

**TIEKEL**  
**Proposed Special Recreation Management Area**  
**Comparisons of Alternatives - Recreation**

**MANAGEMENT GUIDANCE COMMON TO ALL ALTERNATIVES**

**Note: This SRMA is being proposed under Alternatives C and D. The accompanying map shows the SRMA proposal under Alternative C. See Table for specific descriptions. On State and Native selected lands, measures identified below would only apply until conveyance occurs. Adoption of identified measures after conveyance would be at the discretion of the State of Alaska or the Native corporation.**

**Objectives:**

1. Manage for positive recreational experiences within the existing ROS classes (roaded natural, semi-primitive motorized, semi-primitive, primitive). Following is a description of the general conditions expected under each recreation setting:
  - Roaded natural: This area covers the Richardson highway and lands adjacent to it, comprising a “corridor” 1 -2 miles wide, depending on topography. This area is characterized by a generally natural environment with moderate evidence of the sights and sounds of humans. Resource modification and utilization practices are evident. Concentration of users is low to moderate, and rustic facilities may exist for user convenience and safety. Area is accessible to motorized vehicles.
  - Semi-primitive motorized: Consists of areas off the highway corridor but accessible to OHVs or snowmachines. Area is characterized by a predominantly unmodified natural environment. Concentration of users is low, but there is often evidence of other area users.
  - Semi-primitive non-motorized: Same as semi-primitive motorized, but is free of motorized trails and roads.
  - Primitive: Area is characterized by essentially unmodified natural environment. Concentration of users is very low and evidence of other users is minimal.
2. Maintain quality of current viewshed by managing within SRMA as VRM classes II, III, and IV.

**Definition of “limited” for OHVs:** In this SRMA, limited would mean designation of trails, and possible vehicle size limitations on specific trails. Goal would be to designate trails to prevent unmanaged proliferation of motorized trails, and to provide a balance of motorized and non-motorized recreation opportunities. Unmanaged trail proliferation is causing and has potential to cause significant rutting, thermal erosion, and impacts to the viewshed. Secondary goal is to facilitate maintenance of designated trails. Trail designation would not apply to snowmachines. In Alternative C, “limited” designation within the Tonsina sub-unit would mean

seasonal (non-snow months) closure to motorized vehicles in the northern portion, and a complete closure to all motorized vehicles in the southern portion. Any proposal to limit or close specific trails will require completion of an implementation-level plan, including public, State, and Native coordination.

**PLO 5150 within this SRMA:** Unencumbered BLM lands within this SRMA fall within PLO 5150, which withdrew lands from mineral entry (inner corridor), mineral leasing, and the public land laws. Established purpose of this corridor is for transportation and utility ROWs. Within this corridor, SRMA objectives are compatible but allowances will be made consistent with the purpose of the corridor.

ALTERNATIVES – Tielke SRMA

DIFFERENCES IN MANAGEMENT GUIDANCE BY ALTERNATIVE					
<b>Note: Within this alternative table, “Interim” refers to management of State or Native selected lands until conveyed, “Long Term” refers to management of lands if they are retained in federal ownership.</b>					
<b>Management Actions</b>	<b>Alternative A: Current management</b>	<b>Alternative B: Development end of spectrum</b>	<b>Alternative C: Conserve/maintain end of spectrum</b>	<b>Alternative D: Interim</b>	<b>Alternative D: Long Term</b>
<b>Special Area Decision</b>	No SRMA designated.	No SRMA designated.	Designate SRMA as shown on map. Includes 847,481 acres, predominantly State and Native selected.	Same as C but exclude lands north of the Tonsina River. Includes 610,000 acres, predominantly State and Native selected.	Lands within the area described in D Interim retained in long term federal ownership would be designated as an SRMA with measures described below.
<b>Trails/Off-Highway-Vehicle (OHV)</b>	No restrictions on BLM-managed lands.	Open.	OHVs within this area would be limited as described above.	OHVs limited as described above on unencumbered BLM lands. Work with State and Natives on designation of trails on selected lands.	OHVs limited as described above on unencumbered BLM lands and on any lands retained in long term federal ownership.

ALTERNATIVES – Tielkel SRMA

<b>Management Actions</b>	<b>Alternative A: Current management</b>	<b>Alternative B: Development end of spectrum</b>	<b>Alternative C: Conserve/maintain end of spectrum</b>	<b>Alternative D: Interim</b>	<b>Alternative D: Long Term</b>
<b>Trails/OHV:</b> Tonsina sub-unit (motorized closure)	No current restrictions.	No OHV closures.	Trails within this sub-unit will be designated. The northern portion of the sub-unit will be closed to motorized vehicles in the summer, open to snowmachines in the winter. Southern portion will be closed year-round (includes helicopter-supported SRPs). Sub-unit does not include the pipeline/utility corridor and is buffered off the highways to exclude most existing motorized trails.	OHVs managed as described above. No area closures.	OHVs managed as described above. No area closures.
<b>Construction of new airstrips</b>	Considered case-by-case.	Same as alternative A.	No new airstrips.	Consider case-by-case.	Avoid construction of new airstrips in areas being managed for a primitive recreation experience. Otherwise, consider case-by-case.

