

FEDERAL AID INTERIM PERFORMANCE REPORT

ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME
DIVISION OF WILDLIFE CONSERVATION
PO Box 115526
Juneau, AK 99811-5526

Alaska Department of Fish and Game Wildlife Restoration Grant

Grant Number: AKW-14

Segment Number: 1

Project Numbers: 1.0 through 8.0

Project Title: DNR Hunter Access Projects

Project Duration: 1 December 2015 – 31 December 2019

Project Reporting Period: 1 March 2017 – 1 March 2018

Report Due Date: 31 March 2018

Partners: Alaska Department of Natural Resources, Divisions of Parks and Outdoor Recreation and Mining, Land, and Water

PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR: Rys Miranda (DPOR), Clark Cox (DML&W)

COOPERATORS: Luke Randall, Jake Dondek (DPOR) and Candy Snow, Adam Leland (DMLW)

WORK LOCATION: Statewide

I. PROGRESS ON PROJECT OBJECTIVES DURING LAST SEGMENT

OBJECTIVE 1.0: Maclaren Summit Trail Extension

A Reimbursable Services Agreement (RSA) is established between the Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) and the Alaska Department of Natural Resources (DNR) for the disbursement of Pittman-Robertson (PR) grant funds. There were no expenditures during this period. It is unknown at this time how much of this budget will be spent in FY18 but it is anticipated that all funds will be expended in FY19, specifically by September 30, 2018.

OBJECTIVE 2.0: Trailhead Kiosks – Denali Highway

A RSA is established between ADF&G and the DNR for the disbursement of PR funds. The design and manufacturing of the kiosks were accomplished under RSA # 1078645300 for \$43,000 to the Division of Parks and Outdoor Recreation (DPOR). All expenditures for this grant will be made within FY18, thus by June 30, 2018.

OBJECTIVE 3.0: Rex Trail

The Rex Trail Reroute Project is ongoing. The original Capital Improvement Project (CIP) funding of \$240,000 was used as match funds (25%) for a federally awarded PR Grant (75%) of \$720,000, for a total project budget of \$960,000.

A Cultural Resource Survey of the project site was conducted by State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) under RSA #180000522 for \$12,662.50 to insure compliance with federal section 106 requirements. Field work was conducted October 10 thru 12, 2018, and a Short Form Report was submitted per funding requirements. SHPO concurrence with Section 106 approval for the Seven Mile Lake reroute pilot project was received on January 5th, 2018. To date, \$1,784 has been spent from the SHPO RSA, although billing for all hours has not yet been received.

The Alaska Department of Transportation (DOT) is designing the project and providing contract bid and on-site management for route construction under RSA #170007497. Total value of the RSA is \$773,000 with \$579,750 (75%) from P-R match funds and \$193,250 (25%) from (CIP) funds. An amendment was added to RSA #170007497 for an additional \$127,000, with \$95,250 (75%) from P-R funds and \$31,750 (25%) from CIP funds for project construction. Total value of RSA #170007497 is now \$900,000. The DOT engineer's estimate of project construction cost is \$794,697, and remaining funds will be used for the design process and a cushion for construction costs. Project design is now complete and the plan package is currently (as of 2/23/2018) posted on the DOT project bid calendar. Construction bids will start being accepted on February 27, 2018, with contract awarded around March 27, 2018. Until the contract is issued, the precise encumbrance is unknown, although anticipated to be between 800,000 and 900,000.

OBJECTIVE 4.0: Chena River State Recreation Area Development

The project is currently in the design and permitting phase. The design is currently at the 95% design level and is being circulated for review. The Fairbanks North Star Borough Floodplain Manager has some questions regarding our floodplain permit application. We are setting up a meeting to address those questions and attempt to avoid delays.

Federal funds have not been spent on this project. The federal funds will be spent down during the construction phase of the project, which is scheduled for later this summer.

OBJECTIVE 5: Lower Chatanika State Recreation Area

Environmental, design, and permitting work were completed during this performance period. The project was advertised for competitive bidding for construction. The low bidder came in at \$649,690, and the engineer's estimate was \$694,350, so we are moving forward with awarding the contract.

Federal funds have not yet been spent on this project. The federal funds will be spent down during the construction phase of the project, which is scheduled to begin in April 2018.

OBJECTIVE 6: Moon Lake State Recreation Site

Environmental and design work commenced during this performance period. The 35% design was completed in fall 2017. The design is advancing to 65% level at which point the design will be detailed enough to apply for the necessary permits.

Federal funds have not yet been spent on this project. The federal funds will be spent down during the construction phase of the project.

OBJECTIVE 7: Byers Lake Bridge Replacement

During performance period, the project was in the construction phase. The project was delayed due to availability of materials conforming to Buy American requirements. The delay resulted in missing the winter construction window, thus pushing construction back until next winter. The contractor constructed a temporary bridge to accommodate crossings during the summer.

Fabrications of bridge sections were completed in the lower 48 during the summer and have been shipped up to the state.

The contractor spent most of January and February building an ice road to mobilize equipment to the project site. Equipment was mobilized to the project site in February and installation of micropiles began in mid-February but has slowed down due to a modification to the foundation design.

