

South Parks Highway Region

The South Parks Highway Region encompasses an area of approximately 369,000 acres and is situated in the northern part of the planning area. This region encompasses the area from Chulitna Pass south to Montana Creek, west to the Chulitna and Susitna Rivers, and east to the foothills of the Talkeetna Mountains. It also includes a strip of land along the Susitna River and Alaska Railroad in the foothills of the Talkeetna Mountains just east of Denali State Park. The lower portions of several significant river drainages – primarily Montana Creek and Talkeetna River – are contained within the region. That portion of the Susitna River that adjoins the region is also part of the South Parks Highway region. Refer to Figure 3-1 to locate the map of a particular area.

Distribution and Characteristics

Land ownership within this region is mixed, with state-owned land predominating north of the Talkeetna River but mixed ownership is characteristic to the south of that river. There are approximately 263,000 acres of state-owned and state-selected land in this region, consisting of approximately 10,000 acres of land affected by an LDA designation and approximately 253,000 acres of state general domain land. Mixed land ownership consists mostly of private and borough land, with some state holdings. State land is scattered throughout the more accessible, western parts, although concentrations occur in the eastern, inaccessible part near the Talkeetna Foothills. This western area has experienced considerable growth over the last 25 years, consisting first of recreational cabins but more recently of residential homes that are used throughout the year. Some commercial development has occurred along the principal road within this region – the Talkeetna Spur Road – with concentrations occurring in its last half mile before the intersection with the Parks Highway. Terrain within the region varies from fairly level in the area along and about four miles east of the Talkeetna Spur Road and directly north of the Talkeetna River, but changes to moderately steep topography east thereof and approximately three miles north of the Talkeetna River. Vegetation consists of deciduous vegetation with scattered wetlands within the fairly flatter, western parts of the region but changing to shrub as elevation rises and the moderately to steeply sloping terrain of the Talkeetna Foothills is encountered. Evergreen forest is scattered throughout portions of the eastern parts of the region. The eastern and northern areas of the region are more inaccessible and present more of a challenge to settlement. Growth in these areas has been limited in these areas compared to the generally flatter, western parts of the region.

Access, Resources, and Uses of State Land

The presence or proximity of the Talkeetna Spur Road and the Alaska Highway, together with the network of local and borough roads, makes the South Parks Highway region one of the most accessible in the planning area. However, most of the remaining state land does not have immediate road access. Access to the more remote concentrations of state land in the eastern and northern parts near Chunilna Creek is by foot travel, snowmachine or off-road vehicle. Water access is also provided by the Talkeetna and Susitna rivers. Local trails emanate from the river or the terminus of existing roads and are used to access remote areas.

A variety of resources exist on state land, although, as a result of state land disposals and conveyance of state land to the borough over the past 20 years, the amount of state land is much less than it was in the 1980's when the SAP was first prepared. Areas of agricultural soils remain in areas north of the Talkeetna River, although the size of these areas has substantially decreased. Some tracts of good agricultural soils also occur in scattered areas south of the Talkeetna River within areas of fairly level terrain, but most of these have been conveyed out of state ownership. Merchantable timber stands exist in the southern part and these have remained pretty much intact over the years. They are a continuation of the extensive timber holdings that adjoin the Talkeetna Mountains within the Southeast Susitna Area Plan. Mining activity is much less than it was in the past, but there are still concentrations of claims along Chunilna Creek and at Gold Creek. Coal potential in the region is low and oil and gas potential is unknown but expected to be limited.

The region receives a high level of recreation use. Streams in the region are important producers of salmon for the Cook Inlet commercial fishery and also support high levels of sport fishing. Other recreational activities include hiking, hunting, camping, boating, dog mushing, snow machining, and cross-country skiing. Recreational use of the Talkeetna River is particularly high, especially during the summer, and is associated with tourism and sport fishing.

Chulitna River, Montana Creek, and the Talkeetna River, the main rivers in the region, are anadromous streams. Moose are present within the region, and moose rutting, winter concentration, and calving areas exist; the latter is particularly extensive in the southern part of the region.

