

S B

3

3

4

# Alaska State Legislature

ARLISS STURGULEWSKI, Chairman  
BETTYE FAHRENKAMP, Vice Chairman  
JACK COGHILL  
DICK ELIASON  
VIC FISCHER  
RICK HALFORD  
FRED ZHAROFF



P. O. BOX V  
JUNEAU, ALASKA 99811  
(907) 485-4907

## Senate Committee on Resources

MEMORANDUM

April 10, 1986

TO: All Members  
Senate Resources Committee

FROM: Staff, Senate Resources Committee

RE: CSSSSB 334 (Res) "An Act relating to Hatcher Pass  
Public Use Area"

SB 334 would establish the Hatcher Pass Public Use Area. The bill provides for the protection and enhancement of fish and wildlife resources, provided for public recreation, protects water quality, and protects scenic resources within the area.

The Commissioner of Natural Resource is responsible for the management of the surface and subsurface estate. A management plan shall be adopted by the Department of Natural Resources with the concurrence of the Commissioner of Fish and Game.

The Hatcher Pass Public Use Area is closed to mineral entry, but existing valid claims remain valid.

Once established, the state may acquire land within the area by purchase, exchange, or otherwise, from willing landowners for inclusion. The Commissioner of Natural Resources may not sell land within the area.

The area to be included is shown on the attached map and consists of a strip of land along the Little Susitna River.

### Enclosures:

Map of area  
Letter of Support from Mat-Su Borough  
Sample letters pro and con



# Matanuska-Susitna Borough

BOX B. PALMER, ALASKA 99645 • PHONE 745-4801

BOROUGH ASSEMBLY

APR 10 1986

April 7, 1986

Honorable Bill Sheffield, Governor  
State of Alaska  
Pouch A  
Juneau, AK 99811

RE: Hatcher Pass Recreation Area

Dear Governor Sheffield:

The Matanuska-Susitna Borough Assembly has gone on record in the past and continues to strongly support the concept of development of the Hatcher Pass Recreation Area. A copy of Resolution No. 86-10 adopted on February 4, 1986 and Resolution No. 86-21 adopted February 18, 1986 are enclosed for your information.

The Matanuska-Susitna Borough Assembly feels a recreation area such as Hatcher Pass would definitely aid towards a more stable economic future for the Valley. They feel this is a viable project and have further funded \$15,000 for a feasibility study for a ski area at Hatcher Pass by adoption of Ordinance No. 86-20 (enclosed). The public participation and interest generated with this issue has been overwhelmingly in support of this development and the Borough's position remains unchanged, except perhaps for a stronger support of the concept.

If you should have any questions or need additional information, please feel free to contact my office.

Sincerely,

*Dorothy Jones as*  
Dorothy A. Jones, Mayor  
Matanuska-Susitna Borough

DJ/cls  
Enclosures

cc: Commissioner, Department of Natural Resources  
Representative Ron Larson  
Representative Katie Hurley  
Senator Jalmer Kerttula  
Senator Edna DeVries

Presented by: Mayor Jones  
Introduced: 02/18/86  
Drafted by: G.L.S.

MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH

Resolution Serial No. 86-21

A RESOLUTION OF THE MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH ASSEMBLY  
SUPPORTING THE MULTIPLE USE CONCEPT FOR THE AREA WITHIN THE  
PROPOSED HATCHER PASS MANAGEMENT PLAN.

WHEREAS, the Department of Natural Resources made a presentation on a proposed Hatcher Pass Management Plan to a joint meeting of the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Assembly and Planning Commission on February 10, 1986, and

WHEREAS, said plan was represented as an attempt to provide for the sound development of the several natural resources and potentials of the area, including, but not limited to, recreation, tourism, mining, hunting, fishing and wildlife management, and

WHEREAS, the public comments regarding use of the Hatcher Pass area indicated the area is susceptible to multiple use development including preservation of scenic quality, enhancement of recreational and historical uses, hunting, fishing, trapping, camping, skiing, hiking, grazing, and mineral development, and

WHEREAS, the Hatcher Pass Management Plan, Subunit Description of Resource Values dated December 1985 indicates many of the subunits contain moderate to high mineral potentials, and

WHEREAS, the area should be developed in such a manner as to maximize its recreational and economic benefits to the people of the state of Alaska and the Matanuska-Susitna Borough, and

WHEREAS, the multiple use approach to the management of the Hatcher Pass area should be clearly set out in the Plan;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE ASSEMBLY OF THE MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH:

1. That it supports the multiple use concept presented to it by the Department of Natural Resources for the management of the Hatcher Pass area.

2. That it strongly recommends the Department of Natural Resources clearly incorporate in the Hatcher Pass Management Plan the multiple use approach to the management

of the various Hatcher Pass potentials and resources such as recreation, tourism, mining, timber, agriculture, hunting, fishing and wildlife management.

PASSED AND APPROVED this 18<sup>th</sup> day of February, 1986.

Dorothy A. Jones  
Dorothy A. Jones, Mayor

ATTEST:

READ AND APPROVED:

Chris Seagraves  
Chris Seagraves  
Borough Clerk

Gary Thurlow  
Gary Thurlow  
Borough Manager

(SEAL) \_

NON-CODE

INTRODUCED BY: ASSEMBLYMAN CYPRA

MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH

ORDINANCE SERIAL NO. 86-20

AN ORDINANCE OF THE ASSEMBLY OF THE MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH APPROPRIATING \$15,000 FROM THE LAND MANAGEMENT FUND BALANCE TO FUND 820 FOR A FEASIBILITY STUDY OF A SKIING FACILITY AT GOVERNMENT PEAK IN THE HATCHER PASS AREA.

BE IT ENACTED:

Section 1. Classification. This is a non-code ordinance.

Section 2. Appropriation Source. There is hereby appropriated \$15,000 from the Land Management Fund Balance to Fund 820 Feasibility Study.

Section 3. Effective Date. This ordinance shall take effect upon adoption by the Borough Assembly.

Introduction: March 18, 1986

First Reading: 3-18-86

Public Hearing: 4-1-86

ADOPTED by the Assembly of the Matanuska-Susitna Borough this  
1st day of April, 1986.

Dorothy A. Jones  
Dorothy A. Jones, Mayor

ATTEST:

Chris Seagraves  
Chris Seagraves, Borough Clerk

(SEAL)

Presented by: Assemblyperson  
Cypra  
Introduced: 01/21/86  
Drafted by: S.C.

MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH

RESOLUTION SERIAL NO. 86-10 (Substitute)

A RESOLUTION ENDORSING THE HATCHER PASS, WILLOW AND  
TALKEETNA MOUNTAIN AREAS AS POTENTIAL WINTER OLYMPIC  
SITES.

WHEREAS, the Hatcher Pass, Willow and the Talkeetna Mountain areas are recognized for their high recreational value, and

WHEREAS, Hatcher Pass, the Willow and Talkeetna Mountain areas are located in the vicinity of the Municipality of Anchorage, and

WHEREAS, the Municipality of Anchorage has sought and received nominations as the Winter Olympic site in 1992, and

WHEREAS, the U.S. Cross Country Ski Team has recognized Hatcher Pass as having high potential and uses this area for training, and

WHEREAS, the Hatcher Pass, Willow area and Talkeetna Mountains receive considerable use by the Anchorage skiing community, and

WHEREAS, there is high unemployment in the Matanuska-Susitna Borough, and

WHEREAS, the current snowfall in the state of Alaska indicates the Hatcher Pass, Willow and Talkeetna Mountains can be relied upon as good sites for Winter Olympic sports,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE ASSEMBLY OF THE  
MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH:

That the Assembly of the Matanuska-Susitna Borough  
endorses the Hatcher Pass, Willow and Talkeetna Mountain  
areas as potential Olympic sites for cross country skiing  
and any other appropriate activities.

PASSED AND APPROVED this 4th day of February,  
1986.

Dorothy A. Jones  
Dorothy A. Jones, Mayor

ATTEST:

REVIEWED AND APPROVED:

Chris Seagraves  
Chris Seagraves  
Clerk

Gary Thurlow  
Gary Thurlow  
Borough Manager

SEAL

A nonprofit association  
dedicated to education and awareness  
about rivers and river running  
throughout the United States.

Contributions are tax-deductible.



MAR 11 1986

Communicating bi-monthly with  
over 10,000 kayakers, rafters,  
and river canoeists through  
**CURRENTS** magazine.

**National Organization for River Sports**

Box 6847 314 North Twentieth Street Colorado Springs, Colorado 80904 (303) 473-2466

{ Senator Arliss Sturgulewski  
Resources Committee Chairman  
Alaska State Senate, Box V  
Juneau AK 99811 }

**NORS' BATTLES FOR BOATERS!**  
**CURRENTS COVERS RIVER RUNNING!**

Date: March 4, 1986

Dear Senator Sturgulewski:

It has come to my attention that the upper portion of the Little Susitna River, and its surroundings known as the Hatcher Pass Area, are the subject of a bill now before you, S.B. 334, which would make this a public recreational use area.

On behalf of our members in Alaska and elsewhere, I strongly urge you to help reserve this area for public recreational use. In recent years I have been amazed at the advances in technique and equipment for running rivers, and I can assure you that this river will carry increasing recreational use in coming years. Already there are not enough rivers to go around, resulting in waits of as long as ten years to get a permit for a trip on certain major rivers in the West. For the future of your state's tourism economy and the benefit of its citizens in general, I urge you to preserve this recreational area.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Eric Leaper'.

Eric Leaper  
Executive Director

EL/fa

cc: Senator Jan Faiks, Finance Committee

MAR 11 1986

March 3, 1986

Senator Arliss Sturgulewski, Chairperson  
Resources Committee  
Pouch V  
Juneau, Alaska 99811

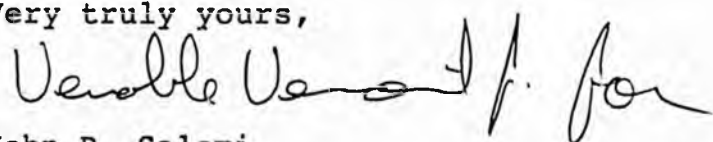
Dear Senator Sturgulewski:

As a frequent user of the Hatcher Pass area, I am writing you as a supporter of Senator Jay Kerttula's "Hatcher Pass Public Use Area" Bill. It is my understanding that this bill will close the Little Susitna River Corridor to new mining and will additionally prohibit state land disposal within the use area.

I believe this bill is a needed piece of legislation. It is a balanced bill in that it won't affect existing valid mining claims, but it will stem the trend regarding squatters on the land in this area. It is clear that the Hatcher Pass area is one of those areas which has both a high tourist value, and yet attracts residents year-round because of its diverse recreational uses. But because squatters and persons on illegal mining claims are posting certain areas so as to prohibit access to the lands, the public in general is suffering. One can find "no trespassing" signs placed by miners in areas on state lands to which the public has a right of use. This should not be tolerated, especially in this area.

I urge you to give this bill your fullest support during the legislative session. I, along with many others, will be following the progress of this legislation.

Very truly yours,



John B. Salemi

4204 COPE ST.  
ANCHORAGE, AK. 99503  
27 MARCH 1986

386  
SENATOR ARLISS STURGULEWSKI  
SENATE RESOURCE COMMITTEE  
P.O. BOX V  
JUNEAU, ALASKA 99811

DEAR SENATOR,

I AM WRITING URGING YOU TO SUPPORT SB-334 WHICH SETS ASIDE  
A CORRIDOR IN THE LITTLE SUSITNA VALLEY WHICH IS WITHDRAWN FROM  
MINING CLAIMS. I AM AN ACTIVE RECREATIONIST, SKIER / KAYAKER AND  
BELIEVE THAT SOME OF THE UNIQUE AND CHARMING VALUES OF THIS  
AREA SHOULD BE PRESERVED IN THE PUBLIC INTEREST. I AM NOT  
OPPOSED TO MINING PER SE BUT AM OPPOSED TO THE STATE'S LAX  
STANCE (OR NON STANCE) IN <sup>NOT EVALUATING</sup> ~~REPAIRING~~ CLAIM VALIDITY. FURTHER, THE  
STATE HAS SHOWN LITTLE INITIATIVE IN EVALUATING WHETHER HOUSING IS  
NECESSARY ON THE CLAIM. IN THE CASE OF ~~THE~~ LITTLE SUSITNA,  
WHICH HAS GOOD ROAD ACCESS, HOUSING IS MOST DEFINITELY NOT NECESSARY,  
AND IS FURTHER AN EYESORE AND A NUISANCE TO OTHER VALLEY USERS.  
PLEASE APPROVE SB-334 AS A START TO RESOLVING SOME OF THESE  
PROBLEMS. THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME.

SINCERELY,

DAVID BLANCHET

PUBLIC OPINION MESSAGE

TO: SENATOR ARLISS STURGULEWSKI  
FROM: JEANNE MOLITOR  
5110 SPRUCE CREEK CIRCLE  
ANCHORAGE 99516  
346-3459

BILL NO: SB 334

SUBJECT: ESTABLISHING HATCHER PASS PUBLIC USE AREA

MESSAGE:

AS A VOTER, I ENJOY THE LITTLE SUSITNA AND WANT TO MAINTAIN  
IT FOR OUR USE AND ENCOURAGE YOU TO PASS THIS BILL.

DATE: 04/01/86 TIME: 16:34:12 SENT BY: ANCHORAGE LIO

COPIES TO: SENATE RESOURCES

PUBLIC OPINION MESSAGE

TO: SENATOR ARLISS STURGULEWSKI  
FROM: BARBARA BAKER  
2031 CLIFFSIDE DRIVE  
ANCHORAGE 99501  
274-6385

BILL NO: SB 334

SUBJECT: ESTABLISHING HATCHER PASS PUBLIC USE AREA

MESSAGE:

AS A RECREATIONAL BOATER, I URGE YOUR SUPPORT FOR SB 334.  
THIS LEGISLATION WILL ASSURE ACCESS TO AND PRESERVATION OF  
ONE OF ALASKA'S PREMIER RIVERS, LITTLE SUSITNA.

DATE: 04/01/86 TIME: 09:47:56 SENT BY: ANCHORAGE LIO

COPIES TO: SENATE RESOURCES

Feb 27 1986

Senator Arliss Sturgulewski  
Senate Resource Committee  
Box V  
Juneau, Alaska 99811

Feb. 22, 1986

Dear Senator Sturgulewski,

I am writing you to ask for your support for SB 334, an Act creating a Hatcher Pass Use Area.

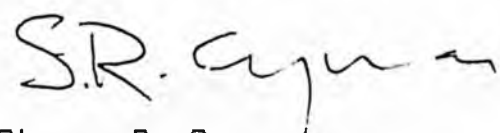
While I am currently on the Matanuska Susitna Borough Assembly and represent the area that the Use Area addresses, I am writing this as a private citizen.

There are numerous questions revolving around this bill, but I would like to share several of the things I have come to see as important.

Probably the two major concerns have been regarding mining in the area and whether SB 334 will conflict with the Hatcher Pass Management Plan. On the first concern, I do not believe this bill will establish a precedent miners should feel threatened with. On the contrary, most miners I know feel this area has little mining value and those who're using claims near the Little Susitna River are giving others a bad name. Of the second concern, that of the Hatcher Pass Plan, I have watched the planning process closely and from my perspective feel SB 334 will only strengthen both the public's desire and the Plan's goals.

One of the strongest personal concerns I have is building a diverse and healthy local economy. I believe SB 334 will protect the Little Susitna area for the things we desperately need the most: excellent recreational and tourist destinations.

Sincerely yours,



Steven R. Cypra

cc: Senate Resource  
Committee

# Black Sands Mining Co.

Phillip D. Strange  
P.O. Box 871478  
Wasilla, Alaska 99687  
(Placer - Gold)

FEB 21 1986

February 14, 1986

Dear Legislators:

I urge you to oppose S.B.334, creating the Hatchers Pass Public Use Area. This bill will force a mineral closure one half mile wide on each side of the Little Susitna River. This will be the beginning of another lock up of a very important mining district. Should S.B.334 pass into law it will cause the loss of private investment for mineral exploration and development on state lands in the Hatchers Pass Area.

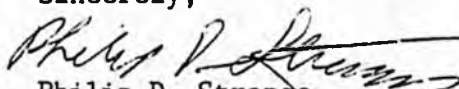
This area is of great economic importance for the vast mineral wealth that is there. The surface has barely been scratched on the mineral deposits of the Willow Creek Mining District. We need to develop this mineral wealth to bring new jobs and start an economically viable industry in the Mat-Su Valley.

The mining industry opened the Hatchers Pass Area and established the first roads into it, now that access is relatively easy, compared to 50 years ago. The people of Anchorage want to make it into their exclusive playground, but we do not need to close an area to mining because of the recreational wants and needs of urban Alaskans who know nothing about mining or the mining industry. With all the advances in mining and milling equipment we can lower grade ores at a higher profit with no detrimental effect on the environment.

I am presently working to develop the 200 foot level on a group of hard-rock claims not far from the Little Sustina River. Last year I invested fifty thousand dollars into rehabilitating the old crosscut and this year I plan to invest close to one hundred thousand dollars on development and exploration work. When I get it developed to the point where I can get to production, the cost of bringing in equipment will be very low because of the excellent road access into this mining area.

I believe that the needs of both miners and those who wish to use the area strictly for recreational purposes can be met but feel that S.B.334 will discriminate against the mining interests of the area. Thank you for your time and consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,

  
Philip D. Strange

FEB 10 1986

Knik Kanoers and Kayakers  
3903 Arkansas Drive  
Anchorage, Alaska 99503

February 5, 1986

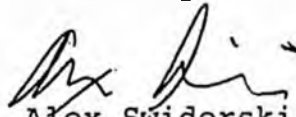
Senator Sturgulewski  
Resources Committee  
Pouch V  
Juneau, Alaska 99811

Dear Senator,

I am writing on behalf of the Knik Kanoers and Kayakers to urge you to support Senator Kertulla's Bill No. 334. The intent of the legislation is to protect the water quality and public use of the upper Little Susitna River. Kayakers use the Little Susitna on a regular basis. The proposed legislation creates the Hatcher Pass Public Use Area and protects our access to the river and surrounding lands.

The Little Su is an exceptional kayaking river. It is a clear warm water stream of unusual beauty and challenge. S.B. 334 is an important bill for Knik Kanoers and Kayakers. The bill would stop new mining on the stream and thereby the number of residents engaged in illegal placer mining there. A few of these miners have settled along the Hatcher Pass Road and accumulated junk in their yards and erected threatening signs along the road and river. Although they find little gold in the river they have significantly impacted the experience of kayakers paddling the river. Not only kayakers but also hikers, picnickers, fishermen, and motorists must be wary of these mining claims.

Sincerely Yours,

  
Alex Swiderski  
President

JAN - 4 1986

Jan. 13, 1986  
PO Box 2176  
Palmer, Alaska 99645

Senator Arliss Sturgulewski  
Senate Resources Committee  
Box V  
Juneau, Alaska 99811

Dear Senator Sturgulewski,

I urge you to support Senate Bill 334, establishing the Hatcher Pass Public Use Area, introduced by Senator Kerttula.

His bill protects public use of a popular area in two ways. First, the legislation disallows new mining on the Little Susitna River. As you know, the river is a tremendously valuable scenic resource to people in my community and visitors from out-of-state. On the other hand, it contains such small quantities of gold that all placer mining attempts have been failures. From the view of state resources management, there is no economic advantage to additional mining on the Little Su. Some of the current claim holders have created substantial eyesores on the stream, in violation of several state regulations. The proposed legislation will see to it that no additional squatters pre-empt the public from using the stream. As Chuck Hawley told me, "There is no gold there. That river should be for tourists."

Secondly, S.B. 334 prohibits state land disposals in the Hatcher Pass area. Private control of state land there fulfills no public needs, but in fact puts resources off-limits to the public now utilizing them there. Plenty of unsold private land lies near the proposed Public Use Area for people requiring a cabin site. At the recent public hearings, participants overwhelmingly objected to land disposals in the Hatcher Pass area.

Although S.B. 334 is valuable legislation, it has some room for improvement. The legislatively designated area should include the high mountains and meadows just to the northeast. This small area is a popular destination for skiers and mountaineers, and it therefore deserves the same legal consideration as the rest of the Public Use area.

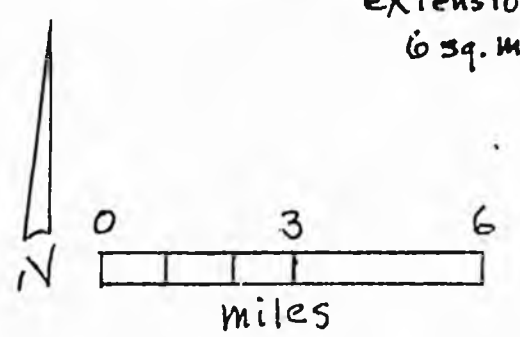
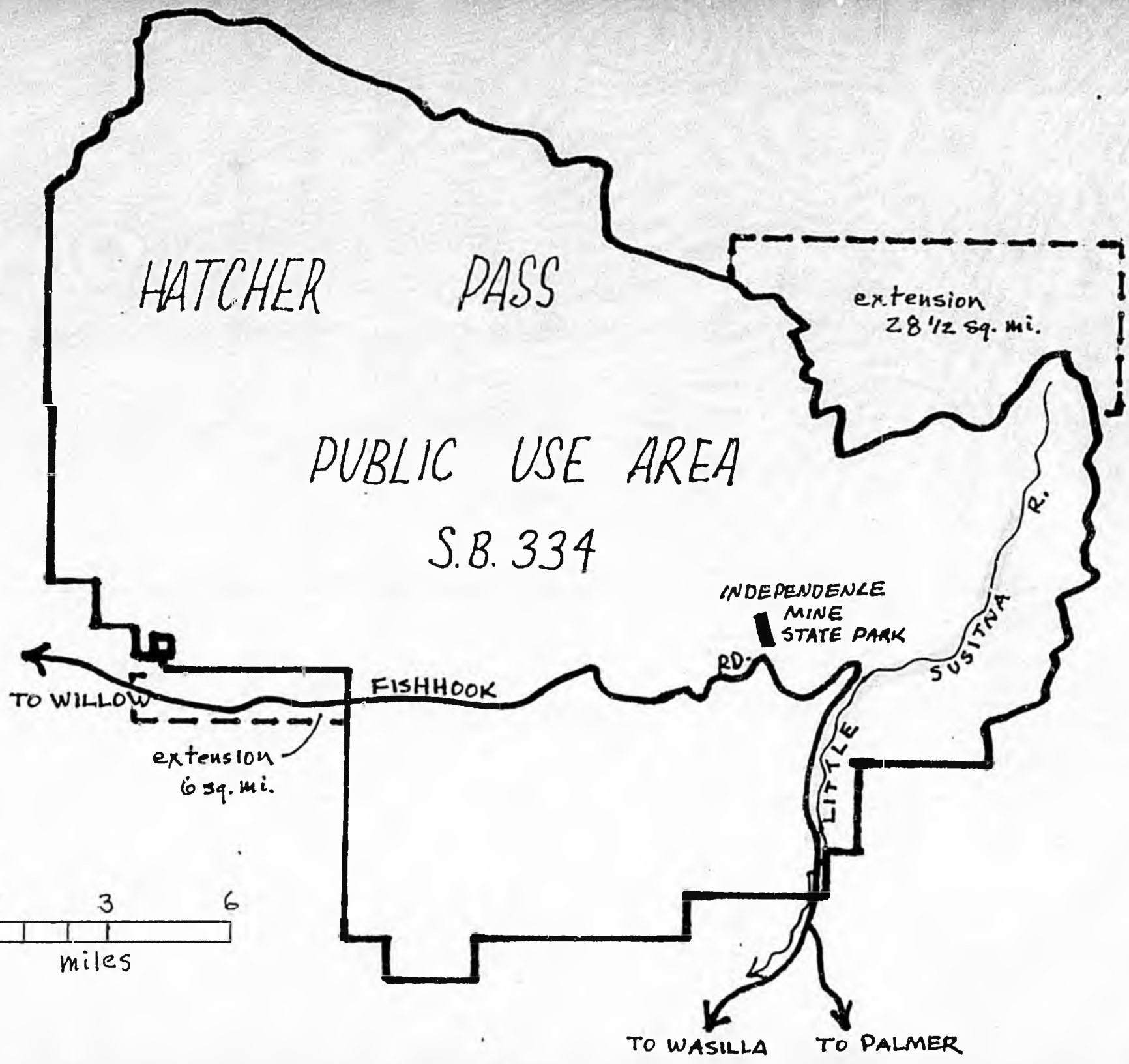
I would like to come down to Juneau and talk to the Resources Committee about the bill when it comes up on your agenda.

Sincerely,

*Mike Bronson*

Mike Bronson

cc: Senate Resource  
Committee members  
Dorothy Jones  
Esther Wunnicke



Offered: 4/21/86  
Referred: Finance

*Substantially reduced*

Original sponsor: Kerttula

1 IN THE SENATE BY THE RESOURCES COMMITTEE  
2 CS FOR SPONSOR SUBSTITUTE FOR SENATE BILL NO. 334 (Resources)  
3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA  
4 FOURTEENTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION  
5 A BILL

6 For an Act entitled: "An Act relating to Hatcher Pass Public Use Area."

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

8 \* Section 1. As 41.23 is amended by adding new sections to read:

9 ARTICLE. 2. HATCHER PASS PUBLIC USE AREA.

10 Sec. 41.23.100. PURPOSE. (a) The purpose of AS 41.23.100 -  
11 41.23.130 is to establish the area described in AS 41.23.130 as the  
12 Hatcher Pass Public Use Area.

13 (b) The Hatcher Pass Public Use Area is established to

14 *Reversed* (1) provide for public recreation activities;

15 (2) protect and enhance the fishery, waterfowl, and wild-  
16 life resources and habitat and provide for public use of the fishery  
17 and wildlife resources, including fishing, grazing, hunting, and  
18 trapping;

19 (3) protect the water quality and scenic resources within  
20 the Hatcher Pass Public Use Area.

21 Sec. 41.23.110. MANAGEMENT. (a) The commissioner of natural  
22 resources is responsible for the management of the surface and subsur-  
23 face estate within the Hatcher Pass Public Use Area consistent with  
24 the purposes of AS 41.23.100.

25 (b) The commissioner of fish and game, the Board of Fisheries,  
26 and the Board of Game are responsible for the management of fish and  
27 game resources and public use of fish and wildlife in the Hatcher Pass  
28 Public Use Area consistent with the purposes of AS 41.23.100.

29 (c) After adequate public hearings and in consultation with the

1 commissioner of fish and game, the commissioner shall adopt and may  
2 revise a management plan for the Hatcher Pass Public Use Area in  
3 consultation with local governments and other affected state agencies.  
4 The management plan adopted under this section must be consistent with  
5 the purposes stated in AS 41.23.100. (A) management plan adopted or  
6 revised by the commissioner under this section shall be submitted to  
7 the legislature within the first 10 days of the first regular session  
8 of the legislature to convene after its adoption or revision by the  
9 commissioner.

10 (d) The provisions of AS 41.23.100 - 41.23.130 do not restrict a  
11 responsibility within the Hatcher Pass Public Use Area of the commis-  
12 sioner of fish and game, the Board of Fisheries, the Board of Game,  
13 the commissioner of environmental conservation, or the commissioner of  
14 public safety.

15 (e) The Hatcher Pass Public Use Area is closed to mineral entry  
16 under AS 38.05.185 - 38.05.275 from the effective date of this Act.

17 (f) Each valid existing mining claim on the effective date of  
18 this Act remains valid and shall continue in full force and effect  
19 according to its terms.

20 (g) Except for road construction, the state may not acquire by  
21 eminent domain privately owned land within or abutting state-owned  
22 land described in AS 41.23.130 but may acquire privately owned land by  
23 purchase, exchange, or otherwise for inclusion in the Hatcher Pass  
24 Public Use Area from willing landowners.

25 (h) Except for valid existing rights on the effective date of  
26 this Act, the commissioner of natural resources may not sell state  
27 land within the Hatcher Pass Public Use Area.

28 Sec. 41.23.120. COMPATIBILITY OF USES. (a) Except as provided  
29 in this section, the commissioner may prohibit or restrict

1 incompatible uses under the management plan adopted under AS 41.23.110  
2 within the state-owned land and water described in AS 41.23.130.

3 (b) Nothing in AS 41.23.100 - 41.23.130 prohibits the Department  
4 of Fish and Game from engaging in rehabilitation, enhancement, and  
5 development of fish and wildlife habitat within an area described in  
6 AS 41.23.130 that is consistent with the purposes stated in AS 41.23.-  
7 100. (Sport + Subsistence)

8 (c) The commissioner may not restrict lawful fishing, hunting,  
9 or trapping rights allowed under a regulation of the Board of  
10 Fisheries or the Board of Game within the Hatcher Pass Public Use  
11 Area.

12 (d) The commissioner shall designate routes for motorized and  
13 nonmotorized access within or across the Hatcher Pass Public Use Area.

14 (e) The commissioner of public safety and the commissioner of  
15 fish and game shall have necessary access for fish and game manage-  
16 ment, research, and enforcement purposes.

17 (f) If the commissioner determines that a use is incompatible  
18 with one or more other uses in a portion of the Hatcher Pass Public  
19 Use Area, the commissioner shall state in the management plan adopted  
20 or revised under AS 41.23.110

21 (1) each determination of incompatibility;

22 (2) the specific area where the incompatibility is deter-  
23 mined to exist;

24 (3) the time within which the incompatibility is determined  
25 to exist; and

26 (4) the reasons for each determination of incompatibility.

27 Sec. 41.23.130. HATCHER PASS PUBLIC USE AREA. The vacant and  
28 unappropriated state-owned land and water and the state land and water  
29 acquired in the future that lie within the boundaries described in

1 this section are designated as the Hatcher Pass Public Use Area, are  
2 reserved for all uses compatible with their primary function as public  
3 use land, and are assigned to the Department of Natural Resources for  
4 control and management:

5 Township 19 North, Range 1 East, Seward Meridian

6 Section 1: NW1/4NW1/4, NW1/4NE1/4NW1/4, W1/2SW1/4  
7 NW1/4, NE1/4SW1/4NW1/4

8 Section 2: NE1/4, SE1/4NW1/4, SE1/4NE1/4NW1/4,  
9 SE1/4SW1/4NW1/4, SW1/4, NW1/4SE1/4, SW1/4SE1/4,  
10 NW1/4SE1/4SE1/4, W1/2NE1/4SE1/4, NE1/4NE1/4SE1/4

11 Section 10: E1/2E1/2

12 Section 11: W1/2, NW1/4NE1/4

13 Section 14: W1/2

14 Section 15: E1/2E1/2

15 Section 22: E1/2E1/2

16 Section 23: W1/2

17 Section 26: W1/2SW1/4, SW1/4NW1/4

18 Section 27: E1/2E1/2

19 Township 20 North, Range 1 East, Seward Meridian

20 Section 25: S1/2S1/2SE1/4

21 Section 35: SE1/4, SE1/4SE1/4NE1/4

22 Section 36: NE1/4, SW1/4, E1/2NW1/4, SW1/4NW1/4,  
23 SE1/4NW1/4NW1/4, NW1/4SE1/4, NW1/4NE1/4SE1/4,  
24 NW1/4SW1/4SE1/4

25 Township 20 North, Range 2 East, Seward Meridian

26 Section 9: E1/2SE1/4, E1/2SW1/4SE1/4, SE1/4SE1/4NE1/4

27 Section 10: W1/2SW1/4, E1/2NW1/4, SW1/4NW1/4,  
28 E1/2NW1/4NW1/4, W1/2NE1/4SW1/4, NW1/4NE1/4, NW1/4  
29 SW1/4NE1/4

1 Section 15: W1/2W1/2NW1/4  
2 Section 16: SE1/4, E1/2NE1/4, E1/2W1/2NE1/4  
3 Section 21: E1/2SW1/4, E1/2SW1/4SW1/4, SW1/4SW1/4  
4 SW1/4, SE1/4NW1/4SW1/4, NW1/4SE1/4, W1/2SW1/4SE1/4,  
5 NE1/4SW1/4SE1/4, W1/2NE1/4, W1/2NE1/4NE1/4, NW1/4  
6 SE1/4NE1/4, SE1/4NW1/4, E1/2NE1/4NW1/4, SW1/4NE1/4  
7 NW1/4  
8 Section 28: NW1/4, W1/2NW1/4NE1/4, NW1/4SW1/4,  
9 NW1/4SW1/4SW1/4, NW1/4NE1/4SW1/4  
10 Section 29: E1/2SE1/4, SE1/4NE1/4, SW1/4SE1/4, S1/2  
11 NW1/4SE1/4, NE1/4NW1/4SE1/4, S1/2SW1/4, S1/2NE1/4  
12 SW1/4  
13 Section 30: S1/2S1/2S1/2, S1/2SE1/4  
14 Section 31: NW1/4, N1/2NE1/4, N1/2S1/2NE1/4  
15 Section 32: N1/2NW1/4, N1/2SW1/4NW1/4, NW1/4NW1/4NE1/4

# Hatches Pass

Total Acreage - 5,130

State - 5,075

private - 55 acres

Total length - 12.8 miles

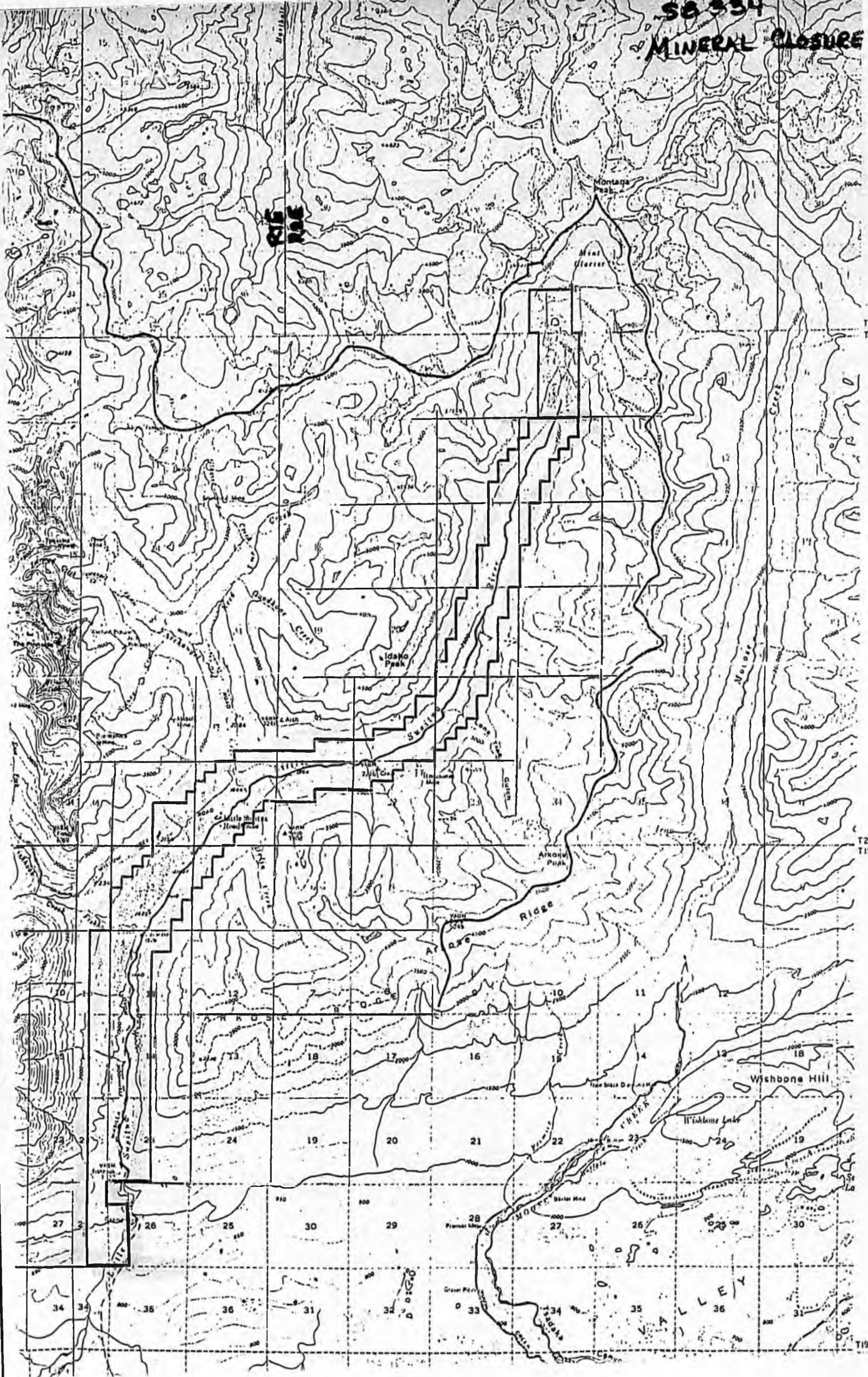
Dist along stream 11.8 miles

Road - 6 miles



SB 334  
MINERAL CLOSURE

AR  
R  
R  
R



T21  
T20

T20  
T19N

T19N

SENATE AMENDMENT

By \_\_\_\_\_

To: \_\_\_\_\_ SENATE BILL No. SB 334

To: \_\_\_\_\_ HOUSE BILL No. \_\_\_\_\_

PAGE:

LINE:

2

5

After "period" ADD:

A management plan adopted or revised by the commissioner under this section shall be submitted to the legislature for review within the first 10 days of the first regular session of the legislature to convene after its adoption or revision by the commissioner.

**STATE OF ALASKA 1986 LEGISLATIVE SESSION  
FISCAL NOTE**

Revision Date : \_\_\_\_\_

**REQUEST**

Bill/Resolution No. : SB 334  
 Title : Establishing Hatcher Pass  
Public Use Area  
 Sponsor : Senator Kerttula  
 Requestor : Senate Resources  
 Date of Request : 4-10-86

**FISCAL DETAIL**

Agency Affected : Natural Resources  
 BRU : Land & Water Management  
 Components : \_\_\_\_\_

**EXPENDITURES/REVENUES : (Thousands of Dollars)**

OPERATING	FY 86	FY 87	FY 88	FY 89	FY 90	FY 91
PERSONAL SERVICES						
TRAVEL						
CONTRACTUAL						
SUPPLIES						
EQUIPMENT						
LAND & STRUCTURES						
GRANTS, CLAIMS						
MISCELLANEOUS						
<b>TOTAL OPERATING</b>	<b>-0-</b>	<b>-0-</b>	<b>-0-</b>	<b>-0-</b>	<b>-0-</b>	<b>-0-</b>

CAPITAL						
---------	--	--	--	--	--	--

REVENUE						
---------	--	--	--	--	--	--

**FUNDING : (Thousands of Dollars)**

GENERAL FUND						
FEDERAL FUNDS						
OTHER						
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>-0-</b>	<b>-0-</b>	<b>-0-</b>	<b>-0-</b>	<b>-0-</b>	<b>-0-</b>

**POSITIONS :**

FULL-TIME						
PART-TIME						
TEMPORARY						

**ANALYSIS :** Attach a separate page if necessary

Prepared by : Mike Vediner *MVA* Phone : 465-2400  
 Division : Land & Water Management Date : 4-10-86

Approved by Commissioner : Wm D. Swetkey, Deputy Date : 4/11/86  
 Agency : Natural Resources

Distribution (by Agency preparing fiscal note) :

- Legislative Finance
- Legislative Sponsor
- Requestor
- Office of Management and Budget
- Impacted Agency(ies)

HATCHER -SB-334

ACREAGE:

TOTAL ACRES= 5,130

STATE OWNED= 5,075

PRIVATE= 55

TOTAL LENGTH= 12.8 mi.

DISTANCE ALONG STREAM = 11.8 mi.

DISTANCE ALONG ROAD= 6 mi.

MINERS ASSOCIATION DOES NOT OPPOSE THE BILL. EXISTING VALID  
CLAIMS REMAIN VALID: BUT THE AREA WOULD THEN BE CLOSED TO  
MINERAL ENTRY.

THERE IS NO REAL MINING VALUE IN THE LITTLE SU. PHIL  
HOLDSWORTH SAYS THAT WHAT LITTLE COLOR THERE IS IS DUE TO  
TAILINGS FROM INDEPENDENCE. DAILY NEW ARTICLE LAST DECEMBER

SAID THAT IN ONE YEAR A SQUATTER GOT ONLY ONE OUNCE OF GOLD  
(AND THIS WAS AT FISHOOK-DEFINITELY BECAUSE OF TAILINGS).

MAT-SU BOROUGHS SUMMARY OF MINERAL RESOURCES STUDY DONE IN  
1983 STATES THAT PLACER MINING ACTIVITIES WERE UNIFORMLY  
UNSUCCESSFUL BECAUSE OF "THE DISTRIBUTIVE NATURE OF THE GOLD  
IN THE GRAVELS, THE SMALL GOLD PARTICLE SIZE, AND  
PARTICULARLY IN THE CASE OF THE LITTLE SUSITNA RIVER, THE  
TREMENDOUS AMOUNT AND SIZE OF BOULDERS INVOLVED." (PAGE 26  
OF STUDY).

MAT-SU BOROUGHS IS IN SUPPORT OF HATCHER-RECENTLY PUT  
\$15,000.00 INTO A STUDY OF TOURISM POTENTIAL IN THE AREA.

THIS IS NOT AN EFFORT TO OUST VALID MINING CLAIMS. ANY  
VALID CLAIMS WILL REMAIN VALID. THE AREA WILL BE CLOSED TO  
MINERAL ENTRY AFTER THIS BILL, BUT THERE ARE ONLY 55

PRIVATELY HELD ACRES IN THE AREA AND ONLY THE SUB-SURFACE RIGHTS WILL BE AFFECTED THERE.

STATE MAY ACQUIRE LAND ONLY FROM WILLING LANDOWNERS, MAY NOT USE EMINENT DOMAIN, EXCEPT FOR ROADS.

SB-334 IS AN IMPORTANT MEASURE TO PROTECT THE ECONOMIC IMPORTANCE OF HATCHER PASS TO TOURIS AND TO PROTECT SALMON AND THE ENVIRONMENT.

DNR IS CURRENTLY TRYING TO PROTECT AGAINST ILLEGAL TRESPASSERS. OUT OF THE ENTIRE AREA SB-334 WOULD INVOLVE (5,130 ACRES) ONLY 55 ARE PRIVATELY OWNED.

