

## MANAGEMENT UNIT 8: McDOUGAL

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### MANAGEMENT INTENT

The McDougal management unit is composed of state lands between Lake Creek and the Kahiltna River within the boundaries of past remote parcel disposal areas. The lands are a mixture of lowland forests, lakes and wetlands. Although the Kahiltna River is not boatable, it supports runs of king, coho, silver, pink and chum salmon. There are concentrations of mining claims along the Kahiltna. This area has some potential for additional remote settlement, especially in the southern half of the unit. Potential for agriculture and forestry also exists in the southern portion of this management unit. Management Unit 8 will be open to mineral location and available for coal leasing except for the area open to settlement (subunit 8a). All public lands in this unit are available for oil and gas leasing. Existing access into this unit is by plane to the lakes or by boat along Lake Creek. There is presently no road access, but construction of an extension of the Shulin Lake trail that crosses Management Unit 8 is recommended for consideration. See Chapter 4 for additional information.

The McDougal Management Unit is divided into the north (subunit 8a) and south (subunit 8b) halves. See the maps at the end of this section for boundaries of these areas, and the accompanying chart for a summary of land uses for each subunit.

**Subunit 8a**, the northern part of this region, will remain open for additional settlement. This subunit is within the boundaries of the past Lake Creek/McDougal remote parcel disposal area.

**Subunit 8b**, the southern part of the region, is designated resource management-high value to preserve options for future use. Values for settlement, forestry, habitat and agriculture all are higher in 8b than in the northern section of the Management Unit (8a). All these values will be considered when the area is re-evaluated to determine its best use for the long term. The portion of the existing Lake Creek/McDougal remote parcel disposal area within subunit 8b will be closed to further sales as long as the subunit is designated for resource management.

### MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES

The complete set of areawide management guidelines is presented in Chapter 2 of this plan. All of the guidelines potentially apply to uses within this management unit; however, those that are most likely to be applicable are indicated with asterisks in the list below.

- Agriculture
- Fish & Wildlife Habitat
- \*Forestry
- \*Recreation
- \*Settlement
- Subsurface
- Transportation
- Instream Flow
- \*Lakeshore Management
- \*Public Access
- Remote Cabin Permits
- \*Stream Corridors
- \*Trail Management
- \*Wetlands Management
- \*Resource Management

Management guidelines that apply to this management only are presented below by subunit.

#### **Subunit 8a (Lake Creek/McDougal North)**

##### **Protection of Transportation Routes**

Chapter 4 of this plan identifies a system of possible improvements to the regional and local transportation system. One route passes through this subunit. The precise location of this route has not been determined, although a general location is shown on the maps in Chapter 4. Land use authorizations in this unit such as land sales, leases, or other actions should be located so as not to preclude the option to build this road along a feasible and efficient route.

#### **Subunits 8a and 8b (Lake Creek/McDougal north and resource management areas)**

##### **Stream Corridors**

The management intent for land adjacent to the streams referenced below is to permit fishing, camping and other active uses, and to protect water quality and riparian habitats. Consequently, this land should be retained in public ownership. Corridor widths will be set on a case-by-case basis using policies in Chapter 2. The standard minimum buffer width (200' on each side of the river) should be used on Indian Creek and the unnamed creeks that appear on the 1:63,360 scale USGS topographic maps.

#### **Subunit 8b (Lake Creek/McDougal south)**

##### **Grazing**

Grazing is prohibited within the riparian zone along the Kahiltna River.

# LAND USE DESIGNATION SUMMARY

SUBREGION Susitna LowlandsMANAGEMENT UNIT 8 — McDougal

SUBUNIT	LAND OWNERSHIP (GENERALIZED)	LAND USE DESIGNATIONS				PROHIBITED SURFACE USE(S)*	COMMENTS
		SURFACE		SUBSURFACE			
		PRIMARY USE(S)	SECONDARY USE(S)	LOCATABLE MINERALS	LEASEABLE MINERALS		
8a Lake Cr./ McDougal North	State	Settlement (past remote parcel offer- ing)	Forestry (personal use) Public Rec. Wildlife Hab.	Closed	Not available for coal leasing or prospecting	—	Estimated net disposal area = 5,750 acres
8b Lake Cr./ McDougal South	State	Resource Management (high)  Values: Agriculture, Forestry, Settlement, Wildlife Habitat		Open	Available for leasing	Land Disposals Portions closed to grazing (see mgmt. guidelines)	—

\*Other uses such as material sales, land leases, remote cabin permits, etc., that are not specifically prohibited may be allowed. Such uses will be allowed if consistent with the management intent statement and management guidelines of this unit, and with the relevant management guidelines in chapter 2.