



Tangle Lakes/MAN Prospect

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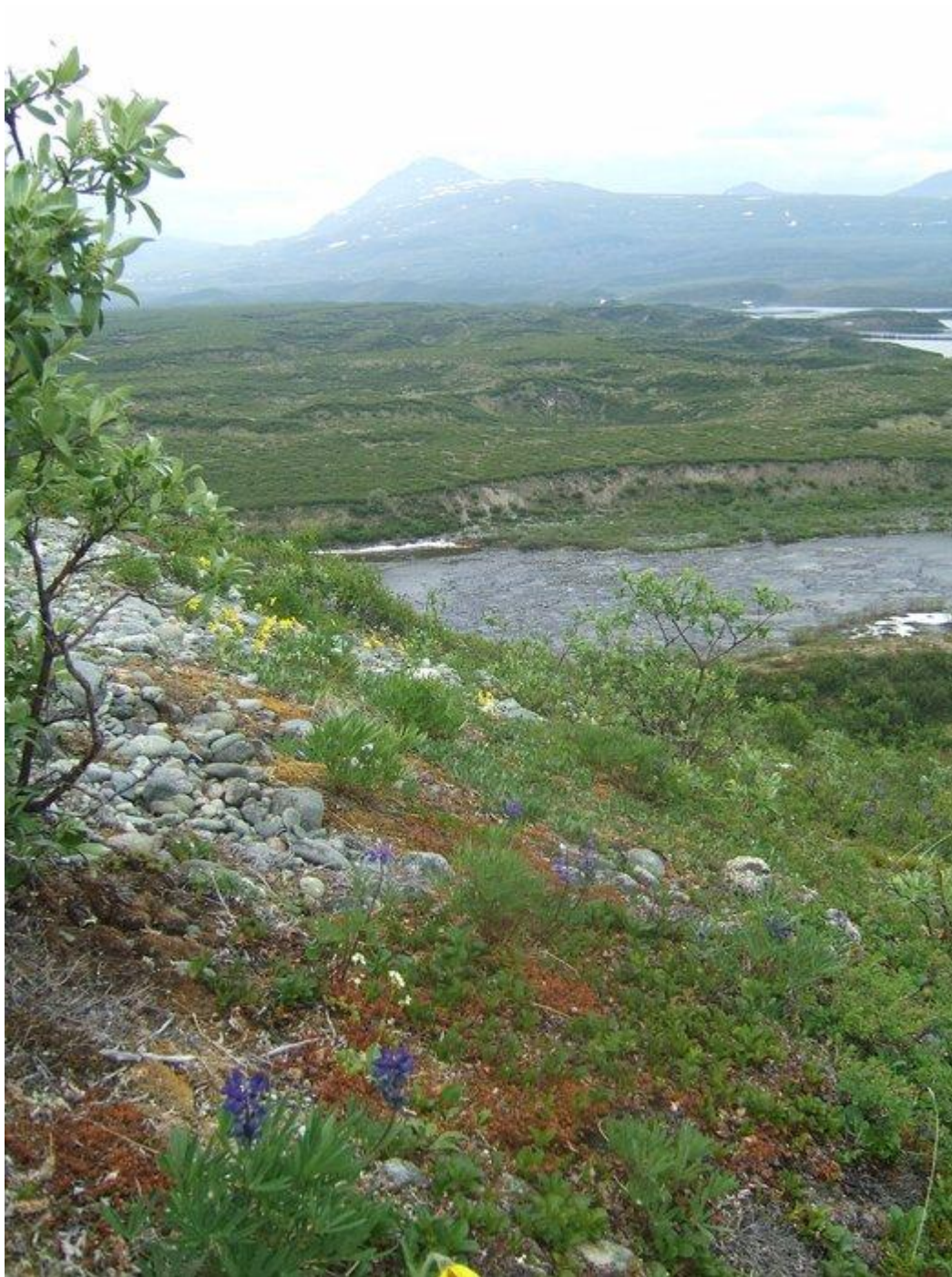




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Summary



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TANGLE LAKES AREA — A river in the Tangle Lakes Area — Get Photo (</photos/tangle-lakes-area/>)

The MAN project (also known as the Tangle Lakes project) is a large collection of nickel-copper-platinum mining leases spread over 173,000 acres of land in Southcentral Alaska, about 100 miles south of Fairbanks. The project area overlaps parts of the [Delta Wild and Scenic River Corridor](http://www.blm.gov/ak/st/en/prog/nlcs/delta_nwsr.html) (http://www.blm.gov/ak/st/en/prog/nlcs/delta_nwsr.html), as well as part of the [Tangle Lakes Archeological Area](http://www.blm.gov/ak/st/en/fo/gdo/tangle_lakes_archeological.html) (http://www.blm.gov/ak/st/en/fo/gdo/tangle_lakes_archeological.html). Since 2007, the small Canadian mining company [Pure Nickel Inc.](http://www.purenickel.com/s/MAN_Project.asp) (http://www.purenickel.com/s/MAN_Project.asp) has held the mining leases, and exploration was funded through a Japanese conglomerate called [ITOCHU](http://www.itochu.co.jp/en/) (<http://www.itochu.co.jp/en/>). In November 2013, ITOCHU withdrew from the project.

Although still in the early stages of exploration, this project has already encountered [significant local opposition](http://www.savetanglelakes.org/) (<http://www.savetanglelakes.org/>) because of the proximity of the numerous claims to important wildlife habitats, archeological sites, and recreation areas. Efforts are underway to [create a state wildlife refuge](http://www.savetanglelakes.org/Home/WildlifeRefuge) (<http://www.savetanglelakes.org/Home/WildlifeRefuge>), which would protect the most historically and ecologically important lands within the mining leases.

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TANGLE LAKES RECREATION — A Recreation Area at Tangle Lakes — Get Photo ([/photos/tangle-lakes-recreation/](#))

Current status

Exploration is ongoing, with \$3.5 million budgeted for the 2013 season. The withdrawal of the funding partner in late 2013 makes the future of this project uncertain.



Further Reading

> [Pure Nickel Inc. company website on MAN project \(http://www.purenickel.com/s/MAN_Project.asp\)](http://www.purenickel.com/s/MAN_Project.asp)

> ["Save Tangle Lakes" by the Copper Country Alliance \(http://www.savetanglelakes.org/\)](http://www.savetanglelakes.org/)

> [Northern Alaska Environmental Center page on Tangle Lakes/MAN \(http://northern.org/programs/clean-water-mines/hardrock-mines-in-interior-and-arctic-alaska/tangle-lakes-man-project/tangle-lakes-man-project\)](http://northern.org/programs/clean-water-mines/hardrock-mines-in-interior-and-arctic-alaska/tangle-lakes-man-project/tangle-lakes-man-project)