

ALASKA LEGISLATURE COMMITTEE FILES 1985-1988 00/2

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SRES

SB 334

153

ALTERNATIVE II:

EMPHASIS ON TOURISM AND PUBLIC USE

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

Mining

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

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

Recreation/tourism

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

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

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

Road

Road recommendations include:

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

Grazing

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

Wildlife

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

Forest

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

Settlement

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

Effects of Alternative II

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

Mining

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

Recreation/tourism

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

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

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

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

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

Road

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

Grazing

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

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

Wildlife

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

Forestry

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

Settlement

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

ALTERNATIVE III:

EMPHASIS ON RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT

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

Mining

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

Recreation/tourism

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

Road

Road recommendations include:

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

Grazing

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

Wildlife

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

Forestry

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

Settlement

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

Effects of Alternative III

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

Mining

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

Recreation/tourism

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

Road

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

Grazing

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

Wildlife

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

Forestry

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

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

Settlement

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

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

MINERAL LEASEHOLD LOCATION ORDER (MLLO)

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

AUTHORITY: AS 38.05.185
AS 38.05.205

MINERAL CLOSING ORDER (MCO)

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

AUTHORITY: AS 38.05.185

VIEWSHED STUDY SYNOPSIS

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

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

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

THE REMOTE CABIN PERMIT PROGRAM

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

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

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

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

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

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SUMMARY OF PUBLIC COMMENTS
ON PROPOSED MANAGEMENT ALTERNATIVES
For the



HATCHER PASS

MANAGEMENT PLAN

Prepared by Division of Land and Water Management
Southcentral Regional Office

January 10, 1986



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

II. SUMMARY OF WORKBOOK RESPONSES

A. WHAT WE HEARD YOU SAY: OVERVIEW

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

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

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

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

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

Previous Public Meetings

Meetings to Identify Issues, Concerns:

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

Public Use Workshops:

September 11,	Willow
September 12,	Eagle River

Draft Plan Development

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

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

IN ANCHORAGE

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B. GOALS

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

The highest priority goals for all 3 communities were:

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

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

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

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

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

Wasilla Goal Evaluation Summary

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

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

Anchorage Goal Evaluation Summary

	envqual	scenres	disorec	wot/noot	mtnfwhab	pubsaf	histwing	parking	improad	wldview	pubfac	fsntrp	privsec	mining	tourisa	jobs	grazing	timber	remotes	selland
Total responses	88	98	98	98	83	89	98	98	98	89	98	89	98	98	98	89	89	89	89	89
Average response	4.39	4.37	4.18	4.18	4.82	3.88	3.38	3.26	3.89	2.96	2.87	2.28	2.83	2.81	1.77	1.38	1.16	1.12	0.98	0.53
# Pos Responses (4+5)	64	66	64	59	55	52	37	29	29	29	24	12	13	24	11	8	4	5	5	3
# Neg Responses (0+1+2)	8	8	8	9	6	11	17	17	27	33	31	48	58	59	68	68	73	77	72	83
# Responses=0	6	5	4	5	4	3	2	3	3	9	6	14	13	25	26	25	35	39	51	68
# Responses=1	8	2	0	3	4	7	7	4	8	6	7	12	25	19	16	24	24	19	12	6
# Responses=2	2	1	4	1	2	7	8	18	16	18	18	22	28	15	18	19	14	19	9	9
# Responses=3	4	4	9	11	18	15	38	39	38	21	38	27	17	7	17	12	18	7	12	3
# Responses=4	18	13	24	19	25	38	24	18	14	17	17	11	8	9	4	4	4	3	4	1
# Responses=5	66	65	49	51	48	33	19	16	18	18	11	3	7	15	8	7	1	2	1	2
% positive responses (4+5)	86%	87%	81%	78%	73%	71%	48%	38%	36%	39%	31%	16%	17%	27%	13%	18%	6%	6%	6%	3%
% negative responses (0+1+2)	9%	9%	9%	10%	7%	12%	19%	19%	38%	37%	34%	54%	64%	66%	67%	76%	82%	87%	81%	93%
% inappropriate (0)	7%	6%	4%	6%	4%	3%	2%	3%	3%	10%	7%	16%	14%	28%	29%	28%	39%	5%	57%	76%

Willow Goal Evaluation Summary

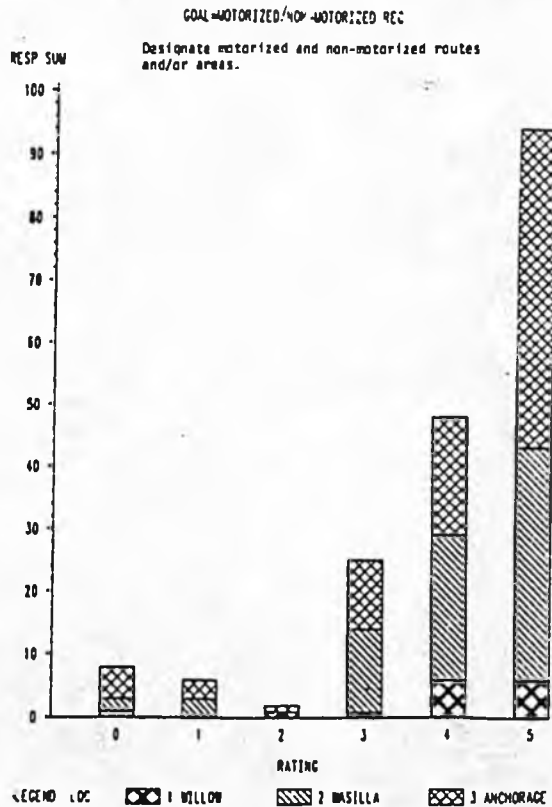
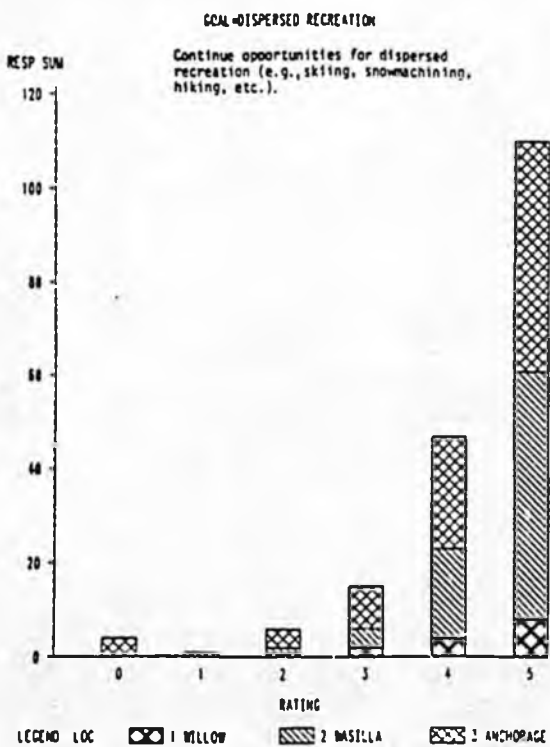
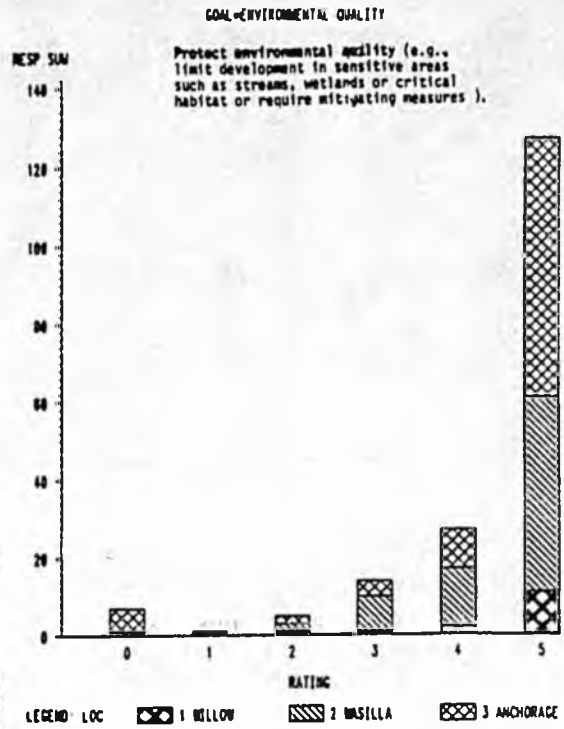
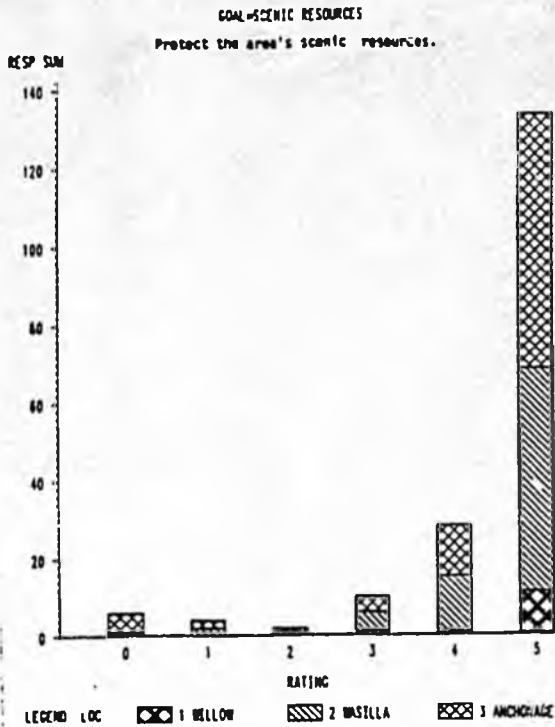
	envqual	scenres	disorec	wot/noot	mtnfwhab	pubsaf	histwing	wldview	improad	pubfac	fsntrp	parking	privsec	mining	tourisa	jobs	timber	grazing	remotes	selland
Total responses	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15
Average response	4.53	4.27	4.27	4.08	4.08	3.93	3.87	3.47	3.47	3.28	2.67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

