

Legislatively Designated Areas

There are three Legislatively Designated Areas (LDA), encompassing a total of about one million acres out of the 11 million acres of state land and state-selected land within the plan boundary. All are located within the Lower Tanana Region, although one of these, the Tanana Valley State Forest, borders the Kantishna region. The LDA's include: Tanana Valley State Forest (460,463 acres), Minto Flats State Game Refuge (497,685 acres), and the James Dalton LDA (78,434 acres). The Department is responsible for the administration of the administration of the land and resources of the Tanana Valley State Forest, Minto Flats State Game, and James Dalton LDA's, while the management of fish and game resources within these areas is the responsibility of ADF&G.

Legislatively Designated Areas are special purpose sites that are managed according to the requirements of the legislation specific to the site and to the general class of LDA⁸, and any subsequent management plans or regulations that implement the requirements of the legislation. The effect of the LDA designation is to reserve state land out of the public domain and use or protect them for the purposes stipulated in enabling legislation.

For these reasons, area plans do not apply to the types of LDAs in the planning boundary, except for the plan designation that is assigned, which is subsequently converted to a land classification in a Land Classification Order. Certain types of authorizations issued by the Department involve a disposal of state land, and administrative regulation requires that the land, with certain exceptions, must first be classified before it is conveyed out of state ownership. In general, the LDAs within the plan boundary are assigned the designations of Forestry, Habitat, Public Recreation and General Use, reflecting the intent of the legislation that created the LDA. These plan designations are not intended to provide the general management direction similar to the way that designations are applied in other parts of this plan, however. Management direction for authorizations within LDAs is provided either through the enabling legislation, state administrative regulation, or a management plan specific to the LDA. If management plans or administrative regulations are not available, the general management intent specific to the LDA or to the category of LDA are to be followed.

The LDAs that are the subject of this discussion are contained in all area-wide plan maps.

The following Resource Allocation Table identifies the three LDAs. It gives their plan designation, management purposes (which are usually related to statutory purposes), and specifies if a management plan exists that guides Department decision making for the specific LDA.

⁸ Article VIII, paragraph 7 of the State Constitution.

Resource Allocation Table – Legislatively Designated Areas

Unit #	Designation(s) / Acres	Map(s) / MTRS	Management Intent	Administrative Aspects and Other
L-01	F 460,463	Various	<p>Tanana Valley State Forest (AS 41.17.400): Land must be managed according to the Tanana Valley State Forest management plan and in accordance with the purposes for establishment of the forest in (AS 41.17.400).</p> <p><i>Note: The Tanana Valley State Forest (TVSF) is classified for Forestry under Land Classification Order Number: CL NC-82-065. This designation information is for reference purposes only. This plan and its Land Classification Order do not affect the classification of the TVSF.</i></p>	<p>This unit contains the sections of the Tanana Valley State Forest that are located within the Lower Tanana Region of the Yukon Tanana Area Plan only.</p> <p>Note: This plan recommends a number of additions to the Tanana Valley State Forest. These sites are, however, to be managed under the requirements of this plan until incorporated into the TVSF. In that instance where the sites are incorporated into the TVSF, the current TVSF management plan will not formally apply to these additions until the management plan is revised. Until this revision occurs, it is intended that such sites shall be managed in a manner comparable to the nearest unit within the then current TVSF management plan.</p>
L-02	Ha, Rd 497,685	Various	<p>This unit is the Minto Flats Game Refuge (A.S. 16.20.037). This unit must be managed according to the Minto Flats Game Refuge Management Plan, adopted in 1992 and the purposes for establishment of the refuge stated in AS 16.20.037. Dispersed recreation uses are appropriate within this refuge.</p> <p>The refuge was established to 1) ensure the protection and enhancement of habitat; 2) ensure the conservation of fish and wildlife; and 3) guarantee the continuation of hunting, fishing, trapping and other uses by the public compatible with the first two purposes.</p>	<p>There are two RS 2477 Trails in the unit. RST 66, the Dunbar – Brook Terminal Trail and RST 1595, the Dunbar – Minto – Tolovana Trail.</p> <p>Mineral entry is prohibited.</p> <p>There are a number of native allotments and private in holdings within the refuge. These areas are not affected by the management stipulations of the refuge (unless they are acquired by the state for the purpose of expanding the refuge).</p> <p>The Old Minto Village is located within this unit. Any action that may be authorized should ensure that the historical resources of this site are protected. The Old Minto site is located on the banks of the Tanana River. Residents of this village, which was settled in 1912, relocated to a new location 25 miles north, which is accessible by road from Fairbanks. Despite relocation from the old site, the people of Minto have maintained a strong spiritual attachment to Old Minto. The cabins, church, community hall, and store buildings still exist today. There are plans for the restoration of several of the buildings at this site.</p>
L-03	Gu 78,434	Various	<p>Unit is to be managed consistent with the requirements of the James Dalton LDA (AS 19.40.010) and the Dalton Highway Master plan. The primary purpose of the LDA is to provide an area for the construction of the Dalton Highway as a year-round route north of the Yukon River to the Arctic Circle. Land within the LDA is to be retained in state ownership except as may be authorized for disposal or lease by DNR but only if consistent with the purposes of the LDA.</p> <p>Check land status prior to issuing authorizations; authorizations are only to be issued for uses on state land.</p>	<p>The Trans-Alaska Pipeline System runs through this LDA and is paralleled by the Dalton Highway.</p> <p>Mineral closing order 529 parallels the Dalton Highway and Trans-Alaska Pipeline System.</p> <p>Coal has been reported within the eastern area unit (F013N011W).</p> <p>Nearly all of the land within this unit is in selection status, topfiled under ANILCA. All selected land is ranked as a ‘high priority’. It is likely but by no means certain that it will be conveyed to the state.</p>