

Bering Sea - Western Interior

Resource Management Plan

BLM



Wilderness Characteristics Inventory Report

BLM Alaska
Anchorage Field Office

February 2015

Alaska



Contents

| | |
|--|-----------|
| List of Acronyms | iv |
| Chapter 1. Wilderness Characteristics Inventory | 1 |
| 1.1 Introduction | 1 |
| 1.1.1 Inventory Methodology | 1 |
| 1.1.1.1 Analysis of Roads..... | 2 |
| 1.1.1.2 Analysis of Size, Naturalness and Outstanding Opportunities for Solitude or a Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation..... | 5 |
| 1.1.1.3 Process Summary | 7 |
| Resource Evaluation Authors..... | 7 |
| 1.2 Wilderness Inventory Forms | 8 |
| 1.2.1 North Nulato Hills Subunit Inventory | 8 |
| 1.2.1.1 North Nulato Hills Area | 8 |
| 1.2.2 South Nulato Hills Subunit Inventory | 10 |
| 1.2.2.1 Otter Creek Region..... | 11 |
| 1.2.2.2 Engineer Lake..... | 13 |
| 1.2.2.3 Grayling West..... | 14 |
| 1.2.2.4 Stink Creek..... | 15 |
| 1.2.2.5 Southwest Peregrine Falcon | 16 |
| 1.2.2.6 Goblet Creek..... | 17 |
| 1.2.2.7 St. Michael..... | 18 |
| 1.2.2.8 Fox Point Island North | 19 |
| 1.2.2.9 Anvik North..... | 20 |
| 1.2.2.10 Bonasila River | 20 |
| 1.2.2.11 Anvik Southeast | 21 |
| 1.2.2.12 Whiskey Creek | 22 |
| 1.2.2.13 Russian Mission Northwest..... | 22 |
| 1.2.2.14 Bobs Creek | 23 |
| 1.2.3 Yukon River Lowlands Subunit Inventory..... | 24 |
| 1.2.3.1 Grayling Southeast | 25 |
| 1.2.3.2 Cottonwood Slough..... | 25 |
| 1.2.3.3 Innoko Slough | 26 |
| 1.2.3.4 Shageluk Northwest | 27 |
| 1.2.3.5 Holy Cross Northeast | 28 |
| 1.2.3.6 Anvik East | 29 |
| 1.2.3.7 Grayling South | 31 |
| 1.2.3.8 Holy Cross North..... | 31 |
| 1.2.3.9 Holy Cross Northwest 2 | 32 |
| 1.2.3.10 Honeymoon Slough..... | 33 |
| 1.2.3.11 Holy Cross Northwest 1 | 34 |
| 1.2.4 Kuskokwim Mountains Subunit Inventory..... | 35 |
| 1.2.4.1 Iditarod Southwest..... | 36 |
| 1.2.4.2 Sue Creek | 37 |
| 1.2.4.3 Chuathbaluk Southeast Area | 38 |
| 1.2.4.4 Napaimiut Northeast..... | 39 |
| 1.2.4.5 Shageluk Northeast..... | 40 |
| 1.2.4.6 Red Devil West | 41 |
| 1.2.4.7 Oskawalik West..... | 42 |

| | |
|---|----|
| 1.2.4.9 Big Walden Fork | 43 |
| 1.2.4.11 Crooked Creek Southwest | 44 |
| 1.2.4.13 Crooked Creek West | 45 |
| 1.2.4.15 East Fork George River | 46 |
| 1.2.4.17 Crow Village North | 47 |
| 1.2.4.18 Red Devil North | 48 |
| 1.2.4.20 Red Devil..... | 49 |
| 1.2.4.21 Iditarod Northeast..... | 49 |
| 1.2.4.22 Napaimiut Southeast..... | 50 |
| 1.2.5 Tanana-Kuskokwim Lowlands Subunit Inventory | 51 |
| 1.2.5.1 Big River | 53 |
| 1.2.5.2 Takotna East | 54 |
| 1.2.5.3 Beaver Creek | 55 |
| 1.2.5.4 Katlitna River East | 56 |
| 1.2.5.5 Stony River Southeast | 57 |
| 1.2.5.6 Tatlawiksuk River South..... | 58 |
| 1.2.5.7 Sethkokna River | 59 |
| 1.2.5.8 North Fork Kuskokwim River..... | 60 |
| 1.2.5.9 Hardscrabble Creek | 61 |
| 1.2.5.10 Nixon Fork | 62 |
| 1.2.5.11 Tonsona River | 63 |
| 1.2.5.12 Highpower Creek | 64 |
| 1.2.5.14 Sleetmute South..... | 66 |
| 1.2.5.15 Stony River..... | 66 |
| 1.2.5.16 Tatlawiksuk River | 67 |
| 1.2.5.17 McGrath Southeast | 68 |
| 1.2.5.18 Takotna Southeast | 68 |
| 1.2.5.19 Little Selatna River..... | 69 |
| 1.2.5.20 Black River..... | 70 |
| 1.2.5.21 Rohn | 70 |
| 1.2.5.22 Sheep Creek..... | 71 |
| 1.2.5.23 Tin Creek..... | 72 |
| 1.2.5.24 Telida East..... | 72 |
| 1.2.5.25 Telida North | 73 |
| 1.2.5.26 Telida Northwest | 74 |
| 1.2.5.27 Spruce Lake..... | 74 |
| 1.2.5.28 Medfra | 75 |
| 1.2.5.29 Nicolai North..... | 76 |
| 1.2.5.30 Lake Minchumina Northeast | 76 |
| 1.2.5.31 Lake Minchumina..... | 77 |
| 1.2.5.32 Lake Minchumina Southeast | 78 |
| 1.2.6 Lime Hills Subunit Inventory | 78 |
| 1.2.6.1 Gagaryah River..... | 79 |
| 1.2.6.2 Lime Village..... | 80 |
| 1.2.6.3 Can Creek | 81 |
| 1.2.7 Ahklun Mountains Subunit Inventory | 82 |
| 1.2.7.1 Swift Creek North | 83 |
| 1.2.7.2 Swift Creek East..... | 84 |
| 1.2.7.4 Kilbuk Mountains North | 85 |
| 1.2.7.6 Nyac Northeast..... | 86 |

| | |
|--|-----------|
| Chapter 2. Summary of Inventory Findings | 87 |
| References | 88 |
| Appendix – Maps of Wilderness Inventory Subunits..... | 89 |

Tables

| | |
|---|----|
| Table 1. North Nulato Hills summary of inventory findings | 8 |
| Table 2. South Nulato Hills summary of inventory findings | 10 |
| Table 3. Yukon River Lowlands Subunit summary of inventory findings..... | 24 |
| Table 4. Kuskokwim Mountains Subunit summary of inventory findings | 35 |
| Table 5. Tanana-Kuskokwim Lowlands subunit summary of inventory findings | 51 |
| Table 6. Lime Hills Subunit summary of inventory findings..... | 79 |
| Table 7. Ahklun Mountains Subunit summary of inventory findings..... | 83 |
| Table 8. Summary of findings for lands with wilderness characteristics for entire planning area | 87 |

Figures

| | |
|--|----|
| Figure 1. Lands with Wilderness Characteristics Inventory and Ecoregions Overview | 3 |
| Figure 2. North Nulato Hills Wilderness Characteristics Inventory Area..... | 91 |
| Figure 3. South Nulato Hills Wilderness Characteristics Inventory Area (including Yukon River Lowlands Inventory Area)..... | 92 |
| Figure 4. Kuskokwim Mountains Wilderness Characteristics Inventory Area | 93 |
| Figure 5. Tanana-Kuskokwim Lowlands Wilderness Characteristics Inventory Area (including Lime Hills Inventory Area) | 94 |
| Figure 6. Ahklun Mountains Wilderness Characteristics Inventory Area..... | 95 |

List of Acronyms

ACEC – Area of Critical Environmental Concern

ANCSA – Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act

ANILCA - Alaska National Interests Lands Conservation Act

ATV – All Terrain Vehicle

BLM - Bureau of Land Management

BSWI - Bering Sea Western Interior

CFR - Code of Federal Regulations

FLPMA - Federal Land Management Policy Act

RMP - Resource Management Plan

U.S.C. – United States Code

Chapter 1. Wilderness Characteristics Inventory

1.1 Introduction

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Land Use Planning Handbook, H-1601-1 requires the BLM to identify lands that have wilderness characteristics and identify in land use planning (resource management plans) where decisions are made to protect or preserve wilderness characteristics. The authority for addressing wilderness characteristics is found in the Federal Land Management Policy Act Section 201, Section 2(c) of the Wilderness Act, and the Alaska National Interests Lands Conservation Act (ANILCA).

The first step in this process is to assess the lands to determine which areas have wilderness characteristics. This document outlines the methods used and the results of the inventory for the Bering Sea-Western Interior (BSWI) Resource Management Plan (RMP) and Environmental Impact Statement Planning Area. This document is only relevant to inventory of public lands to assess their wilderness characteristics and should not be confused with management of these areas. Management of lands with wilderness characteristics will be determined in the draft resource management plan and environmental impact statement.

1.1.1 Inventory Methodology

All public lands, including State and Native-selected lands, addressed in the BSWI RMP Planning Area were inventoried for wilderness characteristics. The inventory evaluated wilderness characteristics as discussed in section 2(c) of the Wilderness Act of 1964 (16 U.S.C. 1131) and incorporated into the Federal Land Policy and Management Act (43 U.S.C. 1701 et seq.). To be identified during the inventory process as having wilderness characteristics, lands must:

- be a roadless area of sufficient size as to make practicable its preservation and use in an unimpaired condition;
- generally appear to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature; and,
- have outstanding opportunities for solitude, or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation.

Within this inventory process, lands were not buffered. Areas with wilderness characteristics, in some cases, may immediately abut land whose own character precludes wilderness characteristics. For example, land immediately adjacent to a road may be classified during inventory as possessing wilderness characteristics. The fact that the sight or sound of the road may detract from the wilderness experience on adjacent lands does not, in and of itself, render those lands as not possessing wilderness characteristics.

As long as the criteria listed above are met, the following facilities, activities and uses consistent with the Alaska National Interests Lands Conservation Act do not preclude determining, during wilderness inventory, that lands meet the criteria for wilderness characteristics:

- public use cabins;
- administrative sites and visitor facilities;
- temporary facilities and equipment for hunting, fishing, and camping;
- airplane use and landings; and,
- motorboat, snowmobile, and all-terrain motor vehicle use.

The critical question to consider is not whether these facilities, activities or uses exist in the relevant tract, but whether they singly or in combination with other factors have altered the character of the land from one that “generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature” and precludes the land from having “outstanding opportunities for solitude and/or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation.” In general, substantial active or remnant evidence of mining or oil and gas extraction facilities, above-ground pipelines or powerlines, intensive recreational developments, and similar intrusions on the land may render such lands as inappropriate for identification in the inventory stage as having wilderness characteristics.

The inventory process used in-house expertise to assess whether or not specific lands possess wilderness characteristics. The inventory of wilderness characteristics is documented in the form of worksheets for each inventory unit (chapter 1, [section 1.2](#)) and is depicted on maps created using a geographic information system database. The entire BSWI Planning Area was broken up into seven inventory subunits ([Figure 1](#)). The seven subunits are represented in the following five maps found in the [Appendix](#).

- [Figure 2](#). North Nulato Hills Wilderness Characteristics Inventory Area
- [Figure 3](#). South Nulato Hills Wilderness Characteristics Inventory Area (including Yukon River Lowlands Inventory Area)
- [Figure 4](#). Kuskokwim Mountains Wilderness Characteristics Inventory Area
- [Figure 5](#). Tanana-Kuskokwim Lowlands Wilderness Characteristics Inventory Area (including Lime Hills Inventory Area)
- [Figure 6](#). Ahklun Mountains Wilderness Characteristics Inventory Area

1.1.1.1 Analysis of Roads

The first step is to determine whether the area being inventoried contains roads.

1. To insure a consistent identification of “roads” as opposed to a vehicle “way,” the following definition has been adopted: “The word ‘roadless’ refers to the absence of roads which have been improved and maintained by mechanical means to insure relatively regular and continuous use. A way maintained solely by the passage of vehicle does not constitute a road.” This language is from the House of Representatives Committee Report 94-1163, page 17, dated May 15, 1976, on what became the Federal Land Policy and Management Act (43 U.S.C. 1701 *et seq.*).
2. A route that was established or has been maintained solely by the passage of vehicles would not be considered a road, even if it is used on a relatively regular and continuous basis. Vehicle routes constructed by mechanical means but are no longer being maintained by mechanical methods are not roads. Sole use of hands and feet to move rocks or dirt without the use of tools or machinery does not meet the definition of “mechanical means.” Roads need not be maintained on a regular basis but are maintained when road conditions warrant actions to keep it in a usable condition.

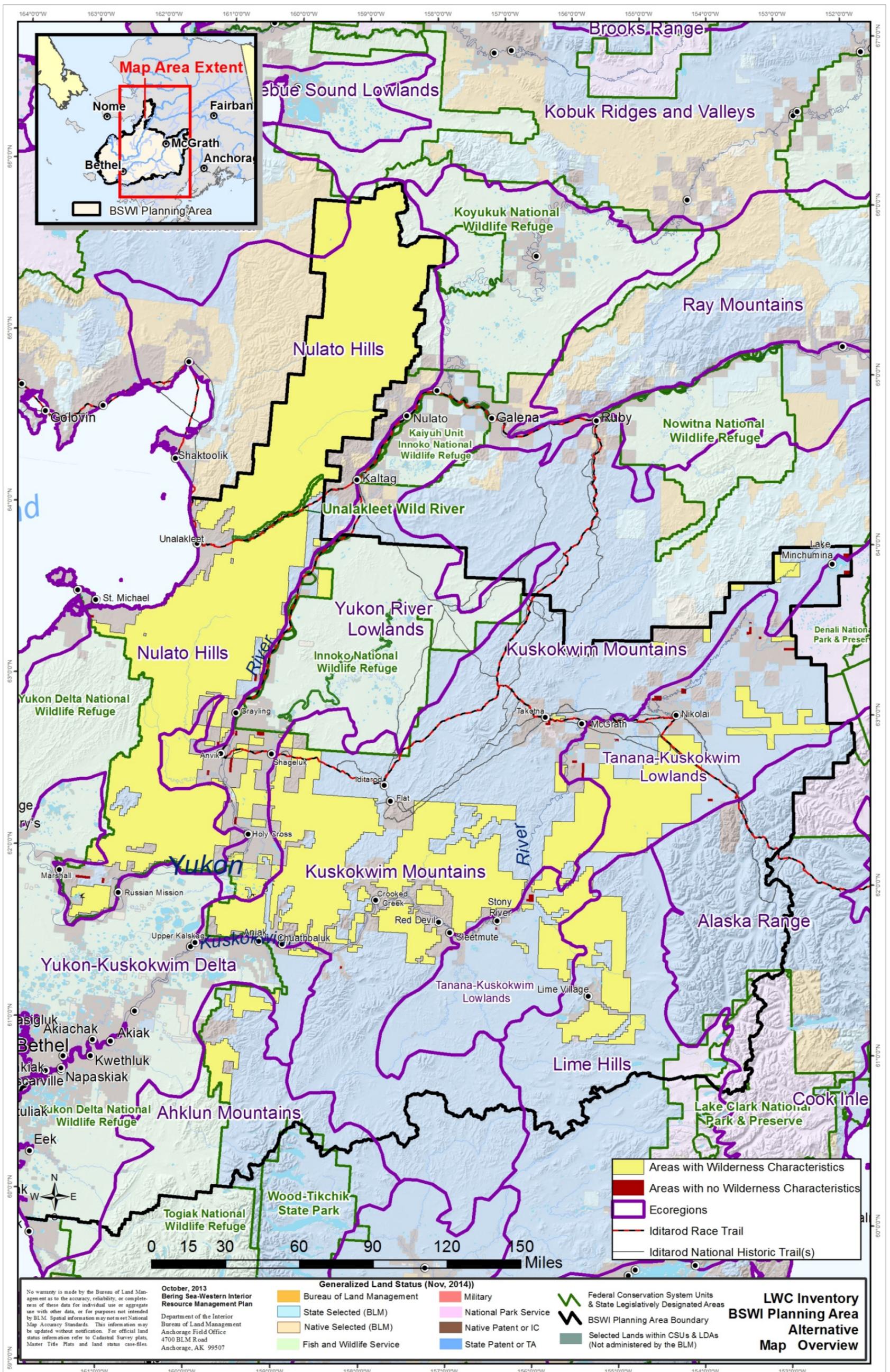


Figure 1. Lands with Wilderness Characteristics Inventory and Ecoregions Overview

This page intentionally left blank

1.1.1.2 Analysis of Size, Naturalness and Outstanding Opportunities for Solitude or a Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation

This inventory evaluated wilderness characteristics as discussed in section 2(c) of the Wilderness Act and incorporated in the Federal Land Policy and Management Act (43 U.S.C. 1701 *et seq.*), which states:

“A wilderness, in contrast with those areas where man and his own works dominate the landscape, is hereby recognized as an area where the earth and its community of life are untrammelled by man, where man himself is a visitor who does not remain. An area of wilderness is further defined to mean in this Act an area of undeveloped federal land retaining its primeval character and influence, without permanent improvements or human habitation, which is protected and managed so as to preserve its natural conditions and which:

1. generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature, with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable;
2. has outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation;
3. has at least five thousand acres of land or is of sufficient size as to make practicable its preservation and use in an unimpaired condition; and
4. may also contain ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical value.”

Anchorage Field Office Process

The Anchorage Field Office used the following process during the inventory for wilderness characteristics in the Bering Sea-Western Interior Planning Area.

Size

Determine if the inventory area “...has at least 5,000 acres of land or is of sufficient size as to make practicable its preservation and use in an unimpaired condition.” Specifically, the size criteria will be satisfied for inventory areas in the following situations and circumstances:

1. Roadless areas with over 5,000 acres of contiguous public lands. State or private lands are not included in making this acreage determination.
2. Any roadless island of the public lands of less than 5,000 acres.
3. Roadless areas of less than 5,000 acres of contiguous public lands where any one of the following apply:
 - a. They are contiguous with lands which have been formally determined to have wilderness or potential wilderness values; or,
 - b. It is demonstrated that the area is clearly and obviously of sufficient size as to make practicable its preservation and use in an unimpaired condition; or,
 - c. They are contiguous with an area of other federal lands administered by an agency with authority to study and preserve wilderness lands, and the combined total is 5,000 acres or more.

If none of the size criteria is met, determine whether the unit possesses wilderness characteristics; if it doesn't, no further evaluation is needed. If the unit meets the size criteria, consider the next characteristic in the process, naturalness.

Naturalness

If an area is determined to be roadless, next consider if the area generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature. People's work must be substantially unnoticeable and the area must retain its primeval character. It should be an area where the earth and its community of life are untrammelled by humans and their activities.

An area may include some human impacts provided they are substantially unnoticeable in the area as a whole. Examples of human-made features that may be compatible with naturalness include: trails, trail signs, bridges, fire breaks, pit toilets, fisheries enhancement facilities (such as fish traps and stream barriers), fire rings, historic properties, archaeological resources, hitching posts, snow gauges, water quantity and quality measuring devices, research monitoring markers and devices, minor radio repeater sites, air quality monitoring devices, fencing, spring developments, barely visible linear disturbances, and stock ponds.

There is an important difference between an area's natural integrity and its apparent naturalness. Natural integrity refers to the presence or absence of ecosystems that are relatively unaffected by human activities. Apparent naturalness refers to whether an area looks natural to the average visitor who is not familiar with the biological composition of natural ecosystems versus human-affected ecosystems in a given area. It is, however, the presence or absence of apparent naturalness (that is, do the works of humans appear to be substantially unnoticeable to the average visitor?) that determines if an area has wilderness characteristics.

If the size criteria are met, but the naturalness criteria are not, no further evaluation is needed and the unit does not possess wilderness characteristics. If both the size and naturalness criteria are met, consider the next characteristic in the process.

Solitude or a Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation

Once an area meets the size, roadless, and naturalness criteria, determine if the area has outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation. The word "or" in this sentence means that an area only has to possess one or the other. It does not have to possess outstanding opportunities for both elements, and the area does not need to have outstanding opportunities on every acre. There must be outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation somewhere in the area.

In most cases, the two opportunities could be expected to go hand-in-hand. The outstanding opportunity for solitude, however, may be present in an area offering only limited primitive recreation potential. Also, an area may be so attractive for recreation use that it would be difficult to maintain opportunity for solitude.

If it is determined that an area meets the criteria of size, naturalness, and has either outstanding opportunities for solitude or primitive recreation, it can be concluded that the area (i.e., unit) possesses wilderness characteristics.

Supplemental Values

If size, naturalness and outstanding opportunities criteria are met, then supplemental values may be considered. Supplemental values are ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical value. Supplemental values are not required to be present to classify an area possessing wilderness characteristics, but their presence is documented and taken into account where they are *known* to exist.

1.1.1.3 Process Summary

The roads analysis determined that the BLM-managed lands within the inventory area do not contain “roads” as defined in section 1.1.1.1.

Within each of the seven planning subunits (North Nulato Hills, South Nulato Hills, Yukon River Lowlands, Kuskokwim Mountains, Tanana-Kuskokwim Lowlands, Lime Hills, and Ahklun Mountains) in the Bering Sea Western Interior Planning Area, smaller units were developed, using known areas of significant disturbance as boundaries (such as roads or mining activity). In areas containing less significant disturbance, management boundaries (such as special recreation management areas, recreation management zones, or wild and scenic river corridors) were used, where applicable.

Each unit was assessed to determine if it met the size criterion. If the unit did not meet the size criterion, no further assessment was done. If the size criterion was met, then the unit was assessed for naturalness. If the unit did not possess naturalness, no further assessment was done. If the unit was determined to be natural, it was assessed for solitude and primitive recreation opportunities, and any known special values were identified.