Approximately \$310,037.00 of federal funds has been spent on this project, all of which went into construction contract payments (four contract payments total).

OBJECTIVE 8: Penguin Creek Bridge Replacement

Environmental and design work commenced during this performance period. The 35% design was completed in December 2017. The design is advancing to the 65% level at which point the design will be detailed enough to apply for the necessary permits.

Federal funds have not yet been spent on this project. The federal funds will be spent down during the construction phase of the project.

II. SUMMARY OF WORK COMPLETED ON JOBS IDENTIFIED IN ANNUAL PLAN THIS PERIOD

Job/Activity 1.0: Maclaren Summit Trail Extension

Accomplishments: This project is currently out to bid with the plan to complete construction by September 30, 2018. No changes have been made to the approved scope of work.

A cultural resource review (Form B) has been submitted, and this project will require a full archaeological survey. We are in the process of securing a service contract with the SHPO to conduct an archaeological survey.

Job/Activity 2.0: Trailhead Kiosks – Denali Highway

Accomplishments: During fall 2017, the kiosks were designed and built (see attached PDF's of the final design) and will be installed in June 2018. Cultural resource review (Form B) was submitted and it was found to be exempt under Appendix B of PA, thus nothing further is needed regarding NHPA compliance.

Job/Activity 3.0: Rex Trail

Accomplishments: The US Army Corps of Engineers wetland fill permit application was submitted August 8, 2017 and permit POA-2017-408 was received January 12th, 2018, after being amended with additional construction details from DOT project engineers. As part of the USACE process, DEC issued a 404 Clean Water certification for the project on December 12th, 2017.

A Cultural Resource Survey of the project site was conducted by State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) to insure compliance with federal section 106 requirements. Field work was conducted October 10 thru 12, 2018, and a Short Form Report was submitted per funding requirements. SHPO concurrence with Section 106 approval for the Seven Mile Lake reroute pilot project was received on January 5th, 2018.

Originally, construction of the reroute was expected to commence in February/March of 2018 with the project complete by November of 2018, but this date was determined to be infeasible with winter thaw rapidly approaching. Construction is now planned for the winter season of 2018-19, and an amendment to the P-R funding deadlines has been submitted. Completion of the construction and final closeout of funding sources is expected November 2019.

Job/Activity 4.0: Chena River State Recreation Area Trailheads

Accomplishments:

Environmental and design work for Compeau, Mastodon, and Upper Chena Dome trailheads commenced during this performance period. The 95% design was completed in February 2018. The 95% plans are currently being reviewed. Construction permit applications have been submitted.

Job/Activity 5.0: Lower Chatanika River State Recreation Area Facility Improvements

Accomplishments:

Environmental, design, and permitting work were completed during this performance period. The project was advertised for competitive bidding for construction. Construction contract award is pending.

Job/Activity 6.0: Moon Lake State Recreation Site Facility Improvements

Accomplishments:

Environmental and design work commenced during this performance period. The 35% design was completed in fall 2017.

Job/Activity 7.0: Byers Lake Bridge Replacement

Accomplishments:

Fabrication of bridge sections were completed in the lower 48 during the summer and have been shipped up to the state.

The contractor spent most of January and February building an ice road to mobilize equipment to the project site. Equipment was mobilized to the project site in February, and installation of micropiles began in mid-February but has slowed down due to a modification to the foundation design.

Job/Activity 8.0: Penguin Creek

Accomplishments:

Environmental and design work commenced during this performance period. The 35% design was completed in December 2017.

III. SIGNIFICANT DEVIATIONS AND/OR ADDITIONAL FEDERAL AID-FUNDED WORK NOT DESCRIBED ABOVE THAT WAS ACCOMPLISHED ON THIS PROJECT DURING THIS SEGMENT PERIOD

OBJECTIVE 1.0: Maclaren Summit Trail Extension

No major deviations and/or additional work not described above.

OBJECTIVE 2.0: Trailhead Kiosks – Denali Highway

No major deviations and/or additional work not described above.

OBJECTIVE 3.0: Rex Trail

No major deviations and/or additional work not described above.

OBJECTIVE 4.0: Chena River State Recreation Area Trailheads

No major deviations and/or additional work not described above.

OBJECTIVE 5.0: Lower Chatanika River State Recreation Area Facility Improvements

No major deviations and/or additional work not described above.

OBJECTIVE 6.0: Moon Lake State Recreation Site Facility Improvements

No major deviations and/or additional work not described above.

OBJECTIVE 7.0: Byers Lake Bridge Replacement

During installation of the micropiles, we discovered that bedrock was deeper than what was anticipated by the geotechnical investigation. As such the micropile design was impractical and would not have sufficient capacity to anchor the bridge. The design consultant came up with an alternative micropile design which was agreeable to the contractor. The new design required some material which is currently on order. In the meantime, installation of micropile casing is progressing. DPOR may request additional funding for the pending change order, estimated to be around \$200,000 (\$150,000 federal-aid / \$50,000 non-federal match).

OBJECTIVE 8.0: Penguin Creek Bridge Replacement

No major deviations and/or additional work not described above.

IV. PUBLICATIONS

OBJECTIVE 1.0: Maclaren Summit Trail Extension

No publications produced during this period.

