Okstukuk Lake.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THIS UNIT

None.

Unit 7. Middle Nushagak River Corridor, Koliganek Vicinity

BACKGROUND

Land Status. Most of the land adjoining unit 7 is owned by Koliganek Natives Ltd. No uplands are owned by the state in the unit. The Nushagak River is navigable; the state owns the shorelands. There are a number of Native allotments in the unit.

Miles of River. The main channel of the Nushagak River extends for 16 miles.

Access. The corridor is easily accessible by motorboat, floatplane, and snowmobile. The unit is about a one-hour flight from Dillingham. A developed public airstrip exists in Koliganek. The Department of Transportation and Public Facilities intends to develop a new airport at Koliganek. The river is important for use as a corridor for boat travel between Koliganek and downriver villages.

Existing Development. The unit contains the village of Koliganek and a cabin which is used seasonally.

Fisheries. The middle Nushagak River is a major salmon migration route as well as important king and chum salmon spawning habitat.

Subsistence fishing use is high, particularly near Koliganek. Sport fishing use is low to moderate.

Wildlife. Moose density is low to moderate; caribou density is occasionally high.

Subsistence hunting use is high; the unit is a traditional hunting area for local residents. Little sport hunting use takes place in the unit because of private land ownership, expense of access, and competition with local hunters.

Trails and Easements. The following 17(b) easements are located in this unit: EIN 35 and 36. (See the table in Appendix B for a detailed description of these easements.)

Other Values. A moderate amount of floating takes place in the corridor, much of it guided. Koliganek is used as a take out spot for upper Nushagak and Nuyakuk floaters. Scenic values are low because of constricted views and low landscape diversity. The corridor is important for local trapping and woodcutting uses. Five cultural sites are documented in the unit.

Area Plan Designations. The navigable portions of the river system are co-designated Habitat and Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed. Public Use Sites are designated Public Recreation and Tourism-Public Use Site (retain in public ownership).

MANAGEMENT INTENT

Semi-developed use experience.

MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES

Long-term Use (longer than 14 consecutive days at one site):

Permanent facilities	Prohibited. ⁴
Temporary facilities	Prohibited. ⁴
Trapping cabins	Prohibited. ⁴
Boat storage	Prohibited.
Airstrip development	Prohibited.
Docks: permanent	May be allowed (case-by-case),
temporary	May be allowed (case-by-case).
Other uses	May be allowed (case-by-case).

Short-term Use (14 consecutive days or less at one site):

See Short-term Uses (generally allowed uses) in Chapter 2.

OTHER GUIDELINES SPECIFIC TO THIS UNIT

None.

PUBLIC USE SITES

See Public Use Sites in Chapter 2 for management guidelines. Specific locations of sites are shown on maps in Appendix C.

Site 13 Campsite and floatplane landing area on shorelands on the Nushagak River at the mouth of the Nuyakuk River. The state owns only the shorelands in this public use site. Uplands are Native corporation-owned.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THIS UNIT

None.

⁴ The state owns only shorelands in this unit. Permanent facilities and temporary facilities (except for floating facilities) and trapping cabins are prohibited on shorelands.

Unit 8. Nuyakuk River Corridor

BACKGROUND

Land Status. Most of the uplands along the lower portion of the Nuyakuk River are owned by Koliganek Natives Ltd. Some of the upper portion of the unit is owned by the state. The upper portion adjoins Wood-Tikchik State Park. The Nuyakuk River is navigable; the state owns the shorelands. Thirteen Native allotments are located in the unit.

Miles of River. The main channel of the Nuyakuk River extends for 29 miles.

Access. The corridor is easily accessible by motorboat, floatplane, and snowmobile. Much of the floating access originates from Wood-Tikchik State Park. A rapids in the park makes motorboat access difficult to and from Tikchik Lake; however, the river is used as a travel corridor to the lake system. The unit is about a one-hour flight from Dillingham.

Existing Development. One cabin and an ADF&G fish counting camp are located in the unit.

Fisheries. The Nuyakuk is a major sockeye migration route in the study area. The river supports good sport fishing for rainbow trout and sockeye and coho salmon fishing.

Subsistence fishing use is moderate. Sport fishing use is moderate and is associated with floating or commercial fly-in use. This part of the river system has been increasingly relied on for subsistence over the last 10 years.

Wildlife. Density of moose is moderate; density of caribou is low.

Subsistence moose hunting use is moderate and takes place mostly during the winter. Sport hunting for moose is moderate, but is increasing, and is usually associated with floating or dropoffs at small lakes. Subsistence and sport hunting for caribou are low.

Trails and Easements. The following 17(b) easements are located in this unit: EIN 28 and 28a. (See the table in Appendix B for a detailed description of these easements.)

Other Values. Scenic values are moderate because of high landscape diversity near the river. Floating use is moderate and increasing. Much of the floating use is guided and originates in Wood-Tikchik State Park. Upper portions of the river include Class I whitewater. The unit is used for trapping in the winter by local residents. One cultural site has been documented in the unit.

Area Plan Designations. The navigable portions of the river system and its adjacent uplands are co-designated Habitat and Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed.

MANAGEMENT INTENT

Primitive use experience.

MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES

Long-term Use (longer than 14 consecutive days at one site):

Permanent facilities	Prohibited.
Temporary facilities	Prohibited.
Trapping cabins	Prohibited.
Boat storage	Prohibited.
Airstrip development	Prohibited.
Docks: permanent	Prohibited,
temporary	Prohibited.
Other uses	Prohibited.

Short-term Use (14 consecutive days or less at one site):

See Short-term Uses (generally allowed uses) in Chapter 2.

OTHER GUIDELINES SPECIFIC TO THIS UNIT

U8.1 Siting Criteria. Uses will be sited to minimize evidence of human use.

PUBLIC USE SITES

None.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THIS UNIT

None.

Unit 9. Middle Nushagak Corridor, Harris Creek to Nuyakuk River

BACKGROUND

Land Status. Most of the uplands surrounding the unit are owned by Koliganek Natives Ltd. No uplands are owned by the state in the unit. The Nushagak River is navigable; the state owns the shorelands. There are Native allotments located in the unit.

Miles of River. The main channel of the Nushagak River extends for 12 miles.

Access. The unit is easily accessible by motorboat, floatplane, and snowmobile. It is moderately accessible by wheeled planes. The unit is relatively far from major airports.

Existing Development. No cabins or other developments are documented in the unit.

Fisheries. The Nushagak River serves a major salmon migration corridor and provides important spawning and rearing habitat for king, chum, and coho salmon. Sport fishing for freshwater fish is generally good.

Subsistence fishing use is low. Sport fishing use is currently low, mostly commercial, and increasing as operators avoid other more heavily used areas.

Wildlife. Moose density is moderate; caribou density varies by season and is occasionally high. Waterfowl are fairly common in both spring and fall.

Subsistence hunting use is moderate, takes place in the fall and winter, and is based out of Koliganek. Sport hunting use is low, but increasing.

Trails and Easements. The following 17(b) easements are located in this unit: EIN 29, 29a, 30 and 30a. (See the table in Appendix B for a detailed description of these easements.)

Other Values. Scenic values are relatively low because of constricted views and low landscape diversity. A moderate level of floating use takes place in the corridor, most of it guided. The corridor is important for local trapping and woodcutting uses.

Area Plan Designations. The navigable portions of the river system are co-designated Habitat and Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed. The RRMP only applies to the area of navigable waters.

MANAGEMENT INTENT

Semi-primitive use experience.

MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES

Long-term Use (longer than 14 consecutive days at one site):

Permanent facilities	Prohibited. ⁵
Temporary facilities	Prohibited. ⁵
Trapping cabins	Prohibited. ⁵
Boat storage	May be allowed (case-by-case).
Airstrip development	May be allowed (case-by-case).
Docks: permanent	May be allowed (case-by-case),
temporary	May be allowed (case-by-case).
Other uses	May be allowed (case-by-case).

Short-term Use (14 consecutive days or less at one site):

See Short-term Uses (generally allowed uses) in Chapter 2.

OTHER GUIDELINES SPECIFIC TO THIS UNIT

U9.1 Siting Criteria. Long-term uses will be sited to minimize evidence of human use.

PUBLIC USE SITES

None.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THIS UNIT

None.

⁵ The state owns only shorelands in this unit. Permanent facilities and temporary facilities (except for floating facilities) and trapping cabins are prohibited on shorelands.

Unit 10. Middle Nushagak Corridor, Chichitnok River to Harris Creek

BACKGROUND

Land Status. Most of the unit is owned by the state. There are a number of Native allotments located in the unit.

Miles of River. The main channel of the Nushagak River extends for 32 miles.

Access. The unit is easily accessible by motorboat and snowmobile and moderately accessible by float and wheeled airplanes. The unit is relatively close to lodges in Wood-Tikchik State Park.

Existing Development. There are a number of cabins located in this unit. Most have been used as temporary camps for commercial sport fishing. Camps may either support fly-in use or serve as bases of operation.

Fisheries. The unit includes a heavily braided section of the Nushagak which provides an important spawning area for king salmon and excellent sport fishing opportunities for salmon and resident species.

Subsistence fishing use is low. Sport fishing use is moderate and increasing. Most of the sport use is commercial. Commercial use originates from nearby temporary camps or is fly-in use relying on motorboats stored in the unit.

Wildlife. Moose density is moderate; caribou density varies with the season but is occasionally high, particularly in fall and winter. Trophy-sized animals may migrate through the unit.

Subsistence hunting use is moderate, takes place in the fall and winter, and is based out of Koliganek and cabins located in the unit. Sport hunting use is currently low, but increasing.

Trails and Easements. None.

Other values. Scenic values are moderate because of landscape diversity provided by the braids. Floating use is moderate and increasing, and is generally associated with hunting or fishing. The unit is used for trapping by local residents. One cultural site is documented in the unit.

Area Plan Designations. The navigable portions of the river system and the adjacent uplands are co-designated Habitat and Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed. Public Use Sites are designated Public Recreation and Tourism-Public Use Site (retain in public ownership).

MANAGEMENT INTENT

Semi-primitive use experience.

MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES

Long-term Use (longer than 14 consecutive days at one site):

Permanent facilities	Prohibited.
Temporary facilities	May be allowed (case-by-case).
Trapping cabins	May be allowed (case-by-case).
Boat storage	May be allowed (case-by-case).
Airstrip development	May be allowed (case-by-case).
Docks: permanent	Prohibited,
temporary	May be allowed (case-by-case).
Other uses	May be allowed (case-by-case).

Short-term Use (14 consecutive days or less at one site):

See Short-term Uses (generally allowed uses) in Chapter 2.

OTHER GUIDELINES SPECIFIC TO THIS UNIT

U10.1 Siting Criteria. Long-term uses will be sited to minimize evidence of human use. Temporary facilities will be sited out of view from the main river channel.

PUBLIC USE SITES

See Public Use Sites in Chapter 2 for management guidelines. Specific locations of sites are shown on maps in Appendix C.

Site 14 Campsite on the Nushagak River at the mouth of Klutuspak Creek. There is a pending Native allotment in this site.

Site 15 Campsite and floatplane landing area at the mouth of the King Salmon River.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THIS UNIT

None.

Unit 11. Middle Nushagak Uplands

BACKGROUND

Land Status. Most of the unit is owned by the state. A number of Native allotments are located in the unit. The western portion of the unit is adjacent to Wood-Tikchik State Park. Mineral resources are located on Sleitat Mountain.

Access. The unit is easily accessible by snowmobile. Wheeled airplanes can land easily on many rounded ridges, and dry tundra areas offer easy accessibility to all-terrain vehicles. Developed airstrips are located near Vukpalik Creek and in the upper Klutuspak drainage. Accessibility is moderate for floatplanes on lakes in the Nuyakuk drainage. The unit is relatively far from major airports.

Existing Development. Two sites which have been used as guided/outfitted hunting camps are located on lakes in the eastern portion of the unit.

Fisheries. Fisheries values are generally low. Creeks in the unit provide important salmon spawning habitat.

Subsistence and sport fishing uses are low.

Wildlife. Moose density is low to moderate; caribou density varies with the season, but is occasionally high, particularly in fall and winter.

Subsistence hunting use is moderate and is based out of Koliganek and cabins in drainages. Winter hunting is almost exclusively by local residents. Sport hunting use is moderate. The unit is an important brown bear hunting area, and pressure is moderate to high. Virtually all brown bear hunting is by residents and guided nonresidents and occurs during May, September, and early October.

Trails and Easements. The following 17(b) easements are located in this unit: EIN 26a, 28a, 29a, 30a and 32a. (See the table in Appendix B for a detailed description of these easements.)

Other Values. Scenic values are moderate because of landscape diversity and views of highlands in the hilly northern portion of the unit. Trapping takes place near drainages in the winter. One cultural resource is documented within the unit.

Area Plan Designations. Within areas of state owned and state selected land, the designations of General Use, Settlement, and Minerals apply. The recommendations of the RRMP only apply to areas that are designated General Use. Public Use Sites are designated Public Recreation and Tourism-Public Use Site (retain in public ownership).

MANAGEMENT INTENT

Semi-primitive use experience.

MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES

Long-term Use (longer than 14 consecutive days at one site):

Permanent facilities	May be allowed (case-by-case).
Temporary facilities	May be allowed (case-by-case).
Trapping cabins	May be allowed (case-by-case).
Boat storage	May be allowed (case-by-case).
Airstrip development	May be allowed (case-by-case).
Docks: permanent	May be allowed (case-by-case),
temporary	May be allowed (case-by-case).
Other uses	May be allowed (case-by-case).

Short-term Use (14 consecutive days or less at one site):

See Short-term Uses (generally allowed uses) in Chapter 2.

OTHER GUIDELINES SPECIFIC TO THIS UNIT

U11.1 Siting Criteria. Long-term uses will be sited to minimize evidence of human use.

U11.2 Siting Criteria. Impacts to adjacent riverine areas from permanent or temporary facilities situated in uplands are to be avoided or reduced to the maximum extent possible.

PUBLIC USE SITES

See Public Use Sites in Chapter 2 for management guidelines. Specific locations of sites are shown on maps in Appendix C.

Site 16 Wheeled airplane landing area on upper Klutuspak Creek.

Site 17 Wheeled plane landing area in uplands, 3 miles southeast of Vukpalik Creek.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THIS UNIT

None.

Unit 12. King Salmon River Corridor

BACKGROUND

Land Status. This unit is owned by the state. Several Native allotments are located in the unit. The upper portion of the unit is adjacent to Wood-Tikchik State Park. Mining claims are located in the adjacent Shotgun Hills.

Miles of River. The main channel of the King Salmon River extends for 47 miles.

Access. Accessibility is generally difficult by airplane. Access by motorboat is difficult or infeasible in the upper portion of the unit and moderate in the lower. Headwater lakes in the unit and in Wood-Tikchik State Park provide floating drop-off points. The unit is far from major airports.

Existing Development. Two cabins and one site which has been used as a commercial sport fishing camp are located in the unit.

