

**ACR #3** – Change the boundary for Game Management Units 21C and 21D to match the Koyukuk/Nowitna/Innoko National Wildlife Refuge designated guide use areas.

**SUBMITTED BY:** Koyukuk/Nowitna/Innoko National Wildlife Refuge with attached maps.

**CITE THE REGULATION THAT WILL BE CHANGED IF THIS ACR IS HEARD.**

5 AAC 92.450. Description of game management units; paragraphs (21) (C) and (21) (D).

**WHAT IS THE PROBLEM YOU WOULD LIKE THE BOARD TO ADDRESS? STATE IN DETAIL THE NATURE OF THE CURRENT PROBLEM.**

On the Koyukuk National Wildlife Refuge, we offer guiding in six Refuge Designated Guide Use Areas (RDGUA's). For these RDGUA's, we have a competitive process where every 10 years applicants apply for these RDGUA's and the Refuge Manager selects one registered guide for each RDGUA. This process helps eliminate crowding, while allowing visitors to experience remote areas of the Koyukuk National Wildlife Refuge and providing commercial opportunities for registered guides. Currently on the Koyukuk National Wildlife Refuge, there are issues with registered guides not applying for certain RDGUA's. We have not had any applications for some of the RDGUA's in over 10 years. We feel this is due to the differing boundaries of the Game Management Units (GMU's), Guide Use Areas (GUA's), and the RDGUA's. By having multiple GMU's in the RDGUA's, guides are required to take additional tests to certify in new GMU's. This is a burden on the registered guides, and it would benefit all users by having these boundaries align.

**WHAT SOLUTION DO YOU PREFER?**

The Koyukuk National Refuge is requesting to make a boundary change to the current GMU 21C/D boundary that lies within the southeastern corner of the Koyukuk National Wildlife Refuge. We would like this boundary to be shifted to the east to directly match our refuge boundary (maps are attached with the current boundaries and proposed changes).

By making this change, we feel this will aid in simplifying things for guides. We have talked with the local area biologist for ADF&G and he noted that he has no biological concerns or regulatory concerns. If this GMU boundary change is approved, we would work with the Alaska Commercial Services Board to make changes to the GUA's. This would be in conjunction with the Refuge making specific changes to the RDGUA boundaries. The overall goal is to make it so there is a single GMU and GUA in each RDGUA.

**STATE IN DETAIL HOW THIS ACR MEETS THE FOLLOWING CRITERIA:**

This ACR does not meet any of the five criteria listed below. However, this proposal meets the criteria of the ACR policy in 5 AAC 92.005 Subpart B "The Board may change the Board's schedule for consideration of proposed regulatory changes as reasonably necessary for coordination of state regulatory actions with Federal agencies, programs, or laws."

**1) To correct an error in regulation.**

N/A.

2) **To correct an effect of a regulation that was unforeseen when a regulation was adopted.**

N/A.

3) **Does the request identify a biological concern for the population or a threat to meeting objectives for the population?**

N/A.

4) **Does the request identify an unforeseen, unexpected event or effect that would otherwise restrict or reduce a reasonable opportunity for customary and traditional wildlife uses, as defined in AS 16.05.258(f)?**

N/A.

5) **Does the request identify an unforeseen, unexpected resource situation where a biologically allowable resource harvest would be precluded by delayed regulatory action and such delay would be significantly burdensome because the resource would be unavailable in the future?**

N/A.

**WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF THIS PROBLEM IS NOT SOLVED PRIOR TO THE REGULAR CYCLE?**

The Koyukuk National Wildlife Refuge will be finalizing our selection for a guide in the affected RDGUA's for the 2023 hunting season in the Spring of 2023. If this issue is not addressed before the next regularly scheduled cycle, we will continue to have no applications for the RDGUA's and certain RDGUA's will remain vacant.

**STATE WHY YOUR ACR IS NOT PREDOMINANTLY ALLOCATIVE.**

This ACR is not allocative as we are only wanting to change GMU boundaries.