OBJECTIVE 2.0: Trailhead Kiosks – Denali Highway

Final kiosk designs are attached.

OBJECTIVE 3.0: Rex Trail

100% Plans (Drawings and Specifications) for competitive bidding.

OBJECTIVE 4.0: Chena River State Recreation Area Trailheads

95% Plans (Drawings and Specifications) for review.

OBJECTIVE 5.0: Lower Chatanika River State Recreation Area Facility Improvements

100% Plans for competitive bidding.

OBJECTIVE 6.0: Moon Lake State Recreation Site Facility Improvements

35% Plans for review.

OBJECTIVE 7.0: Byers Lake Bridge Replacement

No publications produced during this period.

OBJECTIVE 8.0: Penguin Creek Bridge Replacement

35% Plans for review.

V. RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THIS PROJECT

OBJECTIVE 4.0: Chena River State Recreation Area Trailheads

Proceed with finalizing plans and permits and advance project into construction.

OBJECTIVE 5.0: Lower Chatanika River State Recreation Area Facility Improvements

Advance project into construction.

OBJECTIVE 6.0: Moon Lake State Recreation Site Facility Improvements

Proceed with finalizing plans and permits and advance project into construction.

OBJECTIVE 7.0: Byers Lake Bridge Replacement

Apply for and secure additional funding to help cover the change order costs.

OBJECTIVE 8.0: Penguin Creek Bridge Replacement

Proceed with finalizing plans and permits and advance project into construction.

