

## Lake Todatonten Pingos RNA South Todatonten Summit RNA

### *Todatonten Pingo System*

The pingos found in these two adjacent RNAs are located on the north-facing slope of watershed divide between the Upper Melozitna River and tributaries of the Koyukuk River.

Pingos are mounds of soil-covered ice. Uniquely arctic and subarctic, pingos form under certain circumstances when ground ice accumulates as temperatures fall during the winter. They are best understood as an unstable and short-lived (in geologic terms) cycle or process of development and collapse.

### Lake Todatonten Pingos RNA

**Size: 658 acres**

**Elevation: 590–1,300 feet**

#### Area Description

This RNA includes two pingos approximately 1.5 miles south of Lake Todatonten. In 1983 the longer of these pingos was 263 feet long (N-S), 180 feet wide (E-W), and 43 feet tall. It was marked at base by concentric depression accentuated by lichens.

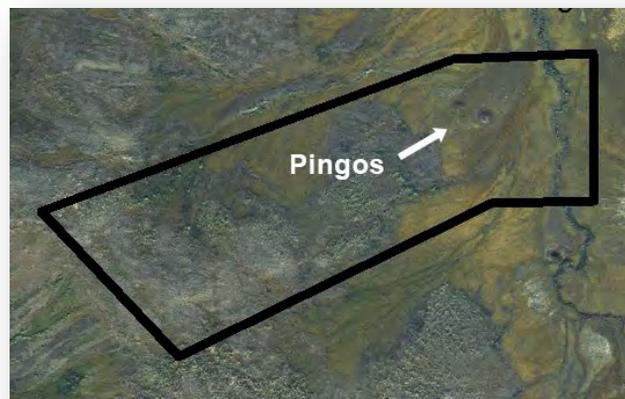
The second pingo had an ice depth of 4.8 feet, a steep slope made up of gravel and sand, and an irregularly collapsing summit with a half-cratered rim.

#### Features of Significant Research Value (Animal, Plant and Geologic)

*Geologic:* A representation of a well developed, mature pingo and a cratered, collapsing pingo

#### Additional Features

Large, old growth white spruce are found in the RNA.



## South Todatonten Summit RNA

**Size:** 655 acres

**Elevation:** 780–1,360 feet

### Area Description

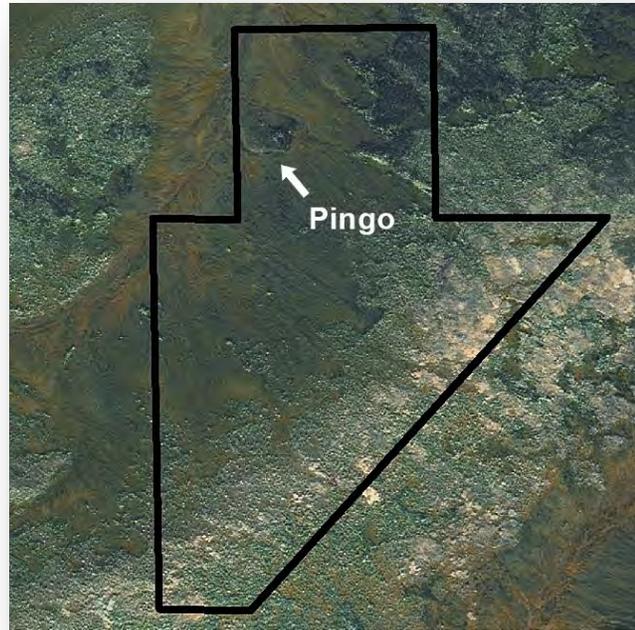
The RNA includes the main cratered pingo, a small buffer, and the watershed and hydrological recharge area on the northwest-facing slope above the pingo.

### Features of Significant Research Value (Animal, Plant and Geologic)

*Geologic:* Open system, cratered pingo.