Fisheries. The unit provides important king salmon spawning habitat and excellent fishing for freshwater fish. Rainbow trout and sockeye salmon are the species of primary interest to anglers.

Subsistence fishing use is low. Sport fishing use is currently low and is mostly commercial. Commercial use is based out of nearby camps or is fly-in use relying on motorboats stored on the Nushagak.

Wildlife. Moose density is moderate to high; caribou density is seasonally moderate; brown bear density is high. The King Salmon Hills provide essential brown bear denning habitat.

Subsistence hunting for moose and caribou is low. Winter hunting use is almost entirely by local residents. Sport hunting use is moderate, increasing, and is chiefly guided brown bear hunting and nonresident caribou and moose hunting. Most of the fall hunting use is for sport.

Trails and Easements. None.

Other Values. Scenic values are moderate because of landscape diversity near the river and views of nearby highlands. Floating use is currently low but increasing. Local residents use the unit for trapping.

Area Plan Designations. The navigable portions of the river system and its adjacent uplands are co-designated Habitat and Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed. Public Use Sites are designated Public Recreation and Tourism-Public Use Site (retain in public ownership).

MANAGEMENT INTENT

Primitive use experience.

MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES

Long-term Use (longer than 14 consecutive days at one site):

Permanent facilities	Prohibited.
Temporary facilities	Prohibited.
Trapping cabins	Prohibited.
Boat storage	Prohibited.
Airstrip development	Prohibited.
Docks: permanent	Prohibited,
temporary	Prohibited.
Other uses	May be allowed (case-by-case).

Short-term Use (14 consecutive days or less at one site):

See Short-term Uses (generally allowed uses) in Chapter 2.

OTHER GUIDELINES SPECIFIC TO THIS UNIT

- U12.1 Siting Criteria. Long-term uses should be sited out of view from the main channels of the Nushagak and Chichitnok Rivers.
- U12.3 Renewal of Existing Trapping Cabin Permit. Renewal of the existing trapping cabin permit may be allowed in accordance with AS 38.95.075.

PUBLIC USE SITES

See Public Use Sites in Chapter 2 for management guidelines. Specific locations of sites are shown on maps in Appendix C.

- Site 18 Campsite and floatplane landing area on unnamed lake near the headwaters of the King Salmon River.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THIS UNIT

None.

Unit 13. Upper Nushagak and Chichitnok Rivers Corridor

BACKGROUND

Land Status. Land in this unit is either owned or selected by the state. A number of Native allotments are located within the unit.

Miles of River. The main channel of the Nushagak River extends for 92 miles. The main channel of the Chichitnok River extends for 31 miles.

Access. Accessibility is moderate for motorboats in lower portions of the rivers and is not feasible in the upper portions. Accessibility is generally difficult for airplanes, although a few landing sites exist. The unit is far from major airports.

Existing Development. Five cabins are located within the unit. Three sites in the unit have been used as commercial camps.

Fisheries. The unit provides important king salmon and chum spawning habitat and excellent fishing for freshwater fish.

Subsistence fishing use is low. Sport fishing use is currently low, mostly commercial, and increasing. Commercial use is mostly based out of camps in the unit.

Wildlife. Moose density is moderate; caribou density is seasonally low to abundant; brown bear density is high.

Subsistence hunting use is moderate in the fall and low during the winter. Sport hunting use is moderate for brown bear by guided nonresidents. Resident and nonresident sport hunting for caribou and moose is low but increasing.

Trails and Easements. None

Other Values. Scenic values are high because of landscape diversity and good views of nearby highlands. Floating use on the Nushagak is currently low, but increasing.

Area Plan Designations. The navigable portions of the river system and its adjacent uplands are co-designated Habitat and Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed. Public Use Sites are designated Public Recreation and Tourism-Public Use Site (retain in public ownership).

MANAGEMENT INTENT

Primitive use experience.

MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES

Long-term Use (longer than 14 consecutive days at one site):

Permanent facilities	Prohibited.
Temporary facilities	Prohibited.
Trapping cabins	Prohibited.
Boat storage	Prohibited.
Airstrip development	May be allowed (case-by-case).
Docks: permanent	Prohibited,
temporary	Prohibited.
Other uses	May be allowed (case-by-case).

Short-term Use (14 consecutive days or less at one site):

See Short-term Uses (generally allowed uses) in Chapter 2.

OTHER GUIDELINES SPECIFIC TO THIS UNIT

- U13.1 Airstrip Development. Airstrip development may be allowed if there is no evidence of the airstrip from the river and if there is a demonstrated significant public need. See Recommendations for this Unit (below).
- U13.2 Siting Criteria. Long-term uses should be sited out of view from the main channels of the Nushagak and Chichitnok Rivers.

PUBLIC USE SITES

See Public Use Sites in Chapter 2 for management guidelines. Specific locations of sites are shown on maps in Appendix C.

Site 19 Campsite on the east bank of the Nushagak River, 2 miles north of the mouth of the King Salmon River.

Site 20 Campsite at the mouth of the Chichitnok River. There is a pending Native allotment in this site.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THIS UNIT

An airstrip should be developed in the upper reaches of the Nushagak River to provide public access for floating.

Unit 14. Nushagak Hills

BACKGROUND

Land Status. The unit is owned or selected by the state. One Native allotment is staked in the unit. The western portion of the unit is adjacent to Wood-Tikchik State Park. Mining claims are located in the western portion of the unit.

Access. Wheeled airplanes can land easily on many rounded ridges, and dry tundra offers easy accessibility to all-terrain vehicles. The unit is far from major airports.

Existing Development. No cabins or other development are documented in this unit.

Fisheries. Fisheries values are generally low.

Subsistence and sport fishing uses are low.

Wildlife. Moose density is low to moderate; caribou density is seasonally low to abundant; brown bear density is high throughout the unit. Much of the unit provides essential brown bear denning habitat.

Subsistence hunting use is low, except in winter when it is moderate in some portions of the unit. Sport hunting for moose and caribou is low to moderate; brown bear use is high. Brown bear hunting is primarily by guided nonresidents and is at maximum sustainable levels.

Trails and Easements. None.

Other Values. Scenic values are moderate because of landscape diversity and views of highlands in the hilly northern portion of the unit. Some trapping use takes place near drainages in the winter.

Area Plan Designations. The navigable portions of the river system are co-designated Habitat and Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed. Except for an area designated Minerals in the far western portion of this Management Unit near Wood-Tikchik State Park, the remainder of the unit is designated General Use. The recommendations of the RRMP do not apply to areas that are designated Minerals.

MANAGEMENT INTENT

Semi-Primitive use experience.

MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES

Long-term Use (longer than 14 consecutive days at one site):

Permanent facilities	May be allowed (case-by-case).
Temporary facilities	May be allowed (case-by-case).
Trapping cabins	May be allowed (case-by-case).
Boat storage	May be allowed (case-by-case).
Airstrip development	May be allowed (case-by-case).
Docks: permanent	May be allowed (case-by-case),
temporary	May be allowed (case-by-case).
Other uses	May be allowed (case-by-case).

Short-term Use (14 consecutive days or less at one site):

See Short-term Uses (generally allowed uses) in Chapter 2.

OTHER GUIDELINES SPECIFIC TO THIS UNIT

- U14.1 Siting Criteria. Long-term uses should be sited out of view from the main river channel.

- U14.2 Siting Criteria. Impacts to adjacent riverine areas from permanent or temporary facilities situated in uplands are to be avoided or reduced to the maximum extent possible.

PUBLIC USE SITES

None.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THIS UNIT

None.