Resource Evaluation Authors

The resource evaluations conducted and documented were accomplished by the following BLM resource specialists:

| Name | Title | Office |
|----------------|----------------------------|------------------------|
| Jeff Kowalczyk | Outdoor Recreation Planner | Anchorage Field Office |
| Paxton McClurg | Geographer | Anchorage Field Office |

1.2 Wilderness Inventory Forms

Using the inventory process described in section 1.1.1, the Anchorage Field Office conducted an inventory to determine which lands in the Bering Sea-Western Interior Planning Area have wilderness characteristics. The inventory worksheets for each inventory unit, organized by subunit, are found in the following sections.

1.2.1 North Nulato Hills Subunit Inventory

The North Nulato Hills Subunit contains one unit for inventory purposes. An inventory form was completed for this area and is included in the following pages. Route analysis was not conducted for this unit because this area is roadless. This subunit is located within the Nulato Hills Ecoregion.

One-hundred percent of the BLM-managed lands in the North Nulato Hills Subunit have wilderness characteristics (Appendix, [Figure 2](#). North Nulato Hills Wilderness Characteristics Inventory Area). A summary of inventory findings for this subunit is presented in the table below.

Table 1. North Nulato Hills summary of inventory findings

| Unit Name | Unit Number | Ecoregion | Acres | Meets Size Criteria? | Is Natural? | Solitude or Primitive Recreation? | Conclusion |
|-----------------|-------------|-----------------|-----------|----------------------|-------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| N. Nulato Hills | AK-010-2 | N. Nulato Hills | 3,553,800 | Yes | Yes | Yes | Has wilderness characteristics |

1.2.1.1 North Nulato Hills Area

Form 2. Current Conditions: Presence or absence of wilderness characteristics

Area Number/Name: AK-010-2, North Nulato Hills Area

BLM Inventory Acreage: 3,553,800

1) Is the area of sufficient size? Yes

Description: The size of this unit is significantly more than 5,000 contiguous acres of roadless terrain on BLM-managed land (Appendix, [Figure 2](#)). The area consists of more than 3.5 million acres of BLM unencumbered lands located directly northeast of the City of Unalakleet. It borders the Koyukuk National Wildlife Refuge and Native-owned lands to the north and east, BLM unencumbered lands to the west (outside of the planning area), and the Unalakleet National Wild and Scenic River to the south.

2) Does the area appear natural? Yes

Description: There are no roads and 4.5 miles of established, low-use, winter trails located within the southwest corner of this inventory unit. There are no federal mining claims or Native allotments within the unit.

The Iditarod National Historic Trail, the BLM-managed Foothills Public Shelter Cabin, and the associated Iditarod winter route are also located near the southwest corner of this unit. The Iditarod winter route is only traveled during winter months when there's adequate snow cover for

snowmobiles, dog sleds, winter mountain biking, and cross-country skiing. Trail tripod markers, consisting of native spruce poles, can be observed sporadically along the Iditarod winter route from this inventory unit. The area is highly natural in appearance and any work by humans is substantially unnoticeable.

3) Does the area have outstanding opportunities for solitude? Yes

Description: The nearest active airstrip or airport that a visitor to this unit may be affected by is located 6 miles to the southwest in the City of Unalakleet. There are no year-round road-connected communities in the region. Nearly all travel into the area and among communities is by air. Fuel, food, and supplies are delivered by barge or airplane. The previously mentioned winter route is used primarily by individual subsistence users traveling on snowmobiles. There are two BLM-authorized commercial big game hunting guide-outfitters operating within the inventory area, neither of which have any established base or spike camps with permanent or temporary structures or facilities. There are no other permitted activities or man-made developments on BLM-managed lands within this unit.

Due to the lack of roads and low-use winter trails, the distance from any substantial human development, remoteness, limited land uses, and few and temporary permitted activities, a visitor has an opportunity to avoid the sights, sounds, and evidence of other people in this area.

4) Does the area have outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation? Yes

Description: The BLM Kobuk Seward Peninsula Management Plan (RMP) approved in September of 2008 established this inventory area as an Extensive Recreation Management Area. The overall size and remoteness of the area within this inventory unit provides users with outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation, including but not limited to the following activities: hunting, camping, hiking, fishing, river running, cross-country-skiing, dog sledding, and sightseeing.

5) Does the area have known supplemental values (ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic or historical value)? Yes

Description: There are seven established areas of critical environmental concern (ACEC; see below) and one research natural area (Box River Treeline) within the inventory unit.

| <u>N. Nulato ACECs</u> | <u>Acres</u> | <u>Relevance/Importance Criteria</u> |
|------------------------------|--------------|--------------------------------------|
| Inglutalik River | 75,664 | Salmon spawning habitat |
| North River | 137,349 | Salmon spawning habitat |
| Shaktoolik River | 193,953 | Salmon spawning habitat |
| Kateel River | 537,990 | Salmon spawning habitat |
| Gisana River | 278,095 | Salmon spawning habitat |
| Ungalik River | 114,146 | Salmon spawning habitat |
| Unalakleet River N. | 279,678 | Salmon spawning habitat |
| <u>Research Natural Area</u> | <u>Acres</u> | <u>Designation Criteria</u> |
| Box River Treeline | 13,331 | Natural scientific features |

Subsistence species in the area are also recognized by natural resource managers due to the major importance where hunting, gathering, and the general dependence on natural resources continue for most residents in the region.

RESULTS OF ANALYSIS

Area Number/Name: AK-012-2, North Nulato Hills Area

1. Does the area meet the size requirements? Yes
2. Does the area appear natural? Yes
3. Does the area offer outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation? Yes
4. Does the area have known supplemental values? Yes

CONCLUSION: The area has wilderness characteristics.

Evaluator(s): Jeff Kowalczyk Date: August 2014

1.2.2 South Nulato Hills Subunit Inventory

The South Nulato Hills Subunit was divided into 14 units for inventory purposes. An inventory form was completed for each inventory unit and is included in the following pages. Route analysis was not conducted since the unit contains no roads. This subunit is located within the Nulato Hills and Yukon River Lowlands Ecoregions.

Approximately 90 percent of the BLM-managed lands in the South Nulato Hills Subunit have wilderness characteristics (Appendix, [Figure 3](#). South Nulato Hills Wilderness Characteristics Inventory Area (including Yukon River Lowlands Inventory Area)). A summary of inventory findings for this subunit is presented in the table below.

Table 2. South Nulato Hills summary of inventory findings

| Unit Name | Unit Number | Ecoregion | Acres | Meets Size Criteria? | Is Natural? | Solitude or Primitive Recreation? | Conclusion |
|---------------------|-------------|-----------------|-----------|----------------------|-------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Otter Creek Region | AK-010-1 | S. Nulato Hills | 3,657,640 | Yes | Yes | Yes | Has wilderness characteristics |
| Engineer Lake | AK-010-3 | S. Nulato Hills | 99,404 | Yes | Yes | Yes | Has wilderness characteristics |
| Grayling West | AK-010-4 | S. Nulato Hills | 45,811 | Yes | Yes | Yes | Has wilderness characteristics |
| Stink Creek | AK-010-5 | S. Nulato Hills | 5,760 | Yes | Yes | Yes | Has wilderness characteristics |
| SW Peregrine Falcon | AK-010-6 | S. Nulato Hills | 8,152 | Yes | Yes | Yes | Has wilderness characteristics |
| Goblet Creek | AK-010-7 | S. Nulato Hills | 5,079 | Yes | Yes | Yes | Has wilderness characteristics |
| St Michael | AK-010-50 | S. Nulato Hills | 1,920 | No | N/A | N/A | No wilderness characteristics |

| Unit Name | Unit Number | Ecoregion | Acres | Meets Size Criteria? | Is Natural? | Solitude or Primitive Recreation? | Conclusion |
|---------------------------|-------------|-----------------|-------|----------------------|-------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Fox Point Island North | AK-010-51 | S. Nulato Hills | 1,920 | No | N/A | N/A | No wilderness characteristics |
| Anvik North | AK-010-52 | S. Nulato Hills | 1,280 | No | N/A | N/A | No wilderness characteristics |
| Bonasila River | AK-010-53 | S. Nulato Hills | 1,280 | No | N/A | N/A | No wilderness characteristics |
| Anvik Southeast | AK-010-54 | S. Nulato Hills | 3,840 | No | N/A | N/A | No wilderness characteristics |
| Whiskey Creek | AK-010-55 | S. Nulato Hills | 1,280 | No | N/A | N/A | No wilderness characteristics |
| Russian Mission Northwest | AK-010-56 | S. Nulato Hills | 1,280 | No | N/A | N/A | No wilderness characteristics |
| Bobs Creek | AK-010-57 | S. Nulato Hills | 3,798 | No | N/A | N/A | No wilderness characteristics |

1.2.2.1 Otter Creek Region

Form 2. Current Conditions: Presence or absence of wilderness characteristics

Area Number/Name: AK-010-1, Otter Creek Region

BLM Inventory Acreage: 3,657,640

1) Is the area of sufficient size? Yes

Description: The size of this unit is significantly more than 5,000 contiguous acres of roadless terrain on BLM-managed land (Appendix, [Figure 3](#)). Similar to the North Nulato Hills inventory area, this area also consists of more than 3.5 million acres, consisting of BLM encumbered and unencumbered lands located directly south of the City of Unalakleet. It borders the BLM Unalakleet National Wild and Scenic River to the north, the Bering Sea and the Yukon Delta National Wildlife Refuge to the west and south, and Native-owned lands to the east.

Current State selection rankings for this region are listed as priority 5 through 14, with no imminent land conveyance actions. Even if all selected lands were to be conveyed, the remaining BLM-managed lands in total would still exceed 5,000 acres.

2) Does the area appear natural? Yes

Description: There are no roads and approximately 12 low-use existing winter and seasonal trails established within the unit, which are used by local subsistence users and sport hunters. The Iditarod National Historic Trail, the BLM-managed Tripod Flats and Old Woman Public Shelter Cabins, and the associated Iditarod winter route are located within the northern section of this unit. As previously stated, the Iditarod winter route is only traveled during winter months when there's adequate snow cover for snowmobiles, dog sleds, winter mountain biking, and cross-country skiing. Several trail tripod markers are located sporadically along the Iditarod winter route. A communication tower is located on high ground near Otter Creek. One temporary base camp is authorized for a commercial hunting guide-outfitter operation, which consists of five collapsible plywood tent platform structures that are completely broken down and tarped when

not in use, which is approximately two weeks a year. A sport fishing/hunting lodge is located on private land along the Anvik River.

No other permitted activities or man-made developments exist on BLM-managed lands within this large unit. Overall, this large inventory area is highly natural in appearance and any work by humans is substantially unnoticeable.

3) Does the area have outstanding opportunities for solitude? Yes

Description: The nearest active airstrip or airport that a visitor to this unit may be affected by is located 10 miles to the northwest in the City of Unalakleet. There are no year-round road-connected communities in the region. Nearly all travel into the area and among local communities is by air. Fuel, food, and supplies are delivered by barge or airplane. The previously mentioned winter route is used primarily by individual subsistence users traveling on snowmobiles, as well as permitted organized group activities consisting of dog sledding and snowmobiles. There are three BLM-authorized commercial recreation activities operating within the inventory area, consisting of dog mushing adventures and big game guide-outfitting operations.

Due to the lack of roads and low-use winter and seasonal trails, the distance from any substantial human development, remoteness, limited land uses, and few and temporary permitted activities, a visitor has an opportunity to avoid the sights, sounds, and evidence of other people in this area.

4) Does the area have outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation? Yes

Description: The landscape within this unit is very much remote and primitive, consisting of low lying hills with rivers occupying narrow and flat-bottom valleys. Adjacent to these lands are two nationally designated wildlife refuges and one national wild and scenic river. The overall size and remoteness of this unit provides users with outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation, including but not limited to the following activities: hunting, camping, hiking, fishing, dog sledding, and wildlife viewing.

5) Does the area have known supplemental values (ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic or historical value)? Yes

Description: There are three established areas of critical environmental concern (see below) within this inventory unit.

| <u>S. Nulato ACECs</u> | <u>Relevance/Importance Criteria</u> |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Unalakleet River S. | Salmon spawning habitat |
| Anvik River | Chum salmon habitat |
| S.W. Peregrine Falcon Habitat | Peregrine falcon habitat |

Subsistence species in this area are also recognized by natural resource managers due to the major importance where hunting, gathering, and the general dependence on natural resources continue for most residents in the region.

RESULTS OF ANALYSIS

Area Number/Name: AK-010-1, Otter Creek Region

1. Does the area meet the size requirements? Yes

2. Does the area appear natural? Yes
3. Does the area offer outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation? Yes
4. Does the area have known supplemental values? Yes

CONCLUSION: The area has wilderness characteristics.

Evaluator(s): Jeff Kowalczyk Date: August 2014

1.2.2.2 Engineer Lake

Form 2. Current Conditions: Presence or absence of wilderness characteristics

Area Number/Name: AK-010-3, Engineer Lake

BLM Inventory Acreage: 99,404

- 1) Is the area of sufficient size? Yes

Description: The size of this unit is more than 5,000 contiguous acres of roadless terrain on BLM-managed land (Appendix, [Figure 3](#)). This area consists mostly of BLM unencumbered lands along the Yukon River. It borders State-owned lands to the north and Native-owned lands to the west, south, and east.

- 2) Does the area appear natural? Yes

Description: There are no roads and one winter trail that crosses the northeast corner of the unit that connects the remote communities of Marshall and Russian Mission. There are no federal mining claims and four Native allotments within the unit. There is high to medium locatable mineral potential near this unit. Overall, this inventory area is highly natural in appearance and any work by humans is substantially unnoticeable.

- 3) Does the area have outstanding opportunities for solitude? Yes

Description: There are no year-round road connected communities in the region. There are no BLM-authorized activities occurring within this area. The inventory area is buffered from the nearby Yukon River by approximately ½ mile of Native-owned lands. However, there are no established public easements to access this unit through Native lands from the Yukon River. A single gravel airstrip is located 3 miles to the east in the community of Russian Mission.

Due to the lack of roads and one low-use winter trail, the distance from any substantial human development, remoteness, limited land uses, and no temporary permitted activities, a visitor has an opportunity to avoid the sights, sounds, and evidence of other people in this area.

- 4) Does the area have outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation? Yes

Description: The overall size and remoteness of this unit provides users with outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation, including but not limited to the following activities: hunting, camping, fishing, wildlife viewing (Southwest Peregrine Falcons Habitat Area of Critical Environmental Concern), and snowmobiling.

5) Does the area have known supplemental values (ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic or historical value)? Yes

Description: This subunit contains the designated Southwest Peregrine Falcon Habitat Area of Critical Environmental Concern.

RESULTS OF ANALYSIS

Area Number/Name: AK-010-3, Engineer Lake

1. Does the area meet the size requirements? Yes
2. Does the area appear natural? Yes
3. Does the area offer outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation? Yes
4. Does the area have known supplemental values? Yes

CONCLUSION: The area has wilderness characteristics.

Evaluator(s): Jeff Kowalczyk Date: August 2014

1.2.2.3 Grayling West

Form 2. Current Conditions: Presence or absence of wilderness characteristics

Area Number/Name: AK-010-4, Grayling West

BLM Inventory Acreage: 45,811

1) Is the area of sufficient size? Yes

Description: The area is more than 5,000 contiguous roadless acres of BLM-managed land. The unit is surrounded by Native-owned lands.

2) Does the area appear natural? Yes

Description: There are no roads or trails within the area. There are no federal mining claims and no Native allotments within the unit. The Anvik River Area of Critical Environmental Concern is located 8 miles to the west. Overall, this inventory area is highly natural in appearance and any work by humans is substantially unnoticeable.

3) Does the area have outstanding opportunities for solitude? Yes

Description: There are no year-round road connected communities in the region. There are no BLM-authorized activities occurring within the unit. The City of Grayling, with a total population of approximately 194 people, is located 3.5 miles to the east, along the Yukon River. One general aviation airport with one gravel runway in good condition is located in Grayling. There are five separate 17(b) public easements providing legal access to and from this unit, which travel through Doyon Native-owned lands, allowing travel to the Yukon River, Yellow River, Anvik River and Goblet Creek.

Due to the lack of roads and trails, the distance from any substantial human development, remoteness, limited land uses, and no temporary permitted activities, a visitor has an opportunity to avoid the sights, sounds, and evidence of other people in this area.

4) Does the area have outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation? Yes

Description: The overall size and remoteness of this unit provides users with outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation, including but not limited to the following activities: hunting, camping, and cross-country snowmobiling.

5) Does the area have known supplemental values (ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic or historical value)? No

RESULTS OF ANALYSIS

Area Number/Name: AK-010-4, Grayling West

1. Does the area meet the size requirements? Yes
2. Does the area appear natural? Yes
3. Does the area offer outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation? Yes
4. Does the area have known supplemental values? No

CONCLUSION: The area has wilderness characteristics.

Evaluator(s): Jeff Kowalczyk Date: August 2014

1.2.2.4 Stink Creek

Form 2. Current Conditions: Presence or absence of wilderness characteristics

Area Number/Name: AK-010-5, Stink Creek

BLM Inventory Acreage: 5,760

1) Is the area of sufficient size? Yes

Description: The area is more than 5,000 contiguous roadless acres of BLM-managed land. The unit is surrounded by Native-owned lands to the south and State-owned lands to the east, west, and north.

2) Does the area appear natural? Yes

Description: There are no roads or trails within the area. There are no federal mining claims and no Native allotments within the unit. Overall, this inventory area is highly natural in appearance and any work by humans is substantially unnoticeable.

3) Does the area have outstanding opportunities for solitude? Yes

Description: There are no year-round road connected communities in the region. There are no BLM-authorized activities occurring within the unit. There are no nearby airstrips or airports.

Due to the lack of roads and trails, the distance from any substantial human development, remoteness, limited land uses, and no temporary permitted activities, a visitor has an opportunity to avoid the sights, sounds, and evidence of other people in this area.

4) Does the area have outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation? Yes

Description: The overall size and remoteness of this unit provides users with outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation, including but not limited to the following activities: hunting, camping, and cross-country snowmobiling.

5) Does the area have known supplemental values (ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic or historical value)? No

RESULTS OF ANALYSIS

Area Number/Name: AK-010-5, Stink Creek

1. Does the area meet the size requirements? Yes
2. Does the area appear natural? Yes
3. Does the area offer outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation? Yes
4. Does the area have known supplemental values? No

CONCLUSION: The area has wilderness characteristics.

Evaluator(s): Jeff Kowalczyk Date: August 2014

1.2.2.5 Southwest Peregrine Falcon

Form 2. Current Conditions: Presence or absence of wilderness characteristics

Area Number/Name: AK-010-6, SW Peregrine Falcon

BLM Inventory Acreage: 8,152

1) Is the area of sufficient size? Yes

Description: The area is more than 5,000 contiguous roadless acres of BLM-managed land. The unit is surrounded by Native-owned lands.

2) Does the area appear natural? Yes

Description: There are no roads or trails within the area. There are no federal mining claims and one Native allotment within the unit. Two 17(b) public easements allow access to the unit through Native lands. Overall, this inventory area is highly natural in appearance and any work by humans is substantially unnoticeable.

3) Does the area have outstanding opportunities for solitude? Yes

Description: The City of Grayling is located 6.5 miles to the north and the City of Anvik is 5 miles to the south. The City of Anvik, located along the Anvik River, has a current population of approximately 80 people. The nearby Anvik River, west of the Yukon River, allows access during

the summer by barge and float plane. The city would like to develop additional dock and harbor facilities within Anvik. The State-owned gravel airstrip provides year-round access. Three miles of local roads are used by all-terrain vehicles, snow machines, and dog sled teams with the City of Anvik.

Due to the lack of roads and trails, the distance from any substantial human development, remoteness, limited land uses, and no temporary permitted activities, a visitor has an opportunity to avoid the sights, sounds, and evidence of other people in this area.

4) Does the area have outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation? Yes

Description: The overall size and remoteness of this unit provides users with outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation, including but not limited to the following activities: hunting, camping, wildlife viewing (peregrine falcons), and cross-country snowmobiling.

5) Does the area have known supplemental values (ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic or historical value)? Yes

Description: The Southwest Peregrine Falcon Habitat Area of Critical Environmental Concern is located with the unit.

RESULTS OF ANALYSIS

Area Number/Name: AK-010-6, SW Peregrine Falcon

1. Does the area meet the size requirements? Yes
2. Does the area appear natural? Yes
3. Does the area offer outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation? Yes
4. Does the area have known supplemental values? Yes

CONCLUSION: The area has wilderness characteristics.

Evaluator(s): Jeff Kowalczyk Date: August 2014

1.2.2.6 Goblet Creek

Form 2. Current Conditions: Presence or absence of wilderness characteristics

Area Number/Name: AK-010-7, Goblet Creek

BLM Inventory Acreage: 5,079

1) Is the area of sufficient size? Yes

Description: The area is more than 5,000 contiguous roadless acres of BLM-managed land. The unit is surrounded by Native-owned lands.

2) Does the area appear natural? Yes

Description: There are no roads or trails within the area. There are no federal mining claims or Native allotments within the unit. Two 17(b) public easements allow access to this unit through surrounding Native lands. The boundary of an established special national defense withdrawal, known as the PYK Line (Porcupine, Yukon and Kuskokwim Line), bisects this inventory block (Alaska Statehood Act). However, this boundary does not have any on-the-ground visible linear disturbance. Overall, this inventory area is highly natural in appearance and any work by humans is substantially unnoticeable.

3) Does the area have outstanding opportunities for solitude?

Description: The City of Anvik is located 4.3 miles to the south east of this unit. The Anvik River is located less than 2 miles to the south. Due to the lack of roads and trails within or near this inventory unit, limited land uses, and the lack of permitted activities, a visitor has an opportunity to avoid the sights, sounds, and evidence of other people in this area.

4) Does the area have outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation? Yes

Description: The overall size and remoteness of this unit provides users with outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation, including but not limited to the following activities: hunting, camping, and cross-country snowmobiling.

