

**Senator**  
**GEORGE RAUSCHER**  
Senate District O

[Sen.George.Rauscher@akleg.gov](mailto:Sen.George.Rauscher@akleg.gov)



Session  
State Capital  
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182  
Tel: 907 465-4859  
Toll Free: 888-465-4859

Interim  
600 E Railroad Ave. Suite 1  
Wasilla, Alaska 99654  
(907) 373-6287

## **Sponsor Statement**

### **Senate Bill 230**

#### **4.14.26**

In 2018, the Legislature passed House Bill 6 establishing the Jonesville Public Use Area in the Sutton/Jonesville area to preserve recreational access, protect fish and wildlife habitat, and improve public safety for Alaskans who enjoy this important area.

As the Department of Natural Resources has been working to draft implementing regulations for the Jonesville Public Use Area, a small omission in the statutory land description was identified. During review of the mapping and legal description, it became clear that a specific section of land that was intended to be included in the original designation was inadvertently left out of the statutory boundary language.

Senate Bill 230 corrects that technical omission.

This bill adopts updated boundary language provided by the Department of Natural Resources to ensure the statute accurately reflects the area originally contemplated by the Legislature in 2018. SB 230 does not expand the public use area beyond its intended footprint, does not alter management authority, and does not change the purposes for which the area was established.

Instead, this legislation ensures that the legal description aligns with the original legislative intent and the area being managed on the ground.

Correcting this technical issue provides clarity in land status, protects valid existing rights, and allows DNR to complete its regulatory process with accurate statutory boundaries.

I respectfully ask my colleagues to support Senate Bill 230 to ensure the Jonesville Public Use Area boundaries are accurate and complete.

If you have additional questions, please contact Azabel Ordaz in my office at 907-465-4859

**SENATE BILL NO. 230**

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

THIRTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

BY SENATOR RAUSCHER

Introduced: 2/2/26

Referred: Community and Regional Affairs, Resources

**A BILL**

**FOR AN ACT ENTITLED**

1 **"An Act relating to the boundaries of the Jonesville Public Use Area; and providing for**  
2 **an effective date."**

3 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:**

4 **\* Section 1.** AS 41.23.286 is amended to read:

5 **Sec. 41.23.286. Jonesville Public Use Area.** Subject to valid existing rights,  
6 the vacant and unappropriated state-owned land and water and the state land and water  
7 acquired in the future that lie within the following boundaries described in this section  
8 are designated as the Jonesville Public Use Area, are reserved for all uses compatible  
9 with their primary function as public use land, and are assigned to the department for  
10 control and management:

11 (1) Township 19 North, Range 2 East, Seward Meridian

12 Section 1: That portion easterly of Moose Creek

13 Section 12: That portion of N1/2, N1/2SW1/4, and N1/2SE1/4  
14 easterly of Moose Creek

- 1 Section 13: NE1/4, SE1/4NW1/4, and S1/2
- 2 Section 24: All;
- 3 (2) Township 19 North, Range 3 East, Seward Meridian
- 4 Section 2: All
- 5 Section 3: All
- 6 Section 4: All
- 7 Section 5: All
- 8 Section 6: All
- 9 Section 7: All
- 10 Section 8: All
- 11 Section 9: All
- 12 Section 10: All
- 13 Section 11: All
- 14 Section 14: NE1/4
- 15 Section 15: N1/2NE1/4 [AND THE NORTH 960 FEET OF
- 16 THE EAST 1,815 FEET OF THE NW1/4 FOR EACH
- 17 RECORD OF SURVEY FILED AS 86-85RS P.R.D.]
- 18 Section 16: All
- 19 Section 17: All
- 20 Section 18: All
- 21 Section 19: NE1/4, E1/2NW1/4, NE1/4SW1/4, NW1/4SE1/4,
- 22 and Government Lots 1, 2, and 4
- 23 Section 20: N1/2NE1/4, N1/2NW1/4, and SW1/4NW1/4
- 24 **Section 21: N1/2NW1/4;**
- 25 (3) Township 20 North, Range 2 East, Seward Meridian
- 26 Section 36: That portion easterly of Moose Creek;
- 27 (4) Township 20 North, Range 3 East, Seward Meridian
- 28 Section 31: All
- 29 Section 32: All
- 30 Section 33: All
- 31 Section 34: All

1 Section 35: All.

2 \* **Sec. 2.** This Act takes effect immediately under AS 01.10.070(c).

**Senator**  
**GEORGE RAUSCHER**  
Senate District O

[Sen.George.Rauscher@akleg.gov](mailto:Sen.George.Rauscher@akleg.gov)



Session  
State Capital  
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182  
Tel: 907 465-4859  
Toll Free: 888-465-4859

Interim  
600 E Railroad Ave. Suite 1  
Wasilla, Alaska 99654  
(907) 373-6287

## **Sectional Analysis**

### **Senate Bill 230**

#### **Section 1**

Amends AS 41.23.286 (Jonesville Public Use Area).

Section 1 updates the statutory boundary description of the Jonesville Public Use Area.

#### **Section 2**

Provides for an immediate effective date.

# Fiscal Note

State of Alaska  
2026 Legislative Session

Bill Version: SB 230  
Fiscal Note Number: \_\_\_\_\_  
( ) Publish Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Identifier: SB230-DNR-DMLW-02-13-26  
Title: JONESVILLE PUBLIC USE AREA  
Sponsor: RAUSCHER  
Requester: (S)Community and Regional Affairs

Department: Department of Natural Resources  
Appropriation: Fire Suppression, Land & Water Resources  
Allocation: Mining, Land & Water  
OMB Component Number: 3002

**Expenditures/Revenues**

Note: Amounts do not include inflation unless otherwise noted below. (Thousands of Dollars)

	FY2027	Included in	Out-Year Cost Estimates				
	Appropriation Requested	Governor's FY2027 Request	FY 2028	FY 2029	FY 2030	FY 2031	FY 2032
<b>OPERATING EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>FY 2027</b>	<b>FY 2027</b>					
Personal Services							
Travel							
Services							
Commodities							
Capital Outlay							
Grants & Benefits							
Miscellaneous							
<b>Total Operating</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>

**Fund Source (Operating Only)**

None							
<b>Total</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>

**Positions**

Full-time							
Part-time							
Temporary							

**Change in Revenues**

None							
<b>Total</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>

**Estimated SUPPLEMENTAL (FY2026) cost:** 0.0 *(separate supplemental appropriation required)*

**Estimated CAPITAL (FY2027) cost:** 0.0 *(separate capital appropriation required)*

**Does the bill create or modify a new fund or account?** No  
*(Supplemental/Capital/New Fund - discuss reasons and fund source(s) in analysis section)*

**ASSOCIATED REGULATIONS**

Does the bill direct, or will the bill result in, regulation changes adopted by your agency? No  
If yes, by what date are the regulations to be adopted, amended or repealed? N/A

**Why this fiscal note differs from previous version/comments:**

Not applicable, initial version.

Prepared By: Christy Colles	Phone: (907)269-8625
Division: Mining, Land and Water	Date: 02/13/2026 10:50 AM
Approved By: Shannon Miller, Administrative Services Director	Date: 02/13/2026
Agency: Department of Natural Resources	

FISCAL NOTE ANALYSIS

STATE OF ALASKA  
2026 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

BILL NO. SB230

**Analysis**

This bill would adjust the boundaries of the Jonesville Public Use Area. The additional acreage does not create any additional costs beyond the existing boundary. The Department of Natural Resources is currently working on a related regulations project regarding management of the Matanuska Valley Moose Range and the Jonesville Public Use Area. The draft regulations are undergoing a final review by the Department of Law.