Management Constraints

Several local management plans affect this region and were consulted in the development of recommendations for the South Parks Highway Region. Local plans include the Borough Comprehensive Plan and Coastal Management Plan. These plans contain both generalized land use recommendations and resource management requirements and were helpful in the formulation of recommendations. Also consulted were the two local comprehensive plans that affect this management unit. The latter provide more specificity than the regional comprehensive plan and contain recommendations pertinent to state land.

Several state management plans affect this region: the 1985 Susitna Area Plan (SAP), which is being revised in this update, and the Susitna Basin Recreation Rivers Management Plan, which controls the management of state land within the Talkeetna River State Recreation River. The latter is not affected by the SAP revision.

Management Summary

State land is to be managed consistent with the plan designations and management recommendations contained in the Resource Allocation Table for this region. Most state land will be managed in a manner similar to that inferred from its designation, which means that most will be managed for its wildlife habitat, settlement, and timber values.

Much of the remaining state land is suitable for settlement and land disposals in areas designated Settlement are recommended (Approximately 103,000 acres). Most of this land was similarly classified in the 1985 SAP and has experienced land disposals and subsequent residential development. A small amount of land with good agricultural soils remains in areas north of the Talkeetna River, and it is recommended that this area (Approximately 6,000 acres) be managed for its agricultural potential and is designated Agriculture. Agricultural land disposals are considered appropriate for these areas. Habitat designations (Approximately 34,000 acres) apply primarily in mountainous areas within the Talkeetna Foothills north of the Talkeetna River as well as to riverine areas adjoining the Talkeetna River. Some of these Habitat areas are also co-designated Public Recreation-Dispersed (Approximately 11,000 acres), or Water Resources (Approximately 15,000 acres). Although almost the entire Talkeetna River is designated a State Recreation River, some sections were not, and the Public Recreation-Dispersed designation (Approximately 3,000 acres) has been applied to these areas. The extensive area in the southern part of the region (Approximately 13,000 acres) that contains merchantable timber is to be managed for its timber values, and is designated Forestry. The management of areas designated Forestry will be guided by the Forest Resources and Practices Act; Susitna Forestry Guidelines, or its successor; and this area plan. Finally, the numerous parcels of state land that exist at and near the Talkeetna Townsite, most of which are of small size, are to be retained in public ownership and used for public purposes, if required. These areas are designated Public Facilities-Retain (Approximately 1,000 acres).

Resource Allocation Table – South Parks Highway Region⁴

Unit #	Designation(s)/ Acres	Map(s)/ MTRS	Management Intent	Description
S-01	Se	Map 3-1	Unit is considered appropriate for land disposal during the planning period.	This unit consists of three geographically separated subunits situated directly east and upslope of the Susitna River. Topography varies by location but is mostly gently rolling with vegetation consisting of evergreen and deciduous forest interspersed by woody wetlands. Moose and waterfowl are known to be present; portions of the settlement subunit in S030N003W contain a moose rutting and winter concentration area. The Susitna River is an anadromous stream as well as several others that run through the unit.
	7,387	S031N002W; S030N003W	Land is retained for the purpose of supporting state land disposals. As part of land disposal, carefully evaluate moose rutting and winter concentration areas and provide green space or movement corridors as necessary. Avoid or protect any particularly significant moose concentration areas. Protect anadromous streams. A riparian buffer of 300' from OHW is to be maintained on the Susitna River. Protect trails, easements and RS 2477 routes.	This unit has been classified settlement since the original SAP, but land disposals have not yet occurred. RST-489 and other public access easements are in this unit.
S-02	Ha	Map 3-1	Manage unit to protect and maintain fish and wildlife habitat values. Retain land in state ownership.	This unit consists of three geographically separated subunits situated directly east and upslope of the Susitna River. Topography varies by location but is generally moderately sloped. Vegetation consists of evergreen and deciduous forest interspersed by woody wetlands. Portions of the settlement subunit in S030N003W contain a moose rutting and winter concentration area. A brown bear concentration area is also present in this township. Several anadromous streams are present, including the Susitna River that adjoins the unit.
	8,074	Various	Protect trails and easements. Portions of this unit are in selection status; review land status prior to any management or disposal action.	A public easement application is within this unit. Portions of this unit are in selection status; review land status prior to any management or disposal action.
S-03	Pr	Map 3-1	Retain lots for public purposes.	Unit consists of two small lots within the area known as “Gold Creek.”
	68	S031N002W		

⁴ See the Resource Allocation Table for Legislative Designated Areas for information on L-01 (State Recreation Rivers).

