

Ishtalitna Creek Hot Springs RNA

Ray Mountains

Size: 1,056 acres

Elevation: 1,100 feet

Area Description

The Research Natural Area (RNA) encompasses a low-grade geothermal system, including part of Ishtalitna Creek, and the adjacent hot springs. Water temperatures up to 136 degrees Fahrenheit have been recorded in the hot springs, which discharge into an elongated pool with a pH of 8.84 before flowing into Ishtalitna Creek.

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

Plant: Mat and cushion sedge tundra

Geologic: Low-grade geothermal hot spring

Additional Features

The RNA supports plants far north of their normal distribution.

Several plant and algae species present may be uniquely adapted to hot springs in central Alaska.

The RNA provides an example of a pristine hot springs, an increasingly rare feature in Interior 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