**IF THIS REQUEST IS ALLOCATIVE, STATE THE NEW INFORMATION THAT COMPELS THE BOARD TO CONSIDER AN ALLOCATIVE PROPOSAL OUTSIDE OF THE REGULAR CYCLE.**

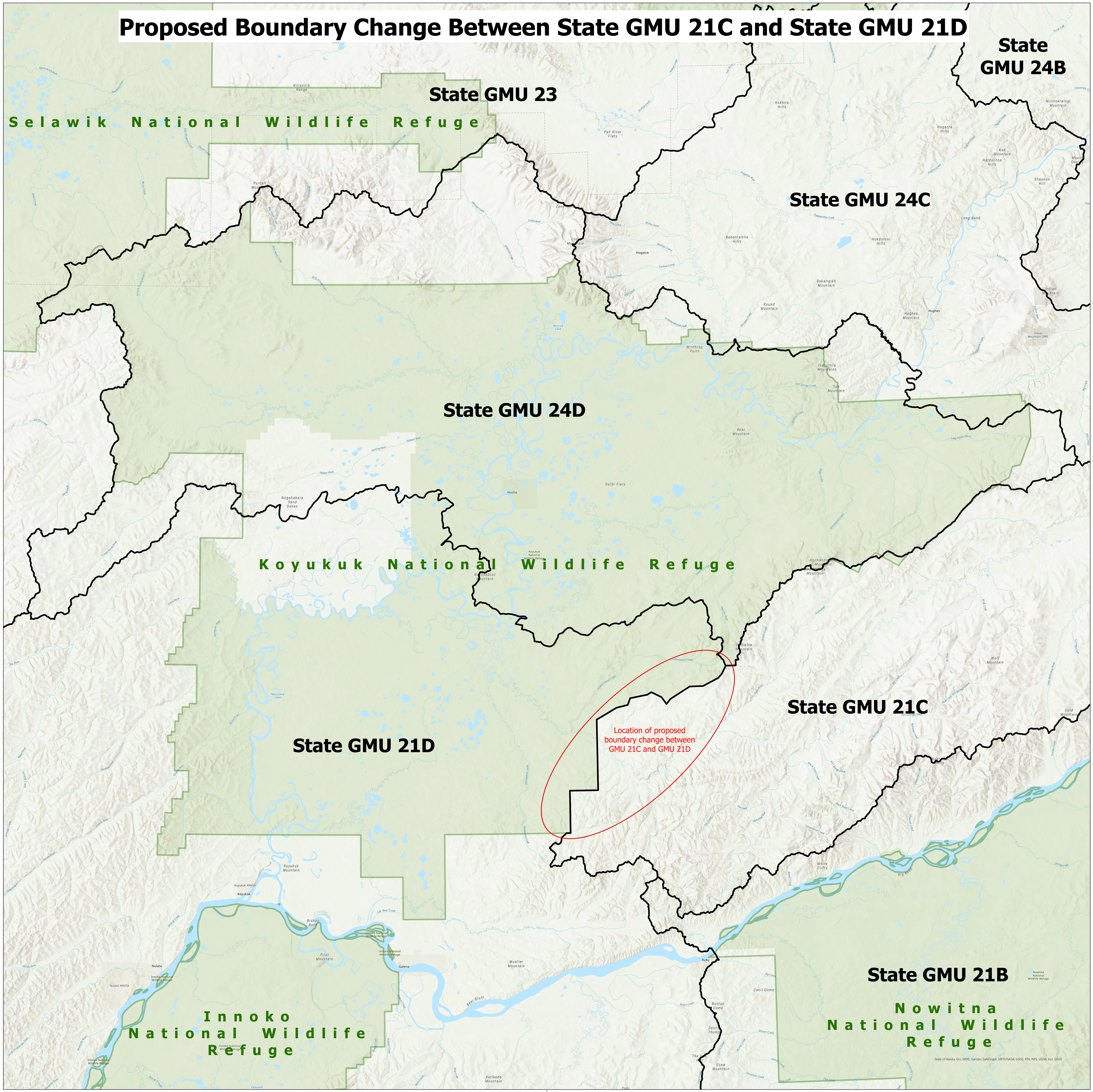
**STATE YOUR INVOLVEMENT IN THE ISSUE THAT IS THE SUBJECT OF THIS ACR.**

Land Manager.