Unit 15. Lower Mulchatna River Corridor

BACKGROUND

Land Status. Most of the land adjacent to the lower portion of the river is owned or selected by Koliganek Natives Ltd. The Mulchatna River is navigable; the state owns the shorelands. A number of Native allotments are located in the unit.

Miles of River. The main channel of the Mulchatna River extends for 41 miles.

Access. The unit is easily accessible by motorboat, float and wheeled airplanes, and snowmobile. The unit is about a one-hour flight from Iliamna and Dillingham.

Existing Development. Seven cabins are located in this unit. Three sites have been used for commercial camps.

Fisheries. The Mulchatna River serves as a major salmon migration corridor and provides important spawning and rearing habitat for king, chum, and coho salmon.

Subsistence fishing use is moderate for freshwater species and spawning salmon. Sport fishing use is moderate and generally associated with floating activity. There is locally high sport fishing effort at the mouths of the Stuyahok and Kuktuli rivers because they provide good fishing and access, and excellent camping and staging opportunities. Anglers target primarily salmon. Commercial recreational use is high and is associated with guided floating, commercial camps in the unit, and fly-in day use. Day use may rely on motorboats stored in the unit.

Wildlife. The unit provides essential winter range for moose and densities are seasonally high. Caribou migrate through the unit and densities are moderate to high. The unit is a waterfowl staging area during spring and fall migrations.

The unit is primarily a travel corridor for all user groups. Subsistence hunting for caribou and moose is high during the fall and winter. Sport hunting use is low but has increased as float trips down the Mulchatna, Stuyahok, and Kuktuli rivers to pickup points in this unit have become more popular.

Trails and Easements. The following 17(b) easements are located in this unit: EIN 25 and 25a. (See the table in Appendix B for a detailed description of these easements.)

Other Values. Scenic values in the unit are low because of constricted views and low landscape diversity. Floating use is high and originates from drop-offs on the Stuyahok, Koktuli, and upper Mulchatna rivers. Floating use is chiefly unguided and is increasing. The unit is used for trapping by local residents. Four cultural sites are located in the unit, including Stuyahok, the site of the old village located at the mouth of the Stuyahok River, which is especially significant to local residents.

Area Plan Designations. The navigable portions of the river system and its adjacent uplands are co-designated Habitat and Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed. Public Use Sites are designated Public Recreation and Tourism-Public Use Site (retain in public ownership).

MANAGEMENT INTENT

Semi-primitive use experience.

MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES

Long-term Use (longer than 14 consecutive days at one site):

Permanent facilities	Prohibited.
Temporary facilities	May be allowed (case-by-case).
Trapping cabins	May be allowed (case-by-case).
Boat storage	May be allowed (case-by-case).
Airstrip development	May be allowed (case-by-case).
Docks: permanent	Prohibited,
temporary	May be allowed (case-by-case).
Other uses	May be allowed (case-by-case).

Short-term Use (14 consecutive days or less at one site):

See Short-term Uses (generally allowed uses) in Chapter 2.

OTHER GUIDELINES SPECIFIC TO THIS UNIT

U15.1 Short-term Uses at the Mouth of the Stuyahok River (Public Use Site 21). Because of high public use, this public use site is designated as a "special use area" under 11 AAC 96.010. (ADL 226852) In public use sites, short-term uses can take place for 14 consecutive days or less without a permit. In this special use area, allowed short-term uses can take place for 7 consecutive days or less without a permit. Allowed uses that take place for longer than 7 consecutive days are considered long-term uses and require a permit or lease. All other public use site guidelines apply to this special use area (see Chapter 2, Public Use Sites).

U15.2 Siting Criteria. Long-term uses that are allowed in either Primitive or Semi-Primitive management units should be sited out of view of the main river channel. Such uses should minimize or avoid impacts to the main river channel and adjacent riverine corridors.

PUBLIC USE SITES

See Public Use Sites in Chapter 2 for management guidelines. Specific locations of sites are shown on maps in Appendix C.

Site 21 This site is a special use area (ADL 226852). See “Other Guidelines Specific to this Unit.” Campsite and floatplane landing area on the Mulchatna River at the mouth of the Stuyahok River. There is a pending Native allotment in this site.

Site 22 Campsite and floatplane landing area on the Mulchatna River, 1.5 miles downstream from the mouth of the Kuktuli River.

Site 23 Campsite and floatplane landing area on the Mulchatna River at the mouth of the Kuktuli River.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THIS UNIT

Management of Public Use Sites at the Stuyahok and Kuktuli Rivers: Use of the sandbars at the mouths of the Stuyahok and Kuktuli Rivers (public use sites # 21 and # 23) for camping, fishing, and waiting for floatplane pickups is steadily increasing. Problems with overcrowding, garbage, and waste are beginning to develop at the mouth of the Stuyahok River. Possible management actions that should be considered are: 1) developing public information materials suggesting alternative sites and recommending measures for keeping the sites clean, 2) developing privies at the sites, and 3) changing the number of days that short-term (generally allowed) uses can occur.

Unit 16. Stuyahok River Corridor

BACKGROUND

Land Status. Most of the land in the unit is owned by the state. Ten Native allotments are located within the unit. The upper portion of the corridor is within the Lake and Peninsula Borough.

Miles of River. The main channel of the Stuyahok River extends for 55 miles.

Access. The lower portion of the river is moderately accessible by motorboat; upper portions are increasingly difficult. Airplane accessibility is moderate; a few landing sites provide drop-offs for floating. Upper portions of the unit are near Iliamna. The unit is serviced from Anchorage, Iliamna, and Dillingham.

Existing Development. No cabins or other development are documented in the unit.

Fisheries. The Stuyahok River is a clear water stream which provides important spawning habitat for king, sockeye, and coho salmon. Resident species include rainbow trout, arctic grayling, and Dolly Varden.

Subsistence fishing use is low. Sport fishing use is moderate and generally associated with floating.

Wildlife. Moose density is low to moderate; caribou density is high. Upper portions of the unit provide essential caribou calving habitat.

Subsistence hunting for moose and caribou is high in the lower portion of the river during the fall; subsistence hunting for caribou is high throughout the unit during the winter. Sport hunting use is high and increasing as floating becomes increasingly popular. Guided/outfitted use takes place mainly in the upper portion of the unit.

Trails and Easements. None.

Other Values. Floating use is high and chiefly unguided. The corridor has high scenic value because of views of nearby uplands and high landscape diversity ranging from upland tundra to bottomland forest. Two heritage sites are documented in the unit.

Area Plan Designations. The navigable portions of the river system and its adjacent uplands are co-designated Habitat and Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed. Public Use Sites are designated Public Recreation and Tourism-Public Use Site (retain in public ownership).

MANAGEMENT INTENT

Primitive use experience.

MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES

Long-term Use (longer than 14 consecutive days at one site):

Permanent facilities	Prohibited.
Temporary facilities	Prohibited.
Trapping cabins	Prohibited.
Boat storage	Prohibited.
Airstrip development	Prohibited.
Docks: permanent	Prohibited,
temporary	Prohibited.
Other uses	May be allowed (case-by-case).

Short-term Use (14 consecutive days or less at one site):

See Short-term Uses (generally allowed uses) in Chapter 2.

OTHER GUIDELINES SPECIFIC TO THIS UNIT

U16.1 Siting Criteria. Long-term uses should be sited out of view from the main river channel.

PUBLIC USE SITES

See Public Use Sites in Chapter 2 for management guidelines. Specific locations of sites are shown on maps in Appendix C.

Site 24 Wheeled plane landing area on the Stuyahok River, 20 miles southeast of old Stuyahok.

