



**MEMORANDUM:  
State of Alaska  
Dept. of Natural Resources**

**Div. of Mining, Land & Water  
Realty Services Section**

<b>To:</b>	Public Notice	<b>Date:</b>	July 19, 2023
<b>Thru:</b>	Lacy Hamner Natural Resources Manager 2	<b>File Nos.:</b>	GS-5531, GS-5532, GS-5540, GS-5441, GS-5549, GS-5550, GS-6190
<b>From:</b>	Jim Ellis Natural Resource Specialist 3	<b>Telephone/ email:</b>	907.269.8607 James.ellis@alaska.gov
		<b>Subject:</b>	Spooky Valley University Lands Selection

Summary

The Statehood Entitlement Unit received a request from the University of Alaska Land Management Office (UA LMO) to relinquish land selections in a large contiguous block of lands located west of the Dalton Highway in the Spooky Valley and Ray River area. Relinquishment of the State land selection would enable the University to obtain title. Realty Services believes it is appropriate to public notice the proposed relinquishment of the State's selection.

Background

The Consolidated Appropriations Act for Fiscal year 2023 (Pub. L. 117-328) and the University of Alaska Fiscal Foundation Act provides that the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) may convey up to 360,000 acres of land to the University of Alaska. The land available for conveyance has been selected by the State of Alaska pursuant to Section 6(b) of the Alaska Statehood Act. More information about the Fiscal Foundation Act can be found at: <https://www.alaska.edu/ualand/about/land-grant/index.php>

The UA LMO will submit potential land selections in approximately 100,000-acre batches for review to be completed by the Division of Mining, Land & Water (DMLW) Realty Services Section (Realty). Following their review, Realty will complete state-wide agency review and public notice for the proposed relinquishment of State selections in favor of conveyance to the University. Once the agency review and public notice have been completed, Realty will forward a relinquishment recommendation to the UA LMO and the Dept. of Natural Resources (DNR) Commissioner. The UA LMO will work with the Governor's Office or their delegate to refine the list of desired lands and concur with the relinquishment of the State's selection. The UA LMO and DNR will jointly submit to BLM lists of lands to be conveyed along with letters conditionally relinquishing the State's selection. Relinquishment of the selection would be enacted upon conveyance of the lands to the University.

Affected Lands

This group of lands consist of parcels of Federal lands spanning portions of seven townships located west of the Dalton Highway near Spooky Valley and the Ray Mountains. The legal description of the lands follows and is depicted on the attached map.

T. 10 N., R. 17 W., F.M.  
Secs. 4 through 9, & 16 through 21.  
Containing approximately 7,596 acres.

T. 10 N., R. 18 W., F.M.  
Secs. 1 through 6, 8 through 17, 20 through 29, & 32 through 36.  
Containing approximately 19,816 acres.

T. 11 N., R. 17 W., F.M.  
Secs. 4 through 9, 15 through 22, & 28 through 32.  
Containing approximately 11,968 acres.

T. 11 N., R. 18 W., F.M.  
Secs. 1 through 5, & 8 through 36, excluding United States Survey (USS) 7500, USS 8605, & Public Land Order (PLO) 399-Kilo Hot Springs.  
Containing approximately 21,470 acres.

T. 12 N., R. 17 W., F.M.  
Secs. 4 through 9, 16 through 21, & 28 through 33.  
Containing approximately 11,252 acres.

T. 12 N., R. 18 W., F.M.  
Secs. 1, 2, 11 through 14, 23 through 27, & 34 through 36.  
Containing approximately 8,960 acres.

T. 13 N., R. 17 W., F.M.  
Secs. 13 through 36.  
Containing approximately 15,344 acres.

Aggregating approximately 96,406 acres.

#### Surrounding Land Ownership Pattern

Lands immediately surrounding the parcels are a mix of State selections and unselected Federal lands.