Overall Goal Evaluation Summary

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

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

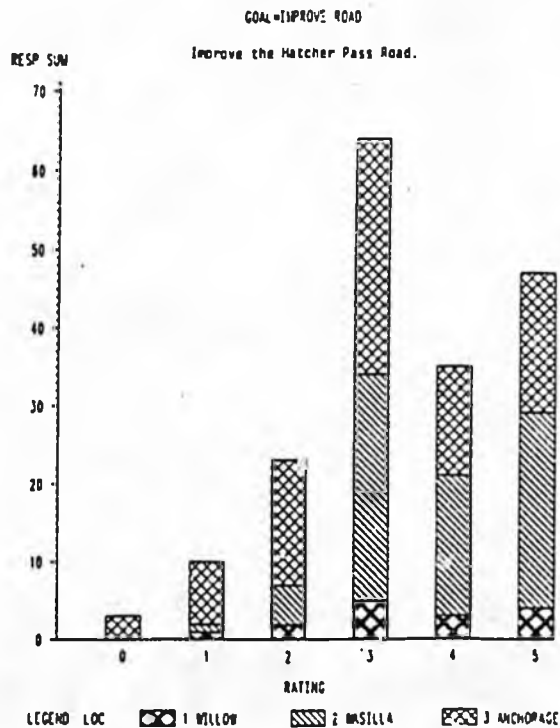
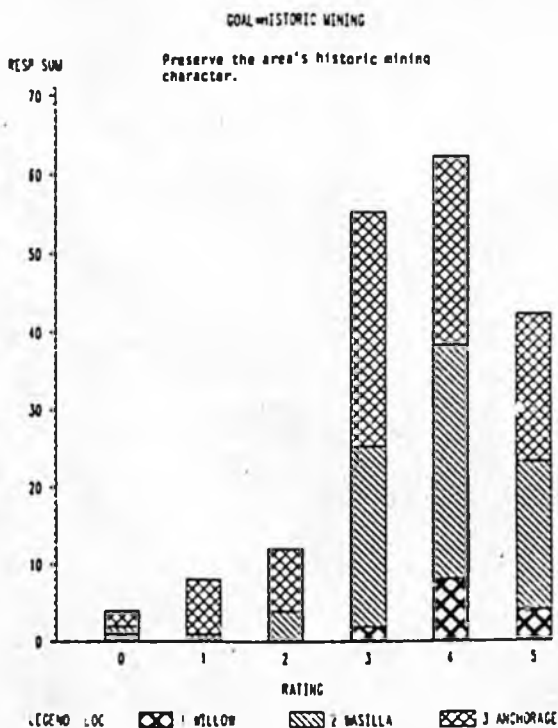
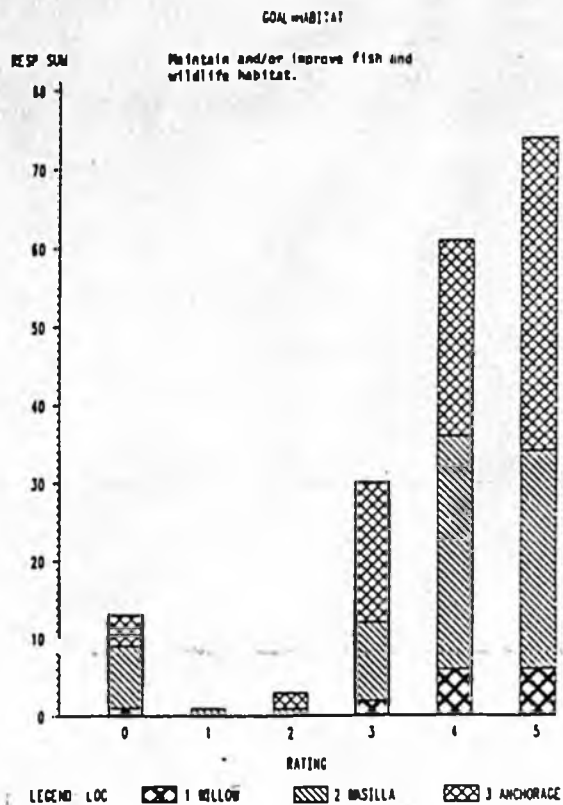
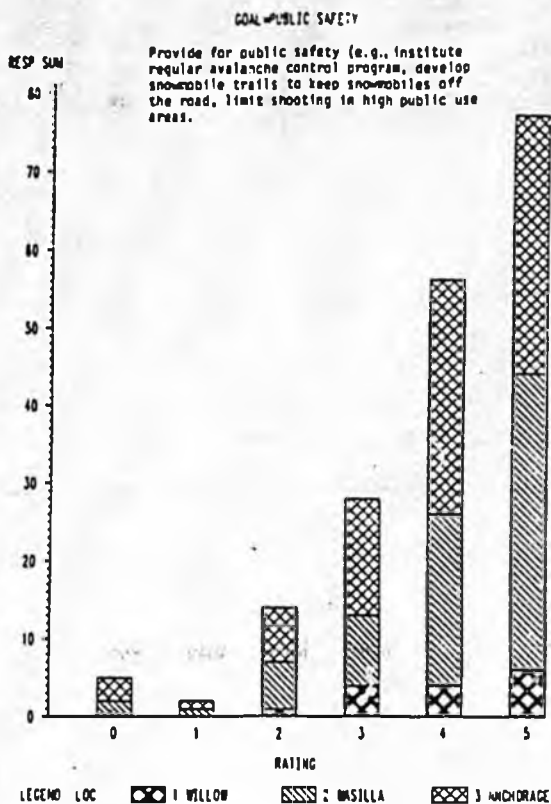
- 0 = INAPPROPRIATE GOAL
- 1 = LOWEST PRIORITY
- 2 = NOT VERY IMPORTANT
- 3 = MODERATELY IMPORTANT
- 4 = VERY IMPORTANT
- 5 = HIGHEST PRIORITY