Site 25 Floatplane and wheeled plane landing area near the Stuyahok River on an unnamed lake, 21 miles southeast of old Stuyahok.

Site 26 Campsite and floatplane landing area on an unnamed lake drained by the Stuyahok River, 23 miles southeast of old Stuyahok.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THIS UNIT

None.

Unit 17. Koktuli River Corridor

BACKGROUND

Land Status. Most of the land in the unit is owned or selected by the state. A number of Native allotments are located in the unit. The upper portion of the corridor is within the Lake and Peninsula Borough.

Miles of River. The main channel of the Koktuli River extends for 46 miles.

Access. Downstream of the Swan River, the Koktuli River is easily accessible by motorboat; upper portions are increasingly difficult. Airplane accessibility is moderate in the upper portion; a few landing sites provide drop-offs for floating. Upper portions of the unit are near Iliamna.

Existing Development. Two cabins and one site which has been used as a commercial sport fishing and outfitting camp for hunting are located in the unit.

Fisheries. The rivers provide important spawning habitat for king, sockeye, and chum salmon. Rainbow trout fishing is good in the lower portion of the unit.

Subsistence fishing use is low. Sport fishing use is moderate. Commercial sport use is concentrated on the lower portion of the unit and is based out of a nearby camp or is fly-in day use relying on motorboats stored near the unit. Sport fishing use in the remaining portion of the unit is associated with floating.

Wildlife. Moose density is moderate, caribou density is high, and brown bear density is high near Jack Rabbit Hills. Upper portions of the unit provide essential caribou calving habitat.

Subsistence hunting use is high. Subsistence hunters concentrate their effort in the lower portion of the unit for moose and caribou in the fall and hunt throughout the unit for caribou in the winter. Use by guided or outfitted sport hunters is moderate to high during the fall and has been increasing in recent years.

Trails and Easements. None.

Other Values. Floating use is high and chiefly unguided. The corridor has high scenic value because of views of nearby uplands and high landscape diversity grading from upland tundra to bottomland forest. One cultural site is located in the unit.

Area Plan Designations. The bulk of the navigable portions of the river system and its adjacent uplands are co-designated Habitat and Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed. The eastern portion of the Koktuli River and adjoining uplands, situated within BBAP management unit R06-30, is designated Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed. Public Use Sites are designated Public Recreation and Tourism-Public Use Site (retain in public ownership).

MANAGEMENT INTENT

Primitive use experience.

MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES

Long-term Use (longer than 14 consecutive days at one site):

Permanent facilities	Prohibited.
Temporary facilities	Prohibited.
Trapping cabins	Prohibited.
Boat storage	Prohibited.
Airstrip development	Prohibited.
Docks: permanent	Prohibited,
temporary	Prohibited.
Other uses	May be allowed (case-by-case).

Short-term Use (14 consecutive days or less at one site):

See Short-term Uses (generally allowed uses) in Chapter 2.

OTHER GUIDELINES SPECIFIC TO THIS UNIT

U17.1 Siting Criteria. Long-term uses should be sited out of view from the main river channel.

PUBLIC USE SITES

See Public Use Sites in Chapter 2 for management guidelines. Specific locations of sites are shown on maps in Appendix C.

Site 27 Campsite on the Koktuli River at the mouth of the Swan River. There is a pending Native allotment in this site.

Site 28 Wheeled plane landing area on the Koktuli River, 1 mile downstream from the confluence of the north and south forks. There is a pending Native allotment in this site.

- Site 29 Campsite on the Koktuli River at the confluence of the north and south forks. There is a pending Native allotment in this site.
- Site 30 Floatplane landing area on unnamed lake, 1 mile south of the upper Koktuli River and campsite on the Koktuli River, connected by a trail.
- Site 31 Floatplane landing area on unnamed lake on the south side of the upper Koktuli River, 2.5 miles northwest of Sharp Mountain.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THIS UNIT

None.

Unit 18. Middle Mulchatna River Corridor, Keefer Creek to Koktuli River

BACKGROUND

Land Status. Most of the unit is owned or selected by the state. A number of Native allotments are located in the unit.

Miles of River. The main channel of the Mulchatna River extends for 22 miles.

Access. The corridor is moderately accessible by motorboat and airplane. The unit is about a one-hour flight from Iliamna.

Existing Development. No cabins are documented in the unit. Two sites have been used as commercial camps near the Koktuli River; on one site the state intends to issue a lease for a commercial sport fishing facility.

Fisheries. The Mulchatna River provides important spawning and rearing habitat for king, chum, and coho salmon. Fishing opportunities for freshwater species are good.

Subsistence fishing use is low. Sport fishing use is low and associated with floating and a commercial camp in the unit.

Wildlife. This portion of the Mulchatna River is braided and provides good winter range. Moose density is moderate to high. Caribou density is generally high in the fall and moderate to high in winter depending on snow depths.

Subsistence hunting use is high; the unit is a traditional fall hunting area for local residents. Sport hunting use is moderate and increasing.

Trails and Easements. None.

Other Values. Floating use is high and both guided and unguided. Scenic values are low because of low landscape diversity and constricted views. One cultural site is located in the unit.

Area Plan Designations. The navigable portions of the river system and its adjoining uplands are co-designated Habitat and Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed.

MANAGEMENT INTENT

Semi-primitive use experience.

MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES

Long-term Use (longer than 14 consecutive days at one site):

Permanent facilities	Prohibited.
Temporary facilities	May be allowed (case-by-case).
Trapping cabins	May be allowed (case-by-case).
Boat storage	May be allowed (case-by-case).
Airstrip development	May be allowed (case-by-case).
Docks: permanent	Prohibited,
temporary	May be allowed (case-by-case).
Other uses	May be allowed (case-by-case).

Short-term Use (14 consecutive days or less at one site):

See Short-term Uses (generally allowed uses) in Chapter 2.

OTHER GUIDELINES SPECIFIC TO THIS UNIT

U18.1 Siting Criteria. Long-term uses will be sited to minimize evidence of human use.

PUBLIC USE SITES

None.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THIS UNIT

None.

Unit 19. Lower Mulchatna Uplands

BACKGROUND

Land Status. The unit is predominantly owned or selected by the state. Smaller amounts of land are owned or selected by Koliganek Natives Ltd. and Stuyahok Ltd. A number of Native allotments are located in the unit. The eastern portion of the unit is within the Lake and Peninsula Borough. Mining claims are located in the northern portion of the unit.

Access. The unit is easily accessed by floatplane at many lakes and on the lower Swan River, except in the hilly northern portion of the unit where relatively few airplane landing sites exist. The southern portion of the unit is easily accessed by snowmobile from Nushagak River communities. Most of the unit is about a one-hour flight from Iliamna.

Existing Development. Two cabins are located in this unit. Three sites have been used as guided/outfitted hunting camps.

Fisheries. Fisheries values are generally low.

Subsistence and sport fishing uses are low.

Wildlife. Moose density is moderate, caribou density is high, and brown bear density is high in the Jack Rabbit Hills and moderate elsewhere. Portions of the unit provide essential caribou calving habitat.

Subsistence hunting for caribou is high in the winter. Sport hunting use in the fall is high for caribou and moderate to high for moose, primarily by nonresident and non-local Alaskans. Guided brown bear hunting use is moderate in the Jack Rabbit Hills vicinity.

Trails and Easements. The following 17(b) easements are located in this unit: EIN 25 and 25a. (See the table in Appendix B for a detailed description of these easements.)

Other Values. The northern and eastern portions of the unit are hilly and have moderate scenic value. Low relief and tundra in much of the western portion of the unit provide low scenic value.