January 6, 2017

TO: Representative George Rauscher/ Distinguished Members of the 30<sup>th</sup> Alaska Legislature

FROM: Eric Phillips, Community Development Director, Matanuska-Susitna Borough

RE: **Letter of Support for Legislation Establishing the Jonesville Public Use Area**

It is my understanding that legislation is to be introduced this session to establish the Jonesville Public Use Area. As manager for Borough lands within the 25,000 square miles that comprise the Mat-Su Borough, I want to go on-record as being very supportive of this effort. I believe that this is the right direction for the Citizens, the Borough, and the State.


The Jonesville area currently suffers from many of the problems/issues that once afflicted what is now the Knik River Public Use Area (KRPUA). Rampant and uncontrolled shooting, under-age partying, vehicle burning, and many other associated destructive activities have unfortunately become the norm in the Jonesville area. Further, the greater Sutton community has essentially been left on its own to grapple with the lawlessness, damage and related community impacts.

No too many years ago, we saw a very similar situation in the KRPUA and the Butte area. However, once the KRPUA was formally established by the legislature and the plan was completed for the area, considerable progress has been made by the State, the Borough, the community, as well as various user groups to dispel much of the area's "Wild West" reputation. In fact, the Borough has invested substantially in improving recreation infrastructure on its lands adjoining the KRPUA. As a result, the area is becoming increasingly 'family-friendly' while maintaining a vast majority of the recreation values that make it so popular. We hope to continue to work with the State until we have fully turned the corner.

This is all because the State made the conscience decision to establish the KRPUA. I believe that the Jonesville area can have a similar positive outcome, and the first step is to establish the Jonesville Public Use Area. I am ready to assist the State in this effort in any way I can, and sincerely hope the legislature will take this vital first step.





**SUBJECT:** A RESOLUTION OF THE MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH ASSEMBLY SUPPORTING ALASKA STATE HOUSE BILL NO. 6, ESTABLISHING THE JONESVILLE PUBLIC USE AREA.

**AGENDA OF:** February 7, 2017

**Assembly Action:**  
*Approved under the Consent Agenda*  
*2-7-17* 

**MANAGER RECOMMENDATION:** Present to the Assembly for consideration.

**APPROVED BY JOHN MOOSEY, BOROUGH MANAGER:** \_\_\_\_\_

Route To:	Department/Individual	Initials	Remarks
	Originator	LRM	For Assemblymember Sykes
	Community Development Director		
	Borough Attorney		
	Borough Clerk		1/30/17 

**ATTACHMENT (S):** Fiscal Note: YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO X  
 Alaska State House Bill No. 6 (6 pp)  
 Resolution Serial No. 17-027 (4 pp)

**SUMMARY STATEMENT:**

This legislation is coming forward from Assemblymember Sykes to support House Bill No. 6, to establish the Jonesville Public Use Area.

**HOUSE BILL NO. 6**

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

THIRTIETH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

**BY REPRESENTATIVE RAUSCHER**

**Introduced: 1/18/17**

**Referred: Resources, Finance**

**A BILL**

**FOR AN ACT ENTITLED**

1 **"An Act establishing the Jonesville Public Use Area."**

2 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:**

3 \* **Section 1.** AS 41.23 is amended by adding new sections to read:

4 **Sec. 41.23.280. Purpose of AS 41.23.280 - 41.23.289.** The purpose of  
5 AS 41.23.280 - 41.23.289 is to protect, maintain, enhance, and perpetuate the present  
6 use of the area described in AS 41.23.286 as the Jonesville Public Use Area. The  
7 Jonesville Public Use Area is established to

8 (1) protect, maintain, perpetuate, and enhance year-round general  
9 public recreation;

10 (2) protect and maintain migratory waterfowl nesting areas and  
11 habitats for moose, Dall sheep, brown bear, and other fish and wildlife so that the  
12 public may continue to enjoy the fish and wildlife of the Jonesville Public Use Area;

13 (3) provide opportunities for the public to enjoy the area through a full  
14 spectrum of public uses, including the maintenance and enhancement of off-road  
15 vehicle and nonmotorized recreational opportunities for the public; and

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25  
26  
27  
28  
29  
30  
31

(4) allow

(A) continued motorized access for miners and owners of private property in the Jonesville Public Use Area; and

(B) additional public uses of the area determined by the commissioner to be compatible with this section.

**Sec. 41.23.282. Management.** (a) The commissioner is responsible for the management of the surface and subsurface estate of the Jonesville Public Use Area consistent with the purposes of AS 41.23.280. After adequate public hearings, the commissioner may designate incompatible uses and shall adopt and may revise a management plan for the Jonesville Public Use Area. The management plan must include provisions for the enforcement of the plan and compliance with the requirements of the plan. The commissioner shall consult with the Department of Fish and Game in the adoption and revision of the management plan.

(b) Subject to valid existing rights, the commissioner may not dispose of the surface estate in state land within the Jonesville Public Use Area.

(c) The commissioner of fish and game, the Board of Fisheries, and the Board of Game are responsible for the management of fish and game resources and the public use of fish and wildlife in the Jonesville Public Use Area consistent with the purposes of AS 41.23.280.

(d) The Jonesville Public Use Area may not be managed as a unit of the state park system.

(e) The commissioner shall identify wetland areas within the Jonesville Public Use Area and provide for the protection and use of the wetland areas in the management plan.

(f) The state may not acquire by eminent domain privately owned land within the boundaries described in AS 41.23.286 but may acquire privately owned land located within the boundaries described in AS 41.23.286 by purchase, exchange, or otherwise for inclusion in the Jonesville Public Use Area.

**Sec. 41.23.284. Incompatible uses.** (a) Except as provided in this section, the commissioner may prohibit or restrict uses determined to be incompatible with the purposes of the Jonesville Public Use Area under AS 41.23.280 within the state-

Im17-027  
@RS17-012

1 owned land and water described in AS 41.23.286.

2 (b) Nothing in AS 41.23.280 - 41.23.289 prohibits the Department of Fish and  
3 Game from engaging in rehabilitation, enhancement, and development of fish and  
4 wildlife habitat within an area described in AS 41.23.286 that is consistent with the  
5 purposes stated in AS 41.21.280.

6 (c) The commissioner may not restrict

7 (1) lawful fishing, hunting, or trapping rights allowed under a  
8 regulation of the Board of Fisheries or the Board of Game within the Jonesville Public  
9 Use Area; or

10 (2) the use of weapons, including firearms, in the Jonesville Public Use  
11 Area, except in locations where the commissioner determines that the use of weapons  
12 constitutes a threat to public safety.

13 (d) The commissioner shall

14 (1) allow the Jonesville Public Use Area to be used for activities that

15 (A) are compatible with the reasons for establishing the public  
16 use area in AS 41.23.280; and

17 (B) include all-terrain vehicles, aircraft, watercraft,  
18 snowmachining, horseback riding, hiking, bicycling, dog sledding, cross-  
19 country skiing, skijoring, camping, hunting, fishing, trapping, wildlife viewing,  
20 photography, and, where permitted, rifle and pistol ranges, parking of  
21 vehicles, and mineral exploration and mining; and

22 (2) recognize the existing off-road motor vehicle trails and the access  
23 those trails provide within the Jonesville Public Use Area, make accommodations that  
24 will provide the shortest possible route to avoid critical habitat, conduct trail  
25 rehabilitation in a way that minimizes damage, maintain and enhance off-road motor  
26 vehicle options and opportunities in the Jonesville Public Use Area, and provide for  
27 responsible use of the public use area.

28 (e) The commissioner of public safety and the commissioner of fish and game  
29 shall have necessary access to the Jonesville Public Use Area for fish and game  
30 management, research, and enforcement purposes.