5) Does the area have known supplemental values (ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic or historical value)? No

RESULTS OF ANALYSIS

Area Number/Name: AK-010-7, Goblet Creek

1. Does the area meet the size requirements? Yes
2. Does the area appear natural? Yes
3. Does the area offer outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation? Yes
4. Does the area have known supplemental values? No

CONCLUSION: The area has wilderness characteristics.

Evaluator(s): Jeff Kowalczyk Date: August 2014

1.2.2.7 St. Michael

Form 2. Current Conditions: Presence or absence of wilderness characteristics

Area Number/Name: AK-010-50, St Michael

BLM Inventory Acreage: 1,920

1) Is the area of sufficient size? No

Description: The area is less than 5,000 contiguous acres of BLM-managed lands.

2) Does the area appear natural? Not Evaluated

- 3) Does the area have outstanding opportunities for solitude? Not Evaluated
- 4) Does the area have outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation? Not Evaluated
- 5) Does the area have known supplemental values (ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic or historical value)? Not Evaluated

RESULTS OF ANALYSIS

Area Number/Name: AK-010-50, St Michael

1. Does the area meet the size requirements? No
2. Does the area appear natural? N/A
3. Does the area offer outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation? N/A
4. Does the area have known supplemental values? N/A

CONCLUSION: The area does not have wilderness characteristics.

Evaluator(s): Jeff Kowalczyk Date: August 2014

1.2.2.8 Fox Point Island North

Form 2. Current Conditions: Presence or absence of wilderness characteristics

Area Number/Name: AK-010-51, Fox Point Island North

BLM Inventory Acreage: 1,920

- 1) Is the area of sufficient size? No

The area is less than 5,000 contiguous acres of BLM-managed lands.

- 2) Does the area appear natural? Not Evaluated
- 3) Does the area have outstanding opportunities for solitude? Not Evaluated
- 4) Does the area have outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation? Not Evaluated
- 5) Does the area have known supplemental values (ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic or historical value)? Not Evaluated

RESULTS OF ANALYSIS

Area Number/Name: AK-010-51, Fox Point Island North

1. Does the area meet the size requirements? No
2. Does the area appear natural? N/A
3. Does the area offer outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation? N/A

4. Does the area have known supplemental values? N/A

CONCLUSION: The area does not have wilderness characteristics.

Evaluator(s): Jeff Kowalczyk Date: August 2014

1.2.2.9 Anvik North

Form 2. Current Conditions: Presence or absence of wilderness characteristics

Area Number/Name: AK-010-52, Anvik North

BLM Inventory Acreage: 1,280

1) Is the area of sufficient size? No

Description: The area is less than 5,000 contiguous acres of BLM-managed lands.

2) Does the area appear natural? Not Evaluated

3) Does the area have outstanding opportunities for solitude? Not Evaluated

4) Does the area have outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation? Not Evaluated

5) Does the area have known supplemental values (ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic or historical value)? Not Evaluated

RESULTS OF ANALYSIS

Area Number/Name: AK-010-52, Anvik North

1. Does the area meet the size requirements? No

2. Does the area appear natural? N/A

3. Does the area offer outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation? N/A

4. Does the area have known supplemental values? N/A

CONCLUSION: The area does not have wilderness characteristics.

Evaluator(s): Jeff Kowalczyk Date: August 2014

1.2.2.10 Bonasila River

Form 2. Current Conditions: Presence or absence of wilderness characteristics

Area Number/Name: AK-010-53, Bonasila River

BLM Inventory Acreage: 1,280

1) Is the area of sufficient size? No

Description: The area is less than 5,000 contiguous acres of BLM-managed lands.

- 2) Does the area appear natural? Not Evaluated
- 3) Does the area have outstanding opportunities for solitude? Not Evaluated
- 4) Does the area have outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation? Not Evaluated
- 5) Does the area have known supplemental values (ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic or historical value)? Not Evaluated

RESULTS OF ANALYSIS

Area Number/Name: AK-010-53, Bonasila River

1. Does the area meet the size requirements? No
2. Does the area appear natural? N/A
3. Does the area offer outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation? N/A
4. Does the area have known supplemental values? N/A

CONCLUSION: The area does not have wilderness characteristics.

Evaluator(s): Jeff Kowalczyk Date: August 2014

1.2.2.11 Anvik Southeast

Form 2. Current Conditions: Presence or absence of wilderness characteristics

Area Number/Name: AK-010-54, Anvik Southeast

BLM Inventory Area acres: 3,840

- 1) Is the area of sufficient size? No

The area is less than 5,000 contiguous acres of BLM-managed lands.

- 2) Does the area appear natural? Not Evaluated
- 3) Does the area have outstanding opportunities for solitude? Not Evaluated
- 4) Does the area have outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation? Not Evaluated
- 5) Does the area have known supplemental values (ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic or historical value)? Not Evaluated

RESULTS OF ANALYSIS

Area Number/Name: AK-010-54, Anvik Southeast

1. Does the area meet the size requirements? No
2. Does the area appear natural? N/A

3. Does the area offer outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation? N/A
4. Does the area have known supplemental values? N/A

CONCLUSION: The area does not have wilderness characteristics.

Evaluator(s): Jeff Kowalczyk Date: August 2014

1.2.2.12 Whiskey Creek

Form 2. Current Conditions: Presence or absence of wilderness characteristics

Area Number/Name: AK-010-55, Whiskey Creek

BLM Inventory Area acres: 1,280

- 1) Is the area of sufficient size? No

The area is less than 5,000 contiguous acres of BLM-managed lands.

- 2) Does the area appear natural? Not Evaluated
- 3) Does the area have outstanding opportunities for solitude? Not Evaluated
- 4) Does the area have outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation? Not Evaluated
- 5) Does the area have known supplemental values (ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic or historical value)? Not Evaluated

RESULTS OF ANALYSIS

Area Number/Name: AK-010-55, Whiskey Creek

1. Does the area meet the size requirements? No
2. Does the area appear natural? N/A
3. Does the area offer outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation? N/A
4. Does the area have known supplemental values? N/A

CONCLUSION: The area does not have wilderness characteristics.

Evaluator(s): Jeff Kowalczyk Date: August 2014

1.2.2.13 Russian Mission Northwest

Form 2. Current Conditions: Presence or absence of wilderness characteristics

Area Number/Name: AK-010-56, Russian Mission Northwest

BLM Inventory Area acres: 1,280

- 1) Is the area of sufficient size? No

The area is less than 5,000 contiguous acres of BLM-managed lands.

- 2) Does the area appear natural? Not Evaluated
- 3) Does the area have outstanding opportunities for solitude? Not Evaluated
- 4) Does the area have outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation? Not Evaluated
- 5) Does the area have known supplemental values (ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic or historical value)? Not Evaluated

RESULTS OF ANALYSIS

Area Number/Name: AK-010-56, Russian Mission Northwest

1. Does the area meet the size requirements? No
2. Does the area appear natural? N/A
3. Does the area offer outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation? N/A
4. Does the area have known supplemental values? N/A

CONCLUSION: The area does not have wilderness characteristics.

Evaluator(s): Jeff Kowalczyk Date: August 2014

1.2.2.14 Bobs Creek

Form 2. Current Conditions: Presence or absence of wilderness characteristics

Area Number/Name: AK-010-57, Bobs Creek

BLM Inventory Area acres: 3,798

- 1) Is the area of sufficient size? No

The area is less than 5,000 contiguous acres of BLM-managed lands.

- 2) Does the area appear natural? Not Evaluated
- 3) Does the area have outstanding opportunities for solitude? Not Evaluated
- 4) Does the area have outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation? Not Evaluated
- 5) Does the area have known supplemental values (ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic or historical value)? Not Evaluated

RESULTS OF ANALYSIS

Area Number/Name: AK-010-57, Bobs Creek

1. Does the area meet the size requirements? No

2. Does the area appear natural? N/A
3. Does the area offer outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation? N/A
4. Does the area have known supplemental values? N/A

CONCLUSION: The area does not have wilderness characteristics.

Evaluator(s): Jeff Kowalczyk Date: August 2014

1.2.3 Yukon River Lowlands Subunit Inventory

The Yukon River Lowlands Subunit was divided into 14 units for inventory purposes. An inventory form was completed for each inventory unit and is included in the following pages.

Route analysis was not conducted since the unit contains no roads. This subunit is located within the Yukon River Lowlands Ecoregion.

The majority of lands within the Yukon River Lowlands Subunit were found to have wilderness characteristics. The map of the Yukon River Lowlands is part of the South Nulato Hills Lands With Wilderness Characteristics Inventory Area Map (Appendix, [Figure 3](#)). A summary of inventory findings for this subunit is presented in the table below.

Table 3. Yukon River Lowlands Subunit summary of inventory findings

| Unit Name | Unit Number | Ecoregion | Acres | Meets Size Criteria? | Is Natural? | Solitude or Primitive Recreation? | Conclusion |
|------------------------|-------------|-------------------|---------|----------------------|-------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Grayling Southeast | AK-010-8 | Yukon R. Lowlands | 3,840 | No | N/A | N/A | No wilderness characteristics |
| Cottonwood Slough | AK-010-9 | Yukon R. Lowlands | 13,393 | Yes | Yes | Yes | Has wilderness characteristics |
| Innoko Slough | AK-010-10 | Yukon R. Lowlands | 10,778 | Yes | Yes | Yes | Has wilderness characteristics |
| Shageluk Northwest | AK-010-11 | Yukon R. Lowlands | 12,695 | Yes | Yes | Yes | Has wilderness characteristics |
| Holy Cross Northeast | AK-010-12 | Yukon R. Lowlands | 11,495 | Yes | Yes | Yes | Has wilderness characteristics |
| Anvik East | AK-010-13 | Yukon R. Lowlands | 21,700 | Yes | Yes | Yes | Has wilderness characteristics |
| Grayling South | AK-010-14 | Yukon R. Lowlands | 1,220 | No | N/A | N/A | No wilderness characteristics |
| Holy Cross North | AK-010-15 | Yukon R. Lowlands | 117,975 | Yes | Yes | Yes | Has wilderness characteristics |
| Holy Cross Northwest 2 | AK-010-47 | Yukon R. Lowlands | 204 | Yes | Yes | Yes | Has wilderness characteristics |
| Honeymoon Slough | AK-010-49 | Yukon R. Lowlands | 45,801 | Yes | Yes | Yes | Has wilderness characteristics |
| Holy Cross Northwest 1 | AK-010-58 | Yukon R. Lowlands | 1,920 | No | N/A | N/A | No wilderness characteristics |

1.2.3.1 Grayling Southeast

Form 2. Current Conditions: Presence or absence of wilderness characteristics

Area Number/Name: AK-010-8, Grayling Southeast

BLM Inventory Acreage: 3,840

1) Is the area of sufficient size? No

Description: The area is less than 5,000 contiguous acres of BLM-managed lands.

2) Does the area appear natural? Not Evaluated

3) Does the area have outstanding opportunities for solitude? Not Evaluated

4) Does the area have outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation? Not Evaluated

5) Does the area have known supplemental values (ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic or historical value)? Not Evaluated

RESULTS OF ANALYSIS

Area Number/Name: AK-010-8, Grayling Southeast

1. Does the area meet the size requirements? No

2. Does the area appear natural? N/A

3. Does the area offer outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation? N/A

4. Does the area have known supplemental values? N/A

CONCLUSION: The area does not have wilderness characteristics.

Evaluator(s): Jeff Kowalczyk Date: August 2014

1.2.3.2 Cottonwood Slough

Form 2. Current Conditions: Presence or absence of wilderness characteristics

Area Number/Name: AK-010-9, Cottonwood Slough

BLM Inventory Acreage: 13,393

1) Is the area of sufficient size? Yes

Description: The area is more than 5,000 contiguous roadless acres of BLM-managed land. The unit is surrounded by Native-owned lands.

2) Does the area appear natural? Yes

Description: There are no roads and one winter trail within the area, which connects the communities of Holy Cross and Lower and Upper Kalskag. There are no federal mining claims

and two Native allotments within this unit. Overall, this inventory area is highly natural in appearance and any work by humans is substantially unnoticeable.

3) Does the area have outstanding opportunities for solitude? Yes

Description: The Yukon River bisects this inventory unit. The community of Holy Cross, with a population of approximately 167 people, is located approximately 9 miles up the Yukon River from this area. Holy Cross is a community that is dependent upon air and boat transportation. The State owns and operates a gravel airstrip. Groceries and small items are shipped in by airplane. Holy Cross is serviced by barge in the summer. Residents use boats for fishing, subsistence, and recreation. The 7.5 miles of local roads are used by 3-wheelers, motor bikes, snowmobiles, and dog teams. The Anvik River is located less than 2 miles to the south.

Due to the lack of roads and trails within or near this inventory unit, limited land uses, and the lack of permitted activities, a visitor has an opportunity to avoid the sights, sounds, and evidence of other people in this area.

4) Does the area have outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation? Yes

Description: The overall size and remoteness of this unit provides users with outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation, including but not limited to the following activities: hunting, camping, motor boating, river floating, dog sledding, cross-country skiing, and snowmobiling along the frozen Yukon River in the winter.

5) Does the area have known supplemental values (ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic or historical value)? No

RESULTS OF ANALYSIS

Area Number/Name: AK-010-9, Cottonwood Slough

1. Does the area meet the size requirements? Yes
2. Does the area appear natural? Yes
3. Does the area offer outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation? Yes
4. Does the area have known supplemental values? No

CONCLUSION: The area has wilderness characteristics.

Evaluator(s): Jeff Kowalczyk Date: August 2014

1.2.3.3 Innoko Slough

Form 2. Current Conditions: Presence or absence of wilderness characteristics

Area Number/Name: AK-010-10, Innoko Slough

BLM Inventory Acreage: 10,778

1) Is the area of sufficient size? Yes

Description: The area is more than 5,000 contiguous roadless acres of BLM-managed land. The unit is surrounded by Native- and State-owned lands.

2) Does the area appear natural? Yes

Description: There are no roads or trails within the unit. There are no federal mining claims and one Native allotment within this area. Overall, this inventory area is highly natural in appearance and any work by humans is substantially unnoticeable.

3) Does the area have outstanding opportunities for solitude? Yes

Description: The community of Holy Cross is located 9 miles northwest of this unit. Due to the lack of roads and trails within or near this inventory unit, limited land uses, and the lack of permitted activities, a visitor has an opportunity to avoid the sights, sounds, and evidence of other people in this area.

4) Does the area have outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation? Yes

Description: The overall size and remoteness of this unit provides users with outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation, including but not limited to the following activities: hunting, camping, and cross-country snowmobiling.

5) Does the area have known supplemental values (ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic or historical value)? No

RESULTS OF ANALYSIS

Area Number/Name: AK-010-10, Innoko Slough

1. Does the area meet the size requirements? Yes
2. Does the area appear natural? Yes
3. Does the area offer outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation? Yes
4. Does the area have known supplemental values? No

CONCLUSION: The area has wilderness characteristics.

Evaluator(s): Jeff Kowalczyk Date: August 2014

1.2.3.4 Shageluk Northwest

Form 2. Current Conditions: Presence or absence of wilderness characteristics

Area Number/Name: AK-010-11, Shageluk Northwest

BLM Inventory Acreage: 12,695

1) Is the area of sufficient size? Yes

Description: The area is more than 5,000 contiguous roadless acres of BLM-managed land. The unit is surrounded by Native- and State-owned lands.

2) Does the area appear natural? Yes.

Description: There are no roads or trails within the unit. There are no federal mining claims and three Native allotments within this area. Overall, this inventory area is highly natural in appearance and any work by humans is substantially unnoticeable.

3) Does the area have outstanding opportunities for solitude? Yes.

Description: The small community of Grayling is located 10.5 miles to the northwest. Due to the lack of roads and trails within or near this inventory unit, limited land uses, and the lack of permitted activities, a visitor has an opportunity to avoid the sights, sounds, and evidence of other people in this area.

4) Does the area have outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation? Yes.

Description: The overall size and remoteness of this unit provides users with outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation, including but not limited to the following activities: hunting and camping.

5) Does the area have known supplemental values (ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic or historical value)? No.

RESULTS OF ANALYSIS

Area Number/Name: AK-010-11, Shageluk Northwest

1. Does the area meet the size requirements? Yes
2. Does the area appear natural? Yes
3. Does the area offer outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation? Yes
4. Does the area have known supplemental values? No

CONCLUSION: The area has wilderness characteristics.

Evaluator(s): Jeff Kowalczyk Date: August 2014

1.2.3.5 Holy Cross Northeast

Form 2. Current Conditions: Presence or absence of wilderness characteristics

Area Number/Name: AK-010-12, Holy Cross Northeast

BLM Inventory Acreage: 11,495

1) Is the area of sufficient size? Yes

Description: The area is more than 5,000 contiguous roadless acres of BLM-managed land. The unit is surrounded by Native- and State-owned lands.

2) Does the area appear natural? Yes

Description: There are no roads and one winter trail leads to a Native allotment within the unit. There are no federal mining claims in the area. Overall, this inventory area is highly natural in appearance and any work by humans is substantially unnoticeable.

3) Does the area have outstanding opportunities for solitude? Yes

Description: The small community of Holy Cross is located 3.5 miles to the southeast, on the opposite side of the Yukon River. Due to the lack of roads and the single low-use winter trail within this inventory unit, limited land uses, and the lack of permitted activities, a visitor has an opportunity to avoid the sights, sounds, and evidence of other people in this area.

4) Does the area have outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation? Yes

Description: The overall size and remoteness of this unit provides users with outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation, including but not limited to the following activities: hunting, camping, and snowmobiling.

5) Does the area have known supplemental values (ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic or historical value)? No

RESULTS OF ANALYSIS

Area Number/Name: AK-010-12, Holy Cross Northeast

1. Does the area meet the size requirements? Yes
2. Does the area appear natural? Yes
3. Does the area offer outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation? Yes
4. Does the area have known supplemental values? No

CONCLUSION: The area has wilderness characteristics.

Evaluator(s): Jeff Kowalczyk Date: August 2014

1.2.3.6 Anvik East

Form 2. Current Conditions: Presence or absence of wilderness characteristics

Area Number/Name: AK-010-13, Anvik East

BLM Inventory Acreage: 21,700

1) Is the area of sufficient size? Yes

Description: The area is greater than 5,000 contiguous acres of BLM-managed lands. It is surrounded by Native-owned lands.

2) Does the area appear natural? Yes

Description: There are no roads and two Native allotments within this unit. The Iditarod National Historic Trail and the unmaintained Iditarod winter trail travel through the middle of this inventory area. There are no federal mining claims in the area. Overall, this inventory area is highly natural in appearance and any work by humans is substantially unnoticeable.

3) Does the area have outstanding opportunities for solitude?

Description: The small community of Anvik is located 5 miles to the west and the even smaller community of Shageluk, with an average population of 76 people, is 10 miles to the east. Access to Shageluk is by air or water. A State-owned gravel airstrip and a seaplane base are available. Locals use ATVs, snow machines, and dog sleds. Every other year, it is a checkpoint for the Iditarod sled dog race. In addition to the annual Iditarod sled dog race, with approximately 75 mushing teams, additional annually permitted organized group activities include the Irondog Snow Mobile Race, and the Iditarod Trail Invitational, which involves winter mountain biking and cross-country skiing.

Although the Iditarod Trail was developed to allow for winter transportation across the State of Alaska, the races negotiate the route for sport. These winter, *specialized recreation uses* individually and cumulatively involve substantial numbers of people and result in a concentrated modern-day incursion of recreational participants, spectators, support personnel and equipment, including motorized equipment, into remote, relatively pristine and ecologically sensitive areas of the Arctic and subarctic and boreal forests of BLM-managed lands. More importantly, the pre-existing winter trail is used by local communities to meet day-to-day living needs such as inter-village travel or subsistence harvesting.

Due to the lack of roads and the single winter-use trail within this inventory unit, limited land uses, and short-term permitted activities, a visitor has an opportunity to avoid the sights, sounds, and evidence of other people in this area.

4) Does the area have outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation? Yes

Description: The overall size and remoteness of this unit provides users with outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation, including but not limited to the following activities: snowmobiling, which is a necessity of life in the far north and the preferred mode of travel over this ancient winter travel route, hunting, dog sledding, winter mountain biking, cross-country skiing, and camping.

5) Does the area have known supplemental values (ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic or historical value)? Yes

Description: As reported above, the Iditarod National Historic Trails bisects this unit.

RESULTS OF ANALYSIS

Area Number/Name: AK-010-13, Anvik East

1. Does the area meet the size requirements? Yes
2. Does the area appear natural? Yes
3. Does the area offer outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation? Yes
4. Does the area have known supplemental values? Yes

CONCLUSION: The area has wilderness characteristics.

Evaluator(s): Jeff Kowalczyk Date: August 2014

1.2.3.7 Grayling South

Form 2. Current Conditions: Presence or absence of wilderness characteristics

Area Number/Name: AK-010-14, Grayling South

BLM Inventory Acreage: 1,220

1) Is the area of sufficient size? No

Description: The area is less than 5,000 contiguous acres of BLM-managed lands.

2) Does the area appear natural? Not Evaluated

3) Does the area have outstanding opportunities for solitude? Not Evaluated

4) Does the area have outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation? Not Evaluated

5) Does the area have known supplemental values (ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic or historical value)? Not Evaluated

RESULTS OF ANALYSIS

Area Number/Name: AK-010-14, Grayling South

1. Does the area meet the size requirements? No

2. Does the area appear natural? N/A

3. Does the area offer outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation? N/A

4. Does the area have known supplemental values? N/A

CONCLUSION: The area does not have wilderness characteristics.

Evaluator(s): Jeff Kowalczyk Date: August 2014

1.2.3.8 Holy Cross North

Form 2. Current Conditions: Presence or Absence of Wilderness Characteristics

Area Number/Name: AK-010-15, Holy Cross North

BLM Inventory Acreage: 117,975

1) Is the area of sufficient size? Yes

Description: The area is greater than 5,000 contiguous acres of BLM-managed lands. It is surrounded by Native-owned lands and partially on the west by the Yukon River.

