

ALASKA LEGISLATURE COMMITTEE FILES 1985-1986 00/2

4272 SRES SB 334 1152

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

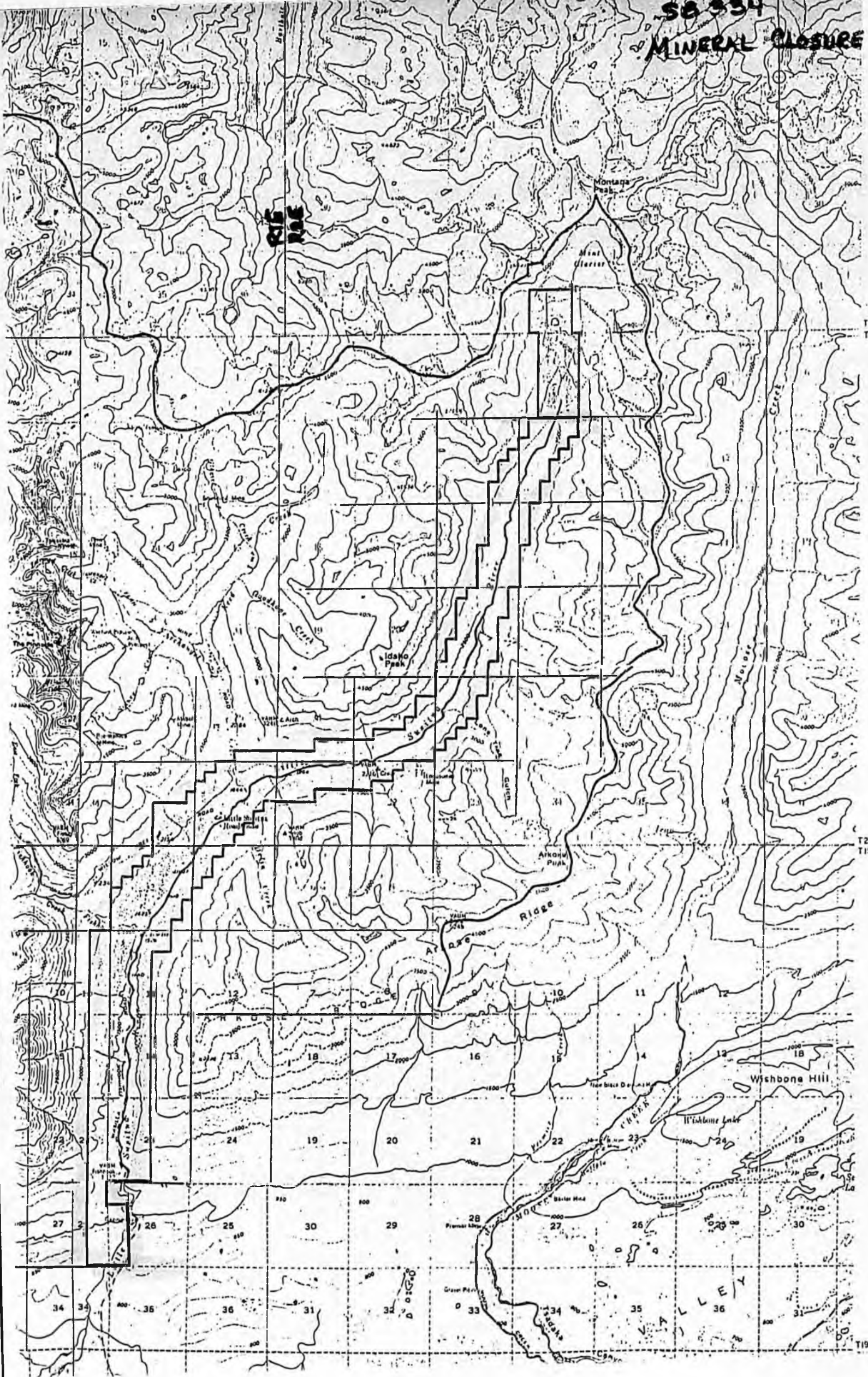
Dist along stream 11.8 miles

Road - 6 miles



SB 334
MINERAL CLOSURE

AR
R
R
R



T21

T20
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						
TOTAL OPERATING	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-

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

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

FUNDING : (Thousands of Dollars)

GENERAL FUND						
FEDERAL FUNDS						
OTHER						
TOTAL	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-

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. 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 BOROUGH 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.

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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.

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28 unappropriated state-owned land and water and the state land and water
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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". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the typed name.

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

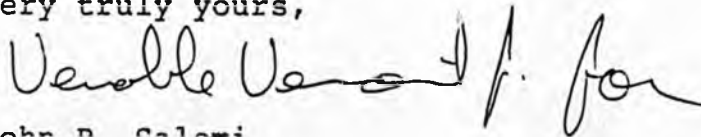
Dear Senator Sturgulewski:

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 ^{NOT EVALUATING} ~~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

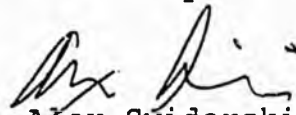
Senator Sturgulewski
Resources Committee
Pouch V
Juneau, Alaska 99811

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.