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

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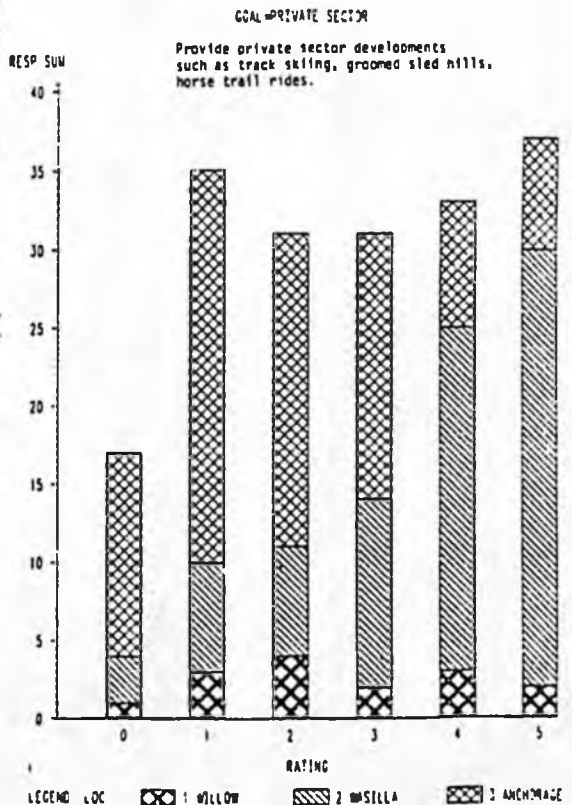
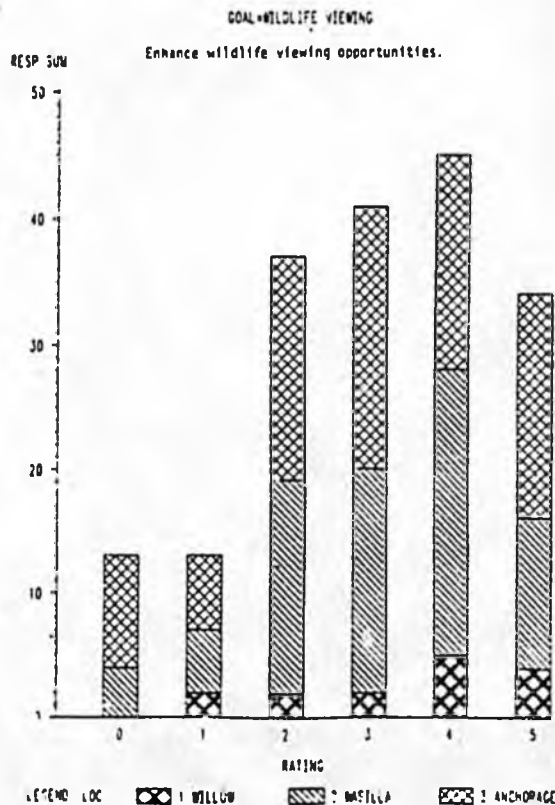
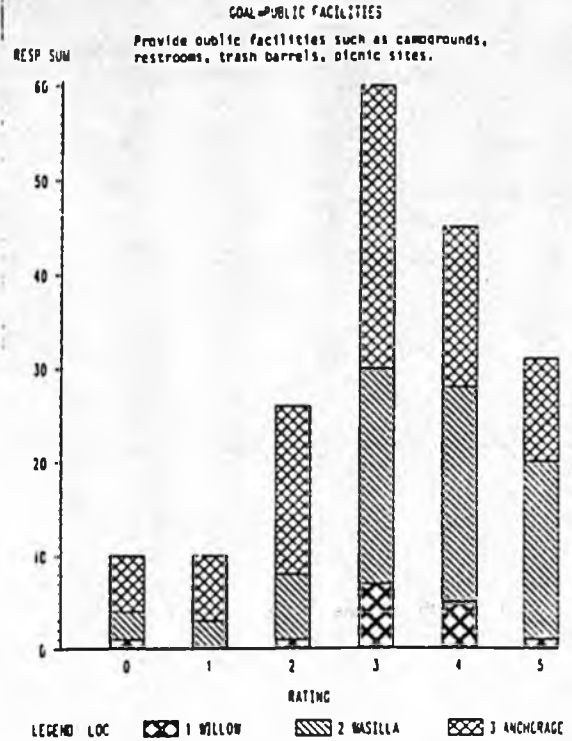
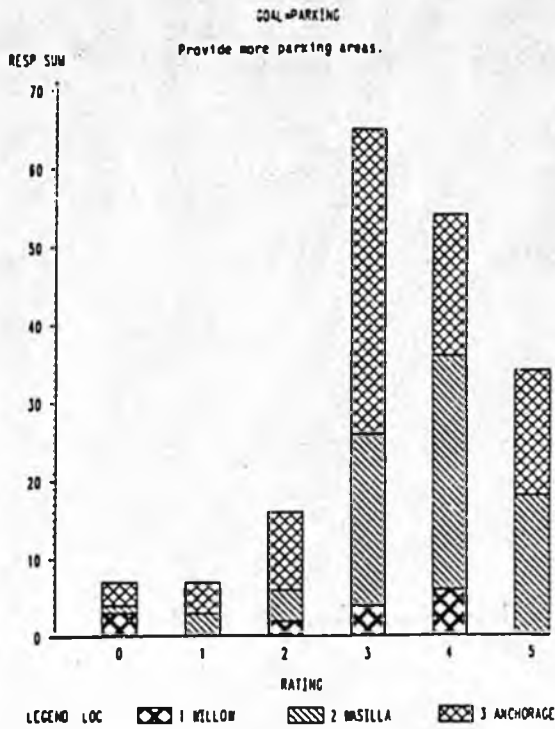
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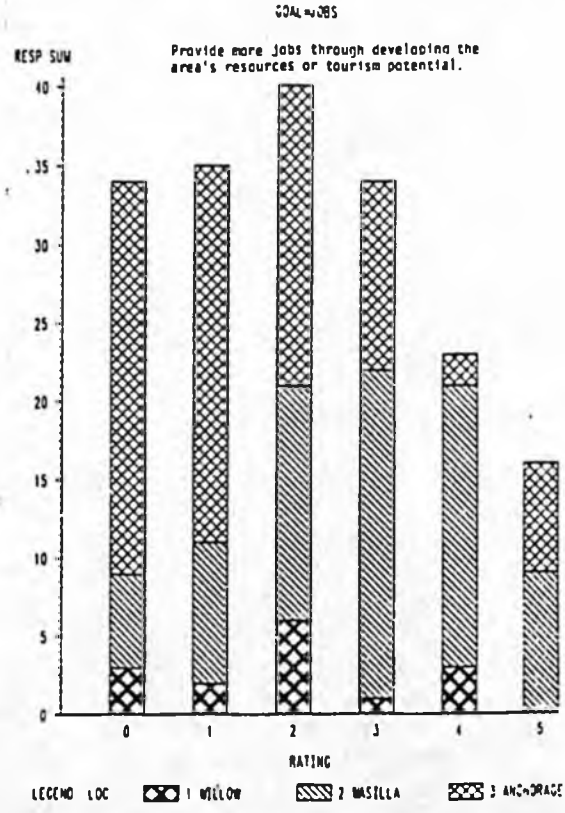
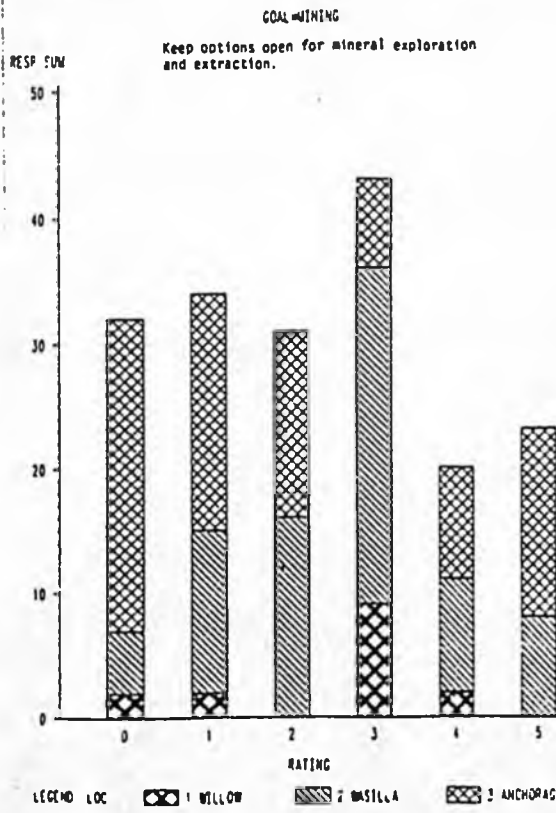
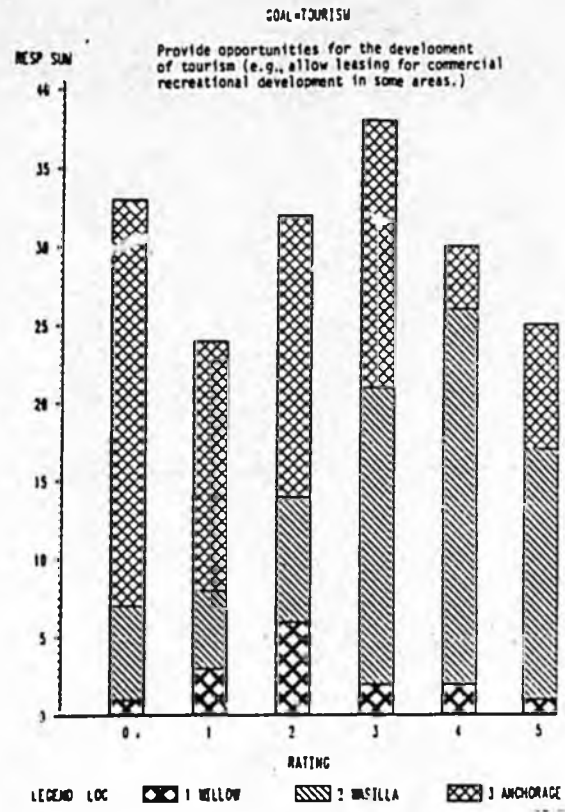
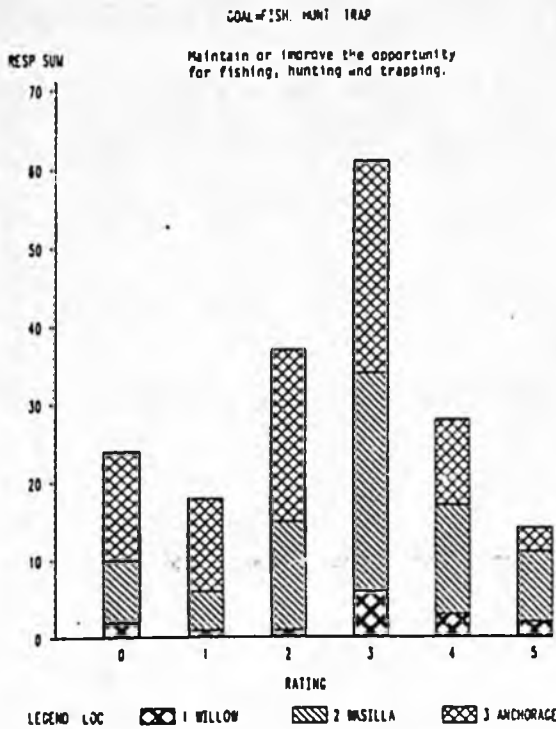
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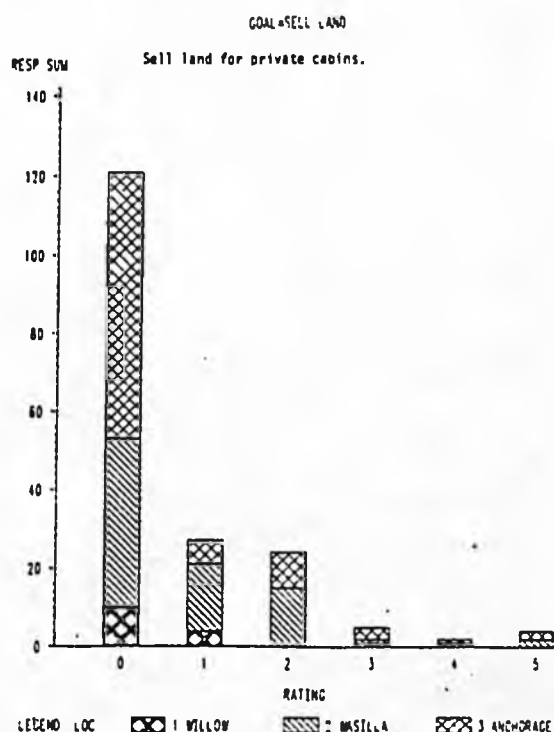
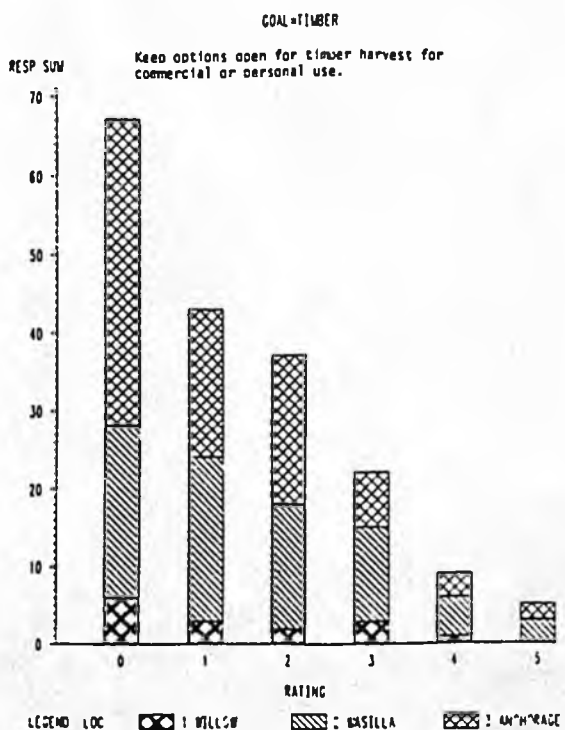
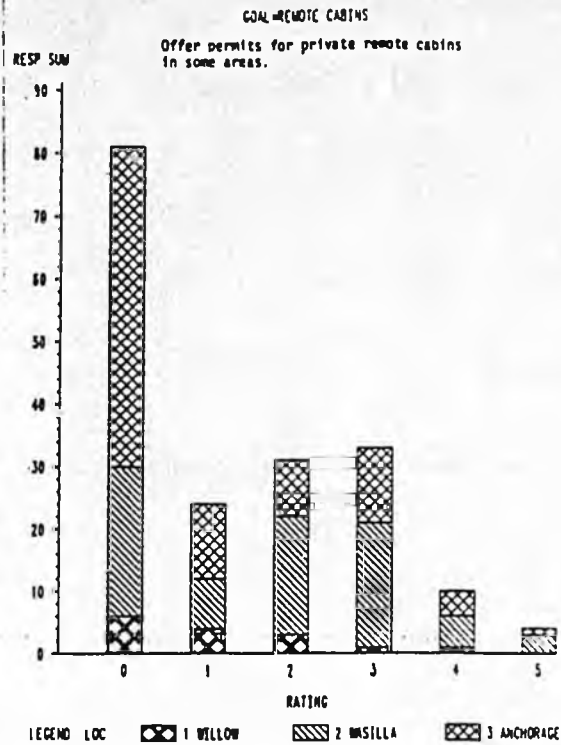
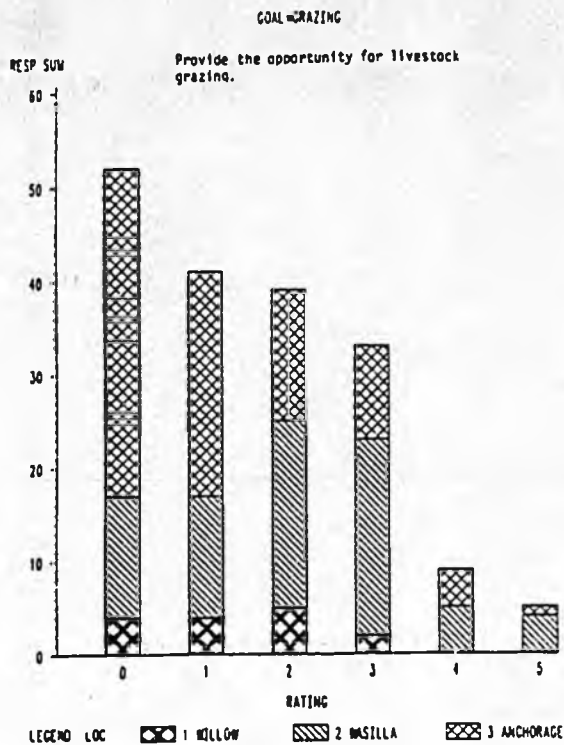
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A number of people added new goals or commented on the proposed goals. The downhill ski area and "Glacier Peaks" non-motorized primitive area proposals were mentioned most frequently (13 for, 1 against downhill skiing; 11 for the primitive area.) Eight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