2) Does the area appear natural? Yes

Description: There are no roads or established trails within this unit. There are no federal mining claims and 10 Native allotments in the inventory unit. Overall, this inventory area is highly natural in appearance and any work by humans is substantially unnoticeable.

3) Does the area have outstanding opportunities for solitude? Yes

Description: The small community of Anvik is located 11 miles to the northwest and the small community of Holy Cross is 7 miles to the south. Both communities have small gravel airstrips that are used infrequently. The adjacent Yukon River is a river travel route used in the summer by jet boats and during the winter by snowmobiles and dog sleds. Due to the lack of roads and no trails within this inventory unit, limited land uses, and a lack of permitted activities, a visitor has an opportunity to avoid the sights, sounds, and evidence of other people in this area.

4) Does the area have outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation? Yes

Description: The overall size and remoteness of this unit provides users with outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation, including but not limited to the following activities: cross-country snowmobiling, hunting, and camping, mainly along the banks of the Yukon River.

5) Does the area have known supplemental values (ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic or historical value)? No

RESULTS OF ANALYSIS

Area Number/Name: AK-010-15, Holy Cross North

1. Does the area meet the size requirements? Yes
2. Does the area appear natural? Yes
3. Does the area offer outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation? Yes
4. Does the area have known supplemental values? No

CONCLUSION: The area has wilderness characteristics.

Evaluator(s): Jeff Kowalczyk Date: August 2014

1.2.3.9 Holy Cross Northwest 2

Form 2. Current Conditions: Presence or absence of wilderness characteristics

Area Number/Name: AK-010-47, Holy Cross Northwest 2

BLM Inventory Acreage: 204

1) Is the area of sufficient size? No

Description: The area is less than 5,000 contiguous acres of BLM-managed lands.

2) Does the area appear natural? Not Evaluated

3) Does the area have outstanding opportunities for solitude? Not Evaluated

4) Does the area have outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation? Not Evaluated

5) Does the area have known supplemental values (ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic or historical value)? Not Evaluated

RESULTS OF ANALYSIS

Area Number/Name: AK-010-47, Holy Cross Northwest 2

1. Does the area meet the size requirements? No
2. Does the area appear natural? N/A
3. Does the area offer outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation? N/A
4. Does the area have known supplemental values? N/A

CONCLUSION: The area does not have wilderness characteristics.

Evaluator(s): Jeff Kowalczyk Date: August 2014

1.2.3.10 Honeymoon Slough

Form 2. Current Conditions: Presence or absence of wilderness characteristics

Area Number/Name: AK-010-49, Honeymoon Slough

BLM Inventory Acreage: 45,801

1) Is the area of sufficient size? Yes

Description: The area is greater than 5,000 contiguous acres of BLM-managed lands. It is bounded on the north, east, and south by the Innoko National Wildlife Refuge, and to the west by Native- and State-owned lands.

2) Does the area appear natural? Yes

Description: There are no roads or established trails within this unit. There are no federal mining claims and two Native allotments in the inventory unit. Overall, this inventory area is highly natural in appearance and any work by humans is substantially unnoticeable.

3) Does the area have outstanding opportunities for solitude? Yes

Description: Due to the lack of roads and trails within this inventory unit, limited land uses, and a lack of permitted activities, a visitor has an opportunity to avoid the sights, sounds, and evidence of other people in this area.

4) Does the area have outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation? Yes

Description: The overall size and remoteness of this unit provides users with outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation, including but not limited to the following activities: cross-country snowmobiling, hunting, and camping.

5) Does the area have known supplemental values (ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic or historical value)? No

RESULTS OF ANALYSIS**Area Number/Name:** AK-010-49, Honeymoon Slough

1. Does the area meet the size requirements? Yes
2. Does the area appear natural? Yes
3. Does the area offer outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation? Yes
4. Does the area have known supplemental values? No

CONCLUSION: The area has wilderness characteristics.

Evaluator(s): Jeff Kowalczyk Date: August 2014**1.2.3.11 Holy Cross Northwest 1****Form 2. Current Conditions:** Presence or absence of wilderness characteristics**Area Number/Name:** AK-010-58, Holy Cross Northwest 1**BLM Inventory Area acres:** 1,920

- 1) Is the area of sufficient size? No

The area is less than 5,000 contiguous acres of BLM-managed lands.

- 2) Does the area appear natural? Not Evaluated
- 3) Does the area have outstanding opportunities for solitude? Not Evaluated
- 4) Does the area have outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation? Not Evaluated
- 5) Does the area have known supplemental values (ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic or historical value)? Not Evaluated

RESULTS OF ANALYSIS**Area Number/Name:** AK-010-58, Holy Cross Northwest 1

1. Does the area meet the size requirements? No
2. Does the area appear natural? N/A
3. Does the area offer outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation? N/A
4. Does the area have known supplemental values? N/A

CONCLUSION: The area does not have wilderness characteristics.

Evaluator(s): Jeff Kowalczyk Date: August 2014

1.2.4 Kuskokwim Mountains Subunit Inventory

The entire Kuskokwim Mountains Subunit was divided into 16 units for inventory purposes. The subunit has contiguous BLM-managed lands, is very remote, and has no facilities or development.

Route Analysis was not conducted since the unit contains no roads. This subunit is located within the Yukon River Lowlands Ecoregion.

A worksheet was completed for each these inventory units and these are included in the following sections. The majority of lands in the Kuskokwim Mountains Subunit were found to have wilderness characteristics (Appendix, [Figure 4](#). Kuskokwim Mountains Wilderness Characteristics Inventory Area). A summary of inventory findings for this subunit is presented in the table below.

Table 4. Kuskokwim Mountains Subunit summary of inventory findings

| Unit Name | Unit Number | Ecoregion | Acres | Meets Size Criteria? | Is Natural? | Solitude or Primitive Recreation? | Conclusion |
|----------------------------|-------------|---------------------|-----------|----------------------|-------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Iditarod Southwest | AK-010-16 | Kuskokwim Mountains | 1,246,190 | Yes | Yes | Yes | Has wilderness characteristics |
| Sue Creek | AK-010-17 | Kuskokwim Mountains | 22,281 | Yes | Yes | Yes | Has wilderness characteristics |
| Chuathbaluk Southeast Area | AK-010-18 | Kuskokwim Mountains | 19,192 | Yes | Yes | Yes | Has wilderness characteristics |
| Napaimiut Northeast | AK-010-19 | Kuskokwim Mountains | 7,666 | Yes | Yes | Yes | Has wilderness characteristics |
| Shageluk Northeast | AK-010-20 | Kuskokwim Mountains | 17,249 | Yes | Yes | Yes | Has wilderness characteristics |
| Red Devil West | AK-010-21 | Kuskokwim Mountains | 214,255 | Yes | Yes | Yes | Has wilderness characteristics |
| Oskawalik West | AK-010-22 | Kuskokwim Mountains | 23,608 | Yes | Yes | Yes | Has wilderness characteristics |
| Big Walden Fork | AK-010-23 | Kuskokwim Mountains | 89,764 | Yes | Yes | Yes | Has wilderness characteristics |
| Crooked Creek Southwest | AK-010-24 | Kuskokwim Mountains | 5,045 | Yes | Yes | Yes | Has wilderness characteristics |
| Crooked Creek West | AK-010-25 | Kuskokwim Mountains | 14,057 | Yes | Yes | Yes | Has wilderness characteristics |
| East Fork George River | AK-010-26 | Kuskokwim Mountains | 939,451 | Yes | Yes | Yes | Has wilderness characteristics |
| Crow Village North | AK-010-39 | Kuskokwim Mountains | 280,402 | Yes | Yes | Yes | Has wilderness characteristics |
| Red Devil North | AK-010-48 | Kuskokwim Mountains | 46,014 | Yes | Yes | Yes | Has wilderness characteristics |
| Red Devil | AK-010-59 | Kuskokwim Mountains | 1,891 | No | N/A | N/A | No wilderness characteristics |
| Iditarod Northeast | AK-010-60 | Kuskokwim Mountains | 1,686 | No | N/A | N/A | No wilderness characteristics |
| Napaimiut Southeast | AK-010-80 | Kuskokwim Mountains | 604 | No | N/A | N/A | No wilderness characteristics |

1.2.4.1 Iditarod Southwest

Form 2. Current Conditions: Presence or absence of wilderness characteristics

Area Number/Name: AK-010-16, Iditarod Southwest

BLM Inventory Area acres: 1,246,190

1) Is the area of sufficient size? Yes

Description: This inventory area is considerably greater than 5,000 contiguous acres of BLM-managed lands. It is bounded by State-owned lands, Native-owned lands, and the Innoko National Wildlife Refuge.

2) Does the area appear natural? Yes

Description: There are no roads and six established winter trails, which include the Iditarod winter and race trail that travels from Iditarod to Shageluk. There are five high and three medium mineral potential areas and several State mining claims (Donlin Gold LLC) located within the unit. Eight Native allotments are scattered throughout the unit. Located near the Innoko River, there is one site easement and one 17(b) trail easement. Overall, this large inventory area is highly natural in appearance and any work by humans is substantially unnoticeable.

3) Does the area have outstanding opportunities for solitude? Yes

Description: The unit is surrounded by several small populated communities, which include: Shageluk (76 people), Holy Cross (167 people), Aniak (546 people), Chuathbaluk (127 people), and Crooked Creek (93 people). Due to the lack of roads within this unit, limited land uses, and a few permitted activities, a visitor has an opportunity to avoid the sights, sounds, and evidence of other people in this area.

4) Does the area have outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation? Yes

Description: The overall size and remoteness of this unit provides users with outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation, including but not limited to the following activities: snowmobiling, hunting, dog sledding, fishing, and camping.

5) Does the area have known supplemental values (ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic or historical value)? No

RESULTS OF ANALYSIS

Area Number/Name: AK-010-16, Iditarod Southwest

1. Does the area meet the size requirements? Yes
2. Does the area appear natural? Yes
3. Does the area offer outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation? Yes
4. Does the area have known supplemental values? No

CONCLUSION: The area has wilderness characteristics.

Evaluator(s): Jeff Kowalczyk Date: August 2014

1.2.4.2 Sue Creek

Form 2. Current Conditions: Presence or absence of wilderness characteristics

BLM Inventory Acreage: 22,281

Area Number/Name: AK-010-17, Sue Creek

1) Is the area of sufficient size? Yes

Description: This inventory area is greater than 5,000 contiguous acres of BLM-managed lands. It is bounded by State-owned lands to the east and Native-owned lands to the west.

2) Does the area appear natural? Yes

Description: There are no roads, trails, or Native allotments within this unit. Overall, this large inventory area is highly natural in appearance and any work by humans is substantially unnoticeable.

3) Does the area have outstanding opportunities for solitude? Yes

Description: The community of Napaimiut (population 2), is located 4 miles to the south. Napaimiut is easily accessible by riverboat on the Kuskokwim River. In the summer months, all passengers, cargo, and mail arrive in the village by boat. A cargo barge stops several times during the summer. Air charters by float planes or ski planes are available. The river is used as an ice road by snowmobiles during winter. The Native Village of Napaimiut owns a gravel runway. Due to the lack of roads within this unit, limited land uses, and lack of permitted activities, a visitor has an opportunity to avoid the sights, sounds, and evidence of other people in this area.

4) Does the area have outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation? Yes

Description: The overall size and remoteness of this unit provides users with outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation, including but not limited to the following activities: cross-country snowmobiling, hunting, fishing, and camping.

5) Does the area have known supplemental values (ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic or historical value)? No

RESULTS OF ANALYSIS

Area Number/Name: AK-010-17, Sue Creek

1. Does the area meet the size requirements? Yes
2. Does the area appear natural? Yes
3. Does the area offer outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation? Yes
4. Does the area have known supplemental values? No

CONCLUSION: The area has wilderness characteristics.

Evaluator(s): Jeff Kowalczyk Date: August 2014

1.2.4.3 Chuathbaluk Southeast Area

Form 2. Current Conditions: Presence or absence of wilderness characteristics

Area Number/Name: AK-010-18, Chuathbaluk Southwest Area

BLM Inventory Area acres: 19,192

1) Is the area of sufficient size? Yes

Description: This inventory area is greater than 5,000 contiguous acres of BLM-managed lands. It is bounded by State-owned lands to the south and Native-owned lands to the east, north, and west.

2) Does the area appear natural? Yes

Description: There are no roads, trails, or Native allotments within this unit. Overall, this inventory area is highly natural in appearance and any work by humans is substantially unnoticeable.

3) Does the area have outstanding opportunities for solitude? Yes

Description: The community of Napaimiut is located 3.5 miles to the southeast and the Yukon Delta National Wildlife Refuge is 6 miles to the west. Due to the lack of roads within this unit, limited land uses, and lack of permitted activities, a visitor has an opportunity to avoid the sights, sounds, and evidence of other people in this area.

4) Does the area have outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation? Yes

Description: The overall size and remoteness of this unit provides users with outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation, including but not limited to the following activities: cross-country snowmobiling, hunting, fishing, and camping.

5) Does the area have known supplemental values (ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic or historical value)? No

RESULTS OF ANALYSIS

Area Number/Name: AK-010-18, Chuathbaluk Southeast Area

1. Does the area meet the size requirements? Yes

2. Does the area appear natural? Yes

3. Does the area offer outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation? Yes

4. Does the area have known supplemental values? No

CONCLUSION: The area has wilderness characteristics.

Evaluator(s): Jeff Kowalczyk Date: August 2014

1.2.4.4 Napaimiut Northeast

Form 2. Current Conditions: Presence or absence of wilderness characteristics

Area Number/Name: AK-010-19, Napaimiut Northeast

BLM Inventory Area acres: 7,666

1) Is the area of sufficient size? Yes

Description: This inventory area is greater than 5,000 contiguous acres of BLM-managed lands. It is bounded by State-owned lands to the east, south, and west, and Native-owned lands to the north.

2) Does the area appear natural? Yes

Description: There are no roads, trails, or Native allotments within this unit. Overall, this large inventory area is highly natural in appearance and any work by humans is substantially unnoticeable.

3) Does the area have outstanding opportunities for solitude? Yes

Description: The community of Napaimiut is located down river from this inventory area. The river is used as an ice road by snowmobiles during winter. One corner of this unit meets the Kuskokwim River. Due to the lack of roads within this unit, limited land uses, and lack of permitted activities, a visitor has an opportunity to avoid the sights, sounds, and evidence of other people in this area.

4) Does the area have outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation? Yes

Description: The overall size and remoteness of this unit provides users with outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation, including but not limited to the following activities: cross-country snowmobiling, hunting, fishing, and camping.

5) Does the area have known supplemental values (ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic or historical value)? No

RESULTS OF ANALYSIS

Area Number/Name: AK-010-19, Napaimiut Northeast

1. Does the area meet the size requirements? Yes
2. Does the area appear natural? Yes
3. Does the area offer outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation? Yes
4. Does the area have known supplemental values? No

CONCLUSION: The area has wilderness characteristics.

Evaluator(s): Jeff Kowalczyk Date: August 2014

1.2.4.5 Shageluk Northeast

Form 2. Current Conditions: Presence or absence of wilderness characteristics

Area Number/Name: AK-010-20, Shageluk Northeast

BLM Inventory Area acres: 17,249

1) Is the area of sufficient size? Yes

Description: This inventory area is greater than 5,000 contiguous acres of BLM-managed lands. It is surrounded by Native-owned lands, with one corner touching the Innoko National Wildlife Refuge and Wilderness Area.

2) Does the area appear natural? Yes

Description: There are no roads, one Native allotment, and two 17(b) public easements within the unit. Overall, this large inventory area is highly natural in appearance and any work by humans is substantially unnoticeable.

3) Does the area have outstanding opportunities for solitude? Yes

Description: The community of Shageluk is located 4.5 miles to the southwest. Due to the lack of roads within this unit, limited land uses, and lack of permitted activities, a visitor has an opportunity to avoid the sights, sounds, and evidence of other people in this area.

4) Does the area have outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation? Yes

Description: The overall size and remoteness of this unit provides users with outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation, including but not limited to the following activities: cross-country snowmobiling, hunting, fishing, and camping.

5) Does the area have known supplemental values (ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic or historical value)? No

RESULTS OF ANALYSIS

Area Number/Name: AK-010-20, Shageluk Northeast

1. Does the area meet the size requirements? Yes
2. Does the area appear natural? Yes
3. Does the area offer outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation? Yes
4. Does the area have known supplemental values? No

CONCLUSION: The area has wilderness characteristics.

Evaluator(s): Jeff Kowalczyk Date: August 2014

1.2.4.6 Red Devil West

Form 2. Current Conditions: Presence or absence of wilderness characteristics

Area Number/Name: AK-010-21, Red Devil West

BLM Inventory Area acres: 214,255

1) Is the area of sufficient size? Yes

Description: This inventory area is considerably greater than 5,000 contiguous acres of BLM-managed lands. It is surrounded to the west by Native and State-owned lands, to the north by Native-owned lands, and to the south by State-owned lands.

2) Does the area appear natural? Yes

Description: The unit contains no roads or trails and three Native allotments. Overall, this large inventory area is highly natural in appearance and any work by humans is substantially unnoticeable.

3) Does the area have outstanding opportunities for solitude? Yes

Description: The community of Sleetmute (population 103) is located 4 miles to the east and the community of Crooked Creek is located 4 miles to the northwest. The Kuskokwim River, located directly to north of the inventory area, provides barges and boat transportation in the summer to both communities. Snowmobiles are used on the frozen river in the winter. The gravel airstrip in Sleetmute is owned and maintained by the State. Scheduled weekday service is provided. Due to the lack of roads and trails within this unit, limited land uses, and lack of permitted activities, a visitor has an opportunity to avoid the sights, sounds, and evidence of other people in this area.

4) Does the area have outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation? Yes

Description: The overall size and remoteness of this unit provides users with outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation, including but not limited to the following activities: cross-country snowmobiling, hunting, fishing, and camping.

5) Does the area have known supplemental values (ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic or historical value)? No

RESULTS OF ANALYSIS

Area Number/Name: AK-010-21, Red Devil West

1. Does the area meet the size requirements? Yes
2. Does the area appear natural? Yes
3. Does the area offer outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation? Yes
4. Does the area have known supplemental values? No

CONCLUSION: The area has wilderness characteristics.

Evaluator(s): Jeff Kowalczyk Date: August 2014

1.2.4.7 Oskawalik West

Form 2. Current Conditions: Presence or absence of wilderness characteristics

Area Number/Name: AK-010-22, Oskawalik West

BLM Inventory Area acres: 23,608

1) Is the area of sufficient size? Yes

Description: The area is greater than 5,000 contiguous acres of BLM-managed lands. It is surrounded by State- and Native-owned lands.

2) Does the area appear natural? Yes

Description: The unit contains no roads, trails, or Native allotments. Overall, this inventory area is highly natural in appearance and any work by humans is substantially unnoticeable.

3) Does the area have outstanding opportunities for solitude? Yes

Description: The very small community of Napaimiut is located 10.5 miles to the southwest. The Kuskokwim River is within ½ mile of this unit. Due to the lack of roads and trails within this unit, limited land uses, and lack of permitted activities, a visitor has an opportunity to avoid the sights, sounds, and evidence of other people in this area.

4) Does the area have outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation? Yes

Description: The overall size and remoteness of this unit provides users with outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation, including but not limited to the following activities: cross-country snowmobiling, hunting, fishing, and camping.

5) Does the area have known supplemental values (ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic or historical value)? No

RESULTS OF ANALYSIS

Area Number/Name: AK-010-22, Oskawalik West

1. Does the area meet the size requirements? Yes
2. Does the area appear natural? Yes
3. Does the area offer outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation? Yes
4. Does the area have known supplemental values? No

CONCLUSION: The area has wilderness characteristics.

Evaluator(s): Jeff Kowalczyk Date: August 2014

1.2.4.9 Big Walden Fork

Form 2. Current Conditions: Presence or absence of wilderness characteristics

Area Number/Name: AK-010-23, Big Walden Fork

BLM Inventory Area acres: 89,764

1) Is the area of sufficient size? Yes

Description: The area is greater than 5,000 contiguous acres of BLM-managed lands. It is surrounded by State-owned lands.

2) Does the area appear natural? Yes

Description: The unit contains no roads, trails, or Native allotments. The unit possesses moderate to high mineral potential, and has several State mining claims. Overall, this inventory area is highly natural in appearance and any work by humans is substantially unnoticeable.

3) Does the area have outstanding opportunities for solitude? Yes

Description: Due to the lack of roads and trails within this unit, limited land uses, and limited permitted activities, a visitor has an opportunity to avoid the sights, sounds, and evidence of other people in this area.

4) Does the area have outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation? Yes

Description: The overall size and remoteness of this unit provides users with outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation, including but not limited to the following activities: hunting and camping.

5) Does the area have known supplemental values (ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic or historical value)? No

RESULTS OF ANALYSIS

Area Number/Name: AK-010-23, Big Walden Fork

1. Does the area meet the size requirements? Yes
2. Does the area appear natural? Yes
3. Does the area offer outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation? Yes
4. Does the area have known supplemental values? No

CONCLUSION: The area has wilderness characteristics.

Evaluator(s): Jeff Kowalczyk Date: August 2014

1.2.4.11 Crooked Creek Southwest

Form 2. Current Conditions: Presence or absence of wilderness characteristics area

Number/Name: AK-010-24, Crooked Creek Southwest

BLM Inventory Area acres: 5,045

1) Is the area of sufficient size? Yes

Description: The area is greater than 5,000 contiguous acres of BLM-managed lands. It is surrounded by Native- and State-owned lands.

2) Does the area appear natural? Yes

Description: The unit contains no roads, no trails, and one Native allotment. Overall, this inventory area is highly natural in appearance and any work by humans is substantially unnoticeable.

3) Does the area have outstanding opportunities for solitude? Yes

Description: The small community of Crooked Creek (population 93) is located 2 miles to the southeast. Due to the lack of roads and trails within this unit, limited land uses, and lack of permitted activities, a visitor has an opportunity to avoid the sights, sounds, and evidence of other people in this area.