# Hatcher Pass acreage:

TOTAL ACRES = 5,130

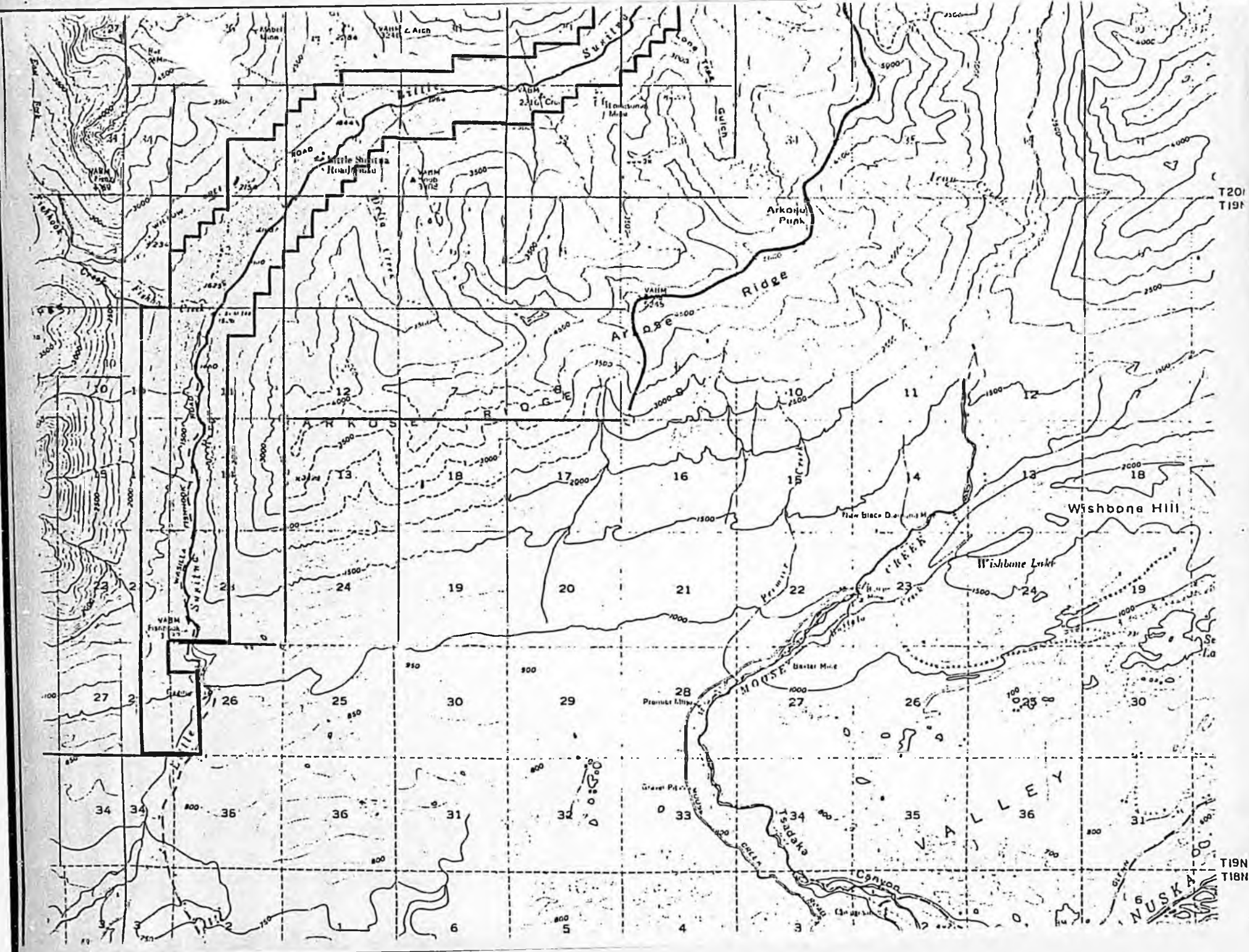
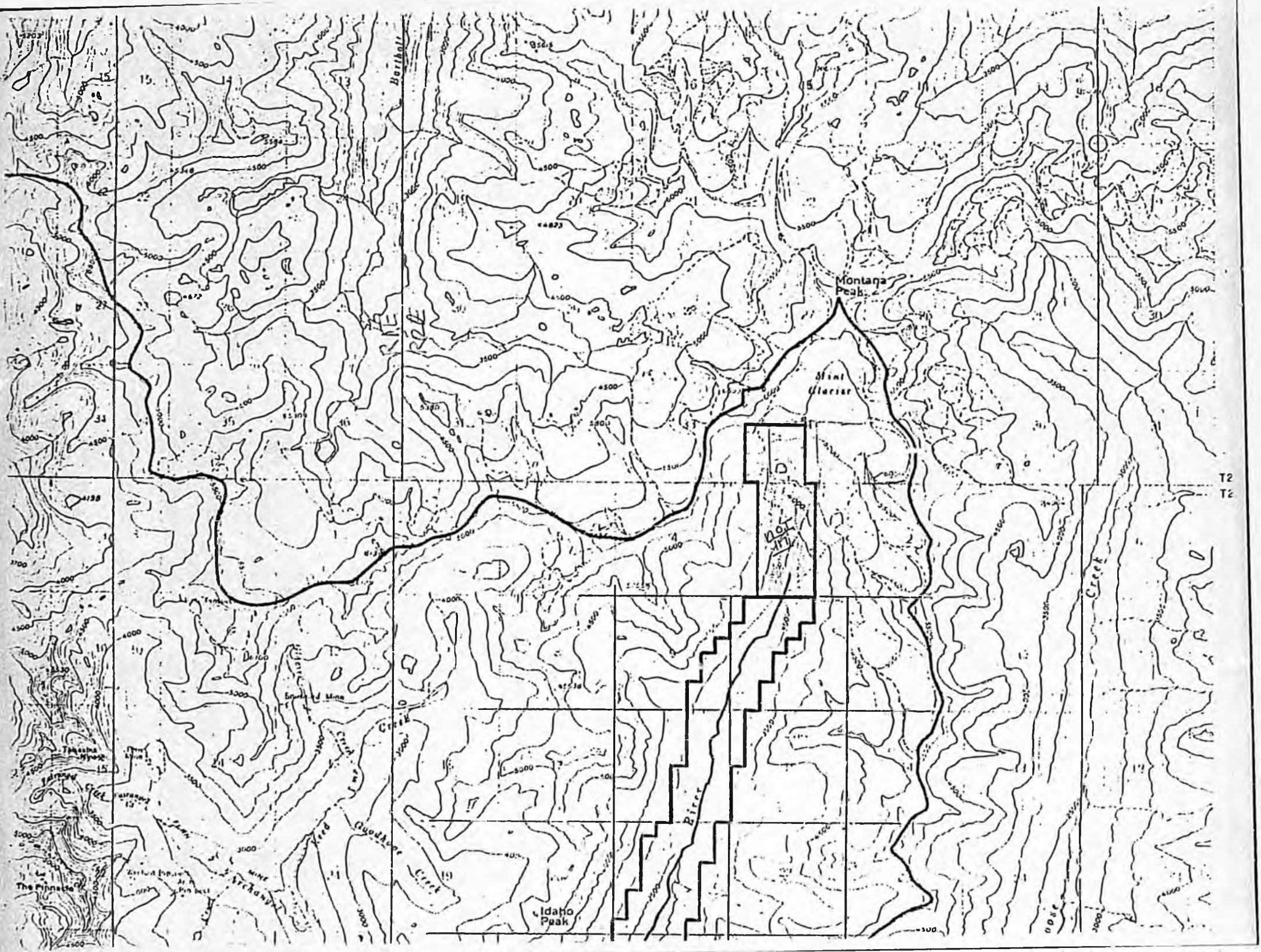
State owned = 5,075

private = 55

TOTAL Length = 12.8 mi.

Distance along  
stream = 11.8 mi.

Distance  
along  
ROAD = 6 mi.



Matanuska-Susitna Borough

**SUMMARY OF  
MINERAL RESOURCES**

By

Daniel E. Renshaw, P.E.  
Renshaw Consulting Engineers

July, 1983

A summary of notable past production and probable future development of metallic and industrial mineral resources within the Matanuska-Susitna Borough.

Produced by The Mapmakers, Palmer, Alaska

years, no great production was ever recorded. With the discovery of the lode gold occurrences beginning in 1909, interest in the placer waned. It was not until the late 30's that any substantial additional placer production occurred.

Several attempts at placer mining are recorded on Willow Creek extending several miles downstream from Grubstake Gulch and on the Little Susitna River below the mouth of Fishhook Creek. These activities were uniformly unsuccessful because of the distributive nature of the gold in the gravels, the small gold particle size, and, particularly in the case of the Little Susitna River, the tremendous amount and size of boulders involved. In the early 1960's several churn-drill holes were drilled into the bottom of Willow Creek in the vicinity of the mouth of Grubstake Gulch. It is reported that these determined that the placer gravels extended to a depth of nearly 100 feet; indicating the existence of a buried canyon filled with probably pre- and inter-glacial gold bearing gravels.

Mining operations have continued over the past 20 years near the confluence of Grubstake Gulch. In recent years, with the addition of modern mining equipment, these operations have apparently been successful. With the dramatic increase in the price of gold in the late 1970's considerable renewed interest was also shown in both the placers on Willow Creek and on the Little Susitna River. Many claims were staked and several mining attempts have been made, but the only apparent viable operation remains that of William Mrak and the Herman Brothers at the confluence of Willow Creek and Grubstake Gulch.

Placer occurrences are also known to be present on Wet Gulch, the next tributary stream to the west, and on Willow Creek upstream from Grubstake Gulch. In the late 1930's and early 40's there was an active placer mining pit on the hillside below the road where Upper Willow Creek is crossed. Coarse gold can still be panned from the hillside gravels in that vicinity. Other operations had previously been attempted on Willow Creek within the five miles reach below Grubstake Gulch.

Much of the Little Susitna River and Reed Creek have been staked for placer mining purposes. Although flour gold can be consistently panned along these two streams, the extremely boulderous character of the gravels render it doubtful that any viable placer mining operation will be possible on those streams.

Several previous attempts have also been made to mine near the mouth of Fishhook Creek.

The first lode discovery is credited to Robert Hatcher on September 16, 1906. This discovery, and others which followed the next year, was high on the ridge separating Upper Willow Creek and Fishhook Creek. These claims were later acquired by the Alaska Free Gold Mining Company and much later became a portion of the consolidation known as the Independence Mine. Most of the other important mining properties, in addition to many prospects, were discovered during the period of 1908 through 1918. Rapid development followed close upon the initial discoveries and by 1914 there were three producing mines equipped with seasonally operated water powered stamp mills, and in at least one instance, a Chilean or Lane-type mill. These early mills were inefficient at separating the gold from the ore below about 40 mesh screen size. As a consequence the finer sands were retained in ponds and their gold values later recovered by chemical leaching.

Many of the early mining discoveries are credited to the Bartholf brothers. However, some sources indicate that certain of these properties may have actually been discovered as a result of Russian explorations. This is doubtful. Though undocumented, there is some likelihood that the Gold Bullion, and perhaps other discoveries, had initially been made by a group of alien Japanese, who had then been encouraged to go search elsewhere.

In the early years the difficulty of access, short seasons and insufficient water for power limited the milling of ores to the summer months. Later, as access was improved and more substantial equipment acquired, underground development work was pursued during the winter months as well as the summer, and the ore stockpiled for summer milling. When substantial improvements had been made to the access roads, more modern machinery was installed, improved facilities for year-round living quarters were built, and diesel-electric engines acquired for the production of power, year-round mining and milling was practical.

Many of the discoveries within the district were founded on the second or largely non-productive sets of veins. Consequently, relatively few of the properties, and only those on the productive sets of veins, ever became viable. Among those of particular importance (progressing from west to east) are the following:

Offered: 4/21/86  
Referred: Finance

Original sponsor: Kerttula

1 IN THE SENATE BY THE RESOURCES COMMITTEE  
2 CS FOR SPONSOR SUBSTITUTE FOR SENATE BILL NO. 334 (Resources)  
3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA  
4 FOURTEENTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION  
5 A BILL

6 For an Act entitled: "An Act relating to Hatcher Pass Public Use Area."  
7 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:

8 \* Section 1. As 41.23 is amended by adding new sections to read:

9 ARTICLE. 2. HATCHER PASS PUBLIC USE AREA.

10 Sec. 41.23.100. PURPOSE. (a) The purpose of AS 41.23.100 -  
11 41.23.130 is to establish the area described in AS 41.23.130 as the  
12 Hatcher Pass Public Use Area.

13 (b) The Hatcher Pass Public Use Area is established to

14 (1) provide for public recreation activities;

15 (2) protect and enhance the fishery, waterfowl, and wild-  
16 life resources and habitat and provide for public use of the fishery  
17 and wildlife resources, including fishing, grazing, hunting, and  
18 trapping;

19 (3) protect the water quality and scenic resources within  
20 the Hatcher Pass Public Use Area.

21 Sec. 41.23.110. MANAGEMENT. (a) The commissioner of natural  
22 resources is responsible for the management of the surface and subsur-  
23 face estate within the Hatcher Pass Public Use Area consistent with  
24 the purposes of AS 41.23.100.

25 (b) The commissioner of fish and game, the Board of Fisheries,  
26 and the Board of Game are responsible for the management of fish and  
27 game resources and public use of fish and wildlife in the Hatcher Pass  
28 Public Use Area consistent with the purposes of AS 41.23.100.

29 (c) After adequate public hearings and in consultation with the

1 commissioner of fish and game, the commissioner shall adopt and may  
2 revise a management plan for the Hatcher Pass Public Use Area in  
3 consultation with local governments and other affected state agencies.  
4 The management plan adopted under this section must be consistent with  
5 the purposes stated in AS 41.23.100. A management plan adopted or  
6 revised by the commissioner under this section shall be submitted to  
7 the legislature within the first 10 days of the first regular session  
8 of the legislature to convene after its adoption or revision by the  
9 commissioner.

10 (d) The provisions of AS 41.23.100 - 41.23.130 do not restrict a  
11 responsibility within the Hatcher Pass Public Use Area of the commis-  
12 sioner of fish and game, the Board of Fisheries, the Board of Game,  
13 the commissioner of environmental conservation, or the commissioner of  
14 public safety.

15 (e) The Hatcher Pass Public Use Area is closed to mineral entry  
16 under AS 38.05.185 - 38.05.275 from the effective date of this Act.

17 (f) Each valid existing mining claim on the effective date of  
18 this Act remains valid and shall continue in full force and effect  
19 according to its terms.

20 (g) Except for road construction, the state may not acquire by  
21 eminent domain privately owned land within or abutting state-owned  
22 land described in AS 41.23.130 but may acquire privately owned land by  
23 purchase, exchange, or otherwise for inclusion in the Hatcher Pass  
24 Public Use Area from willing landowners.

25 (h) Except for valid existing rights on the effective date of  
26 this Act, the commissioner of natural resources may not sell state  
27 land within the Hatcher Pass Public Use Area.

28 Sec. 41.23.120. COMPATIBILITY OF USES. (a) Except as provided  
29 in this section, the commissioner may prohibit or restrict

*DoT  
request*

1 incompatible uses under the management plan adopted under AS 41.23.110  
2 within the state-owned land and water described in AS 41.23.130.

3 (b) Nothing in AS 41.23.100 - 41.23.130 prohibits the Department  
4 of Fish and Game from engaging in rehabilitation, enhancement, and  
5 development of fish and wildlife habitat within an area described in  
6 AS 41.23.130 that is consistent with the purposes stated in AS 41.23.-  
7 100.

8 (c) The commissioner may not restrict lawful fishing, hunting,  
9 or trapping rights allowed under a regulation of the Board of  
10 Fisheries or the Board of Game within the Hatcher Pass Public Use  
11 Area.

12 (d) The commissioner shall designate routes for motorized and  
13 nonmotorized access within or across the Hatcher Pass Public Use Area.

14 (e) The commissioner of public safety and the commissioner of  
15 fish and game shall have necessary access for fish and game manage-  
16 ment, research, and enforcement purposes.

17 (f) If the commissioner determines that a use is incompatible  
18 with one or more other uses in a portion of the Hatcher Pass Public  
19 Use Area, the commissioner shall state in the management plan adopted  
20 or revised under AS 41.23.110

21 (1) each determination of incompatibility;

22 (2) the specific area where the incompatibility is deter-  
23 mined to exist;

24 (3) the time within which the incompatibility is determined  
25 to exist; and

26 (4) the reasons for each determination of incompatibility.

27 Sec. 41.23.130. HATCHER PASS PUBLIC USE AREA. The vacant and  
28 unappropriated state-owned land and water and the state land and water  
29 acquired in the future that lie within the boundaries described in

1 this section are designated as the Hatcher Pass Public Use Area, are  
2 reserved for all uses compatible with their primary function as public  
3 use land, and are assigned to the Department of Natural Resources for  
4 control and management:

5 Township 19 North, Range 1 East, Seward Meridian

6 Section 1: NW1/4NW1/4, NW1/4NE1/4NW1/4, W1/2SW1/4  
7 NW1/4, NE1/4SW1/4NW1/4

8 Section 2: NE1/4, SE1/4NW1/4, SE1/4NE1/4NW1/4,  
9 SE1/4SW1/4NW1/4, SW1/4, NW1/4SE1/4, SW1/4SE1/4,  
10 NW1/4SE1/4SE1/4, W1/2NE1/4SE1/4, NE1/4NE1/4SE1/4

11 Section 10: E1/2E1/2

12 Section 11: W1/2, NW1/4NE1/4

13 Section 14: W1/2

14 Section 15: E1/2E1/2

15 Section 22: E1/2E1/2

16 Section 23: W1/2

17 Section 26: W1/2SW1/4, SW1/4NW1/4

18 Section 27: E1/2E1/2

19 Township 20 North, Range 1 East, Seward Meridian

20 Section 25: S1/2S1/2SE1/4

21 Section 35: SE1/4, SE1/4SE1/4NE1/4

22 Section 36: NE1/4, SW1/4, E1/2NW1/4, SW1/4NW1/4,  
23 SE1/4NW1/4NW1/4, NW1/4SE1/4, NW1/4NE1/4SE1/4,  
24 NW1/4SW1/4SE1/4

25 Township 20 North, Range 2 East, Seward Meridian

26 Section 9: E1/2SE1/4, E1/2SW1/4SE1/4, SE1/4SE1/4NE1/4

27 Section 10: W1/2SW1/4, E1/2NW1/4, SW1/4NW1/4,

28 E1/2NW1/4NW1/4, W1/2NE1/4SW1/4, NW1/4NE1/4, NW1/4  
29 SW1/4NE1/4

1 Section 15: W1/2W1/2NW1/4  
2 Section 16: SE1/4, E1/2NE1/4, E1/2W1/2NE1/4  
3 Section 21: E1/2SW1/4, E1/2SW1/4SW1/4, SW1/4SW1/4  
4 SW1/4, SE1/4NW1/4SW1/4, NW1/4SE1/4, W1/2SW1/4SE1/4,  
5 NE1/4SW1/4SE1/4, W1/2NE1/4, W1/2NE1/4NE1/4, NW1/4  
6 SE1/4NE1/4, SE1/4NW1/4, E1/2NE1/4NW1/4, SW1/4NE1/4  
7 NW1/4  
8 Section 28: NW1/4, W1/2NW1/4NE1/4, NW1/4SW1/4,  
9 NW1/4SW1/4SW1/4, NW1/4NE1/4SW1/4  
10 Section 29: E1/2SE1/4, SE1/4NE1/4, SW1/4SE1/4, S1/2  
11 NW1/4SE1/4, NE1/4NW1/4SE1/4, S1/2SW1/4, S1/2NE1/4  
12 SW1/4  
13 Section 30: S1/2S1/2S1/2, S1/2SE1/4  
14 Section 31: NW1/4, N1/2NE1/4, N1/2S1/2NE1/4  
15 Section 32: N1/2NW1/4, N1/2SW1/4NW1/4, NW1/4NW1/4NE1/4

# Alaska State Legislature

ARLISS STURGULEWSKI, Chairman  
BETTYE FAHRENKAMP, Vice Chairman  
JACK COGHILL  
DICK ELIASON  
VIC FISCHER  
RICK HALFORD  
FRED ZHAROFF



P. O. BOX V  
JUNEAU, ALASKA 99811  
(907) 465-4907

## Senate Committee on Resources

MEMORANDUM

April 10, 1986

TO: All Members  
Senate Resources Committee

FROM: Staff, Senate Resources Committee

RE: CSSSB 334 (Res) "An Act relating to Hatcher Pass  
Public Use Area"

SB 334 would establish the Hatcher Pass Public Use Area. The bill provides for the protection and enhancement of fish and wildlife resources, provided for public recreation, protects water quality, and protects scenic resources within the area.

The Commissioner of Natural Resource is responsible for the management of the surface and subsurface estate. A management plan shall be adopted by the Department of Natural Resources with the concurrence of the Commissioner of Fish and Game.

The Hatcher Pass Public Use Area is closed to mineral entry, but existing valid claims remain valid.

Once established, the state may acquire land within the area by purchase, exchange, or otherwise, from willing landowners for inclusion. The Commissioner of Natural Resources may not sell land within the area.

The area to be included is shown on the attached map and consists of a strip of land along the Little Susitna River.

### Enclosures:

Map of area  
Letter of Support from Mat-Su Borough  
Sample letters pro and con



# Matanuska-Susitna Borough

BOX B. PALMER, ALASKA 99645 • PHONE 745-4801

BOROUGH ASSEMBLY

APR 10 1986

April 7, 1986

Honorable Bill Sheffield, Governor  
State of Alaska  
Pouch A  
Juneau, AK 99811

RE: Hatcher Pass Recreation Area

Dear Governor Sheffield:

The Matanuska-Susitna Borough Assembly has gone on record in the past and continues to strongly support the concept of development of the Hatcher Pass Recreation Area. A copy of Resolution No. 86-10 adopted on February 4, 1986 and Resolution No. 86-21 adopted February 18, 1986 are enclosed for your information.

The Matanuska-Susitna Borough Assembly feels a recreation area such as Hatcher Pass would definitely aid towards a more stable economic future for the Valley. They feel this is a viable project and have further funded \$15,000 for a feasibility study for a ski area at Hatcher Pass by adoption of Ordinance No. 86-70 (enclosed). The public participation and interest generated with this issue has been overwhelmingly in support of this development and the Borough's position remains unchanged, except perhaps for a stronger support of the concept.

If you should have any questions or need additional information, please feel free to contact my office.

Sincerely,

*Dorothy Jones as*  
Dorothy A. Jones, Mayor  
Matanuska-Susitna Borough

DJ/cl  
Enclosures

cc: Commissioner, Department of Natural Resources  
Representative Ron Larson  
Representative Katie Hurley  
Senator Jalmer Kerttula  
Senator Edna DeVries

Presented by: Mayor Jones  
Introduced: 02/18/86  
Drafted by: G.L.S.

MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH

Resolution Serial No. 86-21

A RESOLUTION OF THE MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH ASSEMBLY  
SUPPORTING THE MULTIPLE USE CONCEPT FOR THE AREA WITHIN THE  
PROPOSED HATCHER PASS MANAGEMENT PLAN.

WHEREAS, the Department of Natural Resources made a presentation on a proposed Hatcher Pass Management Plan to a joint meeting of the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Assembly and Planning Commission on February 10, 1986, and

WHEREAS, said plan was represented as an attempt to provide for the sound development of the several natural resources and potentials of the area, including, but not limited to, recreation, tourism, mining, hunting, fishing and wildlife management, and

WHEREAS, the public comments regarding use of the Hatcher Pass area indicated the area is susceptible to multiple use development including preservation of scenic quality, enhancement of recreational and historical uses, hunting, fishing, trapping, camping, skiing, hiking, grazing, and mineral development, and

WHEREAS, the Hatcher Pass Management Plan, Subunit Description of Resource Values dated December 1985 indicates many of the subunits contain moderate to high mineral potentials, and

WHEREAS, the area should be developed in such a manner as to maximize its recreational and economic benefits to the people of the state of Alaska and the Matanuska-Susitna Borough, and

WHEREAS, the multiple use approach to the management of the Hatcher Pass area should be clearly set out in the Plan;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE ASSEMBLY OF THE MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH:

1. That it supports the multiple use concept presented to it by the Department of Natural Resources for the management of the Hatcher Pass area.

2. That it strongly recommends the Department of Natural Resources clearly incorporate in the Hatcher Pass Management Plan the multiple use approach to the management

of the various Hatcher Pass potentials and resources such as recreation, tourism, mining, timber, agriculture, hunting, fishing and wildlife management.

PASSED AND APPROVED this 18th day of February, 1986.

Dorothy A. Jones  
Dorothy A. Jones, Mayor

ATTEST:

READ AND APPROVED:

Chris Seagraves  
Chris Seagraves  
Borough Clerk

Gary Thurlow  
Gary Thurlow  
Borough Manager

(SEAL)

NON-CODE

INTRODUCED BY: ASSEMBLYMAN CYPRA

MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH

ORDINANCE SERIAL NO. 86-20

AN ORDINANCE OF THE ASSEMBLY OF THE MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH APPROPRIATING \$15,000 FROM THE LAND MANAGEMENT FUND BALANCE TO FUND 820 FOR A FEASIBILITY STUDY OF A SKIING FACILITY AT GOVERNMENT PEAK IN THE HATCHER PASS AREA.

BE IT ENACTED:

Section 1. Classification. This is a non-code ordinance.

Section 2. Appropriation Source. There is hereby appropriated \$15,000 from the Land Management Fund Balance to Fund 820 Feasibility Study.

Section 3. Effective Date. This ordinance shall take effect upon adoption by the Borough Assembly.

Introduction: March 18, 1986

First Reading: 3-18-86

Public Hearing: 4-1-86

ADOPTED by the Assembly of the Matanuska-Susitna Borough this

1st day of April, 1986.

Dorothy A. Jones  
Dorothy A. Jones, Mayor

ATTEST:

Chris Seagraves  
Chris Seagraves, Borough Clerk

(SEAL)

Presented by: Assemblyperson  
Cypra  
Introduced: 01/21/86  
Drafted by: S.C.

MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH

RESOLUTION SERIAL NO. 86-10 (Substitute)

A RESOLUTION ENDORSING THE HATCHER PASS, WILLOW AND TALKEETNA MOUNTAIN AREAS AS POTENTIAL WINTER OLYMPIC SITES.

---

WHEREAS, the Hatcher Pass, Willow and the Talkeetna Mountain areas are recognized for their high recreational value, and

WHEREAS, Hatcher Pass, the Willow and Talkeetna Mountain areas are located in the vicinity of the Municipality of Anchorage, and

WHEREAS, the Municipality of Anchorage has sought and received nominations as the Winter Olympic site in 1992, and

WHEREAS, the U.S. Cross Country Ski Team has recognized Hatcher Pass as having high potential and uses this area for training, and

WHEREAS, the Hatcher Pass, Willow area and Talkeetna Mountains receive considerable use by the Anchorage skiing community, and

WHEREAS, there is high unemployment in the Matanuska-Susitna Borough, and

WHEREAS, the current snowfall in the state of Alaska indicates the Hatcher Pass, Willow and Talkeetna Mountains can be relied upon as good sites for Winter Olympic sports,

NOW THEREFOPE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE ASSEMBLY OF THE  
MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH:

That the Assembly of the Matanuska-Susitna Borough  
endorses the Hatcher Pass, Willow and Talkeetna Mountain  
areas as potential Olympic sites for cross country skiing  
and any other appropriate activities.

PASSED AND APPROVED this 4th day of February,  
1986.

Dorothy A. Jones  
Dorothy A. Jones, Mayor

ATTEST:

REVIEWED AND APPROVED:

Chris Seagraves  
Chris Seagraves  
Clerk

Gary Thurlow  
Gary Thurlow  
Borough Manager

SEAL

A nonprofit association  
dedicated to education and awareness  
about rivers and river running  
throughout the United States.

Contributions are tax-deductible.



MAR 11 1986

Communicating bi-monthly with  
over 10,000 kayakers, rafters,  
and river canoeists through  
**CURRENTS** magazine.

**National Organization for River Sports**

Box 6847 314 North Twentieth Street Colorado Springs, Colorado 80904 (303) 473-2466

{ Senator Arliss Sturgulewski  
Resources Committee Chairman  
Alaska State Senate, Box V  
Juneau AK 99811 }

**NORS BATTLES FOR BOATERS!**  
**CURRENTS COVERS RIVER RUNNING!**

Date: March 4, 1986

Dear Senator Sturgulewski:

It has come to my attention that the upper portion of the Little Susitna River, and its surroundings known as the Hatcher Pass Area, are the subject of a bill now before you, S.B. 334, which would make this a public recreational use area.

On behalf of our members in Alaska and elsewhere, I strongly urge you to help reserve this area for public recreational use. In recent years I have been amazed at the advances in technique and equipment for running rivers, and I can assure you that this river will carry increasing recreational use in coming years. Already there are not enough rivers to go around, resulting in waits of as long as ten years to get a permit for a trip on certain major rivers in the West. For the future of your state's tourism economy and the benefit of its citizens in general, I urge you to preserve this recreational area.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Eric Leaper".

Eric Leaper  
Executive Director

EL/fa

cc: Senator Jan Faiks, Finance Committee

MAR 11 1986

March 3, 1986

Senator Arliss Sturgulewski, Chairperson  
Resources Committee  
Pouch V  
Juneau, Alaska 99811

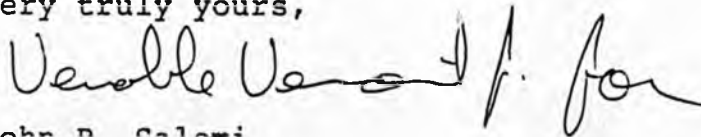
Dear Senator Sturgulewski:

As a frequent user of the Hatcher Pass area, I am writing you as a supporter of Senator Jay Kerttula's "Hatcher Pass Public Use Area" Bill. It is my understanding that this bill will close the Little Susitna River Corridor to new mining and will additionally prohibit state land disposal within the use area.

I believe this bill is a needed piece of legislation. It is a balanced bill in that it won't affect existing valid mining claims, but it will stem the trend regarding squatters on the land in this area. It is clear that the Hatcher Pass area is one of those areas which has both a high tourist value, and yet attracts residents year-round because of its diverse recreational uses. But because squatters and persons on illegal mining claims are posting certain areas so as to prohibit access to the lands, the public in general is suffering. One can find "no trespassing" signs placed by miners in areas on state lands to which the public has a right of use. This should not be tolerated, especially in this area.

I urge you to give this bill your fullest support during the legislative session. I, along with many others, will be following the progress of this legislation.

Very truly yours,



John B. Salemi

1204 COPE ST.  
ANCHORAGE, AK. 99503  
27 MARCH 1986

SENATOR ARLISS STURGULEWSKI  
SENATE RESOURCE COMMITTEE  
P.O. BOX V  
JUNEAU, ALASKA 99811

DEAR SENATOR,

I AM WRITING URGING YOU TO SUPPORT SB-334 WHICH SETS ASIDE  
A CORRIDOR IN THE LITTLE SUSITNA VALLEY WHICH IS WITHDRAWN FROM  
MINING CLAIMS. I AM AN ACTIVE RECREATIONIST, SKIER / KANGAR AND  
BELIEVE THAT SOME OF THE UNIQUE AND CHARMING VALUES OF THIS  
AREA SHOULD BE PRESERVED IN THE PUBLIC INTEREST. I AM NOT  
OPPOSED TO MINING PER SE BUT AM OPPOSED TO THE STATE'S LAX  
STANCE (OR NON STANCE) IN <sup>NOT EVALUATING</sup> ~~REMOVING~~ CLAIM VALIDITY. FURTHER, THE  
STATE HAS SHOWN LITTLE INITIATIVE IN EVALUATING WHETHER HOUSING IS  
NECESSARY ON THE CLAIM. IN THE CASE OF ~~THE~~ LITTLE SUSITNA,  
WHICH HAS GOOD ROAD ACCESS, HOUSING IS MOST DEFINITELY NOT NECESSARY  
AND IS FURTHER AN EYESORE AND A NUISANCE TO OTHER VALLEY USERS.  
PLEASE APPROVE SB-334 AS A START TO RESOLVING SOME OF THESE  
PROBLEMS. THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME.

SINCERELY,

DAVID BLANCHET

PUBLIC OPINION MESSAGE

TO: SENATOR ARLISS STURGULEWSKI  
FROM: JEANNE MOLITOR  
5110 SPRUCE CREEK CIRCLE  
ANCHORAGE 99516  
346-3459

BILL NO: SB 334

SUBJECT: ESTABLISHING HATCHER PASS PUBLIC USE AREA

MESSAGE:

AS A VOTER, I ENJOY THE LITTLE SUSITNA AND WANT TO MAINTAIN  
IT FOR OUR USE AND ENCOURAGE YOU TO PASS THIS BILL.

DATE: 04/01/86 TIME: 16:34:12 SENT BY: ANCHORAGE LIO

COPIES TO: SENATE RESOURCES

PUBLIC OPINION MESSAGE

TO: SENATOR ARLISS STURGULEWSKI  
FROM: BARBARA BAKER  
2031 CLIFFSIDE DRIVE  
ANCHORAGE 99501  
274-6385

BILL NO: SB 334

SUBJECT: ESTABLISHING HATCHER PASS PUBLIC USE AREA

MESSAGE:

AS A RECREATIONAL BOATER, I URGE YOUR SUPPORT FOR SB 334.  
THIS LEGISLATION WILL ASSURE ACCESS TO AND PRESERVATION OF  
ONE OF ALASKA'S PREMIER RIVERS, LITTLE SUSITNA.

DATE: 04/01/86 TIME: 09:47:55 SENT BY: ANCHORAGE LIO

COPIES TO: SENATE RESOURCES

7 86

Senator Arliss Sturgulewski  
Senate Resource Committee  
Box V  
Juneau, Alaska 99811

Feb. 22, 1986

Dear Senator Sturgulewski,

I am writing you to ask for your support for SB 334, an Act creating a Hatcher Pass Use Area.

While I am currently on the Matanuska Susitna Borough Assembly and represent the area that the Use Area addresses, I am writing this as a private citizen.

There are numerous questions revolving around this bill, but I would like to share several of the things I have come to see as important.

Probably the two major concerns have been regarding mining in the area and whether SB 334 will conflict with the Hatcher Pass Management Plan. On the first concern, I do not believe this bill will establish a precedent miners should feel threatened with. On the contrary, most miners I know feel this area has little mining value and those who're using claims near the Little Susitna River are giving others a bad name. Of the second concern, that of the Hatcher Pass Plan, I have watched the planning process closely and from my perspective feel SB 334 will only strengthen both the public's desire and the Plan's goals.

One of the strongest personal concerns I have is building a diverse and healthy local economy. I believe SB 334 will protect the Little Susitna area for the things we desperately need the most: excellent recreational and tourist destinations.

Sincerely yours,



Steven R. Cypra

cc: Senate Resource  
Committee

# Black Sands Mining Co.

Phillip D. Strange  
P.O. Box 871478  
Wasilla, Alaska 99687  
(Placer - Gold)

FEB 21 1986

February 14, 1986

Dear Legislators:

I urge you to oppose S.B.334, creating the Hatchers Pass Public Use Area. This bill will force a mineral closure one half mile wide on each side of the Little Susitna River. This will be the beginning of another lock up of a very important mining district. Should S.B.334 pass into law it will cause the loss of private investment for mineral exploration and development on state lands in the Hatchers Pass Area.

This area is of great economic importance for the vast mineral wealth that is there. The surface has barely been scratched on the mineral deposits of the Willow Creek Mining District. We need to develop this mineral wealth to bring new jobs and start an economically viable industry in the Mat-Su Valley.

The mining industry opened the Hatchers Pass Area and established the first roads into it, now that access is relatively easy, compared to 50 years ago. The people of Anchorage want to make it into their exclusive playground, but we do not need to close an area to mining because of the recreational wants and needs of urban Alaskans who know nothing about mining or the mining industry. With all the advances in mining and milling equipment we can mine lower grade ores at a higher profit with no detrimental effect on the environment.

I am presently working to develop the 200 foot level on a group of hard-rock claims not far from the Little Sustina River. Last year I invested fifty thousand dollars into rehabilitating the old crosscut and this year I plan to invest close to one hundred thousand dollars on development and exploration work. When I get it developed to the point where I can go into production, the cost of bringing in equipment will be very low because of the excellent road access into this mining area.

I believe that the needs of both miners and those who wish to use the area strictly for recreational purposes can be met but feel that S.B.334 will discriminate against the mining interests of the area. Thank you for your time and consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,

  
Philip D. Strange

FEB 10 1986

Knik Kanoers and Kayakers  
3903 Arkansas Drive  
Anchorage, Alaska 99503

February 5, 1986

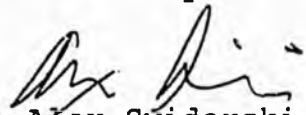
Senator Sturgulewski  
Resources Committee  
Pouch V  
Juneau, Alaska 99811

Dear Senator,

I am writing on behalf of the Knik Kanoers and Kayakers to urge you to support Senator Kertulla's Bill No. 334. The intent of the legislation is to protect the water quality and public use of the upper Little Susitna River. Kayakers use the Little Susitna on a regular basis. The proposed legislation creates the Hatcher Pass Public Use Area and protects our access to the river and surrounding lands.

The Little Su is an exceptional kayaking river. It is a clear warm water stream of unusual beauty and challenge. S.B. 334 is an important bill for Knik Kanoers and Kayakers. The bill would stop new mining on the stream and thereby the number of residents engaged in illegal placer mining there. A few of these miners have settled along the Hatcher Pass Road and accumulated junk in their yards and erected threatening signs along the road and river. Although they find little gold in the river they have significantly impacted the experience of kayakers paddling the river. Not only kayakers but also hikers, picnickers, fishermen, and motorists must be wary of these mining claims.

Sincerely Yours,

  
Alex Swiderski  
President

JAN 13 1986  
Jan. 13, 1986  
PO Box 2176  
Palmer, Alaska 99645

Senator Arliss Sturgulewski  
Senate Resources Committee  
Box V  
Juneau, Alaska 99811

Dear Senator Sturgulewski,

I urge you to support Senate Bill 334, establishing the Hatcher Pass Public Use Area, introduced by Senator Kerttula.

His bill protects public use of a popular area in two ways. First, the legislation disallows new mining on the Little Susitna River. As you know, the river is a tremendously valuable scenic resource to people in my community and visitors from out-of-state. On the other hand, it contains such small quantities of gold that all placer mining attempts have been failures. From the view of state resources management, there is no economic advantage to additional mining on the Little Su. Some of the current claim holders have created substantial eyesores on the stream, in violation of several state regulations. The proposed legislation will see to it that no additional squatters pre-empt the public from using the stream. As Chuck Hawley told me, "There is no gold there. That river should be for tourists."

Secondly, S.B. 334 prohibits state land disposals in the Hatcher Pass area. Private control of state land there fulfills no public needs, but in fact puts resources off-limits to the public now utilizing them there. Plenty of unsold private land lies near the proposed Public Use Area for people requiring a cabin site. At the recent public hearings, participants overwhelmingly objected to land disposals in the Hatcher Pass area.

Although S.B. 334 is valuable legislation, it has some room for improvement. The legislatively designated area should include the high mountains and meadows just to the northeast. This small area is a popular destination for skiers and mountaineers, and it therefore deserves the same legal consideration as the rest of the Public Use area.

I would like to come down to Juneau and talk to the Resources Committee about the bill when it comes up on your agenda.

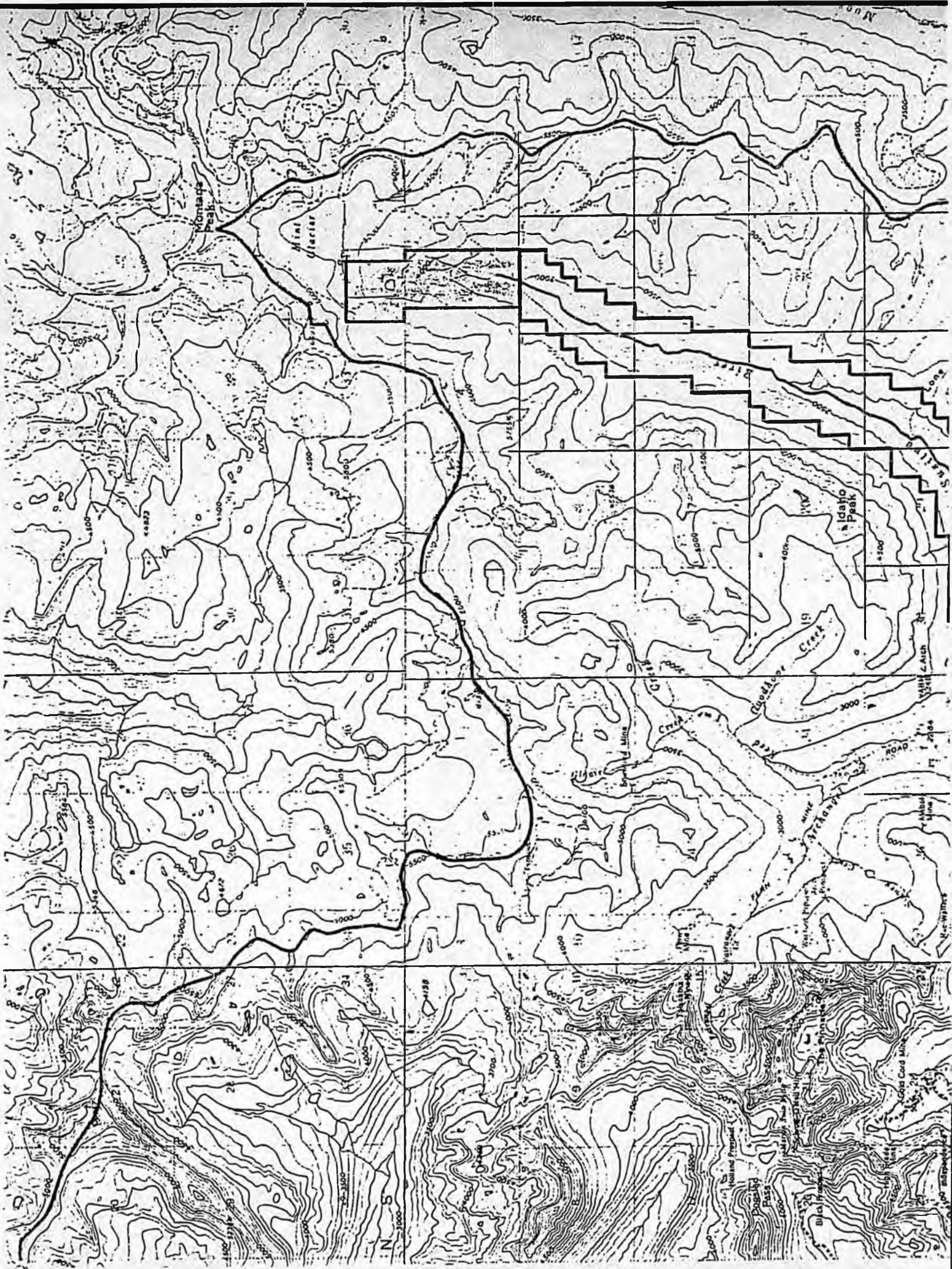
Sincerely,

*Mike Bronson*

Mike Bronson

cc: Senate Resource  
Committee members  
Dorothy Jones  
Esther Wunnicke

THE FOLLOWING DOCUMENT HAS  
NOT BEEN FILMED BUT IS  
AVAILABLE IN THE ORIGINAL  
FILE



JAN 28 1986

January 21, 1986  
Wasilla, Alaska

Senator Arliss Sturgulewski  
Alaska State Legislature  
Pouch V  
Juneau, Alaska

Dear Senator Sturgulewski,

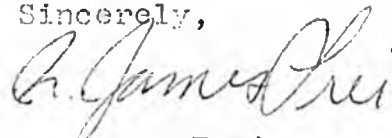
During this session of the legislature, SB 334 will come before your committee. I urge you to support this proposed legislation.

