

## Public Use Sites

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See *Public Use Sites* in Chapter 2 for management guidelines. Specific locations are shown on maps at the end of this unit.

- PU 2b.1**     **Silver Hole(s)** (RM 3.9). This site is used for camping and fishing. Users camp both on the shore and in their boats.
- PU 2b.2**     **Walk-in Fishing Hole** (RM 6). This is a popular fishing and camping site.

## 2c. Middle Deshka River Subunit

### Background

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#### **MILES OF RIVER/RIVER CHARACTERISTICS, RM 6.8 to RM 14.4**

This subunit extends from the Laub Homestead to Trapper Creek. Wetlands are located adjacent to the river and cover less than 25 percent of the upland area.

#### **LAND OWNERSHIP**

State	2,617 acres
Matanuska/Susitna Borough	1,600 acres
32 Private Parcels	148 acres
<b>Total</b>	<b>4,365 acres</b>

#### **WILDLIFE**

Neither active bald eagle nor trumpeter swan nests have been sighted in recent surveys of this subunit.

#### **CAMPING**

Good campsites are scarce in this subunit. Only 3 secondary campsites were observed.

#### **DEVELOPMENT**

Nine cabins and three lodges are located in this subunit. All the cabins are located in the northern half of this subunit along the river.

#### **ACCESS**

Powerboat activity is heavy in this subunit during highwater periods. River navigability becomes marginal during low water levels in late summer. A tractor trail and seismic line are used by vehicles at RM 10 on the west side of the river.

#### **HERITAGE RESOURCES**

The potential to locate heritage sites in this subunit is high.

### Management Intent

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**Class II.** This subunit features high quality fishing, hunting, and camping opportunities for powerboaters and floaters in a relatively remote, undeveloped setting. In winter the subunit is used by snowmachiners, dog mushers, and skiers. There are also a number of private parcels in the subunit. The subunit contains salmon spawning

and moose wintering habitat. The subunit will be managed to provide and enhance these recreation opportunities, and fish and wildlife habitat, while accommodating uses associated with private lands. A limited number of temporary camps will be allowed. Maintaining public use sites will be a high priority. A voluntary no-wake area is

proposed at the Silver Hole public use site to protect public safety. There are no non-motorized areas in this subunit.

**Borough Lands.** Borough lands in this subunit are classified "Borough Land Bank." For management intent on borough lands, contact the Matanuska-Susitna Borough.

## Management Guidelines

**Voluntary No-wake Area.** See management guidelines for the Deshka River Management Unit in this chapter.

**Commercial Camps.** A maximum of two temporary camps may be authorized in this subunit. Commercial camps will not be authorized in public use sites.

## Public Use Sites

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- PU 2c.1. **Unnamed (RM 10.1).** This is a popular fishing and camping site.
- PU 2c.2 **Unnamed (RM 13.8).** This is a popular fishing and camping site.
- PU 2c.3 **Trapper Creek (RM 14.5).** This is a popular fishing and camping site.

# 2d. Neil Lake Subunit

## Background

### MILES OF RIVER/RIVER CHARACTERISTICS, RM 14.4 to RM 23.3

This subunit extends from Trapper Creek to Neil Lake. The terrain is flat; the river slow-moving. Just over 50 percent of the area is contiguous wetland. Neil Lake and the land around it are not in the Recreation Rivers.

### LAND OWNERSHIP

The land ownership is as follows:

State	5,182 acres
17 Private Parcels	81 acres
<b>Total</b>	<b>5,263 acres</b>

### WILDLIFE

Neither active bald eagle nor trumpeter swan nests have been sighted in recent surveys of this subunit.

### CAMPING

This subunit is very popular for camping. Twenty-nine secondary campsites have been identified, mostly on gravel bars.

### DEVELOPMENT

There are many cabins around Neil Lake which is adjacent to the subunit. One is used commercially as a lodge for airboat fishing trips. Another lodge is located at the south end of the subunit. Five docks are located on the lake. Signs mark some of the trailheads on both the river and lake.