Area Plan Designations. This management unit is designated General Use.

MANAGEMENT INTENT

Semi-primitive use experience.

MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES

Long-term Use (longer than 14 consecutive days at one site):

Permanent facilities	May be allowed (case-by-case).
Temporary facilities	May be allowed (case-by-case).
Trapping cabins	May be allowed (case-by-case).
Boat storage	May be allowed (case-by-case).
Airstrip development	May be allowed (case-by-case).
Docks: permanent	May be allowed (case-by-case),
temporary	May be allowed (case-by-case).
Other uses	May be allowed (case-by-case).

Short-term Use (14 consecutive days or less at one site):

See Short-term Uses (generally allowed uses) in Chapter 2.

OTHER GUIDELINES SPECIFIC TO THIS UNIT

- U19.1 Caribou Calving Habitat. This unit contains caribou calving habitat. Temporary facilities, trapping cabins, boat storage, airstrip development, temporary docks, and other long-term uses may be allowed in caribou calving habitat if, based on consultation with ADF&G, uses can be sited and operated in a manner that is not likely to cause significant impact to caribou calving. Management Guideline K, ‘Caribou and Moose Rutting and Calving Areas’ in the Fish and Wildlife Habitat section of Chapter 2 of the BBAP also applies.
- U19.2 Siting Criteria. Long-term uses will be sited to minimize evidence of human use.
- U19.3 Siting Criteria. Impacts to adjacent riverine areas from permanent or temporary facilities situated in uplands are to be avoided or reduced to the maximum extent possible.

PUBLIC USE SITES

None.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THIS UNIT

None.

Unit 20. Middle Mulchatna River Corridor, Chilikadrotna River to Keefer Creek

BACKGROUND

Land Status. Most of the land is owned by the state. One Native allotment is located in the unit. Most of the unit is located within the Lake and Peninsula Borough. Municipal selections of the Borough affect most of the river corridor within this management unit.

Miles of River. The main channel of the Mulchatna River extends for 31 miles.

Access. The corridor is easily accessible by float and wheeled airplane and is moderately accessible by motorboat. Floaters are commonly dropped off at the headwaters of the Mulchatna and take out in this unit. The unit is about a one-hour flight from Iliamna, but much of the use is based directly out of Anchorage and the Kenai vicinity.

Existing Development. Four cabins are located in the unit. Four sites have been used as commercial recreation camps.

Fisheries. The Mulchatna River serves as a migration corridor for salmon and provides important salmon spawning and rearing habitat.

Subsistence fishing use is low. Sport fishing use is low and usually associated with hunting and floating.

Wildlife. This portion of the Mulchatna River is braided and provides good moose habitat which supports seasonally high densities of moose. Caribou density is high during the fall.

Subsistence hunting use is low. Sport hunting use is high and is generally associated with nonresidents and non-local Alaskans on float trips during the fall. Many hunters are guided or outfitted.

Trails and Easements. None.

Other Values. Scenic values are high because of the contrast of high ridges on either side of the valley with river views. Floating use, both guided and unguided, are high. The river does not include whitewater, but provides a leisurely, interesting float.

Area Plan Designations and Municipal Entitlements. The navigable portions of the river system and its adjacent uplands are co-designated Habitat and Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed. The several public use sites are designated Public Recreation and Tourism-Public Use Site (retain in public ownership). Consult Appendix C, ‘Municipal Selections in the Planning Area’, of the BBAP for the status of Lake and Peninsula Borough selections (see management intent for units R06-49, R06-39, R06-06, and R07-21).

MANAGEMENT INTENT

Semi-primitive use experience.

MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES

Long-term Use (longer than 14 consecutive days at one site):

Permanent facilities	Prohibited.
Temporary facilities	May be allowed (case-by-case).
Trapping cabins	May be allowed (case-by-case).
Boat storage	May be allowed (case-by-case).
Airstrip development	May be allowed (case-by-case).
Docks: permanent	Prohibited,
temporary	May be allowed (case-by-case).
Other uses	May be allowed (case-by-case).

Short-term Use (14 consecutive days or less at one site):

See Short-term Uses (generally allowed uses) in Chapter 2.

OTHER GUIDELINES SPECIFIC TO THIS UNIT

U20.1 Siting Criteria. Long-term uses will be sited to minimize evidence of human use.

PUBLIC USE SITES

See Public Use Sites in Chapter 2 for management guidelines. Specific locations of sites are shown on maps in Appendix C.

Site 32 Campsite on the north bank of the Mulchatna River, 2 miles southeast of Red Bluff.

Site 33 Campsite and floatplane and wheeled plane landing area on the upper Mulchatna River, 5 miles downstream from Springway Creek.

Site 34 Campsite and floatplane landing area on the Mulchatna River below the mouth of the Chilchitna River.

Site 35 Campsite on the upper Mulchatna River at the mouth of the Chilikadrotna River.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THIS UNIT

Municipal Selections. As indicated, the BBAP establishes whether specific selections made by the Lake and Peninsula Borough are appropriate, subject to a separate and subsequent Best Interest Finding prepared by DNR. Lands that may be conveyed to the Borough will no longer be in state ownership and the requirements of the RRMP will not apply. Areas not affected by approved municipal selections and areas of state land will remain subject to the requirements of the RRMP.

Unit 21. Chilchitna River and Tutna Lake Corridor

BACKGROUND

Land Status. The land is owned by the state. One Native allotment is on Tutna Lake. The unit is located within the Lake and Peninsula Borough. A number of municipal selections of the Lake and Peninsula Borough affect portions of this management unit.

Miles of River. The main channel of Nikadavna Creek extends for 12 miles. The main channel of the Chilchitna River extends for 2 river miles.

Access. The northern portion of Tutna Lake provides easy floatplane accessibility. The lake is near Iliamna, but much of the use is based directly out of Anchorage and the Kenai vicinity.

Existing Development. No cabins or other development are documented in the unit.

Fisheries. Tutna Lake and streams in the unit provide spawning and rearing habitat for king, coho, sockeye, and chum salmon.

Subsistence fishing use is low. Sport fishing use is low and usually associated with hunting and floating.

Wildlife. Moose density is moderate; caribou density is high.

Subsistence hunting use is low. Sport hunting use is high. This is a popular place for Anchorage air taxis and outfitters to bring nonresident clients for float hunts for moose and caribou from Tutna Lake to a pickup spot on the Mulchatna. Between 20 and 40 camps are located in the vicinity of Tutna Lake during the fall hunting season.

Trails and Easements. None.

Other Values. Scenic value is high because of high landscape diversity and good views of surrounding uplands from the lake. Floating use is low.

Area Plan Designations and Municipal Selections. The navigable portions of the river system and most of its adjoining uplands are co-designated Habitat and Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed. A small area in the far eastern part of the management unit is designated Minerals; the RRMP does not apply to the area designated Minerals. The Public Use Site is designated Public Recreation and Tourism-Public Use Site (retain in public ownership). Consult Appendix C, 'Municipal Selections in the Planning Area', of the BBAP for the status of Lake and Peninsula Borough selections (see management intent for units R07-21 and R07-07).

MANAGEMENT INTENT

Semi-primitive use experience.

MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES

Long-term Use (longer than 14 consecutive days at one site):

Permanent facilities	Prohibited.
Temporary facilities	May be allowed (case-by-case).
Trapping cabins	May be allowed (case-by-case).
Boat storage	May be allowed (case-by-case).
Airstrip development	May be allowed (case-by-case).
Docks: permanent	Prohibited,
temporary	May be allowed (case-by-case).
Other uses	May be allowed (case-by-case).