New mineral entry on the Little Susitna River within the Hatcher Pass Public Use Area would not be compatible with the varied recreational uses the public now enjoys. Allowing new claims, with their attendant "keep out" signs and promises from claim holders to deal harshly with transgressors; would threaten access, contribute little to the economy, and create more "eyesores" in an area of high visibility.

Also at issue is the residential use of claims. "Squatting" more accurately describes the situation as it now exists. In an area so close to a major population center, can we allow people to live illegally, rent free, on public land? The Department of Natural Resources has begun to deal with the problem only recently after years of abuse by miners. I do not care to wait, with no guarantee of follow-through, for DNR to finish the job. SB 334 will deal effectively with the problem now.

I ask you again for your support.

Sincerely,



R. James Frei

RJF/rjf

cc: Bettye M. Fahrenkamp  
Jack Cogill  
Vic Fischer  
Fred Zharoff

JAN 21 1986

549 E. Caribou  
Palmer, AK 99645  
15 January 1986

Senator Arliss Sturgulewski, Chairman  
Senate Resources Committee  
Alaska State Legislature  
Pouch V  
Juneau, Alaska 99811

Dear Senator Sturgulewski:

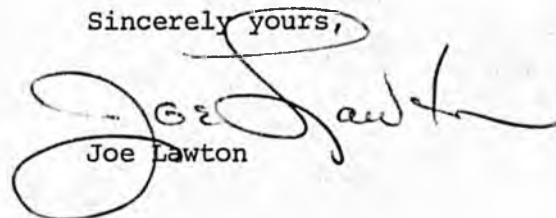
While a great many of us have benefitted from the State's and Federal Government's largess in dispensing land and privileges in Alaska--and these traditions must continue to provide opportunities to individual Alaskans--we need to insure public benefits, too.

Senator Kerttula has introduced a bill regarding land disposals and new mining claims in the Hatcher Pass Public Use Area. In a world where each citizen exercised a measure of respect for his neighbor's pursuit of happiness such a bill would be superfluous. But this is not the case in Hatcher Pass, and abominable abuses exist there already, coupled with an agonizing inability of some State agencies to enforce their own regulations and protect the public weal.

All summer long one finds a steady stream of Southcentral Alaskans and visitors driving over Hatcher Pass. Almost the sole reason for this exercise is the enjoyment and awe of the scenery. Serious excrescences disfigure this scenery already, and Senator Kerttula is correct in wanting to save our most accessible alpine region while there is still hope of doing so.

Hatcher Pass is a State treasure that benefits most the less we do to it. Please support Senator Kerttula's efforts towards its continued existence.

Sincerely yours,



Joe Lawton

cc: Senate Resources Committee Members

\* DELIVER TO: JFUM

61

\*  
\*

\* ORIGINAL

\* SENT: 02/18/86 TIME: 16:24

\* FROM: LANA TRUJILLO

\* SUBJECT: POM

\* PRINT DATE: 02/18/86 TIME: 16:24

\*

\*\*\*\*\*

TO: ALL LEGISLATORS

FORM: ERIC KILE, SR 1478 EAGLE RIVER RD., EAGLE RIVER, 99577,  
HM, 694-6256, WK, 333-5760

RE: HATCHER PASS, SB 334

I URGE YOU TO OPPOSE SB 334 CREATING THE HATCHER PASS PUBLIC USE  
AREA. MINING IN ALASKA IS AN IMPORTANT PART OF ALASKAN HISTORY  
AND I STRONGLY SUPPORT MINING AND THE INCOME IT PRODUCES FOR THE  
STATE.

\*

\*\*\*\*\*

\*\*\*\*\*  
\*  
\* DELIVER TO: JPOM \*  
\*  
\* ORIGINAL \*  
\* SENT: 02/20/86 TIME: 13:39 \*  
\* FROM: JEAN MILLER \*  
\* SUBJECT: POM \*  
\* PRINT DATE: 02/20/86 TIME: 13:39 \*  
\*  
\*\*\*\*\*

TO: ALL LEGISLATORS

FROM: WALTER D. SHUMACHER  
P.O. BOX 1479  
PALMER, AK 99645      PHONE: 745-7460

SUBJECT: I AM OPPOSED TO SB 334 CREATING HATCHER PASS PUBLIC USE  
AREA. I AM A MINER IN THAT AREA AND IT IS OPEN TO THE PUBLIC THE  
WAY IT IS. WE DO NOT NEED ANY MORE RULES AND REGULATIONS TO  
GUIDE US. THANK YOU.

61  
*[Handwritten signature]*

\*\*\*\*\*

\* DELIVER TO: JPOM

\* ORIGINAL

\* SENT: 02/07/86 TIME: 11:58

\* FROM: JEAN MILLER

61

\* SUBJECT: POM

\* PRINT DATE: 02/07/86 TIME: 11:58

\*\*\*\*\*

TO: ALL LEGISLATORS

FROM: CHERYL JONG

2701 RASPBERRY

ANCHORAGE, AK 99502

PHONE: 243-7539

SUBJECT: SB 33 - HATCHER PASS PUBLIC USE AREA

HISTORICALLY MINING HAS BEEN A PRIMARY USE OF WHAT IS NOW CALLED THE HATCHER PASS PUBLIC USE AREA. IT IS A HIGHLY MINERALIZED AREA WHICH CAN AND HAS CONTRIBUTED MUCH TO ALASKA'S ECONOMY. I WOULD SUPPORT A VALIDITY EXAMINATION ON CLAIMS WHICH ARE POSSIBLY UNECONOMICAL RATHER THAN PASSAGE OF SB 334.

FRANK

TO: ALL LEGISLATORS

FROM; JENNY HAWLEY  
8000 DOWNHILL CIRCLE  
ANCHORAGE, AK 99516

PHONE: 346-1855

SUBJECT: SB 334 - HATCHER PASS PUBLIC USE AREA

TWENTY UNDERGROUND MINES OPERATED IN THIS MINING DISTRICT, YET MINING IS NOT A PRIMARY USE IN THIS BILL. INSTEAD IT ESTABLISHES POSSIBLE INCOMPATIBILITY WITH OTHER USES. A MANAGEMENT PLAN IS CURRENTLY BEING DEVELOPED. FURTHER LEGISLATION IS UNNECESSARY. LET'S RETURN TO MULTIPLE USE BY MANAGEMENT, NOT SPECIAL USE LEGISLATION. PLEASE OPPOSE.

TO: ALL LEGISLATORS

FROM: WILLIAM AND ELEANOR MARAK  
BOX 1963  
PALMER, AK 99645                      PHONE: 745-3635

SUBJECT: SB 334 - HATCHER PASS PUBLIC USE AREA

I URGE YOU TO OPPOSE SB 334 CREATING THE HATCHER PASS PUBLIC USE AREA. THIS BILL WILL BE ANOTHER LOCK UP OF AN IMPORTANT MINING DISTRICT. COST MONEY FOR YET ANOTHER MANAGEMENT PLAN AND RESULT IN THE LOSS OF PRIVATE INVESTMENT FOR MINERAL EXPLORATION ON STATE LANDS.

*Frank*

TO: ALL LEGISLATORS

FROM: KEVIN-GREENFIELD, 825 W. 27TH, ANCHORAGE, AK 99503,  
277-6475

SUBJECT: SB 334, ESTABLISHING HATCHER PASS PUBLIC USE AREA

I AM ASKING YOU TO STRONGLY OPPOSE SB 334. THIS BILL CREATES ANOTHER PUBLIC USE AREA WHERE THE PUBLIC ALREADY HAS GOOD ACCESS TO AVAILABLE USES. I ALSO WARN AGAINST THE USE OF THE TERM "PUBLIC USE" AREA. PUBLIC USE AREA IS NOT DEFINED IN THE STATUTES. SO THIS BILL WOULD CREATE AN AREA WE HAVE NOT LEGALLY DEFINED FOR USES THAT ARE ALREADY BEING MET.

TO: ALL LEGISLATORS

FROM: GEORGE SCHMIDT  
2356 SONSTROM DRIVE  
ANCHORAGE, AK 99517                      PHONE: 243-0644

*Frank*

SUBJECT: SB 334 - HATCHER PASS PUBLIC USE AREA

PLEASE OPPOSE SB 334 CREATING THE HATCHER PASS PUBLIC USE AREA. THE BILL DUPLICATES EXISTING AUTHORITY, CLOSES A MINING DISTRICT TO DEVELOPMENT, AND, WITH DECLINING REVENUES, RESULT IN LARGE UNNECESSARY EXPENDITURES.

\* SENT: 03/06/86 TIME: 13:25  
\* FROM: JEAN MILLER  
\* SUBJECT: POM  
\* PRINT DATE: 03/06/86 TIME: 13:26  
\*

61

5  
5  
5  
5  
5

TO: ALL LEGISLATORS

FROM: JAMES W. AND BEVERLY SMITH  
BOX 183  
PALMER, AK 99645 PHONE: 745-1025

SUBJECT: SB 334 - HATCHER PASS PUBLIC USE AREA

I AM OPPOSED TO STOPPING OF MINING. THE MINING AREA IS VERY IMPORTANT TO ALASKA IN REGARD TO MINERAL DEVELOPMENT. IT WOULD COST A LOT OF MONEY TO MANAGE IT IF YOU STOP THE MINING AND TURN IT INTO A PARK. IT WOULD BE A TREMENDOUS LOSS IN PRIVATE INVESTMENT FOR MINERAL EXPLORATION

TO: ALL LEGISLATORS

FR: ROBERT R. FITHIAN  
P O BOX 870610  
WASILLA 99687

RE: SB334 - HATCHER PASS PUBLIC USE AREA

I URGE YOU TO OPPOSE SB334 CREATING THE HATCHER PASS PUBLIC USE AREA. THIS BILL WILL BE ANOTHER LOCK UP OF AN IMPORTANT MINING DISTRICT COSTING MONEY FOR YET ANOTHER MANAGEMENT PLAN AND RESULTING IN LARGE LOSSES OF PRIVATE INVESTMENTS FOR MINING OPERATIONS ON STATE LANDS.

TO: ALL LEGISLATORS

FROM: JERRY BIRCH, 2907 W. 35TH, ANCHORAGE, 99517, HM, 248-7016,  
WK, 272-0601

RE: SB 334, HATCHER PASS PUBLIC USE AREA

THIS BILL WILL CLOSE ANOTHER HISTORIC MINING DISTRICT, WILL ADD TO THE STATE BUREAUCRACY BY CREATING ANOTHER MANAGEMENT PLAN THAT WILL COST THE STATE AT A TIME WHEN THEY SHOULD BE TRYING TO REDUCE COSTS.

TO: ALL LEGISLATORS

FROM: RON AND JUDY AKLESTAD, STAR ROUTE B, BOX 7557, PALMER,  
99645, HM, 745-3808, WK, 376-2414

RE: SB 334, HATCHER PASS

I URGE YOU TO OPPOSE SB 334 CREATING THE HATCHER PASS PUBLIC USE AREA. THIS BILL WILL LOCK UP ANOTHER IMPORTANT MINING DISTRICT, COST MONEY FOR YET ANOTHER MANAGEMENT PLAN AND RESULT IN THE LOSS OF PRIVATE INVESTMENT FOR MINERAL EXPLORATION ON STATE LANDS.

FRANK

FRANK

FB

FRANK



# Black Sands Mining Co.

Phillip D. Strange  
P.O. Box 871478  
Wasilla, Alaska 99687  
(Placer - Gold)

FEB 21 1986

February 14, 1986

Dear Legislators:

I urge you to oppose S.B.334, creating the Hatchers Pass Public Use Area. This bill will force a mineral closure one half mile wide on each side of the Little Susitna River. This will be the beginning of another lock up of a very important mining district. Should S.B.334 pass into law it will cause the loss of private investment for mineral exploration and development on state lands in the Hatchers Pass Area.

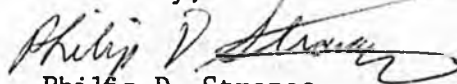
This area is of great economic importance for the vast mineral wealth that is there. The surface has barely been scratched on the mineral deposits of the Willow Creek Mining District. We need to develop this mineral wealth to bring new jobs and start an economically viable industry in the Mat-Su Valley.

The mining industry opened the Hatchers Pass Area and established the first roads into it, now that access is relatively easy, compared to 50 years ago. The people of Anchorage want to make it into their exclusive playground, but we do not need to close an area to mining because of the recreational wants and needs of urban Alaskans who know nothing about mining or the mining industry. With all the advances in mining and milling equipment we can mine lower grade ores at a higher profit with no detrimental effect on the environment.

I am presently working to develop the 200 foot level on a group of hard-rock claims not far from the Little Sustina River. Last year I invested fifty thousand dollars into rehabilitating the old crosscut and this year I plan to invest close to one hundred thousand dollars on development and exploration work. When I get it developed to the point where I can go into production, the cost of bringing in equipment will be very low because of the excellent road access into this mining area.

I believe that the needs of both miners and those who wish to use the area strictly for recreational purposes can be met but feel that S.B.334 will discriminate against the mining interests of the area. Thank you for your time and consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,

  
Phillip D. Strange

\*\*\*\*\*  
\*  
\* DELIVER TO: JFOM 61 \*  
\* \*  
\* ORIGINAL \*  
\* SENT: 02/18/86 TIME: 16:19 \*  
\* FROM: BARBARA NORRELL \*  
\* SUBJECT: POM \*  
\* PRINT DATE: 02/18/86 TIME: 16:20 \*  
\* \*  
\*\*\*\*\*

TO: ALL LEGISLATORS

FROM: BILL SMITH, 906 CUNNINGHAM, ANCHORAGE, AK 99501, 278-2714

SUBJECT: SB 334, ESTABLISHING HATCHER PASS PUBLIC USE AREA

I OPPOSE SB 334 AND BELIEVE THAT ENOUGH STATE AND FEDERAL LAND HAS BEEN LOCKED UP. I THINK THAT THIS LAND SHOULD REMAIN MULTIPLE USE LAND INCLUDING MINING. SB 334 WILL COST ADDITIONAL MONEY TO MANAGE. THIS AREA IS BEING USED BY THE PUBLIC NOW TO THE BENEFIT OF ALL.

\*\*\*\*\*  
\*  
\* DELIVER TO: JFOM  
\*  
\*  
\* ORIGINAL  
\* SENT: 02/12/86 TIME: 09:51  
\* FROM: JEAN MILLER  
\* SUBJECT: POM  
\* PRINT DATE: 02/12/86 TIME: 10:16 61  
\*  
\*\*\*\*\*

TO: ALL LEGISLATORS

FROM: JOE RAMSTAD  
1210 WEST 11TH AVENUE  
ANCHORAGE, AK 99501 PHONE: 277-4115

SUBJECT: SB 334 - HATCHER PASS PUBLIC USE AREA

REFERENCE SB 334, I URGE YOU TO OPPOSE THIS BILL WHICH WILL LOCK UP AN IMPORTANT MINING DISTRICT. HATCHER PASS AREA HAS PRODUCED OVER 400,000 OUNCES OF GOLD. LOCKING THIS AREA UP WOULD RESULT IN SUBSTANTIAL LOSS TO PRIVATE INVESTMENT FOR MINERAL EXPLORATION ON STATE LANDS.



\*\*\*\*\*  
\*  
\* DELIVER TO: JPOM  
\*  
\*  
\* ORIGINAL  
\* SENT: 02/13/86 TIME: 16:58  
\* FROM: MICKI HENSON  
\* SUBJECT: POM  
\* PRINT DATE: 02/13/86 TIME: 16:58  
\*  
\*\*\*\*\*

8

TO: SENATE RESOURCES

SENS. STURGULEWSKI, FAHRENKAMP, ELIASON, ZHAROFF, HALFORD,  
COGHILL, V. FISCHER

FROM: MELISSA PEACOCK, 3600 EUREKA SF. 4, AC. 99503  
PHONE: 562-1950 HM.

SUBJECT: SB 334- HATCHER PASS PUBLIC USE AREA

I URGE YOU TO OPPOSE SB 334 CREATING THE HATCHER PASS PUBLIC USE  
AREA. THIS BILL WILL BE ANOTHER LOCK UP OF AN IMPORTANT MINING  
DISTRICT. COST MONEY FOR YET ANOTHER MANAGEMENT PLAN RESULTING IN  
THE LOSS OF PRIVATE INVESTMENT FOR MINERAL EXPLORATION ON STATE  
LAND.

Frank

1 1

WAK

```

*****
*
* DELIVER TO: JFOM
*
* ORIGINAL
* SENT: 02/20/86 TIME: 13:28
* FROM: LANA TRUJILLO
* SUBJECT: POM
* PRINT DATE: 02/20/86 TIME: 13:28
*
*****

```

61

TO: ALL LEGISLATORS

FROM: WILLIAM MRAK JR., P.O. BOX 1963, PALMER, 99645, HM,  
745-3635

RE: SB 334, HATCHER PASS PUBLIC USE AREA

I FEEL THIS BILL WOULD BE ANOTHER LOCKUP OF AN IMPORTANT MINING DISTRICT COSTING MONEY FOR YET ANOTHER MANAGEMENT PLAN AND RESULTING IN THE LOSS OF PRIVATE INVESTMENT FOR MINERAL EXPLORATION ON STATE LANDS.

\*\*\*\*\*  
\*  
\* DELIVER TO: JPOM \*  
\* \*  
\* \*  
\* ORIGINAL \*  
\* SENT: 02/19/86 TIME: 11:50 \*  
\* FROM: BARBARA NORRELL \*  
\* SUBJECT: POM \*  
\* PRINT DATE: 02/19/86 TIME: 11:50 \*  
\* \*  
\*\*\*\*\*

3

TO: SENATORS FAIKS AND STURGULEWSKI  
FROM: BRUCE STAFFORD, 5059 VANCE, ANCHORAGE, AK 99508, 333-2151  
SUBJECT: SB 334, ESTABLISHING HATCHER PASS PUBLIC USE AREA  
IN JANUARY I REQUESTED YOUR POSTITON ON SB 334. TO DATE, I HAVE NOT RECEIVED A REPLY. PLEASE ADVISE.

\* DELIVER TO: JFOM

\*

\*

\* ORIGINAL

\* SENT: 02/14/86 TIME: 14:13

\* FROM: LANA TRUJILLO

\* SUBJECT: POM

\* PRINT DATE: 02/14/86 TIME: 14:21

\*

\*\*\*\*\*

61

TO: ALL LEGISLATORS

FROM: ROBERT HOEKZEMA, 1909 PARKVIEW CIR., ANCHORAGE, 99501, HM,  
279-2788, WK, 271-2455

RE: SB 334, HATCHER PASS PUBLIC USE AREA

I URGE YOU TO OPPOSE SB 334 CREATING THE HATCHER PASS PUBLIC USE  
AREA. THE WILLOW CREEK MINING DISTRICT HAS PRODUCED 400,000  
OUNCES OF GOLD WITH HIGH POTENTIAL FOR PRODUCING ADDITIONAL  
QUANTITIES. WE CANNOT AFFORD ANOTHER LOCKUP OF ALASKA'S  
RESOURCES DURING THIS PERIOD OF DECLINING OIL REVENUES.

\*\*\*\*\*  
TO: ALL LEGISLATORS

FROM: MARGARETT SPENCE, 7324 LINDEN DRIVE, ANCHORAGE, AK  
99502, 243-4561

SUBJECT: SB 334, ESTABLISHING HATCHER PASS PUBLIC USE AREA

I URGE YOU TO OPPOSE SB 334 CREATING THE HATCHER PASS PUBLIC USE AREA. THIS IS AN IMPORTANT EXPLORATION TARGET FOR MANY MINERS. IN VIEW OF THE RECENT DECREASE IN STATE REVENUE AND EMPLOYMENT FIGURES, WE SHOULD ENCOURAGE PRIVATE INVESTMENT AND ACTIVITY FOR MINERAL INVESTMENTS.

AS

FROM: JIM SPENCE, 7324 LINDEN DRIVE, ANCHORAGE, AK 99502,  
243-4561

SUBJECT: SB 334, ESTABLISHING HATCHER PASS PUBLIC USE AREA

I URGE YOU TO OPPOSE SB 334 CREATING THE HATCHER PASS PUBLIC USE AREA. THIS IS AN IMPORTANT EXPLORATION TARGET FOR MANY MINERS. IN VIEW OF THE RECENT DECREASE IN STATE REVENUE AND EMPLOYMENT FIGURES, WE SHOULD ENCOURAGE PRIVATE INVESTMENT AND ACTIVITY FOR MINERAL INVESTMENTS.

WJ

17001 Aris Ct  
Anchorage AK 99516  
April 7, 1986

Dear Arlis Sturgulewski:

I urge you to support Senate Bill 334 regarding the Hatcher Pass Public use area.

I feel this is a very unique scenic area which should be preserved for future generations to enjoy. I enjoy hiking and skiing along the Little Susitna river and would like to continue to do so and enjoy the beauty of this area.

I do question whether some of the mining shacks and signs are a legitimate use of the area. It would be nice to have these eyesores removed from what is otherwise beautiful and unspoiled.

Sincerely  
Marilyn J Scarborough

APR 7 1986

April 4, 1986  
PO Box 2176  
Palmer, Alaska 99645

Senator Jan Faiks  
Co-Chair Finance Committee  
State Senate  
Box V  
Juneau, Alaska

Dear Senator Faiks,

Please schedule SB 334 for a hearing in your committee if the bill passes the Senate Resources Committee on April 11. Senator Kerttula's Hatcher Pass Bill would stop new trespass problems on the Little Susitna River by closing the stream to additional mining.

Let me review some state actions which may soon affect the Little Susitna River and make the bill the best solution to the trespass problem there.

•Senate Bill 269 for purchase of cabins on state land, if successful, would make permanent the four squatters shacks on the Little Susitna River. Unfortunately, whether the squatters had valid claims would then no longer be an issue. The public would probably be stuck with the squatters for good. However, Senator Kerttula's bill would at least assure that such a problem would not get worse.

•The state will soon lose much of its ability to enforce its trespass laws. I understand that the job of trespass officer at the Department of Natural Resources will be cut on June 30. That position, now held by Mr. Lance Key, will be the first to go when the commissioner cuts the budget. Such an elimination, as necessary as it may be, also eliminates the vehicle to remove illegal miners. For our problem on the state land along the Little Su, SB 334 may be the only solution in sight. By closing the river to new mining claims, the bill nips future trespass in the bud and makes most enforcement unnecessary.

•The bill also saves the state money. The Division of Mining is spending about \$20,000 trying to enforce its trespass regulations on the Little Su, according to the

geologist in charge. Without SB 334, how much more would we have to spend if the state pursued new trespassing cases on the Little Su?

•Senate Bill 334 would also enhance tourism revenue in the Matanuska Valley. Much of the motivation for the bill, in fact, is to keep the stream and road corridor attractive to tourists. This attractiveness should pay even bigger dividends in a few years. As you know, people in the Valley are working toward an alpine ski area near the Little Susitna River on Government Peak. Without squatters adjacent to the proposed ski area, the place could be a bigger tourist draw.

I think also it's important for you and other legislative leaders to realize that SB 334 does not threaten legitimate miners. You are correct that mining has historically taken place in the area, and that legitimate claims should not be removed. SB 334, however, deals only with new claims. And it would prohibit them on a stream that the mining community has said contains no profitable quantities of gold.

Sincerely,



Mike Bronson

cc: Senate Finance Committee  
Senate Resources Committee  
Palmer Chamber of Commerce

PUBLIC OPINION MESSAGE

*PH*

TO: ~~SENATOR ARLISS STURGULEWSKI~~

FROM: DANNY CROW  
SR BOX 9439 HTLAND RD.  
EAGLE RIVER, ALASKA  
276-2932

99577

BILL NO: SB 334

SUBJECT: ESTABLISHING HATCHER PASS PUBLIC USE AREA

MESSAGE:

AS A SNOWMACHINER, CROSS-COUNTRY SKIER, KAYAKER,  
CLIMBER AND HIKER I FEEL THAT SB 334 WOULD BEST  
SERVE THE INTEREST OF THE STATE FOR MANAGEMENT OF  
THE HATCHER PASS PUBLIC USE AREA.

DATE: 04/03/86 TIME: 16:52:14 SENT BY: ANCHORAGE LIO

PUBLIC OPINION MESSAGE

*FAH*

TO: SENATOR ARLISS STURGULEWSKI

FROM: MATT TANAKA  
3120 EAST FOTH  
ANCHORAGE  
243-2077

99508

BILL NO: SB 334

SUBJECT: ESTABLISHING HATCHER PASS PUBLIC USE AREA

MESSAGE:

SENATE BILL 334 PRESERVES SCENIC BEAUTY AND ACCESS TO THE LITTLE SUSTINA RIVER NEAR HATCHER PASS. CURRENT MINING PRACTICES ALONG THE LITTLE SUSITNA ARE DETRIMENTAL TO WATER QUALITY AND RIVER BANKS. ARMED MINERS HAVE THREATENED NON-DESTRUCTIVE RIVER USERS AS MYSELF, RESTRICTING RIVER ACCESS. PLEASE SUPPORT SB 334.

DATE: 04/03/86 TIME: 11:23:30 SENT BY: ANCHORAGE LIO

COPIES TO: SENATOR: JAN FAIKS

PUBLIC OPINION MESSAGE

TO: SENATOR ARLISS STURGULEWSKI  
FROM: APRIL COOK  
3131 ROSELIA  
ANCHORAGE 99504  
338-4401

BILL NO: SB 334

SUBJECT: ESTABLISHING HATCHER PASS PUBLIC USE AREA

MESSAGE:

I SUPPORT THE PASSAGE OF SB 334 BECAUSE SB334 WILL INSURE THE PRESERVATION OF THE RECREATIONAL NATURE AND USE OF WATERBODIES IN HATCHER PASS. I AM A WHITEWATER ENTHUSIAST. I RECOMMEND A YES VOTE ON THIS MATTER.

THANK YOU

DATE: 04/04/86 TIME: 15:09:39 SENT BY: ANCHORAGE LIO

COPIES TO: SENATOR: JAN FAIKS  
SENATOR: RICK HALFORD  
SENATOR: TIM KELLY  
SENATOR: JALMAR M. KERTTULA

April 4, 1986

Senator Arlis Sturgulewski  
Resources Committee chair

APR 7 1986

Dear Senator Sturgulewski,

I am writing to you in regards to SB 334.  
I would like to see the bill passed so that the river  
bottom area of the Little Susitna could be preserved and  
available for all to enjoy.

I have made many visits to the Hatcher Pass and  
Little Susitna area. My children and I have hiked and  
skied its slopes. I hope to someday go kayaking on  
the river itself and walk all its banks. If this  
land is not held for the public use that may not  
be possible. Let's preserve the natural beauty.

Yours,

Mike Grijalva

Mr Michael E Grijalva  
3561 E 20th  
Anchorage AK  
99504



APR 11 1986

Steve Koslow  
4204 Cape ST  
Anchorage AK  
99503



4-7-86

Dear Arlis

Please vote in favor of SB 334. The little Su needs protection. I'm a frequent user of the river in the spring Summer & Fall. It is the Premier. White Water Kayaking river in the state. Clear water, nonstop class 4 & 5 rapids for over 5 miles, and road accessibility make it a unique river its scenic values are extremely high ~~also~~. The mining claims being worked on the river now show a disrespect for its scenic character. Let's work to protect ~~the~~ natural character of this free flowing river. There is no reason to tolerate the type of destruction brought about by miners at the Slippery Rock claim. Let's clean it up and start enforcing D.N.R. laws. Please vote for SB 334.

Respectfully Steve Koslow



COOK INLET  
AQUACULTURE ASSOCIATION

RT. 2, BOX 849  
SOLDOTNA, AK 99669  
(907) 283-5761

*today*  
*Copy of letter*  
*all done*  
*res comm*  
*also Beth*

April 9, 1986

Senator Jalmar M. Kerttula  
Alaska State Legislature  
Pouch V (MS 3100)  
Juneau, Alaska 99811

APR 15 1986

APR 14 1986

Dear Senator Kerttula:

The Cook Inlet Aquaculture Association supports the passage of SB No. 334. Establishment of the Hatcher Pass Public Use Area would increase the degree of water quality and habitat protection afforded to the headwater streams of the Little Susitna River. Protection of water quality and habitat will ensure the continued productivity of the River's fish populations.

The Little Susitna River produces significant quantities of all five species of Pacific Salmon which are found in Alaska. Some of these fish are harvested commercially as they pass northward through Cook Inlet. The Little Susitna River salmon are also important to Matanuska-Susitna and Anchorage area recreational fishermen because the stream flows largely through public lands, is close to population centers, is accessible via the road system and is, in itself, picturesque.

The COOK INLET REGIONAL SALMON ENHANCEMENT PLAN lists the Little Susitna River as a site for fish stocking projects which will increase annual recreational fishing harvests by 10,000 coho salmon and 6,000 king salmon. In the future I would expect the Little Susitna River to become even more important to regional salmon harvesters and the creation of the Hatcher Pass Public Use Area through the passage of SB No. 334 would be a wise preparatory step toward that future.

Sincerely,

*Thomas E. Mears*

Thomas E. Mears,  
Executive Director

cc: All Senate Resources and Finance Committee Members

THE FOLLOWING DOCUMENT HAS  
NOT BEEN FILMED BUT IS  
AVAILABLE IN THE ORIGINAL  
FILE

# SB 334 MINERAL CLOSURE



SENATE AMENDMENT

*Adopted*

By \_\_\_\_\_

To: \_\_\_\_\_ SENATE BILL No. SB 334

To: \_\_\_\_\_ HOUSE BILL No. \_\_\_\_\_

PAGE:

LINE:

2

5

After "period" ADD:

A management plan adopted or revised by the commissioner under this section shall be submitted to the legislature for review within the first 10 days of the first regular session of the legislature to convene after its adoption or revision by the commissioner.

**Article 4. State Land Reforestation.****Section**

300. State land reforestation fund  
 310. Appropriations to state land reforestation fund  
 320. Report to the legislature

**Sec. 41.17.300. State land reforestation fund.** A state land reforestation fund is established in the department. The money in the state land reforestation fund may be used only for the reforestation of state land, including site preparation, seed and seedling acquisition and cultivation, planting, and other reforestation measures, timber stand improvement, and the development of materials and techniques for the reforestation of state land. (§ 2 ch 91 SLA 1983)

**Sec. 41.17.310. Appropriations to state land reforestation fund.** (a) The state land reforestation fund consists of money appropriated by the legislature and contributions from private donors. It is the intent of the legislature that the appropriations made to the fund equal no less than 25 percent of the revenues from the sale of timber and other forest products from state land as well as the total revenues from

- (1) compensation for loss or damage to land within a state forest; and
- (2) the federal government and other governmental units for reforestation.

(b) Money appropriated to or paid into the state land reforestation fund does not lapse. (§ 2 ch 91 SLA 1983)

**Sec. 41.17.320. Report to the legislature.** The commissioner shall make an annual report to the legislature within the first 10 days of each session of the legislature on the uses of the money in the state land reforestation fund, the proposed uses of the fund in the following fiscal year, and the balance in the fund. (§ 2 ch 91 SLA 1983)

**Article 5. Tanana Valley State Forest.****Section**

400. Tanana Valley State Forest

**Sec. 41.17.400. Tanana Valley State Forest.** (a) Subject to valid existing rights and except for land owned by or transferred to the University of Alaska under a settlement agreement between the state and the university, the state-owned or acquired land and water lying within the parcels described in (d) of this section is designated as the Tanana Valley State Forest.

(b) The commissioner shall prepare a management plan for the Tanana Valley State Forest under AS 41.17.230. The commissioner shall submit the management plan to the legislature for its approval within the first 10 days of the Second Session of the Fourteenth State

Legislature. The management plan for the Tanana Valley State Forest is approved unless the legislature adopts legislation disapproving the management plan.

(c) The commissioner shall consider and permit the uses described in AS 41.17.230(e) within the Tanana Valley State Forest, subject to the procedures established in AS 41.17.230(f). The commissioner may establish transportation corridors within the Tanana Valley State Forest.

(d) The Tanana Valley State Forest includes the state-owned or acquired land and water lying within the following described parcels.

Township 1 North, Range 2 East, Fairbanks Meridian

Sections 1 — 3

Sections 10 — 12

Sections 13 — 15, N $\frac{1}{2}$

Township 1 North, Range 3 East, Fairbanks Meridian

Section 1, E $\frac{1}{2}$ , E $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ , SW $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ , SE $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$

Section 2, NW $\frac{1}{4}$ , NW $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$

Sections 3 — 5

Section 6, N $\frac{1}{2}$

Section 7, E $\frac{1}{2}$ E $\frac{1}{2}$

Sections 8 — 9

Section 10, NW $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ , N $\frac{1}{2}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ , SW $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$

Section 11, E $\frac{1}{2}$ , S $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$

Sections 12 — 14

Section 15, S $\frac{1}{2}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ , NE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ , S $\frac{1}{2}$

Township 1 North, Range 4 East, Fairbanks Meridian

Sections 1 — 12

Sections 16 — 8

Township 1 North, Range 5 East, Fairbanks Meridian

Sections 6 — 10

Sections 15 — 16

Township 1 North, Range 4 West, Fairbanks Meridian

Section 5, W $\frac{1}{2}$

Sections 6 — 11

Section 15

Section 16 — 24

Section 27

Section 28, NE $\frac{1}{4}$ , NE $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$

Section 29, S $\frac{1}{2}$ , W $\frac{1}{2}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$

Sections 30 — 32

Section 33, W $\frac{1}{2}$

Township 1 North, Range 5 West, Fairbanks Meridian

Township 1 North, Range 8 West, Fairbanks Meridian

Sections 17 — 20

Sections 29 — 34

Chapter 47

Sections 21 - 24

Section 26 N 1/2

Section 27 N 1/2

Section 28 N 1/2

\* Sec. 2. AS 16.20.230 is amended by adding new subsections to read:

16.20.230(b)-(d)

(b) Notwithstanding AS 16.20.220 and the establishment of the Anchor River and Fritz Creek Critical Habitat Area under (a)(12) of this section,

(1) the use of and appropriation of water rights from Fritz Creek for a municipal and community water source is protected within the Anchor River and Fritz Creek Critical Habitat Area;

(2) the possibility of the construction of a dam and reservoir on Fritz Creek is reserved within the Anchor River and Fritz Creek Critical Habitat Area.

(c) The use and enjoyment of valid existing rights and interests within the Anchor River and Fritz Creek Critical Habitat Area are protected. Future conveyances, including but not limited to rights-of-way, timber sales, municipal entitlements, grazing leases, and oil and gas leases, may occur.

(d) A management plan for the Anchor River and Fritz Creek Critical Habitat Area shall be completed by July 1, 1989, by the Department of Fish and Game in consultation with the Department of Natural Resources and the management plan shall be submitted to the legislature for review. The management plan shall take effect when approved by act of the legislature. The management plan shall reflect the concurrence of the Kenai Peninsula Borough as it applies to land committed by the borough to the Anchor River and Fritz Creek Critical Habitat Area.

Eff. 8/28/85

SCS C555HB 280(Fin)

\* Secti  
C  
040 i  
Publi  
ularly  
import  
tradit  
wildl:  
viewin  
qualit  
in the  
compet  
S  
subsur  
ity of

1 guidelines for associated development;

2 (4) manage commercial activities or development, including  
3 recreational services such as guiding;

4 (5) provide for necessary public services, such as trans-  
5 portation and utility corridors, public safety, and law enforcement;

6 (6) allow reasonable and necessary access to public land  
7 and private inholdings and to land beyond the recreation river corri-  
8 dor;

9 (7) establish criteria and timelines to review future  
10 proposed uses for compatibility with the purposes of AS 41.23.200 -  
11 41.23.280;

12 (8) establish guidelines and setback restrictions for an  
13 activity occurring under AS 41.23.200(c).

14 (b) The commissioner may adopt regulations necessary to imple-  
15 ment the plan.

16 (c) A comprehensive management plan adopted or revised by the  
17 commissioner under (a) of this section shall be submitted to the  
18 legislature for review within the first 10 days of the first regular  
19 session of the legislature to convene after its adoption or revision  
20 by the commissioner.

21 (d) The Department of Fish and Game and the Boards of Fish and  
22 Game shall consult with the commissioner before adopting or revising  
23 regulations governing fish and game management in an area designated  
24 as a recreation river.

25 Sec. 41.23.230. MANAGEMENT OF MUNICIPAL LAND. If a municipality  
26 commits land for inclusion in a recreation river designated under  
27 AS 41.23.280(c), the commissioner shall obtain the concurrence of the  
28 municipality to the management plan proposed under AS 41.23.220 as it  
29 applies to municipal land.

# STATE OF ALASKA 1986 LEGISLATIVE SESSION FISCAL NOTE

Revision Date : \_\_\_\_\_

**REQUEST**

Bill/Resolution No. : SB 334  
 Title : Establishing Hatcher Pass  
Public Use Area  
 Sponsor : Senator Kerttula  
 Requestor : Senate Resources  
 Date of Request : 4-10-86

**FISCAL DETAIL**

Agency Affected : Natural Resources  
 BRU : Land & Water Management  
 Components : \_\_\_\_\_

**EXPENDITURES/REVENUES : (Thousands of Dollars)**

OPERATING	FY 86	FY 87	FY 88	FY 89	FY 90	FY 91
PERSONAL SERVICES						
TRAVEL						
CONTRACTUAL						
SUPPLIES						
EQUIPMENT						
LAND & STRUCTURES						
GRANTS, CLAIMS						
MISCELLANEOUS						
<b>TOTAL OPERATING</b>	<b>-0-</b>	<b>-0-</b>	<b>-0-</b>	<b>-0-</b>	<b>-0-</b>	<b>-0-</b>

CAPITAL						
---------	--	--	--	--	--	--

REVENUE						
---------	--	--	--	--	--	--

**FUNDING : (Thousands of Dollars)**

GENERAL FUND						
FEDERAL FUNDS						
OTHER						
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>-0-</b>	<b>-0-</b>	<b>-0-</b>	<b>-0-</b>	<b>-0-</b>	<b>-0-</b>

**POSITIONS :**

FULL-TIME						
PART-TIME						
TEMPORARY						

**ANALYSIS :** Attach a separate page if necessary

Prepared by: Mike Vediner *MV* Phone : 465-2400  
 Division : Land & Water Management Date : 4-10-86

Approved by Commissioner : Wm D. Swindell, Deputy Date : 4/11/86  
 Agency : Natural Resources

Distribution (by Agency preparing fiscal note) :

- Legislative Finance
- Legislative Sponsor
- Requestor
- Office of Management and Budget
- Impacted Agency(ies)

# STATE OF ALASKA

**DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES**  
**DIVISION OF LAND AND WATER MANAGEMENT**  
**SOUTHCENTRAL REGION**

*Frank*  
BILL SHEFFIELD, GOVERNOR

3601 C STREET  
POUCH 7-005  
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99510-7905  
PHONE: (907) 561-2020

*Planning -  
state*

November 26, 1985

The Honorable Arliss Sturgulewski  
2957 Sheldon Jackson St.  
Anchorage, AK 99508

Re: Hatcher Pass and  
Matanuska Valley Moose Range  
Management Plans Briefing

Dear Senator Sturgulewski:

The purpose of this packet is to offer to provide you and other Anchorage legislators with a briefing on key issues for the Hatcher Pass and Matanuska Valley Moose Range management plans and to provide you with information on the Hatcher Pass Management Plan. Information on the Matanuska Valley Moose Range was sent to you in early November.

These plans have generated a good deal of public interest and our project managers have worked closely with user groups from the start of the planning process. You may be hearing from constituents regarding these plans. Matanuska-Susitna Valley citizens have already been talking to Senators Kerttula and DeVries about possible legislative designations for the Hatcher Pass area to protect the Little Susitna River corridor and the high density moose habitat in the Willow Mountain area. A coalition of outdoor education and recreation groups has formed in Anchorage to provide plan recommendations. Citizens have also spoken with Representative Ron Larson regarding the need to promote personal firewood harvest and enhancement of moose browse in the Moose Range.

The Honorable Arliss Sturgulewski  
November 26, 1985  
Page 2

\* \* \* \* \*

Update on the Hatcher Pass Plan:

The main impetus for the Department of Natural Resources to develop a management plan for Hatcher Pass is the increased recreational use of the area, interest from the private sector in grazing and in commercial recreational development including a possible downhill ski area, conflicts in use and public safety concerns. Despite the fact that there are no public facilities except at Independence Mine State Historical Park and that the road is primitive, local visitor and out-of-state tourist use is increasing rapidly.

The goal of this management plan is to accommodate this increased recreational use and enhance tourism while continuing the opportunity for hunting, gold mining and grazing. To accomplish this will require careful planning and management.

After receiving public guidance on selection of a preferred alternative in early December, a draft plan will be written and sent out for public review this spring. A packet describing the proposed alternatives is enclosed.

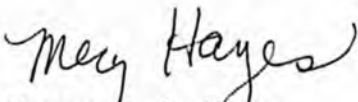
\* \* \* \* \*

If you would like to set up a briefing session on either or both of these plans, please let my project managers know. The phone number is 762-2249.