31 (f) If the commissioner determines that a use is incompatible with one or more

1 other uses in a portion of the Jonesville Public Use Area, the commissioner shall state  
2 in the management plan adopted or revised under AS 41.23.282

- 3 (1) each determination of incompatibility;
- 4 (2) the specific area where the incompatibility is determined to exist;
- 5 (3) the time within which the incompatibility is determined to exist;

6 and

- 7 (4) the reasons for the determination of incompatibility.

8 **Sec. 41.23.286. Jonesville Public Use Area.** Subject to valid existing rights,  
9 the vacant and unappropriated state-owned land and water and the state land and water  
10 acquired in the future that lie within the following boundaries described in this section  
11 are designated as the Jonesville Public Use Area, are reserved for all uses compatible  
12 with their primary function as public use land, and are assigned to the department for  
13 control and management:

- 14 (1) Township 19 North, Range 2 East, Seward Meridian

15 Section 1: That portion easterly of Moose Creek

16 Section 12: That portion of N1/2, N1/2SW1/4, and N1/2SE1/4  
17 easterly of Moose Creek

18 Section 13: NE1/4, SE1/4NW1/4, and S1/2

19 Section 24: All;

- 20 (2) Township 19 North, Range 3 East, Seward Meridian

21 Section 2: All

22 Section 3: All

23 Section 4: All

24 Section 5: All

25 Section 6: All

26 Section 7: All

27 Section 8: All

28 Section 10: All

29 Section 11: All

30 Section 14: NE1/4

31 Section 15: N1/2NE1/4 and the North 960 feet of the East 1,815

Jm17-027  
@RS17-012

1 feet of the NW1/4 for each Record of Survey filed as 86-85RS P.R.D.

2 Section 16: All

3 Section 17: All

4 Section 18: All

5 Section 19: NE1/4, E1/2NW1/4, NE1/4SW1/4, NW1/4SE1/4,  
6 and Government Lots 1, 2, and 4

7 Section 20: N1/2NE1/4, N1/2NW1/4, and SW1/4NW1/4

8 Section 21: All;

9 (3) Township 20 North, Range 2 East, Seward Meridian

10 Section 36: That portion easterly of Moose Creek;

11 (4) Township 20 North, Range 3 East, Seward Meridian

12 Section 31: All

13 Section 32: All

14 Section 33: All

15 Section 34: All

16 Section 35: All.

17 **Sec. 41.23.288. Enforcement authority.** (a) In the Jonesville Public Use Area  
18 described in AS 41.23.286, the following persons are peace officers of the state for the  
19 purpose of enforcing the provisions of AS 41.23.280 - 41.23.289 and regulations  
20 adopted under AS 41.23.280 - 41.23.289;

21 (1) an employee of the department or another person authorized by the  
22 commissioner;

23 (2) a peace officer, as that term is defined in AS 01.10.060.

24 (b) A person designated in (a) of this section may, when enforcing the  
25 provisions of AS 41.23.280 - 41.23.289 or a regulation adopted under AS 41.23.280 -  
26 41.23.289,

27 (1) execute a warrant or other process issued by an officer or court of  
28 competent jurisdiction;

29 (2) administer or take an oath, affirmation, or affidavit; and

30 (3) issue a citation or arrest a person who violates a provision of  
31 AS 41.23.280 - 41.23.289 or a regulation adopted under AS 41.23.280 - 41.23.289.

1 (c) A citation issued under (b) of this section must comply with the provisions  
2 of AS 12.25.175 - 12.25.230.

3 **Sec. 41.23.289. Penalty.** (a) Except for conduct that is a violation of  
4 AS 11.46.420, a person who violates a provision of AS 41.23.280 - 41.23.289 or a  
5 regulation adopted under AS 41.23.280 - 41.23.289 is guilty of a violation as defined  
6 in AS 11.81.900.

7 (b) Except for conduct that is a violation of AS 11.46.420, the supreme court  
8 shall establish by order or rule a schedule of bail amounts for violations under (a) of  
9 this section that allows the disposition of a citation without a court appearance.

Sponsored by: Assemblymember Sykes  
Adopted: 02/07/17

**MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH  
RESOLUTION SERIAL NO. 17-012**

A RESOLUTION OF THE MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH ASSEMBLY SUPPORTING ALASKA STATE HOUSE BILL NO. 6, ESTABLISHING THE JONESVILLE PUBLIC USE AREA.

---

WHEREAS, the Jonesville Mine/Slipper Lake area near Sutton, over the past few years; gradually turned into a lawless area that included one shooting death; several near misses; numerous poorly thought out unorganized shooting areas; shots fired at working construction equipment and residential houses; numerous four-wheeler accidents; massive partying with alcohol and other drugs; garbage; human waste and many other thoughtless, unsafe, and undesirable activities; and

WHEREAS, upwards of 20 truck and trailer loads of garbage and contaminants are picked up from the grounds in the area and taken to the local transfer station by community volunteers each year; and

WHEREAS, Sutton community members became concerned and attempted to improve the area, but the undesirable uses grew faster than local solutions, and

WHEREAS, the community of Sutton provided its own resources and funds to clean and monitor the Jonesville area, even though the jurisdiction over the lands lies with the state of Alaska; and

WHEREAS, signage has not been placed to designate public use activities including shooting and off-road recreational vehicles; the State has not provided signs without a management plan in place; and

WHEREAS, the Sutton Community Council established "The Jonesville/Slipper Lake Action Committee" in November 2015, that gathered widespread community input and participation, to determine a course of action to improve the situation on public lands in and around Sutton, known as Eska and Jonesville mining areas; and

WHEREAS, the Sutton community sought help from Borough Planning and Land Management officials, Alaska State Department of Natural Resources, and Alaska State Troopers; and

WHEREAS, a management plan and agreement can only be put in place after the area has been declared a Public Use Area by State legislation; and

WHEREAS, legislation would allow a management plan which would protect the homes and property of local citizens in Sutton; reduce all-terrain vehicle accidents; provide needed safe places for recreational shooting; mitigate illegal dumping; and generally provide a healthier, cleaner and safer environment for public multiple use activities; and

WHEREAS, the area being wrecked by crazy behavior is beautiful and has potential for family camping, picnicking,

controlled shooting, hiking and other outdoor activities; and

WHEREAS, the state of Alaska controls the active and abandoned mining leases and the moose range located in the Jonesville area, which has a long history of public use under the Department of Natural Resources; and

WHEREAS, the Jonesville/Slipper Lake Action Committee and other stakeholders have reviewed the history and determined a course of action needs to be taken for the benefit of the community of Sutton and the safety of the general public; and

WHEREAS, the current problems are similar to the Jim Creek area lands a few years ago prior to the establishment of the Knik River Public Use Area (KRPUA), and

WHEREAS, the steady establishment of the KRPUA of a shooting range, designated trails, and other things have dramatically reduced violence, crime, alcohol and other drugs, and changed the character of the land use to be more family friendly; and

WHEREAS, the areas adjacent to the main Sutton community are beautiful, accessible areas with great potential to have similar camping, safe shooting areas, designated trails and more family friendly activities.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Assembly enthusiastically supports the establishment of a Public Use Area by the state of Alaska for purposes of recreation in the Jonesville/Slipper Lake area.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Borough will assist and coordinate efforts to develop a public use plan and supports the enabling legislation, House Bill 6, now before the 30th Alaska Legislature.

ADOPTED by the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Assembly this 7 day of February, 2017.