Short-term Use (14 consecutive days or less at one site):

See Short-term Uses (generally allowed uses) in Chapter 2.

OTHER GUIDELINES SPECIFIC TO THIS UNIT

U21.1 Siting Criteria. Long-term uses will be sited to minimize evidence of human use.

PUBLIC USE SITES

See Public Use Sites in Chapter 2 for management guidelines. Specific locations of sites are shown on maps in Appendix C.

Site 36 Campsite and floatplane landing area on the north side of Tutna Lake.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THIS UNIT

Municipal Selections. The BBAP establishes whether specific selections made by the Lake and Peninsula Borough are appropriate, subject to a separate and subsequent Best Interest Finding prepared by DNR. Lands that may be conveyed to the Borough will no longer be in state ownership and the requirements of the RRMP will not apply. Areas of state land not conveyed to municipalities will remain subject to the requirements of the RRMP.

Unit 22. Upper Mulchatna River Corridor

BACKGROUND

Land Status. The unit is owned by the state. The headwaters of the Mulchatna River are located in adjacent Lake Clark National Park and Preserve. The unit is located within the Lake and Peninsula Borough. MCO 393 closes the upper Mulchatna River to mineral entry and development. A number of municipal selections affect portions of this management unit.

Miles of River. The main channel of the Mulchatna River extends for 52 miles. The Mulchatna River is considered navigable by the state.

Access. Accessibility is difficult for motorboats and airplanes along the river. The main access points for floating drop-offs are Half Cabin Lake and Loon Lake (both located outside the unit). Turquoise Lake (in Lake Clark National Park and Preserve) is also a potential floating access point, but low water periods may make floating unfeasible. The unit is about a one-hour flight from Iliamna, but much use is based directly out of Anchorage and the Kenai vicinity.

Existing Development. No development is documented in the unit.

Fisheries. The Mulchatna River serves as a migrational corridor for salmon and provides important spawning and rearing habitat for king, coho, and chum salmon.

Subsistence fishing use is low. Sport fishing use is low and is usually associated with hunting and floating.

Wildlife. Moose density is moderate; caribou density is high.

Subsistence hunting use is very low. Sport hunting use is very high during September and is mostly associated with float trips. Guided and outfitted hunting use is high for moose, caribou, and brown bear.

Trails and Easements. None.

Other Values. Scenic values are high because of high landscape diversity and good views of nearby uplands. Floating use is high and is both guided and unguided. The river includes no whitewater, except for a 1-2 mile section of Class I and a Class I ledge 30 miles upstream from the Chilikadrotna.

Area Plan Designations. The navigable portions of the river system and its adjoining uplands are co-designated Habitat and Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed. Public Use Sites are designated Public Recreation and Tourism-Public Use Site (retain in public ownership). Consult Appendix C, ‘Municipal Selections in the Planning Area’, of the BBAP for the status of Lake and Peninsula Borough selections (see management intent for units R07-08 and R07-09, and R07-21).

MANAGEMENT INTENT

Semi-primitive use experience.

MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES

Long-term Use (longer than 14 consecutive days at one site):

Permanent facilities	Prohibited.
Temporary facilities	May be allowed (case-by-case).
Trapping cabins	May be allowed (case-by-case).
Boat storage	May be allowed (case-by-case).
Airstrip development	May be allowed (case-by-case).
Docks: permanent	Prohibited,
temporary	May be allowed (case-by-case).
Other uses	May be allowed (case-by-case).

Short-term Use (14 consecutive days or less at one site):

See Short-term Uses (generally allowed uses) in Chapter 2.

OTHER GUIDELINES SPECIFIC TO THIS UNIT

U22.1 Siting Criteria. Long-term uses will be sited to minimize evidence of human use.

PUBLIC USE SITES

See Public Use Sites in Chapter 2 for management guidelines. Specific locations of sites are shown on maps in Appendix C.

Site 37 Campsite on the Mulchatna River, 3 miles upstream of the mouth of Big Bonanza Creek.

Site 38 Campsite on the Mulchatna River, 5 miles upstream of the mouth of Bonanza Creek.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THIS UNIT

Municipal Selections. The BBAP establishes whether specific selections made by the Lake and Peninsula Borough are appropriate, subject to a separate and subsequent Best Interest Finding prepared by DNR. Lands that may be conveyed to the Borough will no longer be in state ownership and the requirements of the RRMP will not apply. Areas not affected by approved municipal selections and areas of state land will remain subject to the requirements of the RRMP.

Unit 23. Chilikadrotna River Corridor

BACKGROUND

Land Status. The unit is owned by the state. The headwaters of the Chilikadrotna River are located in Lake Clark National Park and Preserve. The unit is located within the Lake and Peninsula Borough. MCO 393 closes the Chilikadrotna River to mineral entry and development. Municipal selections of the Lake and Peninsula Borough affect portions of this unit.

Miles of River. The main channel of the Chilikadrotna River extends for 45 miles. It is considered navigable by the state.

Access. Accessibility is difficult for motorboats and airplanes. The main access points for floating drop-offs are Snipe Lake and Twin Lakes (in Lake Clark National Park and Preserve). The unit is about a one-hour flight from Iliamna, but much use is based directly out of Anchorage and the Kenai vicinity.

Existing Development. No cabins or other development are documented in the unit.

Fisheries. The Chilikadrotna River is a clear water stream and provides important spawning and rearing habitat for king, coho, and chum salmon. The river offers only fair angling potential.

Subsistence fishing use is low. Sport fishing use is moderate and associated with high floating and hunting use.

Wildlife. Moose density is moderate; caribou density is high. Upper portions of the unit support essential caribou calving habitat.

Subsistence hunting use is nearly non-existent. Sport hunting use is moderate for moose and caribou and is associated with float trips from Twin Lakes (in Lake Clark National Park and Preserve) to pickup spots on the Mulchatna River.

Trails and Easements. There are Native Trails crossing the Chilikadrotna and Little Mulchatna drainages which are recorded as RS 2477 rights-of-way. (RST 57 and RST 291)

Other Values. Scenic values are high because of high landscape diversity, good scenic views of the Bonanza Hills, and stretches of whitewater. The Chilikadrotna River is one of the highest quality float rivers in the Bristol Bay region. Floating use, both guided and unguided, is high. Upstream of the Little Mulchatna, rapids are common. The river provides Class I whitewater. Some opportunities for hiking through nearby alpine tundra exist near the Bonanza Hills.

Area Plan Designations and Municipal Selections. The navigable portions of the river system and its adjoining uplands are co-designated Habitat and Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed. Public Use Sites are designated Public Recreation and Tourism-Public Use Site (retain in public ownership). Consult Appendix C, ‘Municipal Selections in the Planning Area’, of the BBAP for the status of Lake and Peninsula Borough selections (see management intent for units R07-13, R07-19, R07-14, R07-15, R06-16, and R07-21).

MANAGEMENT INTENT

Primitive use experience.

MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES

Long-term Use (longer than 14 consecutive days at one site):

Permanent facilities	Prohibited.
Temporary facilities	Prohibited.
Trapping cabins	Prohibited.
Boat storage	Prohibited.
Airstrip development	Prohibited.
Docks: permanent	Prohibited,
temporary	Prohibited.
Other uses	May be allowed (case-by-case).

Short-term Use (14 consecutive days or less at one site):

See Short-term Uses (generally allowed uses) in Chapter 2.

OTHER GUIDELINES SPECIFIC TO THIS UNIT

U23.1 Siting Criteria. Long-term uses should be sited out of view from the main river channel.