4) Does the area have outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation? Yes

Description: The overall size and remoteness of this unit provides users with outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation, including but not limited to the following activities: hunting, camping, fishing, and cross-country snowmobiling.

5) Does the area have known supplemental values (ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic or historical value)? No

RESULTS OF ANALYSIS

Area Number/Name: AK-010-24, Crooked Creek Southwest

1. Does the area meet the size requirements? Yes
2. Does the area appear natural? Yes
3. Does the area offer outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation? Yes
4. Does the area have known supplemental values? No

CONCLUSION: The area has wilderness characteristics.

Evaluator(s): Jeff Kowalczyk Date: August 2014

1.2.4.13 Crooked Creek West

Form 2. Current Conditions: Presence or absence of wilderness characteristics

Area Number/Name: AK-010-25, Crooked Creek West

BLM Inventory Area acres: 14,057

1) Is the area of sufficient size? Yes

Description: The area is greater than 5,000 contiguous acres of BLM-managed lands. It is surrounded by Native and State-owned lands.

2) Does the area appear natural? Yes

Description: The unit contains no roads, trails, or Native allotments. Overall, this inventory area is highly natural in appearance and any work by humans is substantially unnoticeable.

3) Does the area have outstanding opportunities for solitude? Yes

Description: The small community of Crooked Creek (population 93) is located 2.5 miles to the southeast of this inventory unit. Due to the lack of roads and trails, limited land uses, and lack of permitted activities, a visitor has an opportunity to avoid the sights, sounds, and evidence of other people in this area.

4) Does the area have outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation? Yes

Description: The overall size and remoteness of this unit provides users with outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation, including but not limited to the following activities: hunting, camping, and cross-country snowmobiling.

5) Does the area have known supplemental values (ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic or historical value)? No

RESULTS OF ANALYSIS

Area Number/Name: AK-010-25, Crooked Creek West

1. Does the area meet the size requirements? Yes
2. Does the area appear natural? Yes
3. Does the area offer outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation? Yes
4. Does the area have known supplemental values? No

CONCLUSION: The area has wilderness characteristics.

Evaluator(s): Jeff Kowalczyk Date: August 2014

1.2.4.15 East Fork George River

Form 2. Current Conditions: Presence or absence of wilderness characteristics

Area Number/Name: AK-010-26, East Fork George River

BLM Inventory Area acres: 939,451

1) Is the area of sufficient size? Yes

Description: The area is considerably greater than 5,000 contiguous acres of BLM-managed lands. It is surrounded by Native and State-owned lands.

2) Does the area appear natural? Yes

Description: The unit contains three Native allotments, no roads, five winter trails, and one tractor trail. The inventory area also contains six high mineral potential areas, eight moderate mineral potential areas, and several State mining claims. Overall, this inventory area is highly natural in appearance and any work by humans is substantially unnoticeable.

3) Does the area have outstanding opportunities for solitude? Yes

Description: The unit is surrounded by the small communities of Crooked Creek (population 93), Red Devil (population 18), Sleetmute (population 103), and Stony River (population 40). Due to the lack of roads, low use winter trails, limited land uses, and few permitted activities, a visitor has an opportunity to avoid the sights, sounds, and evidence of other people in this area.

4) Does the area have outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation? Yes

Description: The overall size and remoteness of this unit provides users with outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation, including but not limited to the following activities: snowmobiling, dog sledding, hunting, and camping.

5) Does the area have known supplemental values (ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic or historical value)? No

RESULTS OF ANALYSIS

Area Number/Name: AK-010-26, East Fork George River

1. Does the area meet the size requirements? Yes

2. Does the area appear natural? Yes

3. Does the area offer outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation? Yes

4. Does the area have known supplemental values? No

CONCLUSION: The area has wilderness characteristics.

Evaluator(s): Jeff Kowalczyk Date: August 2014

1.2.4.17 Crow Village North

Form 2. Current Conditions: Presence or absence of wilderness characteristics

Area Number/Name: AK-010-39, Crow Village North

BLM Inventory Area acres: 214,255

1) Is the area of sufficient size? Yes

Description: The area is considerably greater than 5,000 contiguous acres of BLM-managed lands. It is surrounded by Native-owned lands to the north and south, the Yukon Delta National Wildlife Refuge to the west, and State-owned lands to the east.

2) Does the area appear natural? Yes

Description: The unit contains three Native allotments, no roads, one private inholding, and no trails. Overall, this inventory area is highly natural in appearance and any work by humans is substantially unnoticeable.

3) Does the area have outstanding opportunities for solitude? Yes

Description: The small communities of Lower Kalskag (population 302) and Upper Kalskag (population 222) are located 11 miles to the southwest, Aniak (population 546) 3 miles to the south (across from the Kuskokwim River), and Chuathbaluk (population 127) 8 miles to the southeast. A state-maintained 4.2-mile gravel road connects Upper and Lower Kalskag. The Kuskokwim River affords easy access by skiff in summer and snowmobile in winter. Barges deliver cargo and bulk fuel during the summer. The State-owned gravel airstrip is shared by Kalskag and Lower Kalskag. Daily scheduled air services deliver passengers, mail, and other cargo year-round. Winter trails exist to Russian Mission (25 miles) and Aniak (15 miles). Due to the lack of roads and trails within this inventory area, limited land uses, and permitted activities, a visitor has an opportunity to avoid the sights, sounds, and evidence of other people in this area.

4) Does the area have outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation? Yes

Description: The overall size and remoteness of this unit provides users with outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation, including but not limited to the following activities: cross-country snowmobiling, hunting, and camping.

5) Does the area have known supplemental values (ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic or historical value)? No

RESULTS OF ANALYSIS

Area Number/Name: AK-010-39, Crow Village North

1. Does the area meet the size requirements? Yes
2. Does the area appear natural? Yes
3. Does the area offer outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation? Yes
4. Does the area have known supplemental values? No

CONCLUSION: The area has wilderness characteristics.

Evaluator(s): Jeff Kowalczyk Date: August 2014

1.2.4.18 Red Devil North

Form 2. Current Conditions: Presence or absence of wilderness characteristics

Area Number/Name: AK-010-48, Red Devil North

BLM Inventory Area acres: 46,014

1) Is the area of sufficient size? Yes

Description: The area is greater than 5,000 contiguous acres of BLM-managed lands. It is surrounded by Native-owned lands.

2) Does the area appear natural? Yes

Description: This unit contains one Native allotment, no roads, and one winter/tractor trail. There is one area of moderate mineral potential within the inventory area. Overall, this inventory area is highly natural in appearance and any work by humans is substantially unnoticeable.

3) Does the area have outstanding opportunities for solitude? Yes

Description: The small community of Red Devil (population 18) is located 7 miles to the south. Due to the lack of roads and minimal trails within this inventory area, limited land uses, and permitted activities, a visitor has an opportunity to avoid the sights, sounds, and evidence of other people in this area.

4) Does the area have outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation? Yes

Description: The overall size and remoteness of this unit provides users with outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation, including but not limited to the following activities: cross-country snowmobiling, hunting, and camping.

5) Does the area have known supplemental values (ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic or historical value)? No

RESULTS OF ANALYSIS

Area Number/Name: AK-010-48, Red Devil North

1. Does the area meet the size requirements? Yes
2. Does the area appear natural? Yes
3. Does the area offer outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation? Yes
4. Does the area have known supplemental values? No

CONCLUSION: The area has wilderness characteristics.

Evaluator(s): Jeff Kowalczyk Date: August 2014

1.2.4.20 Red Devil

Form 2. Current Conditions: Presence or absence of wilderness characteristics

Area Number/Name: AK-010-59, Red Devil

BLM Inventory Area acres: 1,891

1) Is the area of sufficient size? No

The area is less than 5,000 contiguous acres of BLM-managed lands.

2) Does the area appear natural? Not Evaluated

3) Does the area have outstanding opportunities for solitude? Not Evaluated

4) Does the area have outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation? Not Evaluated

5) Does the area have known supplemental values (ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic or historical value)? Not Evaluated

RESULTS OF ANALYSIS

Area Number/Name: AK-010-59, Red Devil

1. Does the area meet the size requirements? No

2. Does the area appear natural? N/A

3. Does the area offer outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation? N/A

4. Does the area have known supplemental values? N/A

CONCLUSION: The area does not have wilderness characteristics.

Evaluator(s): Jeff Kowalczyk Date: August 2014

1.2.4.21 Iditarod Northeast

Form 2. Current Conditions: Presence or absence of wilderness characteristics

Area Number/Name: AK-010-60, Iditarod Northeast

BLM Inventory Area acres: 1,686

1) Is the area of sufficient size? No

The area is less than 5,000 contiguous acres of BLM-managed lands.

2) Does the area appear natural? Not Evaluated

3) Does the area have outstanding opportunities for solitude? Not Evaluated

4) Does the area have outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation? Not Evaluated

- 5) Does the area have known supplemental values (ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic or historical value)? Not Evaluated

RESULTS OF ANALYSIS

Area Number/Name: AK-010-60, Iditarod Northeast

1. Does the area meet the size requirements? No
2. Does the area appear natural? N/A
3. Does the area offer outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation? N/A
4. Does the area have known supplemental values? N/A

CONCLUSION: The area does not have wilderness characteristics.

Evaluator(s): Jeff Kowalczyk Date: August 2014

1.2.4.22 Napaimiut Southeast

Form 2. Current Conditions: Presence or absence of wilderness characteristics

Area Number/Name: AK-010-80, Napaimiut Southeast

BLM Inventory Area acres: 604

- 1) Is the area of sufficient size? No

The area is less than 5,000 contiguous acres of BLM-managed lands.

- 2) Does the area appear natural? Not Evaluated
- 3) Does the area have outstanding opportunities for solitude? Not Evaluated
- 4) Does the area have outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation? Not Evaluated
- 5) Does the area have known supplemental values (ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic or historical value)? Not Evaluated

RESULTS OF ANALYSIS

Area Number/Name: AK-010-80, Napaimiut Southeast

1. Does the area meet the size requirements? No
2. Does the area appear natural? N/A
3. Does the area offer outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation? N/A
4. Does the area have known supplemental values? N/A

CONCLUSION: The area does not have wilderness characteristics.

Evaluator(s): Jeff Kowalczyk Date: August 2014

1.2.5 Tanana-Kuskokwim Lowlands Subunit Inventory

The Tanana-Kuskokwim Lowlands Subunit was divided into 31 units for inventory purposes. The subunit has contiguous BLM-managed lands, is very remote, and has no facilities or development.

Route analysis was not conducted since the unit contains no roads. This subunit is located within the Tanana-Kuskokwim Lowlands Ecoregion.

The majority of the lands in the Tanana-Kuskokwim Lowlands Subunit Inventory area were found to have wilderness characteristics (Appendix, [Figure 5](#). Tanana-Kuskokwim Lowlands Wilderness Characteristics Inventory Area (including Lime Hills Inventory Area)). A summary of inventory findings for this subunit is presented in the table below.

Table 5. Tanana-Kuskokwim Lowlands subunit summary of inventory findings

| Unit Name | Unit Number | Ecoregion | Acres | Meets Size Criteria? | Is Natural? | Solitude or Primitive Recreation? | Conclusion |
|----------------------------|-------------|---------------------------|-----------|----------------------|-------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Big River | AK-010-27 | Tanana-Kuskokwim Lowlands | 1,248,220 | Yes | Yes | Yes | Has wilderness characteristics |
| Takotna East | AK-010-28 | Tanana-Kuskokwim Lowlands | 7,305 | Yes | Yes | Yes | Has wilderness characteristics |
| Beaver Creek | AK-010-29 | Tanana-Kuskokwim Lowlands | 32,508 | Yes | Yes | Yes | Has wilderness characteristics |
| Katlitna River East | AK-010-30 | Tanana-Kuskokwim Lowlands | 7,610 | Yes | Yes | Yes | Has wilderness characteristics |
| Stony River Southeast | AK-010-31 | Tanana-Kuskokwim Lowlands | 8,903 | Yes | Yes | Yes | Has wilderness characteristics |
| Tatlawiksuk River South | AK-010-32 | Tanana-Kuskokwim Lowlands | 7,040 | Yes | Yes | Yes | Has wilderness characteristics |
| Sethkokna River | AK-010-33 | Tanana-Kuskokwim Lowlands | 11,499 | Yes | Yes | Yes | Has wilderness characteristics |
| North Fork Kuskokwim River | AK-010-34 | Tanana-Kuskokwim Lowlands | 53,006 | Yes | Yes | Yes | Has wilderness characteristics |
| Hardscrabble Creek | AK-010-35 | Tanana-Kuskokwim Lowlands | 11,531 | Yes | Yes | Yes | Has wilderness characteristics |
| Nixon Fork | AK-010-36 | Tanana-Kuskokwim Lowlands | 23,005 | Yes | Yes | Yes | Has wilderness characteristics |
| Tonsona River | AK-010-37 | Tanana-Kuskokwim Lowlands | 200,259 | Yes | Yes | Yes | Has wilderness characteristics |

| Unit Name | Unit Number | Ecoregion | Acres | Meets Size Criteria? | Is Natural? | Solitude or Primitive Recreation? | Conclusion |
|----------------------|-------------|---------------------------|--------|----------------------|-------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Highpower Creek | AK-010-38 | Tanana-Kuskokwim Lowlands | 12,809 | Yes | Yes | Yes | Has wilderness characteristics |
| Sleetmute South | AK-010-61 | Tanana-Kuskokwim Lowlands | 1,268 | No | N/A | N/A | No wilderness characteristics |
| Stony River | AK-010-62 | Tanana-Kuskokwim Lowlands | 612 | No | N/A | N/A | No wilderness characteristics |
| Tatlawiksuk River | AK-010-63 | Tanana-Kuskokwim Lowlands | 4,480 | No | N/A | N/A | No wilderness characteristics |
| McGrath Southeast | AK-010-64 | Tanana-Kuskokwim Lowlands | 1,240 | No | N/A | N/A | No wilderness characteristics |
| Takotna Southeast | AK-010-65 | Tanana-Kuskokwim Lowlands | 1,920 | No | N/A | N/A | No wilderness characteristics |
| Little Selatna River | AK-010-66 | Tanana-Kuskokwim Lowlands | 3,840 | No | N/A | N/A | No wilderness characteristics |
| Black River | AK-010-67 | Tanana-Kuskokwim Lowlands | 1,280 | No | N/A | N/A | No wilderness characteristics |
| Rohn | AK-010-68 | Tanana-Kuskokwim Lowlands | 370 | No | N/A | N/A | No wilderness characteristics |
| Sheep Creek | AK-010-69 | Tanana-Kuskokwim Lowlands | 1,280 | No | N/A | N/A | No wilderness characteristics |
| Tin Creek | AK-010-70 | Tanana-Kuskokwim Lowlands | 599 | No | N/A | N/A | No wilderness characteristics |
| Telida East | AK-010-71 | Tanana-Kuskokwim Lowlands | 3,200 | No | N/A | N/A | No wilderness characteristics |
| Telida North | AK-010-72 | Tanana-Kuskokwim Lowlands | 640 | No | N/A | N/A | No wilderness characteristics |
| Telida Northwest | AK-010-73 | Tanana-Kuskokwim Lowlands | 2,560 | No | N/A | N/A | No wilderness characteristics |
| Spruce Lake | AK-010-74 | Tanana-Kuskokwim Lowlands | 640 | No | N/A | N/A | No wilderness characteristics |
| Medfra | AK-010-75 | Tanana-Kuskokwim Lowlands | 4,480 | No | N/A | N/A | No wilderness characteristics |
| Nicolai North | AK-010-76 | Tanana-Kuskokwim Lowlands | 2,560 | No | N/A | N/A | No wilderness characteristics |

| Unit Name | Unit Number | Ecoregion | Acres | Meets Size Criteria? | Is Natural? | Solitude or Primitive Recreation? | Conclusion |
|---------------------------|-------------|---------------------------|-------|----------------------|-------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Lake Minchumina Northeast | AK-010-77 | Tanana-Kuskokwim Lowlands | 3,808 | No | N/A | N/A | No wilderness characteristics |
| Lake Minchumina | AK-010-78 | Tanana-Kuskokwim Lowlands | 223 | No | N/A | N/A | No wilderness characteristics |
| Lake Minchumina Southeast | AK-010-79 | Tanana-Kuskokwim Lowlands | 3,834 | No | N/A | N/A | No wilderness characteristics |

1.2.5.1 Big River

Form 2. Current Conditions: Presence or absence of wilderness characteristics

Area Number/Name: AK-010-27, Big River

BLM Inventory Acreage: 1,248,220

1) Is the area of sufficient size? Yes

Description: The area is considerably greater than 5,000 contiguous acres of BLM-managed lands. It is surrounded by Native- and State-owned lands.

2) Does the area appear natural? Yes

Description: This unit contains seven Native allotments, no roads, and several winter trails located within the northeast section of the inventory area, consisting of the Iditarod National Historic Trail, the Iditarod winter/race route, and the Farewell Lake-Big River Roadhouse Trail. The unit also contains one small moderate mineral potential area, one FLPMA right-of-way for a communication site, and one commercial lease site on the Kuchaynik River in support of a commercial hunting guide-outfitter operation. Overall, this inventory area is highly natural in appearance and any work by humans is substantially unnoticeable.

3) Does the area have outstanding opportunities for solitude? Yes

Description: The community of Nikolai (population 108) is located 7 miles to the north. Due to the lack of roads and seasonal winter trails within this inventory area, limited land uses, and permitted activities, a visitor has an opportunity to avoid the sights, sounds, and evidence of other people in this area.

4) Does the area have outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation? Yes

Description: The overall size and remoteness of this unit provides users with outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation, including but not limited to the following activities: snowmobiling, hunting, and camping.

5) Does the area have supplemental values (ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic or historical value)? Yes

Description: As mentioned above, the Iditarod National Historic Trail travels through the northeast section of this inventory unit.

RESULTS OF ANALYSIS

Area Number/Name: AK-010-27, Big River

1. Does the area meet the size requirements? Yes
2. Does the area appear natural? Yes
3. Does the area offer outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation? Yes
4. Does the area have known supplemental values? Yes

CONCLUSION: The area has wilderness characteristics.

Evaluator(s): Jeff Kowalczyk Date: August 2014

1.2.5.2 Takotna East

The inventory unit described in the following section was found to possess wilderness characteristics.

Form 2. Current Conditions: Presence or absence of wilderness characteristics

Area Number/Name: AK-010-28, Takotna East

BLM Inventory Acreage: 7,305

- 1) Is the area of sufficient size? Yes

Description: The area is greater than 5,000 contiguous acres of BLM-managed lands. It is surrounded by Native- and State-owned lands.

- 2) Does the area appear natural? Yes

Description: This unit contains one Native allotments, no roads, and several winter trails located within this inventory area, which consists of the Iditarod National Historic Trail, the Iditarod winter/race route, and winter trails. Overall, this inventory area is highly natural in appearance and any work by humans is substantially unnoticeable.

- 3) Does the area have outstanding opportunities for solitude? Yes

Description: The community of Takotna (population 56) is located 2 miles to the west. Access to Takotna is by air or water. There is a State-owned gravel airstrip and a gravel runway at Tatalina Air Force Station 10 miles southeast of town. Cargo is offloaded at Sterling Landing, 24 miles southeast of Takotna. The community has 80 miles of local roads that connect with Tatalina Air Force Station, Sterling Landing, and existing mines. A winter trail is marked to McGrath (20 miles). It is a checkpoint for the Iditarod Trail Sled Dog Race. Due to the lack of roads, limited land uses, and permitted activities, a visitor has an opportunity to avoid the sights, sounds, and evidence of other people in this area.

- 4) Does the area have outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation? Yes

Description: The overall size and remoteness of this unit provides users with outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation, including but not limited to the following activities: snowmobiling, hunting, and camping.

5) Does the area have supplemental values (ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic or historical value)? No

RESULTS OF ANALYSIS

Area Number/Name: AK-010-28, Takotna East

1. Does the area meet the size requirements? Yes
2. Does the area appear natural? Yes
3. Does the area offer outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation? Yes
4. Does the area have known supplemental values? No

CONCLUSION: The area has wilderness characteristics.

Evaluator(s): Jeff Kowalczyk Date: August 2014

1.2.5.3 Beaver Creek

Form 2. Current Conditions: Presence or absence of wilderness characteristics

Area Number/Name: AK-010-29, Beaver Creek

BLM Inventory Acreage: 32,508

1) Is the area of sufficient size? Yes

Description: The unit includes more than 5,000 acres of contiguous BLM-managed lands. This unit borders Native-owned lands and the Kuskokwim River to the east and north, and State-owned lands to the west and south.

2) Does the area appear natural? Yes

Description: This unit contains no Native allotments, no roads, and no trails. Overall, this inventory area is highly natural in appearance and any work by humans is substantially unnoticeable.

3) Does the area have outstanding opportunities for solitude? Yes

Description: There are no communities in the immediate vicinity of this inventory unit. Nearby, there are several areas containing moderate to high mineral potential. Due to the lack of roads, limited land uses, and permitted activities, a visitor has an opportunity to avoid the sights, sounds, and evidence of other people in this area.

4) Does the area have outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation? Yes

Description: The overall size and remoteness of this unit provides users with outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation, including but not limited to the following activities: remote hunting and camping, fishing, and motorboating.

5) Does the area have supplemental values (ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic or historical value)? No

RESULTS OF ANALYSIS

Area Number/Name: AK-010-29, Beaver Creek

1. Does the area meet the size requirements? Yes
2. Does the area appear natural? Yes
3. Does the area offer outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation? Yes
4. Does the area have known supplemental values? No

CONCLUSION: The area has wilderness characteristics.

Evaluator(s): Jeff Kowalczyk Date: August 2014

1.2.5.4 Katlitna River East

The inventory unit described in the following section was found to possess wilderness characteristics.

