

MANAGEMENT UNIT 3E

Middle Cosna-Zitziana Watersheds

MANAGEMENT INTENT

General. A portion of this unit is designated settlement and may be offered for sale. The remainder of state land is retained in public ownership for multiple use management. The emphasis is on subsurface resource development, recreation, maintaining fish and wildlife habitat, and protecting future agricultural development opportunities.

Agriculture. Subunit 3E4 may have potential for agriculture, although much of the land is too steep, faces north, or has dunes. This subunit is designated resource management and will be managed for multiple uses, especially agriculture and habitat, until it is reevaluated and the plan amended. Agriculture may not be feasible if there is a substantial increase in mineral development.

Fish and Wildlife. Fish and wildlife habitat is designated a primary use in Subunit 3E3. Management emphasis is to preserve whitefish and pike fishing in Mooseheart Lake (B-2 habitat; see Appendix A, *Glossary*). Mooseheart Lake should be managed as an undeveloped area.

Subunit 3E2 is low value habitat (C habitat; see Appendix A, *Glossary*).

Forestry. Forestry has been designated a primary use in Subunit 3E5. Because of the remoteness of this subunit, commercial timber harvest is not anticipated in the near future. Forest resources in this subunit will be managed primarily for personal use timber harvest.

Minerals. Favorable mineral terranes for base and precious metals are located in the northwest corner of the unit, at the eastern end of the Chitanatala Mountains. Subunit 3E3, Mooseheart Lake, is closed to new mineral entry because of conflicts with high value fish and wildlife habitat. Land disposals

in Subunit 3E1 will be closed to mineral entry at the time of sale. The remainder of state land is open to mineral entry.

Recreation. The lake west of Mooseheart Mountain, known as Mooseheart Lake, provides whitefish and pike fishing opportunities. Recreation is designated a primary use in Subunit 3E3. Management will emphasize protection of the habitat and related human-use values.

Settlement. Settlement is designated a primary use in Subunit 3E1. Approximately 1,500 acres may be offered for private ownership.

Mucha Lake II Homestead (3E1) 1,500 acres

One area in Subunit 3E1 has been offered for private ownership. The acreage offered may have been less than the maximum amount shown. A portion of the developable land may be available for additional offerings.

Mucha Lake I Homestead 1,000 acres

MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES

Management guidelines that apply to all state land are listed in Chapter 2. Some or all of those guidelines may apply to uses in this unit.

Minchumina Block Proposed Selection. The plan recommends selecting blocks of land within Subunit 3E2. For further description, see Chapter 4, *Proposed State Selections*.

Remote cabins. State-owned land in subunits 3E2 and 3E5 may be considered for remote cabin permits. An interagency team will determine areas to be opened and number of permits to be allowed, after a detailed evaluation and public involvement.

LAND-USE DESIGNATION SUMMARY
MANAGEMENT UNIT 3E: *Middle Cosna-Zitziana Watersheds*

Subunit	Primary Surface Uses	Secondary Surface Uses	Subsurface ¹	Prohibited ² Surface Use	Comments
3E1	Settlement		Closed prior to sale Closed to coal	Remote cabins	Plan map legend: 3E1 - Mucha Lake II HS Past Project: Mucha Lake I HS
3E2	Low value resource mgmt.		Open		
3E3	Public recreation Wildlife habitat		Closed to location	Land disposals Leases Remote cabins Roads Utility corridors	Mooseheart Lake
3E4	High value resource mgmt. -agriculture -habitat		Open	Land disposals Remote cabins	
3E5	Forestry		Open		

¹ Subsurface designations refer to locatable minerals. All areas are available for leasing for leasable minerals, except as noted for coal.

² Other uses such as material sales, land leases, or permits that are not specifically prohibited may be allowed. Such uses will be allowed if consistent with the management-intent statement, the management guidelines of this unit, and the relevant management guidelines listed in Chapter 2.