

Unit 11. Middle Nushagak Uplands

Background

Land Status. Most of the unit is owned or selected by the state. Smaller amounts of land are owned by Koliganek Natives Ltd., Stuyahok Ltd, and the federal government under BLM management. Eight Native allotments are located in the unit. The western portion of the unit is adjacent to Wood-Tikchik State Park. Mining claims 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 non-residents and occurs during May, September, and early October.

Trails and Easements. The following 17(b) easements are located in this unit: EIN 26a, 27a, 28a, 29a, 30a, and 32a. (Refer to the maps in the envelope in the back of this document for descriptions 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.

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

- U11.1 Long-term Uses Associated with Mineral/Oil and Gas Activity. For other long-term uses associated with mineral and oil and gas exploration and development, see Chapter 2 guideline.
- U11.2 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 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.