Unit #	Designation(s)/ Acres	Map(s)/ MTRS	Management Intent	Description
S-04	Gu	Map 3-1	Manage the unit for multiple uses.	This large unit occupies the area between the parcels on the Susitna River to the west and the plan boundary to the east. Its southern boundary is roughly formed by the Talkeetna River drainage.
	90,628	Various	Development is unlikely within this unit and, except for certain types of utilities or commercial recreation facilities, is inappropriate given its mountainous terrain. Protect moose rutting and winter concentration areas, as well as brown bear concentrations, along Chunilna Creek. Protect anadromous streams. Protect trails, easements and RS 2477 routes. Portions of this unit are in selection status; review land status prior to any management or disposal action.	Except for the few river valleys, nearly the entirety of this unit is characterized by mountainous terrain associated with the Talkeetna Mountains. Vegetation within the river valleys is characterized by bottomland spruce-poplar forest while the remaining areas, depending on elevation, consist of shrub, woody wetlands, mixed forest, and alpine tundra. There is little use of this area, although some cabins are situated along Chunilna Creek. A variety of trails (ADL 201263) exist within the unit, providing access to cabins and the backcountry, and the Healy-Willow Intertie bisects the unit. A moose wintering and rutting area occupies much of the Chunilna Creek lowland. Gold Creek, as well as Chunilna Creek and its tributaries, are anadromous streams in the unit. Brown and black bears are known to frequent the anadromous streams. RST-489 and other public access easements are in this unit. Portions of this unit are in selection status; review land status prior to any management or disposal action.
S-05	Pr	Map 3-1	Manage larger subunit consistent with the Management Agreement with DPOR. Retain both subunits in state ownership. Authorizations, except those related to public safety, public access and environmental protection (or similar public uses), are considered inappropriate.	Consisting of two subunits, one of which adjoins Denali State Park and the Susitna River and the other, the mouth of Gold Creek where it empties into the Susitna River. The former is affected by a Management Agreement to DPOR (ADL 225372). Area is to be managed similar to the adjacent state park under this agreement.
	546	S031N002W	Protect trails, easements and RS 2477 routes. Protect hydrologic values and anadromous streams.	The smaller of the two parcels should be managed for its hydrologic values. Several anadromous streams are present within the unit, and the parcel adjoins the Susitna River, which is also anadromous. RST-469 and a public easement application cross this subunit.
S-06	Rd	Maps 3-1, 3-5, 3-10	Unit is to be managed to protect public recreation values and the riverine area of the Susitna River. Parcel is to be retained in state ownership. Authorizations are only to be considered appropriate within this unit if the overall management intent is maintained; only public safety or public recreation uses are considered appropriate.	Unit occupies the riverine area adjacent to the Susitna River as well as several tributary creeks. These areas are heavily wooded, consisting of a spruce-poplar forest and are generally level. Moose are present and both rutting and winter concentration areas occupy portions of the unit. The area adjacent to the Susitna River, which includes this unit, is considered to be significant as a fish stream concentration area for brown bears. There are many anadromous streams present, including the Susitna River which adjoins this unit. This unit is readily visible from the Susitna River, which receives extensive recreation use during the summer.
	2,018	S028N004W; S028N005W; S027N004W; S027N005W	Protect hydrologic values and anadromous streams. A riparian buffer of 300' from OHW is to be maintained.	