Sandra Cosentino  
Hatcher Pass Management Plan

Lisa Holzapfel  
Matanuska Valley Moose  
Range Management Plan

Sincerely yours,



Margaret J. Hayes  
Regional Manager

Hatcher Pass Enclosures: Brochure  
Alternatives Packet

ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF  
**NATURAL RESOURCES**



**IN THE VALLEY:**  
 Mike Sullivan  
 DNR/Land & Water  
 Management  
 11255 Area Office  
 PO Box 874068  
 Wasilla, AK 99617  
 Telephone: 334-1595

**IN ANCHORAGE:**  
 Sandra Gosselin  
 DNR/Land & Water  
 Management  
 2000 Regional Office  
 PO Box 2005  
 Anchorage, AK 99510  
 Telephone: 332-2247

**FOR MORE INFORMATION:**

**ANCHORAGE:** Monday, December 9  
 8:30 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.  
 Central Junior High  
 16th Ave. & E Street

**WASILLA:** Wednesday, December 4  
 6:30 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.  
 Cottonwood Creek  
 Elementary School  
 Palmer, Wasilla and  
 Seward Meridian Roads

**WILLOW:** Monday, December 2  
 6:30 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.  
 Willow Community Center

**WILLOW:** Monday, November 18  
 12:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.  
 Willow Community Center

**PALMER:** Saturday, November 2  
 11:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.  
 Palmer Library

**ANCHORAGE:** Monday, November 25  
 12:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.  
 U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service Bldg.  
 First Floor, Meeting Room  
 1101 East Tudor

**PUBLIC MEETING** — a formal meeting to allow the public to review and comment on a proposed management plan for a specific area.

**OPEN HOUSE** — provides an informal opportunity for the public to review and comment on a proposed management plan for a specific area.

DEPARTMENT OF  
 NATURAL RESOURCES  
**OPEN HOUSE &  
 PUBLIC MEETING**  
 ON  
**HATCHER  
 PASS  
 MANAGEMENT  
 PLAN**



PROPOSED GOALS AND  
MANAGEMENT ALTERNATIVES  
FOR THE



**HATCHER  
PASS**

---

**MANAGEMENT  
PLAN**

---

November 15, 1985



Alaska Department of  
**NATURAL  
RESOURCES**

## INTRODUCTION

This packet was prepared to provide an overview of possible goals and alternative proposals for managing the Hatcher Pass Area.

The Alaska Department of Natural Resources welcomes your participation in development of a management plan for the Hatcher Plan area which will help guide the future of the area over the next 20 years. Public and agency input will be utilized by the planning team in selection of a preferred alternative after the December public meetings.

A draft plan which will include management guidelines and an implementation strategy will be available for public review in Spring, 1986.

For further information, contact:

Sandra Cosentino  
Hatcher Pass Project Manager  
Department of Natural Resources  
Division of Land & Water Management  
Southcentral Regional Office  
P. O. Box 7-005  
Anchorage, Alaska 99510

Telephone: 762-2249

## GOALS STATEMENT



# **HATCHER PASS MANAGEMENT PLAN**

### Primary Uses:

Recreation, mining, fish and wildlife habitat, and grazing are the primary uses designated in the Willow Sub-Basin Area Plan.

### Secondary Uses:

Settlement and forestry are being considered as secondary uses. As such, they must be able to be made compatible with the primary uses or of such high value in specific sites that they take precedence over the primary use (and then only if they can take place without detrimentally affecting a primary use in the unit as a whole).

### Overall Goal:

PROVIDE FOR PUBLIC USE AND ENJOYMENT, DEVELOPMENT, AND PROTECTION OF THE AREA consistent with the multiple use management intent of the area plan. However, all uses will not occur in all areas. The plan will designate appropriate locations, conditions and timing of uses.

### Proposed Goals for Management of the Hatcher Pass Unit:

Some of the goals listed below may conflict with each other or may apply in separate geographic areas. Citizens will be given an opportunity at the public meetings to rate these goals. Goals which the public and the planning team give a low priority will then be given secondary status or eliminated entirely. Please review these goals and consider which ones are important to you for guiding management of the Hatcher Pass area.

1. Provide a broad spectrum of recreational opportunities.
2. Keep options open for mineral exploration and extraction.
3. Maintain and/or improve fish and wildlife habitat and the opportunity for fishing, hunting, trapping and wildlife viewing.
4. Provide the opportunity for livestock grazing.
5. Improve the Hatcher Pass Road.
6. Develop parking areas and develop or improve trails.
7. Provide opportunities for the development of tourism (e.g. allow leasing for commercial recreational development in some areas, road upgrade).
8. Protect the area's scenic resources.
9. Provide for public safety (e.g. institute regular avalanche control program, develop snowmobile trails to keep snowmobiles off the road, limit shooting in high density public use areas, etc.).
10. Protect environmental quality (e.g. limit development in sensitive areas such as streams, wetlands or critical habitat or require mitigating measures).
11. Preserve the area's historic mining character.
12. Provide more jobs through developing the area's resources or tourism potential.

### Other Possible Goals Related to Possible Secondary Uses:

1. Keep options open for timber harvest for commercial or personal use.
2. Sell some land for private cabins.
3. Offer permits for remote cabins in some areas.

## FACTORS COMMON TO ALL ALTERNATIVES

These items will be included in all alternatives and thus are not listed in each proposal.

1. Multiple use within the area as a whole, although all uses may not occur in all subunits.
2. Prioritized list of public access improvements such as: parking, pullouts, trailheads, trails, road improvements. The level and type of improvement will depend on which alternative combination is finally selected.
3. Some designated use trails and areas will be proposed in all alternatives to resolve existing conflicts and provide new opportunities for recreational use.
4. Policies to conserve environmental quality, fish and wildlife, scenic and cultural resources.
5. Public safety recommendations including agreements with DOT/PF for an avalanche control program on the east side road corridor; emergency rescue caches; and use of off-road vehicles on the Hatcher Pass Road.
6. Policy on public use cabins and private recreational developments on state lands.
7. Viewshed guidelines for all development and extraction activities areas seen from the road corridor and in other areas with high value scenic views.
8. Interpretative and information signage program along the road system and production of a user's guidebook for the management unit.
9. Identification of gravel extraction sites and, where possible, prohibition of extraction of materials in areas seen from the road unless screening or landscaping is possible or no feasible alternative exists.
10. Cooperative agreement with BLM to implement surface management guidelines on BLM "inholdings" within the management unit.

## DESCRIPTION OF ALTERNATIVE MANAGEMENT PROPOSALS

The management alternatives described below are intended to suggest the range of options available, including both level and type of development. All alternatives include multiple use of the area's resources, continuance of existing uses, some public use improvements and habitat protection. However, the three alternatives emphasize different resources or uses. Levels of resource development increase from Alternative I through III. The highest level of recreational development occurs in Alternative II. OTHER ALTERNATIVES ARE POSSIBLE. For example, you may prefer an alternative that represents a moderate level of development for both resources and tourism. The preferred alternative or draft plan will most likely be a mixture of these three alternatives and others that you suggest. It will be based on what we hear from you. Through the Management Alternatives Workbook at the public meetings in early December, you can help develop the preferred alternative by telling us how you'd like to see each subunit managed.

Implementing any of these alternatives is dependent on agency budgets, legislative appropriations, and cooperation with the users of the area.

A brief definition of remote cabin permits, mineral entry terminology and a brief synopsis of the viewshed study is enclosed to help you evaluate the options.

## ALTERNATIVE I:

### EMPHASIS ON KEEPING HATCHER PASS AS IT IS

Emphasis is on maintaining the area essentially as an undeveloped, semi-primitive area with continuance of existing uses. This alternative would be most nearly like the status quo and provide the highest amount of habitat protection. Because public use of the Hatcher Pass area is increasing, careful planning and management will be necessary to maintain the opportunities for mining and for enjoyment of a broad range of recreation, as well as maintain the high wildlife productivity and continue grazing. Thus, this alternative does not represent a "do nothing" option.

#### Mining

Most of the area is already classified as open to mineral entry under mineral leasehold location order. This classification would be retained with added guidelines in key areas to protect habitat, public access and scenic values.

For all three alternatives, the increase or decrease in mining activity will depend on the price of gold. The use of water would be largely dependent on the level of mining activity. Under state mining laws, access may be upgraded or developed for future mineral development anywhere in the area. The most likely places this would occur are in Independence Valley, Grubstake Gulch, Peters and Purches Creeks, Upper Little Susitna Valley and to Reed Creek. Management guidelines will include provisions addressing new access including location, seasons and type of access allowed to provide compatibility with wildlife and existing uses.

#### Recreation/tourism

The wide variety of dispersed recreation which occurs now would continue under all three alternatives. In this alternative, no commercial recreation facilities would be authorized on state land. Some new pull outs and parking would be built. A few non-motorized trails or areas would be designated. All existing unauthorized cabins would be converted to public use cabins and no new public use cabins authorized.

#### Road

Hatcher Pass Road recommendations in this alternative include improved summer maintenance, adding pull outs and widening in dangerously narrow sections. Most of the road from the turn off to Independence Mine State Historical Park (IMSHP) to MP 30 near the Willow Creek bridge is only 14 feet wide and is rated as a one-lane road. This narrow portion of the road would be recommended for continued annual maintenance upgrade appropriations which would allow a few miles per year to be widened.

#### Grazing

Current grazing leases would be maintained. No new leases or permits would be offered including the two pending applications.

## Wildlife

The important moose habitat area in the Willow Mountain area would be recommended for administrative or legislative designation as a special habitat protection area. Guidelines will be developed to protect wildlife habitat values as public use increases. Snowmachine use, for example, may have to be restricted in key moose wintering areas.

## Forestry

No forest harvesting would be included except single tree cuts for disease control south of Bald Mountain Ridge. Some enhancement for browse may occur in this area.

## Settlement

No land sales or remote cabin sites would be offered.

## Effects of Alternative I

Positive benefits of this alternative would be to maintain existing uses and lifestyle values and it is the least costly to implement.

## Mining

This alternative essentially continues the status quo on mining. A mineral lease would have to be negotiated prior to beginning production. In all three alternatives, if mining activity increases in response to rising gold prices, it has the potential of bringing added employment to the area. It could also have the effect of restricting public access at mining sites, while at the same time opening up new access roads or upgrading existing roads.

## Recreation/tourism

This alternative maintains the public opportunity for enjoyment of natural scenery and participation in a wide variety of recreational activities. It would alleviate some of the existing conflicts in use between skiers and snowmachiners.

Increased visitation would not be encouraged due to primitive road conditions and lack of public campgrounds, signed trails and facilities; consequently, the opportunity for a genuine wilderness experience would be greater than in the other two alternatives. However, use of the road corridor is predicted to continue to increase accompanied by an increase in makeshift pull outs and safety hazards. Overcrowding of existing access points likely will continue with some areas receiving little or no use due to few available parking areas, trailheads and other public use improvements. Tourism use of the area likely would continue to increase at a moderate rate. No new jobs or new recreational opportunities would be created within the study area, since commercial leases would not be authorized. However, increased recreational use of the area may generate economic benefits to recreational equipment suppliers and off road guides.

### Road

The major benefits of the minimal road improvement program would be increased safety at the least cost, heightened enjoyment of the scenic drive experience due to widening and pull outs and maintenance of the sense of a backcountry drive. The negative side of this level of road improvement is that the road is not engineered, cuts are not recontoured, no shoulders are provided and the roadbed is substandard and hard to maintain. The road will not be suitable for large tour buses and campers.

### Grazing

The status quo would be maintained for grazing. The high value grass resources outside existing leases would not be utilized. As Hatcher Pass has a large percentage of the region's accessible grasslands, this may result in a shortage of accessible grazing land if Mat-Su Valley dairy and beef cattle operations expand as predicted. Current grazing demand would not be met because the two existing lease applications would not be authorized. This low grazing alternative, however, incurs the least potential wildlife and public use conflicts.

### Wildlife

Wildlife and fisheries habitat values would best be protected by this alternative due to the lack of new resource, tourism, and access development with the potential exception of mining.

### Forestry

Forestry resources would not be utilized except those near the Matanuska Valley.

### Settlement

No opportunity would be provided for private cabins in the area; the entire area would remain open to public use.

## ALTERNATIVE II:

### EMPHASIS ON TOURISM AND PUBLIC USE

The emphasis in this alternative is placed on tourism and improved access points for public use, on moderate increases in levels of resource development and on continued habitat protection.

#### Mining

This alternative would change the existing mineral leasehold location classification to that of open to mineral entry, except for identified conflicts areas such as calving areas which require special stipulations. (Such a change would require an amendment to the Willow Sub-Basin Plan) It essentially is the same as Alternative I except that a lease would not be negotiated prior to production in most areas.

Management guidelines to enhance habitat and public use compatibility would be implemented through miscellaneous land use permits. Mineral closures would be placed on key high recreation use sites and areas on the road corridor along the Little Susitna to IMSHP, and the Little Susitna River. Access to mining areas will be the same as in Alternative I.

#### Recreation/tourism

The concept in this alternative is to provide a few nodes of recreational development and keep most of the area along the road system undeveloped. All commercial developments would be carefully site planned around a theme to maintain the historical and scenic flavor of the area and a high quality visitor experience.

Commercial and non-profit recreation facilities would be authorized including cross-country, track-skiing, an alpine ski area with a lodge on the east side of Government Peak, a winter sports "village" on the southeast corner of the study area below Government Peak, and/or a contained recreational development node 1/4 mile (approximately) north of the Mother Lode Lodge on the Gold Mint Road (the old mining road which parallels the Upper Little Susitna River). Possibly a shuttle bus would operate between the sites. Trail systems would radiate out from the "village" for skiing, dog mushing and snowmachining. No new trails would be developed into the back country; some loop or short trails would be added near the road system.

This alternative includes the highest level of public facilities such as three drive-in campgrounds, new trailheads and provision for public use cabins.

## Road

Road recommendations include:

1. Paving of the road and improved winter maintenance from the end of pavement north of Palmer to IMSHP.
2. An improved base gravel road with shoulders and pull outs from the IMSHP turn off to the Pass.
3. A maintenance upgrade to widen the road west of the Pass. Winter maintenance would be extended east from the Willow Bridge to Sawmill Creek, MP 29, (an additional 5 miles) to provide more recreational access.

## Grazing

Grazing leases or permits could occur south of Bald Mountain Ridge, (fencing may be required to protect adjacent farm homesteads and private property) on "Black's" Ridge, in Peters and Purches Valley and near Fishhook Creek.

## Wildlife

Major wildlife production areas, however, would be maintained. Wildlife viewing opportunities would be enhanced in key visitor and tourist areas. The important Willow Mountain moose habitat would be recommended to receive special habitat protection the same as in Alternative I. Enhancement for moose browse would be practiced in some areas to allow the continued high level of local and non-resident hunting opportunities. Provisions would be made to site facilities and trails with minimum habitat disruption. Stipulations would be placed on access developments for mining, forestry and commercial facilities to conserve high habitat values.

## Forest

Forest harvest would include selective cutting for personal use and commercial use with access restricted to existing roads or winter roads only.

## Settlement

No settlement would occur and no remote cabin permits would be offered.

## Effects of Alternative II

This alternative provides new opportunities for recreation, grazing, and tourism related economic development and would create the most dramatic changes of the three alternatives in the current uses and lifestyles along the road corridor.

### Mining

Mining opportunities will continue. Proposed mineral closures will not affect existing, valid claims; however, it will preclude new mineral entry in some areas. While there will be some new guidelines to comply with to maintain compatibility with increasing tourism and recreation, the intent is to keep this area as a viable and active mining district. Miners, as well as recreationalists, will benefit from road improvements and public safety provisions.

### Recreation/tourism

This alternative would allow development of new commercial recreational facilities which could create new jobs and generate more dollars in the Matanuska Valley as a result of enhancement as a tourism destination and increased recreational use.

Increased public facilities and winter sports opportunities could help meet anticipated higher demand for such facilities generated by an increasing population base in the region and possibly by the 1992 Olympics if held in Anchorage. Campgrounds, trailheads, trails near the road system and public restrooms will provide opportunities for a broader spectrum of the public to enjoy the area and should resolve many of the current overcrowding problems by creating new access points and dispersing use. Increased use, however, will lead to more encounters with other users near the road system, a resulting sense of crowding for some users, and a diminished opportunity for a wilderness experience within some portions of the study area.

Public use cabins could provide more users the opportunity to enjoy remote areas by providing shelter and a destination point. These cabin sites, however, can lead to overuse of areas. The increased use could have a negative impact on those seeking a wilderness experience. The Department of Natural Resources is not likely to have budgetary monies for public use cabin construction; thus, it may be necessary to establish a cabin construction and management system through recreation groups or private parties.

Separation of motorized and non-motorized uses in some areas in combination with new trailheads will allow heightened enjoyment of individual sports. There will be some displacement of existing uses, however.

More on-the-ground management would be necessary due to anticipated increased public use which would require an increase in the Department of Natural Resources' budget or shifting of priorities.

### Road

This road improvement proposal would require a multi-million dollar special appropriation from the legislature and would probably occur a long time in the future, if at all, due to other pressing road priorities. Paving the eastern portion of the road would allow development of Independence Mine State Historical Park into a major tourism destination point for tour companies and local visitors. Upgrading the Willow side of the Hatcher Pass Road would allow tour buses to conduct loop drives which would meet a Matanuska-Susitna Borough objective of increasing tourism revenues in the valley.

### Grazing

Current grazing demand will be met and a limited amount of other areas opened up for new leases or permits. If cattle production continues to increase in the Mat-Su Valley, however, there may be a shortage of accessible grazing areas.

Introduction of cattle into western portions of the study area may create a conflict with the existing brown bear population -- it is likely livestock will be preyed upon by bears which in the past has led to killing of the bears. Cattle would be introduced at low stocking rates; proposed moose-cattle interaction research would be initiated and monitoring of range conditions established (all dependent on agency funding). There is potential for negative impacts on moose utilization of the habitat by having cattle on the same range at the same time.

### Wildlife

Wildlife viewing enhancement will provide new opportunities for the public to enjoy the area's wildlife resources. There would be some habitat loss and displacement of wildlife in intense recreational use areas. This could require use of off-site enhancement or mitigation and/or time and space zoning restrictions.

### Forestry

Selective woodcutting would help fill local demand for firewood and house logs and provide opportunities for moose browse enhancement.

### Settlement

No opportunity would be provided for private cabins in the area.

## ALTERNATIVE III:

### EMPHASIS ON RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT

The emphasis in this alternative is placed on resource development (especially mining and grazing) rather than tourism. There will be fewer restrictions on mining and more acreage available for grazing. Recreation is still a primary use, but the level of development would be lower than in Alternative II. Wildlife is also a primary use overall but there is greater potential for some displacement in certain areas. Timber harvest and limited settlement would be allowed and remote cabin permits offered.

#### Mining

The entire area, except specific recreation facility sites and land sale areas, would be reclassified from open under mineral leasehold location order to open to mineral entry. Access to mining areas would be the same as in Alternative I with less stipulations on type, location and seasons of new access. The only areas closed to mineral entry would be land sale areas and a few small, intensely used recreation sites.

#### Recreation/tourism

Tourism developments and public use improvements would be at a lower level than in Alternative II. Parking areas at trailheads would still be developed, except for Grubstake Gulch and Archangel Valley, so as not to encourage recreation in these mining areas. Some commercial and non-profit recreation development areas would be authorized such as the bobsled run and track-skiing. The proposed alpine ski area and associated developments would be done on a more limited scale than in Alternative II; it would be day-use facility only, which likely would require public subsidy as a potential private operator might not be able to generate sufficient revenue from a day-use facility.

#### Road

Road recommendations include:

1. On the east side of the Pass to IMSHP, upgrade to a higher standard gravel road with improved base and drainage, shoulders and scenic pull outs.
2. On the west side from the Pass to the Willow Creek bridge, continue annual appropriations to do a maintenance upgrade to gradually widen to a two-lane road.

#### Grazing

Additional acreage would be allocated for grazing lease or permit south of Government Peak and possibly in the Willow Mountain area after a 1991 reevaluation of cattle-wildlife interaction, grazing supply and demand and the accessibility of the area.

### Wildlife

Guidelines or mitigation measures would be implemented for conservation of fish and wildlife populations and their habitats.

### Forestry

Forestry operations would include commercial harvest with well-designed, small clear cuts and access development to the western boundary of the management unit. Moose habitat enhancement may occur in forest harvest areas.

### Settlement

Three areas would be opened for land sales: northwest and southwest of Willow Mountain and southeast of Government Peak. These would be recreational subdivisions with trail systems for public use. A limited number of remote cabin permits for private cabins would be allowed in forested areas west of the Willow Mountain, in Little Willow Creek Valley and Peters Creek Valley.

## Effects of Alternative III

This alternative will maximize opportunities for access, grazing and mining and create new opportunities for private ownership. This alternative would have the greatest impact on wildlife habitat, current hunting and other backcountry uses due to introduction of new access, private cabins and grazing into areas which are essentially wilderness now.

### Mining

This alternative allows the greatest incentive (least restrictions) to mineral development. Some intensely used recreation site would be closed to new mineral entry; leases would be required in potential conflict areas, but the effect on mining overall would be minor. As in the other two alternatives, a large increase in the level of mining could provide new employment and at the same time limit public access in active mining areas and alter visual qualities.

### Recreation/tourism

Tourism revenue would likely increase under this option due to an improved gravel road and the presence of more public facilities, although not as much as in Alternative II. Increased access development for forestry, mining and recreational subdivisions, could allow more public use of areas currently inaccessible by highway vehicle. While it opens up new areas to use, it will lead to more encounters with other users and a diminished opportunity for a wilderness opportunity within the study area.

## Road

The effect of the road upgrade on the east side would be to increase road quality with an improved base, contouring of cuts and scenic pull outs. This would enhance tourism and local use. However, this is a costly project which would require special legislative appropriations. Maintenance upgrading of the west side of the Pass would create a wider and safer, though still substandard, roadway. It would enhance visitor and commercial uses, including hauling ore from the mines to the Willow Creek millsite.

## Grazing

This alternative maximizes use of grazing resources in the area and would provide support to the growing Mat-Su dairy and beef operations. While monitoring of range utilization and moose-cattle interaction research would be instituted (dependant on funding), this option has the greatest potential for negative impacts on fish and wildlife habitat, populations and their user groups if not well managed. Increased Department of Natural Resources funding for research and management would be required.

## Wildlife

Increased public use may also displace wildlife. Enhancement of logging areas for browse growth, however, may supply new moose utilization areas. Wildlife resources of the area would continue to be an important public value of the area.

## Forestry

This option allows management of the forestry resources on the western border as part of the proposed adjacent Kashwitna State Forest and economic returns, which otherwise would be foregone. There is existing demand in the Willow area for any type of forest product to produce wood pellets and for a new biomass plant to generate electricity. Future access roads to this area would allow more access for settlement, recreation and hunting. This increased access would, however, decrease the current wild character of the area and would require careful management to preserve current high levels of moose, bears and other wildlife which occur in this area. Hunting seasons may have to be shortened.

If settlement occurs in the three proposed areas, it likely would preclude commercial harvest operations as approximately 50 acres per homesite are needed to meet personal use demands for firewood and house logs.

## Settlement

Recreational subdivisions could offer the opportunity for private ownership in a highly desirable area. Negative impacts may be restriction/displacement of public use and increased demands on forestry and wildlife resources. Permits for private cabins in the more remote portions of the unit would offer the opportunity for private use of these areas. Negative impacts could be a reduction in the sense of "wilderness experience" for other users of these areas, removal of good natural campsites from public use and increased demands on forestry and wildlife resources.

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

### MINERAL LEASEHOLD LOCATION ORDER (MLLO)

A mineral leasehold location order may be placed on state land where the commissioner of the Department of Natural Resources has determined that potential use conflicts exist in an area between the surface use of the land and mining. In leasehold location areas, a mining claim is staked in the usual fashion, but must be converted to a lease before it can be put into production. Example: a mineral leasehold location order is presently in force which would apply to any future mining within nine mineral licks in the Talkeetna Mountains. These mineral licks were determined to be important to the existence of wildlife located on public lands. Hence, any mineral production leases in this area would probably be subject to stipulations concerning the wildlife's use of the mineral licks.

AUTHORITY: AS 38.05.185  
AS 38.05.205

### MINERAL CLOSING ORDER (MCO)

All state lands are open for the prospecting and production of locatable minerals unless the lands are specifically closed to mineral entry. (Locatable minerals are gold, copper, lead, tin, etc.) The commissioner of the Department of Natural Resources may close lands to mineral entry if a finding has been made that mining would be incompatible with significant surface uses on the state land. An example of a significant surface use would be residential or commercial structures on the land.

AUTHORITY: AS 38.05.185

### VIEWSHED STUDY SYNOPSIS

A viewshed analysis of the Hatcher Pass Road corridor was conducted as part of the resource analysis of the area. This was done because the road passes through open, alpine country providing many opportunities for scenic vistas of the Matanuska and Susitna valleys below. In fact, driving for pleasure is the primary summer use in the Hatcher Pass area.

The study identified viewing opportunities and existing negative impacts to viewshed and made recommendations for enhancement and maintenance of viewing opportunities.

The detailed analysis of areas near the road corridor will help guide land managers in placement of scenic pull outs and facilities to maximize scenic viewing opportunities and minimize negative impacts.

### THE REMOTE CABIN PERMIT PROGRAM

The Remote Cabin Permit Program allows a permit-holder to build a cabin on certain state land and use that cabin for 25 years. After that, the permit cannot be renewed and the cabin-owner either may remove the cabin or turn it over to the state. The permit conveys "no interest, right, or title in or to the land". The permit-holder is allowed the use of up to five acres. The cabin may not be used for commercial or industrial purposes. The permit holder may not fence or otherwise block access on or through the site. The permit is assignable. The fee is \$100 per year.

Areas where remote cabin permits are allowed must be identified in area or management plans. The land where they are allowed must be capable of supporting that use. The Department's policy is to allow remote cabin permits only where:

1. access by road or railroad is not likely for at least ten years;
2. sale of the land is not desirable because of public resource values or practical because of remoteness or survey costs;
3. no significant conflicts exist with other resource uses or management.
4. the land was selected for purposes other than mental health or university.

If there is public support for allowing remote cabin permits in the Hatcher Pass or Moose Range areas, the plan will include guidelines that: address density, location, number or size of buildings, allowed or prohibited forms of access; ensure that public use of the surrounding areas will not be inhibited; and any other considerations appropriate to the area.

For more information, see AS 38.05.079, 11 AAC 67.700 - 11 AAC 67.790, and pages 38 - 39 in the Susitna Area Plan.

*FRANK*

SUMMARY OF PUBLIC COMMENTS  
ON PROPOSED MANAGEMENT ALTERNATIVES  
For the



# HATCHER PASS

---

## MANAGEMENT PLAN

---

Prepared by Division of Land and Water Management  
Southcentral Regional Office

January 10, 1986



---

I. INTRODUCTION: Public Involvement in Development of a Preferred Management Alternative

---

Open houses were held late November, 1985, in Willow, Palmer, and Anchorage, to present management alternatives and resource data for public review. A written description of the 3 management alternatives was mailed to the public. Public meetings were held in early December, 1985, in Willow, Wasilla, and Anchorage to provide interested citizens an opportunity to participate in development of the preferred management alternative. A summary of public comments is provided in Chapter II.

Date	Meeting Place	Attendance
December 2,	Willow	20
December 4,	Wasilla	80
December 9,	Anchorage	<u>80</u>
	TOTAL	180

Participants worked in small groups to complete workbooks. They ranked goals for managing the area (See page 4) and selected alternatives for guiding actions of the state in management of the area. (See page 12.)

Citizens unable to attend the meeting checked out workbooks from the office. Completion date was December 16, 1985. Books received as of December 23, 1985, are included in this report. 186 books are included in this summary.

Oral comments expressed by the public during the open discussion at the end of each public meeting are summarized in Chapter III.

Letters received as of December 23, 1985, regarding management alternatives totaled 42. See Chapter IV.

Detailed subunit workbooks were made available to interested members of the public at the end of each of the public meetings. Much more site specific than the workbooks distributed at the meetings, the subunit workbooks provided an opportunity to comment on a range of alternatives for specific geographic locations and to pinpoint areas of need and conflict. Seventeen individuals and groups submitted completed subunit workbooks. These will not be summarized in this report. A summary of these will be prepared for the planning team and both the books and summaries made available for team use. A copy of the summary of the subunit workbooks will be made available to others on request.

---

## II. SUMMARY OF WORKBOOK RESPONSES

---

### A. WHAT WE HEARD YOU SAY: OVERVIEW

This is a popular, accessible public use area for a wide variety of recreational activities. Generally, all user groups feel strongly about Hatcher Pass and wish to use it to its greatest potential. Because of the wide range of user groups in the management area and their diverse relationships to the area via their use (e.g. placer miners, x-country skiers, ATV users, hunters, ranchers and mountaineers, to name a few) there is a great diversity of opinion as to what the best use of the same area is, and which uses are compatible. Nevertheless, there is close to consensus among those who attended the public meetings or submitted comments that the top priority goals for the areas should be preserving scenic quality, environmental and wildlife protection and the continuation of a wide variety of dispersed recreational opportunities.

Respondents to the workbooks generally feel that preserving the area's historic mining character is important. In addition, they favor closing a few important and intensively used recreation sites/areas to new mineral entry and managing existing mining claims or leaseholds in a way that makes mining activity as compatible as possible with other uses or values.

Most people prefer that there be no new areas opened to grazing except possibly for permits for horse grazing associated with a trail ride operation. No support was expressed for introducing timber harvest, private land ownership or remote cabins.

A special legislative or administrative designation for wildlife habitat in the Willow Mountain is strongly favored. The public expressed cautious approval for some level of road improvement, trail, and picnic site development. They were split over campgrounds and public use cabins. Separating motorized and non-motorized uses and the designation of a primitive area received strong support. However, no agreement has been reached on specific areas for these uses. An alpine ski area is favored 2:1, but with a wide range of opinion over the type and level of associated development. Other private sector developments (e.g. recreational gold panning and powderbob sled) received cautious approval.

The message received from the workbooks, phone calls, letters and meeting participation was: This is a special area to its users; carefully plan and site any new developments to maintain the area's scenic qualities, existing uses and character.

Previous Public Meetings

Meetings to Identify Issues, Concerns:

April 25,	Willow
April 30,	Wasilla
May 2,	Anchorage

Public Use Workshops:

September 11,	Willow
September 12,	Eagle River

Draft Plan Development

Public comments will be utilized by the planning team in the formulation of a draft plan. The draft will be sent out for public review in the spring of 1986, and public meetings will be held to receive citizen's comments on the draft. The draft will then be revised as necessary and put into final form by July 1, 1986.

If you have questions or choose to submit written comments, please direct them to:

IN ANCHORAGE

Sandra Cosentino  
DNR/Land & Water  
Management  
Southcentral Regional Office  
P.O. Box 7-005  
Anchorage, AK 99510  
Telephone: 762-2249

IN THE VALLEY

Mike Sullivan  
DNR/Land & Water  
Management  
Mat-Su Area Office  
P.O. Box 874008  
Wasilla, AK 99687  
Telephone: 376-4595

## B. GOALS

Goal rating was the first section in the workbook. Citizens were asked to rate each of 20 possible goals on a scale from highest priority to inappropriate goal.

The highest priority goals for all 3 communities were:

- \*Protect the area's scenic resources
- \*Protect environmental quality
- \*Continue opportunities for dispersed recreation

The next 3 top priority goals also reflect high values for public use and recreation:

- \*Designate motorized and non-motorized routes and/or areas
- \*Maintain or improve fish and wildlife habitat (although several citizens crossed out "improve")
- \*Provide for public safety (e.g. regular avalanche control program and limit shooting.)

The maintenance of the area's historic mining character was the next most important goal in all 3 communities.

"Enhance wildlife viewing opportunities" and "maintain or improve fishing, hunting, and trapping opportunities" both received a moderately important ranking with wildlife viewing considered slightly more important. Private sector recreational and tourism developments received a higher rating in Wasilla than in Anchorage, as did road improvements, parking, public facilities, and mining. Selling land, grazing, remote cabin permits and timber harvest were the lowest priorities. Selling land for private cabins received only 6 positive responses; the majority of respondents considered it an inappropriate goal. A review of the charts and graphs below gives a more complete picture of how each goal was ranked. Besides looking at the mean score for each goal, note the number of positive and negative responses to each. Some goals received an intermediate score, such as private sector development, because responses were spread evenly across the spectrum; in the case of "provide more parking", more respondents ranked it as moderately important.

Wasilla Goal Evaluation Summary

Hatcher Pass: Goal Ranking by Public (Listed in order of importance to public)

	scenres	disorec	envqual	wot/noot	pubsaf	improad	histwing	mtnfwhab	parking	privsec	pubfac	tourisa	wldview	jobs	fsntrp	mining	grazing	remotes	timber	selland
Total responses	78	78	78	78	78	78	78	78	78	79	78	78	79	78	78	78	76	79	79	79
Average response	4.59	4.56	4.38	4.09	4.88	3.78	3.76	3.76	3.68	3.61	3.58	3.26	3.18	2.81	2.79	2.59	2.09	1.78	1.57	0.81
# Pos Responses (4+5)	71	72	65	60	68	43	49	58	48	58	42	18	33	21	23	17	9	6	8	3
# Neg Responses (0+1+2)	2	2	4	5	5	6	6	10	8	17	13	19	26	38	27	34	46	51	59	75
# Responses=0	0	0	1	2	2	0	1	8	1	3	3	6	4	6	8	5	13	24	22	43
# Responses=1	2	1	1	3	1	1	1	1	3	7	3	5	5	9	5	13	12	8	21	17
# Responses=2	0	1	2	0	6	5	4	1	4	7	7	8	17	15	14	16	19	16	15	15
# Responses=3	5	4	9	13	9	29	23	10	22	12	23	19	18	21	28	27	21	20	12	1
# Responses=4	14	15	15	23	22	18	38	38	30	22	23	24	23	18	14	9	5	5	5	1
# Responses=5	57	53	58	37	38	25	19	28	18	28	19	16	12	9	9	8	4	3	3	2
% positive responses (4+5)	91%	92%	83%	77%	77%	55%	63%	74%	62%	63%	54%	51%	44%	35%	29%	22%	12%	18%	18%	4%
% negative responses (0+1+2)	3%	3%	5%	6%	12%	8%	8%	13%	18%	22%	17%	24%	33%	38%	35%	44%	61%	63%	75%	95%
% inappropriate (0)	6%	8%	1%	3%	3%	8%	1%	18%	1%	4%	4%	8%	5%	8%	18%	6%	17%	38%	28%	54%

Anchorage Goal Evaluation Summary

	envqual	scenres	disorec	wot/noot	mtnfwhab	pubsaf	histwing	parking	improad	wldview	pubfac	fsntrp	privsec	mining	tourisa	jobs	grazing	timber	remotes	selland
Total responses	88	98	98	98	83	89	98	98	98	89	98	89	98	98	98	89	89	89	89	89
Average response	4.39	4.37	4.18	4.18	4.82	3.88	3.38	3.26	3.89	2.96	2.87	2.28	2.83	2.81	1.77	1.38	1.16	1.12	0.98	0.53
# Pos Responses (4+5)	64	66	64	59	55	52	37	29	29	29	24	12	13	24	11	8	4	5	5	3
# Neg Responses (0+1+2)	8	8	8	9	6	11	17	17	27	33	31	48	58	59	68	68	73	77	72	83
# Responses=0	6	5	4	5	4	3	2	3	9	6	6	14	13	25	26	25	35	39	51	68
# Responses=1	8	2	0	3	4	7	4	8	6	7	12	25	19	16	16	24	24	19	12	6
# Responses=2	2	1	4	1	2	7	8	18	16	18	18	22	28	15	18	19	14	19	9	9
# Responses=3	4	4	9	11	18	15	38	39	38	21	38	27	17	7	17	12	18	7	12	3
# Responses=4	18	13	24	19	25	38	24	18	14	17	17	11	8	9	4	4	4	3	4	1
# Responses=5	66	65	49	51	48	33	19	16	18	18	11	3	7	15	8	7	1	2	1	2
% positive responses (4+5)	86%	87%	81%	78%	73%	71%	48%	38%	36%	39%	31%	16%	17%	27%	13%	18%	6%	6%	6%	3%
% negative responses (0+1+2)	9%	9%	9%	18%	7%	12%	19%	19%	38%	37%	34%	54%	64%	66%	67%	76%	82%	87%	81%	93%
% inappropriate (0)	7%	6%	4%	6%	4%	3%	2%	3%	3%	18%	7%	16%	14%	28%	29%	28%	39%	5%	57%	76%

Willow Goal Evaluation Summary

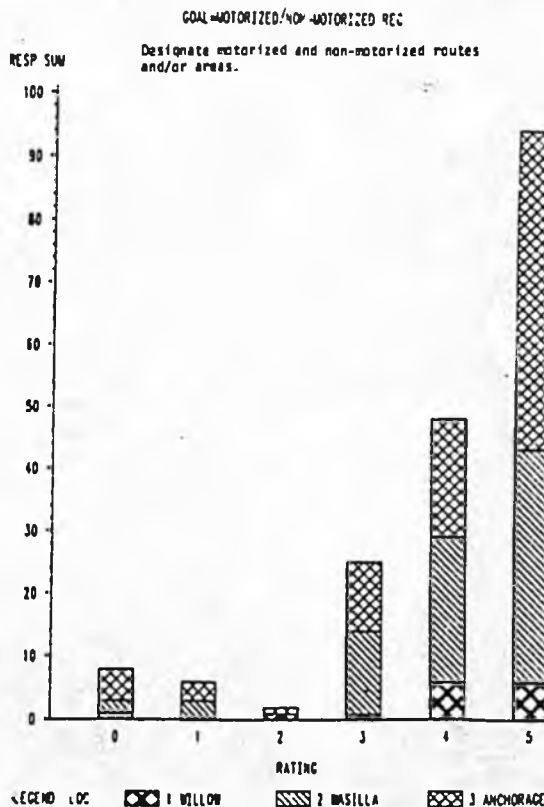
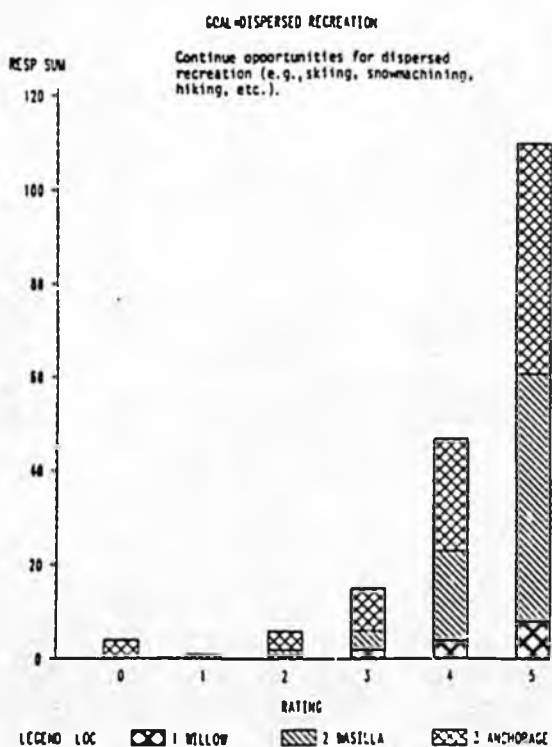
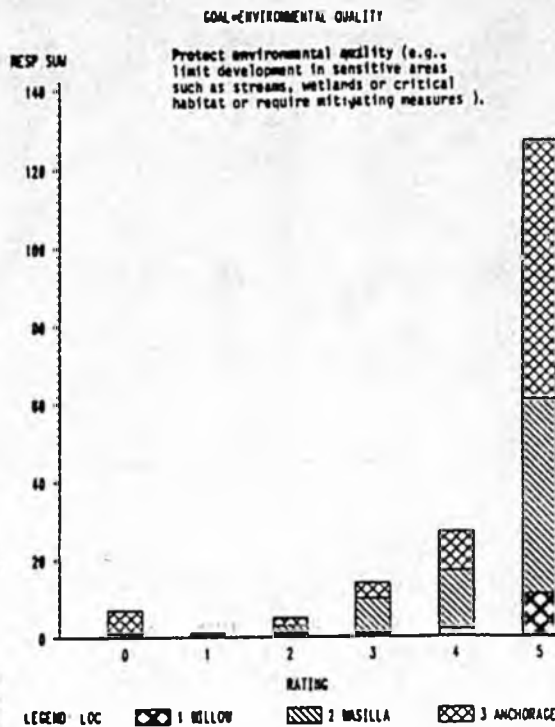
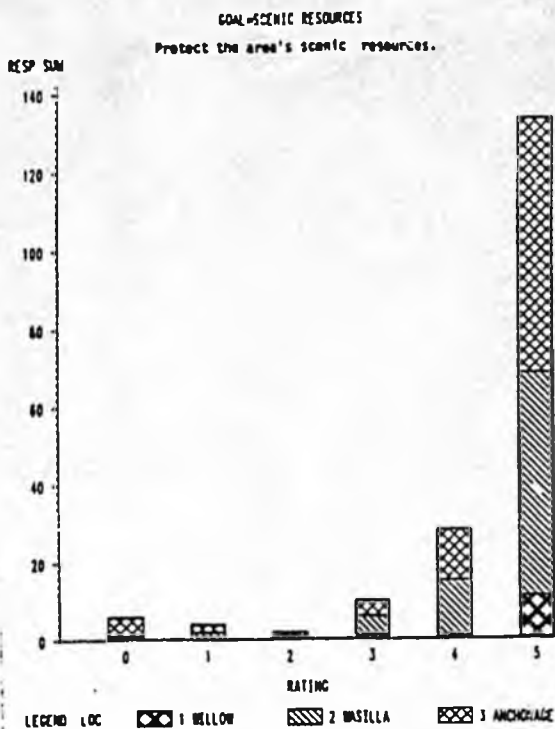
	envqual	scenres	disorec	wot/noot	mtnfwhab	pubsaf	histwing	wldview	improad	pubfac	fsntrp	parking	privsec	mining	tourisa	jobs	grazing	timber	remotes	selland
Total responses	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15
Average response	4.53	4.27	4.27	4.08	4.08	3.93	3.87	3.47	3.47	3.28	2.67	2.67	2.68	2.47	2.27	1.93	1.33	1.33	1.13	0.47
# Pos Responses (4+5)	13	12	12	12	13	12	12	9	7	6	5	6	5	2	3	3	1	8	1	0
# Neg Responses (0+1+2)	1	2	1	1	1	2	1	4	3	2	4	5	8	4	10	11	11	13	13	14
# Responses=0	0	1	0	1	0	1	1	0	0	1	2	3	1	2	1	3	6	4	6	10
# Responses=1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	0	1	0	3	2	3	2	3	4	4	4
# Responses=2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	1	1	2	4	0	6	2	2	5	3	0
# Responses=3	1	1	2	2	4	1	2	2	5	7	6	4	2	9	2	1	3	2	1	1
# Responses=4	2	1	4	6	4	6	8	5	3	5	3	6	3	2	2	3	1	0	1	0
# Responses=5	11	11	8	6	6	6	4	4	4	1	2	0	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
% positive responses (4+5)	87%	88%	88%	88%	67%	88%	88%	68%	47%	48%	33%	48%	33%	13%	28%	28%	7%	8%	7%	8%
% negative responses (0+1+2)	7%	13%	7%	7%	7%	13%	7%	27%	28%	13%	27%	33%	53%	27%	67%	73%	73%	87%	87%	93%
% inappropriate (0)	8%	7%	8%	7%	8%	7%	7%	8%	8%	13%	28%	28%	7%	13%	7%	28%	48%	27%	48%	67%