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

C. MANAGEMENT ALTERNATIVES

1. Hatcher Pass Road

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

2. Public Safety

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

3. Mining

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

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

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

4. Recreation

Public Facilities

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

Commercial or Private Sector Facilities

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

Motorized/Non-motorized Use

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

Primitive Area

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

5. Grazing

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

6. Fish and Wildlife

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

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




7. Forestry

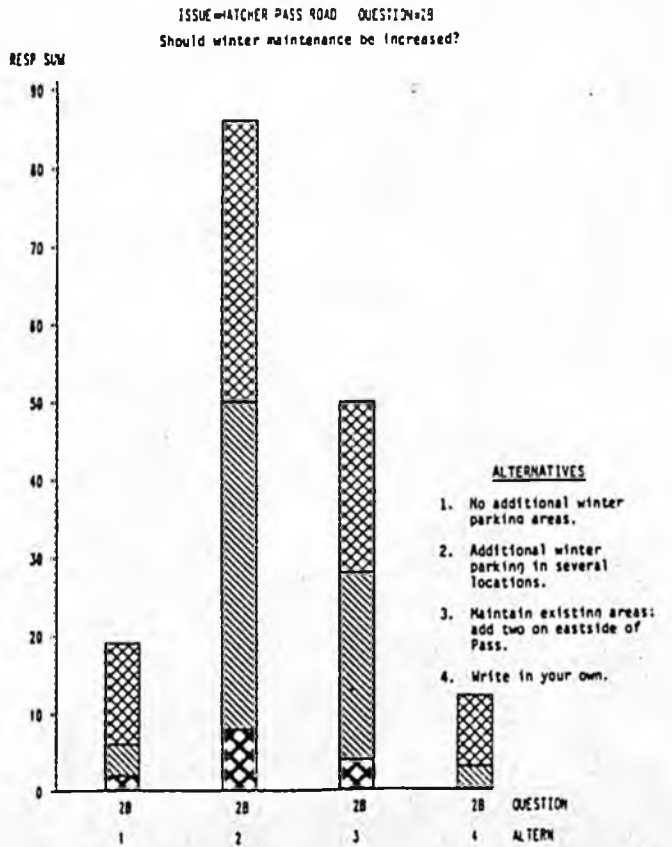
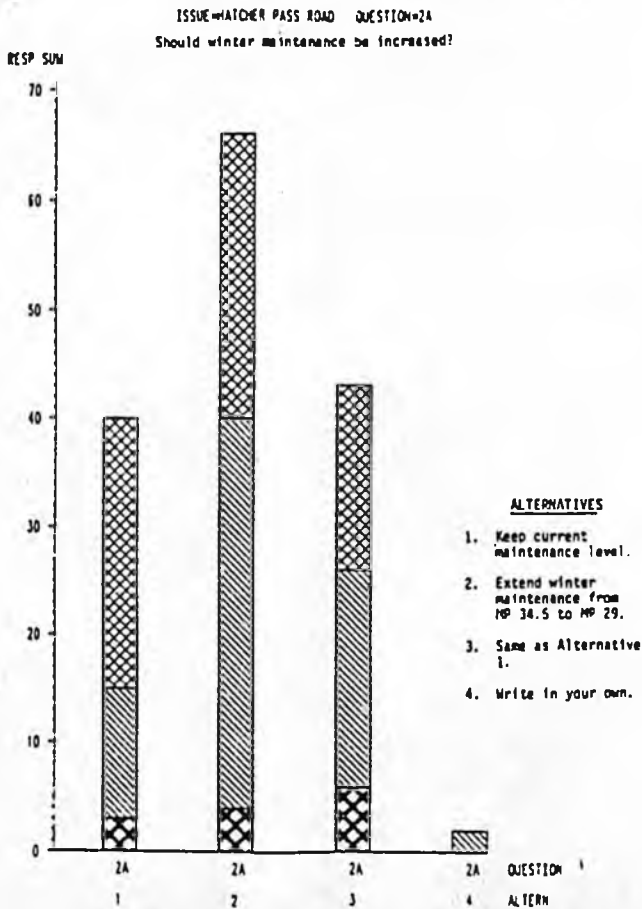
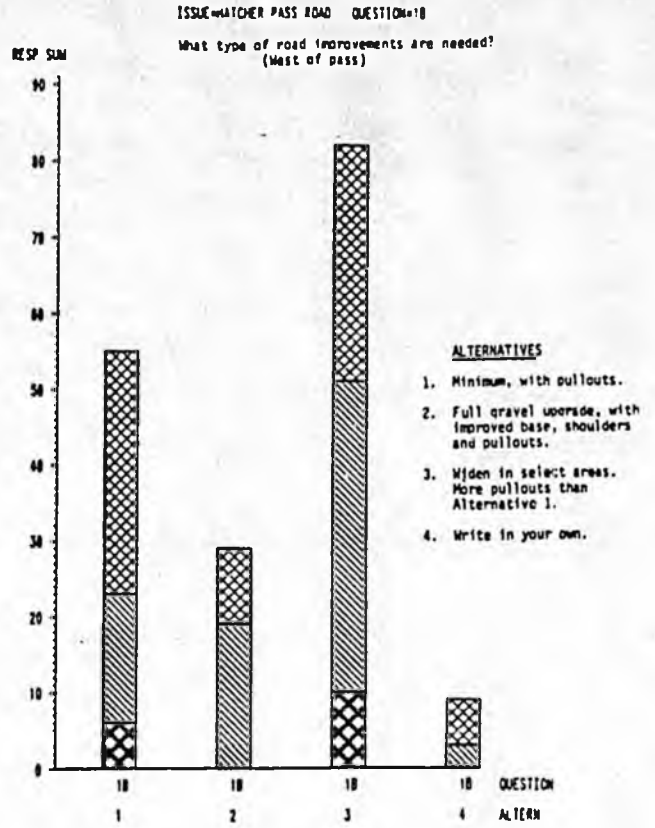
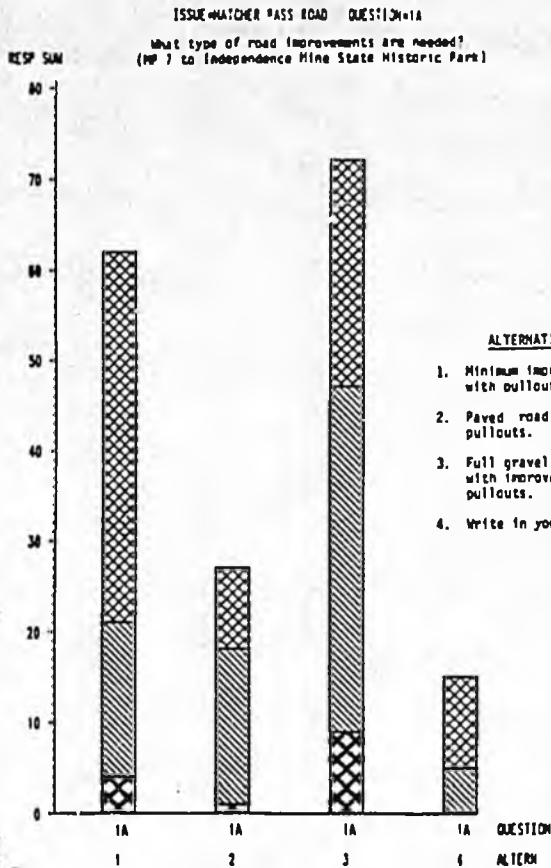
The minimum level of timber management was the clear choice: no forestry operations except selective cutting for disease control on limited acreage.