Prepared by: Candice Snow, ML&W; Rys Miranda, DPOR

Submitted by: Brenda Bowers

Date: March 7, 2018

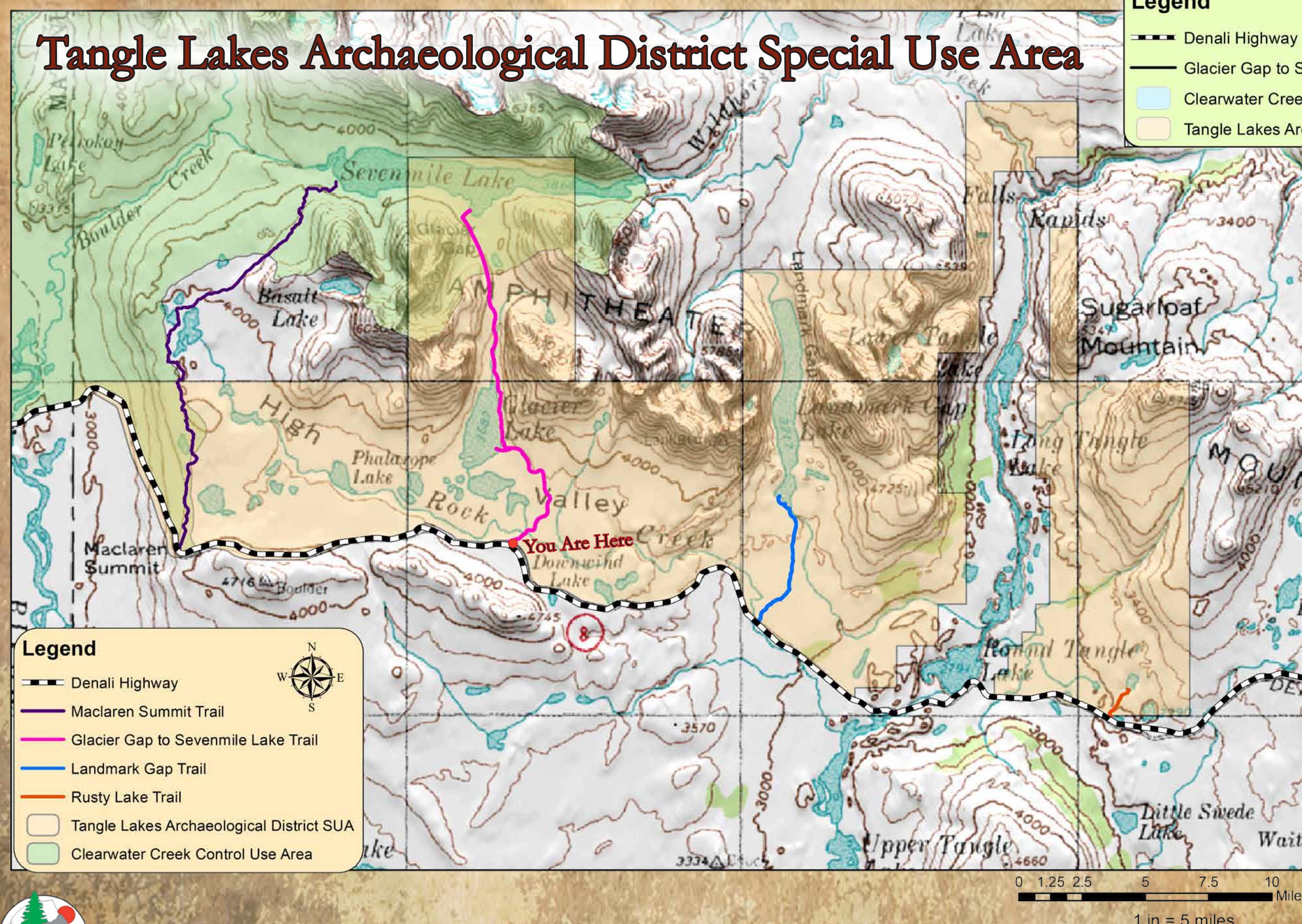
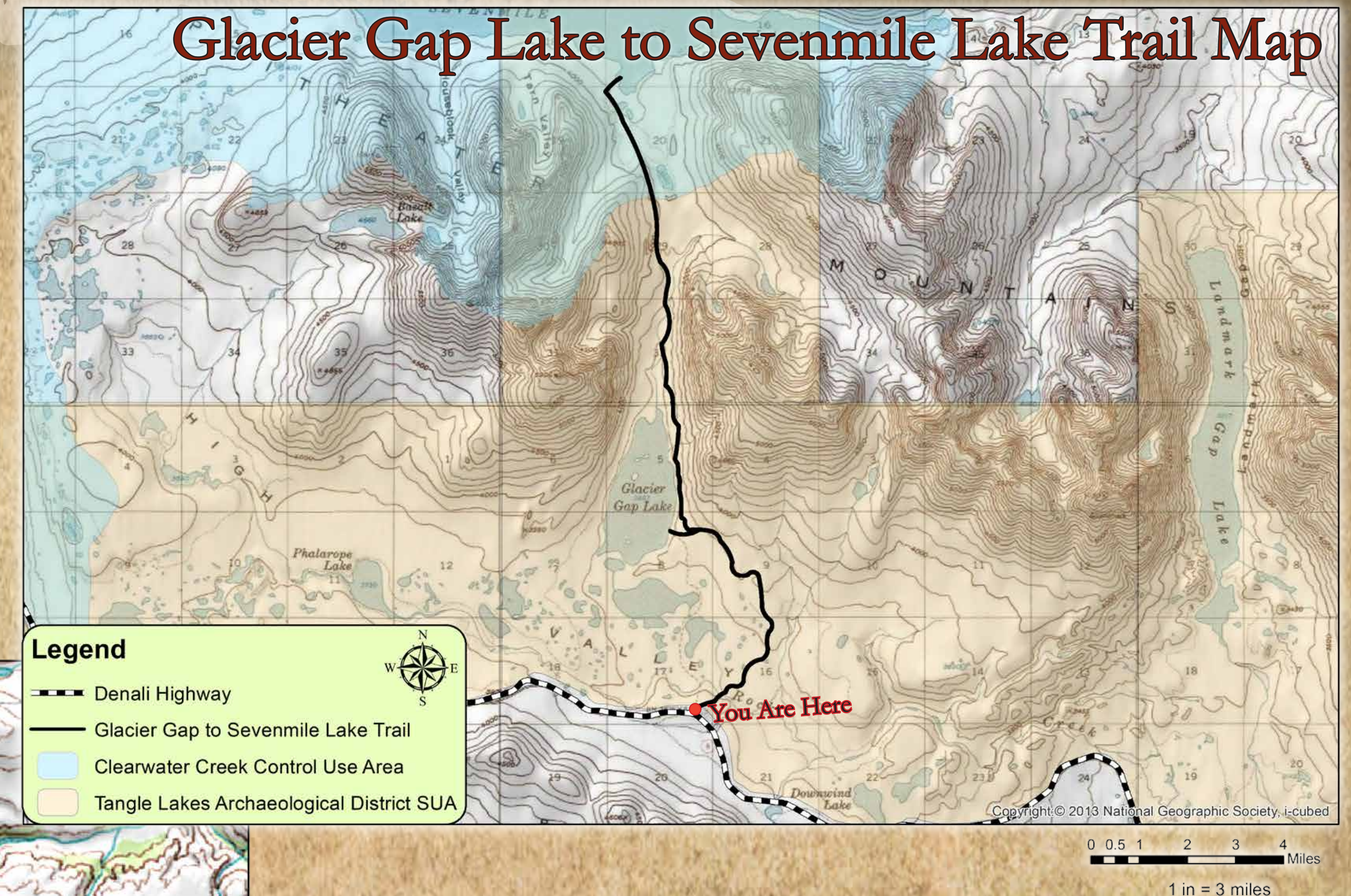
Tangle Lakes Archaeological District

Glacier Gap Trailhead

The landscape around you is embedded with clues about what this landscape was like thousands of years ago.

Glacier Gap Lake to Sevenmile Lake Trail (MP 30.5)

The trail extends 3.5 miles to the southern end of Glacier Gap Lake then continues approximately 5 miles to Sevenmile Lake and is fully encompassed by the TLAD Special Use Area. The trail crosses a large stream approximately a quarter mile from the trailhead and traverses through the hillsides over rugged terrain affording visitors spectacular views of the landscape and wildlife. A portion of this trail is located within the Department of Fish and Game's Clearwater Creek Control Use Area, which prohibits hunting with motorized vehicles.



