



Travel Management Upper Black River Subunit Eastern Interior Draft Resource Management Plan

Upper Black River Subunit and Existing Management

The Upper Black River subunit does not have an existing land use plan. Applications for activities are considered but no active recreation management objectives are in place.

- There are no OHV designations in place.
- Use of motorized vehicles and watercraft is not restricted.
- The area is extremely remote.
- Existing uses consist of primarily subsistence or casual recreational use.
- OHV use is conducted primarily in association with hunting and trapping activities. Some landing of aircraft occurs on isolated strips or suitable ridges.

Comparison of Alternatives – Recreation and Travel Management

Alternative A	Alternative B	Alternative C	Alternative D
No OHV designations.	The entire subunit would have a limited OHV designation.		
	621,000 acres The Salmon Fork ACEC would be Closed to Summer OHV use.	2,361,000 acres Summer OHV use limited to ≤1,500 pounds curb weight and ≤64 inches in width.	
	1,740,000 acres Summer OHV use limited by weight (≤1,500 pounds curb weight).	2,361,000 acres Summer OHV use limited to ≤1,500 pounds curb weight and ≤64 inches in width.	
	2,361,000 acres Winter OHV use limited to snowmobiles ≥ 1,000 pounds curb weight.		
	Motorboat and aircraft use would be unrestricted.		

Abbreviations/Definitions

OHV: Off-Highway Vehicle (includes ATVs and snow machines).

GVWR: Gross Vehicle Weight Rating (total vehicle weight plus its maximum load).

Curb weight: The weight of a vehicle with a full tank of fuel and all fluids.

Summary of the Preferred Alternative (C)

Management of the Upper Black River region would allow for mining, oil and gas exploration in some areas, dispersed recreation, and the use of snowmachines and four-wheelers.

Additionally it provides for protection of subsistence resources and access, watershed resources including fish and riparian areas, and wilderness characteristics.

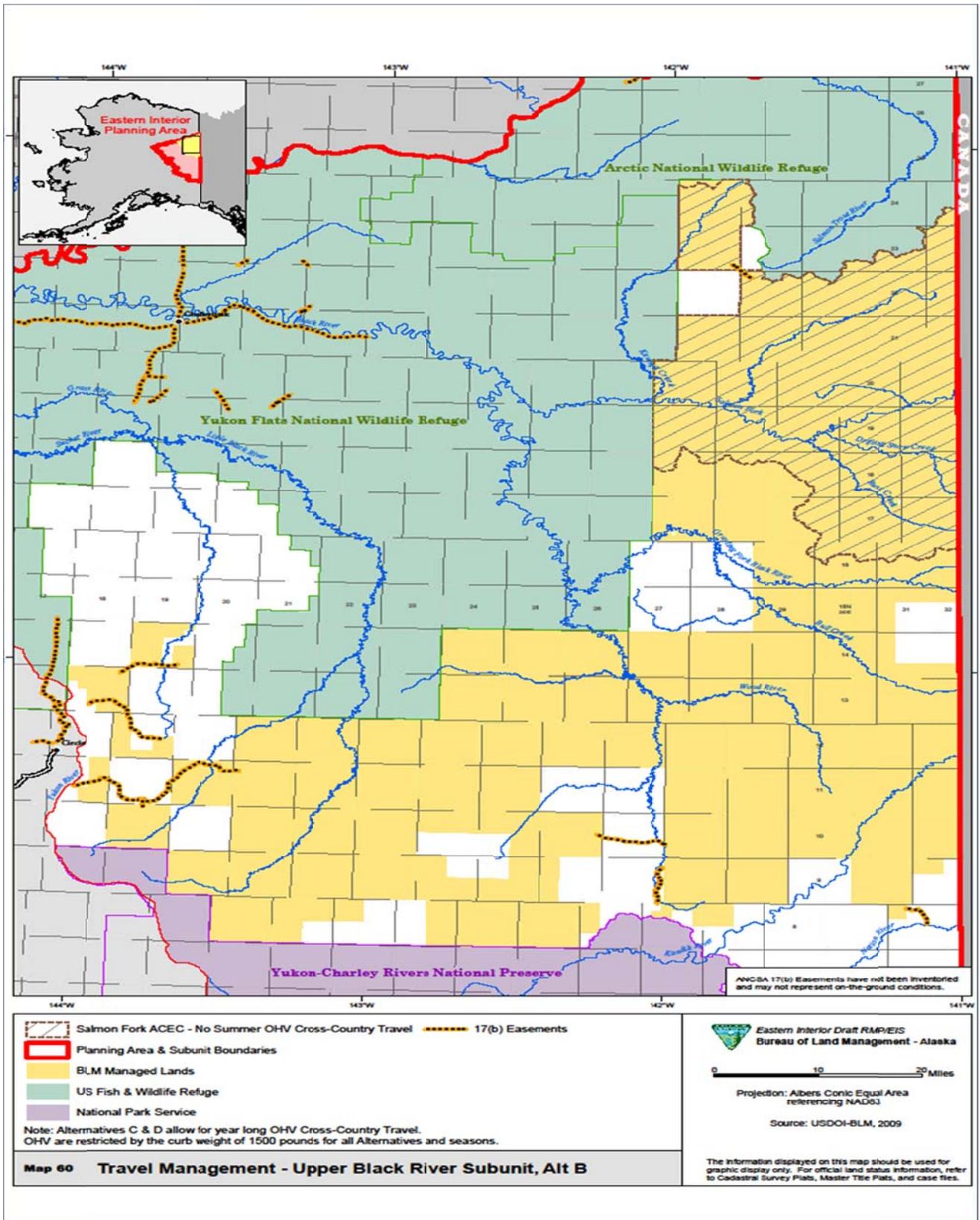
- 13 High Priority Conservation Watershed have been identified.
- Wilderness characteristics of naturalness and solitude or primitive/unconfined recreation would be maintained on 621,000 acres.
- Leasing of minerals on 1,636,000 acres.
- Off-highway vehicles would be limited by weight on all lands.
- Approximately 621,000 acres of the Salmon Fork watershed would be designated as an Area of Critical Environmental Concern and managed for rare plants, bald eagles, salmon habitat, and caribou habitat.

Questions to Consider

In your opinion, which alternative best allows for access to recreation and will provide for the best protection of resources and experience over the next 25 years?

Which alternative will provide for long-term enjoyment of the Upper Black River region while accommodating various uses including recreation?

Are there travel routes that the BLM has not been identified? If so, what are they used for and when are they used?



The Salmon Fork Area of Critical Environmental Concern has the same boundary in Alternatives B, C, D. Alternatives C and D allow for yearlong OHV cross-country travel.