Form 2. Current Conditions: Presence or absence of wilderness characteristics

Area Number/Name: AK-010-30, Katlitna River East

BLM Inventory Acreage: 7,610

1) Is the area of sufficient size? Yes

Description: The area includes more than 5,000 acres of contiguous BLM-managed lands. This unit is surrounded by Native-owned lands.

2) Does the area appear natural? Yes

Description: This unit contains no Native allotments, no roads, and three 17(b) public easements, one of which connects the inventory area to the community of McGrath (population 320 people), located 9 miles to the north. The southwest corner of this inventory area contains lands with moderate mineral potential. Several State mining claims are located adjacent to this unit. Overall, this inventory area is highly natural in appearance and any work by humans is substantially unnoticeable.

3) Does the area have outstanding opportunities for solitude? Yes

Description: McGrath is not connected to Alaska's road system, but local roads are used by ATVs and trucks. Winter trails are marked to Nikolai (50 miles) and Takotna (20 miles). Residents rely on air service and barges to deliver cargo. Air facilities include a State-owned asphalt runway

with a crosswind landing strip. The Kuskokwim River is the seaplane base. A boat launch ramp site is available. The river is used for travel when it's frozen during the winter months.

Due to the lack of roads, low use winter easements, limited land uses and permitted activities, a visitor has an opportunity to avoid the sights, sounds, and evidence of other people in this area.

4) Does the area have outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation? Yes

Description: The overall size and remoteness of this unit provides users with outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation, including but not limited to the following activities: hunting, camping, fishing, and snowmobiling.

5) Does the area have supplemental values (ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic or historical value)? No

RESULTS OF ANALYSIS

Area Number/Name: AK-010-30, Katlitna River East

1. Does the area meet the size requirements? Yes
2. Does the area appear natural? Yes
3. Does the area offer outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation? Yes
4. Does the area have known supplemental values? No

CONCLUSION: The area has wilderness characteristics.

Evaluator(s): Jeff Kowalczyk Date: August 2014

1.2.5.5 Stony River Southeast

Form 2. Current Conditions: Presence or absence of wilderness characteristics

Area Number/Name: AK-010-31, Stony River Southeast

BLM Inventory Area acres: 8,903

1) Is the area of sufficient size? Yes

Description: The area includes more than 5,000 acres of contiguous BLM-managed lands. This unit is bounded mostly State-owned lands and some Native-owned lands to the northwest.

2) Does the area appear natural? Yes

Description: This remote unit contains two Native allotments, no roads, and no trails. Overall, this inventory area is highly natural in appearance and any work by humans is substantially unnoticeable.

3) Does the area have outstanding opportunities for solitude? Yes

Description: The small community of Stony River (population 40) is located 11 air miles down-river of the Stony River, to the northwest. Stony River's location near the confluence of the Kuskokwim and Stony Rivers provides easy access to river transportation during summer and

snow mobile traffic in winter. Barges deliver cargo and bulk fuel. The gravel/dirt airstrip is State-owned and -operated. Scheduled weekday air services deliver mail and other cargo.

Due to the lack of roads and trails, limited land uses and permitted activities; a visitor has an opportunity to avoid the sights, sounds, and evidence of other people in this area.

4) Does the area have outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation? Yes

Description: The overall size and remoteness of this unit provides users with outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation, including but not limited to the following activities: remote hunting and camping, and fishing.

5) Does the area have supplemental values (ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic or historical value)? No

RESULTS OF ANALYSIS

Area Number/Name: AK-010-31, Stony River Southeast

1. Does the area meet the size requirements? Yes
2. Does the area appear natural? Yes
3. Does the area offer outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation? Yes
4. Does the area have known supplemental values? No

CONCLUSION: The area has wilderness characteristics.

Evaluator(s): Jeff Kowalczyk Date: August 2014

1.2.5.6 Tatlawiksuk River South

Form 2. Current Conditions: Presence or absence of wilderness characteristics

Area Number/Name: AK-010-32, Tatlawiksuk River South

BLM Inventory Area acres: 7,040

1) Is the area of sufficient size? Yes

Description: The area includes more than 5,000 acres of contiguous BLM-managed lands. This unit is bounded to the north and west by Native-owned lands, and to the south and east by State-owned lands.

2) Does the area appear natural? Yes

Description: This remote unit contains no Native allotments, no roads, and no trails. The northern boundary is bordered by the Swift River and the Kuskokwim River is located 0.2 mile to the west. Overall, this inventory area is highly natural in appearance and any work by humans is substantially unnoticeable.

3) Does the area have outstanding opportunities for solitude? Yes

Description: The small community of Stony River (population 40) is located 11 air miles to the southwest. Tatlawiksuk's location near the confluence of the Kuskokwim and Stony Rivers provides easy access to river transportation during summer and snow mobile traffic in winter. Barges deliver cargo and bulk fuel. The gravel/dirt airstrip is state-owned and -operated. Scheduled weekday air services deliver mail and other cargo. Due to the lack of roads and trails, limited land uses and permitted activities, a visitor has an opportunity to avoid the sights, sounds, and evidence of other people in this area.

4) Does the area have outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation? Yes

Description: The overall size and remoteness of this unit provides users with outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation, including but not limited to the following activities: remote hunting and camping, and fishing.

5) Does the area have supplemental values (ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic or historical value)? No

RESULTS OF ANALYSIS

Area Number/Name: AK-010-32, Tatlawiksuk River South

1. Does the area meet the size requirements? Yes
2. Does the area appear natural? Yes
3. Does the area offer outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation? Yes
4. Does the area have known supplemental values? No

CONCLUSION: The area has wilderness characteristics.

Evaluator(s): Jeff Kowalczyk Date: August 2014

1.2.5.7 Sethkokna River

Form 2. Current Conditions: Presence or absence of wilderness characteristics

Area Number/Name: AK-010-33, Sethkokna River

BLM Inventory Area acres: 11,499

1) Is the area of sufficient size? Yes

Description: The area includes more than 5,000 acres of contiguous BLM-managed lands. This unit is bounded to the east and south by State-owned lands, to the west by Native-selected lands and to the north by State-selected lands. The northern and western edge of this inventory unit also borders the perimeter between the Bering Sea Western Interior and the Central Yukon Resource Management Planning areas.

2) Does the area appear natural? Yes

Description: This highly remote unit contains no Native allotments, no roads, and no trails. One established winter trail terminates at the southeast corner of this unit. Overall, this inventory area is highly natural in appearance and any work by humans is substantially unnoticeable.

3) Does the area have outstanding opportunities for solitude? Yes

Description: The small community of Telida (current population 2, 2013 Department of Labor) is located 27 air miles to the south. Access to Telida is primarily by air. A locally-maintained turf airstrip is available. Small boats can reach Telida, but snags and sticks downriver prevent large boat access. There is no road connection, but a winter trail connects the village with Nikolai. Snowmobiles, motor bikes, and ATVs are used. Due to the lack of roads and trails with this unit, limited land uses and permitted activities, a visitor has an opportunity to avoid the sights, sounds, and evidence of other people in this area.

4) Does the area have outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation? Yes

Description: The overall size and remoteness of this unit provides users with outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation, including but not limited to the following activities: remote snowmobiling, hunting, and camping.

5) Does the area have supplemental values (ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic or historical value)? No

RESULTS OF ANALYSIS

Area Number/Name: AK-010-33, Sethkokna River

1. Does the area meet the size requirements? Yes
2. Does the area appear natural? Yes
3. Does the area offer outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation? Yes
4. Does the area have known supplemental values? No

CONCLUSION: The area has wilderness characteristics.

Evaluator(s): Jeff Kowalczyk Date: August 2014

1.2.5.8 North Fork Kuskokwim River

Form 2. Current Conditions: Presence or absence of wilderness characteristics

Area Number/Name: AK-010-34, North Fork Kuskokwim River

BLM Inventory Area acres: 53,006

1) Is the area of sufficient size? Yes

Description: The area includes more than 5,000 acres of contiguous BLM-managed lands. This unit is surrounded by both State-owned and State-selected lands.

2) Does the area appear natural? Yes

Description: This highly remote unit contains no Native allotments, no roads, and one winter trail. Overall, this inventory area is highly natural in appearance and any work by humans is substantially unnoticeable.

3) Does the area have outstanding opportunities for solitude? Yes

Description: The small community of Lake Minchumina (current population 13, 2013 Department of Labor) is located 13.5 miles to the east. Transportation for the nearby community involves a State-owned gravel airstrip. The lake may be accessed by boat in the summer. There is no road connection. Due to the lack of roads and trails with this unit, limited land uses and permitted activities, a visitor has an opportunity to avoid the sights, sounds, and evidence of other people in this area.

4) Does the area have outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation? Yes

Description: The overall size and remoteness of this unit provides users with outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation, including but not limited to the following activities: snowmobiling, hunting, fishing, and camping.

5) Does the area have supplemental values (ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic or historical value)? No

RESULTS OF ANALYSIS

Area Number/Name: AK-010-34, North Fork Kuskokwim River

1. Does the area meet the size requirements? Yes
2. Does the area appear natural? Yes
3. Does the area offer outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation? Yes
4. Does the area have known supplemental values? No

CONCLUSION: The area has wilderness characteristics.

Evaluator(s): Jeff Kowalczyk Date: August 2014

1.2.5.9 Hardscrabble Creek

Form 2. Current Conditions: Presence or absence of wilderness characteristics

Area Number/Name: AK-010-35, Hardscrabble Creek

BLM Inventory Area acres: 11,531

1) Is the area of sufficient size? Yes

Description: The area includes more than 5,000 acres of contiguous BLM-managed lands. This unit is bounded on the east and south by State-owned lands, to the north by Native-selected lands, and to the west by Native-owned lands. The northern edge of this inventory unit also borders the perimeter between the Bering Sea-Western Interior and the Central Yukon Resource Management Planning Areas.

2) Does the area appear natural? Yes

Description: This highly remote unit contains no Native allotments, no roads, and no trails. Overall, this inventory area is highly natural in appearance and any work by humans is substantially unnoticeable.

3) Does the area have outstanding opportunities for solitude? Yes

Description: There are no communities within the immediate vicinity of this inventory unit. Due to the lack of roads and trails with this unit, limited land uses and permitted activities, a visitor has an opportunity to avoid the sights, sounds, and evidence of other people in this area.

4) Does the area have outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation? Yes

Description: The overall size and remoteness of this unit provides users with outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation, including but not limited to the following activities: remote fly-in hunting and camping.

5) Does the area have supplemental values (ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic or historical value)? No

RESULTS OF ANALYSIS

Area Number/Name: AK-010-35, Hardscrabble Creek

1. Does the area meet the size requirements? Yes
2. Does the area appear natural? Yes
3. Does the area offer outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation? Yes
4. Does the area have known supplemental values? No

CONCLUSION: The area has wilderness characteristics.

Evaluator(s): Jeff Kowalczyk Date: August 2014

1.2.5.10 Nixon Fork

Form 2. Current Conditions: Presence or absence of wilderness characteristics

Area Number/Name: AK-010-36, Nixon Fork

BLM Inventory Area acres: 23,005

1) Is the area of sufficient size? Yes

Description: The area includes more than 5,000 acres of contiguous BLM-managed lands. This unit is bounded on the east and north by Native-owned lands and to the south and west by State-owned lands.

2) Does the area appear natural? Yes

Description: This highly remote unit contains no Native allotments, no roads, and no trails. The northwest corner of the inventory area contains lands that have moderate mineral potential.

Overall, this inventory area is highly natural in appearance and any work by humans is substantially unnoticeable.

3) Does the area have outstanding opportunities for solitude? Yes

Description: There are no communities within the immediate vicinity of this area. Several State mining claims are located adjacent to the northwest corner of the unit. The moderate-size Nixon Fork mine is located 9 miles to the south. Due to the lack of roads and trails with this unit, limited land uses and permitted activities, a visitor has an opportunity to avoid the sights, sounds, and evidence of other people in this area.

4) Does the area have outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation? Yes

Description: The overall size and remoteness of this unit provides users with outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation, including but not limited to the following activities: remote fly-in hunting and camping.

5) Does the area have supplemental values (ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic or historical value)? No

RESULTS OF ANALYSIS

Area Number/Name: AK-010-36, Nixon Fork

1. Does the area meet the size requirements? Yes
2. Does the area appear natural? Yes
3. Does the area offer outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation? Yes
4. Does the area have known supplemental values? No

CONCLUSION: The area has wilderness characteristics.

Evaluator(s): Jeff Kowalczyk Date: August 2014

1.2.5.11 Tonsona River

Form 2. Current Conditions: Presence or absence of wilderness characteristics

Area Number/Name: AK-010-37, Tonsona River

BLM Inventory Area acres: 200,259

1) Is the area of sufficient size? Yes

Description: The area includes more than 5,000 acres of contiguous BLM-managed lands. This unit is bounded by State-owned lands, except for a small section on the north, which involves Native-owned lands.

2) Does the area appear natural? Yes

Description: This highly remote unit contains one Native allotment, no roads, and one winter trail. The northeast corner of this inventory area joins the boundary of Denali National Park and

Preserve. Overall, this inventory area is highly natural in appearance and any work by humans is substantially unnoticeable.

3) Does the area have outstanding opportunities for solitude? Yes

Description: The small community of Nikolai (population 108, 2013 DCCED Certified estimate) is located 22 miles to the west. Access to Nikolai is by air or water. A State-owned gravel airstrip is available in Nikolai. Barges used to supply fuel and heavy equipment but the river is now too low and everything is flown in by air. Boats, ATVs, and snow machines are used for recreation and subsistence activities. Local road traffic includes ATVs, trucks, and heavy equipment owned by city, State, and federal entities. A winter trail is marked to McGrath (50 miles). Nikolai is a checkpoint for the Iditarod Trail Sled Dog Race held in March and the Iron Dog snowmobile race in February.

Commercial hunting guide-outfitters periodically operate within this inventory area, with no permanent facilities. Due to the lack of roads and trails with this unit, limited land uses and few permitted activities, a visitor has an opportunity to avoid the sights, sounds, and evidence of other people in this area.

4) Does the area have outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation? Yes

Description: The overall size and remoteness of this unit provides users with outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation, including but not limited to the following activities: snowmobiling, hunting, site seeing, hiking, and camping.

5) Does the area have supplemental values (ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic or historical value)? No

RESULTS OF ANALYSIS

Area Number/Name: AK-010-37, Tonsona River

1. Does the area meet the size requirements? Yes
2. Does the area appear natural? Yes
3. Does the area offer outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation? Yes
4. Does the area have known supplemental values? No

CONCLUSION: The area has wilderness characteristics.

Evaluator(s): Jeff Kowalczyk Date: August 2014

1.2.5.12 Highpower Creek

Form 2. Current Conditions: Presence or absence of wilderness characteristics

Area Number/Name: AK-010-38, Highpower Creek

BLM Inventory Area acres: 12,809

1) Is the area of sufficient size? Yes

Description: The area includes more than 5,000 acres of contiguous BLM-managed lands. This unit is bounded to the south by Native-owned lands, to the north by State and Native-owned lands and to the east by Denali National Park and Preserve.

2) Does the area appear natural? Yes

Description: This highly remote unit contains no Native allotment, no roads, and one winter trail, which connects the small communities of Lake Minchumina with Telida. The northeast corner of this inventory area joins the boundary of Denali National Park and Preserve. Overall, this inventory area is highly natural in appearance and any work by humans is substantially unnoticeable.

3) Does the area have outstanding opportunities for solitude? Yes

Description: The small community of Telida (current population 2, 2013 Department of Labor) is located 6.4 miles to the southwest. Access to Telida is primarily by air. A locally maintained turf airstrip is available in Telida. Small boats can reach Telida, but snags and sticks downriver prevent large boat access. There is no road connection, but a winter trail connects the village with Nikolai. Snowmobiles, motor bikes, and ATVs are used.

Due to the lack of roads and one low-use winter trail within this unit, limited land uses and permitted activities, a visitor has an opportunity to avoid the sights, sounds, and evidence of other people in this area.

4) Does the area have outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation? Yes

Description: The overall size and remoteness of this unit provides users with outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation, including but not limited to the following activities: snowmobiling, hunting, site seeing, and camping.

5) Does the area have supplemental values (ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic or historical value)? No

RESULTS OF ANALYSIS

Area Number/Name: AK-010-38, Highpower Creek

1. Does the area meet the size requirements? Yes
2. Does the area appear natural? Yes
3. Does the area offer outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation? Yes
4. Does the area have known supplemental values? No

CONCLUSION: The area has wilderness characteristics.

Evaluator(s): Jeff Kowalczyk Date: August 2014

1.2.5.14 Sleetmute South

Form 2. Current Conditions: Presence or absence of wilderness characteristics

Area Number/Name: AK-010-61, Sleetmute South

BLM Inventory Area acres: 1,268

1) Is the area of sufficient size? No

The area is less than 5,000 contiguous acres of BLM-managed lands.

2) Does the area appear natural? Not Evaluated

3) Does the area have outstanding opportunities for solitude? Not Evaluated

4) Does the area have outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation? Not Evaluated

5) Does the area have known supplemental values (ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic or historical value)? Not Evaluated

RESULTS OF ANALYSIS

Area Number/Name: AK-010-61, Sleetmute South

1. Does the area meet the size requirements? No

2. Does the area appear natural? N/A

3. Does the area offer outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation? N/A

4. Does the area have known supplemental values? N/A

CONCLUSION: The area does not have wilderness characteristics.

Evaluator(s): Jeff Kowalczyk Date: August 2014

1.2.5.15 Stony River

Form 2. Current Conditions: Presence or absence of wilderness characteristics

Area Number/Name: AK-010-62, Stony River

BLM Inventory Area acres: 612

1) Is the area of sufficient size? No

The area is less than 5,000 contiguous acres of BLM-managed lands.

2) Does the area appear natural? Not Evaluated

3) Does the area have outstanding opportunities for solitude? Not Evaluated

4) Does the area have outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation? Not Evaluated

- 5) Does the area have known supplemental values (ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic or historical value)? Not Evaluated

RESULTS OF ANALYSIS

Area Number/Name: AK-010-62, Stony River

1. Does the area meet the size requirements? No
2. Does the area appear natural? N/A
3. Does the area offer outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation? N/A
4. Does the area have known supplemental values? N/A

CONCLUSION: The area does not have wilderness characteristics.

Evaluator(s): Jeff Kowalczyk Date: August 2014

1.2.5.16 Tatlawiksuk River

Form 2. Current Conditions: Presence or absence of wilderness characteristics

Area Number/Name: AK-010-63, Tatlawiksuk River

BLM Inventory Area acres: 4,480

- 1) Is the area of sufficient size? No

The area is less than 5,000 contiguous acres of BLM-managed lands.

- 2) Does the area appear natural? Not Evaluated
- 3) Does the area have outstanding opportunities for solitude? Not Evaluated
- 4) Does the area have outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation? Not Evaluated
- 5) Does the area have known supplemental values (ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic or historical value)? Not Evaluated

RESULTS OF ANALYSIS

Area Number/Name: AK-010-63, Tatlawiksuk River

1. Does the area meet the size requirements? No
2. Does the area appear natural? N/A
3. Does the area offer outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation? N/A
4. Does the area have known supplemental values? N/A

CONCLUSION: The area does not have wilderness characteristics.

Evaluator(s): Jeff Kowalczyk Date: August 2014

1.2.5.17 McGrath Southeast

Form 2. Current Conditions: Presence or absence of wilderness characteristics

Area Number/Name: AK-010-64, McGrath Southeast

BLM Inventory Area acres: 1,240

1) Is the area of sufficient size? No

The area is less than 5,000 contiguous acres of BLM-managed lands.

2) Does the area appear natural? Not Evaluated

3) Does the area have outstanding opportunities for solitude? Not Evaluated

4) Does the area have outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation? Not Evaluated

5) Does the area have known supplemental values (ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic or historical value)? Not Evaluated

RESULTS OF ANALYSIS

Area Number/Name: AK-010-64, McGrath Southeast

1. Does the area meet the size requirements? No

2. Does the area appear natural? N/A

3. Does the area offer outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation? N/A

4. Does the area have known supplemental values? N/A

CONCLUSION: The area does not have wilderness characteristics.

Evaluator(s): Jeff Kowalczyk Date: August 2014

1.2.5.18 Takotna Southeast

Form 2. Current Conditions: Presence or absence of wilderness characteristics

Area Number/Name: AK-010-65, Takotna Southeast

BLM Inventory Area acres: 1,920

1) Is the area of sufficient size? No

The area is less than 5,000 contiguous acres of BLM-managed lands.

2) Does the area appear natural? Not Evaluated

3) Does the area have outstanding opportunities for solitude? Not Evaluated

4) Does the area have outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation? Not Evaluated

- 5) Does the area have known supplemental values (ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic or historical value)? Not Evaluated

RESULTS OF ANALYSIS

Area Number/Name: AK-010-65, Takotna Southeast

1. Does the area meet the size requirements? No
2. Does the area appear natural? N/A
3. Does the area offer outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation? N/A
4. Does the area have known supplemental values? N/A

CONCLUSION: The area does not have wilderness characteristics.

Evaluator(s): Jeff Kowalczyk Date: August 2014

1.2.5.19 Little Selatna River

Form 2. Current Conditions: Presence or absence of wilderness characteristics

Area Number/Name: AK-010-66, Little Selatna River

BLM Inventory Area acres: 3,840

- 1) Is the area of sufficient size? No

The area is less than 5,000 contiguous acres of BLM-managed lands.

- 2) Does the area appear natural? Not Evaluated
- 3) Does the area have outstanding opportunities for solitude? Not Evaluated
- 4) Does the area have outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation? Not Evaluated
- 5) Does the area have known supplemental values (ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic or historical value)? Not Evaluated

RESULTS OF ANALYSIS

Area Number/Name: AK-010-66, Little Selatna River

1. Does the area meet the size requirements? No
2. Does the area appear natural? N/A
3. Does the area offer outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation? N/A
4. Does the area have known supplemental values? N/A

CONCLUSION: The area does not have wilderness characteristics.