Unit #	Designation(s)/ Acres	Map(s)/ MTRS	Management Intent	Description
S-07	Se 18,870	Map 3-1 S028N004W; S028N003W	Unit is considered appropriate for land disposal during the planning period. As part of subdivision design or remote staking projects, avoid wetland areas adjacent to stream and protect any particularly significant bear and moose concentration areas by providing green space and movement corridors as necessary. Ensure the maintenance of local trails; locate uses at least 0.25 miles distant from the Willow-Healy Intertie. Retain land in state ownership for the purpose of supporting state land disposals. Protect anadromous streams. Protect trails and easements.	Depending on location and elevation, this large unit occupies gently rolling to moderately steep terrain. Vegetation is a mix of evergreen forest, mixed forest, wetlands, and shrub, with mixed and deciduous forest occupying much of the western part of the unit. Shrub and wetlands are more characteristic of the eastern and higher elevation parts. Moose are present in the unit. A winter rutting and concentration area occupies a small part of the southeastern part of the unit; the principal part of the winter concentration area occurs, however, along Chunilna Creek to the east and within unit S-08. Waterfowl are also present. The area adjacent to the Susitna River, which includes portions of this unit, is considered to be significant as a fish stream concentration area for brown bears. The Susitna River is one of several anadromous streams present. There are a number of lakes within the unit and several have fairly extensive wetland areas associated with their inlet and outlet streams. There are numerous small recreation lots and cabins scattered throughout this unit, with concentrations occurring along streams and lakes. The Healy-Willow Intertie crosses a portion of the unit, and there are a number of important local trails (ADL 201263). Portions of the unit may be important for winter and summer recreation, with snow-machining and sport fishing being the principal recreational uses.
S-08	Ha, Wr 15,239	Maps 3-1, 3-5, 3-10 S027N003W; S028N004W; S028N003W	Unit is to be managed to protect wildlife, the river drainages and riverine areas of Chunilna Creek, and support recreational use. Retain land in state ownership. Further subdivision or remote settlement is considered inappropriate. Protect trails and easements.	This parcel occupies the river drainages of Chunilna Creek and some of its tributaries. Except for portions of a riverine area along this creek, which tend to be somewhat flat, the remainder of the unit is moderately to steeply sloping. Mixed, deciduous, and evergreen forest predominate adjacent to and near Chunilna Creek, while areas further away and upslope from that location are characterized by woody wetlands and mixed forest. Moose are present in the unit and the riverine areas are important moose wintering and rutting areas. Chunilna Creek is an important anadromous stream and is considered also to be important as a brown bear fish stream concentration area. There are other anadromous streams in the unit. Numerous remote cabins and lots are scattered throughout the unit, with significant concentrations in the lower reaches of Chunilna Creek. The Willow-Healy Intertie crosses through the unit, and there are a number of important local trails (ADL 201263).

Unit #	Designation(s)/ Acres	Map(s)/ MTRS	Management Intent	Description
S-09	Se 36,700	Maps 3-1, 3-5, 3-10 S028N003W; S028N002W; S027N004W; S027N003W; S027N002W	Unit is considered appropriate for land disposal during the planning period. Protect anadromous stream. Protect trails, easements and RS 2477 routes. Retain land in state ownership for the purpose of supporting state land disposals. Development is to set back at least 0.25 miles from the Intertie.	This unit has experienced significant settlement activity over the past 20 years; most of this has concentrated around the several lakes and along the principal stream drainages. The Willow-Healy Intertie, RST 1620 and a number of important local trails (ADL 201263) cross portions of the unit. The unit is characterized by hilly topography in most areas except for areas around lakes and portions of the stream drainages. Within the flatter, lower elevation areas vegetation is heavy, consisting of mixed and deciduous forest. Higher elevations are characterized by shrub and woody wetlands. Moose are present throughout the unit, and caribou are present in the easternmost parts. Chunilna Creek is an anadromous fish stream and is considered to be important as a brown bear fish stream concentration area. Several of its tributaries may also be anadromous.
S-10	Se 3,146	Map 3-1 S028N004W	Unit is considered appropriate for land disposal during the planning period. Retain land in state ownership for the purpose of supporting state land disposals. Protect anadromous stream.	Characterized by rolling terrain in the western and northern part and by steeper topography in the southern, this unit is occupied by numerous recreational cabins and recreational lots. Most of the cabins and lots are situated adjacent to a (single) lake and several small drainages. An anadromous stream is present. Vegetation in these areas is typically deciduous or mixed forest interspersed by some wetlands. In other areas, woody wetlands and mixed forest are more common. Moose and waterfowl are present in parts of the unit, although calving, rutting, or winter concentration areas are not known to exist.
S-11	Ag 4,457	Maps 3-5, 3-10 S027N004W	Manage unit for agricultural use and/or disposal. The large wetland area, which occurs in sections 20 and 29 and extends from a linked wet-land complex to the south in S-12, is to be protected from development or disposal. (The linked wetland complex in S-12, to the south is to be similarly protected.) Protect trails.	This unit, which has been designated Agriculture for over 20 years has experienced little agricultural use or agricultural disposals, although most of the unit is underlain by soils considered suitable for agriculture by the NRCS. There are, however, a number of areas that have been disposed of out of state ownership and a number of OTE lots occur along drainages in section 20. A large wetland complex (primarily emergent palustrine type) exists in parts of sections 20 and 29. Generally level terrain characterizes the unit. Wetlands predominate in the southern part of the unit, while the remainder is occupied by deciduous and mixed forest. Moose are present. At least one trail exists within portions of the unit.