Please Ride Responsibly

- Do not collect or disturb artifacts
- Stay on designated trails
- No pioneering new trails



Tangle Lakes Archaeological District

Landmark Gap North Trailhead

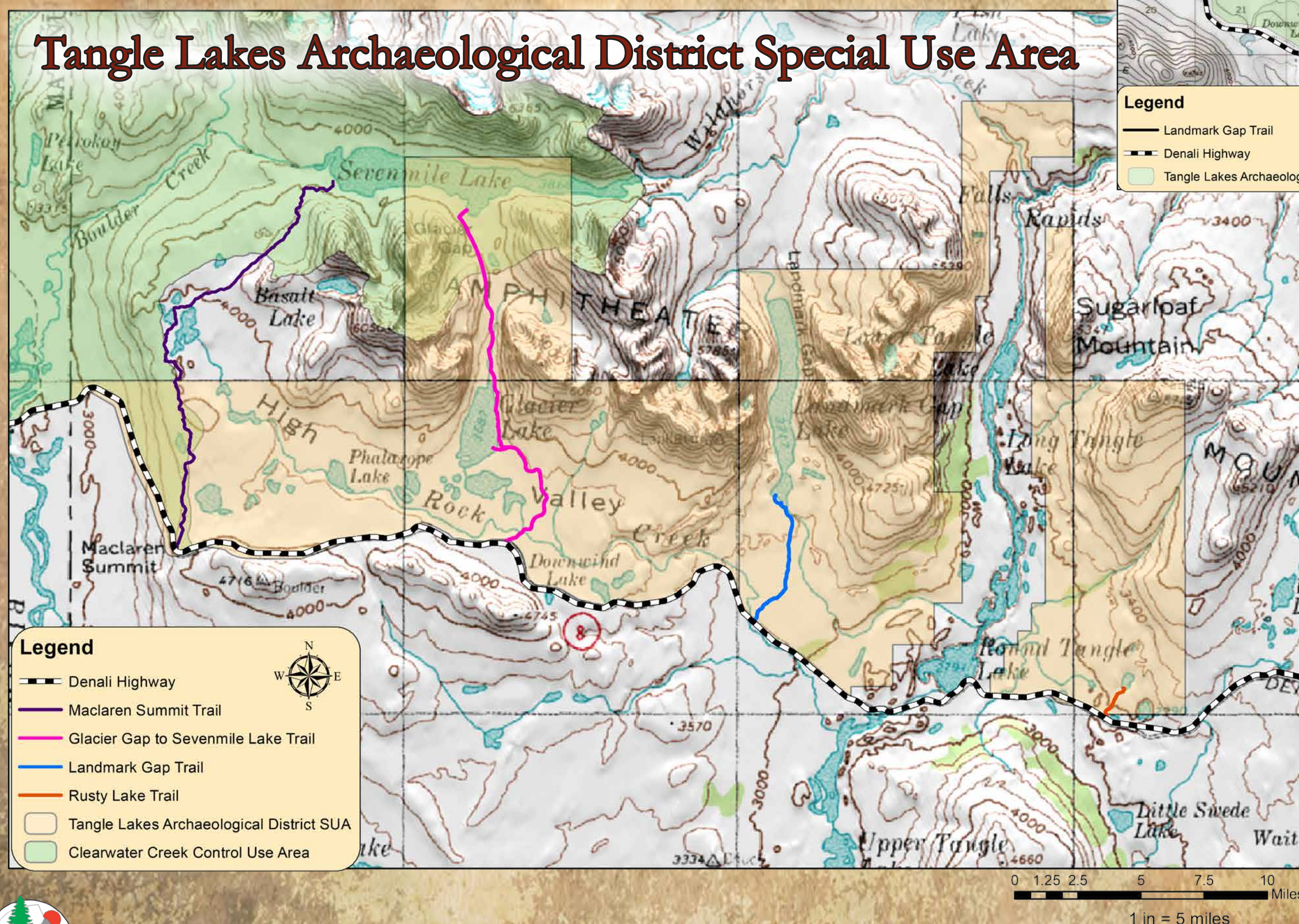
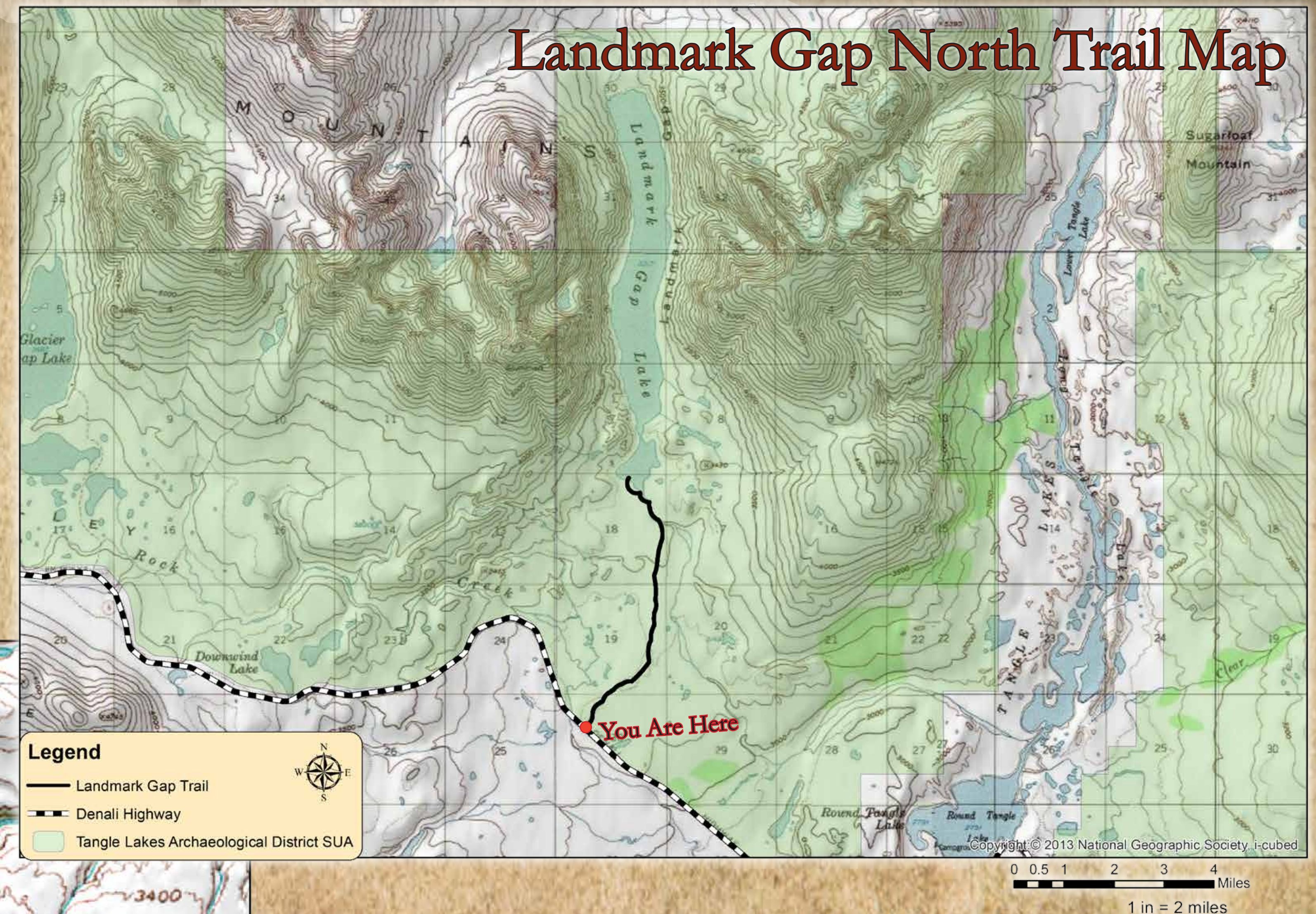
This trail crosses ancient caribou migration routes that have drawn hunters here for thousands of years.