PUBLIC USE SITES

See Public Use Sites in Chapter 2 for management guidelines. Specific locations of sites are shown on maps in Appendix C.

Site 42 Campsite and floatplane landing area on the Chilikadrotna River at the mouth of an unnamed creek.

Site 43 Campsite and floatplane landing area on the Chilikadrotna River at the mouth of Ptarmigan Creek.

Site 44 Campsite on the Chilikadrotna River at the mouth of Little Mulchatna River.

Site 45 Campsite on the Chilikadrotna River at the mouth of the creek which drains Snipe Lake.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THIS UNIT

Municipal Selections. The BBAP establishes whether specific selections made by the Lake and Peninsula Borough are appropriate, subject to a separate and subsequent Best Interest Finding prepared by DNR. Lands that may be conveyed to the Borough will no longer be in state ownership and the requirements of the RRMP will not apply. Areas not affected by approved municipal selections and areas of state land will remain subject to the requirements of the RRMP.

Unit 24. Half Cabin Lakes Area

BACKGROUND

Land Status. This unit is owned by the state and the Lake and Peninsula Borough. Large portions of this Unit have been conveyed by the state to the Borough since the initial preparation of the RRMP. Portions of this management unit have been offered for remote settlement. MCO 393 closes this portion of the river to mineral entry and development.

Miles of River. The main channel of the Mulchatna River extends for 8 miles.

Access. Lakes provide excellent sites for floatplane landing and for floating access to the upper Mulchatna River. The unit is about a one-hour flight from Iliamna, but much use is based directly out of Anchorage and the Kenai vicinity.

Existing Development. Four cabins are located in the unit, and there may be more cabins built when the state sells land in the unit. At least one other site has been used as a guided/outfitted hunting camp.

Fisheries. Fisheries values are generally low.

Subsistence and sport fishing uses are low.

Wildlife. Moose density is moderate; caribou density is high.

Subsistence hunting use is very low. Sport hunting use is very high, particularly for caribou during the fall; moose hunting use is high; brown bear hunting use is moderate. Hunting use is often associated with float trips originating in the unit. Many hunters are guided or outfitted.

Trails and Easements. None.

Other Values. The unit has moderate scenic value because of moderate diversity of landscape and views of the Bonanza Hills and other highlands. The three Public Use Sites identified in the initial RRMP have been conveyed out of state ownership to the Lake and Peninsula Borough. Under the terms of the conveyance, the previous public use sites are to be retained by the Lake and Peninsula Borough for public access and use

Area Plan Designations. The BBAP designates the corridor of the Mulchatna River as Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed and Habitat. The remainder of this unit is designated Settlement. The RRMP only applies to the corridor of the Mulchatna River.

MANAGEMENT INTENT

Semi-developed use experience.

MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES

Long-term Use (longer than 14 consecutive days at one site):

Permanent facilities	May be allowed (case-by-case).
Temporary facilities	May be allowed (case-by-case).
Trapping cabins	May be allowed (case-by-case).
Boat storage	May be allowed (case-by-case).
Airstrip development	May be allowed (case-by-case).
Docks: permanent	May be allowed (case-by-case),
temporary	May be allowed (case-by-case).
Other uses	May be allowed (case-by-case).

Short-term Use (14 consecutive days or less at one site):

See Short-term Uses (generally allowed uses) in Chapter 2.

OTHER GUIDELINES SPECIFIC TO THIS UNIT

None.

PUBLIC USE SITES

None.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THIS UNIT

None.

Unit 25. Upper Mulchatna Uplands

BACKGROUND

Land Status. This unit is owned by the state. The unit is located within the Lake and Peninsula Borough. The eastern portion of the unit is adjacent to Lake Clark National Park and Preserve. A large block of mining claims is located in the Bonanza Hills. There are a number of scattered municipal selections by the Lake and Peninsula Borough in this large management unit.

Access. Lakes in the Chilchitna drainage provide sites for floatplane landing. Developed airstrips are located in the upper Chilchitna drainage and Bonanza Hills. The unit is about a one-hour flight from Iliamna, but much use is based directly out of Anchorage and the Kenai vicinity.

Existing Development. Four cabins are located in the unit. Six sites have been used as guided/outfitted hunting camps.

Fisheries. Fisheries values are generally low.

Subsistence and sport fishing uses are low.

Wildlife. Moose density is moderate, caribou density is high, and brown bear density is high.

Subsistence hunting use is nearly non-existent. Sport hunting use is very high, particularly for caribou during the fall; moose hunting use is moderate to high; brown bear hunting use is moderate. Many hunters are guided or outfitted.

Trails and Easements. There are Native Trails crossing the Chilikadrotna and Little Mulchatna drainages which are recorded as RS 2477 rights-of-way. (RST 57 and RST 291)

Other Values. The unit has very high scenic value because of the great diversity of landscape and views of highlands.

Area Plan Designations and Municipal Selections: The navigable portions of the river system are co-designated Habitat and Public Recreation and Tourism-Dispersed. The uplands are designated General Use, except for four small areas occupied by Public Use Sites, which are designated Public Recreation and Tourism-Public Use Site (retain in public ownership). Consult Appendix C, 'Municipal Selections in the Planning Area', of the BBAP for the status of Lake and Peninsula Borough selections (see management intent for units R07-20 and R07-18, R07-19, and R07-17).

MANAGEMENT INTENT

Semi-primitive use experience.

MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES

Long-term Use (longer than 14 consecutive days at one site):

Permanent facilities	May be allowed (case-by-case).
Temporary facilities	May be allowed (case-by-case).
Trapping cabins	May be allowed (case-by-case).
Boat storage	May be allowed (case-by-case).
Airstrip development	May be allowed (case-by-case).
Docks: permanent	May be allowed (case-by-case),
temporary	May be allowed (case-by-case).
Other uses	May be allowed (case-by-case).

Short-term Use (14 consecutive days or less at one site):

See Short-term Uses (generally allowed uses) in Chapter 2.

OTHER GUIDELINES SPECIFIC TO THIS UNIT

- U25.1 Caribou Calving Habitat. This unit contains caribou calving habitat. Temporary facilities, trapping cabins, boat storage, airstrip development, temporary docks, and other long-term uses may be allowed in caribou calving habitat if uses can be sited and operated in a manner that is not likely to cause significant impact to caribou calving. Management Guideline K, ‘Caribou and Moose Rutting and Calving Areas’ in the Fish and Wildlife Habitat section of Chapter 2 of the BBAP also applies.
- U25.2 Siting Criteria. Long-term uses will be sited to minimize evidence of human use.
- U25.3. Impacts to adjacent riverine areas from permanent or temporary facilities situated in uplands are to be avoided or reduced to the maximum extent possible.

PUBLIC USE SITES

See Public Use Sites in Chapter 2 for management guidelines. Specific locations of sites are shown on maps in Appendix C.

Site 46 Floatplane landing area on unnamed lake drained by the Chilchitna River.

Site 47 Floatplane landing area on unnamed lake in the Ptarmigan Creek drainage.

Site 48 Campsite and floatplane landing area on an unnamed lake drained by Big Bonanza Creek.

Site 49 Campsite and floatplane landing area on an unnamed lake on the northern margin of the Bonanza Hills.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THIS UNIT

Municipal Selections. The BBAP establishes whether specific selections made by the Lake and Peninsula Borough are appropriate, subject to a separate and subsequent Best Interest Finding prepared by DNR. Lands that may be conveyed to the Borough will no longer be in state ownership and the requirements of the RRMP will not apply. Areas not affected by approved municipal selections and areas of state land will remain subject to the requirements of the RRMP.