Unit #	Designation(s)/ Acres	Map(s)/ MTRS	Management Intent	Description
S-12	Se 1,900	Maps 3-1, 3-10 S027N004W	Unit is considered appropriate for land disposal during the planning period. The large wetland area, which occurs in sections 31 and 32 and extends from a linked wet-land complex to the north in S-11, is to be protected from development or disposal. (The wetland complex in S-11 is to be similarly protected.) Protect anadromous streams. Subdivision design is to carefully consider the impact of development upon wetland functioning and on moose winter concentration areas and provide adequate green space or movement corridors as necessary. Subdivisions or remote recreational sales are to avoid wetland areas and either avoid or minimize impacts on moose winter concentration areas.	Significant portions of this unit have existing OTE sales. These occur at lakes and along several streams. Other portions of the unit are not developed with residential uses and are considered generally appropriate for development with the exception of a large wetland complex. The unit is characterized by heavy vegetation, which is predominately deciduous and mixed forest. Moose and waterfowl are present; portions of the unit are occupied by a moose winter concentration area. Anadromous streams are present. A large wetland complex exists within sections 32 and 31. These are mostly of an emergent palustrine type. Wetlands in section 32 and the northeastern part of section 31 are connected to the wetlands that occur immediately north of this unit in S-11. A large portion of the western part of section 31 also contains wetlands.
S-13	Se 1,858	Maps 3-1, 3-10 S027N004W	Further disposal activities in this unit are inappropriate. Retain remaining areas of state land in public ownership. Reoffers of lots returned to the state are appropriate. Protect the Willow-Healy Intertie. A riparian buffer of 200' from OHW is to be maintained on the Talkeetna River.	Extensive subdivision activity during the late 1970s and early 1980s within ASLS 79-149 characterized this unit. Except for a few lots that have been relinquished and may be offered for resale, additional disposal activity is inappropriate. The remaining tracts that surround the lots function as open space, protect access, or perform some other public function. An anadromous stream exists in the unit and flows into Papa Bear Lake. The Willow-Healy Intertie crosses through the unit.
S-14	Ag 1,234	Maps 3-1, 3-10 S027N004W	Manage unit for agricultural use and/or disposal. Agricultural disposals are to carefully consider the impact of agricultural use upon wetlands and moose winter concentration areas. Such sales are to avoid or minimize impacts on moose winter concentration areas and wetlands. Protect anadromous streams; impose riparian buffer in any disposal action.	This parcel contains soils considered appropriate for agriculture and has been classified Agriculture for over 20 years, although actual agricultural development has not occurred. Terrain is consistently level and vegetation consists of a mix of deciduous and mixed forest. Both moose rutting and a winter concentration area occurs within this unit. Anadromous streams cross part of this unit.
S-15	Rd 143	Map 3-10 S027N003W	Manage to protect scenic and hydrologic functions. Other uses within this unit are considered inappropriate. Retain land in state ownership.	Unit is situated east of unit S-16, which consists of a large subdivision under ASLS 79-149. Parcel protects a portion of Katie Lake and functions as a buffer.