Overall Goal Evaluation Summary

	scenres	envqual	disorec	wot/noot	pubsaf	mtnfwhab	histwing	improad	parking	pubfac	wldview	privsec	fsntrp	tourisa	mining	jobs	grazing	remotes	timber	selland
Total responses	183	181	183	183	182	182	183	183	183	183	183	184	182	183	183	182	188	183	183	183
Average response	4.45	4.48	4.35	4.08	3.97	3.91	3.58	3.42	3.39	3.17	3.65	2.76	2.51	2.45	2.38	2.14	1.55	1.34	1.33	0.64
# Pos Responses (4+5)	149	142	148	131	122	125	98	79	83	72	73	68	48	54	43	38	13	14	14	6
# Neg Responses (0+1+2)	12	13	11	16	21	17	24	36	38	46	63	83	79	89	97	109	132	136	147	172
# Responses=0	6	7	4	8	5	13	4	3	7	18	13	17	24	33	32	34	52	81	67	121
# Responses=1	4	1	1	6	2	1	8	10	7	18	13	35	18	24	34	35	41	24	43	27
# Responses=2	2	5	6	2	14	3	12	23	16	26	37	31	37	32	31	48	39	31	37	24
# Responses=3	18	14	15	25	28	30	55	64	65	60	41	31	61	38	43	33	33	33	22	5
# Responses=4	28	27	47	48	56	61	62	35	54	45	45	33	28	38	28	23	9	18	5	2
# Responses=5	133	127	118	94	77	74	42	47	34	31	34	37	14	25	23	16	5	4	5	4
% positive responses (4+5)	88%	85%	86%	78%	73%	74%	57%	45%	48%	42%	43%	38%	23%	38%	23%	21%	8%	8%	8%	3%
% negative responses (0+1+2)	7%	7%	6%	9%	12%	9%	13%	28%	16%	25%	34%	45%	43%	49%	53%	60%	73%	74%	88%	94%
% inappropriate (0)	3%	4%	2%	4%	3%	7%	2%	2%	4%	5%	7%	9%	13%	18%	17%	19%	29%	44%	37%	66%

PUBLIC RANKING OF GOALS FOR HATCHER PASS MANAGEMENT PLAN  
(Prepared by DGGs Resource Analysis Section)\*

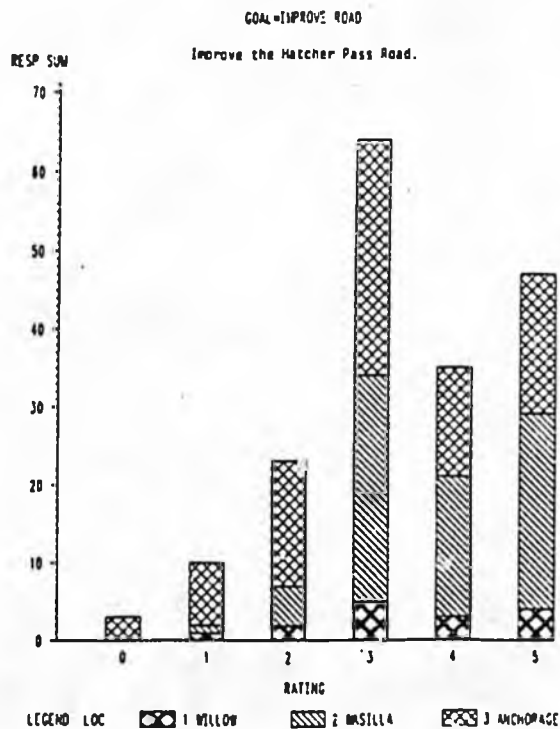
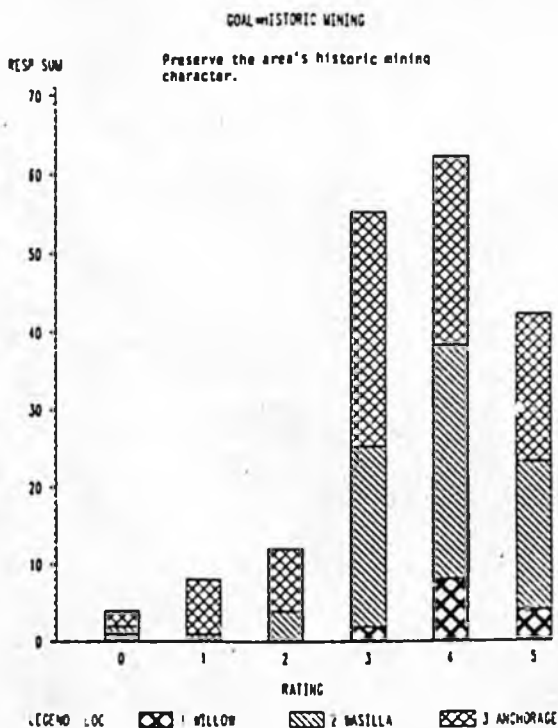
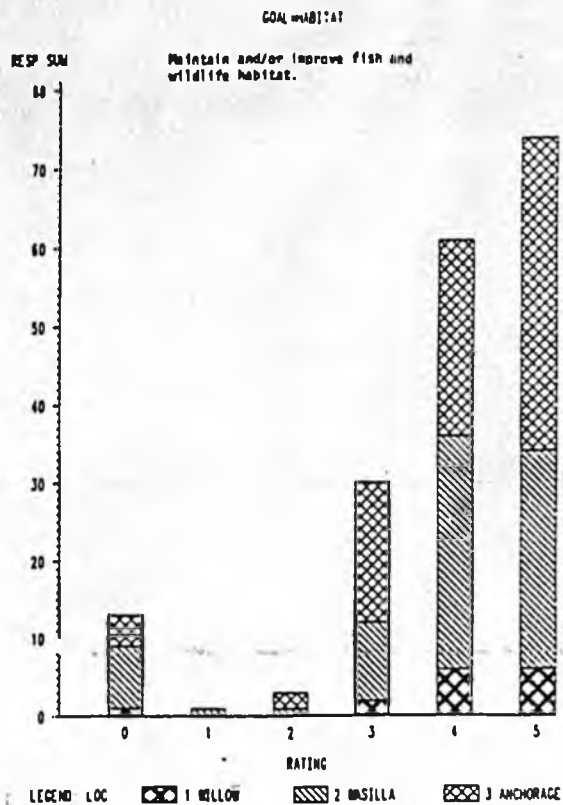
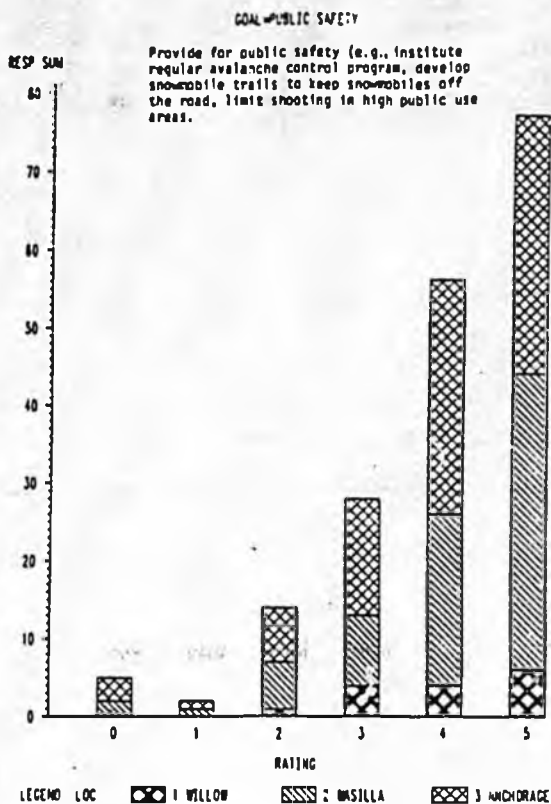
- 0 = INAPPROPRIATE GOAL
- 1 = LOWEST PRIORITY
- 2 = NOT VERY IMPORTANT
- 3 = MODERATELY IMPORTANT
- 4 = VERY IMPORTANT
- 5 = HIGHEST PRIORITY



\*Number of responses shown on the vertical axes varies with each goal.

PUBLIC RANKING OF GOALS FOR HATCHER PASS MANAGEMENT PLAN  
(Prepared by DGGS Resource Analysis Section)\*

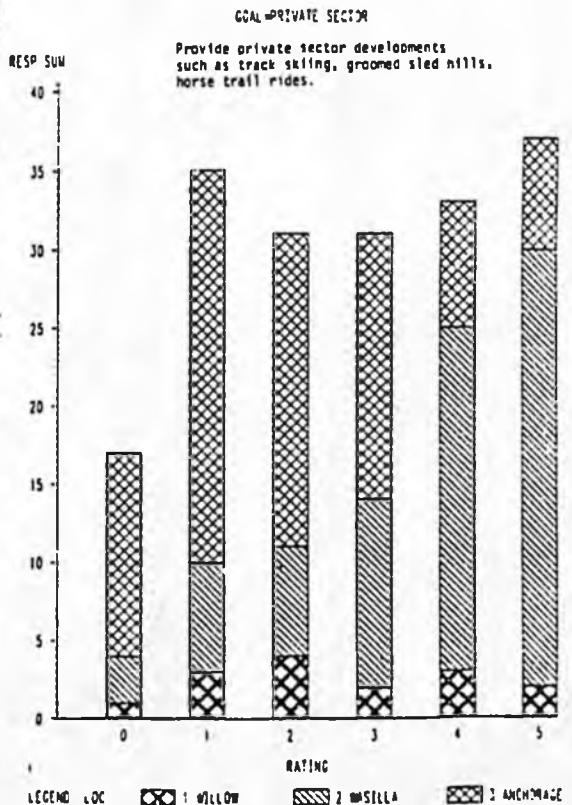
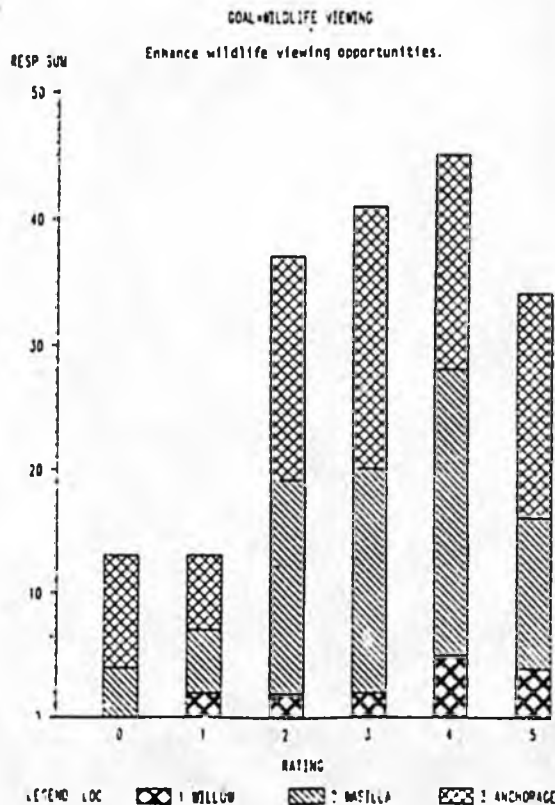
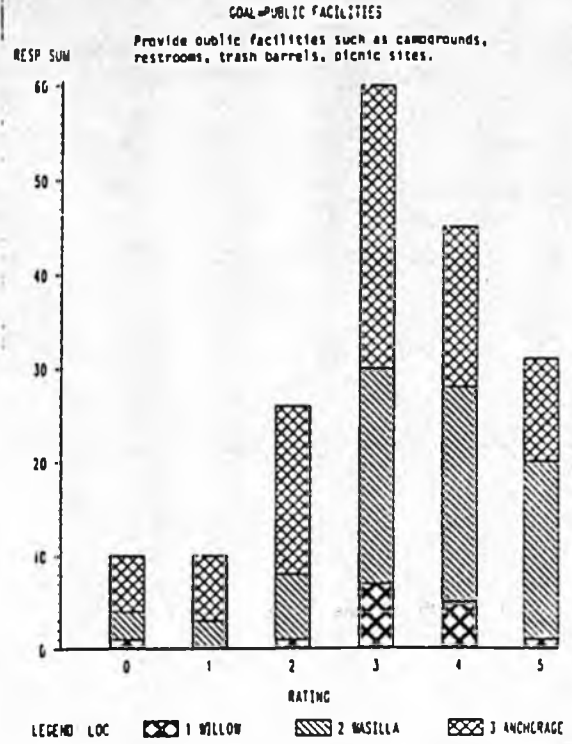
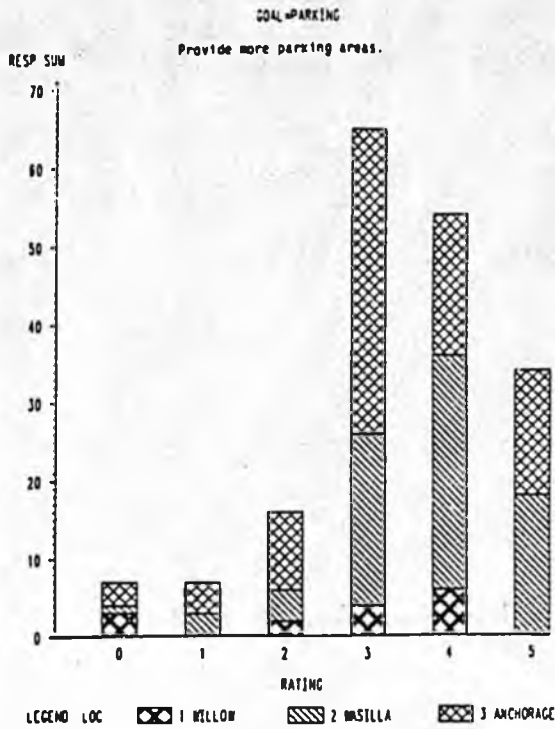
- 0 = INAPPROPRIATE GOAL
- 1 = LOWEST PRIORITY
- 2 = NOT VERY IMPORTANT
- 3 = MODERATELY IMPORTANT
- 4 = VERY IMPORTANT
- 5 = HIGHEST PRIORITY



\*Number of responses shown on the vertical axes varies with each goal.

PUBLIC RANKING OF GOALS FOR HATCHER PASS MANAGEMENT PLAN  
(Prepared by DGGS Resource Analysis Section)\*

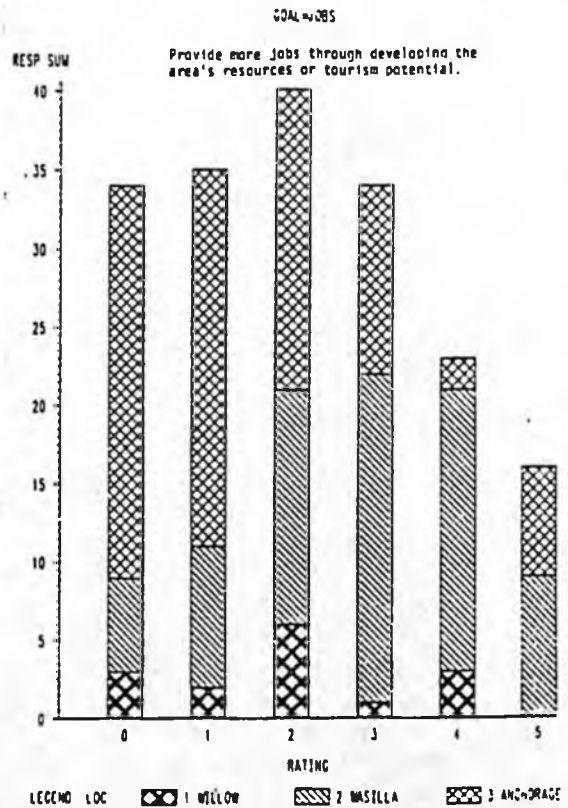
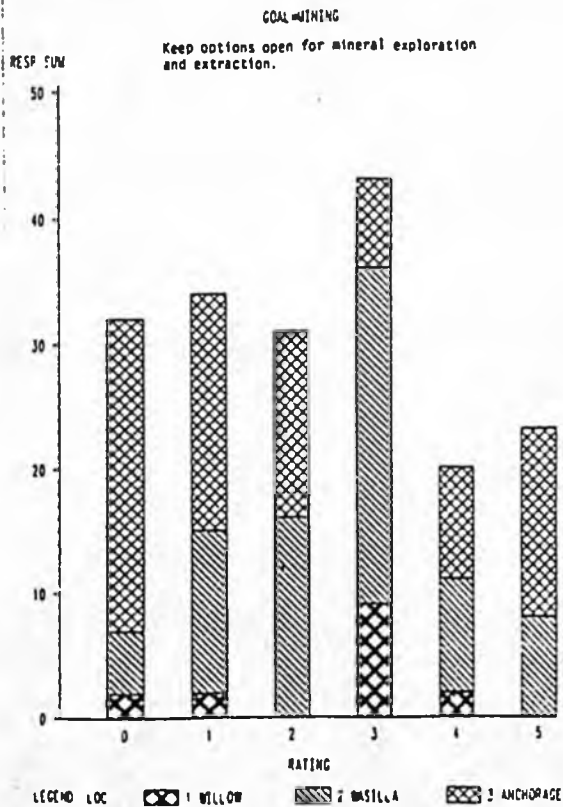
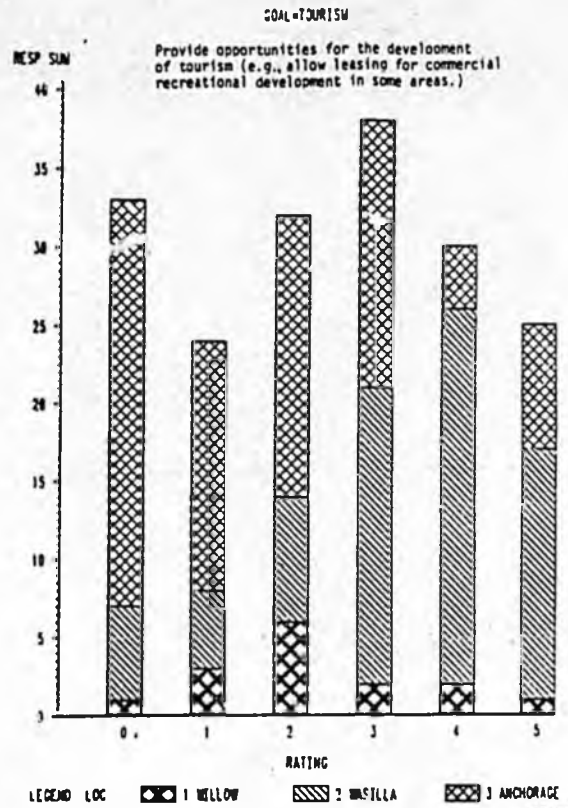
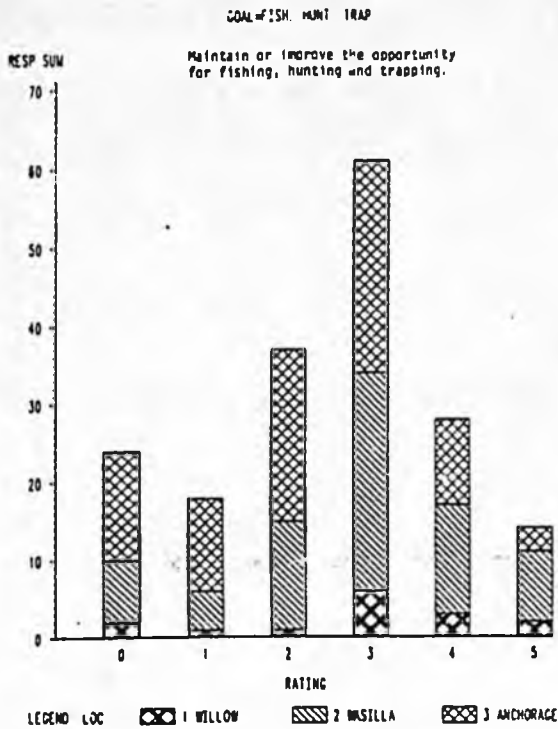
- 0 = INAPPROPRIATE GOAL
- 1 = LOWEST PRIORITY
- 2 = NOT VERY IMPORTANT
- 3 = MODERATELY IMPORTANT
- 4 = VERY IMPORTANT
- 5 = HIGHEST PRIORITY



\*Number of responses shown on the vertical axes varies with each goal.

PUBLIC RANKING OF GOALS FOR HATCHER PASS MANAGEMENT PLAN  
(Prepared by DGGS Resource Analysis Section)\*

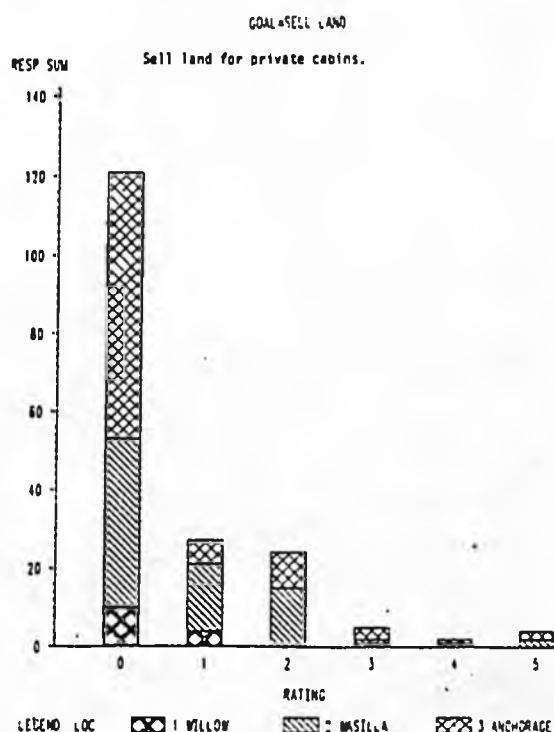
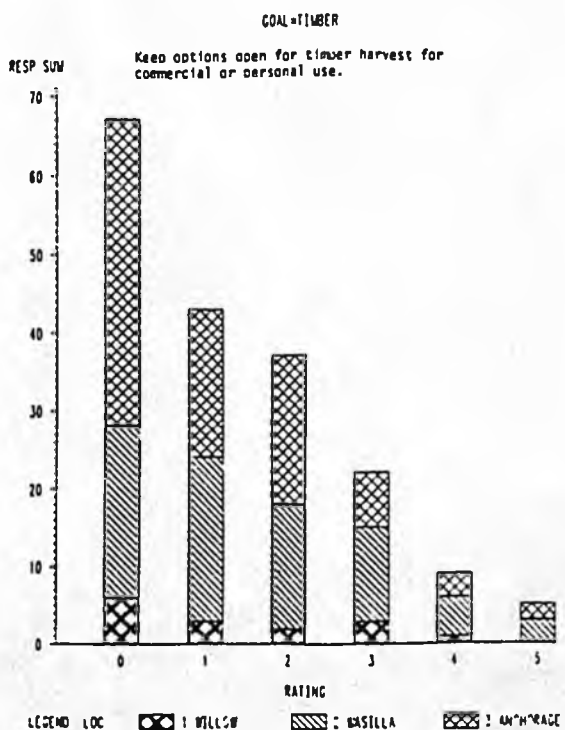
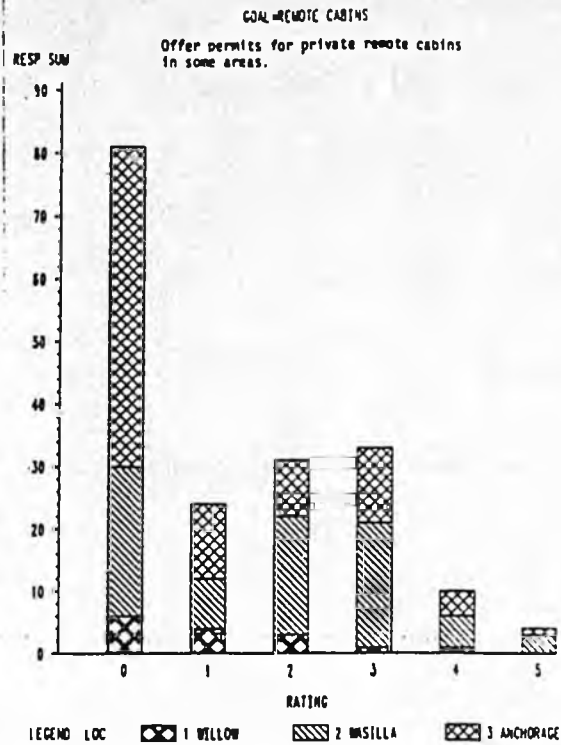
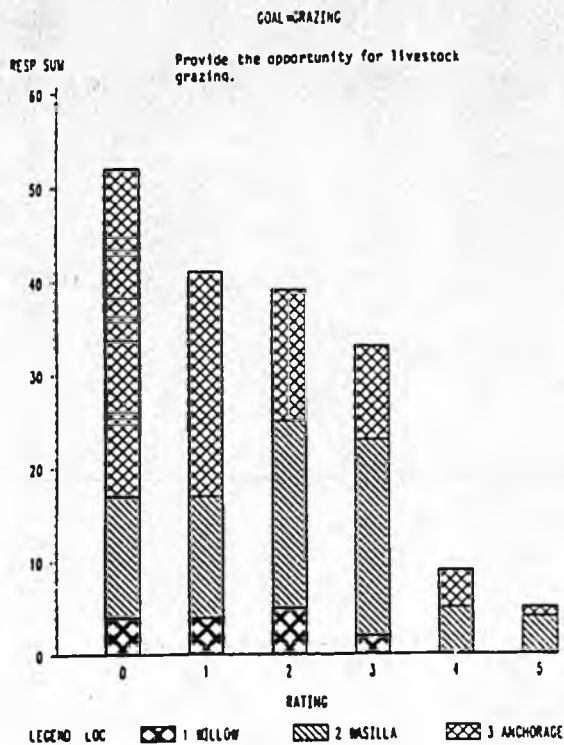
- 0 = INAPPROPRIATE GOAL
- 1 = LOWEST PRIORITY
- 2 = NOT VERY IMPORTANT
- 3 = MODERATELY IMPORTANT
- 4 = VERY IMPORTANT
- 5 = HIGHEST PRIORITY



\*Number of responses shown on the vertical axes varies with each goal.

PUBLIC RANKING OF GOALS FOR HATCHER PASS MANAGEMENT PLAN  
(Prepared by DGGS Resource Analysis Section)\*

0 = INAPPROPRIATE GOAL  
1 = LOWEST PRIORITY  
2 = NOT VERY IMPORTANT  
3 = MODERATELY IMPORTANT  
4 = VERY IMPORTANT  
5 = HIGHEST PRIORITY



\*Number of responses shown on the vertical axes varies with each goal.

A number of people added new goals or commented on the proposed goals. The downhill ski area and "Glacier Peaks" non-motorized primitive area proposals were mentioned most frequently (13 for, 1 against downhill skiing; 11 for the primitive area.) Eight people specifically mentioned expanding the northeast boundary to include the glacial peaks area. Six mentioned designating a "Five Valleys" or other non-motorized area. Six asked that an area on the south side of Government Peak be designated for a cross-country ski trail system. Seven people commented on public facilities with comments ranging from "very few campgrounds" to "let private enterprises provide them" to "be selective about what and where." Five people said any timber harvest should be for personal use only. Other goals or comments:

- Consider area's carrying capacity before adding parking (3)
- Provide public use cabins (3)
- Prohibit overhead utilities (2)
- Provide a place for dogmushing (2)
- Remove manmade debris from Little Susitna (2)
- Question what "improve" means in connection with fishing, hunting, trapping, and fish and wildlife habitat (2)
- Question grazing: okay if it doesn't conflict with moose (1); leads to "keep out" and "no trespassing" signs (1)
- Provide areas for disabled to share off-road environment (1)
- State should lease Independence Mine buildings to private enterprise for hotels, shops, restaurants (1)
- Provide opportunities for natural history education/interpretation (1)
- Pave the entire Hatcher Pass Road (1)
- Keep access for kayaking, Willow and Little Susitna (1)
- Develop a trail from Park -Edgerton along base of Bald Ridge to Willow Creek Road (1)

C. MANAGEMENT ALTERNATIVES

1. Hatcher Pass Road

Most people preferred some level of improved gravel road and provision for additional winter parking lots. Fifteen alternatives were suggested by the public, ranging from paving the entire road to just getting the bumps out. More pullouts and additional winter parking were also recommended.

2. Public Safety

The majority of respondents favored no shooting within 1/4 mile of the road (108 responses) and 43 people wrote their own alternative. Of those who wrote in their own alternative, 17 suggested more restrictions on shooting (except for hunting) and 6 suggested providing a designated shooting area. An avalanche control program for the road corridor and keeping snowmachiners, skiers, and other recreationalists out of the road were also mentioned.

3. Mining

The majority supported the use of mineral leasehold location orders, guidelines governing how access and development will take place, and keeping the area open to mineral entry. Closures to new mineral entry were supported in:

- \*The Little Susitna River
- \*Government Peak
- \*Independence Bowl
- \*Other small, intensively used recreation sites

In addition, there were at least 30 responses favoring more closures to new mineral entry than were proposed in the alternatives. Eight objections to the residential use of claims and the posting of "keep out" signs along the Little Susitna River were also expressed.

4. Recreation

Public Facilities

The majority favored moderate to high levels of new parking, development of between one and five picnic sites and a moderate to high level of new trail and sign development. The public was split in its support of campgrounds, public use cabins, and winter trail maintenance. Comments received from the public reflect a concern for the environmental and visual impacts of any of the proposed developments. Tent-only campsites were suggested by 6 people as a write-in alternative.

## Commercial or Private Sector Facilities

Most favored a moderate level of trail ride development, 1 or more gold panning sites and a moderate level of powderbob sled area development. Approximately 1/3 said yes to an alpine ski area and associated facilities, 1/3 favored moderate level ski area development, 1/3 were opposed to an alpine ski area. Two-thirds were opposed to a winter recreation village, although 1/2 of this group did favor day use facilities. A lodge on public land on the westside was not favored, although over 1/3 did favor a day use, warm-up facility. Moderate to high levels of track skiing were preferred. Fly-in skiing was split almost evenly between low, moderate and high levels.

## Motorized/Non-motorized Use

The majority favored Option I, which proposed the largest amount of non-motorized areas. Comments included: enforce existing laws to keep snowmachines and ATV's off the road, protect the right of access for non-recreational use, provide a snowmachine trail parallel to the road and designate the Five Valleys area for non-motorized use.

## Primitive Area

The majority support the establishment of a primitive area and a boundary extension to the northeast.

### 5. Grazing

The majority favored maintaining the existing 2 leases and not opening up any new land to grazing. An exception to this was the general approval of a horse grazing permit in association with a horse trail ride operation. Many wrote in "no grazing" and "no fencing" alternatives.

### 6. Fish and Wildlife

The majority (125 to 33) favored a special legislative or administrative designation for wildlife habitat protection in the Willow Mountain Area and maintaining existing levels of hunting and trapping activities, except in intensely used recreation areas. The public felt that hunting and fishing access should remain as it is, erosion should be controlled and more parking provided. Additional pull-outs for wildlife viewing were favored but no new management to enhance viewing opportunities was supported. Support was split between protection and enhancement of fish and wildlife habitat.

Write-in alternatives included losing all areas to hunting and trapping, allowing subsistence hunting only, reducing current levels of hunting and trapping and enforcing current regulations.




7. Forestry

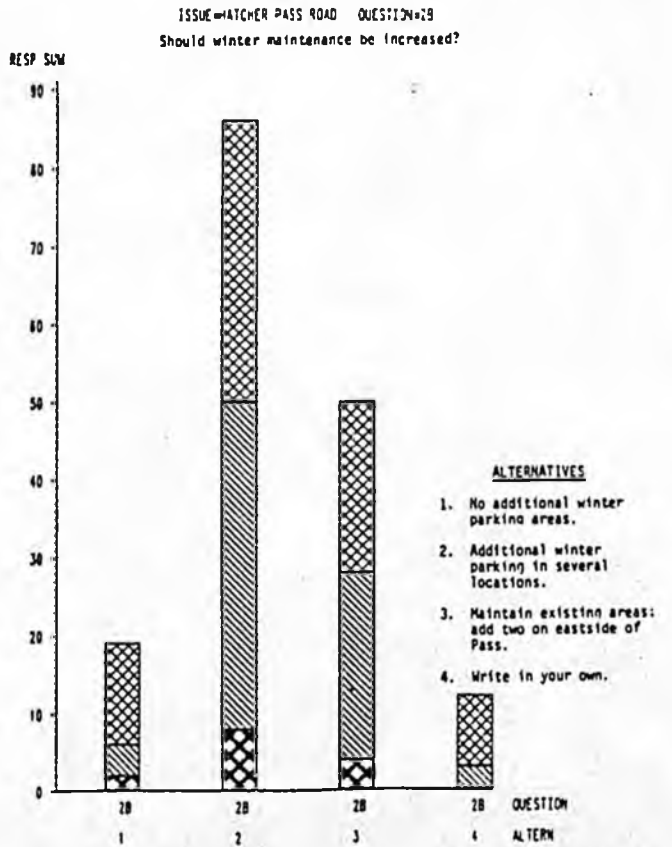
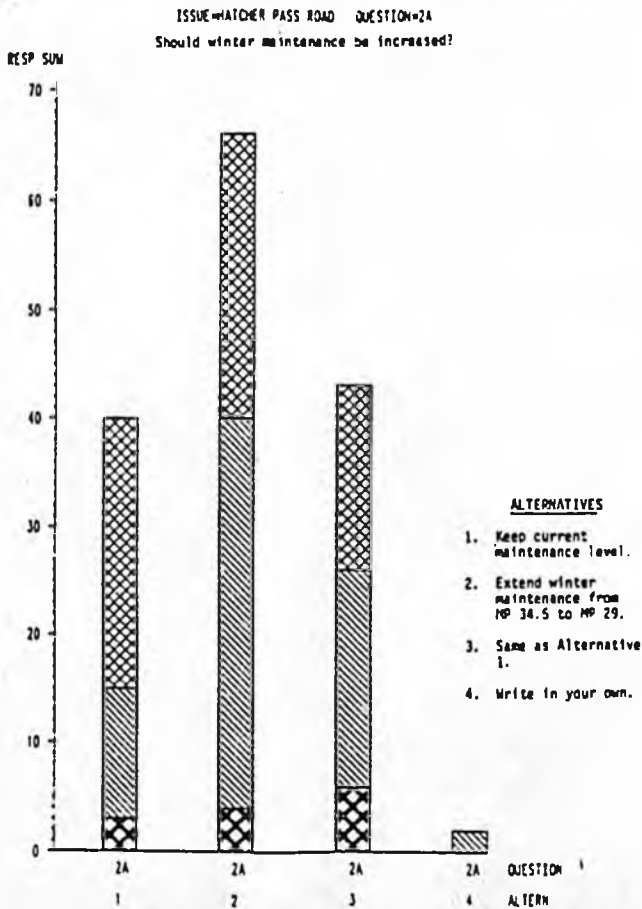
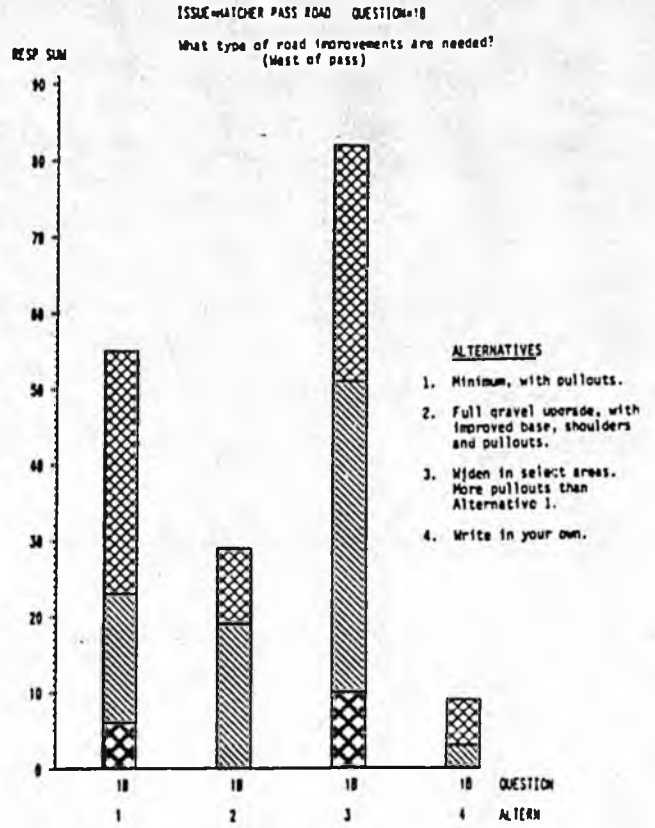
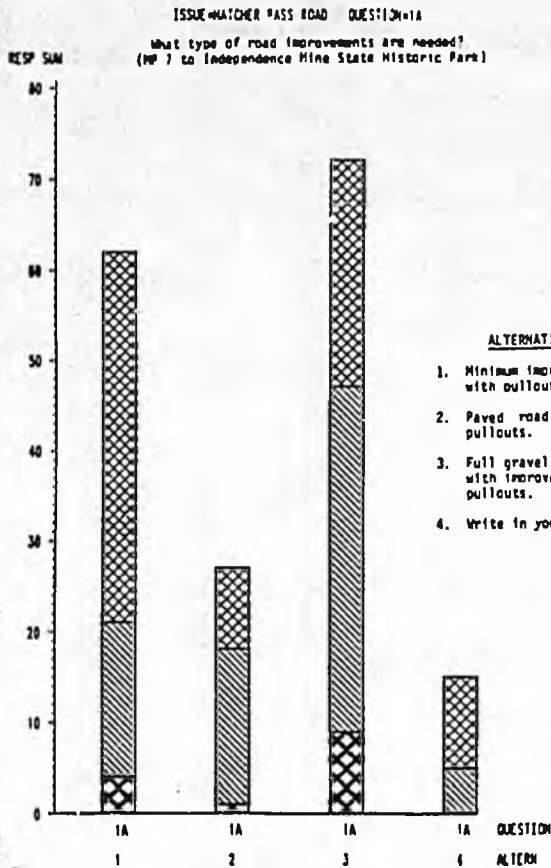
The minimum level of timber management was the clear choice: no forestry operations except selective cutting for disease control on limited acreage.

8. Settlement

A clear majority was opposed to settlement, although there was some support expressed for sale or lease as part of a winter sports village. Very little support was expressed for issuing remote cabin permits.

MANAGEMENT ALTERNATIVES FOR HATCHER PASS MANAGEMENT PLAN, BY ISSUE AND LOCATION  
(Prepared by DGGS, Resource Analysis Section)\*

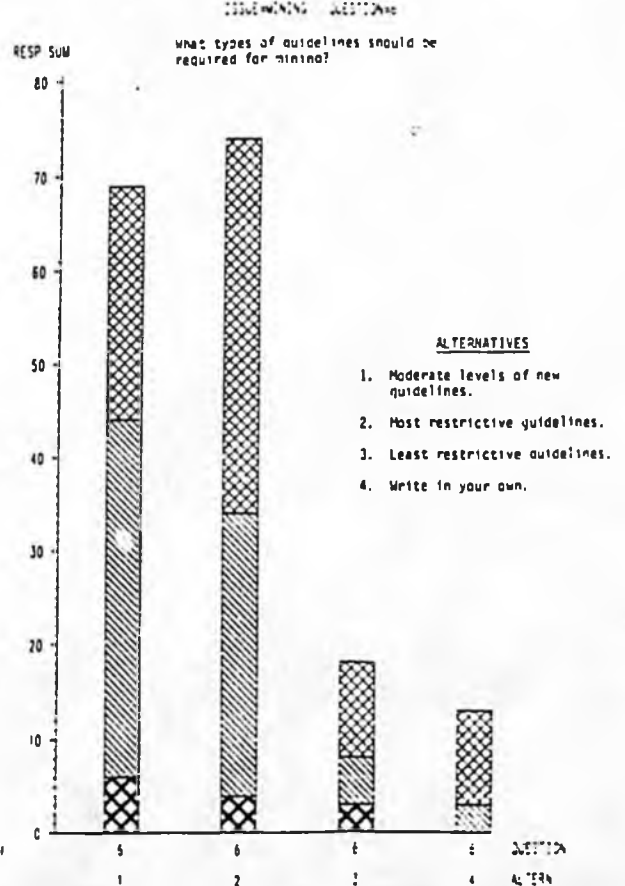
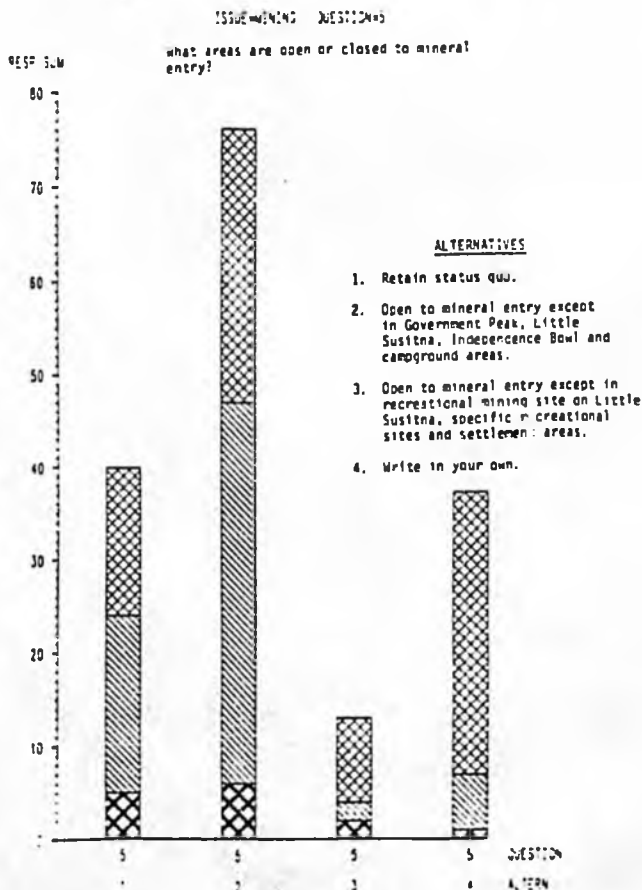
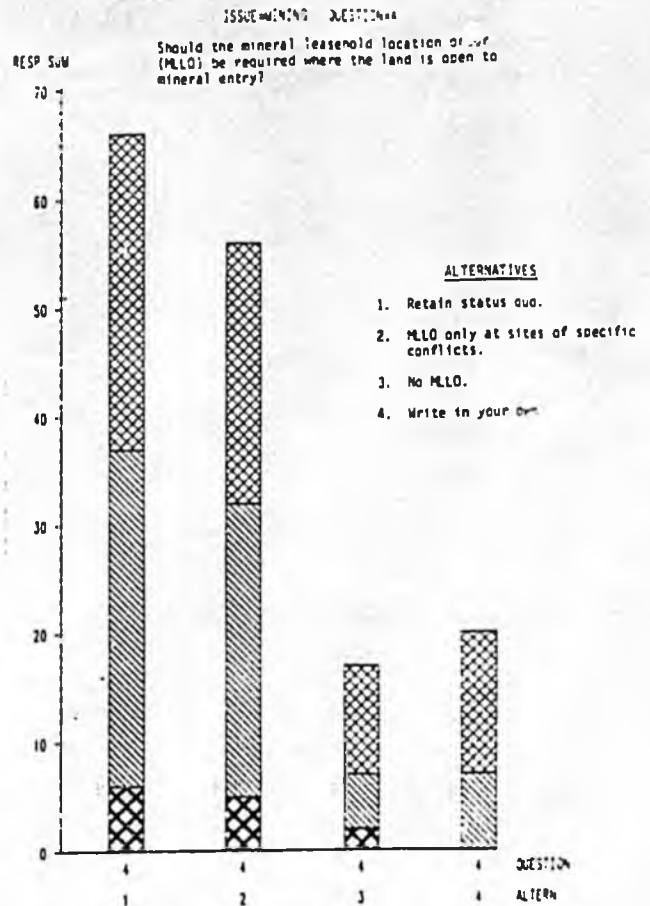
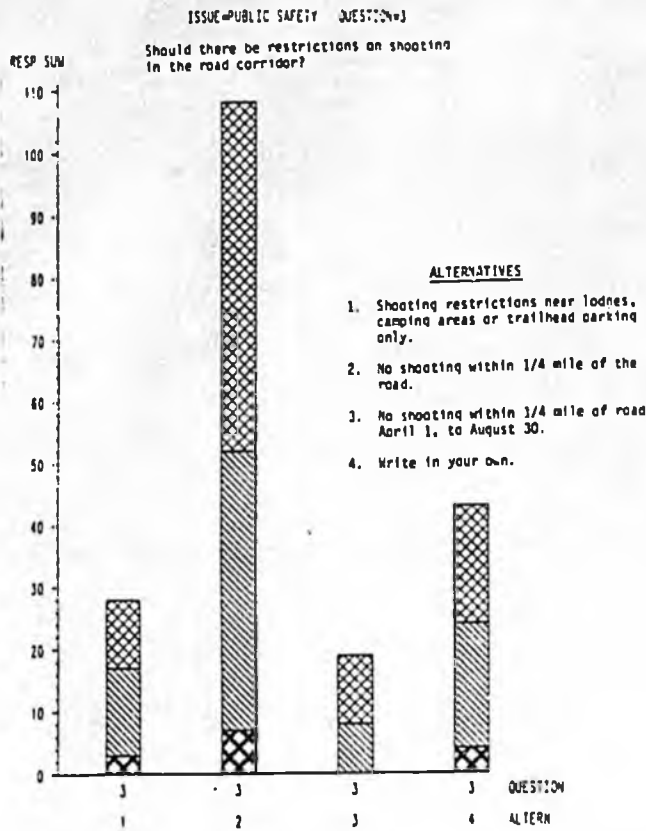
LEGEND: LOC  1 WILLOW  2 BASILLA  3 ANCHORAGE



\*Number of responses shown on the vertical axes varies with each issue.

