

# MANAGEMENT UNIT 7B

## *Quartz Lake*

### MANAGEMENT INTENT

**General.** This unit will be retained in public ownership and managed primarily for public recreation. The unit will remain open to mineral entry. Recreation opportunities should be enhanced; timber harvest activities should complement recreation activities.

A monitoring program on the patterns and impacts of use is recommended for the Goodpaster area, particularly for Quartz Lake (Subunit 7B1), see Chapter 4, Research and Monitoring.

**Fish and Wildlife.** Fish and wildlife habitat is a secondary land use of the management unit.

**Forestry.** This unit is mostly composed of over mature white spruce, on a poor to declining site. Timber management for personal and commercial use is allowed in Subunit 7B1 to reduce insect, disease, and fire hazard, protect or enhance recreation values, and remove hazards to public safety. In Subunit 7B2, forestry is a primary use; timber will be managed for the same purposes as in Subunit 7B1 and to improve site productivity and wildlife habitat. Timber management activities may include thinning, timber sales, planting, and prescribed fire. DOF will consult with DPOR when designing timber sales and access in Management Unit 7B.

The Division of Forestry priorities for this unit are for access from the Richardson Highway through the Quartz Lake area to harvest timber in Subunit 7C1 and in the Tanana Valley State Forest Unit 9 Indian Creek area.

**Recreation.** Quartz Lake is a recreation area of regional importance. Quartz Lake is stocked by ADF&G and is one of the most heavily fished lakes in interior Alaska. Public recreation is the primary use in the watershed and viewshed for the lake (Subunit 7B1). Recreation development around the lake should be designed to minimize impacts to fish and wildlife and to enhance opportunities to use fish and wildlife. Commercial recreational uses and activities complementary to public recreation, such as ski facilities, campsites, boat launches, trails, and lodges may be allowed. The existing trail network shall remain available for traditional recreational access.

### 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 management unit. Special guidelines that apply only to this unit follow.

**Access.** Road use will be designed to minimize conflicts between logging trucks and recreational vehicles, particularly in the Quartz Lake area. Specific measures may include timing of use and higher road standards.

**Public Notice.** To continue involvement by groups concerned with development in the Goodpaster River area, DNR will consult with organizations on the Goodpaster Review Working Group in reviewing proposed timber harvest, access plans, and other activities requiring public notice. See Appendix G for a list of the organizations on this group; see Appendix A for a definition of consultation. The Division of Forestry will also send notice each year of the draft Delta Five-Year Schedule of Timber Sales to the Goodpaster Review Working Group members and to DPOR. DPOR will notify the Delta and Fairbanks Area Parks Advisory Boards of the review schedule. The Five-Year Schedule contains the proposals for timber sales, access, and reforestation in this area.

**Visual Impacts.** Development activities within this unit shall be designed to minimize the visual impacts to the scenic values of the Quartz Lake bowl (Subunit 7B1).

For timber harvests:

- Cutting units will be located so they minimize impacts on the viewshed from the lake.
- Cutting units and access shall be designed to blend into the natural landscape pattern. Type of harvest for cutting units will give consideration to topography and silvicultural requirements in meeting visual concerns. In the case of patch clearcuts, size and shape are recognized as primary concerns.
- Preliminary cutting unit design will be included in the Forest Management Report available for public and interagency review.

**LAND-USE DESIGNATION SUMMARY**  
**MANAGEMENT UNIT 7B: *Quartz Lake***

| Subunit | Primary Surface Uses          | Secondary Surface Uses       | Subsurface <sup>1</sup> | Prohibited <sup>2</sup> Surface Use | Comments |
|---------|-------------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------------------|----------|
| 7B1     | Public recreation             | Wildlife habitat<br>Forestry | Open                    | Land disposals                      |          |
| 7B2     | Forestry<br>Public recreation | Wildlife habitat             | Open                    | Land disposals                      |          |

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

<sup>2</sup> 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.