Unit #	Designation(s)/ Acres	Map(s)/ MTRS	Management Intent	Description
S-16	Se 1,290	Maps 3-5, 3-10 S027N003W	Further disposal activities in this unit are inappropriate. Retain remaining areas of state land in public ownership.	Extensive subdivision activity during the late 1970s and early 1980s under ASLS 79-149 characterized this unit. Except for a few lots that have been relinquished and may be offered for resale, additional disposal activity is inappropriate. The remaining tracts that surround the lots function as open space, protect access, or perform some other public function. Easement authorizations exist within this unit. Includes ADL 212794 – public easement for a runway – the Katie Lake Airstrip.
S-17	Se 1,239	Maps 3-5, 3-10 S026N004W	Further disposal activities in this unit are inappropriate. Retain remaining areas of state land within the Unit in public ownership. Protect trails, easements and RS 2477 routes. A riparian buffer of 200' from OHW is to be maintained on the Talkeetna River.	This unit consists of two separate parcels both of which are part of the same state subdivision: ASLS 79-149. Most of the lots have been conveyed out of state ownership but very considerable state land remains within the westerly parcel. These are identified, usually, as tracts of the subdivision but there are also parcels of state land that adjoin the subdivision but are not part of it. They function, however, as buffer areas and are therefore functionally part of the subdivision. An anadromous stream occurs in this unit. RST-331 crosses this unit.
S-18	Rd 476	Map 3-10 S026N004W	Retain in state ownership and manage unit to protect its functions as a riverine area and as a buffer strip between parts of the subdivision.	This unit consists of a number of physically separate parcels that are situated either within the subdivision (ASLS 79-149) or adjacent to it. These areas function as common areas or riverine protection corridors, or serve as buffers between portions of the unit. An anadromous stream occurs in this unit.
S-19	Wr, Rd 1,783	Maps 3-5, 3-10 S026N004W	Manage unit similar to the Talkeetna River State Recreation River. Authorizations except related to public safety or recreation are not considered appropriate. Any use that is authorized must also be consistent with the management intent of this portion of the Talkeetna River SRR. Retain in state ownership. Protect trails and RS 2477 routes.	Unit is situated along the Talkeetna River and also contains the river. It functions in a similar manner to other state land within the Talkeetna River SRR and should be managed in a manner consistent with SRR management intent for that portion of the river. The Talkeetna River, which adjoins the unit, is one of several anadromous streams. RST-1620 and RST-331 cross this unit.
S-20	Pr 450	Maps 3-5, 3-10 S026N004W	Retain in state ownership. Manage for airport purposes. Protect anadromous stream.	This unit includes Talkeetna Airport and adjacent areas, which function as part of the airport. A management right (ADL 224990) to ADOT/PF affects a portion of this unit. An anadromous stream occurs in the unit.
S-21	Rd 145	Maps 3-5, 3-10 S026N005W	Manage unit for its recreation and scenic values. Retain in state ownership. Authorizations except related to public safety or recreation are not considered appropriate. Note the presence of an avigation easement that affects portions of this parcel.	This unit is situated directly south of Talkeetna on the Susitna River and directly east of Alaska Railroad tracks. ARR trains slow down in this vicinity to view Mt McKinley. An avigation easement (ADL 225938) for the protection of the Vortac at the Talkeetna Airport affects portions of the unit.