8. Settlement

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

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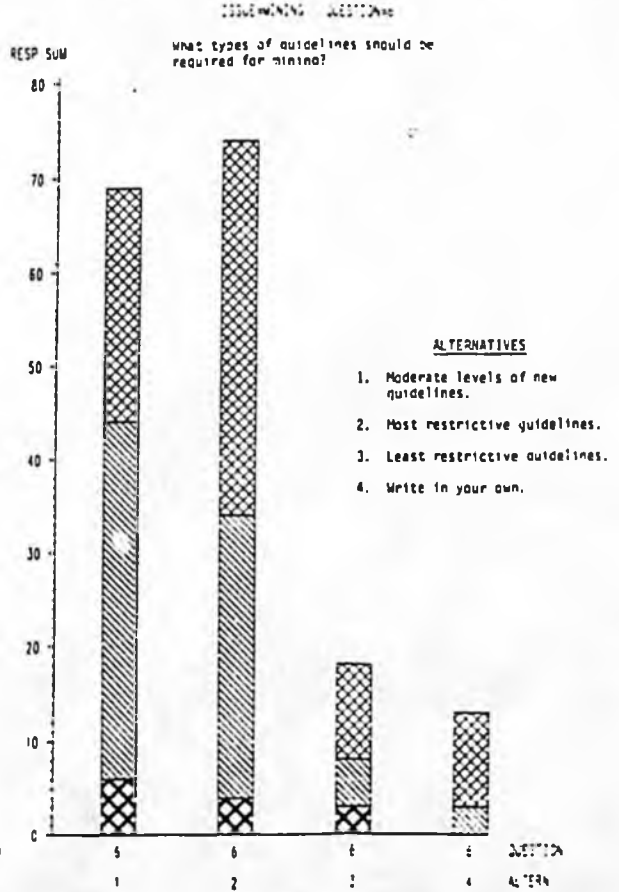
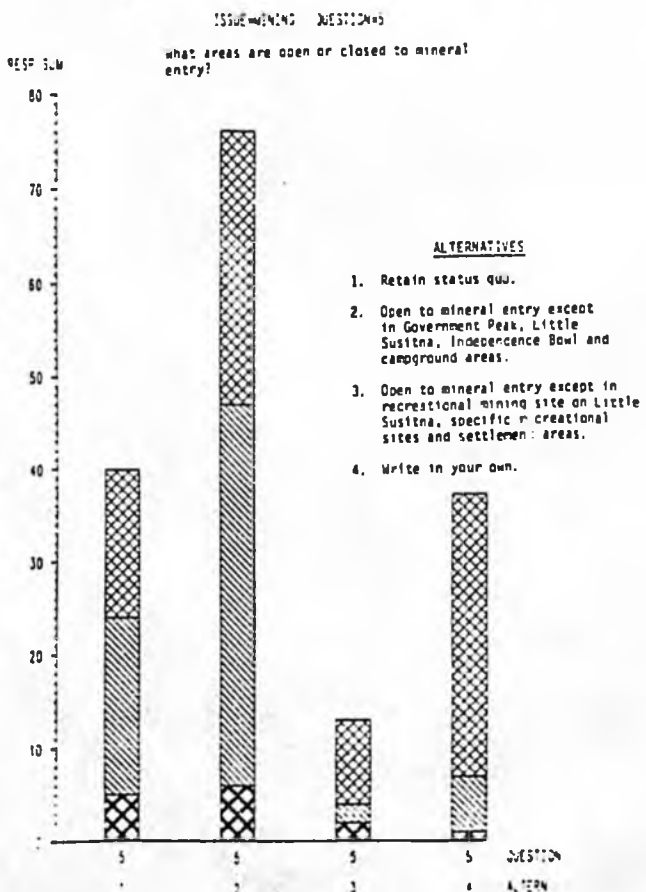
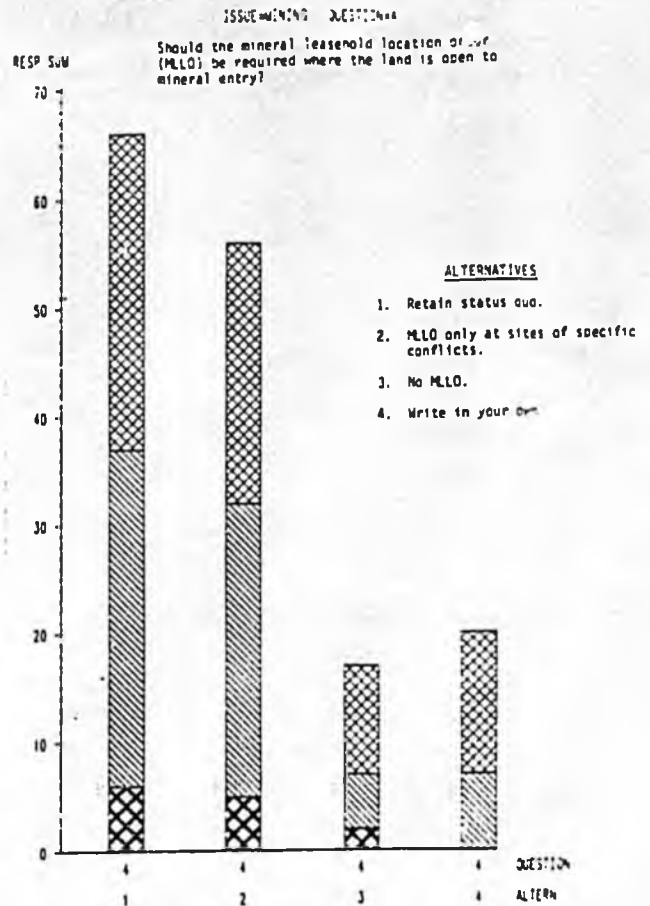
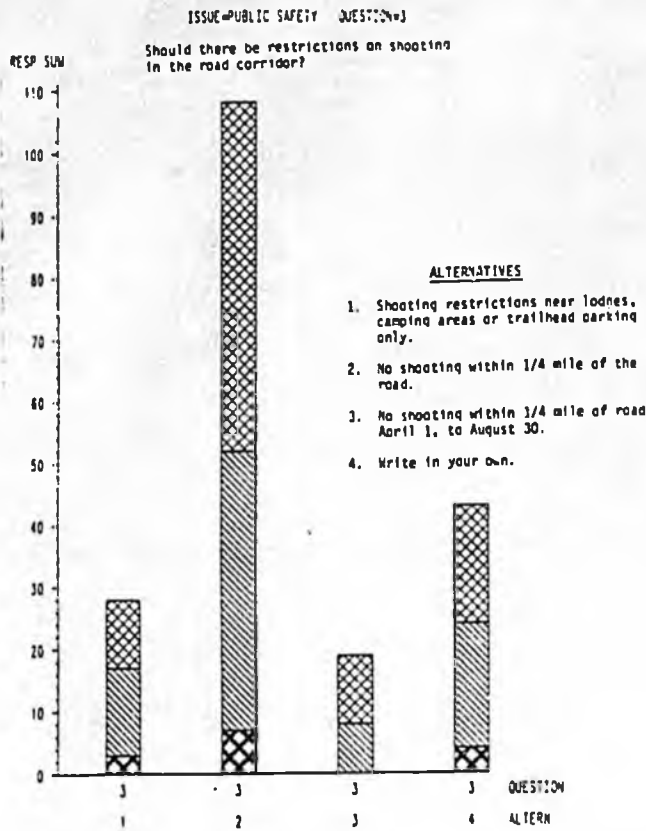
LEGEND: LOC  1 WILLOW  2 BASILLA  3 ANCHORAGE