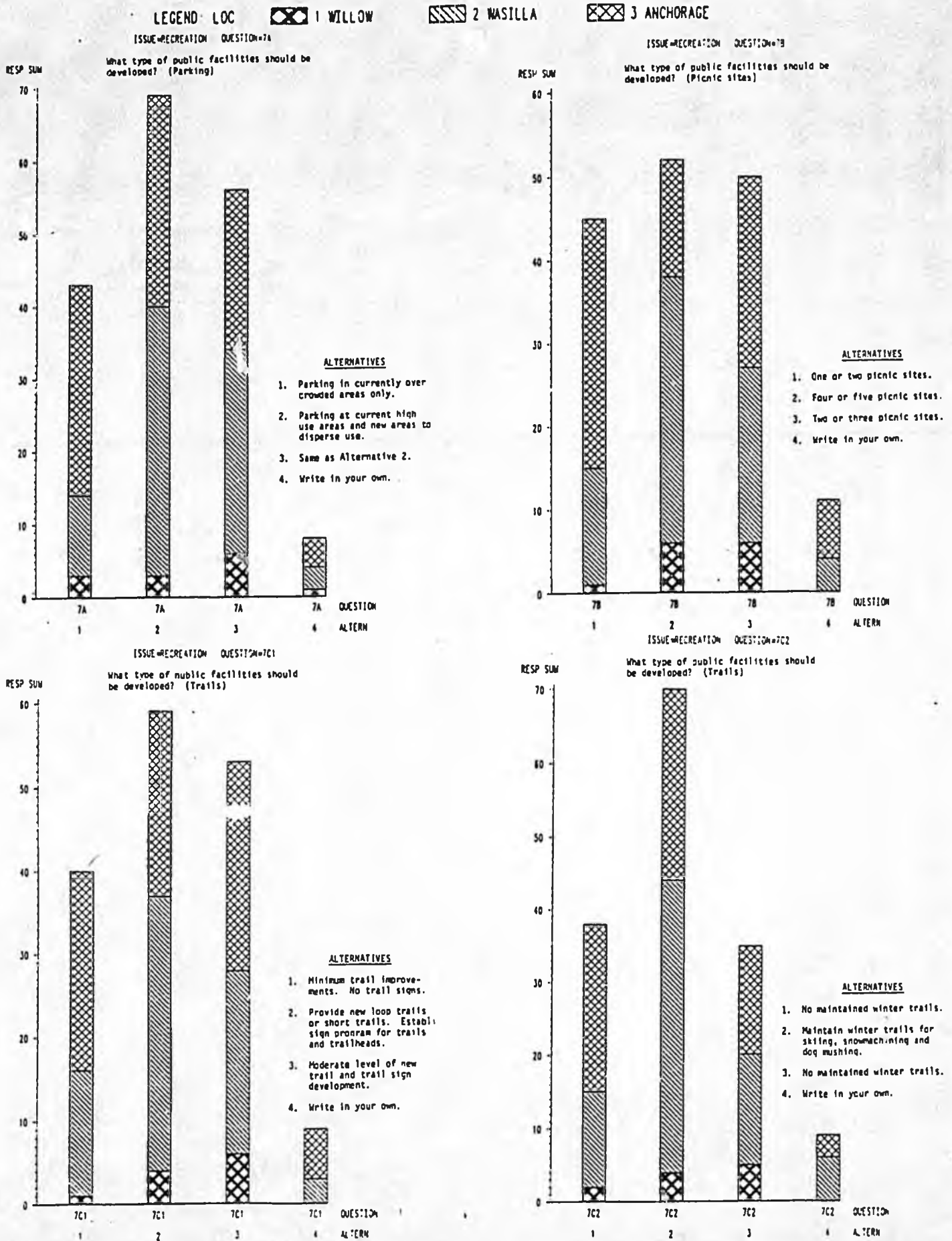
MANAGEMENT ALTERNATIVES FOR HATCHER PASS MANAGEMENT PLAN, BY ISSUE AND LOCATION  
(Prepared by DGGS, Resource Analysis Section)\*

LEGEND LOC    1 WILLOW    2 WASILLA    3 ANCHORAGE



\*Number of responses shown on the vertical axes varies with each issue.

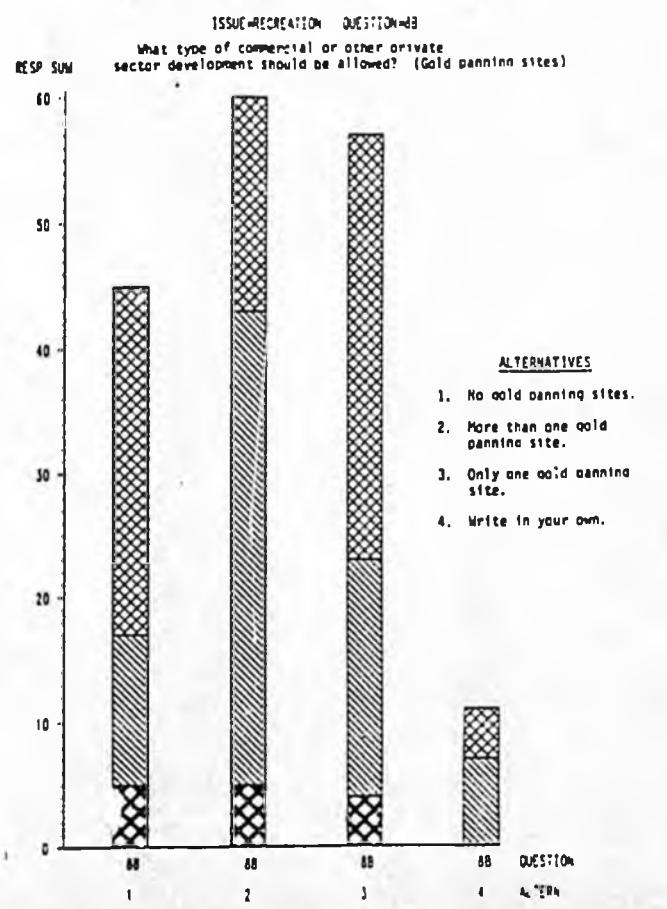
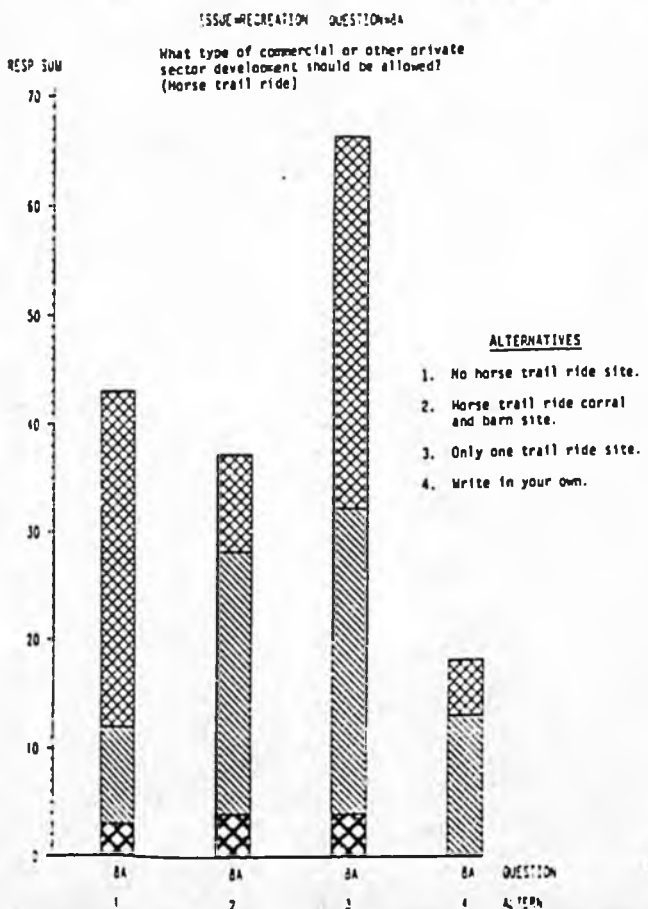
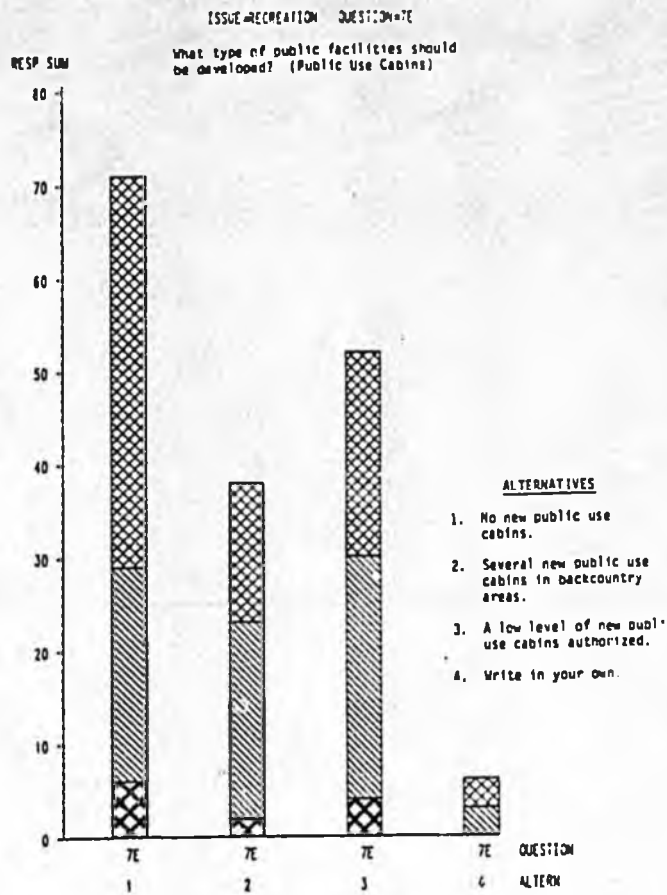
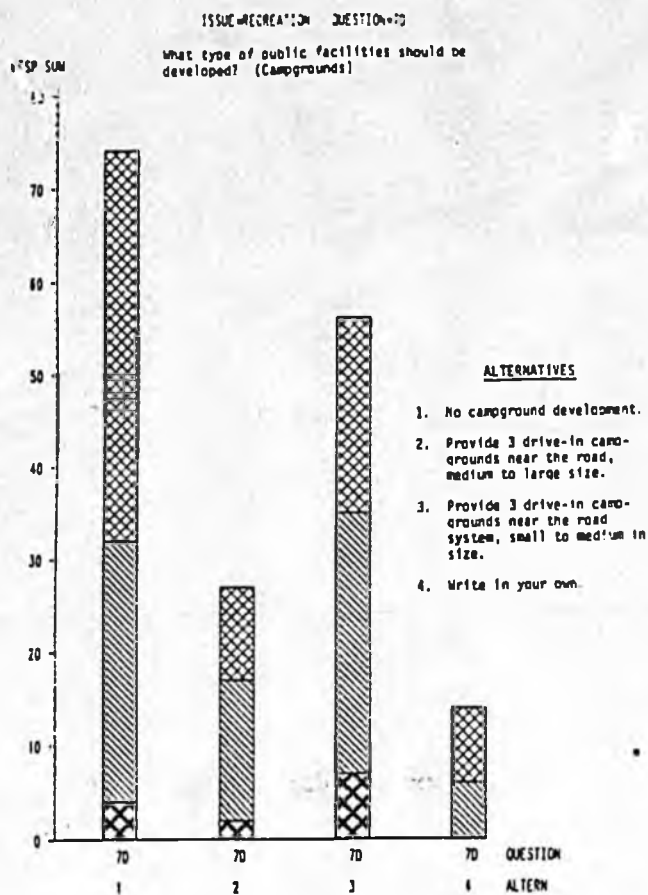
MANAGEMENT ALTERNATIVES FOR HATCHER PASS MANAGEMENT PLAN, BY ISSUE AND LOCATION  
(Prepared by DGGS, Resource Analysis Section)\*



\*Number of responses shown on the vertical axes varies with each issue.

MANAGEMENT ALTERNATIVES FOR HATCHER PASS MANAGEMENT PLAN, BY ISSUE AND LOCATION  
(Prepared by DGGS, Resource Analysis Section)\*

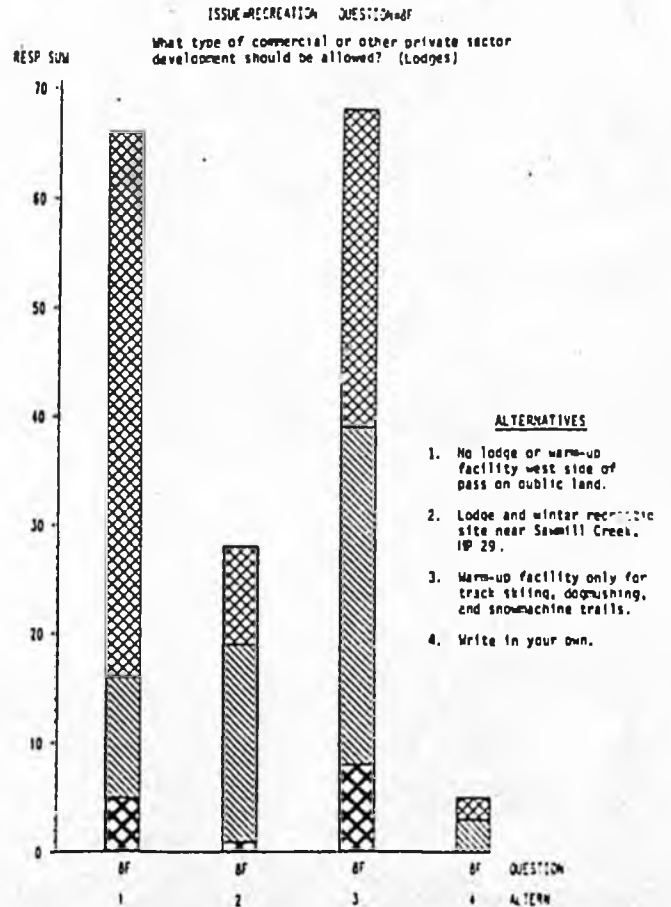
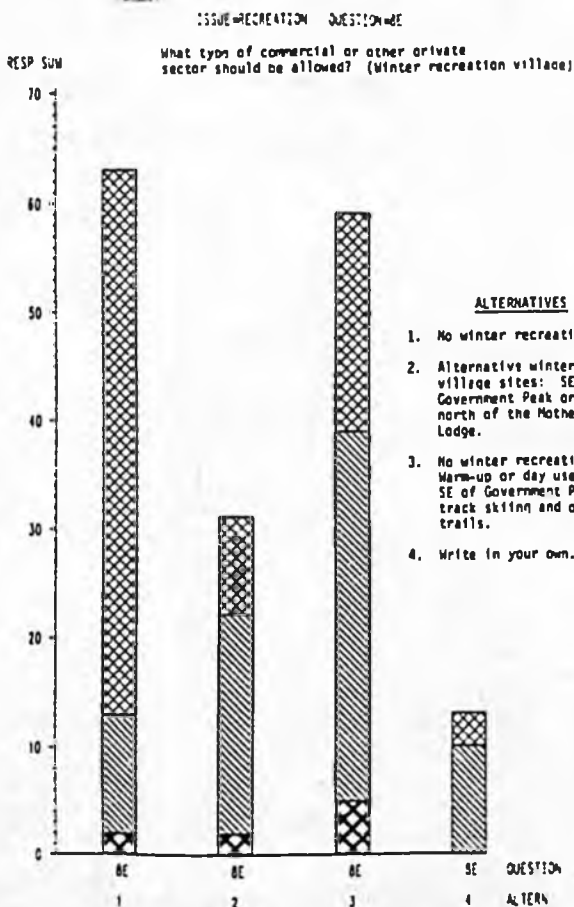
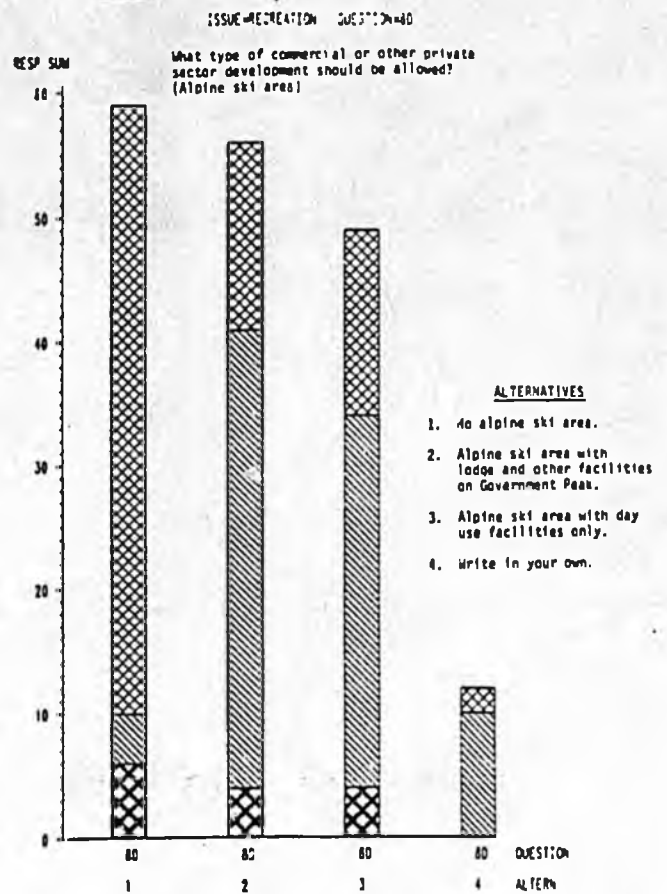
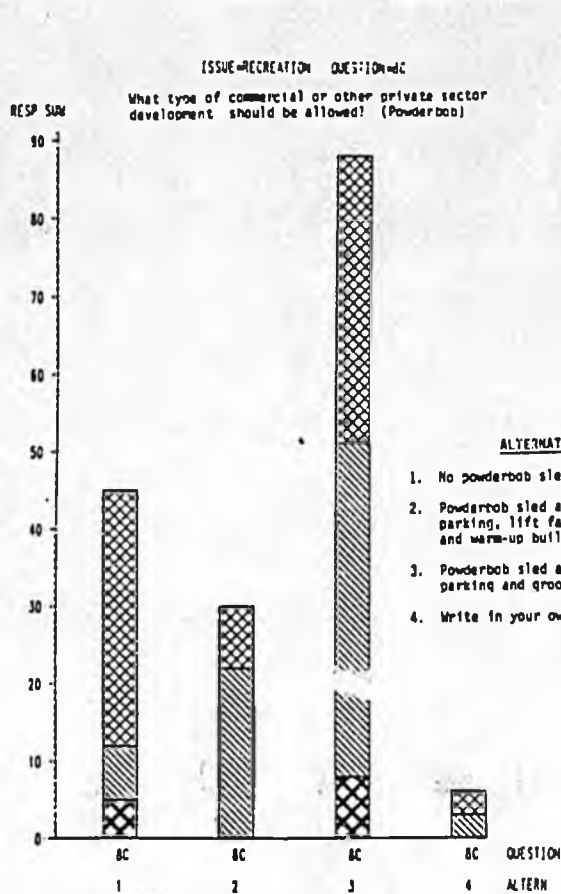
LEGEND LOC 1 WILLOW 2 MASILLA 3 ANCHORAGE



\*Number of responses shown on the vertical axes varies with each issue.

MANAGEMENT ALTERNATIVES FOR HATCHER PASS MANAGEMENT PLAN, BY ISSUE AND LOCATION  
(Prepared by DGGS, Resource Analysis Section)\*

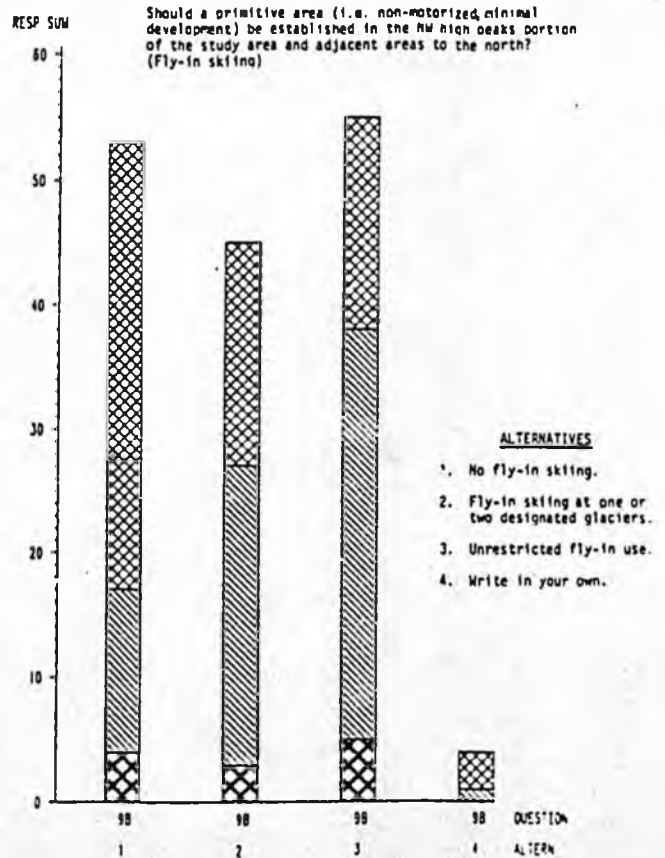
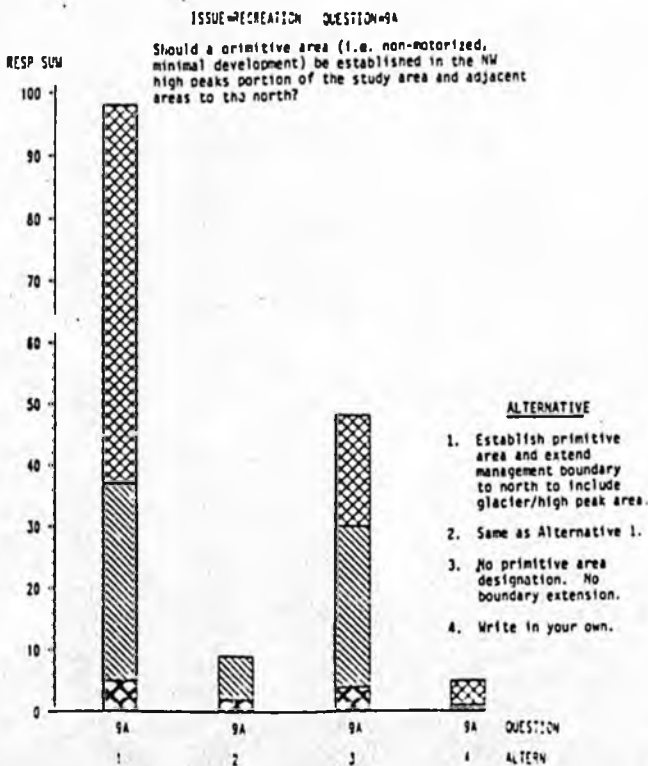
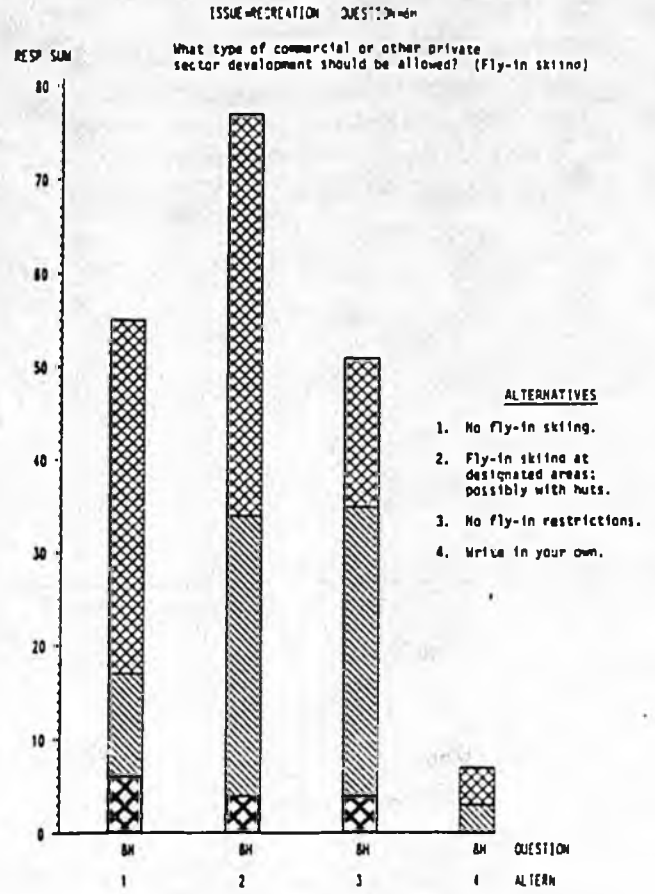
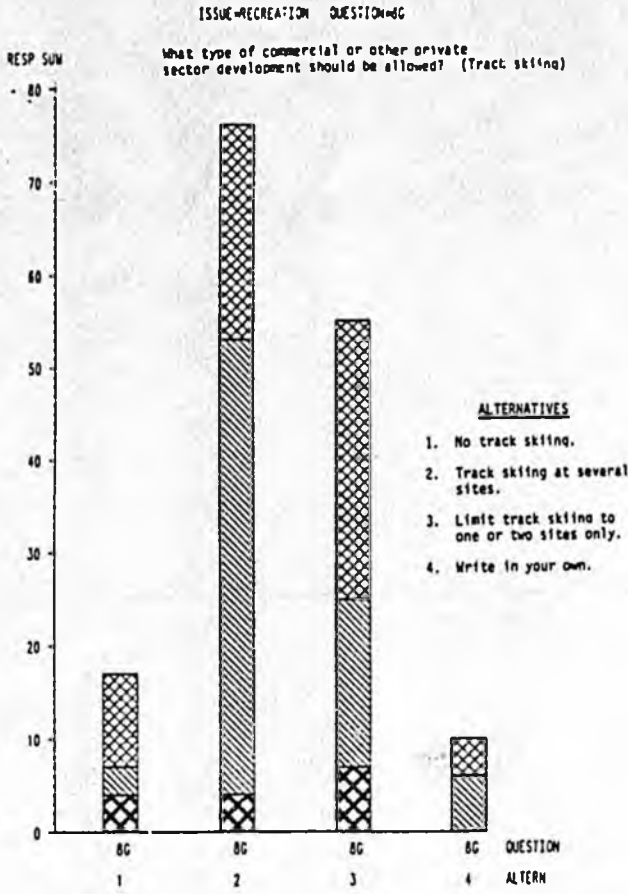
LEGEND: LOC  1 WILLOW  2 WASILLA  3 ANCHORAGE



\*Number of responses shown on the vertical axes varies with each issue.

MANAGEMENT ALTERNATIVES FOR HATCHER PASS MANAGEMENT PLAN, BY ISSUE AND LOCATION  
(Prepared by DGGS, Resource Analysis Section)\*

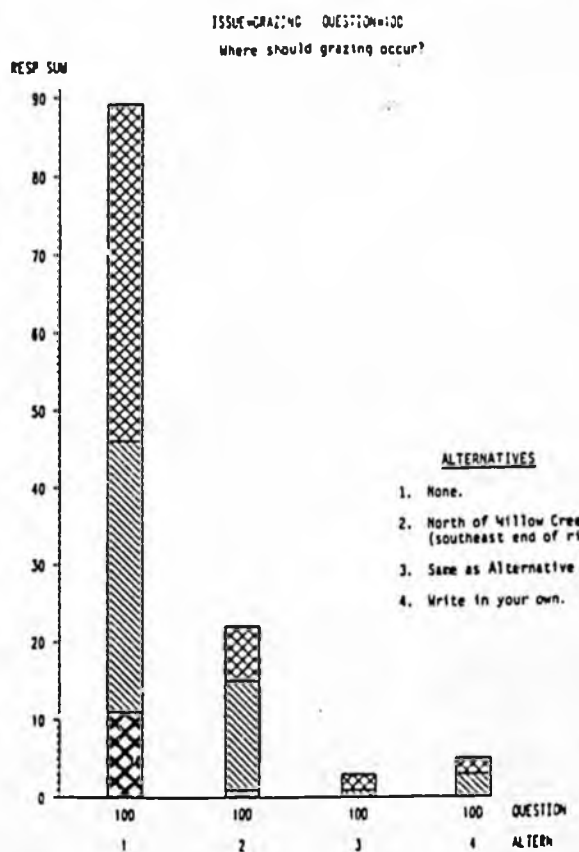
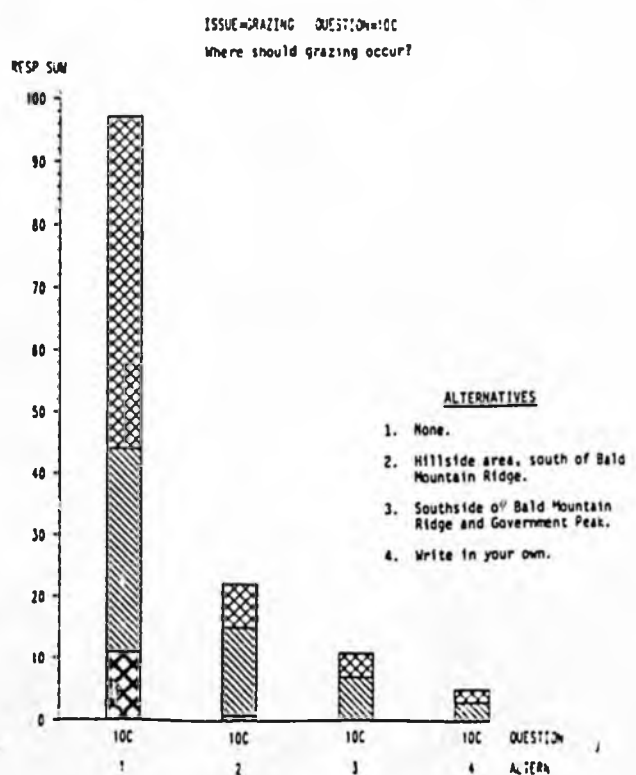
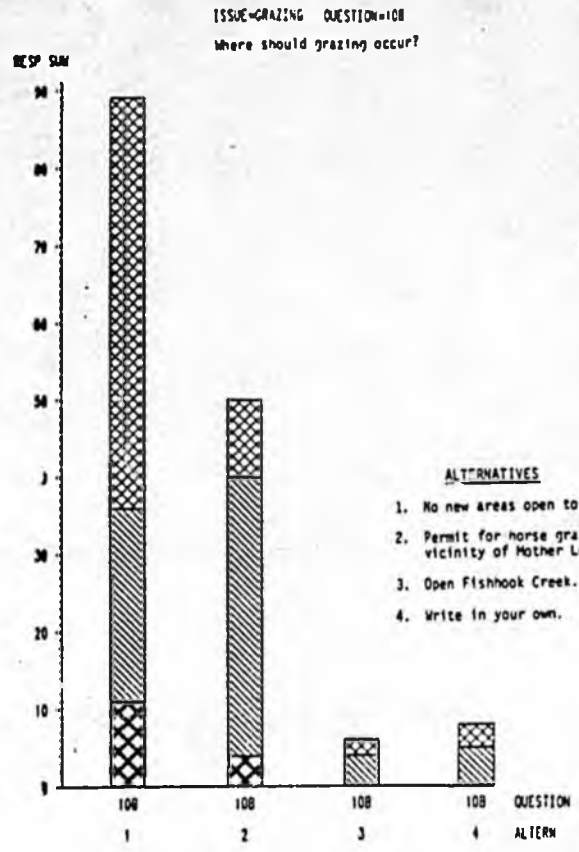
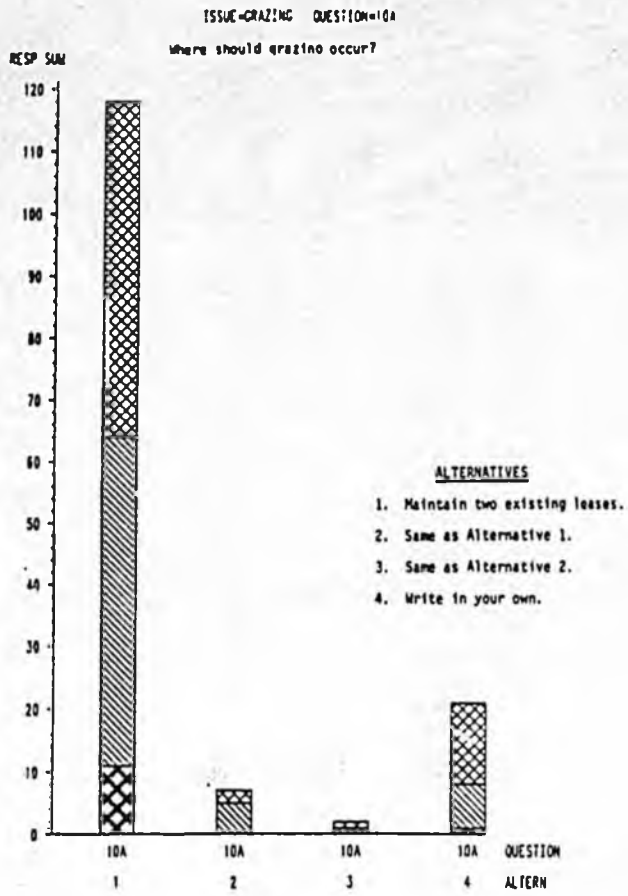
LEGEND LOC  1 WILLOW  2 WASILLA  3 ANCHORAGE



\*Number of responses shown on the vertical axes varies with each issue.

MANAGEMENT ALTERNATIVES FOR HATCHER PASS MANAGEMENT PLAN, BY ISSUE AND LOCATION  
(Prepared by DGGS, Resource Analysis Section)\*

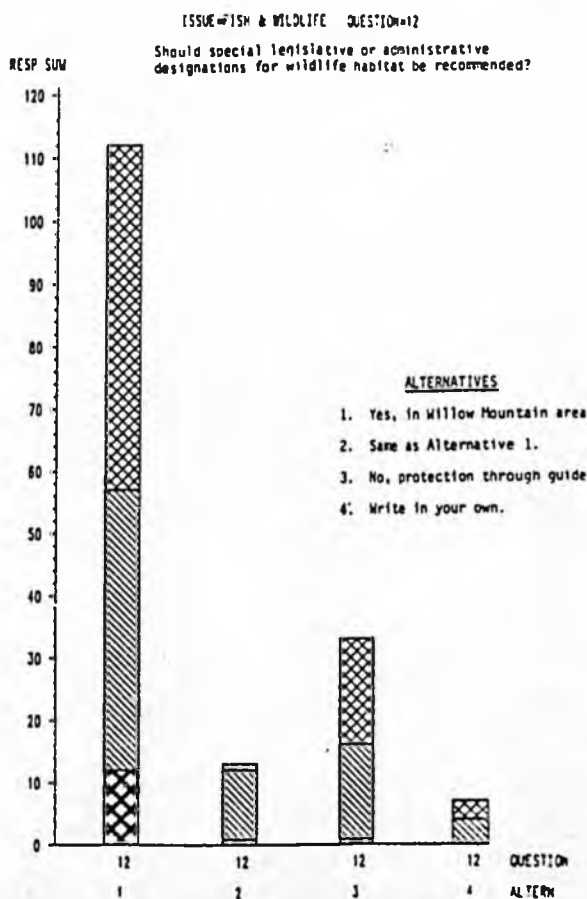
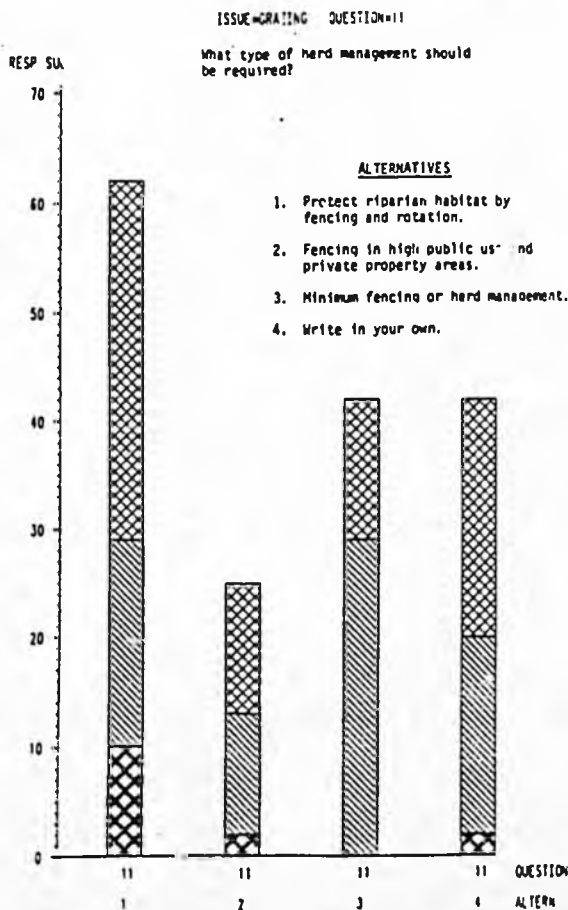
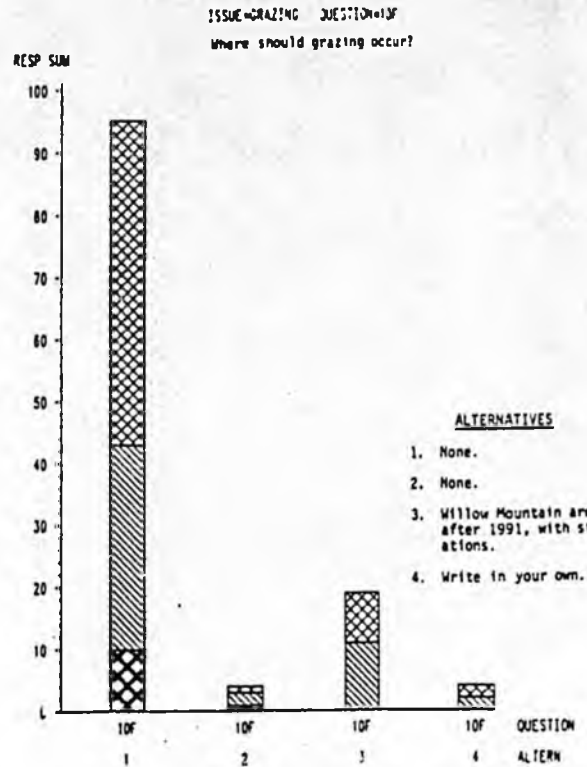
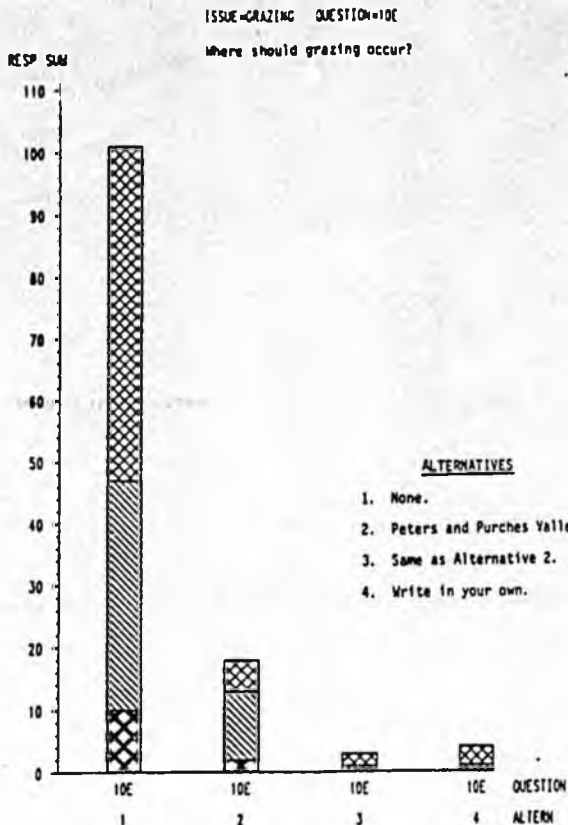
LEGEND: LOC 1 WILLOW 2 MASILLA 3 ANCHORAGE



\*Number of responses shown on the vertical axes varies with each issue.