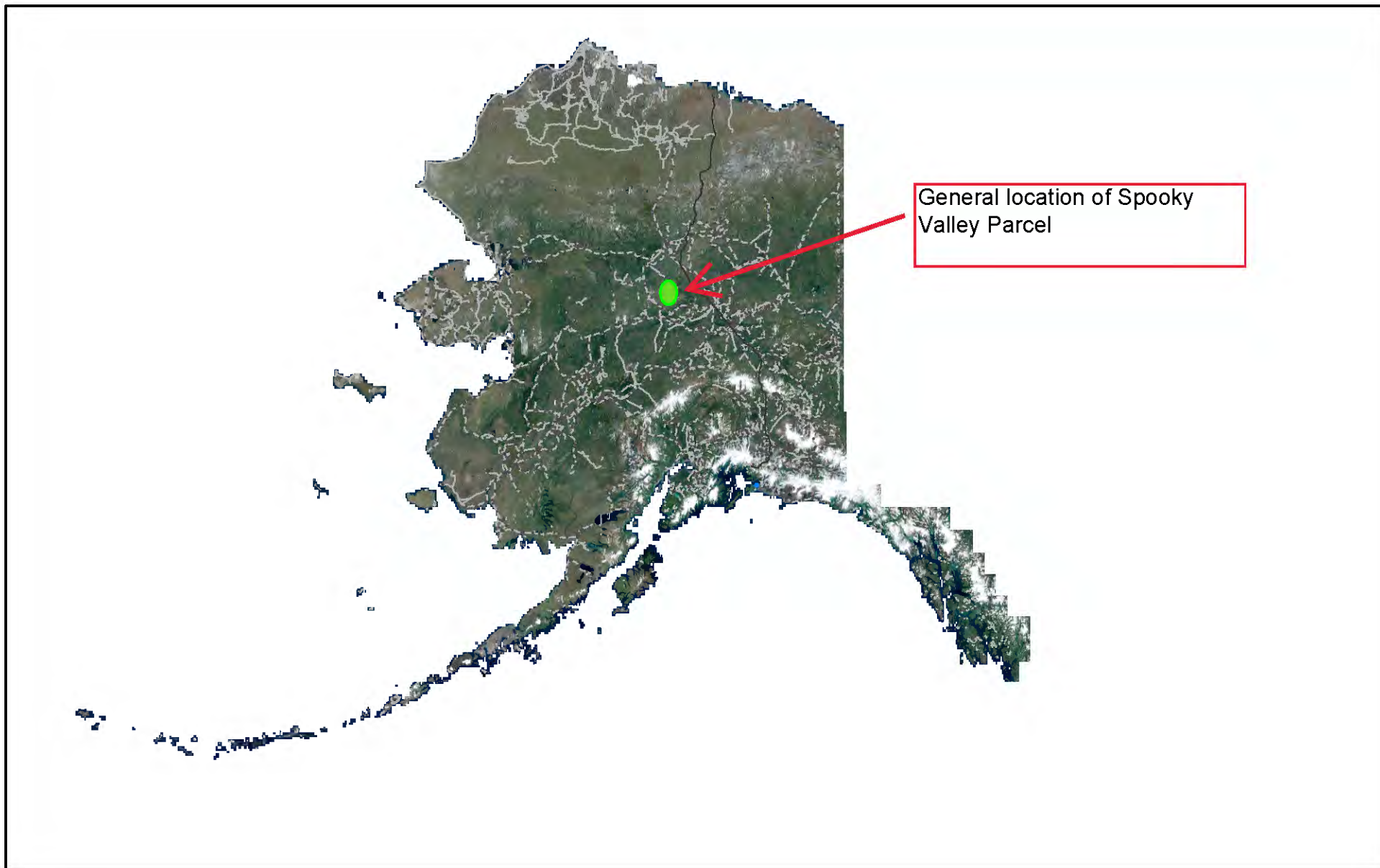
#### Requested Action

We are seeking public comment regarding the proposed voluntary relinquishment of fee title for these lands. Please provide comments regarding this relinquishment by **3:00 p.m. Aug. 23, 2023**.