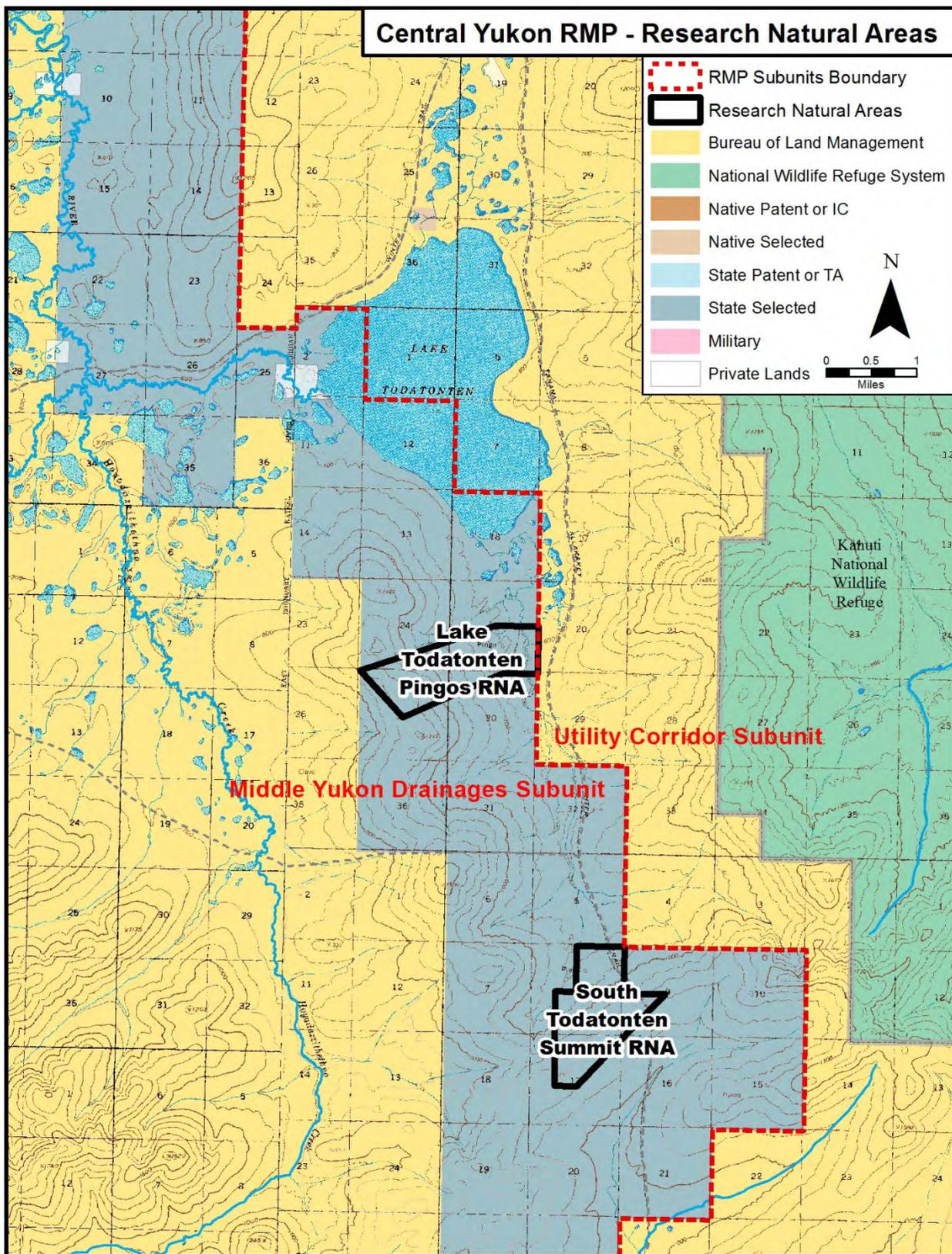
### Additional Features

The RNA includes a crater lake and algae species. Large, old growth white spruce grow on the pingo.



Source: Glenn P. Juday, 1983, Proposed Todatonten Pingos Natural Research Areas: Lake Todatonten Pingos and South Todatonten Summit. Report prepared for the Bureau of Land Management – Alaska.

# Central Yukon RMP - Research Natural Areas



- RMP Subunits Boundary
- Research Natural Areas
- Bureau of Land Management
- National Wildlife Refuge System
- Native Patent or IC
- Native Selected
- State Patent or TA
- State Selected
- Military
- Private Lands

Lake  
Todatonten  
Pingos' RNA

Utility Corridor Subunit

Middle Yukon Drainages Subunit

South  
Todatonten  
Summit RNA

Kahuti  
National  
Wildlife  
Refuge