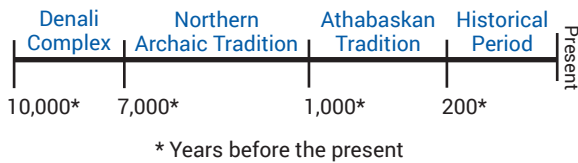


A Window to the Past

Secrets of lives lived long ago are hidden amidst the jagged up-thrusts of mountains and the sweeping grandeur of glaciers in Southcentral Alaska. Located along the Denali Highway between mileposts 17 and 37 is an area rich in historic and prehistoric remains called the Tangle Lakes Archaeological District.

This area contains over 600 archaeological sites, with artifacts ranging from pit-houses to hand-fashioned stone tools. Carbon-dating tests helped identify four different cultural traditions.

Cultural Traditions of the Past



People have used the trails in the area since the Ice Age. Athabaskan hunters once traveled these paths seeking caribou for their large winter villages along the Gulkana River. Miners in the region also used these trails to explore and access placer gold mining claims in both Valdez Creek and around the Tangle Lakes.

The Tangle Lakes Archaeological District was accepted to the National Register of Historic Places in 1971. This register recognizes historic properties that are significant in telling our nation's story. The *Archaeological Resources Protection Act* and other laws prohibit collecting or damaging artifacts or historic properties. Offenders can be *cited and fined*, their equipment *seized*, and be required by the Federal Court to *pay for damage assessments and all damage repairs*.



Wide Open Spaces

Not only is this a place to imagine and appreciate the past, this place is also a wonderland for outdoor activities. The Tangle Lakes Archaeological District has many uses including:

- berry picking
- biking
- boating
- camping
- fishing
- hiking
- horseback riding
- hunting
- mining
- off-highway vehicle riding
- photography
- snow machining
- wildlife watching

To protect environmentally sensitive areas and our historic heritage, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and State of Alaska Department of Natural Resources (DNR) have designated 8 trails open for off-highway vehicle (OHV) use within the Tangle Lakes Archaeological District. Find these trails on the map on the back of this page. A maintained hiking trail is also accessible within the BLM Tangle Lakes campground.

You can get topographic maps at the State of Alaska DNR Public Information Office or online at www.usgs.gov. **PLEASE** help us preserve this rich, varied and significant area for your future use and the enjoyment of others.

RIDING RESPONSIBLY

Stay on designated trails

Do not pioneer new trails

Respect other trail users

Use improved trails when available

Only cross streams at designated crossings

Pack out your trash





Plan ahead and be prepared

Know your limits

Do not collect or disturb artifacts

More tips at www.treadlightly.org

Now You Know...

-  Why the Tangle Lakes Archaeological District is special.
-  Where to visit the Tangle Lakes Archaeological District.
-  What recreational activities you can enjoy here.
-  When and where you can use off-highway vehicles.

Questions? Contact us:

Bureau of Land Management

Glennallen Field Office
PO Box 147
Glennallen, AK 99588
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www.blm.gov/office/glennallen-field-office

Alaska Department of Natural Resources

Southcentral Region Land Office
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Anchorage, AK 99501-3577
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Tangle Lakes

Archaeological District



Map & Guide

U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management

State-managed Tangle Lakes Archaeological District

Trails 1-3 managed by the Alaska Department of Natural Resources

Special Rules for Trails 1-3:

- **Between May 18 and October 18**, use of motorized vehicles are limited to the designated trails only within the Tangle Lakes Archaeological District
- **Between October 19 and May 17**, use of motorized vehicles are limited to the designated trails, except as provided in 11 AAC 96.020(a)(1)(D) and (E) if snow cover or ground frost is sufficient to prevent damage to archaeological values. Sufficient snow cover means an average of 1 foot of snow, with a minimum of 6 inches. Sufficient ground frost means minimum of 6 inches.

Symbols show recommended uses for each trail. Match the numbers with the map locations.