#### Enclosures:

1. Map(s)

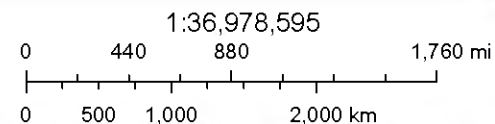
# Spooky Valley Parcel Statewide



General location of Spooky Valley Parcel

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- Trans-Alaska Pipeline - Trans Alaska Pipeline System
- DOT Trails Inventory 1973
- ..... RS2477 Historic Transportation Routes

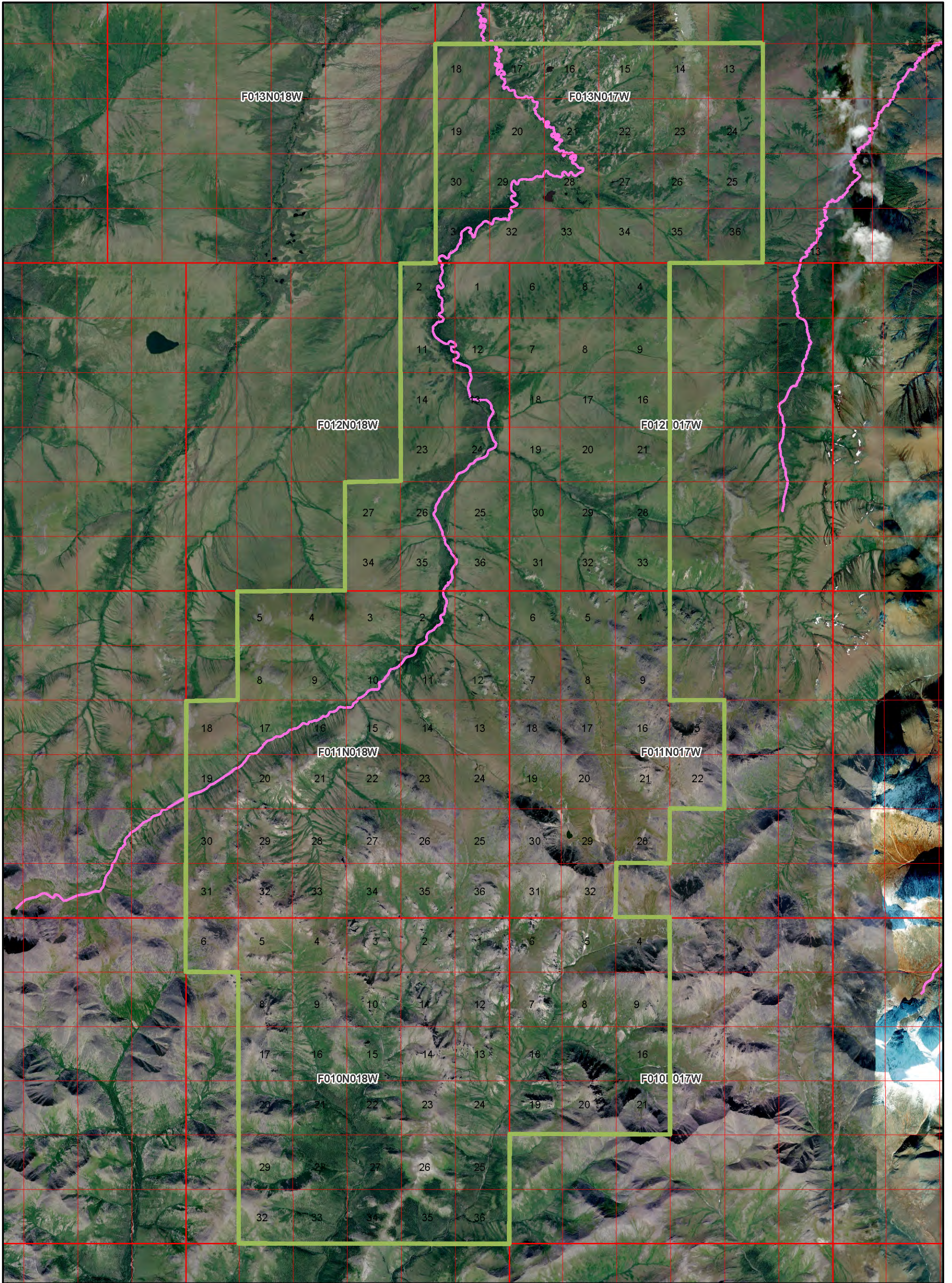


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# Spooky Valley Parcel



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Spooky Valley Parcel

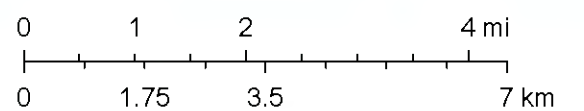
Sections

Townships

Navigable Streams (Title Purposes)

Unknown

1:266,341



Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Alaska State Office  
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