

Unit 5a - Lemon Creek

Background

All of this unit lies within an area the US Bureau of Mines has found to have high mineral potential.

Jordan Creek. These subunits have low suitability for development. Subunit 5a26 is steep and may have avalanche hazards. Subunit 5a25 is along Jordan Creek and is poorly drained. The Juneau Wetlands Management Plan designated the wetlands in these subunits as Type A and Type B wetlands that restrict development. ADFG has proposed a culvert through a beaver dam blocking the mainstream of Jordan Creek in Subunit 5a25 that is intended to reduce flooding while maintaining the integrity of the dam and impoundment. The area is also used for environmental education.

Twin Lakes. The southeast end of Twin Lakes (Subunit 5a1) is a CBJ recreation area and receives high public use in the summer. A bicycle trail follows the perimeter of the lake. The state Pioneer Home is located on the northwest end of the lake. The adjacent uplands to the north are bordered by the Glacier Highway and to the south by Egan Drive. The lakes, including all of ATS 868 are under a long-term lease (ADL 53141) for public recreation. Twin Lakes are also used for net pen rearing of salmon from the Snettisham hatchery. An intense sport fishery follows the release of these fish. ADFG also stocks the lake for sport fishing.

Lemon Creek Correctional Facility. The southeastern corner of Subunit 5a27 is being used for the Lemon Creek Correctional Facility. The remainder of the subunit is undeveloped. Land management has been transferred from DNR to DOTPF for the Department of Corrections' use under ILMT (ADL 58210).

Lower Lemon Creek. Subunit 5a32 is a small upland parcel located southwest of lower Lemon Creek, northeast of Egan Drive, and southwest from an earthen dike. The entire subunit is a wetland. The area around this parcel is used for materials extraction, an asphalt plant, and the CBJ landfill. CBJ has zoned the area "Rural Reserve."

Vanderbilt Interchange. Subunit 5a28 includes the wetlands northeast of the Vanderbilt Hill Road/Egan Expressway interchange. A small eastern portion (1.6 acres) has been transferred to DOTPF by an ILMT (ADL 58210) for use for the Glacier Highway extension. Tract A, Lot 4, Tracts B & C of USS 3263 are subject to PLO 2258 which was withdrawn from state selection for use by U.S. Coast Guard. This area has easy access from both Vanderbilt Hill Road and Egan Drive, and the lands are zoned by CBJ for rural reserve and multi-family housing. The remaining undeveloped lands include 10 acres of wetlands with emergent vegetation adjacent to the Pioneer Home. Expansion of the interchange is currently being considered by DOTPF. This area is proposed by ADFG as a habitat improvement/rehabilitation project and is designated by the Juneau Wetlands Management Plan as a Type A wetland that restricts development.

Lower Salmon Creek. The municipal selected land on lower Salmon Creek is currently BLM-owned. Once the mine claimant on that parcel converts their federal claims to state claims, the land will be prioritized for conveyance to the state by BLM. At that time the process of conveying the parcel from the state to CBJ will begin, subject to state mining claims.

Management Intent

Jordan Creek. Subunit 5a25 will be managed for habitat associated with Jordan Creek. Subunit 5a26 will be managed for general use.

Lemon Creek Correctional Center. The portions of Subunit 5a27 that are not currently being used by the correctional center should revert back to DNR management. The area just north of the center has potential for materials, the remainder for settlement. Existing streets could provide economical access to the area. The area is zoned by CBJ for single families and duplexes (five units per acre). The existing correctional facility is in a hollow and is not visible from most of the remaining undeveloped state land in Subunit 5a27. Subdividing this land could be done in conjunction with a sale of adjacent CBJ lands to reduce costs and coordinate residential development.

A maximum of three classification categories are allowed on single parcel of state land (11 AAC 55.040 (d)). There is no limit on the number of land use designations that may apply to a parcel. Subunit 5a27 (within which the Lemon Creek Correctional Center is located) is designated Ha, Mt, Pr, and S. These designations will convert to the following classification categories: *wildlife habitat land*, *material land*, and *reserved use land*. However, at some time in the future all or parts of this subunit may be reclassified or co-classified *settlement land* without an amendment to the plan in order to meet the management intent described above which allows for settlement in Subunit 5a27.