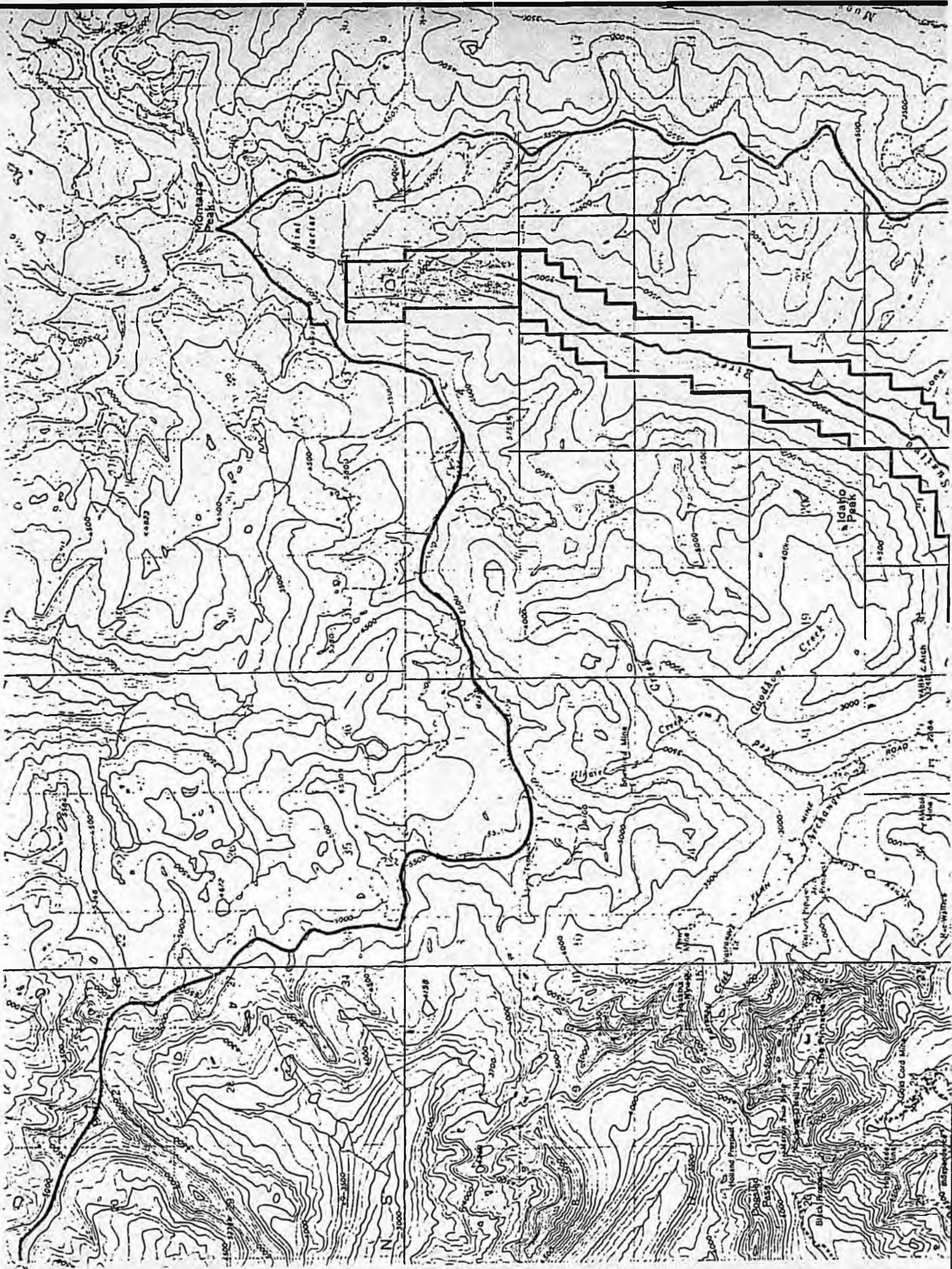
Sincerely,

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,

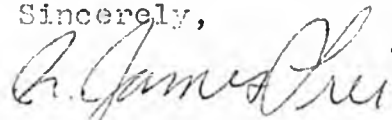
During this session of the legislature, SB 334 will come before your committee. I urge you to support this proposed legislation.

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:

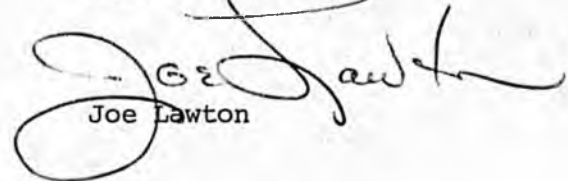
While a great many of us have benefitted from the State's and Federal Government's largess in dispensing land and privileges in Alaska--and these traditions must continue to provide opportunities to individual Alaskans--we need to insure public benefits, too.

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

FROM: 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

61
WDS

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.

* 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.

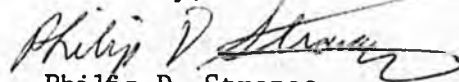
This area is of great economic importance for the vast mineral wealth that is there. The surface has barely been scratched on the mineral deposits of the Willow Creek Mining District. We need to develop this mineral wealth to bring new jobs and start an economically viable industry in the Mat-Su Valley.

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

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WAK

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

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6.1

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

APR 5 1986

April 9, 1986

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

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 CSSH 280(Fin)

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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						
TOTAL OPERATING	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-

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

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

FUNDING : (Thousands of Dollars)

GENERAL FUND						
FEDERAL FUNDS						
OTHER						
TOTAL	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-

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.

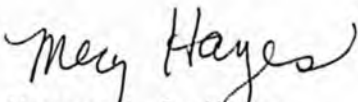
* * * * *

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
11255A Area Office
PO Box 874068
Wasilla, AK 99617
Telephone: 334-1585

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

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

ANCHORAGE: Monday, December 9
6:30 p.m. - 10:00 p.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
8:30 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.

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
Palmer Library
11:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

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

PUBLIC MEETING — a formal meeting to allow the public to review and comment on alternative management proposals for habitat Pass.

OPEN HOUSE — provides an informal opportunity to review maps and alternative proposals and ask questions.

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.