ALTERNATIVES – Tiekel SRMA

<b>Management Actions</b>	<b>Alternative A: Current management</b>	<b>Alternative B: Development end of spectrum</b>	<b>Alternative C: Conserve/maintain end of spectrum</b>	<b>Alternative D: Interim</b>	<b>Alternative D: Long Term</b>
<b>Construction of new roads</b>	Considered case-by-case.	Explore potential of new roads in roaded-natural areas to increase opportunities for dispersed recreation with secondary goal of facilitating forestry practices. ROW applications for new roads outside of roaded-natural areas would be considered.	No new road construction outside of pipeline/utility corridor. Avoid inside pipeline/utility corridor.	Consider case-by-case. Roads within pipeline/utility corridor for other practices (forestry, utility) will be considered to retain if consistent with roaded-natural rec. experience. In other areas, use of temporary and winter roads should be emphasized, with measures identified to mitigate visual impacts.	Same as D Interim.
<b>Minerals: Locatable minerals</b>	Closed within portions of pipeline/utility corridor (inner portion) by PLO 5150. Open in most of the rest of the area due to PLO 6329.	Keep open.	Recommend closure of entire SRMA to mineral entry to protect recreation and viewshed values.	Closed to mineral entry by State and Native selection.	Retain closure within inner portion of pipeline/utility corridor. Other lands would be open.
<b>Minerals: Leasable minerals (Oil&amp;Gas)</b>	Closed within PLO 5150. Open in most of the rest of the area due to PLO 6329.	Open all except inner corridor of 5150.	Maintain PLO 5150 withdrawals.	Closed to mineral leasing by State and Native selection.	Maintain PLO 5150 withdrawals. In areas retained in federal ownership, all areas within VRM Class II would be No Surface Occupancy.

ALTERNATIVES – Tiekel SRMA

<b>Management Actions</b>	<b>Alternative A: Current management</b>	<b>Alternative B: Development end of spectrum</b>	<b>Alternative C: Conserve/maintain end of spectrum</b>	<b>Alternative D: Interim</b>	<b>Alternative D: Long Term</b>
<b>Minerals:</b> Leasable minerals (Coal)	Same as O&G.	Open all except inner corridor of 5150. The area would be open for coal leasing and suitable for development by all mining methods.	Maintain PLO 5150 withdrawals. In addition, all SRMA should be closed to coal leasing.	Closed to mineral leasing by State and Native selection.	Maintain PLO 5150 withdrawals. In open areas, all areas within VRM Class II will be considered unsuitable for surface mining of coal. Other areas within the SRMA will be open to coal leasing and suitable for development by all mining methods.
<b>Minerals:</b> Mineral materials	Considered on a case-by-case basis.	Allow on a case-by-case basis.	Do not permit.	Consider case-by-case.	Avoid development of mineral material sites in areas being managed for primitive recreation experience.
<b>Public use cabins</b>	None currently in place.	Should be considered.	Do not permit.	Not considered on State or Native selected lands.	Would be considered within this area, with emphasis on semi-primitive motorized and roaded-natural areas.
<b>Special Recreation Permits (SRP)</b>	Permitted on case-by-case basis.	Same as alternative A.	Determine management objectives for commercial recreation use.	Same as C.	Same as C.

ALTERNATIVES – Tiekel SRMA

<b>Management Actions</b>	<b>Alternative A: Current management</b>	<b>Alternative B: Development end of spectrum</b>	<b>Alternative C: Conserve/maintain end of spectrum</b>	<b>Alternative D: Interim</b>	<b>Alternative D: Long Term</b>
<b>Recreational facilities</b>	A few trailheads.	Work with ADOT to develop two waysides (preferably at trailheads) within this SRMA. Waysides would provide educational/interpretive signs and outhouses. Also consider bicycle route on old Richardson highway.	Do not develop trailheads that access areas managed for a primitive experience.	No BLM expenditure on facilities until land status is resolved.	Update, develop selected trailheads. Use trailheads for education/interpretation regarding land status, LNT, and cultural resources.
<b>Lands and Realty: Emphasis area for acquisition?</b>	No	No	Yes	No.	No.
<b>Lands and Realty: FLPMA 302 permits</b>	Yes, case-by-case.	Yes, case-by-case.	No.	No for occupancy permits in areas being managed for primitive recreation experience. Case-by-case for non-occupancy permits, but avoid in areas being managed for primitive recreation experience.	Same as D Interim.
<b>Lands and Realty: FLPMA, R&amp;PP leases</b>	Yes, case-by-case.	Same as A.	No.	OK, except avoid in areas being managed for primitive recreation experience.	Same as D Interim.

ALTERNATIVES – Tiekel SRMA

<b>Management Actions</b>	<b>Alternative A: Current management</b>	<b>Alternative B: Development end of spectrum</b>	<b>Alternative C: Conserve/maintain end of spectrum</b>	<b>Alternative D: Interim</b>	<b>Alternative D: Long Term</b>
<b>Lands and Reality: Rights of Way (ROW)</b>	Evaluate case by case.	Allow, case by case.	No, except pipeline/utility corridor.	OK in pipeline/utility corridor, avoid in areas being managed for primitive recreation experience.	Same as D Interim.
<b>Military permits, activities</b>	Considered case-by-case.	Same as A.	No.	OK, but avoid in areas being managed for primitive recreation experience.	Same as D Interim.
<b>Fire</b>	See current suppression classes.	Same as A.		Current suppression classes OK, no limitations on prescribed fire. Use fuels treatment projects and wildland fire to achieve resource objectives and protect life and property.	Same as D Interim.
<b>Forestry</b>	Some sales have taken place.		Allow personal use and commercial firewood permits and sales.	Portions of this SRMA are a Forestry emphasis area. Most forestry activities will take place within the pipeline/utility corridor (5150). Forestry activities will meet VRM objectives for the area.	Same as D Interim.