1. Maclaren Summit Trail (MP 37)



This 9.5-mile trail provides access across the tundra at Maclaren Summit, opening up fantastic views and ending at the west end of Sevenmile Lake. This trail is located within the Department of Fish and Game's Clearwater Creek Controlled Use Area, which prohibits hunting with motorized vehicles.

2. Glacier Lake to Sevenmile Lake Trail (MP 30.5)



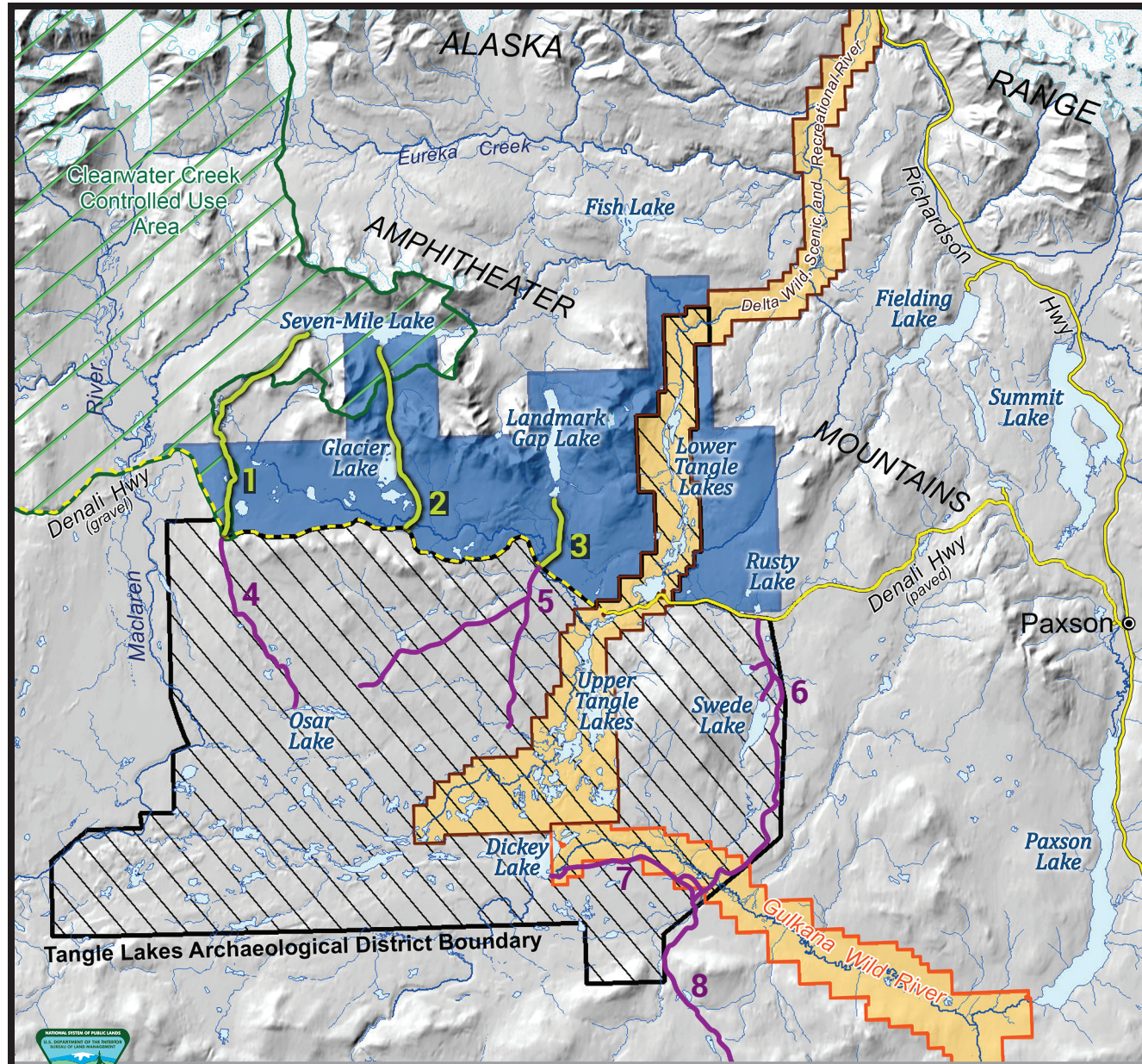
This trail extends 3.5 miles to the southern end of Glacier Gap Lake, continues approximately 5 miles to Sevenmile Lake, and is fully encompassed by the State of Alaska TLAD Special Use Area. The trail crosses a large stream approximately .25 miles from the trailhead and traverses through hillsides over rugged terrain, affording visitors spectacular views of the landscape and wildlife.