Evaluator(s): Jeff Kowalczyk Date: August 2014

1.2.5.20 Black River

Form 2. Current Conditions: Presence or absence of wilderness characteristics

Area Number/Name: AK-010-67, Black River

BLM Inventory Area acres: 1,280

1) Is the area of sufficient size? No

The area is less than 5,000 contiguous acres of BLM-managed lands.

2) Does the area appear natural? Not Evaluated

3) Does the area have outstanding opportunities for solitude? Not Evaluated

4) Does the area have outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation? Not Evaluated

5) Does the area have known supplemental values (ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic or historical value)? Not Evaluated

RESULTS OF ANALYSIS

Area Number/Name: AK-010-67, Black River

1. Does the area meet the size requirements? No

2. Does the area appear natural? N/A

3. Does the area offer outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation? N/A

4. Does the area have known supplemental values? N/A

CONCLUSION: The area does not have wilderness characteristics.

Evaluator(s): Jeff Kowalczyk Date: August 2014

1.2.5.21 Rohn

Form 2. Current Conditions: Presence or absence of wilderness characteristics

Area Number/Name: AK-010-68, Rohn

BLM Inventory Area acres: 370

1) Is the area of sufficient size? No

The area is less than 5,000 contiguous acres of BLM-managed lands.

2) Does the area appear natural? Not Evaluated

3) Does the area have outstanding opportunities for solitude? Not Evaluated

4) Does the area have outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation? Not Evaluated

- 5) Does the area have known supplemental values (ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic or historical value)? Not Evaluated

RESULTS OF ANALYSIS

Area Number/Name: AK-010-68, Rohn

1. Does the area meet the size requirements? No
2. Does the area appear natural? N/A
3. Does the area offer outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation? N/A
4. Does the area have known supplemental values? N/A

CONCLUSION: The area does not have wilderness characteristics.

Evaluator(s): Jeff Kowalczyk Date: August 2014

1.2.5.22 Sheep Creek

Form 2. Current Conditions: Presence or absence of wilderness characteristics

Area Number/Name: AK-010-69, Sheep Creek

BLM Inventory Area acres: 1,280

- 1) Is the area of sufficient size? No

The area is less than 5,000 contiguous acres of BLM-managed lands.

- 2) Does the area appear natural? Not Evaluated
- 3) Does the area have outstanding opportunities for solitude? Not Evaluated
- 4) Does the area have outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation? Not Evaluated
- 5) Does the area have known supplemental values (ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic or historical value)? Not Evaluated

RESULTS OF ANALYSIS

Area Number/Name: AK-010-69, Sheep Creek

1. Does the area meet the size requirements? No
2. Does the area appear natural? N/A
3. Does the area offer outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation? N/A
4. Does the area have known supplemental values? N/A

CONCLUSION: The area does not have wilderness characteristics.

Evaluator(s): Jeff Kowalczyk Date: August 2014

1.2.5.23 Tin Creek

Form 2. Current Conditions: Presence or absence of wilderness characteristics

Area Number/Name: AK-010-70, Tin Creek

BLM Inventory Area acres: 599

1) Is the area of sufficient size? No

The area is less than 5,000 contiguous acres of BLM-managed lands.

2) Does the area appear natural? Not Evaluated

3) Does the area have outstanding opportunities for solitude? Not Evaluated

4) Does the area have outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation? Not Evaluated

5) Does the area have known supplemental values (ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic or historical value)? Not Evaluated

RESULTS OF ANALYSIS

Area Number/Name: AK-010-70, Tin Creek

1. Does the area meet the size requirements? No

2. Does the area appear natural? N/A

3. Does the area offer outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation? N/A

4. Does the area have known supplemental values? N/A

CONCLUSION: The area does not have wilderness characteristics.

Evaluator(s): Jeff Kowalczyk Date: August 2014

1.2.5.24 Telida East

Form 2. Current Conditions: Presence or absence of wilderness characteristics

Area Number/Name: AK-010-71, Telida East

BLM Inventory Area acres: 3,200

1) Is the area of sufficient size? No

The area is less than 5,000 contiguous acres of BLM-managed lands.

2) Does the area appear natural? Not Evaluated

3) Does the area have outstanding opportunities for solitude? Not Evaluated

4) Does the area have outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation? Not Evaluated

- 5) Does the area have known supplemental values (ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic or historical value)? Not Evaluated

RESULTS OF ANALYSIS

Area Number/Name: AK-010-71, Telida East

1. Does the area meet the size requirements? No
2. Does the area appear natural? N/A
3. Does the area offer outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation? N/A
4. Does the area have known supplemental values? N/A

CONCLUSION: The area does not have wilderness characteristics.

Evaluator(s): Jeff Kowalczyk Date: August 2014

1.2.5.25 Telida North

Form 2. Current Conditions: Presence or absence of wilderness characteristics

Area Number/Name: AK-010-72, Telida North

BLM Inventory Area acres: 640

- 1) Is the area of sufficient size? No

The area is less than 5,000 contiguous acres of BLM-managed lands.

- 2) Does the area appear natural? Not Evaluated
- 3) Does the area have outstanding opportunities for solitude? Not Evaluated
- 4) Does the area have outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation? Not Evaluated
- 5) Does the area have known supplemental values (ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic or historical value)? Not Evaluated

RESULTS OF ANALYSIS

Area Number/Name: AK-010-72, Telida North

1. Does the area meet the size requirements? No
2. Does the area appear natural? N/A
3. Does the area offer outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation? N/A
4. Does the area have known supplemental values? N/A

CONCLUSION: The area does not have wilderness characteristics.

Evaluator(s): Jeff Kowalczyk Date: August 2014

1.2.5.26 Telida Northwest

Form 2. Current Conditions: Presence or absence of wilderness characteristics

Area Number/Name: AK-010-73, Telida Northwest

BLM Inventory Area acres: 2,560

1) Is the area of sufficient size? No

The area is less than 5,000 contiguous acres of BLM-managed lands.

2) Does the area appear natural? Not Evaluated

3) Does the area have outstanding opportunities for solitude? Not Evaluated

4) Does the area have outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation? Not Evaluated

5) Does the area have known supplemental values (ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic or historical value)? Not Evaluated

RESULTS OF ANALYSIS

Area Number/Name: AK-010-73, Telida Northwest

1. Does the area meet the size requirements? No

2. Does the area appear natural? N/A

3. Does the area offer outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation? N/A

4. Does the area have known supplemental values? N/A

CONCLUSION: The area does not have wilderness characteristics.

Evaluator(s): Jeff Kowalczyk Date: August 2014

1.2.5.27 Spruce Lake

Form 2. Current Conditions: Presence or absence of wilderness characteristics

Area Number/Name: AK-010-74, Spruce Lake

BLM Inventory Area acres: 640

1) Is the area of sufficient size? No

The area is less than 5,000 contiguous acres of BLM-managed lands.

2) Does the area appear natural? Not Evaluated

3) Does the area have outstanding opportunities for solitude? Not Evaluated

4) Does the area have outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation? Not Evaluated

- 5) Does the area have known supplemental values (ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic or historical value)? Not Evaluated

RESULTS OF ANALYSIS

Area Number/Name: AK-010-74, Spruce Lake

1. Does the area meet the size requirements? No
2. Does the area appear natural? N/A
3. Does the area offer outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation? N/A
4. Does the area have known supplemental values? N/A

CONCLUSION: The area does not have wilderness characteristics.

Evaluator(s): Jeff Kowalczyk Date: August 2014

1.2.5.28 Medfra

Form 2. Current Conditions: Presence or absence of wilderness characteristics

Area Number/Name: AK-010-75, Medfra

BLM Inventory Area acres: 4,480

- 1) Is the area of sufficient size? No

The area is less than 5,000 contiguous acres of BLM-managed lands.

- 2) Does the area appear natural? Not Evaluated
- 3) Does the area have outstanding opportunities for solitude? Not Evaluated
- 4) Does the area have outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation? Not Evaluated
- 5) Does the area have known supplemental values (ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic or historical value)? Not Evaluated

RESULTS OF ANALYSIS

Area Number/Name: AK-010-75, Medfra

1. Does the area meet the size requirements? No
2. Does the area appear natural? N/A
3. Does the area offer outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation? N/A
4. Does the area have known supplemental values? N/A

CONCLUSION: The area does not have wilderness characteristics.

Evaluator(s): Jeff Kowalczyk Date: August 2014

1.2.5.29 Nicolai North

Form 2. Current Conditions: Presence or absence of wilderness characteristics

Area Number/Name: AK-010-76, Nicolai North

BLM Inventory Area acres: 2,560

1) Is the area of sufficient size? No

The area is less than 5,000 contiguous acres of BLM-managed lands.

2) Does the area appear natural? Not Evaluated

3) Does the area have outstanding opportunities for solitude? Not Evaluated

4) Does the area have outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation? Not Evaluated

5) Does the area have known supplemental values (ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic or historical value)? Not Evaluated

RESULTS OF ANALYSIS

Area Number/Name: AK-010-76, Nicolai North

1. Does the area meet the size requirements? No

2. Does the area appear natural? N/A

3. Does the area offer outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation? N/A

4. Does the area have known supplemental values? N/A

CONCLUSION: The area does not have wilderness characteristics.

Evaluator(s): Jeff Kowalczyk Date: August 2014

1.2.5.30 Lake Minchumina Northeast

Form 2. Current Conditions: Presence or absence of wilderness characteristics

Area Number/Name: AK-010-77, Lake Minchumina Northeast

BLM Inventory Area acres: 3,808

1) Is the area of sufficient size? No

The area is less than 5,000 contiguous acres of BLM-managed lands.

2) Does the area appear natural? Not Evaluated

3) Does the area have outstanding opportunities for solitude? Not Evaluated

4) Does the area have outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation? Not Evaluated

- 5) Does the area have known supplemental values (ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic or historical value)? Not Evaluated

RESULTS OF ANALYSIS

Area Number/Name: AK-010-77, Lake Minchumina Northeast

1. Does the area meet the size requirements? No
2. Does the area appear natural? N/A
3. Does the area offer outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation? N/A
4. Does the area have known supplemental values? N/A

CONCLUSION: The area does not have wilderness characteristics.

Evaluator(s): Jeff Kowalczyk Date: August 2014

1.2.5.31 Lake Minchumina

Form 2. Current Conditions: Presence or absence of wilderness characteristics

Area Number/Name: AK-010-78, Lake Minchumina

BLM Inventory Area acres: 223

- 1) Is the area of sufficient size? No

The area is less than 5,000 contiguous acres of BLM-managed lands.

- 2) Does the area appear natural? Not Evaluated
- 3) Does the area have outstanding opportunities for solitude? Not Evaluated
- 4) Does the area have outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation? Not Evaluated
- 5) Does the area have known supplemental values (ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic or historical value)? Not Evaluated

RESULTS OF ANALYSIS

Area Number/Name: AK-010-78, Lake Minchumina

1. Does the area meet the size requirements? No
2. Does the area appear natural? N/A
3. Does the area offer outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation? N/A
4. Does the area have known supplemental values? N/A

CONCLUSION: The area does not have wilderness characteristics.

Evaluator(s): Jeff Kowalczyk Date: August 2014

1.2.5.32 Lake Minchumina Southeast

Form 2. Current Conditions: Presence or absence of wilderness characteristics

Area Number/Name: AK-010-79, Lake Minchumina Southeast

BLM Inventory Area acres: 3,834

1) Is the area of sufficient size? No

The area is less than 5,000 contiguous acres of BLM-managed lands.

2) Does the area appear natural? Not Evaluated

3) Does the area have outstanding opportunities for solitude? Not Evaluated

4) Does the area have outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation? Not Evaluated

5) Does the area have known supplemental values (ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic or historical value)? Not Evaluated

RESULTS OF ANALYSIS

Area Number/Name: AK-010-79, Lake Minchumina Southeast

1. Does the area meet the size requirements? No

2. Does the area appear natural? N/A

3. Does the area offer outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation? N/A

4. Does the area have known supplemental values? N/A

CONCLUSION: The area does not have wilderness characteristics.

Evaluator(s): Jeff Kowalczyk Date: August 2014

1.2.6 Lime Hills Subunit Inventory

The Lime Hills Subunit was divided into three units for inventory purposes. An inventory form was completed for each inventory unit and is included in the following pages.

Route analysis was not conducted since the unit contains no roads. This subunit is located within the Lime Hills Ecoregion.

The majority of the lands within the Lime Hills Subunit Inventory area were found to have wilderness characteristics (Appendix, [Figure 5](#). Tanana-Kuskokwim Lowlands Wilderness Characteristics Inventory Area (including Lime Hills Inventory Area)). A summary of inventory findings for this subunit is presented in the table below.

Table 6. Lime Hills Subunit summary of inventory findings

| Unit Name | Unit Number | Ecoregion | Acres | Meets Size Criteria? | Is Natural? | Solitude or Primitive Recreation? | Conclusion |
|----------------|-------------|------------|---------|----------------------|-------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Gagaryah River | AK-010-44 | Lime Hills | 778,679 | Yes | Yes | Yes | Has wilderness characteristics |
| Lime Village | AK-010-45 | Lime Hills | 154,792 | Yes | Yes | Yes | Has wilderness characteristics |
| Can Creek | AK-010-46 | Lime Hills | 56,755 | Yes | Yes | Yes | Has wilderness characteristics |

1.2.6.1 Gagaryah River

Form 2. Current Conditions: Presence or absence of wilderness characteristics

Area Number/Name: AK-010-44, Gagaryah River

BLM Inventory Area acres: 778,679

1) Is the area of sufficient size? Yes

Description: The area includes more than 5,000 acres of contiguous BLM-managed lands. This unit is bounded to the east, north, and west by State-owned lands, and to the south by Native-owned lands.

2) Does the area appear natural? Yes

Description: This remote unit contains three Native allotments, no roads, and no trails. Overall, this inventory area is highly natural in appearance and any work by humans is substantially unnoticeable.

3) Does the area have outstanding opportunities for solitude? Yes

Description: The small community of Lime Village (current population of 25, 2013 Department of Labor) is located 5.5 miles near the south. Located on the Stony River, Lime Village is dependent on small riverboats and airplanes for transportation. Due to shallow water, barges cannot supply the community. When the river freezes, residents use dog teams and snow mobiles for ground travel. There is a gravel runway just north of the village that is owned and maintained by the State.

The community of Stony River is located 17 miles to the west. The current population of Stony River is 40 people (2013 Department of Labor). Stony River's location near the confluence of the Kuskokwim and Stony Rivers provides easy access to river transportation during summer and snowmobile traffic in winter. Barges deliver cargo and bulk fuel. The gravel/dirt airstrip is State-owned and -operated. Scheduled weekday air services deliver mail and other cargo.

Due to the lack of roads and trails within this unit, limited land uses and permitted activities, a visitor has an opportunity to avoid the sights, sounds, and evidence of other people in this area.

4) Does the area have outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation? Yes

Description: The overall size and remoteness of this unit provides users with outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation, including but not limited to the following activities: cross-country snowmobiling, hunting, fishing, and camping.

5) Does the area have supplemental values (ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic or historical value)? No

RESULTS OF ANALYSIS

Area Number/Name: AK-010-44, Gagaryah River

1. Does the area meet the size requirements? Yes
2. Does the area appear natural? Yes
3. Does the area offer outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation? Yes
4. Does the area have known supplemental values? No

CONCLUSION: The area has wilderness characteristics.

Evaluator(s): Jeff Kowalczyk Date: August 2014

1.2.6.2 Lime Village

Form 2. Current Conditions: Presence or absence of wilderness characteristics

Area Number/Name: AK-010-45, Lime Village

BLM Inventory Acreage: 154,792

1) Is the area of sufficient size? Yes

Description: The area includes considerably more than 5,000 acres of contiguous BLM-managed lands. This unit is bounded to the north by Native-owned lands and to the east, south, and west by State-owned and Department of Defense lands.

2) Does the area appear natural? Yes

Description: This remote unit contains no Native allotment, no roads, and no trails. Overall, this inventory area is highly natural in appearance and any work by humans is substantially unnoticeable.

3) Does the area have outstanding opportunities for solitude? Yes

Description: The small community of Lime Village (current population of 25, 2013 Department of Labor) is located 2 miles to the north. Located on the Stony River, Lime Village is dependent on small riverboats and airplanes for transportation. Due to shallow water, barges cannot supply the community. When the river freezes, residents use dog teams and snowmobiles for ground travel. There is a gravel runway just north of the village that is owned and maintained by the State.

The Sparrevohn Airport is also located 12.9 miles west-southwest of McGrath. It is not open for public use. It is a U.S. Air Force military airstrip. Its mission is to provide access to the

Sparrevohn Long Range Radar Site for servicing and other requirements. The airstrip was constructed in 1952 as part of the construction of the Sparrevohn Air Force Station. During the station's operational use as a manned radar station, it provided transportation for station personnel and for supplies and equipment to be airlifted to the station. With the manned radar station's closure in 1983, the airstrip now provides access to the unattended site for maintenance personnel and other requirements. It is not staffed by any support personnel, and is not open to the public. During the winter months, it may be inaccessible due to the extreme weather conditions at the location.

The southwest section of this inventory area contains lands that have moderate mineral potential.

Due to the lack of roads and trails within this unit, limited land uses and permitted activities, a visitor has an opportunity to avoid the sights, sounds, and evidence of other people in this area.

4) Does the area have outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation? Yes

Description: The overall size and remoteness of this unit provides users with outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation, including but not limited to the following activities: remote fly-in hunting and camping.

5) Does the area have known supplemental values (ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic or historical value)? No

RESULTS OF ANALYSIS

Area Number/Name: AK-010-45, Lime Village

1. Does the area meet the size requirements? Yes
2. Does the area appear natural? Yes
3. Does the area offer outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation? Yes
4. Does the area have known supplemental values? No

CONCLUSION: The area has wilderness characteristics.

Evaluator(s): Jeff Kowalczyk Date: August 2014

1.2.6.3 Can Creek

Form 2. Current Conditions: Presence or absence of wilderness characteristics

Area Number/Name: AK-010-46, Can Creek

BLM Inventory Area acres: 56,755

1) Is the area of sufficient size? Yes

Description: The unit contains much more than 5,000 contiguous acres of BLM-managed lands. The area is surrounded by State-owned lands, including on Native-owned parcel and one private owned parcel.

2) Does the area appear natural? Yes

Description: This remote unit contains one Native allotment, no roads, and no trails. Overall, this inventory area is highly natural in appearance and any work by humans is substantially unnoticeable.

3) Does the area have outstanding opportunities for solitude? Yes

Description: The small community of Lime Village (current population 25, 2013 Department of Labor) is located 20 miles to the southeast. There is a gravel runway just north of the village that is owned and maintained by the state. Due to the lack of roads and trails within this unit, limited land uses and permitted activities, a visitor has an opportunity to avoid the sights, sounds, and evidence of other people in this area.

4) Does the area have outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation? Yes

Description: The overall size and remoteness of this unit provides users with outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation, including but not limited to the following activities: remote fly-in hunting and camping.

5) Does the area have known supplemental values (ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic or historical value)? No

RESULTS OF ANALYSIS

Area Number/Name: AK-010-46, Can Creek

1. Does the area meet the size requirements? Yes
2. Does the area appear natural? Yes
3. Does the area offer outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation? Yes
4. Does the area have known supplemental values? No

CONCLUSION: The area has wilderness characteristics.

Evaluator(s): Jeff Kowalczyk Date: August 2014

1.2.7 Ahklun Mountains Subunit Inventory

The Ahklun Mountains Subunit was divided into four units for inventory purposes. An inventory form was completed for each inventory unit and is included in the following pages.

Route Analysis was not conducted since the unit contains no roads. This subunit is located within the Ahklun Mountains Ecoregion.

The majority of the lands within the Ahklun Mountains Subunit Inventory area were found to have wilderness characteristics (Appendix, [Figure 6. Ahklun Mountains Wilderness Characteristics Inventory Area](#)). A summary of inventory findings for this subunit is presented in the table below.

Table 7. Ahklun Mountains Subunit summary of inventory findings

| Unit Name | Unit Number | Ecoregion | Acres | Meets Size Criteria? | Is Natural? | Solitude or Primitive Recreation? | Conclusion |
|------------------------|-------------|------------------|---------|----------------------|-------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Swift Creek North | AK-010-40 | Ahklun Mountains | 3,168 | No | N/A | N/A | No wilderness characteristics |
| Swift Creek East | AK-010-41 | Ahklun Mountains | 8,959 | Yes | Yes | Yes | Has wilderness characteristics |
| Kilbuk Mountains North | AK-010-42 | Ahklun Mountains | 140,366 | Yes | Yes | Yes | Has wilderness characteristics |
| Nyac Northeast | AK-010-43 | Ahklun Mountains | 84,347 | Yes | Yes | Yes | Has wilderness characteristics |

1.2.7.1 Swift Creek North

Form 2. Current Conditions: Presence or absence of wilderness characteristics

Area Number/Name: AK-010-40, Swift Creek North

BLM Inventory Area acres: 3,168

1) Is the area of sufficient size? No

The area is less than 5,000 contiguous acres of BLM-managed lands.

2) Does the area appear natural? Not Evaluated

3) Does the area have outstanding opportunities for solitude? Not Evaluated

4) Does the area have outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation? Not Evaluated

5) Does the area have known supplemental values (ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic or historical value)? Not Evaluated

RESULTS OF ANALYSIS

Area Number/Name: AK-010-40, Swift Creek North

1. Does the area meet the size requirements? No

2. Does the area appear natural? N/A

3. Does the area offer outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation? N/A

4. Does the area have known supplemental values? N/A

CONCLUSION: The area does not have wilderness characteristics.

Evaluator(s): Jeff Kowalczyk Date: August 2014

1.2.7.2 Swift Creek East

Form 2. Current Conditions: Presence or absence of wilderness characteristics

Area Number/Name: AK-010-41, Swift Creek East

BLM Inventory Area acres: 8,959

1) Is the area of sufficient size? Yes

Description: The unit contains more than 5,000 contiguous acres of BLM-managed lands. The area is bounded by State-owned lands to the east, south, and west, and to the north by the Yukon Delta National Wildlife Refuge.