  
VERN HALTER, Borough Mayor

ATTEST:

  
LONNIE R. McKECHNIE, CMC, Borough Clerk

(SEAL)

PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: Sykes, Beck, McKee, Mayfield, Doty, and Kowalke

# A Petition Regarding Jonesville/Slipper Lake Area: *W. 1*

We the undersigned petition the State of Alaska, Department of Natural Resources to manage the Jonesville/Slipper Lake reclamation area in Sutton consistent with the public interest including health and safety:

	Date:	Name:	Address:	Phone:	Signature
1	1/12/16	D DEAN LUST	PO Box 1190 <sup>99674</sup> CHICKALOON	746-2291	<i>D Dean Lust</i>
2	1/13/16	Barbara Kelley	PO Box 162 Sutton AK 99674		<i>Barbara Kelley</i>
3	1/14/16	Nancy Duplan	10175 N. Glenn Hwy <sup>Palmer, 99645</sup> SUTTON, AK	745-6745	<i>Nancy Duplan</i>
4	01/14/16	LEO L FOSTER	15816 N. Glenn Hwy #112	745-3804	<i>Leo L Foster</i>
5	01/15/16	William Schmidt	POB 26 Sutton, AK - 99674	746-1052	<i>William Schmidt</i>
6	1/19/16	Cora Gallagher	P.O. Box 128 / 11478 Jonesville Rd Sutton AK	746-0665	<i>Cora Gallagher</i>
7	1-19-16	TERRIE FASSLER	P.O. BOX 388 SUTTON AK 99674	907-775-4820	<i>Terrie Fassler</i>
8	1-19-16	Chris Ruddell	P.O. BOX 388 SUTTON AK 99674	775-4820	<i>Chris Ruddell</i>
9	1-19-16	Tyann Payne	PO BOX 254 Sutton AK 99674	707-3013	<i>Tyann Payne</i>
10	1-19-16	Joy Mathias	P.O. Box 72 Sutton AK 99674	414-0711	<i>Joy Mathias</i>
11	1/19/16	Dee Komak	17991 E All Falls rd E-1 99674	707-3482	<i>Dee Komak</i>
12	1-22-16	MARK Tirapelli	22356 E GRAND AVE 99674	355-3145	<i>Mark Tirapelli</i>
13	1-22-16	MARCI HAWKINS	PO Box 460 Sutton AK 99674	631-2280	<i>Marci Hawkins</i>
14	1-23-16	Allie Barker	POB 1223 Chickaloon	746-4566	<i>Allie Barker</i>

This petition, dated: 1/2/2016, is taken by the Jonesville/Slipper Citizen Action Committee. An action committee sanctioned by the Sutton Community Council for the purpose of understanding community interest in the Jonesville/Slipper Lake area in Sutton, Alaska.

Any questions regarding this petition or the Action Committee can be addressed to George Rauscher – [george@georgerauscher.com](mailto:george@georgerauscher.com)

# A Petition Regarding Jonesville/Slipper Lake Area:

We the undersigned petition the State of Alaska, Department of Natural Resources to manage the Jonesville/Slipper Lake reclamation area in Sutton consistent with the public interest including health and safety:

	Date:	Name:	Address:	Phone:	Signature
1	1/5/2016	Nancy Beutels	PO Box 263 - Sutton, AK 99674	745-7686	Nancy Beutels
2	5/5/2016	Philip Williams	PO Box 375 Sutton AK 99674	907 570-6586	
3	1.6.16	Jack NIGGEMEYER	Box 175 Sutton, AK 99674	982.4347	Jack Nigg
4	1.6.16	CAROL McNAMARA	BOX 247 Sutton, ALASKA 99674	746-1400	Carol McNamara
5	1.7.16	Jennifer Bier	PO Box 245 Sutton, AK 99674	745-7878	Jennifer Bier
6	1-7-16	JANICE MULDER	PO BOX 315 SUTTON AK 99674	746-4059	Janice Mulder
7	1-8-16	Mariah McNamara	PO Box 247 Sutton, Alaska 99674	982-8798	Mariah McNamara
8	1-8-16	Emily I Bernhardt	PO Box 1128 Chickaloon AK 99674		emily be
9	1/8/16	Timmy Shaffer	P.O. BOX 98 Sutton AK 99674	746 575 2	Timmy Shaffer
10	1/8/15	Dan Kenney	11559 N. SEVENTEEN Mile Blvd Sutton	707-6650	Dan Kenney
11	1/8/15	Cindy Gilder	11559 N. SEVENTEEN Mile Road Sutton	707-6650	Cindy G. Gilder
12	01-9-2016	Eileen M. Haines	P.O. Box 1102 Chickaloon AK 99674-1102	746-7659	Eileen Haines
13	1/9/2016	Ilianna Hauptman	Box 467, Sutton AK 99674	223. 6048	Ilianna Hauptman
14	1/12/2016	Will Barickman	18260 E. Wishbone place 99674	745-3375	Will Barickman

This petition, dated: 1/2/2016, is taken by the Jonesville/Slipper Lake Citizens Action Committee. An action committee sanctioned by the Sutton Community Council for the purpose of understanding community interest in the Jonesville/Slipper Lake area in Sutton, Alaska.

Any questions regarding this petition or the Action Committee can be addressed to George Rauscher – [george@georgerauscher.com](mailto:george@georgerauscher.com)

Free For Locals !! Charge outsiders though !! AS long AS Sutton People Dont have to pay.

# A Petition Regarding Jonesville/Slipper Lake Area:

We the undersigned petition the State of Alaska, Department of Natural Resources to manage the Jonesville/Slipper Lake reclamation area in Sutton consistent with the public interest including health and safety:

	Date:	Name:	Address:	Phone:	Signature	Email:
1	1/3/2016	George Rauscher	P.O. Box 164 Sutton Ak. 99674	907 745 4058		george@georgerauscher.com
2	1/3/16	Felt K. VISIBLE	P.O. Box 85 Sutton AK 99674			
3	1-3-16	Vernon Plowman	P.O. Box 115 Sutton AK 99674			
4	1-5-16	Nancy E Johnson	P.O. Box 256 Sutton, AK 99674	907-745-2841		
5	1-5/16	Roswitha Stanton	PO Box 2945 Palmer AK 99648	907-746-2761		
6	1/5/16	Debra Carver	PO Box 92 Sutton, AK 99674	907-745-5989		
7	1/5/16	Clay Aeb	CHRISTIAN RIDGE RD. SUTTON AK 99674			
8	1/6/16	Kana R REED	13633 syprite rd / PO Box 361 SUTTON, AK	(907) 775-3221		None
9	1/6/16	James Meyers	12670 N Jonesville / Sutton, AK 99674	907-231-9893		Jamesmeyers99@hotmail.com
10	1/6/16	Jason Johnson	2167. N. Vegent Dr	907-441-1153		None
11	1/6/16	Vince Volpe	18593 TWIN HILLS LN.	907 746-DABA		VINVO16@GMAIL.COM
12	01/07/16	TRICIA Carreau	PO Box 361 Sutton, AK 99674	(907) (631) 8764		
13	01/07/16	John Reed	po Box 361 SUTTON, AK 99674	(907) 521-7797		John Reed
14	01/10/16	Deanna Baker	P.O. BOX 105 Sutton, AK. 99674	746-4959		Deanna Baker

This petition, dated: 1/2/2016, is taken by the Jonesville/Slipper Lake Citizens Action Committee. An action committee sanctioned by the Sutton Community Council for the purpose of understanding community interest in the Jonesville/Slipper Lake area in Sutton, Alaska.  
 Any questions regarding this petition or the Action Committee can be addressed to George Rauscher – george@georgerauscher.com

# A Petition Regarding Jonesville/Slipper Lake Area:

We the undersigned petition the State of Alaska, Department of Natural Resources to manage the Jonesville/Slipper Lake reclamation area in Sutton consistent with the public interest including health and safety:

Signature

	Date:	Name:	Address:	Phone:	Email:
1	1-5-16	Roxanne Dolfi ROXANNE Dolfi	Box 189 Sutton, AK 99674	907 746 3264	rock@mtsonline.net
2	1-5-16	Scott Campbell	Box 189 Lot 2 Sutton AK 99674	907-4714-4712	NONE
3	1-5-16	Jaime Seifer	855 W. Fern Ave. Bldg A apt 1 Palmer, AK	#210-630-8359	Jaimelee0224@hotmail.com
4	1-5-16	John Farn	P.O. Box 84 Sutton, ALASKA	907-745-6826	-
5	1-5-16	Joe Rothwell	18150 E.	907-581-7916	JRthwell99@gmail.com
6	1-5-16	John McAlay	Po Box 192 Sutton AK 99674	907-745-2960	-
7	1-5-16	Jenness Ellett-Burns	Po Box 21 Sutton AK 99674	907-745-8969	snowdogsak@yahoo.com
8	1-5-16	Cindy Dunlap	Sutton AK 99674		Cindy Dunlap
9	1-5-16	Michael G Ebelson	P.O. Box 312 Sutton AK 99674	(907) -745-8350	
10	1-5-16	Kegan Elmore	11581 Jonesville Rd. Sutton, AK 99674		
11	1-6-16	Becky Hohn	PO Box 233 Sutton AK 99674	745-6978	Becky Hohn
12	1-6-16	ALAN Hohn	PO Box 233 Sutton AK 99674	745-6978	alan.hohn
13	1-7-16	Betty Magee	PO Box 296 Sutton AK 99674	745-5077	Betty Magee
14	1-4-16	John Lemmison	PO Box 124 Palmer AK 99654		John Lemmison

This petition, dated: 1/2/2016, is taken by the Jonesville/Slipper Lake Citizens Action Committee. An action committee sanctioned by the Sutton Community Council for the purpose of understanding community interest in the Jonesville/Slipper Lake area in Sutton, Alaska. Any questions regarding this petition or the Action Committee can be addressed to George Rauscher – george@georgerauscher.com

# A Petition Regarding Jonesville/Slipper Lake Area:

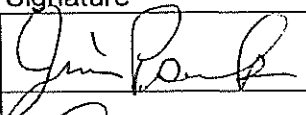
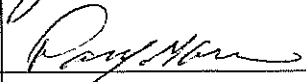


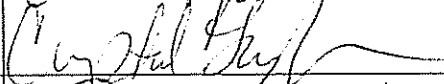
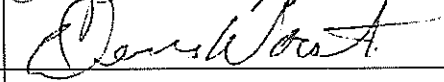
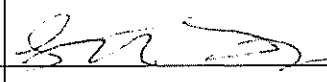
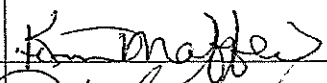
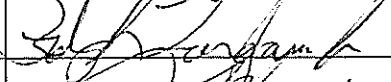

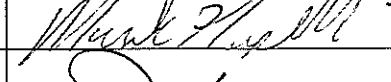


We the undersigned petition the State of Alaska, Department of Natural Resources to manage the Jonesville/Slipper Lake reclamation area in Sutton consistent with the public interest including health and safety:

	Date:	Name:	Address:	Phone:	Email:
1	1-10-16	Edward C Tucker	11462 North Riverview Sutton AK 99674	907 631-2398	
2	1-11-16	Robert Herndon	PO Box 384 Sutton AK 99674	(907) 746-3501	
3	1-11-16	CAMI MEYER	17993 E. ALLEYS RD. SUTTON, AK 99674	(907) 746-6178	
4	1-12-16	Chris Demerly	P.O. Box 440 Sutton AK 99674	907 795-2601	
5	1-17-16	JESUS HERNANDEZ	3511 NEBULA CIRCLE Sutton AK 99517	408 728-5038	
6	1-17-16	GEORGE LAUGHIN	11617 17 MILE BLVD SUTTON AK	907 746-8836	
7	1-18-16	Shay Ragsdale	mile 20 N Glenn Hwy / P.O. Box 29, Sutton AK	907-521-7993 (907-355-5154)	
8	1-18-16	Tristan Ragsdale	mile 20 N. Glenn Hwy. P.O. Box 29, 99674	907-982-7905 (355-5154)	
9	1-18-16	Scott Ragsdale	mile 20 N. Glenn Hwy. P.O. Box 29, 99674	907-315-7805 (355-5154)	
10	1-20-16	Paula Blevins	P.O. Box 98 Sutton AK 99674	746-7776	
11	1-20-16	Barry Anderson	P.O. Box 422 Sutton, AK. 99674		
12	1-20-16	DEWAYNE BENNETT	PO BX 207 SUTTON, AK 99674		
13	1-20-16	Wendy Meyer	P.O. Box 207 Sutton AK 99674	315-24163	
14	1-21-16	Bob Simpson	P.O. Box 412 Sutton AK 99674		

This petition, dated: 1/2/2016, is taken by the Jonesville/Slipper Lake Citizens Action Committee. An action committee sanctioned by the Sutton Community Council for the purpose of understanding community interest in the Jonesville/Slipper Lake area in Sutton, Alaska. Any questions regarding this petition or the Action Committee can be addressed to George Rauscher – [george@georgerauscher.com](mailto:george@georgerauscher.com)

# A Petition Regarding Jonesville/Slipper Lake Area:

We the undersigned petition the State of Alaska, Department of Natural Resources to manage the Jonesville/Slipper Lake reclamation area in Sutton consistent with the public interest including health and safety:

	Date:	Name:	Address:	Phone:	Signature
1	1-13-16	JIM PSEMAK.	P.O. Box 419 PALMAR AK	355-8330	
2	1-13-16	DOUG GOW	Box 181 Sutton AK		
3	1-14-16	Kendall Bellestr.	21125 Crag MVT Circle Sutton AK 99674	907 707 6852	
4	1-14-16	CHRIS ZOBELL	P.O. BOX 127	N/A	
5	1-14-16	Crystal Leigh	PO Box 521901 Beskale	707-6764	
6	1-14-16	DANIEL WORSTER	22356 GRAND AVE Sutton	702-542-7789	
7	1-14-16	Seth Leone	22700 Anderson	609-372-0527	
8	1-19-16	Kim Maffei	PO Box 308 Sutton	745-1077	
9	1-19-16	Ralph Langham	PO Box 127 Sutton AK 99674	745-8188	
10	1-19-16	Dick Machl	PO Box 61 Sutton AK 99674	745-1546	
11	1-19-16	Marc Thurler	22356 - F GRAND AVE 99674	555 3143	
12	1-19-16	J.E. TAUFEST	P.O. Box 131 Sutton 99674	746-5745	
13	1-25-16	SHIELA DEJARLAIS	PO BOX 549 sutton 99674	561-9855	
14					

This petition, dated: 1/2/2016, is taken by the Jonesville/Slipper Citizen Action Committee. An action committee sanctioned by the Sutton Community Council for the purpose of understanding community interest in the Jonesville/Slipper Lake area in Sutton, Alaska.