3. Landmark Gap Trail North (MP 24.6)

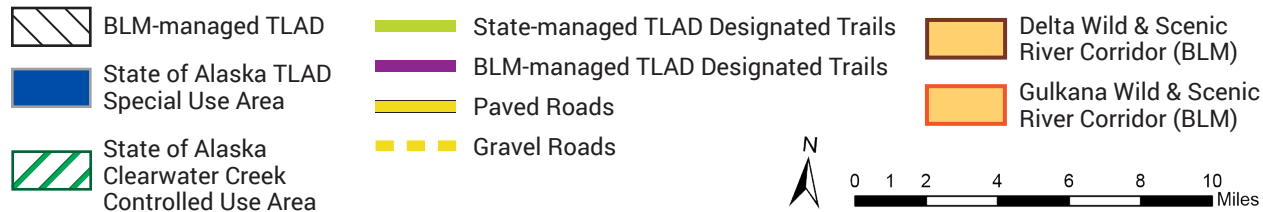


This trail extends approximately 3 miles to the south of Landmark Gap Lake. The trail is rocky and dry with one marshy spot with a solid, rocky bottom to facilitate crossing. This trail is within the State of Alaska TLAD Special Use Area. All users should stay on the trail, as there are several archaeological sites nearby.

The information displayed on this map should be used for graphic display only and is not intended to depict all land status in the area. For official land status information, refer to Cadastral Survey plats, Master Title Plats and land status case-files, which can be found at <http://sdms.ak.blm.gov/>



Designated Trails within the Tangle Lakes Archaeological District



BLM-managed Tangle Lakes Archaeological District

Trails 4-8 managed by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM)

Special Rules for Trails 4-8:

- **Between May 16 and October 15**, off-highway vehicles (OHVs) are limited to these designated trails only, while traveling within the BLM-managed areas of the Tangle Lakes Archaeological District. OHV travel off designated trails is a violation under 43 CFR 8341.1(c).
- **Winter OHV use** is unrestricted when adequate snowfall or ground frost is present. Sufficient snow cover means an average of 1 foot of snow, with a minimum of 6 inches. Sufficient ground frost means a minimum of 6 inches.

Symbols show recommended uses for each trail. Match the numbers with the map locations.

4. Osar Lake Trail (MP 37)



This trail leaves Maclaren Summit and travels south approximately 8 miles to the northwest shore of Osar Lake. It crosses glacial eskers and is fairly dry.

5. Landmark Gap Trail South (MP 24.7)



This trail travels south and then branches to the southwest and southeast. The southwest branch extends approximately 8 miles to the vicinity of Osar Lake; the southeast branch extends approximately 5 miles to a viewpoint of the upper Tangle Lakes. There is a large muddy and rocky area at the beginning of the trail. Water crossings may be difficult after periods of heavy rains.

6. Swede Lake Trail (MP 16)



This trail extends approximately 3 miles to the northern end of Swede Lake, continues approximately 7 miles to the Middle Fork Gulkana Branch Trail, and an additional 0.5 miles to the Alphabet Hills Trail. This trail can be wet after heavy rains and portions are outside the Tangle Lakes Archaeological District.

7. Dickey Lake Trail



Accessed by the Swede Lake Trail, this trail parallels the Middle Fork of the Gulkana River. The trail can be extremely wet.

8. Alphabet Hills Trail



An extension of the Swede Lake Trail, this trail provides a route into the Alphabet Hills. The trail is not maintained and is muddy and wet throughout the summer months.