Landmark Gap North Trail



(MP 24.6)

This trail extends approximately three miles to the south end of Landmark Gap Lake. The trail is rocky and dry with one marshy spot. All users, should stay on the trail as there are several known archaeological sites nearby. A solid, rocky bottom facilitates crossing the marshy spot.



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Clearwater Creek Control Use Area

Maclaren River Trailhead

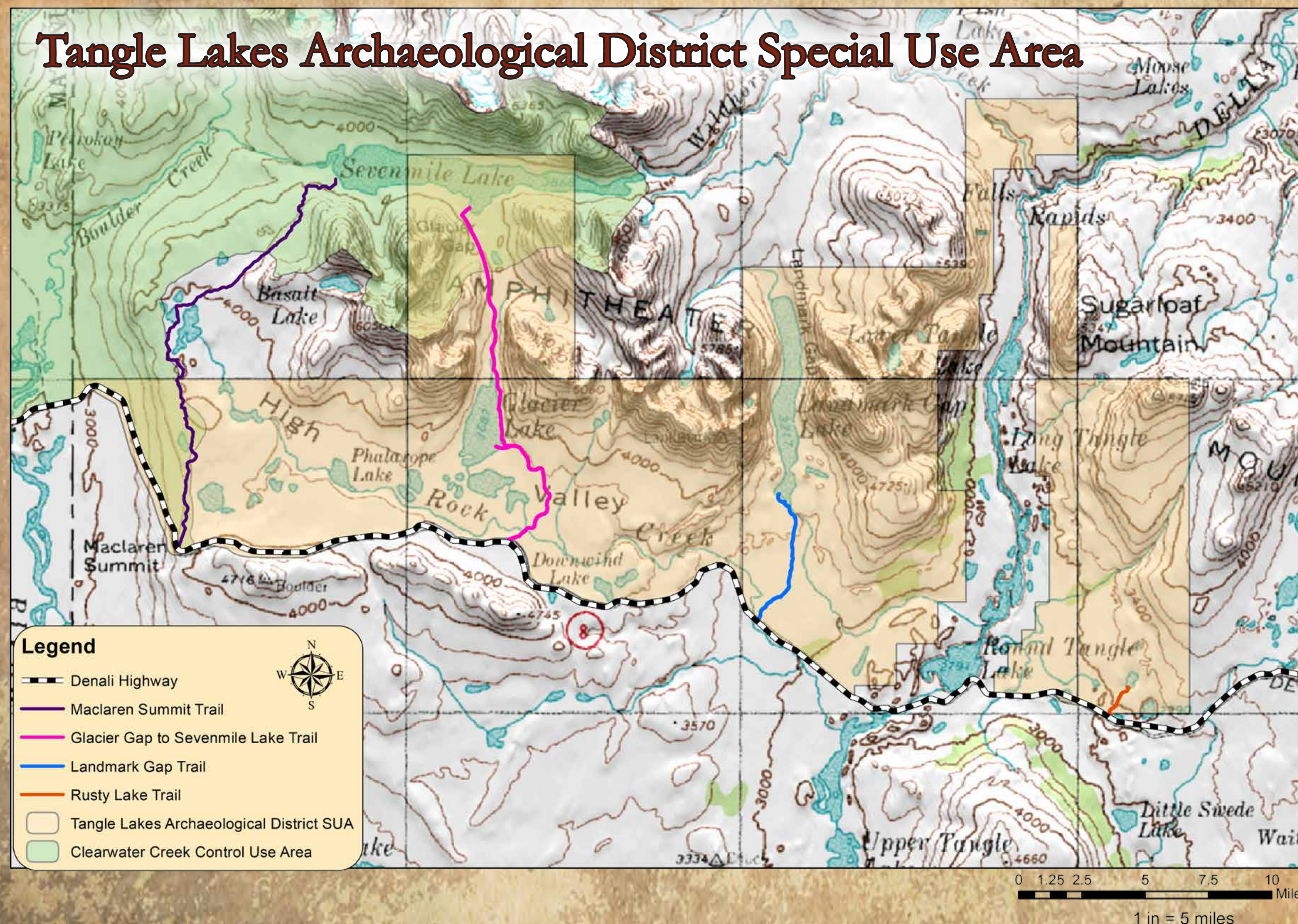
Maclaren River Trail



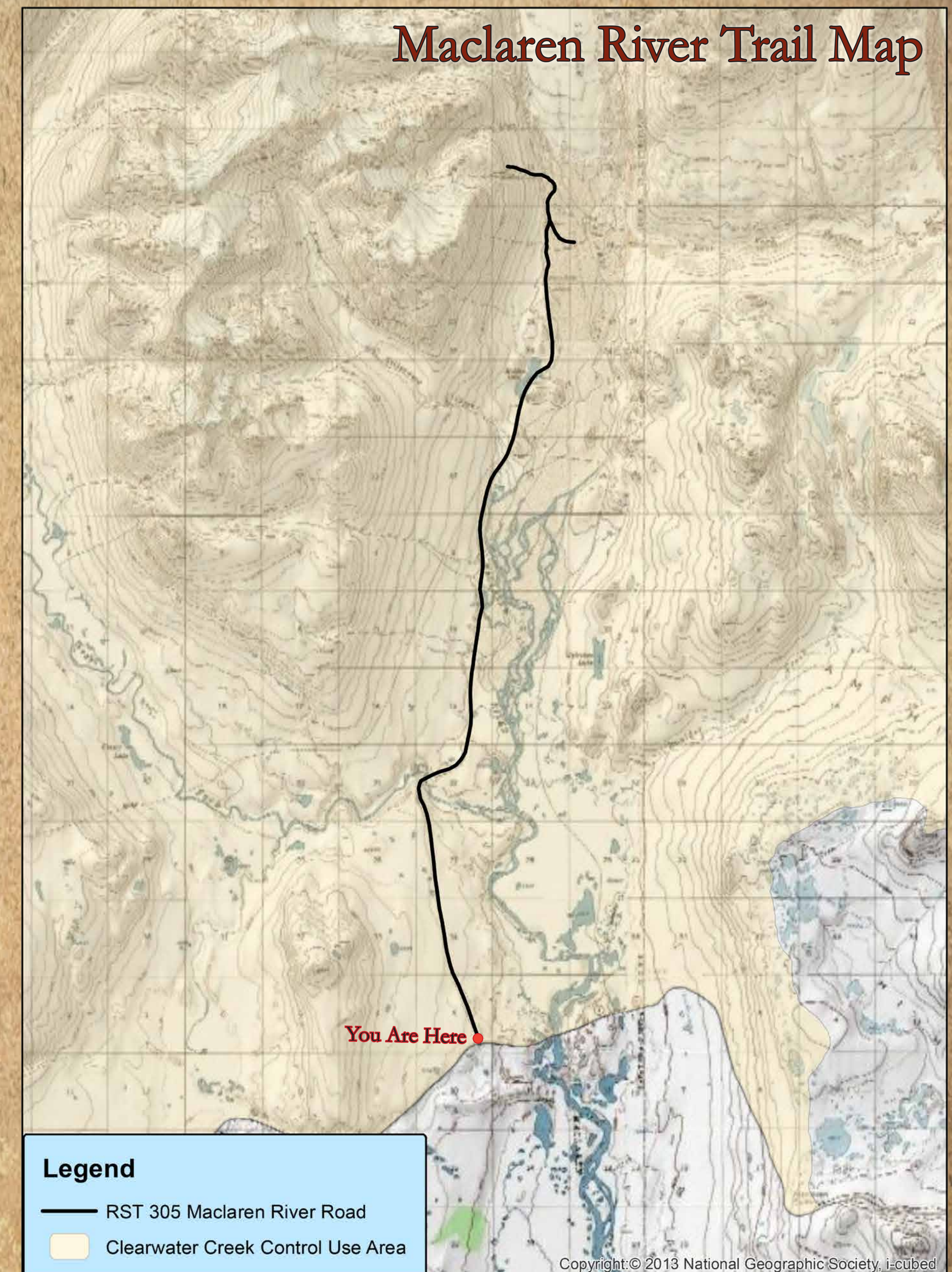
(MP 44)

Originally a roadway for mining equipment, this approximately 14 mile trail runs north into the Clearwater Creek Control Use Area. The trail was constructed in 1963 as part of the State of Alaska Pioneer Access Road program for the original purpose of mineral access.