Any questions regarding this petition or the Action Committee can be addressed to George Rauscher – [george@georgerauscher.com](mailto:george@georgerauscher.com)

# A Petition Regarding Jonesville/Slipper Lake Area:

We the undersigned petition the State of Alaska, Department of Natural Resources to manage the Jonesville/Slipper Lake reclamation area in Sutton consistent with the public interest including health and safety:

	Date:	Name:	Address:	Phone:	Signature
1	1-7-15	JEANNE L. GRASSER	Box 232 SUTTON, AK	745-7787	Jeanne L. Grasser
2	1-9-16	Corey Kos	POB 487 Sutton AK	355-0212	Corey Kos
3	1-9-16	Tyler Dolf	P.O. BOX 189 SUTTON AK	982-3350	Tyler Dolf
4	1-9-16	Sue Young	PO Box 272 Sutton AK	745-3797	Sue Young
5	1-9-16	ALBERT HARRISON	PO Box 63 Sutton AK	745-8066	Albert Harrison
6	1/10/16	Timothy Casey	Po Box 36 Sutton AK	354-6215	Timothy Casey
7	1/10/16	Kenneth Frank	<del>POB</del> 650 N. Lanny Wadkins PI	414-2376	Kenneth Frank
8	1-10-16	ELIZABETH C. FANN	P.O. BOX 84 SUTTON, AK		Elizabeth C. Fann
9	1-12-16	Wallace Tingvork	PO Box 148 Sutton, AK	746-6915	Wallace Tingvork
10	1-13-16	SCOTT LANGRISH	PO Box 202 SUTTON AK	N-A	Scott Langrish
11	1-13-16	Don David	P.O. BOX 1147 CHICNAWOO, AK.	745-2967	Don David
12	1-13-16	Georgia Conner	PO Box 2183 Palmer AK	746-4533	Georgia Conner
13	1-13-16	JOE POLOWY	PO Box 2183 PALMER AK	746-4533	Joe Polowy
14	1-15-16	Rick Dolf	P.O. 150X 52 SUTTON AK	744-4799	Rick Dolf

This petition, dated: 1/2/2016, is taken by the Jonesville/Slipper Citizen Action Committee. An action committee sanctioned by the Sutton Community Council for the purpose of understanding community interest in the Jonesville/Slipper Lake area in Sutton, Alaska.

Any questions regarding this petition or the Action Committee can be addressed to George Rauscher – [george@georgerauscher.com](mailto:george@georgerauscher.com)

# A Petition Regarding Jonesville/Slipper Lake Area:

We the undersigned petition the State of Alaska, Department of Natural Resources to manage the Jonesville/Slipper Lake reclamation area in Sutton consistent with the public interest including health and safety:

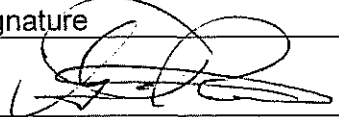

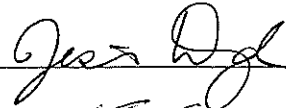
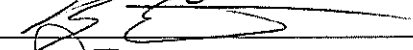

	Date:	Name:	Address:	Phone:	Signature
1	1-11-16	Pauline Richard	12758 N. Jonesville Rd P.O. Box 132 Sutton	746-7521	Pauline Richard
2	1-11-16	Chris Spitzer	11464 N. Wright Way P.O. Box 246 Sutton	864-380-7200	Chris Spitzer
3	1-11-16	Valerie Pickle	PO Box 462 Sutton AK 99674	907-745-6553	Valerie Pickle
4	1-11-16	Ingrid Shaginoff	21260 E Craig Mt Circle P.O. Box 3 Sutton AK	745-4067	Ingrid Shaginoff
5	1-11-16	Randa T. Johnson	P.O. Box 90 Sutton AK 99674	745-4508	Randa T. Johnson
6	1-11-16	Dennis Johnson	P.O. Box 90 Sutton AK 99674	745-4508	Dennis Johnson
7	1-11-16	Ed Appallo f	Box 218 Sutton, AK 99674	745-5691	Ed Appallo
8	1/11/16	Suellen Appallo	2521 E Mountain Village <sup>St B</sup> P.O. Box 132 Sutton AK 99674	841-4713	Suellen Appallo
9	1/11/16	Larry Dumm	12159 JONESVILLE RD	746-7521	Larry J. Dumm
10	1/11/16	Frank Buzby	Po Box 452 Sutton AK 99674	707-3445	Frank Buzby
11	1/11/16	Julie Morgan	P.O. BOX 50 Sutton AK 99674	745-4993	Julie Morgan
12					
13					
14					

This petition, dated: 1/2/2016, is taken by the Jonesville/Slipper Citizen Action Committee. An action committee sanctioned by the Sutton Community Council for the purpose of understanding community interest in the Jonesville/Slipper Lake area in Sutton, Alaska.

Any questions regarding this petition or the Action Committee can be addressed to George Rauscher – [george@georgerauscher.com](mailto:george@georgerauscher.com)

# A Petition Regarding Jonesville/Slipper Lake Area:

We the undersigned petition the State of Alaska, Department of Natural Resources to manage the Jonesville/Slipper Lake reclamation area in Sutton consistent with the public interest including health and safety:

	Date:	Name:	Address:	Phone:	Signature
1	1/10/16	George Rauscher	P.O. Box 164 Sutton AK 99674	907-745-4058	
2	1/11/16	Lynne Woods	PO Box 37 Sutton, AK 99674	907-745-4524	
3	1/11/16	Jessica Winnestaffer	10175 N. Glenn Hwy, Palmer, AK 99645	745-7452	
4	1/12/16	Brian Winnestaffer	10175 N. Glenn Hwy, Palmer AK 99645	745-7452	
5	1/12/16	Samantha Ange	PO Box 3438 Palmer, AK 99645	746-1691	
6					
7					
8					
9					
10					
11					
12					
13					
14					

This petition, dated: 1/2/2016, is taken by the Jonesville/Slipper Citizen Action Committee. An action committee sanctioned by the Sutton Community Council for the purpose of understanding community interest in the Jonesville/Slipper Lake area in Sutton, Alaska. Any questions regarding this petition or the Action Committee can be addressed to George Rauscher – [george@georgerauscher.com](mailto:george@georgerauscher.com)

# A Petition Regarding Jonesville/Slipper Lake Area:

We the undersigned petition the State of Alaska, Department of Natural Resources to manage the Jonesville/Slipper Lake reclamation area in Sutton consistent with the public interest including health and safety:

*\*Signature*

	Date:	Name:	Address:	Phone:	Email:
1	1/13/16	Tyles Archuletta	22693 E carroll Dr.	907 715 6009	heartchulett@gmail.com
2	1/15/16	Lorraine Jaegerkirsch	3325 w Riverdell Dr	907 3576144	LorraineJaegerkirsch@gmail.com
3	1/21/16	Lisa Rhodes	Po Box 154 Sutton AK 99674	907-355-8991	LisaRhodes
4	1-22-16	George Castle	P.O. box 168 Sutton	907-746-5373	George Castle
5	1-24-16	Alma Blum	Po Box 737 Palmer AK 99645	907-745-4445	Alma Blum
6	1-25-16	Sara Blydenburg	Po Box 104 Sutton AK 99674	907-745-5450	SaraBlydenburg@gmail.com
7	1-26-16	Juli Buzby	PO Box 452 Sutton 99674	907-373-1134	buzbyj5@hotmail.com
8					
9					
10					
11					
12					
13					
14					

This petition, dated: 1/2/2016, is taken by the Jonesville/Slipper Lake Citizens Action Committee. An action committee sanctioned by the Sutton Community Council for the purpose of understanding community interest in the Jonesville/Slipper Lake area in Sutton, Alaska. Any questions regarding this petition or the Action Committee can be addressed to George Rauscher – george@georgerauscher.com

# A Petition Regarding Jonesville/Slipper Lake Area:

We the undersigned petition the State of Alaska, Department of Natural Resources to manage the Jonesville/Slipper Lake reclamation area in Sutton consistent with the public interest including health and safety:

	Date:	Name:	Address:	Phone:	Email:
1	1-21-16	Maya G. Sum	22353 E Grand Ave.	354-6868	
2					
3					
4					
5					
6					
7					
8					
9					
10					
11					
12					
13					
14					

This petition, dated: 1/2/2016, is taken by the Jonesville/Slipper Lake Citizens Action Committee. An action committee sanctioned by the Sutton Community Council for the purpose of understanding community interest in the Jonesville/Slipper Lake area in Sutton, Alaska. Any questions regarding this petition or the Action Committee can be addressed to George Rauscher – [george@georgerauscher.com](mailto:george@georgerauscher.com)

## RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT FOR THE JONESVILLE PUBLIC USE AREA

- WHEREAS: the Sutton Community Council saw a need to establish a committee called, "The Jonesville/Slipper Lake Action Committee" in November 2015, to determine a course of action with regard to the publically used land area located in Sutton, Alaska known as Eska and Jonesville mining areas,
- WHEREAS: the Jonesville Mine area, Eska Mine area and parts of the Moose Range located in the Sutton area will be collectively titled "Jonesville Area" in the following items denoting those areas in this resolution,
- WHEREAS: the State of Alaska controls the active and abandoned mining leases and the moose range located in the Jonesville Area,
- WHEREAS: the Jonesville Area has a history of intended public use by the State of Alaska Department of Natural Resources,
- WHEREAS: it has been determined that The State of Alaska, Department of Natural Resources (DNR) has spent approximately [nine] million dollars of Federal Reclamation Funds to alter the Jonesville Area's abandoned and active coal leases to a recreational state of condition prior to 2013,
- WHEREAS: the DNR chose not to establish a management plan for the safety of the public when designing and implementing their public use area,
- WHEREAS: realizing the State's obvious disregard for: public safety, air, land and water contamination, and the inhabitants of the Sutton community; the community of Sutton provided its own resources and funds to clean and monitor the Jonesville Area without jurisdiction,
- WHEREAS: multiple four wheeler accidents, an accidental shooting death and other multiple near miss shooting incidents has occurred in the area since 2013,
- WHEREAS: local homes have been damaged by stray bullets since 2013,
- WHEREAS: the general public has contaminated Slipper Lake by throwing community provided "porta-potties" into Slipper Lake,
- WHEREAS: hundreds of tent campers, motorhomes and camping trailers have congregated on weekends during the summer months to the area,
- WHEREAS: thousands of visitors to the area have no public restrooms to "relieve" themselves creating unsanitary conditions in the surrounding landscape,
- WHEREAS: upwards of 20 truck and trailer loads of garbage and contaminants are picked up from the grounds in the area and taken to the local transfer station by community volunteers each year,

WHEREAS: signage has not been placed to designate public use activities including shooting and off-road recreational vehicles; the State will not provide signs without a management plan in place,

WHEREAS: a management plan and agreement can only be put in place after the area has been declared a Public Use Area by State legislation,

WHEREAS: legislation would allow a management plan which would protect the homes and property of local citizens in Sutton, reduce all-terrain vehicle accidents, provide needed public safety for recreational shooting, mitigate illegal dumping and generally provide a healthier, cleaner and safer environment for public multiple use activities.

WHEREAS: The Jonesville/Slipper Lake Action Committee and other stakeholders has reviewed the history and determined a course of action needs to be taken for the benefit of the community of Sutton and the safety of the general public,

WHEREAS: THE SUTTON COMMUNITY COUNCIL COMES now forward and recommends and supports a Senate and House Bill to designate the Jonesville Area the Jonesville Public Use Area.

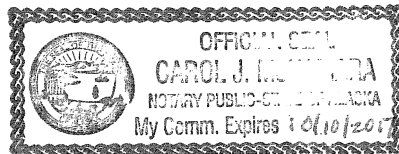
Signed: Mark Bertels 1-6-17  
Chairman Sutton Community Council

STATE OF ALASKA  
PALMER RECORDING DISTRICT  
THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT

The foregoing instrument was acknowledged before me Carol J. McNamara this 6th Day of January in the year 2017 by **Mark E. Bertels**, Chairman on behalf of the Sutton Community Council of Sutton, Alaska. 2017

SEAL: Carol J. McNamara  
Notary Public

MY COMMISSION EXPIRES: 10/10/2017



[President-elect Donald Trump](#) [Visual Stories](#) [Nation/World](#) [Calendar](#) [Games](#) [Edition](#) [Sponsored Content](#) [Customer Service](#)  
[Best of Alaska](#)

Mat-Su

## Retake the 'coal hills': Sutton wants its playground back from shooters and garbage piles

Author: [Zac Hollander](#) Updated: July 14, 2016 Published July 1, 2016



Targets and an old car are riddled with bullet holes at an impromptu shooting range off of the Jonesville Mine Road on Tuesday, June 28, 2016, in Sutton. (Bob Hallgren / Alaska Dispatch News)

**SUTTON** — Residents here say uncontrolled target shooting and trash piles have chased them from their favorite recreation areas behind town, and now they want the rowdies gone — but they're not getting help from Alaska State Troopers.

They are looking to reclaim the rough camping areas on the "coal hills" off Jonesville Mine Road and the shores of Slipper Lake.

"There is no safe place around that lake, anywhere," said Martin Johnson, who has lived in the area since 1957. "It's just a constant war all weekend."

Johnson was one of dozens of area residents who attended a town hall meeting Wednesday at Sutton Elementary School. They complained of scary shooting, wild four-wheeling and garbage but said troopers rarely patrol the area and often don't respond to calls for help.

Rep. Jim Colver, a Republican from Palmer facing a primary election challenge in August from a Sutton conservative George Rauscher, convened the meeting and brought two of Alaska's top cops: Public Safety Commissioner Walt Monegan and Col. James Cockrell, head of the Alaska State Troopers. About 50 people attended.

Budget-bound troopers say they don't have the manpower to send regular patrols up Jonesville Mine Road. Capt. Hans Brinke, the supervisor of Mat-Su trooper posts, said 36 troopers working three shifts cover an area the size of West Virginia.

ADN recommends



Alaska-News

Former state employee arrested theft from public safety building



Alaska-News

Missing Fairbanks snowboarder found dead near Selawik



Alaska-News

\$9 below recorded in Interior amid snap settles on Alaska

"If I can get my guys up there, I'm going to try my best," he said.

Most campers are domestic locals say. But a few trash the place and streak through the night. It's gotten so bad many community members say they are afraid to visit on summer weekends.

Gilfe Barker and a friend were talking last summer when they said, bullets started flying by their heads as they ducked and yelled, hemmed in by heavy brush.

Barker, a Chickaloon-based avalanche forecaster, said at the community meeting she believed someone on an adjacent four-wheeler trail was firing blindly.

"I'm not sure I feel comfortable going back up there again, which is unfortunate because it's one of the most incredible places around and everyone here knows that," she said. "We feel really lucky we weren't injured or killed that day. I hope no one else has to experience that."

A recent death added urgency to the conversation. An Anchorage resident, 30-year-old Adam C. Malaby, was shot and killed last month while taking video of people he knew who were firing guns near the road, according to Col. Cockrell.

Along with talk of increasing enforcement, there's also a local effort supported by the Sutton Community Council to establish a new public-use area for Jonesville similar to that adopted by the state for the Knik River.

The public-use area campaign is led by Rauscher, Colver's opponent in August's Republican primary. Rauscher, a remodeler, is chair of the Jonesville/Slipper Lake Action Committee. The group hopes to have a bill ready in November as a vehicle for the Legislature to create the public-use area.

The state improved campsites along the lake in 2009 and 2012 but didn't have a plan to manage growing pressure from Anchorage and Matanuska-Susitna Borough residents, according to the public-use-area campaign.

Along with working with local and state officials on the planning process, Rauscher urged locals themselves to tell people not to shoot in undesignated areas.

"We can all be a part of policing the area ourselves," he said.

Monegan urged residents to call every time they see illegal activity, such as shooting and people or at homes. Troopers say they aren't getting many calls from the area.

"Even if you get no response, we log your call," Monegan said. "The more we hear, the more it builds up. When you actually go apathetic — well, they're not going to come so far not going to call — we won't know. Don't give up on us. Call."

Community demands for a formal shooting range got nearly universal support. But developing a shooting range is a complicated process, said Clark Cox, the Alaska Department of Natural Resources' regional manager. Residents need to agree on its location and hours, Cox said.