MANAGEMENT ALTERNATIVES FOR HATCHER PASS MANAGEMENT PLAN, BY ISSUE AND LOCATION  
(Prepared by DGGS, Resource Analysis Section)\*

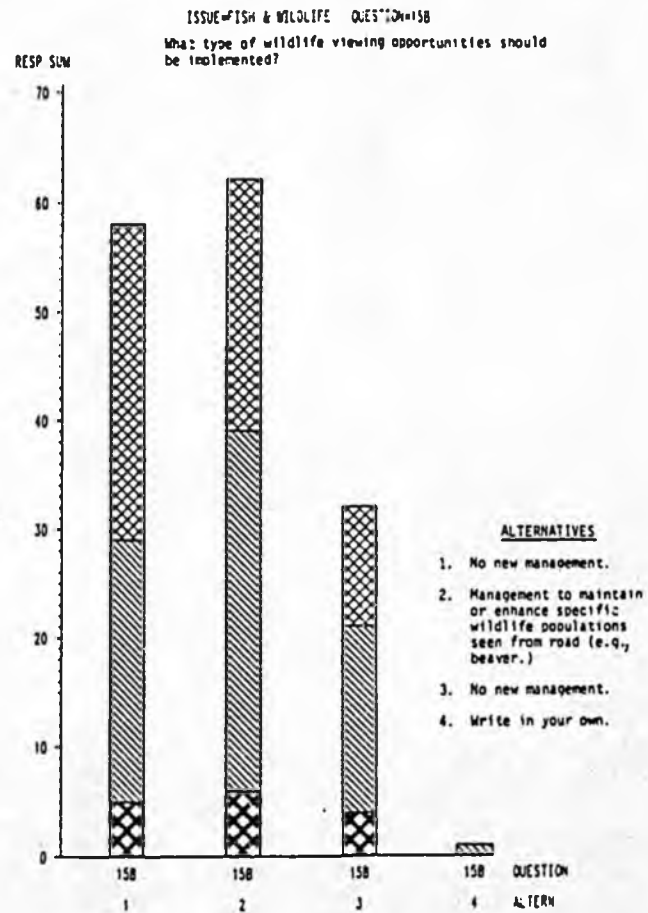
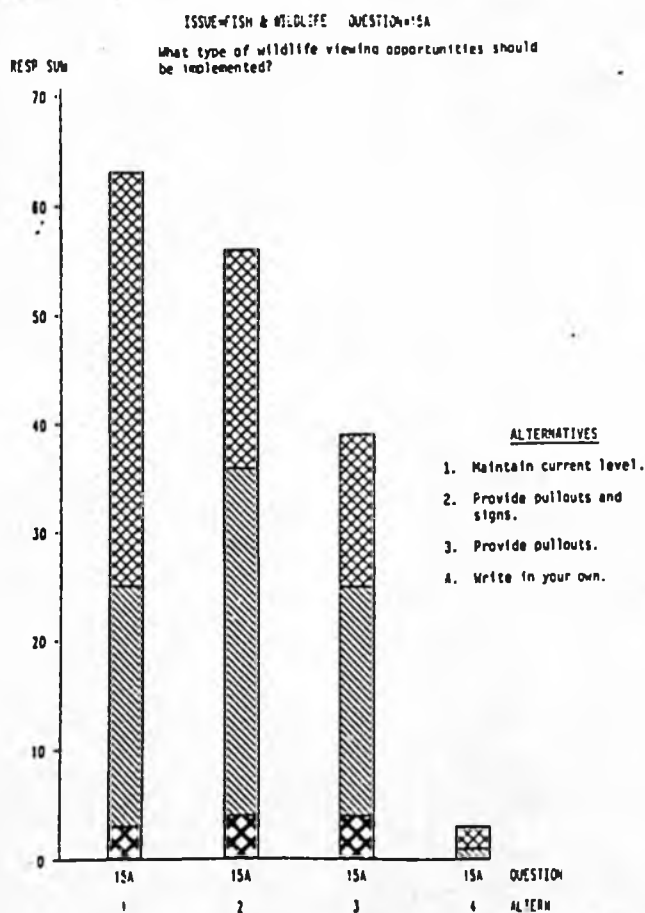
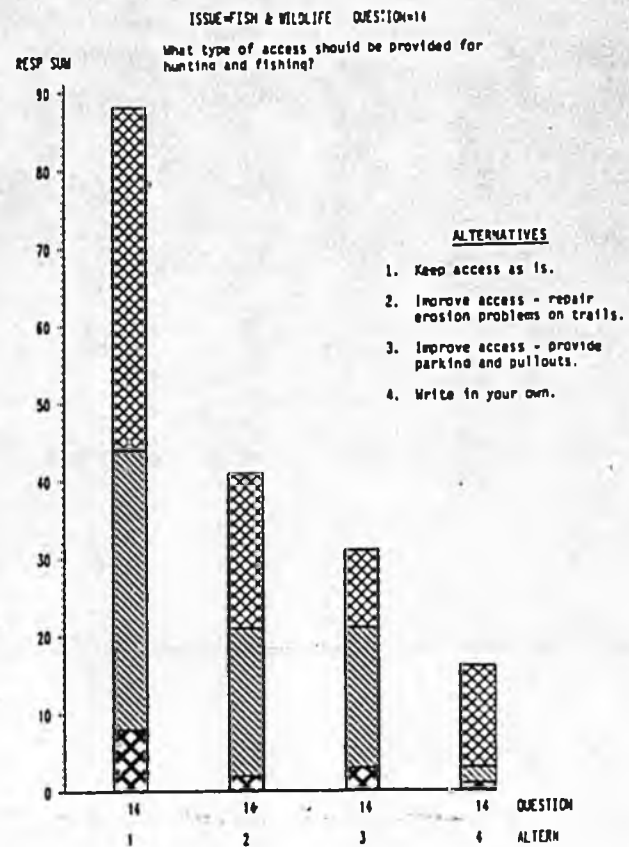
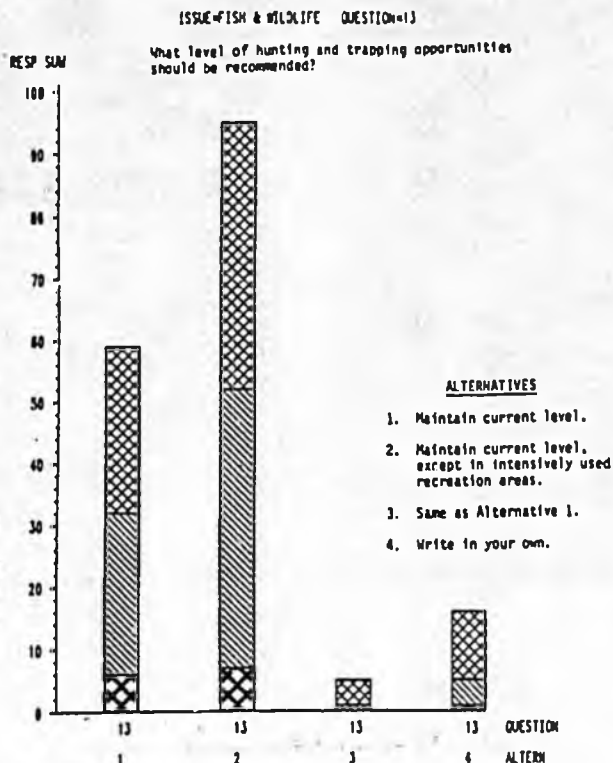
LEGEND LOC 1 WILLOW 2 WASILLA 3 ALHORAGE



\*Number of responses shown on the vertical axes varies with each issue.

MANAGEMENT ALTERNATIVES FOR HATCHER PASS MANAGEMENT PLAN, BY ISSUE AND LOCATION  
(Prepared by DGGS, Resource Analysis Section)\*

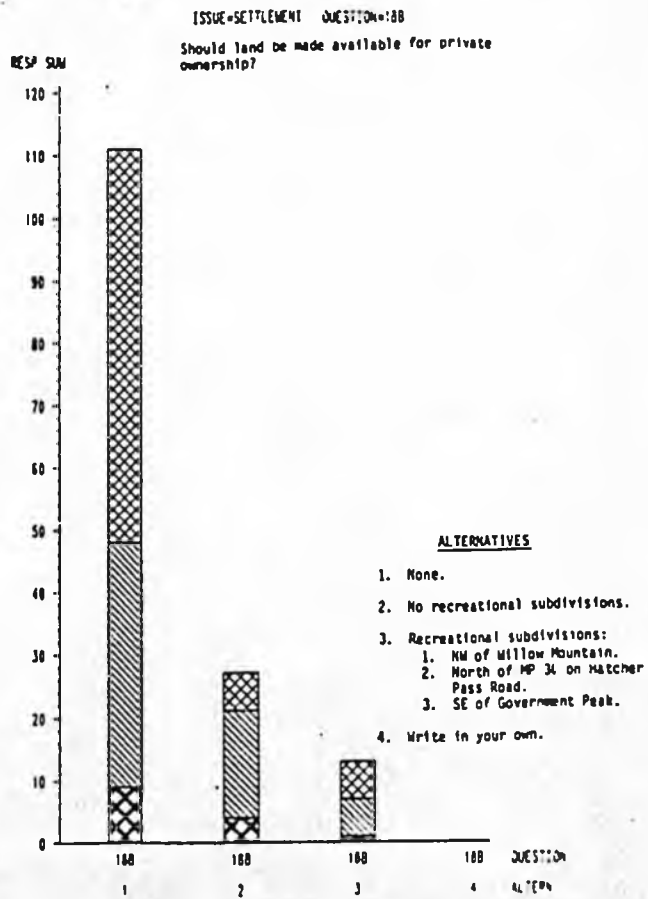
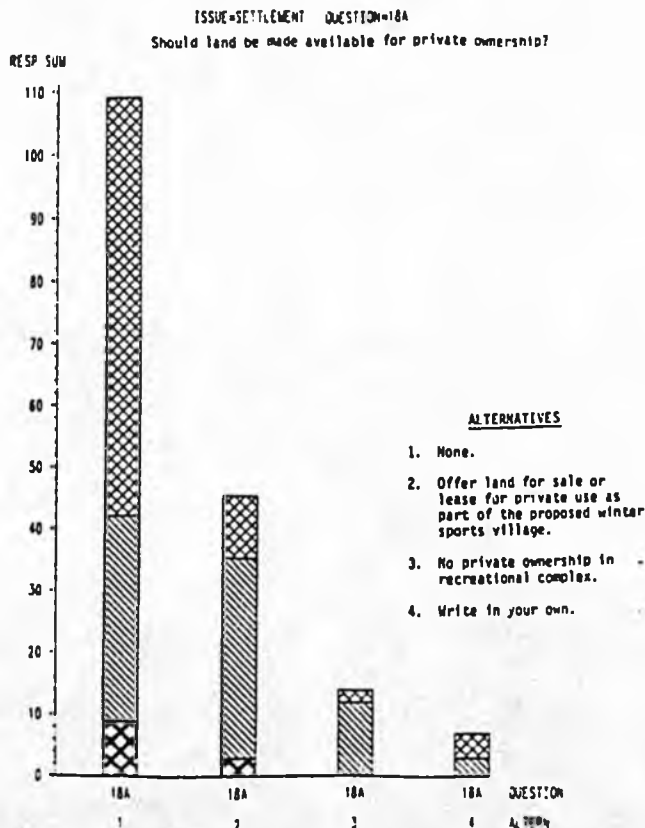
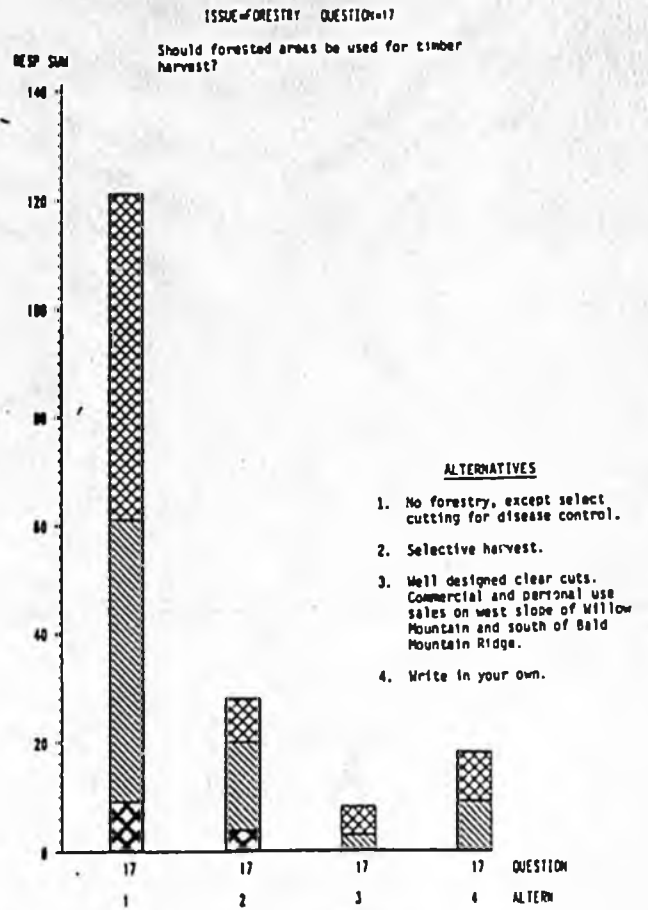
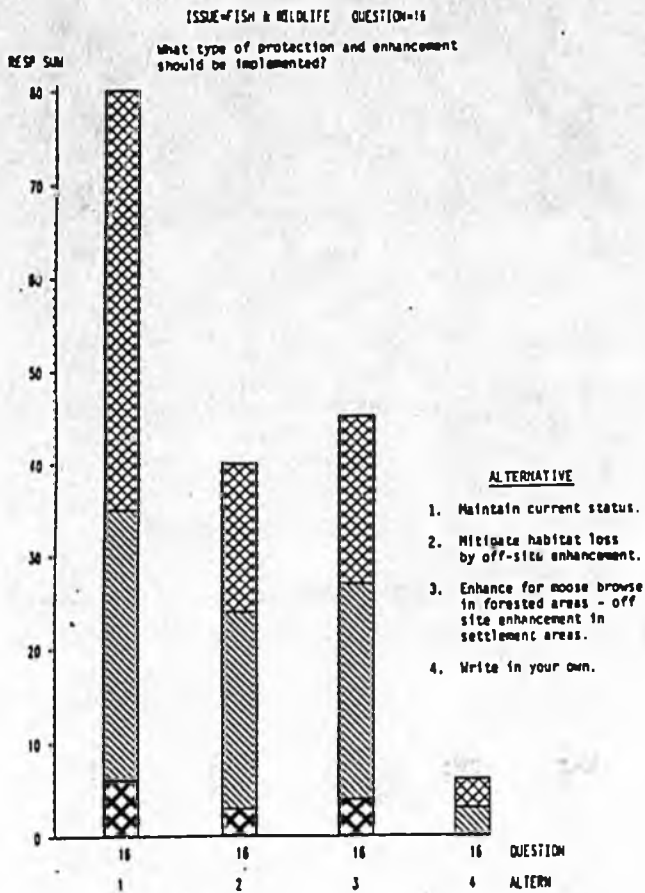
LEGEND LOC  1 WILLOW  2 WASILLA  3 ANCHORAGE



\*Number of responses shown on the vertical axes varies with each issue.

MANAGEMENT ALTERNATIVES FOR HATCHER PASS MANAGEMENT PLAN, BY ISSUE AND LOCATION  
(Prepared by DGGS, Resource Analysis Section)\*

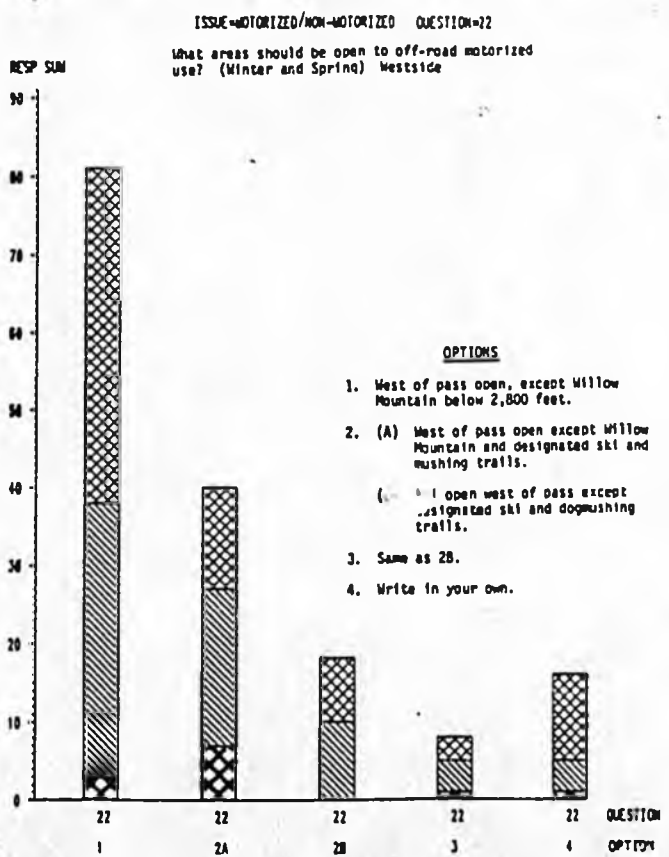
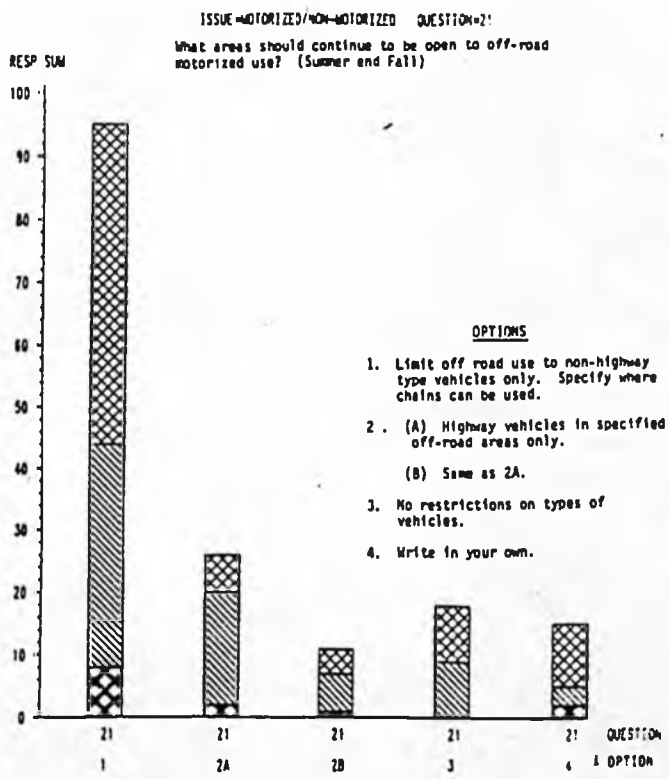
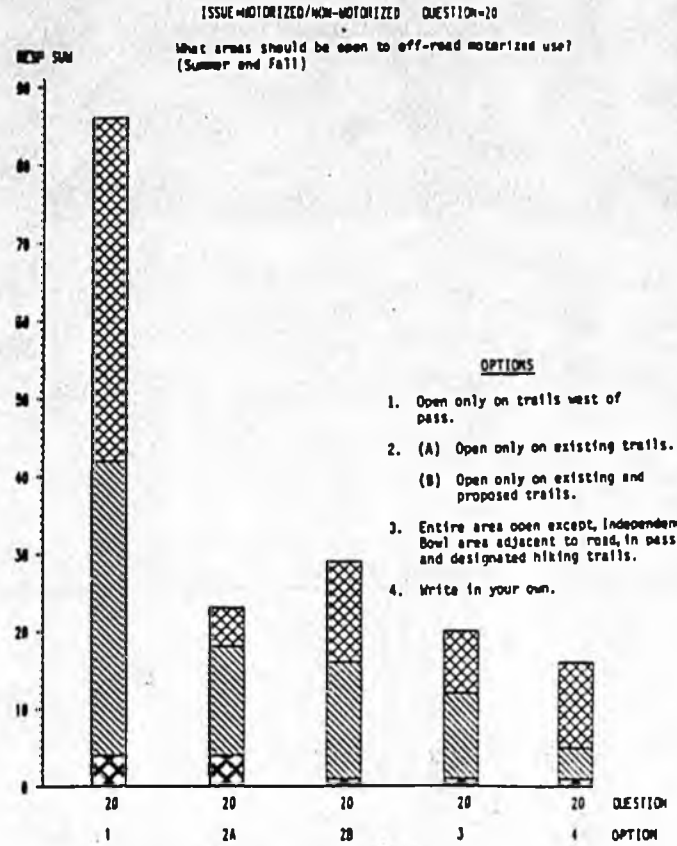
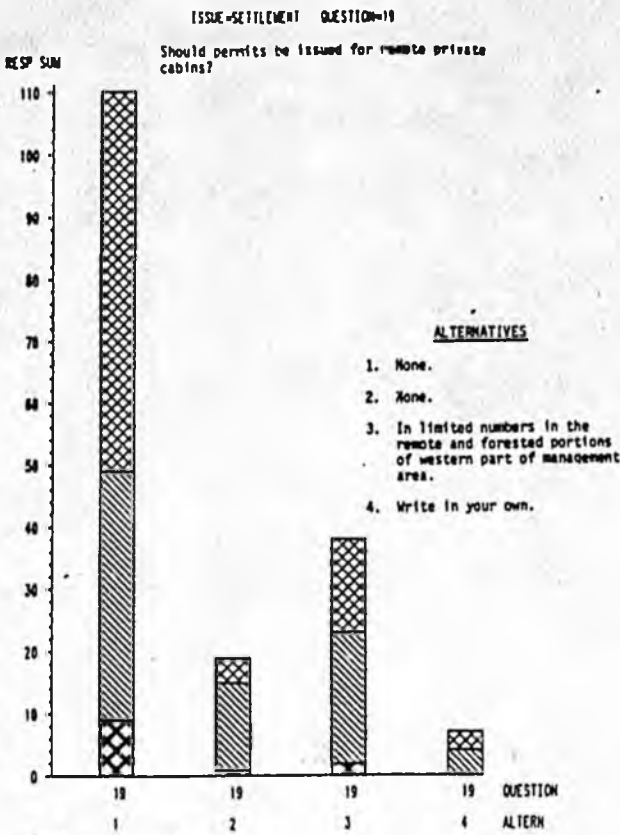
LEGEND: LOC  1 WILLOW  2 MASILLA  3 ANCHORAGE



\*Number of responses shown on the vertical axes varies with each issue.

MANAGEMENT ALTERNATIVES FOR HATCHER PASS MANAGEMENT PLAN, BY ISSUE AND LOCATION  
(Prepared by DGGS, Resource Analysis Section)\*

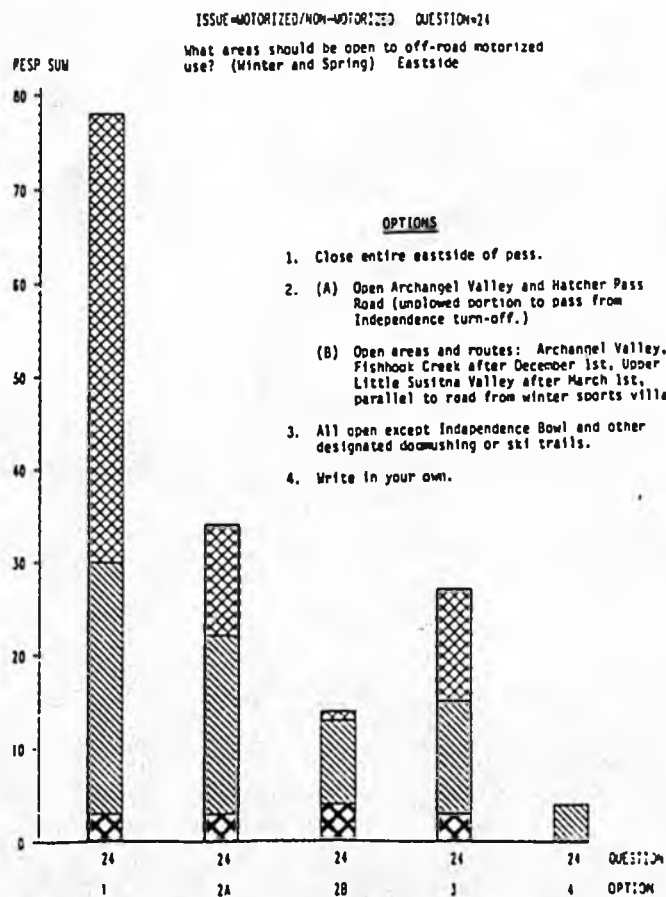
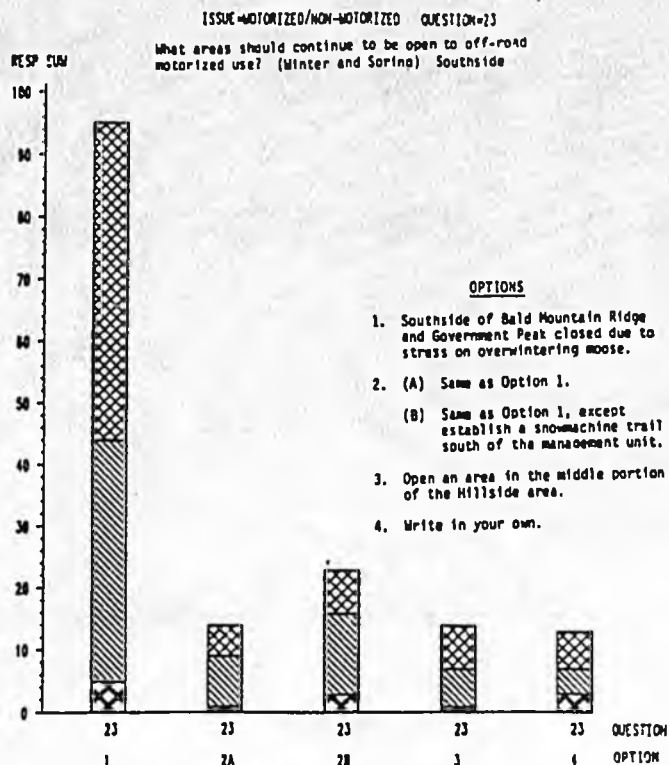
LEGEND: LOC  1 WILLOW  2 BASILLA  3 ANCHORAGE



\*Number of responses shown on the vertical axes varies with each issue.

MANAGEMENT ALTERNATIVES FOR HATCHER PASS MANAGEMENT PLAN, BY ISSUE AND LOCATION\*  
 (Prepared by DGGS, Resource Analysis Section)\*

LEGEND LCC  1 WILLOW  2 WASILLA  3 ANCHORAGE



\*Number of responses shown on the vertical axes varies with each issue.

---

### III. ORAL COMMENTS

---

Built into the public meeting agenda was time for the group to discuss as a whole, their concerns for the management area. The following is a summary of comments and recommendations expressed by the public during the Willow, Wasilla and Anchorage public meetings.

#### Willow

A few citizens expressed the desire to maintain the Willow side of Hatcher Pass, from Government Peak west and north to the Kashwitna drainage, as a winter habitat area, providing for the improvement, enhancement and protection of this high value moose habitat. They feel that the economic impact of the hunting industry in the valley is significant and wish to maintain the area as it is, with no tourist development. The question of multiple use was addressed and it was generally agreed that some degree of multiple use would be compatible with a habitat designation: the area should not be closed to other public uses. A few citizens voiced opposition to a State Park designation, although none has been proposed.

Those in attendance said they would like only minor improvements in the road and that these improvements should be phased so they can assess the effects of improved access. Concern with RV's ripping up the road, making access difficult and hazardous for residents, was also voiced. No land disposals or sales were supported.

#### Wasilla

Recreational and access issues were predominant. There was support for set ski track development in the southeast corner of Government Peak for use by schools as a training area, as well as by others, as an alternative to the sometimes treacherous road conditions up to the Pass. The alpine ski proposal also received support as an alternative to Alyeska, especially from parents concerned with bus safety on long school trips. An avalanche safety program was also favored. The need for well-engineered, marked snowmachine trails, especially over the Pass, was expressed by one citizen who also voiced concern over noise levels in high snowmachine use areas.

The proposed primitive area generated much discussion and debate. While there was one strong spokesman for a primitive area to balance development and motorized uses, the others supported more access to the area, not less.

A kayaker stated his concern for the safety of kayakers on the Little Susitna River, jeopardized by low lying cables placed across the river by mines. Opposition to the posting of "no trespassing" signs and miners living on their claims along the river and road corridors was also expressed.

An alternative to the name "Grizzly Overlook Ridge" was proposed by a long time resident of the area: "Shorty Holland Ridge", after an early prospector in that area.

## Anchorage

The discussion in Anchorage centered around the proposed primitive area and the proposed ski development.

Advocates of a primitive area designation contend that it is the only glacial area that one can walk in and out of easily in one day. Fly-in skiing is not acceptable to them because of the noise and intrusion, and they believe there are better fly-in opportunities outside the management area. An aviation history enthusiast wants the area closed to motorized access to prevent the vandalization of a B29 wrecked within the proposed primitive area. Some said that multiple use does not mean every use in every area; uses such as recreational mining, hunting, and trapping could be compatible in a primitive area.

Opponents of a primitive designation regard it as an elitist proposal which closes the area to all but the most fit. They contend that avalanche hazard is high along the foot route into the glacier, and on many days the safest route in and out is by air, not by foot. The need for fly-in access for handicapped skiers was also mentioned. Millions of acres of federal land are already closed to motorized entry and more, not less, access is what should be provided. A snowmachiner resented the proposed motorized closures; he believes the State doesn't spend a dime on facilities for snowmachines, yet, through licensing and registration fees, snowmachines generate more revenues for the state than skiers do. He supports groomed trails, parking facilities and day use facilities to accommodate snowmachiners in Hatcher Pass.

Proponents of an alpine ski development on Government Peak want a family-oriented, recreational facility in the Matanuska-Susitna Valleys. Within the group that supports a ski development there is no agreement as to how it should be funded and to what degree it should be developed. One citizen was of the opinion that none of the sites now proposed are viable. He stated that ski areas are generally subsidized by development at the base; if a ski area is to be viable at Government Peak, it must have a base village to subsidize it. A development which is tastefully designed and privately funded is favored by some. There is also an interest in constructing a day use facility until there is a clear demand for expanded facilities.

Those opposed to a ski development on Government Peak cite the increase in traffic and congestion in the road corridor and what they believe will be a detrimental change in the area's character as reasons for their opposition. Strip commercial development is also a concern. There are other areas suitable for a ski area, they say.

Other comments were to separate motorized and non-motorized users and to keep snowmachines off the road. One individual expressed concern that fish and wildlife alternatives didn't offer a choice to maintain habitats without enhancement. Placer mining along the Little Susitna River and access problems in this area also concerned individuals who were opposed to leaving land along the river opened to mineral entry .

---

IV. LETTERS FROM THE PUBLIC

---

As of December 23, 1985, 42 letters were received by DNR regarding Hatcher Pass and the December public meetings. Thirty-two letters were submitted by individuals and ten letters represented organizations.

Letters from individuals may be generally summarized as follows. In support of:

The Outdoor Coalition proposals	23
Multiple Use	2
Keeping it like it is	4
Recreation Management	2
ORV Use	1

Letters from groups:

- Alaska Frontier Trappers Association
- Nordic Skiing Association of Anchorage, Inc.
- Radon Company
- Summit Ski Tours
- Hatcher Pass Powder Bobsled Association
- Outdoor Coalition
- Chugiak Dog Mushers
- Alaska Sled Dog Racing Association
- Greater Palmer Chamber of Commerce
- Anchorage Convention and Visitors Bureau

A summary of these letters is available on request.

Alaska Department of Natural Resources  
Division of Land and Water Management  
Southcentral Regional Office  
3601 C Street  
Pouch 7-005  
Anchorage, AK 99510-7005



Alaska Department of  
**NATURAL  
RESOURCES**

OFFICIAL BUSINESS  
STATE OF ALASKA  
STATE PENALTY FOR  
PRIVATE USE



The Honorable Arliss Sturgulewski  
Pouch V (MS 3100)  
Juneau, AK 99811

**HATCHER  
PASS**  
**MANAGEMENT  
PLAN**

Introduced: 1/13/86  
Referred: Resources and Finance

1 IN THE SENATE

BY KERTTULA

2

SENATE BILL NO. 334

3

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4

FOURTEENTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

5

A BILL

6 For an Act entitled: "An Act relating to Hatcher Pass Public Use Area."

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

8 \* Section 1. As 41.23 is amended by adding new sections to read:

9

ARTICLE. 2. HATCHER PASS PUBLIC USE AREA.

10

Sec. 41.23.100. PURPOSE. (a) The purpose of AS 41.23.100 -

11

41.23.130 is to establish the area described in AS 41.23.130 as the

12

Hatcher Pass Public Use Area.

13

(b) The Hatcher Pass Public Use Area is established to

14

(1) protect and enhance the fishery, waterfowl, and wild-

15

life resources and habitat and provide for public use of the fishery

16

and wildlife resources, including fishing, grazing, hunting, and

17

trapping;

18

(2) provide for winter recreation, hiking, mountaineering,

19

horseback riding, kayaking, hang-gliding, picnicking, viewing, and

20

other public recreation area activities;

21

(3) protect the water quality and scenic resources within

22

the Hatcher Pass Public Use Area.

23

Sec. 41.23.110. MANAGEMENT. (a) The commissioner of natural

24

resources is responsible for the management of the surface and subsur-

25

face estate within the Hatcher Pass Public Use Area consistent with

26

the purposes of AS 41.23.100.

27

(b) The commissioner of fish and game, the Board of Fisheries,

28

and the Board of Game are responsible for the management of fish and

29

game resources and public use of fish and wildlife in the Hatcher Pass

1 Public Use Area consistent with the purposes of AS 41.23.100.

2 (c) After adequate public hearings and with the concurrence of  
3 the commissioner of fish and game, the commissioner shall adopt and  
4 may revise a management plan for the Hatcher Pass Public Use Area in  
5 consultation with local governments and other affected state agencies.  
6 The management plan adopted under this section must be consistent with  
7 the purposes stated in AS 41.23.100.

8 (d) The provisions of AS 41.23.100 - 41.23.130 do not restrict a  
9 responsibility within the Hatcher Pass Public Use Area of the commis-  
10 sioner of fish and game, the Board of Fisheries, the Board of Game,  
11 the commissioner of environmental conservation, or the commissioner of  
12 public safety.

13 (e) Except for the area within the Little Susitna River bed and  
14 within the area one-half mile on each side of the bed of the Little  
15 Susitna River, the Hatcher Pass Public Use Area is open to mineral  
16 entry under AS 38.05.185 - 38.05.275 under the management plan adopted  
17 under (c) of this section and consistently with AS 41.23.100.

18 (f) Each valid existing mining claim remains valid and shall  
19 continue in full force and effect according to its terms.

20 (g) The state may not acquire by eminent domain privately owned  
21 land within or abutting state-owned land described in AS 41.23.130 but  
22 may acquire privately owned land by purchase, exchange, or otherwise  
23 for inclusion in the Hatcher Pass Public Use Area from willing land-  
24 owners.

25 (h) The land within the Hatcher Pass Public Use Area is closed  
26 to land disposals and settlement under AS 38 and, except for valid  
27 existing rights on the effective date of this Act, the commissioner of  
28 natural resources may not dispose of state land within the Hatcher  
29 Pass Public Use Area.

1 (i) The commissioner may not manage the Hatcher Pass Public Use  
2 Area as a unit of the state park system.

3 Sec. 41.23.120. COMPATIBILITY OF USES. (a) Except as provided  
4 in this section, the commissioner may prohibit or restrict incompati-  
5 ble uses under the management plan adopted under AS 41.23.110 within  
6 the state-owned land and water described in AS 41.23.130.

7 (b) Nothing in AS 41.23.100 - 41.23.130 prohibits the Department  
8 of Fish and Game from engaging in rehabilitation, enhancement, and  
9 development of fish and wildlife habitat within an area described in  
10 AS 41.23.130.

11 (c) The commissioner may not restrict lawful sport and subsis-  
12 tence fishing, hunting, or trapping rights allowed under a regulation  
13 of the Board of Fisheries or the Board of Game within the Hatcher Pass  
14 Public Use Area.

15 (d) The commissioner of public safety and the commissioner of  
16 fish and game shall have necessary access for fish and game manage-  
17 ment, research, and enforcement purposes.

18 (e) If the commissioner determines that a use is incompatible  
19 with one or more other uses in a portion of the Hatcher Pass Public  
20 Use Area, the commissioner shall state in the management plan adopted  
21 or revised under AS 41.23.110

22 (1) each determination of incompatibility;

23 (2) the specific area where the incompatibility is deter-  
24 mined to exist;

25 (3) the time within which the incompatibility is determined  
26 to exist; and

27 (4) the reasons for each determination of incompatibility.

