

Original sponsor: Eliason

1 IN THE SENATE BY THE RESOURCES COMMITTEE
2 HOUSE CS FOR CS FOR SENATE BILL NO. 362 (Resources)
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; and providing for an effective date."

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

9 * Section 1. AS 16.20 is amended by adding a new section to read:

10 Sec. 16.20.610. DUDE CREEK CRITICAL HABITAT AREA. (a) The
11 purpose of the Dude Creek Critical Habitat Area is the protection and
12 enhancement of the wet meadow habitat that is the key roosting area
13 for migrating lesser sandhill cranes, for the protection of lesser
14 sandhill cranes, and for the continued public use and enjoyment of the
15 area.

16 (b) The following described area is established as the Dude
17 Creek Critical 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 (c) The Dude Creek Critical Habitat Area described in (b) of
27 this section shall be managed under a management plan prepared and
28 implemented by the department in consultation with the community of
29 Gustavus and the Board of Game.

1 (d) The department shall allow public uses, including fishing,
2 hunting, trapping, mechanized and nonmechanized public access, graz-
3 ing, firewood harvesting, wildlife viewing, hiking, and berry picking
4 under the management plan adopted under (c) of this section to the
5 extent that the activities are compatible with (a) of this section.

6 (e) The legislature understands that a portion of the state land
7 described in (b) 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.

11 * Sec. 2. INTERIM MANAGEMENT. Until the Department of Fish and Game
12 has adopted a management plan under AS 16.20.610(c), the commissioner of
13 fish and game shall allow public use compatible with AS 16.20.610(a) as
14 enacted in sec. 1 of this Act.

15 * Sec. 3. This Act takes effect immediately under AS 01.10.070(c).