

1 IN THE SENATE

BY ELIASON

2

SENATE BILL NO. 362

3

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4

FIFTEENTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

5

A BILL

6 For an Act entitled: "An Act establishing the Dude Creek Critical Habitat
7 Area."

8 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:

9 * Section 1. PURPOSES. The purpose of the Dude Creek Critical Habitat
10 Area is the protection and enhancement of the wet meadow habitat that is
11 the key roosting area for migrating lesser sandhill cranes, for the protec-
12 tion of lesser sandhill cranes, and for the continued public use and enjoy-
13 ment of the area.

14 * Sec. 2. AS 16.20 is amended by adding a new section to read:

15 Sec. 16.20.610. DUDE CREEK CRITICAL HABITAT AREA. (a) The
16 following described area is established as the Dude Creek Critical
17 Habitat Area:

18 Township 40 South, Range 58 East, Copper River Meridian

19 Section 2: W1/2

20 Section 3

21 Sections 9 - 10

22 Section 11: W1/2NE1/4, W1/2

23 Section 14: Lot 3, NW1/4, N1/2SW1/4, SW1/4SW1/4

24 Section 15

25 Section 16: N1/2, SE1/4

26 (b) The Dude Creek Critical Habitat Area described in (a) of
27 this section shall be managed under a management plan prepared by the
28 department in consultation with the community of Gustavus and approved
29 by the Board of Game.

1 (c) The department shall permit public access, grazing, firewood
2 harvesting, wildlife viewing, hiking, and berry picking under the
3 management plan adopted under (b) of this section to the extent that
4 the activities are compatible with the purpose for which the Dude
5 Creek Critical Habitat Area was established.

6 (d) The legislature understands that a portion of the state land
7 described in (a) of this section is mental health trust land of the
8 state and the legislature intends that the land retain its status as
9 mental health trust land, notwithstanding its inclusion in the Dude
10 Creek Critical Habitat Area.