Unit #	Designation(s)/ Acres	Map(s)/ MTRS	Management Intent	Description
S-22	Pr 1.59	Map 3-10 S026N004W	Retain in state ownership unless required for public purposes.	This unit consists of several small lots within the community of Talkeetna.
S-23	Se 192	Maps 3-5, 3-10 S026N004W	Except for tracts A-1 and A-6, retain all remaining tracts in subdivision. These tracts are to remain undeveloped. Tracts A-1 and A-6 may be appropriate for land disposal during the planning period. Protect anadromous stream.	A previous state subdivision (ASLS 79-143) comprises this unit. Essentially all of the lots have been conveyed or are to be conveyed out of state ownership. A number of tracts remain and most are intended to undeveloped. However, Tracts A-1 and A-6, situated directly to the northwest of the subdivision proper, are undeveloped and may be suitable for land disposal pending further analysis. An anadromous stream occurs in the unit.
S-24	Se 29,061	Maps 3-1, 3-10 S025N003W; S026N003W	Unit is appropriate for land disposal during the planning period. Tracts within the subdivision that provide buffers or protect streams are to be retained in state ownership. Further development of these tracts is not appropriate. Protect anadromous streams. Avoid moose wintering and calving areas. Protect trails and easements.	This large unit has been classified settlement for over 20 years and has experienced both subdivision activities (the largest of which is the Bald Mountain subdivision, ASLS 80-176). There are also numerous remote lots that have been created during this period. Both the subdivisions and lots are scattered throughout the unit. Portions of this unit are considered to be important as a moose calving and winter concentration area. Anadromous streams occur in the unit. Access easements and a trail easement application exist for this unit.
S-25	Se 409	Map 3-10 S024N004W	If conveyed to state, uplands in eastern portion of unit may be appropriate for land disposal. The western and central portions, occupied by the Alaska Railroad and wetlands, respectively, are to be maintained in their present natural state. Protect anadromous streams. Protect trails and RS 2477 routes. Portions of this unit are in selection status; review land status prior to any management or disposal action.	Consisting of two geographically separate parcels within section 7, both have similar characteristics. The easternmost portion is occupied by generally level uplands that have a mixed deciduous-evergreen forest, while the central area is occupied by wetlands and small creeks. The Alaska Railroad bisects the western portion of the parcel, making this area of the parcel essentially inaccessible. Several creeks pass through this portion of the parcel. The Talkeetna Spur Road is situated one mile to the east and several rural residential streets extend to lakes about 0.25 miles from the Spur Road. The parcel is in selection status. Anadromous streams occur in the unit. RST- 1691, Herning Trail – Question Creek, crosses this unit. Portions of this unit are in selection status; review land status prior to any management or disposal action.
S-26	Rd 170	Map 3-10 S025N005W	Unit is to be retained in public ownership and managed for its recreation potential and scenic values. Authorizations in this unit are considered inappropriate except as related to public recreation or public safety. Protect anadromous streams through the retention of adequate buffers.	Unit occupies level, heavily wooded terrain situated between the Susitna River and the Alaska Railroad. Development of this tract is constrained by the absence of access (because of the presence of ARR tracks) and in the area adjoining the Susitna River for summer sport fishing. The confluence of Answer Creek and the Susitna River are situated just north of this tract and access to the confluence is provided through this tract. An anadromous stream is present.

Unit #	Designation(s)/ Acres	Map(s)/ MTRS	Management Intent	Description
S-27	Ma 33	Map 3-10 S025N004W	Manage for gravel extraction.	Site is affected by an ILMA to ADOT/PF for a material extraction site. Gravel extraction is authorized under a Free Use Permit. (ADL 33588)
S-28	Se 59	Map 3-10 S025N004W	Retain interior tract within subdivision. That area of the subdivision occupied by Tract 21, consisting of about 235 acres, is appropriate for land disposal during the planning period.	Unit consists of a previous state subdivision (ASLS 79-109) which include several large, undeveloped tracts situated south of the subdivision itself as well as an interior tract intended to protect the drainage. An agricultural area is situated to the west.
S-29	Wr 282	Map 3-10 S025N004W; S024N004W	Manage to protect palustrine wetlands. Retain in state ownership. Protect the Willow-Healy Intertie.	Unit is comprised almost entirely of wetlands, primarily of the palustrine wetland type. The Willow-Healy Intertie crosses through the unit.
S-30	Rd 28	Map 3-10 S024N005W	Manage to maintain and protect recreation and riverine buffer functions, including preservation of scenic values, and anadromous streams. Retain in state ownership.	Unit adjoins the Susitna River. It occupies level, heavily vegetated terrain. A road right-of-way to DOF affects this unit (ADL 32388). An anadromous stream is present in the unit.
S-31	Rd 81	Map 3-10 S025N005W	Retain in state ownership. Authorizations are not considered appropriate given the shape of the parcel (long and narrow) and its function as a screening strip.	Unit occupies a strip of land adjacent to the Talkeetna Spur Road and functions as a screening strip along that highway.
S-32	Rd 151	Map 3-10 S025N005W	Manage for recreation and riparian values. Retain in State ownership. Authorizations are not considered appropriate given the riverine location, except as related to public recreation or safety. Protect trails and easements.	Unit adjoins Montana Creek, a significant sport fishing stream, which receives significant public use. Terrain is generally level. Parcel is well vegetated. An anadromous stream occurs in the unit. A trail easement exists in this unit, and other recreational trails may be present.
S-33	Se 493	Map 3-10 S024N004W	Retain common areas in state ownership. Authorizations within these areas are not considered appropriate given their function. Sale of the remaining lots as well as lots provided as reoffers are, however, appropriate. Protect anadromous stream with riparian buffer.	This unit is comprised of a previous state subdivision, ASLS 79-143. Nearly all of the lots have been conveyed out of state ownership, although some remain. Several large tracts also remain in state ownership and function as buffers between portions of the subdivision or as protection areas for wetlands and associated drainages. An anadromous stream occurs in the unit.
S-34	Ma 80	Map 3-10 S024N003W	Manage unit consistent with requirements of ILMA. Protect anadromous stream with riparian buffer.	Unit is affected by an ILMA to ADOT/PF for the purpose of developing a rip-rap source for nearby roads. (ADL 47384) Montana Creek which is an anadromous stream runs through the unit. A trail easement exists in this unit, and other recreational trails may be present. The creek supports spawning chum, Chinook, and Pink salmon as well as rearing coho salmon.