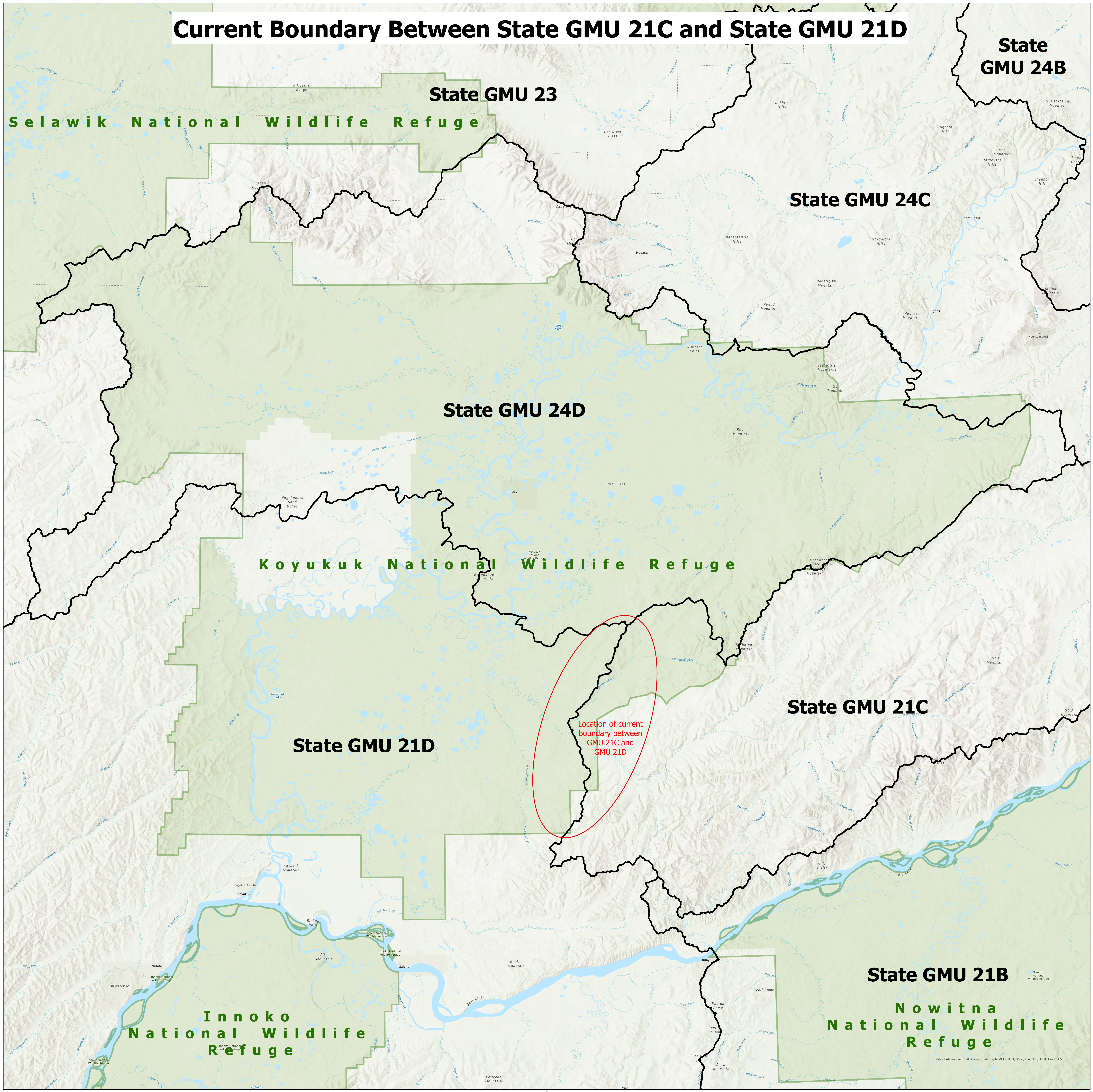
**STATE WHETHER THIS ACR HAS BEEN CONSIDERED BEFORE, EITHER AS A PROPOSAL OR AS AN ACR, AND IF SO, DURING WHICH BOARD OF GAME MEETING.**

This ACR has not been considered before the Board of Game.

# Proposed Boundary Change Between State GMU 21C and State GMU 21D



# Current Boundary Between State GMU 21C and State GMU 21D



Location of current boundary between GMU 21C and GMU 21D

State of Alaska, Esri, HERE, Garmin, GeoGraph, METI/NASA, USGS, EPA, NPS, USDA, Esri, USGS