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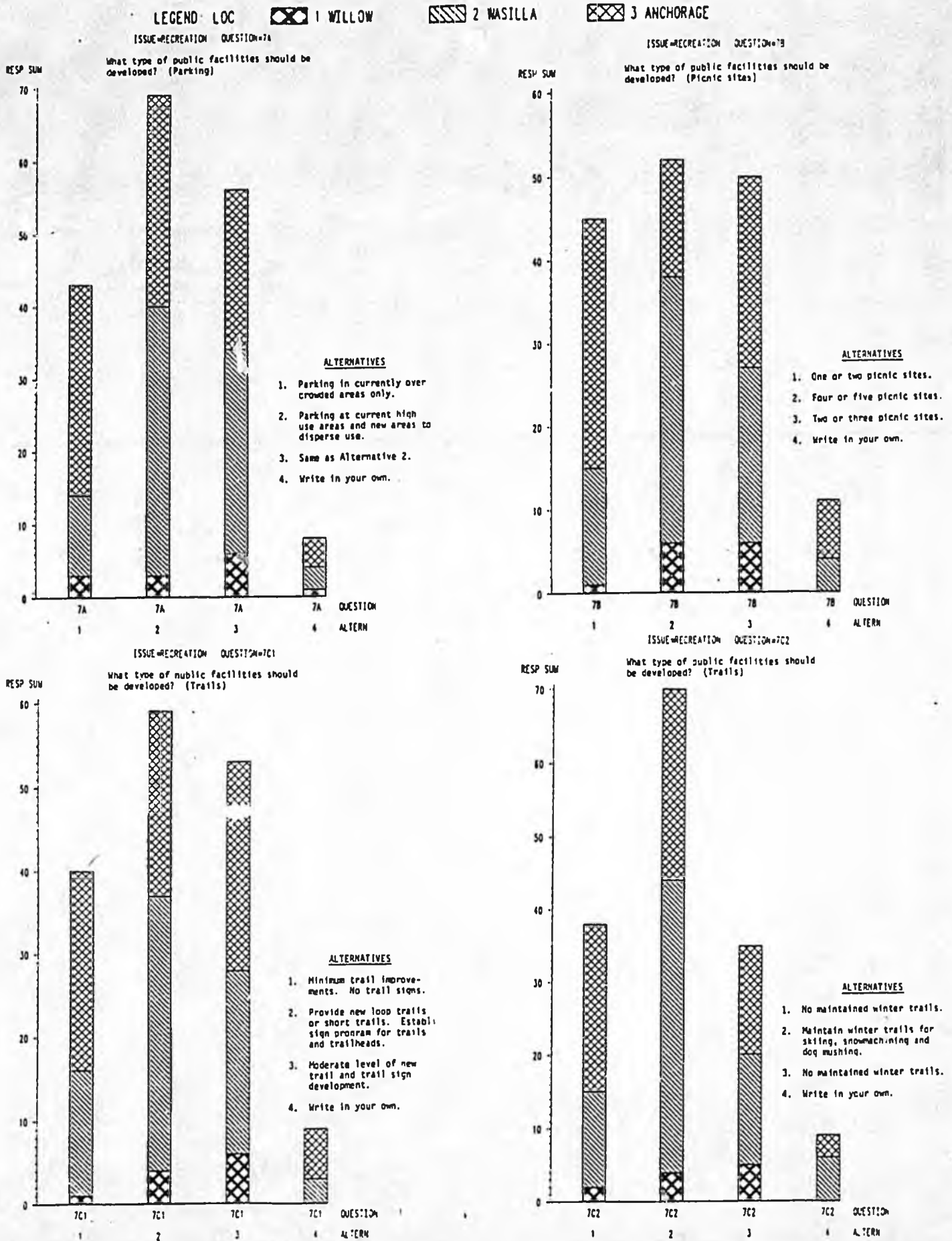
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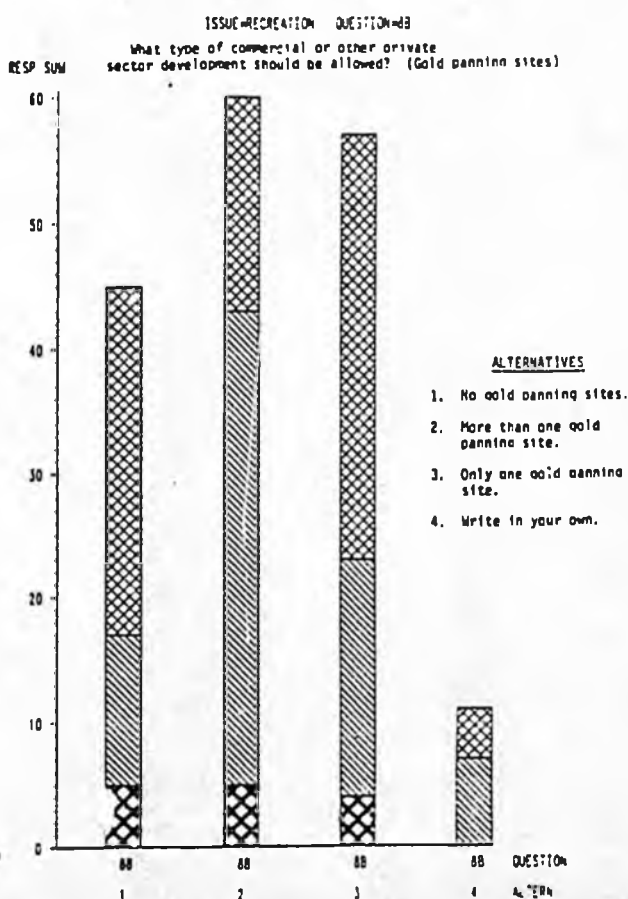
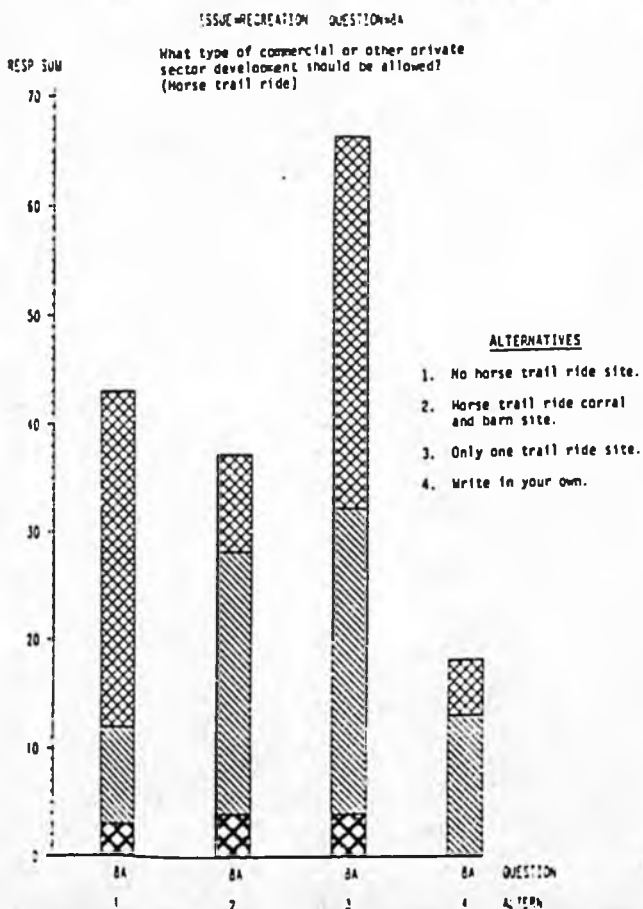
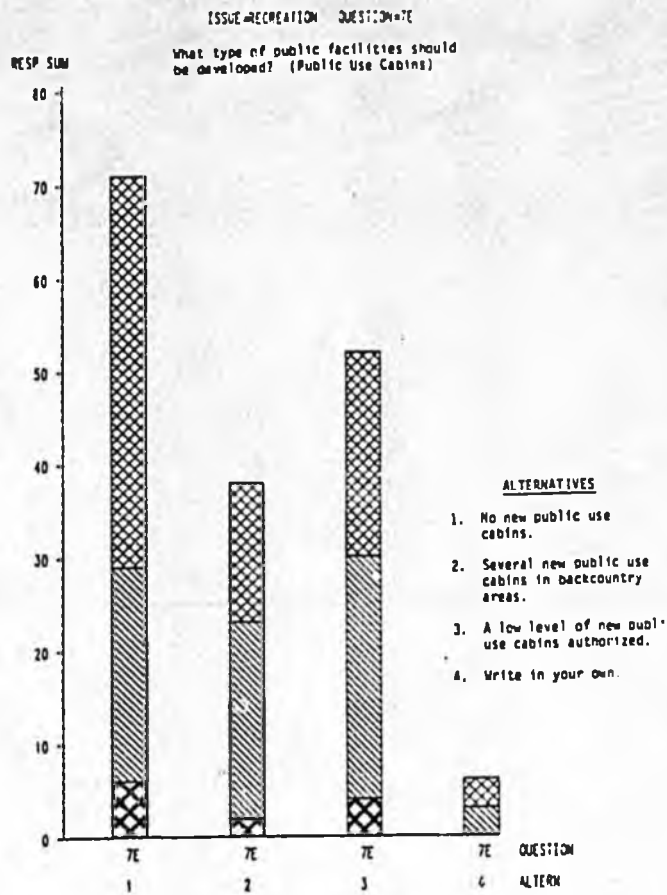