Unit #	Designation(s)/ Acres	Map(s)/ MTRS	Management Intent	Description
S-35	F 12,780	Map 3-5 S024N003W	Manage unit consistent with the requirements of the Forestry Section of Chapter 2 and with applicable Susitna Forestry Guidelines, or its successor, and Forest Resources & Practices Act requirements. Protect anadromous streams and moose winter concentration and calving areas. Maintain the trail identified as ADL 202006. Other recreational areas and corridors may exist within this unit; consult with SCRO and the borough to determine if other such uses/corridors exist and require protection. This review should occur prior to or concurrent with the preparation of a Forest Land Use Plan (FLUP). Consult with ADF&G on the location of moose calving, rutting, and wintering areas prior to or concurrent with the development of a FLUP.	This large unit is a continuation of the state land designated Forestry within the Kashwitna Uplands Region (unit U-01) of the Southeast Susitna Area Plan (SSAP). It has the same characteristics of this unit, consisting of vegetated uplands containing extensive forest resources. Most of the area within this unit is characterized by spruce hardwood forests except along Montana Creek, where a bottomland spruce-poplar forest predominates. A trail exists within portions of the unit (ADL 202006) and Montana Creek is one of several anadromous fish streams in the unit. Portions of this unit are used as moose calving, rutting and winter concentration areas. Caribou are known to be present in easterly portions of the unit. This unit has been classified Forestry for over 25 years and constitutes, together with the contiguous unit U-01 in the SSAP, a significant portion of the DOF sustained yield inventory within the eastern part of the Susitna Valley.
S-36	Ha, Rd 10,717	Maps 3-1, 3-10	Unit, which consists of the Susitna River, is to be managed its water resources, habitat, and public recreation values. Particular emphasis in this management is to focus on maintaining water quality, sensitive habitat, and recreational use of the river.	Unit encompasses the Susitna River, as measured from bank-to-bank from Ordinary High Water. Besides the water column itself, islands and exposed gravel bars are also included in this parcel. The Susitna River is one of many anadromous streams in the unit.
S-37	Ag 40	Map 3-10 S024N003W	Parcel is appropriate as an agricultural land disposal.	This unit has been previously offered as an agricultural land disposal. It occupies a flat, 40-acre parcel of ground east of the Talkeetna Spur Road and just south of Benka Lake. Residential land uses surround the parcel.
L-01	Ha, Rd 9,857 within this region	Maps 3-1 3-5, 3-10 Various	This parcel includes the state recreation rivers in this region. See the section <i>Legislatively Designated Areas</i> for detail on the management of this area.	

Total state land within region (37 units, portions of 1 LDA) – 262,640 acres