Trails Nearby



Maclaren River Trail Map



Tangle Lakes Archaeological District

Maclaren Summit Trailhead

The first hunters to roam this area 12,000 years ago used tools made from the landscape around them to survive.

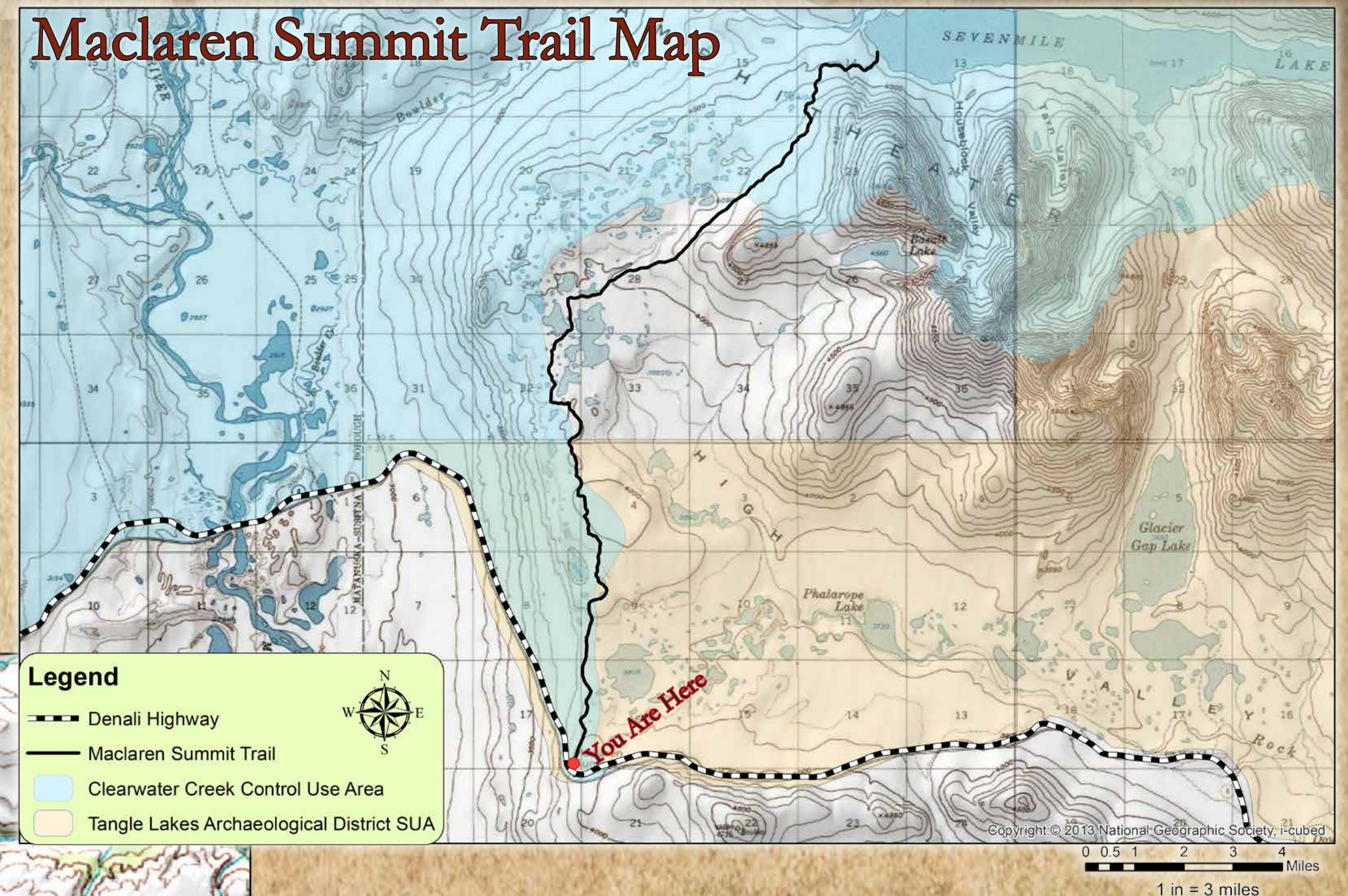
Maclaren Summit Trail

(MP 37)



This 8.4 mile trail provides access across the tundra at Maclaren Summit, opening up fantastic views and ending at the west end Sevenmile Lake. This trail is located within the Department of Fish and Game's Clearwater Creek Control Use Area, which prohibits hunting with motorized vehicles.

Maclaren Summit Trail Map



Tangle Lakes Archaeological District Special Use Area



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