28 Sec. 41.23.130. HATCHER PASS PUBLIC USE AREA. (a) The vacant  
29 and unappropriated state-owned land and water and the state land and

1 water acquired in the future that lie within the boundaries described  
2 in this section are designated as the Hatcher Pass Public Use Area,  
3 are reserved for all uses compatible with their primary function as  
4 public use land, and are assigned to the Department of Natural Re-  
5 sources for control and management:

6 Township 18 North, Range 1 West, Seward Meridian

7 Sections 5 - 6

8 Township 19 North, Range 1 East, Seward Meridian

9 Sections 1 - 24

10 Sections 27 - 31

11 Township 19 North, Range 2 East, Seward Meridian

12 Sections 3 - 8

13 Section 9: N1/2

14 Sections 17 - 20

15 Township 19 North, Range 1 West, Seward Meridian

16 Township 19 North, Range 2 West, Seward Meridian

17 Section 1

18 Sections 12 - 13

19 Sections 24 - 25

20 Section 36

21 Township 20 North, Range 1 East, Seward Meridian

(22) → Section 1: S1/2, NE1/4

(23) → Section 2: S1/2, NW1/4

24 Sections 3 - 36

25 Township 20 North, Range 2 East, Seward Meridian

26 Sections 2 - 11

27 Sections 14 - 23

28 Sections 26 - 35

29 Township 20 North, Range 1 West, Seward Meridian

OUTSIDE  
BOUNDARY

1 Township 20 North, Range 2 West, Seward Meridian  
2 Township 20 North, Range 3 West, Seward Meridian  
3 Sections 1 - 2  
4 Sections 11 - 14  
5 Sections 23 - 25  
6 Township 21 North, Range 1 West, Seward Meridian  
7 Section 2: S1/2  
8 Sections 3 - 11  
9 Section 13: S1/2  
10 Sections 14 - 36  
11 Township 21 North, Range 2 West, Seward Meridian  
12 Township 21 North, Range 3 West, Seward Meridian  
13 Section 1  
14 Sections 11 - 14  
15 Sections 23 - 26  
16 Sections 35 - 36  
17 Township 21 North, Range 1 East, Seward Meridian  
18 Section 17: SW1/4  
19 Section 18: S1/2  
20 Sections 19 - 21  
21 Section 22: SW1/4  
22 Section 27: S1/2, NW1/4  
23 Sections 28 - 34  
24 Township 21 North, Range 2 East, Seward Meridian  
25 Section 26: SW1/4  
26 Section 27: S1/2  
27 Section 33: E1/2  
28 Section 34  
29 Section 35: W1/2

1                    Township 22 North, Range 1 West, Seward Meridian  
2                    Section 31: S1/2  
3                    Section 32: S1/2  
4                    Section 33: S1/2  
5                    Section 34: SW1/4  
6                    Township 22 North, Range 2 West, Seward Meridian  
7                    Sections 19 - 21  
8                    Section 22: S1/2, NW1/4  
9                    Section 25: S1/2  
10                    Sections 26 - 36

ATTACHMENT A

*Only*

HATCHER PASS MANAGEMENT UNIT WITHOUT PROPOSED BOUNDARY EXTENSIONS

Legal Description

SUBJECT TO VALID EXISTING RIGHTS

Seward Meridian;

T18N, R1W  
Sections 5, 6

T19N, R2E  
Sections 3-8  
Section 9: N 1/2  
Sections 17-20

T19N, R1E  
Sections 1-24, 27-31

T19N, R1W  
All

T19N, R2W  
Sections 1, 12, 13, 24, 25, 36

T20N, R2E  
Sections 2-11, 14-23, 26-35 - 36

T20N, R1E  
Section 1: S 1/2, NE 1/4  
Section 2: S 1/2, NW 1/4  
Sections 3-36

T20N, R1W  
All

T20N, R2W  
All

T20N, R3W  
Sections 1, 2, 11-14, 23-25

T21N, R2E  
Section 26: SW 1/4  
Section 27: S 1/2  
Section 33: E 1/2  
Section 34  
Section 35: W 1/2

T21N, R1E

Section 17: SW 1/4

Section 18: S 1/2

Sections 19-21

Section 22: SW 1/4

Section 27: S 1/2, NW 1/4

Sections 28-34

T21N, R1W

Section 2: S 1/2

Sections 3-11

Section 13: S 1/2

Sections 14-36

T21N, R2W

All

T21N, R3W

Sections 1, 11-14, 23-26, 35, 36

T22N, R1W

Section 31: S 1/2

Section 32: S 1/2

Section 33: S 1/2

Section 34: SW 1/4

T22N, R2W

Sections 19-21

Section 22: S 1/2, NW 1/4

Section 25: S 1/2

Sections 26-36

ATTACHMENT B

HATCHER PASS MANAGEMENT UNIT BOUNDARY EXTENSIONS

Legal Description

SUBJECT TO VALID EXISTING RIGHTS

Seward Meridian;

Willow Creek Boundary Extension

T19N, R2W  
Sections 2-6

Northern Boundary Extension

T20N, R1E  
Section 1: NW 1/4  
Section 2: NE 1/4

T21N, R2E  
Sections 14-23  
Section 26: N 1/2, SE 1/4  
Section 27: N 1/2  
Sections 28-32  
Section 33: W 1/2  
Section 35: E 1/2

T21N, R1E  
Sections 13-16  
Section 17: SE 1/4  
Section 22: N 1/2, SE 1/4  
Sections 23-26  
Section 27: NE 1/4  
Sections 35 and 36

## ATTACHMENT C

## HATCHER PASS MANAGEMENT INCLUDING PROPOSED BOUNDARY EXTENSIONS

Legal Description

## SUBJECT TO VALID EXISTING RIGHTS

Seward Meridian;

T18N, R1W  
Sections 5, 6T19N, R2E  
Sections 3-8  
Section 9: N 1/2  
Sections 17-20T19N, R1E  
Sections 1-24, 27-31T19N, R1E  
AllT19N, R2W  
Sections 1-6, 12, 13, 24, 25, 36T20N, R2E  
Sections 2-11, 14-23, 26-35T20N, R1E  
AllT20N, R1W  
AllT20N, R2W  
AllT20N, R3W  
Sections 1, 2, 11-14, 23-25T21N, R2E  
Sections 14-23, 26-35T21N, R1E  
Sections 13-16  
Section 17: S 1/2  
Section 18: S 1/2  
Sections 19-36

T21N, R1W  
Section 2: S 1/2  
Sections 3-11  
Section 13: S 1/2  
Sections 14-36

T21N, R2W  
All

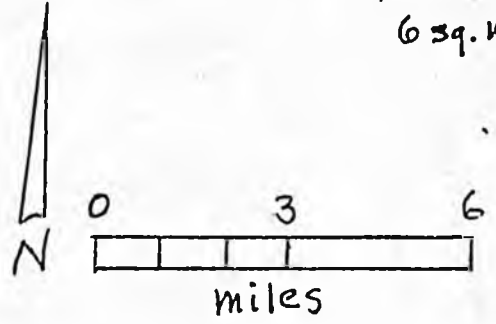
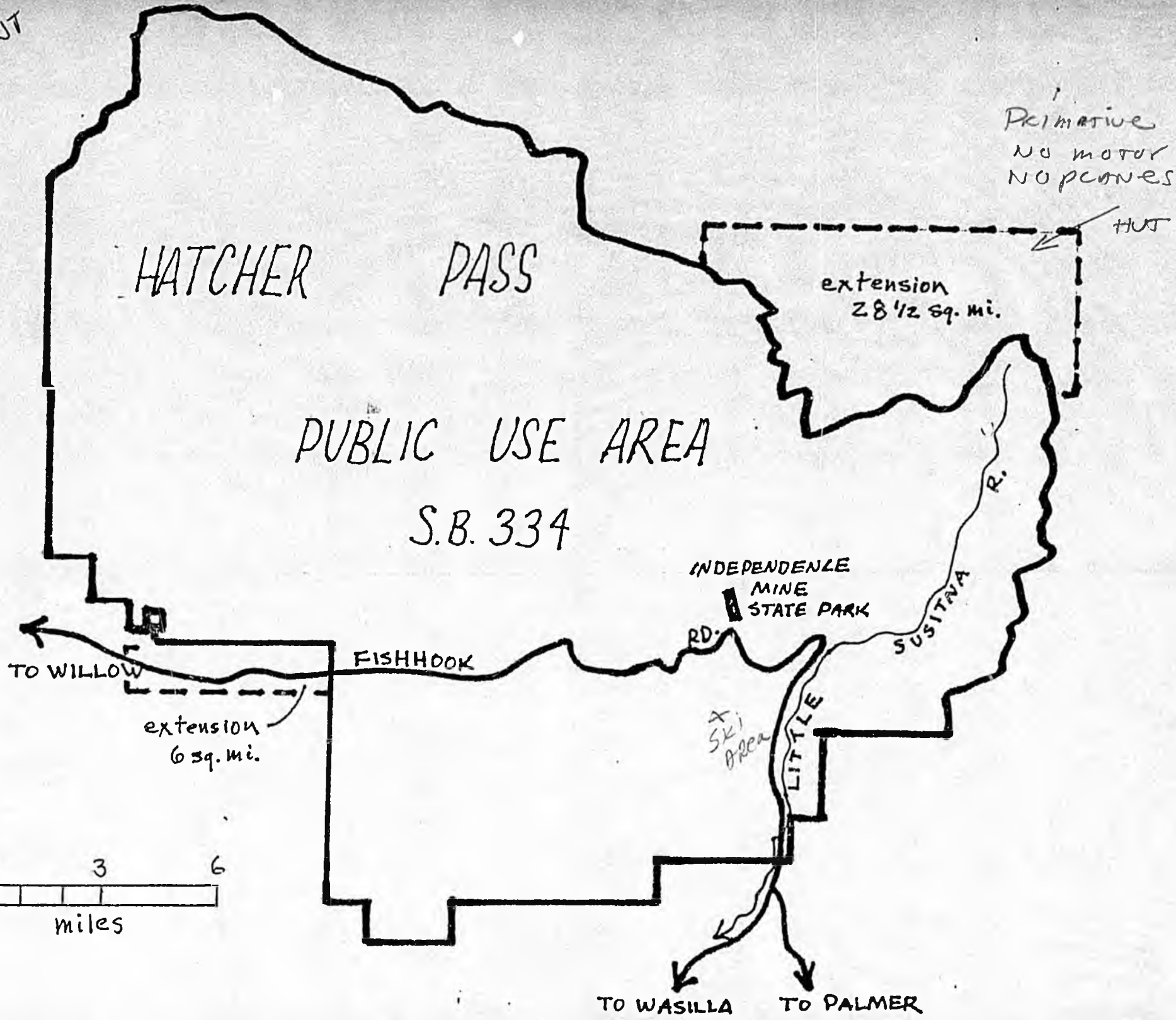
T21N, R3W  
Sections 1, 11-14, 23-26, 35, 36

T22N, R1W  
Section 31: S 1/2  
Section 32: S 1/2  
Section 33: S 1/2  
Section 34: SW 1/4

T22N, R2W  
Sections 19-21  
Section 22: S 1/2, NW 1/4  
Section 25: S 1/2  
Sections 26-36

ATTACHMENT  
-B-

Primitive  
NO MOTOR  
NO PLANES



Summit Ski Tours  
P.O. Box 870537 Wasilla, Alaska 99687  
(907)-373-1462

---

January 31, 1986

Dear

The Hatcher Pass area has been the focus of a lot of attention and debate lately, mainly about which recreational groups should be allowed to use which areas and how much and what kinds of commercial development should be allowed. In hopes of answering the problem, the Alaska Department of Natural Resources has recently put together a management planning team composed of various agency officials and has designated some 300 square miles of the area surrounding Hatcher Pass as the "Hatcher Pass Management Unit."

Users of the area tend to be a diverse and varied lot consisting of such user groups as miners, snowmachiners, trappers, sightseers, tourists, hikers, sledders, skiers, mountaineers, etc. The management team has implemented a "multiple-use" concept of management in which, hopefully, all user groups can be accommodated without intruding too much on the activities of other recreational groups. This is indeed a tall order, but increased congestion, conflicts between user groups, and safety problems in the Hatcher Pass area regrettably makes the institution of management policies and regulations increasingly necessary.

As the operator of a small backcountry ski touring business with a remote base camp located near the terminus of the Snowbird Glacier (presently outside the boundaries of the Hatcher Pass Management Unit), my problem is with the recent eleventh hour proposal made by an Anchorage-based group calling itself the "Outdoor Coalition." This is a special-interest group composed of people from such groups as the Alaska Center for the Environment, the Anchorage Nordic Ski Club, the Mountaineering Club of Alaska, the Sierra Club, and the ACC wilderness studies program. While I feel that the coalition is a well intentioned group and I philosophically agree with many of their stands on various issues, I feel they may have overstepped themselves on this one. The Outdoor Coalition proposal to the DNR management team was, among other things, to extend the present boundaries of the Hatcher Pass Management Unit to include 21,000 acres of remote, glaciated terrain located to the northeast of the present boundaries. The coalition wants the area formally designated as a "primitive" area - i.e. non-motorized use only.

I am opposed to the proposed primitive area for a number of reasons. The area is already off limits to the type of motorized vehicles generally thought of as harmful to the environment - i.e. snowmachines and other off-road vehicles - because of existing terrain barriers. The region is entirely surrounded by 6000' mountains and glaciers - it is virtually impossible to access the area by ground-based off-road vehicles. For these same reasons, it is hard to imagine roads or large commercial developments being built in the area.

Secondly, in my opinion this proposed boundary extension, if passed, would not be in keeping with the original management guidelines of the Hatcher Pass Management Unit, as originally conceived. The whole idea was to manage for multiple-use because many different user groups were, because of high use levels, beginning to have conflicts. This situation does not exist in the proposed boundary extension because rugged terrain and difficult access limits the number of user groups which can access the area, and use levels are presently low and are indicative of remaining that way. I feel that expanding the present boundaries of the management unit would be needlessly imposing regulations on the few people who use the area and would be contributing to the expansion of the bureaucracy of the state government.

The DNR put the matter up to the public at recent workshops held in Willow, Wasilla, and Anchorage. Workbooks completed by the public showed that a majority of the people surveyed favored the establishment of the primitive area. While I think that members of the planning team have done a good job of addressing the many complex issues involved, it appears that there may have been inadequate efforts made by DNR officials to provide public education on all the issues before the workshops were held. The time allotted for discussion and debate and to allow special interest groups to present their testimony occurred after the workbooks had already been completed, not before. I feel that many people were "voting" on topics many of them knew little about. The proposed primitive area did look good on paper to well-meaning individuals - here was the chance to help balance continued commercial growth of Hatcher Pass with a designated wilderness area.

It appears that the real issue is whether or not to allow continued use of the area by backcountry skiers, who for several years have occasionally been flying into the area in ski planes and helicopters as an alternative to skiing in on the avalanche-prone entry route from the road system - most of the route into the area traverses the tracks and runout zones of several large avalanche paths. Avalanches run on a frequent basis from the 2000 vertical foot east face of Didilkama Mountain after even minor storms.

Present fly-in use of the area is low - during the 1984-1985 season, only 35 people flew into the area. Outdoor Coalition members are opposed to the occasional noise intrusion caused by aircraft landing on Snowbird Glacier, yet the entire area is located under a high-use aircraft corridor extending from Anchorage, Elmondorf Air Force Base, Chugiak, Palmer, and Wasilla to Talkeetna, Cantwell, and Fairbanks. Private, commercial, and military aircraft routinely fly over the area at relatively low levels, so in my opinion the very occasional noise from a landing skiplane or helicopter is a minimal intrusion.

I feel that fly-in use of the area is essentially self-regulating due to the high costs of chartering a plane or helicopter. Even if most people can afford a fly-in ski trip only once a year or every other year, I feel that such a low-impact recreational opportunity should not be denied them. Due to the high costs involved, I can't foresee fly-in usage of the area rising to high-use levels.

The use of aircraft support also provides a valuable safety link to the outside world, providing a way to return to civilization when high avalanche danger renders it unsafe to ski out. In addition, fly-in trips provide an opportunity for handicapped skiers to enjoy Alaska's backcountry. Fly-in skiing also provides an opportunity to boost revenues to Alaska's pilots during an otherwise slow time of year.

I would like the DNR management team to take a closer look at these issues before a final decision is made. I feel that more public education is called for and the issue taken up again with the public, possibly with the aid of mail-out questionnaires to previous workshop participants. A hastily-made decision could haunt valley ski enthusiasts for years to come.

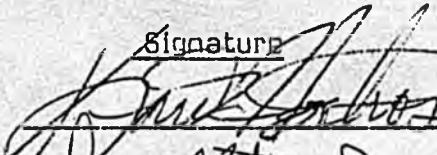
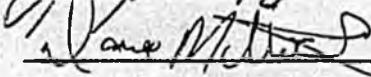
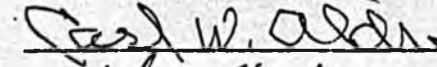
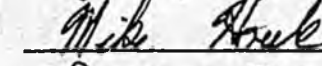
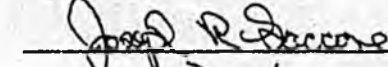
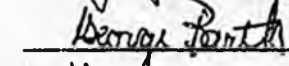
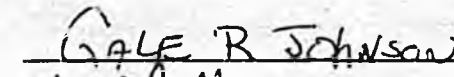
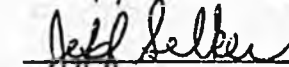

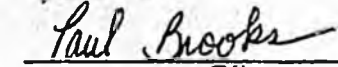
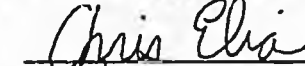
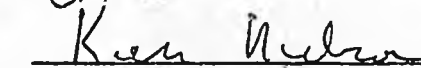

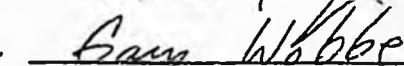
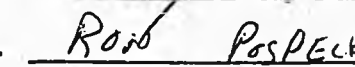
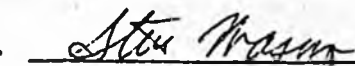
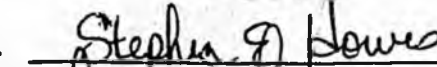
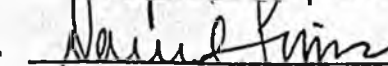
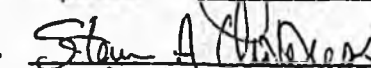

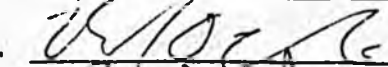
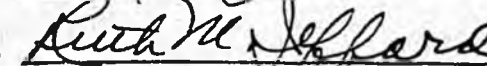
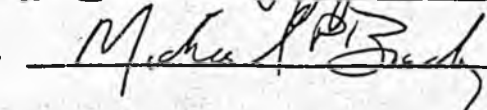
Sincerely,

Mark Gronewald

# A Petition

February 1, 1986

Be it known that we the undersigned hereby acknowledge our opposition to the establishment of a primitive area to the north and east of the present boundaries of the Hatcher Pass Management Unit and are in favor of unrestricted fly-in access to the glaciers located therein.

	<u>Signature</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Telephone</u>
1.		Box 97507 Anchorage	376-1059
2.		Box 870795 Wasilla	376-8061
3.		Box 90581 Anchorage, AK	562-7023
4.		8820 A Hamlet Cir Anch	99507 248-2306
5.		2496 Eagle River Rd Eagle River	99512 694-7761
6.		820 Hilltop Dr. - PALMER	274-0396
7.	JACK COOK	P.O. 2564 Anch	99510 274-3111
8.		PO BX 670126 Chug. AK 99507	688-9042
9.		2502 W 29th ANCH AK	99503 248-6089
10.		6600 ASKEWLAND DR ANCH.	522-1310
11.		6600 Askeland Dr Anch.	99507 522-1310
12.		SRA Box 6469-A Palmer	745-1470
13.		9100 TILIA ANCHORAGE	248-1247
14.		SRC Box 52 willow	495-6326
15.		PO Box 670825 CHUGIAK	688-5245
16.		P.O. Box 190467 ANCH. AK.	248-5558
17.		P.O. Box 692 Palmer Ak	99645 745-8699
18.		8620 E 17th Ave Anchorage Ak	99504 333-4404
19.		1550 I ST, #1 Anchorage, AK	276-6618
20.		6590 Old Glacier #287 - Turnu, AK	99801 780-6087
21.		Box 4433 Kenai Ak	99601 283-4265
22.		8625 Independence Ave Anchorage	AK 99507 348-2478
23.		No Shore Pt Wasilla AK	99687 376-2237
24.		DB Box 210741 Anchorage, AK	789 5873
25.			

## A Petition

February 1, 1986

Be it known that we the undersigned hereby acknowledge our opposition to the establishment of a primitive area to the north and east of the present boundaries of the Hatcher Pass Management Unit and are in favor of unrestricted fly-in access to the glaciers located therein.

	Signature	Address	Telephone
1.	<u>J. Keith Holt</u>	<u>SR Box 6805 -A, Wasilla</u>	<u>745-0262</u>
2.	<u>Leo Amicus</u>	<u>Box 872324 Wasilla AK</u>	<u>376-5246</u>
3.	<u>[Signature]</u>	<u>PO. Box HOTEL <sup>99514</sup> Anch. AK</u>	<u><del>338</del>-7487</u>
4.	<u>Kathy Klemmer</u>	<u>835 Irwin Anch. <sup>49508</sup> AK</u>	<u>258-7487</u>
5.	<u>Wendy Bennett</u>	<u>6651 Winkler Dr. Anch. AK 99502</u>	<u>248-1787</u>
6.	<u>Jim Turner</u>	<u>Box 477 Palmer</u>	<u>745-6161</u>
7.	<u>[Signature]</u>	<u>SR Box 6805 Palmer</u>	<u>_____</u>
8.	<u>Thomas J. Jacobs</u>	<u>SR Box 578 Wasilla</u>	<u>376-5916</u>
9.	<u>Ann Ebert</u>	<u>P.O. Box 1185 Palmer</u>	<u>_____</u>
10.	<u>Miss Pearson</u>	<u>SR Box 6825 Palmer</u>	<u>745-5438</u>
11.	<u>Anna Turner</u>	<u>SR Box 6828 Palmer</u>	<u>745-4684</u>
12.	<u>Glenn Sullivan</u>	<u>SR Box 6829-A Palmer</u>	<u>745-6374</u>
13.	<u>William [Signature]</u>	<u>SR 3205 Wasilla</u>	<u>745-1532</u>
14.	<u>David Bam</u>	<u>Gen Delivery Wasilla AK</u>	<u>376-4509</u>
15.	<u>Matthew [Signature]</u>	<u>P.O. Box 3331 Palmer</u>	<u>745-6414</u>
16.	<u>Kathy Wells</u>	<u>Box 3531 Palmer, AK 99645</u>	<u>745-6414</u>
17.	<u>Matthew O. Taster</u>	<u>Pouch 5020 BX 531-PALMER</u>	<u>745-4790</u>
18.	<u>Kim J. Johnson</u>	<u>PO Box 872944 Wasilla</u>	<u>376-7998</u>
19.	<u>Margaret Blankenship</u>	<u>PO Box 872145 Wasilla</u>	<u>376-4888</u>
20.	<u>Glenn Rasmussen</u>	<u>Box 3288 Palmer</u>	<u>745-8061</u>
21.	<u>Dora Conner</u>	<u>Box 875228 Wasilla</u>	<u>376-4166</u>
22.	<u>Dennis Lake</u>	<u>P.O. 870889 Wasilla</u>	<u>376-4942</u>
23.	<u>Ethan Petal</u>	<u>P.O. 874266 Wasilla</u>	<u>376-5985</u>
24.	<u>Kay Petal</u>	<u>PO 874266 Wasilla</u>	<u>376-5985</u>
25.	<u>Arline Brown</u>	<u>P.O. Box 870537 Wasilla</u>	<u>376-5985</u>

A Petition

February 1, 1986

Be it known that we the undersigned hereby acknowledge our opposition to the establishment of a primitive area to the north and east of the present boundaries of the Hatcher Pass Management Unit and are in favor of unrestricted fly-in access to the glaciers located therein.

- |     | <u>Signature</u>           | <u>Address</u>                            | <u>Telephone</u> |
|-----|----------------------------|-------------------------------------------|------------------|
| 1.  | <i>Karl C. [Signature]</i> | 311/ W. 3 <sup>rd</sup> Ave               | 272-5241         |
| 2.  | <i>Don in. Inela</i>       | <sup>apt 280</sup> Palmer, AK 99645       | 745-5897         |
| 3.  | <i>J. Reilly Moss</i>      | SR 6414 Wasilla, 99687                    | 376-6322         |
| 4.  | <i>R. Galbreath</i>        | S.R. 6414 Wasilla, AK 99687               | 376-6322         |
| 5.  | <i>Howell [Signature]</i>  | SRA Box 6797-C Palmer, AK 99645           | 745-7713         |
| 6.  | <i>Rick [Signature]</i>    | Box 1003 Girdwood                         | 283-7844         |
| 7.  | <i>David [Signature]</i>   | Box 961 Girdwood                          | 783-2475         |
| 8.  | <i>David [Signature]</i>   | 4400 McPherson #5                         | 279-8745         |
| 9.  | <i>Janet [Signature]</i>   | Box 477 Palmer AK                         | 745-3078         |
| 10. | <i>Mark [Signature]</i>    | Box 890537 WASILLA AK                     | 373-1462         |
| 11. | <i>Tom [Signature]</i>     | PO Box 2421 Palmer                        | 745-5897         |
| 12. | <i>Miranda C. Kisk</i>     | P.O. Box 2655 Palmer, AK <sup>99645</sup> | 745-5897         |
| 13. | <i>Liz Anderson</i>        | P.O. Box 280 Palmer, AK <sup>99645</sup>  | 745-5897         |
| 14. | <i>John Bennett</i>        | SRA 6271 PALMER AK                        | 745-0369         |
| 15. | <i>Chris [Signature]</i>   | Box 678717 Anchorage AK                   | 745 2827         |
| 16. | <i>Steve [Signature]</i>   | Box 678717 Wasilla AK                     | 745 2827         |
| 17. | <i>Low [Signature]</i>     | Box 2655 Palmer AK                        | 99645            |
| 18. | <i>[Signature]</i>         | 3816 Apollo Dr Anch. AK                   | 99509            |
| 19. | <i>Kim [Signature]</i>     | 812 South Park Anch AK                    | 99508            |
| 20. | <i>[Signature]</i>         | P.O. Box 427 Palmer                       | 99645            |
| 21. | <i>[Signature]</i>         | PO Box 1357 Palmer                        | 745-2710         |
| 22. | <i>[Signature]</i>         | SR Box 6664 Wasilla                       | 376-7671         |
| 23. | <i>Pat [Signature]</i>     | SRA 6271 Palmer                           | 745-2789         |
| 24. |                            |                                           |                  |
| 25. |                            |                                           |                  |

A Petition

February 1, 1986

Be it known that we the undersigned hereby acknowledge our opposition to the establishment of a primitive area to the north and east of the present boundaries of the Hatcher Pass Management Unit and are in favor of unrestricted fly-in access to the glaciers located therein.

	<u>Signature</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Telephone</u>
1.	<i>[Signature]</i>	PO BOX 12 - PALMER	745-4202
2.	<i>[Signature]</i>	PO BOX 903 PALMER	745-5100
3.	<i>[Signature]</i>	PO Box 870537 WASILLA	376-2726
4.	<i>[Signature]</i>	Sr Rt D Box 9741 Palmer AK	745-8181
5.	<i>[Signature]</i>	PO Box 3102 PALMER	745-3654
6.	<i>[Signature]</i>	Box 2487 Palmer AK	745-6217
7.	<i>[Signature]</i>	SR D Box 9735 Palmer AK	745-3927
8.	<i>[Signature]</i>	Box 607 PALMER AK	745-4928
9.	<i>[Signature]</i>	Sr Box 9735 PALMER AK	745-3927
10.	<i>[Signature]</i>	Box 574 Palmer, AK	745-3387
11.	<i>[Signature]</i>	PO Box 2134 PALMER AK	745-0011
12.	<i>[Signature]</i>	P.O. Box 3204 PALMER, AK	745-0711
13.	<i>[Signature]</i>	PO Box 5165 SR WASILLA	373-0442
14.	<i>[Signature]</i>	SRB Box 734.3 Palmer AK	745-2886
15.	<i>[Signature]</i>	PO Box 870287 Wasilla AK	373-0532
16.	<i>[Signature]</i>	PO Box 870537 Wasilla, AK	376-5985
17.			
18.			
19.			
20.			
21.			
22.			
23.			
24.			
25.			

A Petition

February 1, 1966

Be it known that we the undersigned hereby acknowledge our opposition to the establishment of a primitive area to the north and east of the present boundaries of the Hatcher Pass Management Unit and are in favor of unrestricted fly-in access to the glaciers located therein.

	<u>Signature</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Telephone</u>
1.	Elizabeth A. Smith	305 W Lynn Ave # 3 Palmer	745-7127
2.	Richard K. Hill	Box 1101 Palmer	745-4659
3.	Phyllis W. Hornum	Box 870 361 Wasilla	376-5573
4.	Steve A. Blake	BOX 1152 PALMER	745-6656
5.	Patricia W. Mayer	517 E. Fern, Palmer	745-6308
6.	Sonia M. Kale	SR 3074 Wasilla	376-2734
7.	Marvyn Burlison	Box 195 Palmer	745-4126
8.	Barbara J. Ferraro	Box 340 Palmer	745-3257
9.	Antonette Paugelli	Star Route D Box 9965 Palmer	745-3778
10.	Ruth A. Cape	Box 1987 PALMER	745-3257
11.	Wm. W. Mitchell	Box 137 Palmer	745-3827
12.	Dot Helen	Box 3136 Palmer	745-5340
13.	Sandra P. Stromwald	Box 81537 Wasilla	376-5985
14.			
15.			
16.			
17.			
18.			
19.			
20.			
21.			
22.			
23.			
24.			
25.			

A Petition

February 1, 1986

Be it known that we the undersigned hereby acknowledge our opposition to the establishment of a primitive area to the north and east of the present boundaries of the Hatcher Pass Management Unit and are in favor of unrestricted fly-in access to the glaciers located therein.

	<u>Signature</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Telephone</u>
1.	<u>Debra L Pettit</u>	<u>P.O. Box 3336, Palmer (Blencroft Apt. 4/5/86)</u>	
2.	<u>Amy S. Hyde</u>	<u>SR 2138-A Wasilla</u>	<u>376-6578</u>
3.	<u>Lid J Pettit</u>	<u>SRA 6871 Palmer, AK</u>	<u>745-2789</u>
4.	<u>April R Martyn</u>	<u>P.O. Box 149 Palmer</u>	<u>745-3402</u>
5.	<u>Wendee Pegg</u>	<u>P.O. Box 2809 PALMER</u>	<u>745-2668</u>
6.	<u>Steph McOm</u>	<u>PO BOX 2443 PALMER</u>	<u>N/A</u>
7.	<u>L.F. Franklin</u>	<u>SRA Box 6828 Palmer</u>	<u>745 4684</u>
8.			
9.			
10.			
11.			
12.			
13.			
14.			
15.			
16.			
17.			
18.			
19.			
20.			
21.			
22.			
23.			
24.			
25.			

MASTER DRAFT

*Amended  
p 3 line 4*

Bradley  
3/20/86 ✓

*ok*

Original sponsor: Kerttula

1 IN THE SENATE BY THE RESOURCES COMMITTEE  
 2 CS FOR SPONSOR SUBSTITUTE FOR SENATE BILL NO. 334 (Resources)  
 3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA  
 4 FOURTEENTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION  
 5 A BILL

6 For an Act entitled: "An Act relating to Hatcher Pass Public Use Area."

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

8 \* Section 1. As 41.23 is amended by adding new sections to read:

9 ARTICLE. 2. HATCHER PASS PUBLIC USE AREA.

10 Sec. 41.23.100. PURPOSE. (a) The purpose of AS 41.23.100 -  
 11 41.23.130 is to establish the area described in AS 41.23.130 as the  
 12 Hatcher Pass Public Use Area.

13 (b) The Hatcher Pass Public Use Area is established to

*Reverse* →

14 (1) protect and enhance the fishery, waterfowl, and wild-  
 15 life resources and habitat and provide for public use of the fishery  
 16 and wildlife resources, including fishing, grazing, hunting, and  
 17 trapping;

18 (2) provide for public recreation activities;

19 (3) protect the water quality and scenic resources within  
 20 the Hatcher Pass Public Use Area.

21 Sec. 41.23.110. MANAGEMENT. (a) The commissioner of natural  
 22 resources is responsible for the management of the surface and subsur-  
 23 face estate within the Hatcher Pass Public Use Area consistent with  
 24 the purposes of AS 41.23.100.

25 (b) The commissioner of fish and game, the Board of Fisheries,  
 26 and the Board of Game are responsible for the management of fish and  
 27 game resources and public use of fish and wildlife in the Hatcher Pass  
 28 Public Use Area consistent with the purposes of AS 41.23.100.

29 (c) After adequate public hearings and with the <sup>IN</sup> ~~concurrence~~ <sup>CONSULTATION</sup> of

1 ~~the~~ commissioner of fish and game, the commissioner shall adopt and  
2 may revise a management plan for the Hatcher Pass Public Use Area in  
3 consultation with local governments and other affected state agencies.  
4 The management plan adopted under this section must be consistent with  
5 the purposes stated in AS 41.23.100.

6 (d) The provisions of AS 41.23.100 - 41.23.130 do not restrict a  
7 responsibility within the Hatcher Pass Public Use Area of the commis-  
8 sioner of fish and game, the Board of Fisheries, the Board of Game,  
9 the commissioner of environmental conservation, or the commissioner of  
10 public safety.

11 (e) The Hatcher Pass Public Use Area is closed to mineral entry  
12 under AS 38.05.185 - 38.05.275 from the effective date of this Act.

13 (f) Each valid existing mining claim on the effective date of  
14 this Act remains valid and shall continue in full force and effect  
15 according to its terms.

16 (g) <sup>EXCEPT FOR ROAD CONSTRUCTION</sup> The state may not acquire by eminent domain privately owned  
17 land within or abutting state-owned land described in AS 41.23.130 but  
18 may acquire privately owned land by purchase, exchange, or otherwise  
19 for inclusion in the Hatcher Pass Public Use Area from willing land-  
20 owners.

21 (h) Except for valid existing rights on the effective date of  
22 this Act, the commissioner of natural resources may not sell state  
23 land within the Hatcher Pass Public Use Area.

24 Sec. 41.23.120. COMPATIBILITY OF USES. (a) Except as provided  
25 in this section, the commissioner may prohibit or restrict incompati-  
26 ble uses under the management plan adopted under AS 41.23.110 within  
27 the state-owned land and water described in AS 41.23.130.

28 (b) Nothing in AS 41.23.100 - 41.23.130 prohibits the Department  
29 of Fish and Game from engaging in rehabilitation, enhancement, and

1 development of fish and wildlife habitat within an area described in  
2 AS 41.23.130 that is consistent with the purposes stated in AS 41.23.-  
3 100.

4 (c) The commissioner may not restrict lawful (<sup>out</sup> sport and subsis-  
5 tence) fishing, hunting, or trapping rights allowed under a regulation  
6 of the Board of Fisheries or the Board of Game within the Hatcher Pass  
7 Public Use Area.

8 (d) The commissioner shall designate routes for motorized and  
9 nonmotorized access within <sup>OR ACROSS</sup> the Hatcher Pass Public Use Area.

10 (e) The commissioner of public safety and the commissioner of  
11 fish and game shall have necessary access for fish and game manage-  
12 ment, research, and enforcement purposes.

13 (f) If the commissioner determines that a use is incompatible  
14 with one or more other uses in a portion of the Hatcher Pass Public  
15 Use Area, the commissioner shall state in the management plan adopted  
16 or revised under AS 41.23.110

17 (1) each determination of incompatibility;

18 (2) the specific area where the incompatibility is deter-  
19 mined to exist;

20 (3) the time within which the incompatibility is determined  
21 to exist; and

22 (4) the reasons for each determination of incompatibility.

23 Sec. 41.23.130. HATCHER PASS PUBLIC USE AREA. (a) The vacant  
24 and unappropriated state-owned land and water and the state land and  
25 water acquired in the future that lie within the boundaries described  
26 in this section are designated as the Hatcher Pass Public Use Area,  
27 are reserved for all uses compatible with their primary function as  
28 public use land, and are assigned to the Department of Natural Re-  
29 sources for control and management:

1 Township 19 North, Range 1 East, Seward Meridian

2 Section 1: NW1/4NW1/4, NW1/4NE1/4NW1/4, W1/2SW1/4  
3 NW1/4, NE1/4SW1/4NW1/4

4 Section 2: NE1/4, SE1/4NW1/4, SE1/4NE1/4NW1/4,  
5 SE1/4SW1/4NW1/4, SW1/4, NW1/4SE1/4, SW1/4SE1/4,  
6 NW1/4SE1/4SE1/4, W1/2NE1/4SE1/4, NE1/4NE1/4SE1/4

7 Section 10: E1/2E1/2

8 Section 11: W1/2, NW1/4NE1/4

9 Section 14: W1/2

10 Section 15: E1/2E1/2

11 Section 22: E1/2E1/2

12 Section 23: W1/2

13 Section 26: W1/2SW1/4, SW1/4NW1/4

14 Section 27: E1/2E1/2

15 Township 20 North, Range 1 East, Seward Meridian

16 Section 25: S1/2S1/2SE1/4

17 Section 35: SE1/4, SE1/4SE1/4NE1/4

18 Section 36: NE1/4, SW1/4, E1/2NW1/4, SW1/4NW1/4,  
19 SE1/4NW1/4NW1/4, NW1/4SE1/4, NW1/4NE1/4SE1/4,  
20 NW1/4SW1/4SE1/4

21 Township 20 North, Range 2 East, Seward Meridian

22 Section 9: E1/2SE1/4, E1/2SW1/4SE1/4, SE1/4SE1/4NE1/4

23 Section 10: W1/2SW1/4, E1/2NW1/4, SW1/4NW1/4,  
24 E1/2NW1/4NW1/4, W1/2NE1/4SW1/4, NW1/4NE1/4, NW1/4  
25 SW1/4NE1/4

26 Section 15: W1/2W1/2NW1/4

27 Section 16: SE1/4, E1/2NE1/4, E1/2W1/2NE1/4

28 Section 21: E1/2SW1/4, E1/2SW1/4SW1/4, SW1/4SW1/4  
29 SW1/4, SE1/4NW1/4SW1/4, NW1/4SE1/4, W1/2SW1/4SE1/4,

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

NE1/4SW1/4SE1/4, W1/2NE1/4, W1/2NE1/4NE1/4, NW1/4  
SE1/4NE1/4, SE1/4NW1/4, E1/2NE1/4NW1/4, SW1/4NE1/4  
NW1/4

Section 28: NW1/4, W1/2NW1/4NE1/4, NW1/4SW1/4,  
NW1/4SW1/4SW1/4, NW1/4NE1/4SW1/4

Section 29: E1/2SE1/4, SE1/4NE1/4, SW1/4SE1/4, S1/2  
NW1/4SE1/4, NE1/4NW1/4SE1/4, S1/2SW1/4, S1/2NE1/4  
SW1/4

Section 30: S1/2S1/2S1/2, S1/2SE1/4

Section 31: NW1/4, N1/2NE1/4, N1/2S1/2NE1/4

Section 32: N1/2NW1/4, N1/2SW1/4NW1/4, NW1/4NW1/4NE1/4

*Effective date*

Bradley  
4/11/86

*more work  
stop - wgt. plan  
submit - constitutional  
separate  
power  
developed &  
submitted by  
approved by  
legislature*

Original sponsor: Kerttula

1 IN THE SENATE BY THE RESOURCES COMMITTEE  
2 CS FOR SPONSOR SUBSTITUTE FOR SENATE BILL NO. 334 (Resources)  
3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA  
4 FOURTEENTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

5 A BILL

6 For an Act entitled: "An Act relating to Hatcher Pass Public Use Area."

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

8 \* Section 1. As 41.23 is amended by adding new sections to read:

9 ARTICLE. 2. HATCHER PASS PUBLIC USE AREA.

10 Sec. 41.23.100. PURPOSE. (a) The purpose of AS 41.23.100 -  
11 41.23.130 is to establish the area described in AS 41.23.130 as the  
12 Hatcher Pass Public Use Area.

13 (b) The Hatcher Pass Public Use Area is established to  
14 (1) provide for public recreation activities;  
15 (2) protect and enhance the fishery, waterfowl, and wild-  
16 life resources and habitat and provide for public use of the fishery  
17 and wildlife resources, including fishing, grazing, hunting, and  
18 trapping;

19 (3) protect the water quality and scenic resources within  
20 the Hatcher Pass Public Use Area.

21 Sec. 41.23.110. MANAGEMENT. (a) The commissioner of natural  
22 resources is responsible for the management of the surface and subsur-  
23 face estate within the Hatcher Pass Public Use Area consistent with  
24 the purposes of AS 41.23.100.

25 (b) The commissioner of fish and game, the Board of Fisheries,  
26 and the Board of Game are responsible for the management of fish and  
27 game resources and public use of fish and wildlife in the Hatcher Pass  
28 Public Use Area consistent with the purposes of AS 41.23.100.

29 (c) After adequate public hearings and in consultation with the

1 commissioner of fish and game, the commissioner shall adopt and may  
2 revise a management plan for the Hatcher Pass Public Use Area in  
3 consultation with local governments and other affected state agencies.  
4 The management plan adopted under this section must be consistent with  
5 the purposes stated in AS 41.23.100.

6 (d) The provisions of AS 41.23.100 - 41.23.130 do not restrict a  
7 responsibility within the Hatcher Pass Public Use Area of the commis-  
8 sioner of fish and game, the Board of Fisheries, the Board of Game,  
9 the commissioner of environmental conservation, or the commissioner of  
10 public safety.

11 (e) The Hatcher Pass Public Use Area is closed to mineral entry  
12 under AS 38.05.185 - 38.05.275 from the effective date of this Act.

13 (f) Each valid existing mining claim on the effective date of  
14 this Act remains valid and shall continue in full force and effect  
15 according to its terms.

16 (g) Except for road construction, the state may not acquire by  
17 eminent domain privately owned land within or abutting state-owned  
18 land described in AS 41.23.130 but may acquire privately owned land by  
19 purchase, exchange, or otherwise for inclusion in the Hatcher Pass  
20 Public Use Area from willing landowners.

21 (h) Except for valid existing rights on the effective date of  
22 this Act, the commissioner of natural resources may not sell state  
23 land within the Hatcher Pass Public Use Area.

24 Sec. 41.23.120. COMPATIBILITY OF USES. (a) Except as provided  
25 in this section, the commissioner may prohibit or restrict incompati-  
26 ble uses under the management plan adopted under AS 41.23.110 within  
27 the state-owned land and water described in AS 41.23.130.

28 (b) Nothing in AS 41.23.100 - 41.23.130 prohibits the Department  
29 of Fish and Game from engaging in rehabilitation, enhancement, and

1 development of fish and wildlife habitat within an area described in  
2 AS 41.23.130 that is consistent with the purposes stated in AS 41.23.-  
3 100. (Sport + Subsistence - out)

4 (c) The commissioner may not restrict lawful fishing, hunting,  
5 or trapping rights allowed under a regulation of the Board of  
6 Fisheries or the Board of Game within the Hatcher Pass Public Use  
7 Area.

8 (d) The commissioner shall designate routes for motorized and  
9 nonmotorized access within or across the Hatcher Pass Public Use Area.

10 (e) The commissioner of public safety and the commissioner of  
11 fish and game shall have necessary access for fish and game manage-  
12 ment, research, and enforcement purposes.

13 (f) If the commissioner determines that a use is incompatible  
14 with one or more other uses in a portion of the Hatcher Pass Public  
15 Use Area, the commissioner shall state in the management plan adopted  
16 or revised under AS 41.23.110

17 (1) each determination of incompatibility;

18 (2) the specific area where the incompatibility is deter-  
19 mined to exist;

20 (3) the time within which the incompatibility is determined  
21 to exist; and

22 (4) the reasons for each determination of incompatibility.

23 Sec. 41.23.130. HATCHER PASS PUBLIC USE AREA. The vacant and  
24 unappropriated state-owned land and water and the state land and water  
25 acquired in the future that lie within the boundaries described in  
26 this section are designated as the Hatcher Pass Public Use Area, are  
27 reserved for all uses compatible with their primary function as public  
28 use land, and are assigned to the Department of Natural Resources for  
29 control and management:

1 Township 19 North, Range 1 East, Seward Meridian

2 Section 1: NW1/4NW1/4, NW1/4NE1/4NW1/4, W1/2SW1/4  
3 NW1/4, NE1/4SW1/4NW1/4

4 Section 2: NE1/4, SE1/4NW1/4, SE1/4NE1/4NW1/4,  
5 SE1/4SW1/4NW1/4, SW1/4, NW1/4SE1/4, SW1/4SE1/4,  
6 NW1/4SE1/4SE1/4, W1/2NE1/4SE1/4, NE1/4NE1/4SE1/4

7 Section 10: E1/2E1/2

8 Section 11: W1/2, NW1/4NE1/4

9 Section 14: W1/2

10 Section 15: E1/2E1/2

11 Section 22: E1/2E1/2

12 Section 23: W1/2

13 Section 26: W1/2SW1/4, SW1/4NW1/4

14 Section 27: E1/2E1/2

15 Township 20 North, Range 1 East, Seward Meridian

16 Section 25: S1/2S1/2SE1/4

17 Section 35: SE1/4, SE1/4SE1/4NE1/4

18 Section 36: NE1/4, SW1/4, E1/2NW1/4, SW1/4NW1/4,  
19 SE1/4NW1/4NW1/4, NW1/4SE1/4, NW1/4NE1/4SE1/4,  
20 NW1/4SW1/4SE1/4

21 Township 20 North, Range 2 East, Seward Meridian

22 Section 9: E1/2SE1/4, E1/2SW1/4SE1/4, SE1/4SE1/4NE1/4

23 Section 10: W1/2SW1/4, E1/2NW1/4, SW1/4NW1/4,  
24 E1/2NW1/4NW1/4, W1/2NE1/4SW1/4, NW1/4NE1/4, NW1/4  
25 SW1/4NE1/4

26 Section 15: W1/2W1/2NW1/4

27 Section 16: SE1/4, E1/2NE1/4, E1/2W1/2NE1/4

28 Section 21: E1/2SW1/4, E1/2SW1/4SW1/4, SW1/4SW1/4  
29 SW1/4, SE1/4NW1/4SW1/4, NW1/4SE1/4, W1/2SW1/4SE1/4,

1 NE1/4SW1/4SE1/4, W1/2NE1/4, W1/2NE1/4NE1/4, NW1/4  
2 SE1/4NE1/4, SE1/4NW1/4, E1/2NE1/4NW1/4, SW1/4NE1/4  
3 NW1/4

4 Section 28: NW1/4, W1/2NW1/4NE1/4, NW1/4SW1/4,  
5 NW1/4SW1/4SW1/4, NW1/4NE1/4SW1/4

6 Section 29: E1/2SE1/4, SE1/4NE1/4, SW1/4SE1/4, S1/2  
7 NW1/4SE1/4, NE1/4NW1/4SE1/4, S1/2SW1/4, S1/2NE1/4  
8 SW1/4

9 Section 30: S1/2S1/2S1/2, S1/2SE1/4

10 Section 31: NW1/4, N1/2NE1/4, N1/2S1/2NE1/4

11 Section 32: N1/2NW1/4, N1/2SW1/4NW1/4, NW1/4NW1/4NE1/4  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25  
26  
27  
28  
29