Twin Lakes. Because of its high public use, Subunit 5a1 should be managed for public recreation, and fish and wildlife harvest and habitat. Because of its high use for water-dependent recreation, including wading and fishing, land use authorizations should ensure that water quality standards are maintained. ATS 755 and 577 are also included in this subunit and will be managed with the same intent as for the remainder of Subunit 5a1.

Vanderbilt Interchange. Subunit 5a28 will be managed for habitat. Transportation improvements are an allowable use in this subunit.

Subunit 5a32 has potential for habitat enhancement and should be considered for this use either through mitigation banking described in the Juneau Wetlands Management Plan or as replacement habitat for projects in the planning area.

Management Guidelines

Bear Habitat. The materials site and settlement area in Subunit 5a27 should be managed to avoid obstructing bear trails (particularly along Lemon Creek) and minimize bear/human conflicts resulting from improper handling of garbage.

Mineral Closures. Approximately forty (40) acres of shorelands in Twin Lakes that surround a net pen site for the release of hatchery salmon will be closed to new mineral location. This area will be closed to new mineral location because of its importance as a sport fishery. The lakes are also an important recreation area. Mining would be incompatible with both the fisheries and recreation values of the lake. Subunit 5a27 will be closed to new mineral entry because of potential conflicts between mining claims and using the area for residential uses, and because of a materials site. A map of this closure can be found in Mineral Order 653 in Appendix B.

Land-Use Designation Summary








For keys to the one-letter and two-letter abbreviations used in this table, see the beginning of this chapter

UNIT 5A: LEMON CREEK						
Area no. & name	DNR designation	CBJ zoning district	Land type	Adjacent ownership	Resource or use	Other comments
5a1 Twin Lakes	Rp Ha Hv	OS	T	Private/ CBJ	Adjacent to CBJ public recreation area; sport fishing; swimming; net pen rearing of catchable salmonids from state hatchery at Snettisham. Intense sportfishing on these salmon; kids' fishing area	Subunit includes ATS 755 and 577
5a25 Jordan Creek riparian	Ha Rp	C-OS	UP	State/ private	Beaver habitat; anadromous stream	Jordan Creek is proposed by ADFG as a habitat improvement and rehabilitation project area; aquatic education trail proposed trail up Heintzleman Ridge
5a26 Jordan Creek riparian	Ha Rp	C-OS	UP	State/ USFS	Anadromous stream and aquatic education trail	Proposed trail up Heintzleman Ridge; currently classified resource management (SE 80-022)
5a27 Lemon Creek Correctional Center	Ha* Mt Pr S	D-5 C-institutional and public use	UP	CBJ/ private	Proposed sale area and materials site; black bear fall and spring habitat	Correctional facility - ILMT to DOTPF, classified reserved use (82-34)
5a28 Vanderbilt Hill Interchange just N. of Twin Lakes	Ha	D-15	UP	Private	Bald eagle feeding cone; waterfowl habitat; proposed by ADFG as a habitat improvement and rehabilitation project	Mostly wetlands; contains bases of old radio transmission towers
5a29 Lemon Creek Trail	Rd	OS	UP	State	Parallels Lemon Creek Trail	
5a30 Sawmill Creek	G	RR	UP	USFS/ state/ CBJ	Includes parts of the Lemon Creek Trail	
5a31	G	RR	UP	State/ private		
5a32 Lemon Creek	G	RR	UP	Private		Entirely wetlands along Egan Drive

* These designations will convert to the following three classification categories: *wildlife habitat land, material land, and reserved use land*. Also see *Unit 5a Management Intent, Lemon Creek Correctional Center*.

UNIT 5A INSET - Lemon Creek

Land Ownership

-  State Owned
-  State Selected
-  Mental Health
-  Municipal
-  Municipal Selection
-  Private
-  Native Owned

Designations

- G** General Uses
- Ha** Fish & Wildlife Habitat
- Hv** Fish & Wildlife Harvest
- Mt** Materials
- Pr** Public Facilities - Reserved
- Pt** Public Facilities - Transfer
- Rd** Recreation - Dispersed
- Rp** Recreation - Public Use Site
- S** Settlement