Colver said any public-use-area legislation is "no sure thing" and noted the bill comes with a \$200,000 price tag. It will be a challenge to pass given the state's grim financial situation, he said.

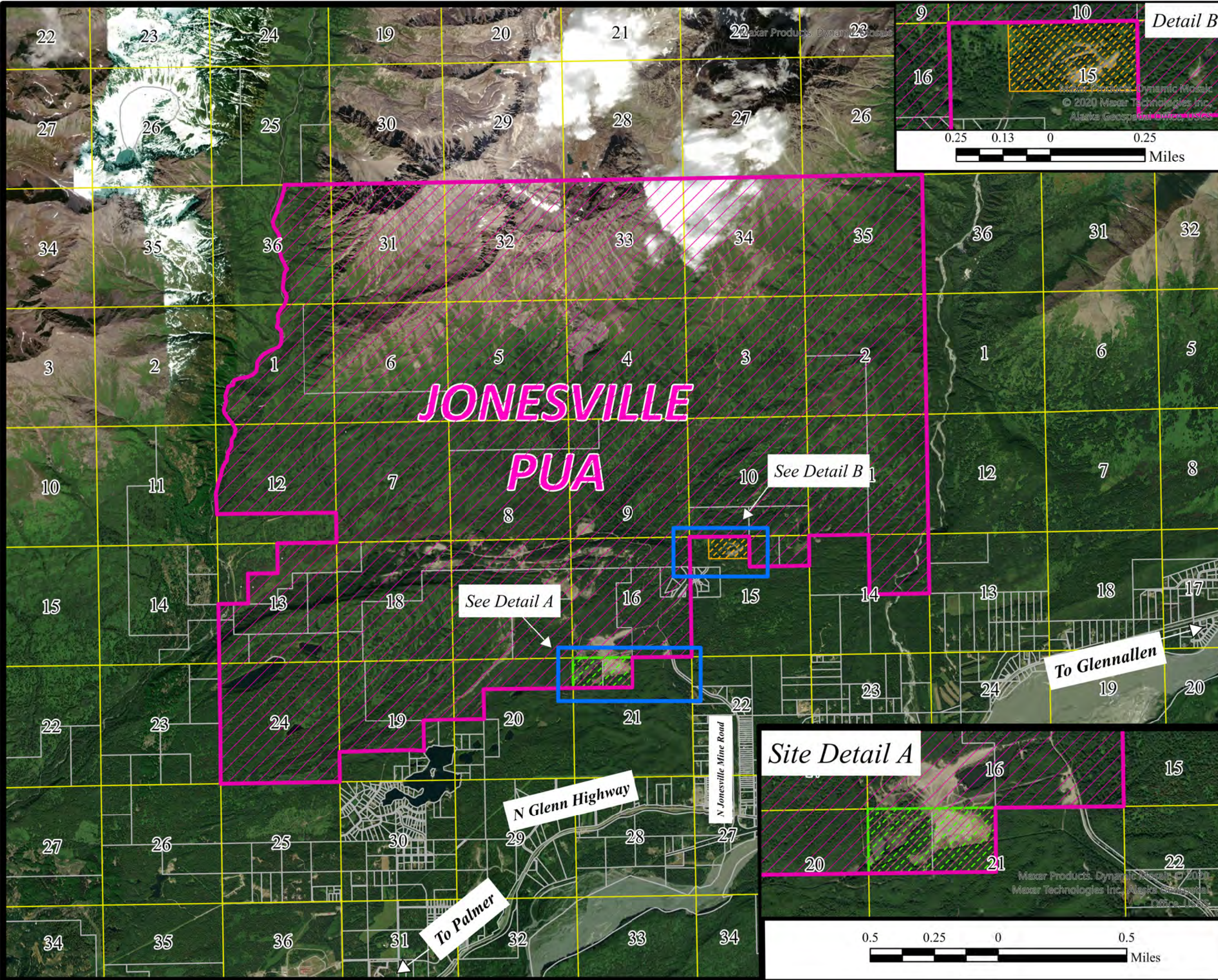
"If that's the direction we're going, it's just going to take push, hard work and tenacity," Colver said.

**About the author**  
Zac Hollander

Zac Hollander is based in Wasilla and covers the Mile-Su region for the ADN.



Photo by Senator Rauscher



Alaska Dept. of Natural Resources  
Div. of Mining Land & Water  
Survey Section

**Map Legend**

- Jonesville PUA Boundary
- Added Area
- Removed Area
- PLSS Sections
- MSB Parcels

**GRAPHIC ILLUSTRATION ONLY**

Source documents remain official record. Please refer to the Land Administration System (LAS) Casefile for more detailed information on specific cases

The State of Alaska makes no expressed implied warranties (including warranties of merchantability and fitness) with respect to the character, function, or capabilities of this product or its appropriateness for any user's purposes. In no event will the State of Alaska be liable for any incidental, indirect, special, consequential or other damages suffered by the user or any other person or entity whether from use of the product, failure thereof or otherwise, and in no event will the State of Alaska's liability to you or anyone else exceed the fee paid for the product.



**Jonesville Public Use Area**

Date Printed: January 28, 2026

**From:** [Frank Buzby](#)  
**To:** [Sen. George Rauscher](#)  
**Subject:** SB230 - Jonesville  
**Date:** Sunday, March 15, 2026 6:21:04 PM

---

Senator Rauscher,

I am writing to you today to support SB230 amending the boundaries of the Jonesville Public Use Area (JPUA). As a resident of Sutton, who also served as chair of the Sutton Community Council for a portion of my 8 year term on that council, I know a bit about the efforts and support of the Sutton Community for more than 15 years to see management and safety become a reality to JPUA. SB230 addresses a crucial piece of land originally, but not intentionally, omitted from the legislation creating JPUA. The parcel in question provides a current access point and parking that is part of the regularly used area and needs to be included as part of JPUA in order to provide the same level of management to the entire currently used recreational land. I would ask that you share my letter and thoughts at the upcoming meeting on this bill. We do not want this technical oversight to leave out this crucial piece of property and undermine the intention of our efforts.

Respectfully,  
Frank Buzby, Sutton Resident



**MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH**  
**Office of the Borough Manager**  
350 East Dahlia Avenue • Palmer, AK 99645  
Phone (907) 861-8689 • Fax (907) 861-8669  
[Mike.Brown@matsu.gov](mailto:Mike.Brown@matsu.gov)

March 16, 2026

The Honorable George Rauscher and Garret Nelson  
Districts O and 29  
State of Alaska

RE: Support for SB 230 and HB 309 – Jonesville Public Use Area Boundary Adjustment

Dear Senator Rauscher and Representative Nelson,

I am writing in support of SB 230 and HB 309 and its proposed adjustment to remove a Borough-owned parcel from the Jonesville Public Use Area.

SB 230 and HB 309 provide a thoughtful and targeted update to the statutory boundaries of the Jonesville Public Use Area by amending AS 41.23.286. As written, the bill allows for a clear delineation between lands intended for long-term public use management by the State and parcels that are more appropriately managed at the local level.

Importantly, these bills do not diminish the overall purpose of the Jonesville Public Use Area. The bill instead makes a precise correction that improves administrative clarity for future planning purposes without undermining public access or the broader goals of the area.

For the Borough, this boundary adjustment supports sound planning and coordination with State agencies on adjacent lands. This type of cooperative and well-defined land management framework benefits both the State and local governments and helps avoid future conflicts or inefficiencies.

Thank you for your leadership on this issue and for advancing legislation that promotes clear, effective, and practical land management. I appreciate your consideration and respectfully encourage continued support for these bills.

Sincerely,

Michael Brown  
Borough Manager

cc: Mr. John Harris