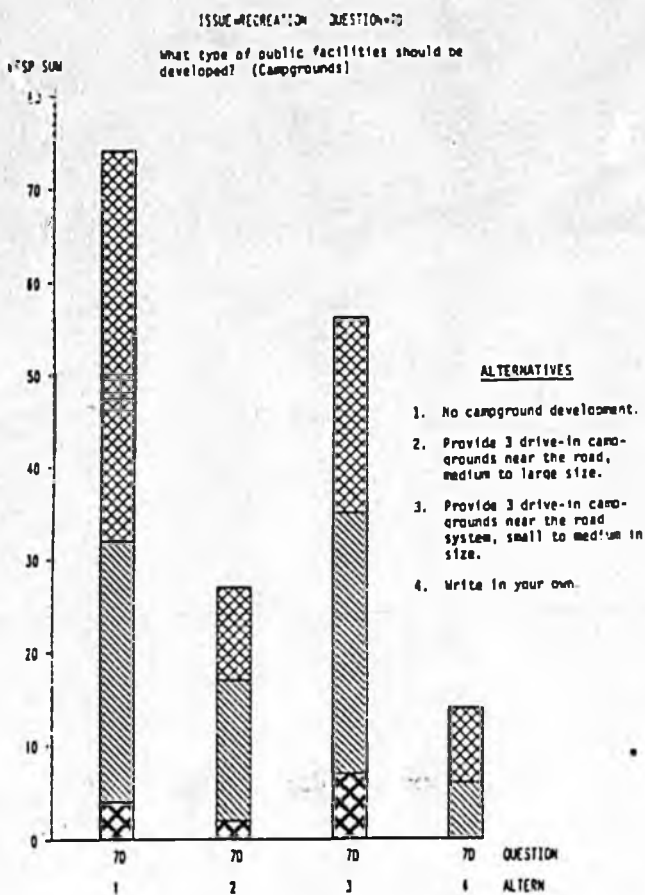
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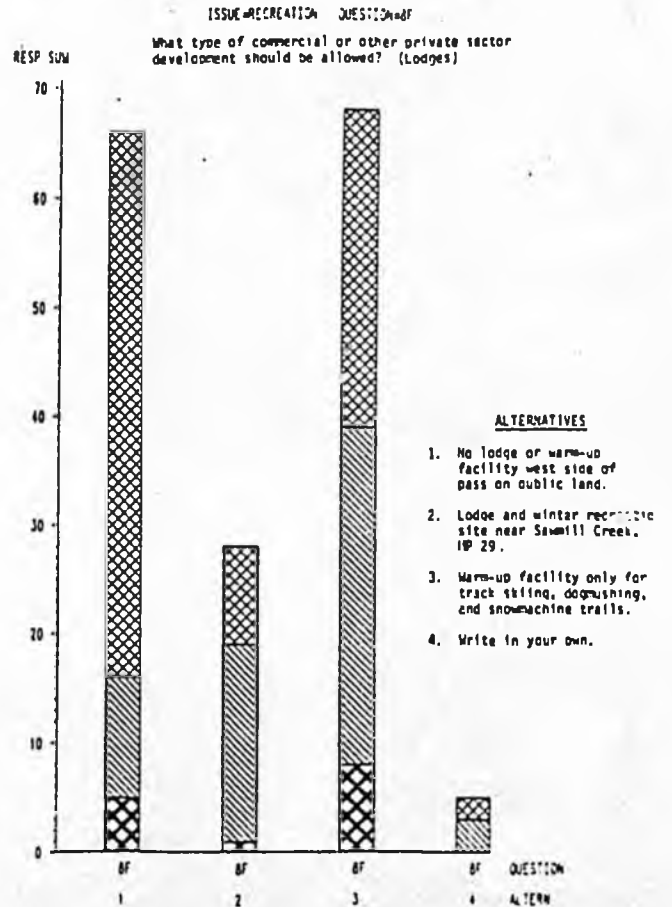
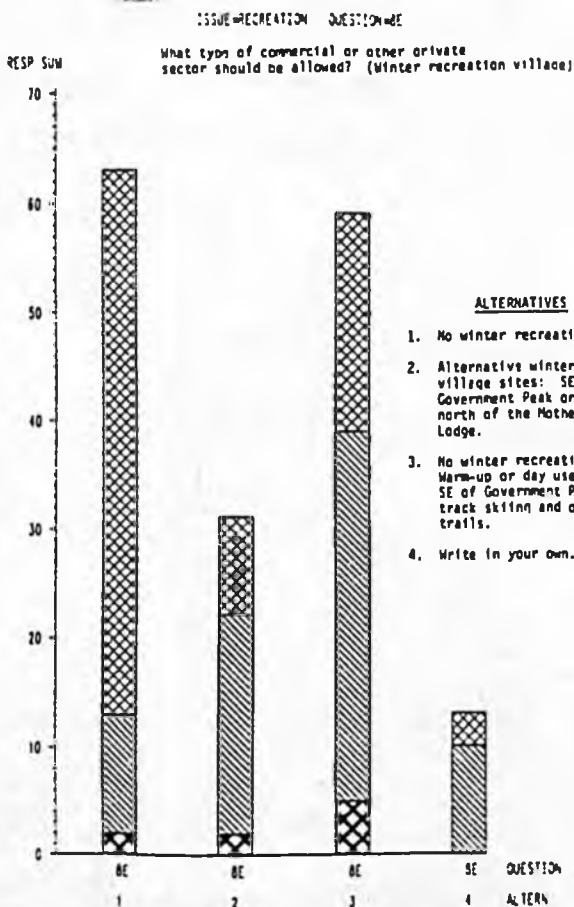
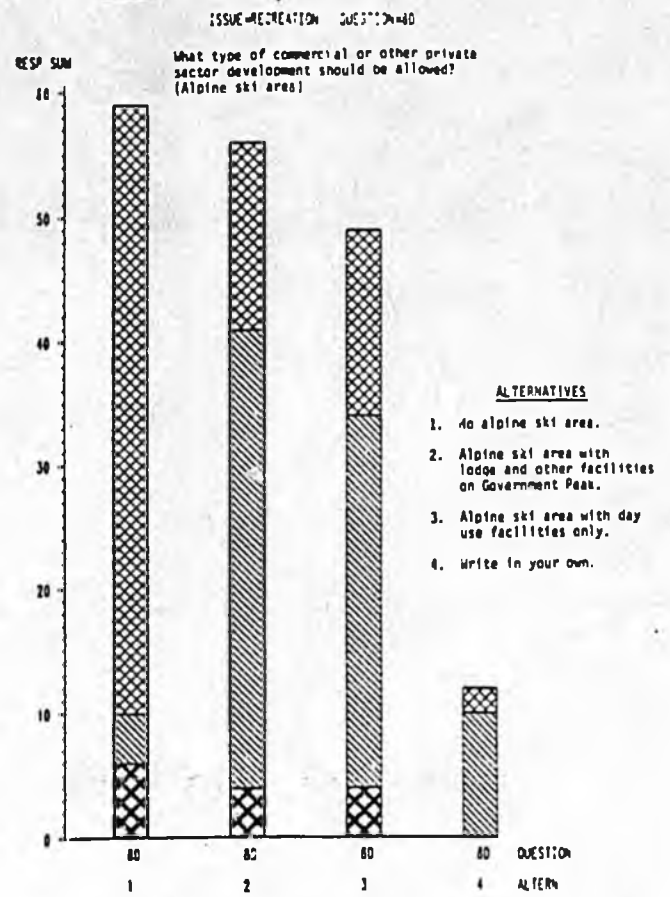
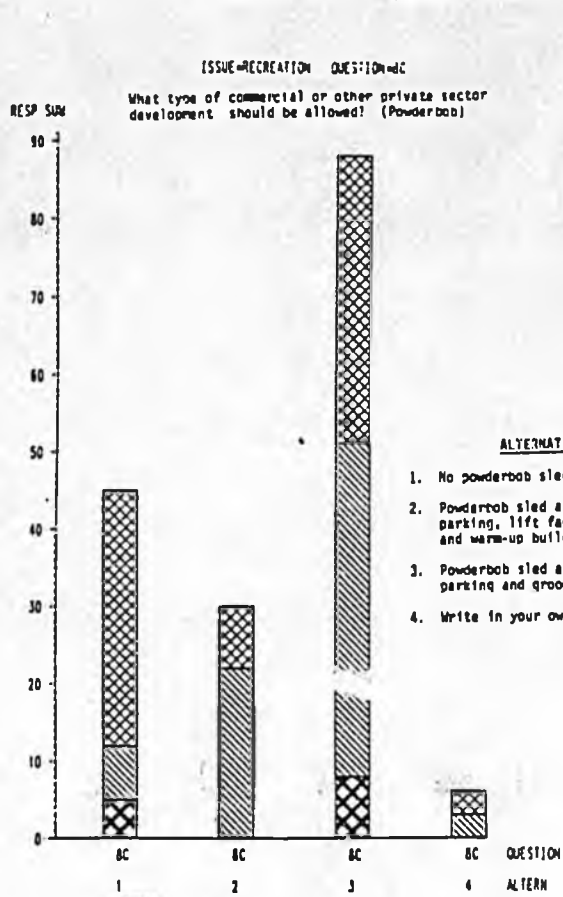
LEGEND LOC 1 WILLOW 2 MASILLA 3 ANCHORAGE