2) Does the area appear natural? Yes

Description: This remote unit contains no Native allotments, no roads, and one winter trail, which travels through the northeast corner of the area. Overall, this inventory area is highly natural in appearance and any work by humans is substantially unnoticeable.

3) Does the area have outstanding opportunities for solitude? Yes

Description: There are no communities located within the immediate vicinity of this inventory area. Due to the lack of roads and one low-use winter trail within this unit, limited land uses and permitted activities, a visitor has an opportunity to avoid the sights, sounds, and evidence of other people in this area.

4) Does the area have outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation? Yes

Description: The overall size and remoteness of this unit provides users with outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation, including but not limited to the following activities: remote hunting and camping, and snowmobiling.

5) Does the area have known supplemental values (ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic or historical value)? No

RESULTS OF ANALYSIS

Area Number/Name: AK-010-41, Swift Creek East

1. Does the area meet the size requirements? Yes
2. Does the area appear natural? Yes
3. Does the area offer outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation? Yes
4. Does the area have known supplemental values? No

CONCLUSION: The area has wilderness characteristics.

Evaluator(s): Jeff Kowalczyk Date: August 2014

1.2.7.4 Kilbuk Mountains North

Form 2. Current Conditions: Presence or absence of wilderness characteristics

Area Number/Name: AK-010-42, Kilbuk Mountains North

BLM Inventory Area acres: 140,366

1) Is the area of sufficient size? Yes

Description: The unit contains more than 5,000 contiguous acres of BLM-managed lands. The area is bounded on the north and east by Native and State-owned lands and to the west by the Yukon Delta National Wildlife Refuge.

2) Does the area appear natural? Yes

Description: This remote unit contains no Native allotments, no roads, and no trails. The northeast section of the unit contains lands with moderate mineral potential. Overall, this inventory area is highly natural in appearance and any work by humans is substantially unnoticeable.

3) Does the area have outstanding opportunities for solitude? Yes

Description: There are no communities located within the immediate vicinity of this inventory area. Due to the lack of roads and trails, limited land uses, and permitted activities, a visitor has an opportunity to avoid the sights, sounds, and evidence of other people in this area.

4) Does the area have outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation? Yes

Description: The overall size and remoteness of this unit provides users with outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation, including but not limited to the following activities: remote hunting and camping, and wildlife viewing.

5) Does the area have known supplemental values (ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic or historical value)? No

RESULTS OF ANALYSIS

Area Number/Name: AK-010-42, Kilbuk Mountains North

1. Does the area meet the size requirements? Yes
2. Does the area appear natural? Yes
3. Does the area offer outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation? Yes
4. Does the area have known supplemental values? No

CONCLUSION: The area has wilderness characteristics.

Evaluator(s): Jeff Kowalczyk Date: August 2014

1.2.7.6 Nyac Northeast

Form 2. Current Conditions: Presence or absence of wilderness characteristics

Area Number/Name: AK-010-43, Nyac Northeast

BLM Inventory Area acres: 84,347

1) Is the area of sufficient size? Yes

Description: The unit contains more than 5,000 contiguous acres of BLM-managed lands. The area is bounded on the east, south, and west by State-owned lands, and to the north by the Yukon Delta National Wildlife Refuge.

2) Does the area appear natural? Yes

Description: This remote unit contains no Native allotments, no roads, and no trails. The western edge of the unit contains lands with high mineral potential, include several active federal mining claims and State mining claims. Overall, this inventory area is highly natural in appearance and any work by humans is substantially unnoticeable.

3) Does the area have outstanding opportunities for solitude? Yes

Description: The small community of Aniak (current population 546, 2013 DCCED certified estimate) is located 18 miles to the north. Due to the lack of roads and trails, limited land uses, and permitted activities, a visitor has an opportunity to avoid the sights, sounds, and evidence of other people in this area.

4) Does the area have outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation? Yes

Description: The overall size and remoteness of this unit provides users with outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation, including but not limited to the following activities: remote hunting and camping, and wildlife viewing.

5) Does the area have known supplemental values (ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic or historical value)? No

RESULTS OF ANALYSIS

Area Number/Name: AK-010-42, AK-010-43, Nyac Northeast

1. Does the area meet the size requirements? Yes
2. Does the area appear natural? Yes
3. Does the area offer outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation? Yes
4. Does the area have known supplemental values? No

CONCLUSION: The area has wilderness characteristics.

Evaluator(s): Jeff Kowalczyk Date: August 2014

Chapter 2. Summary of Inventory Findings

The total acreage of BLM-managed lands in the BSWI planning area is 13,458,006 acres. A total of 13,382,250 acres met the size criteria of at least 5,000 continuous acres. All lands that met the size criteria were also found to contain naturalness, due to the fact that there are substantially unnoticeable human-made features throughout the areas. It has also been determined from the inventory that all areas that met the size criteria were found to possess outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation. The total percentage of lands that contain wilderness characteristics within the planning area is 98.7 percent. A summary of inventory findings for the entire planning area is presented in the table below.

Table 8. Summary of findings for lands with wilderness characteristics for entire planning area

| Total acres BLM-managed lands | Total Acres that meet Size Criteria | Total Acres that meet criteria for Lands with Wilderness Characteristics | Total Acres that did not meet criteria for Lands with Wilderness Characteristics |
|--------------------------------------|--|---|---|
| 13,458,006 | 13,382,250 | 13,382,250 | 69,967 |

References

- Alaska Department of Natural Resources and U.S. Geological Service. GIS Infrastructure Line File Geodatabase Feature Class. The Alaska Infrastructure 1:63,360 data set created for representation on the State status plats.
- National Park Service (NPS). 2006. Denali National Park and Preserve Alaska: Final Backcountry Management Plan, Wilderness Management page 50.
- Dictionary of Alaska Place Names. Geological Survey Professional Paper 567. U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington: 1967.

Appendix – Maps of Wilderness Inventory Subunits

Figure 2. North Nulato Hills Wilderness Characteristics Inventory Area

Figure 3. South Nulato Hills Wilderness Characteristics Inventory Area (including Yukon River Lowlands Inventory Area)

Figure 4. Kuskokwim Mountains Wilderness Characteristics Inventory Area

Figure 5. Tanana-Kuskokwim Lowlands Wilderness Characteristics Inventory Area (including Lime Hills Inventory Area)

Figure 6. Ahklun Mountains Wilderness Characteristics Inventory Area

This page intentionally left blank

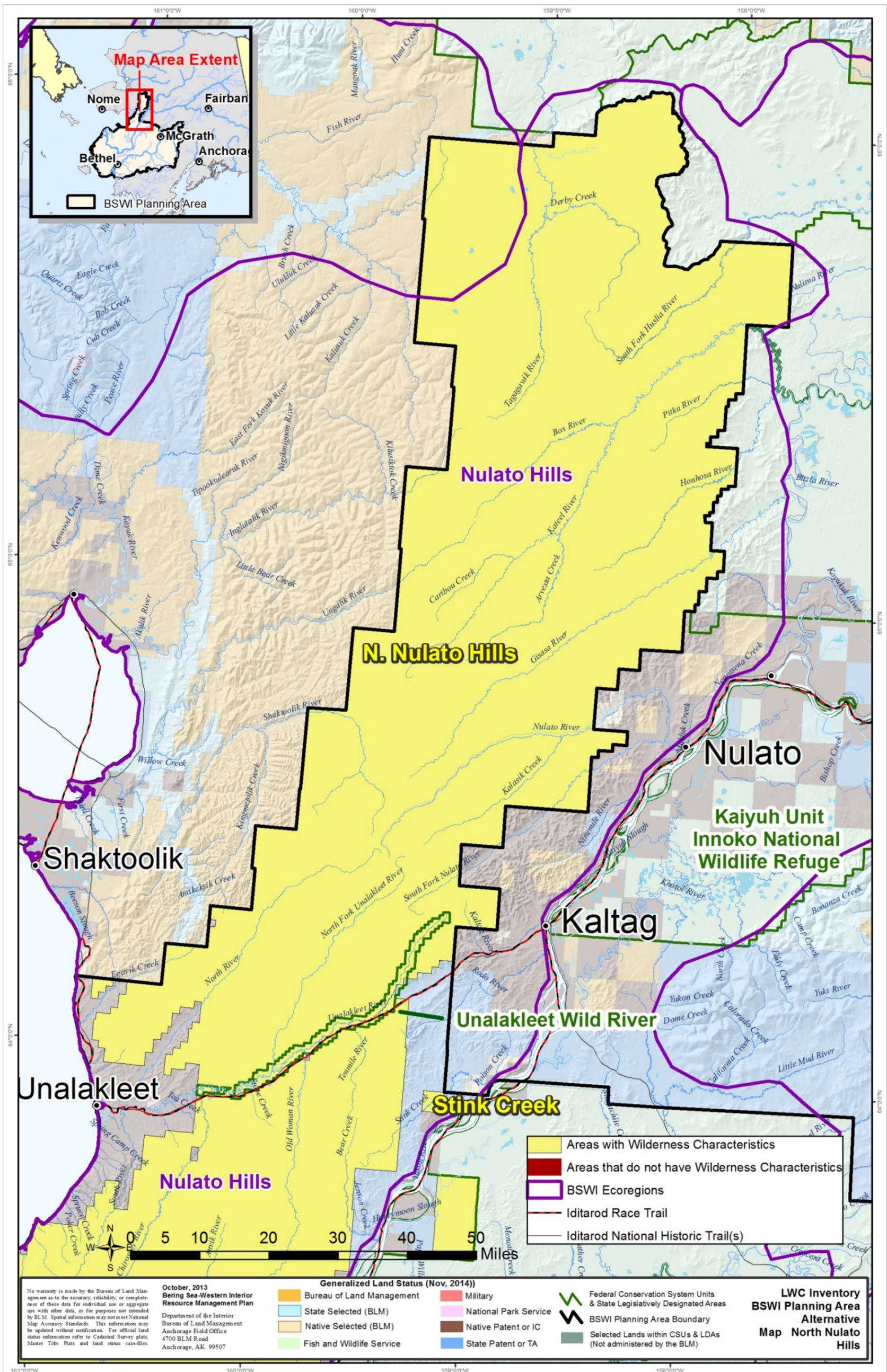


Figure 2. North Nulato Hills Wilderness Characteristics Inventory Area

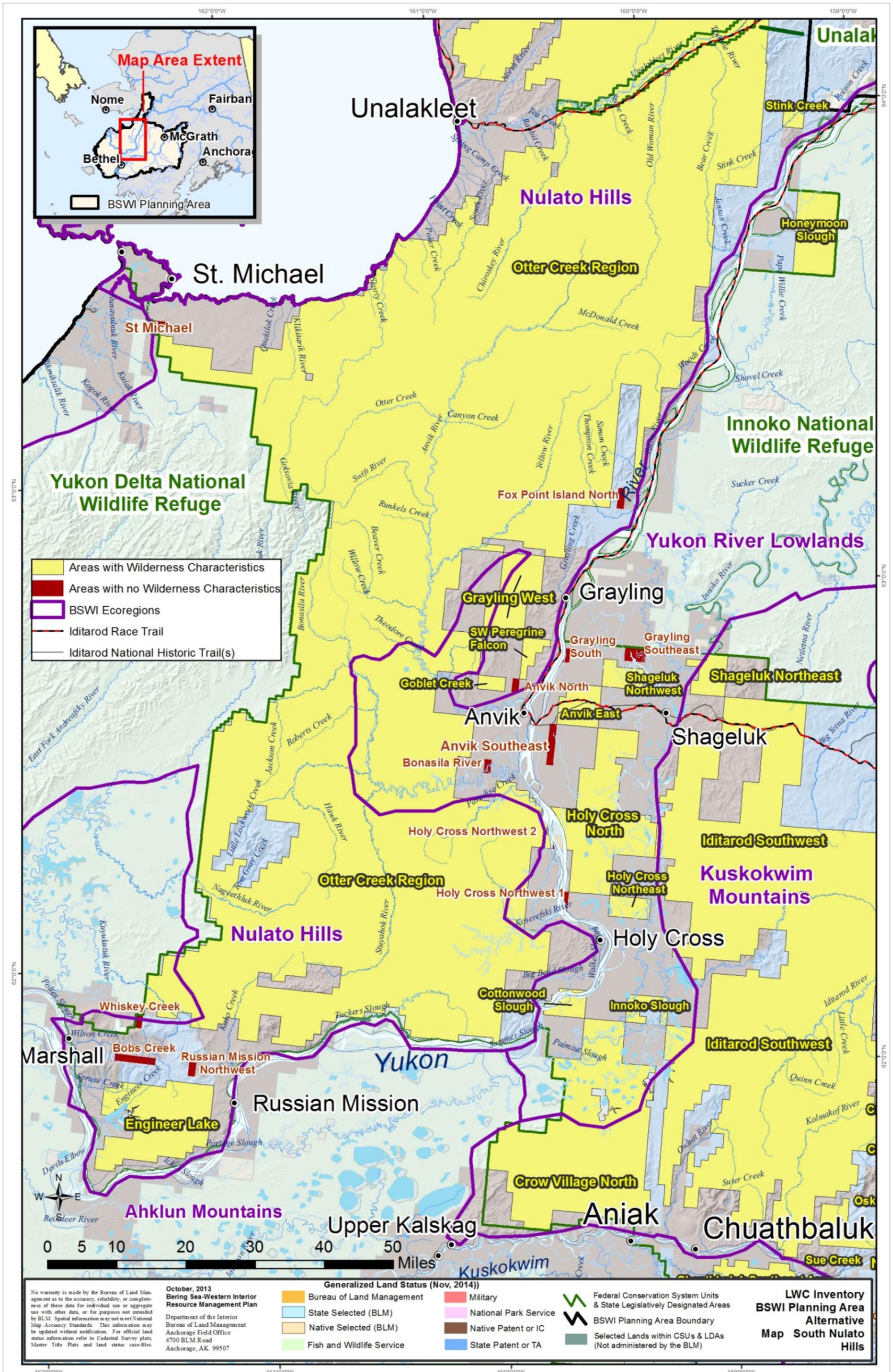


Figure 3. South Nulato Hills Wilderness Characteristics Inventory Area (including Yukon River Lowlands Inventory Area)

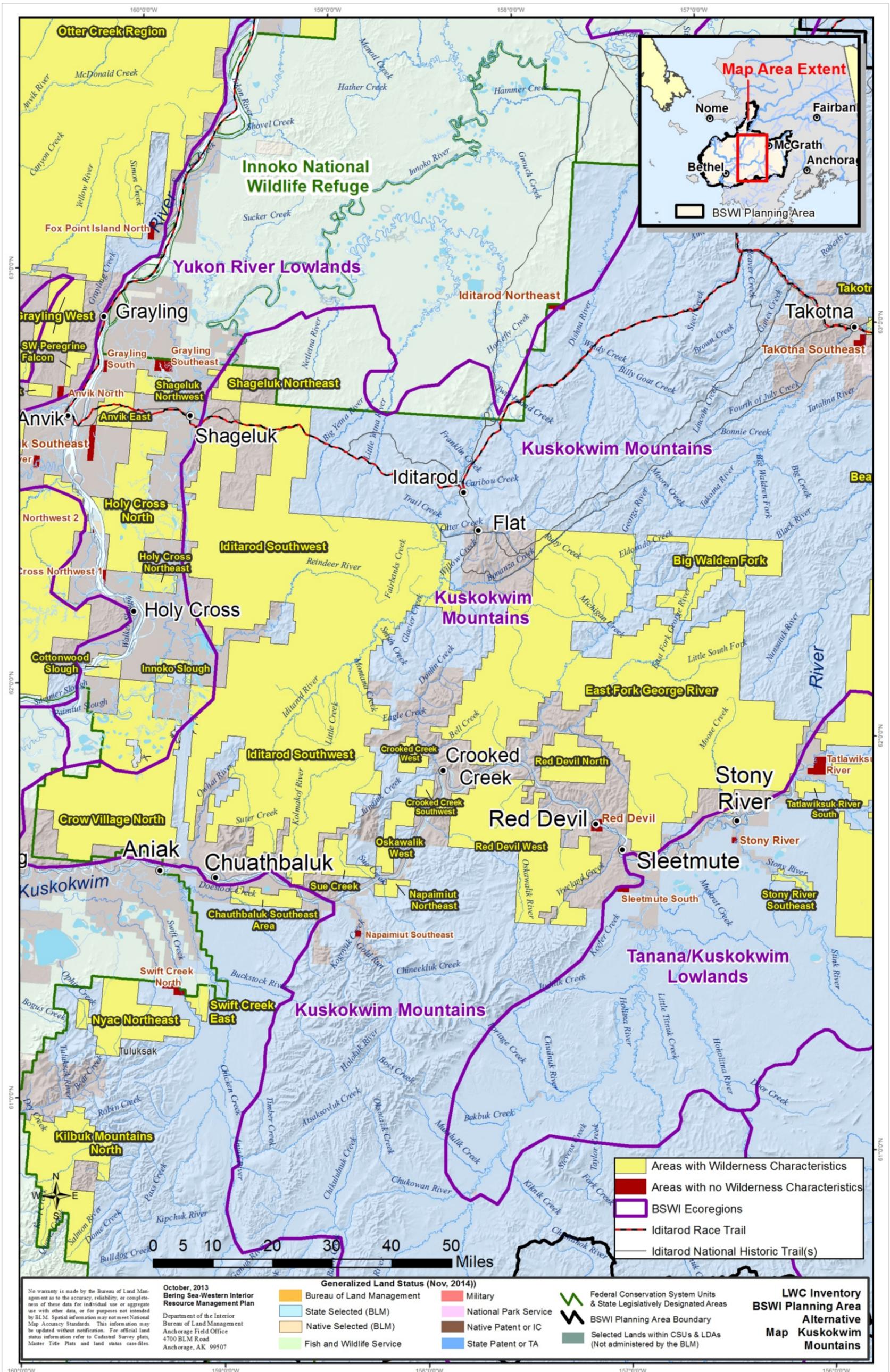


Figure 4. Kuskokwim Mountains Wilderness Characteristics Inventory Area

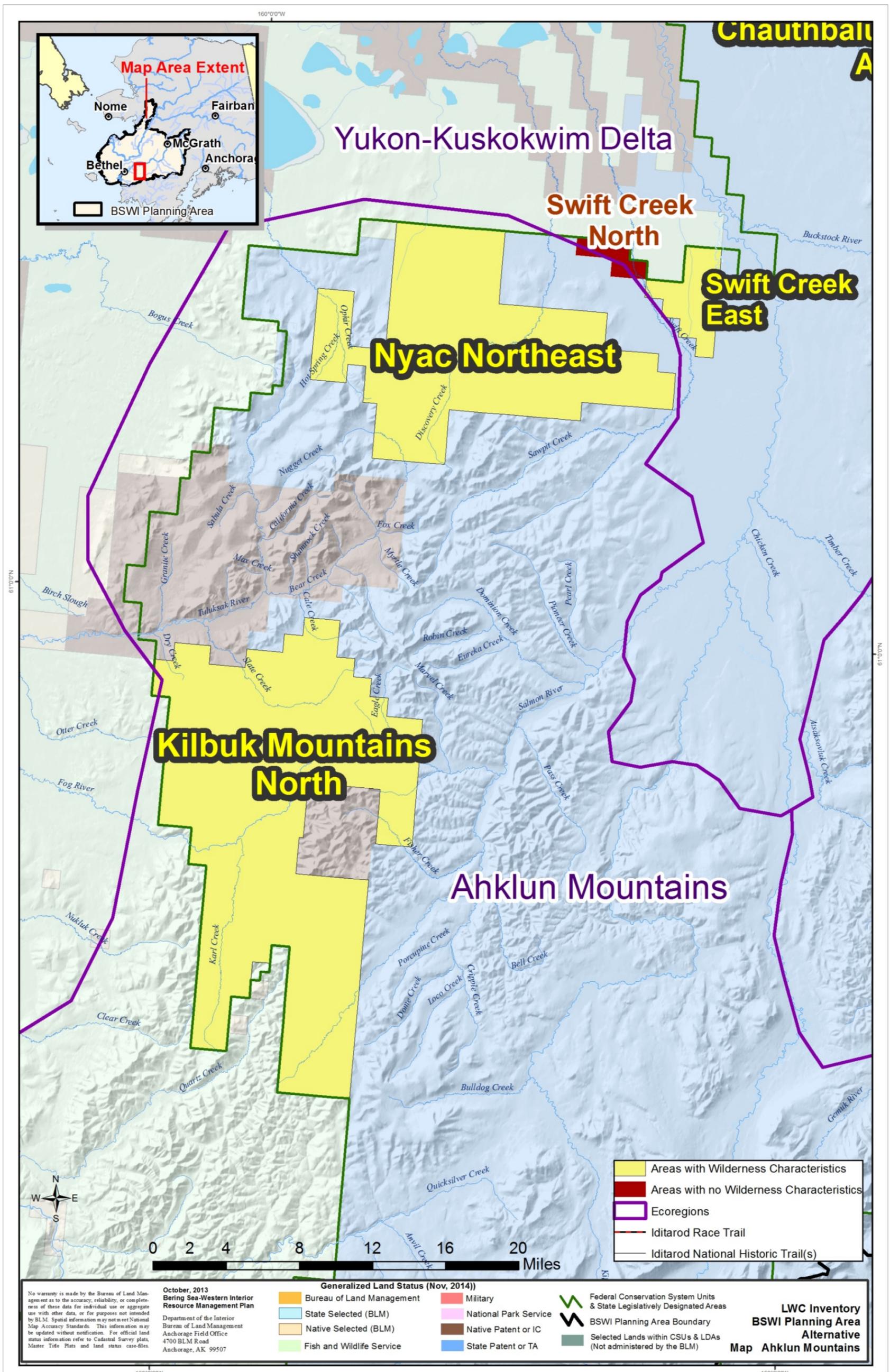


Figure 6. Ahklun Mountains Wilderness Characteristics Inventory Area