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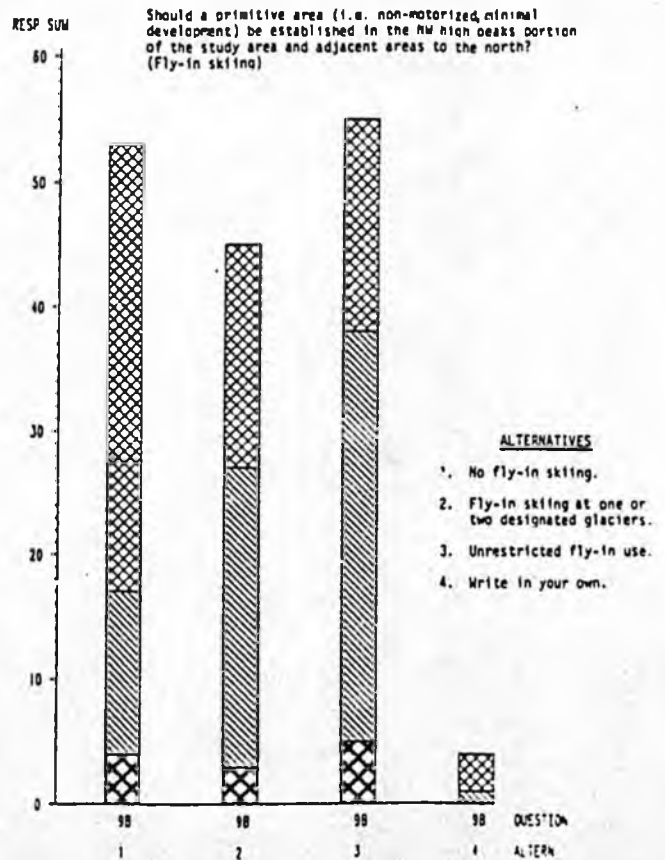
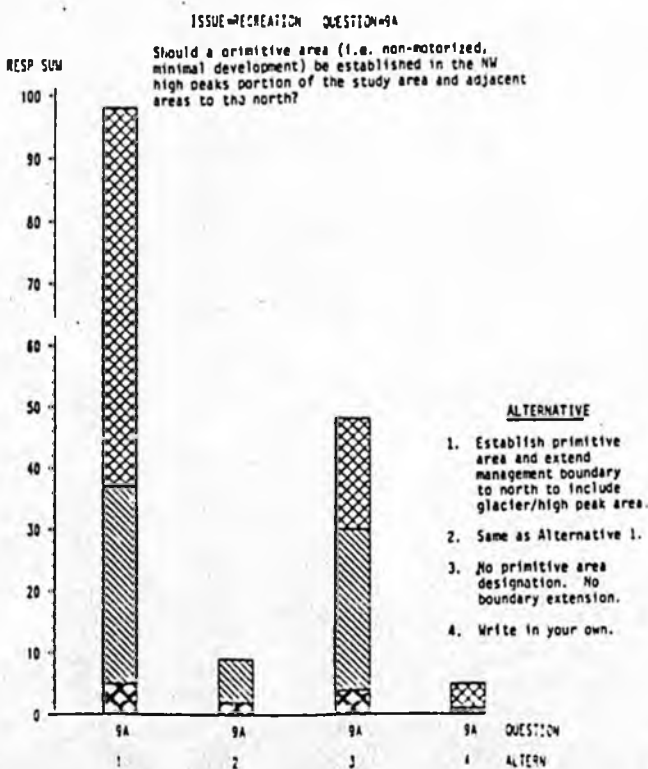
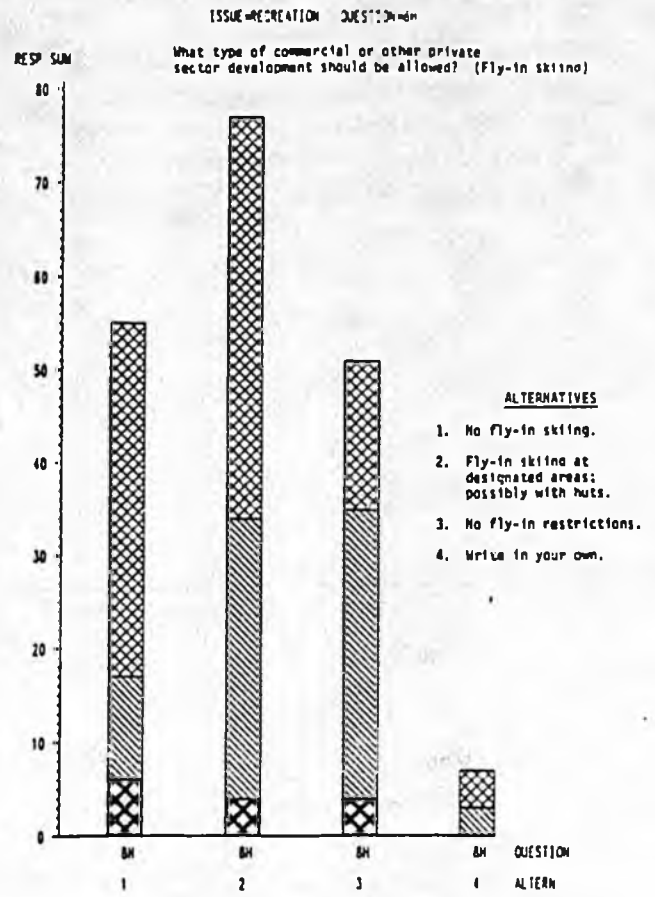
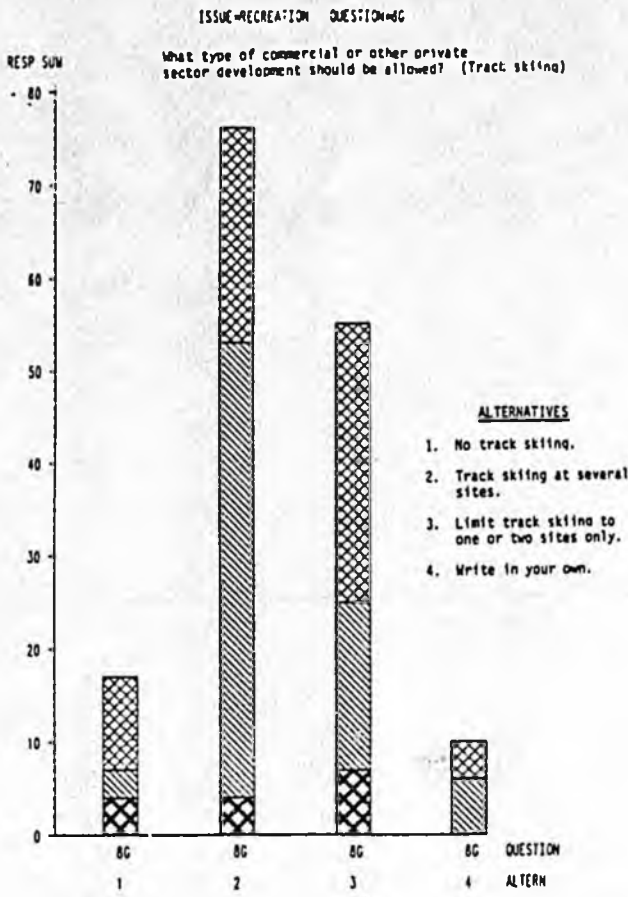
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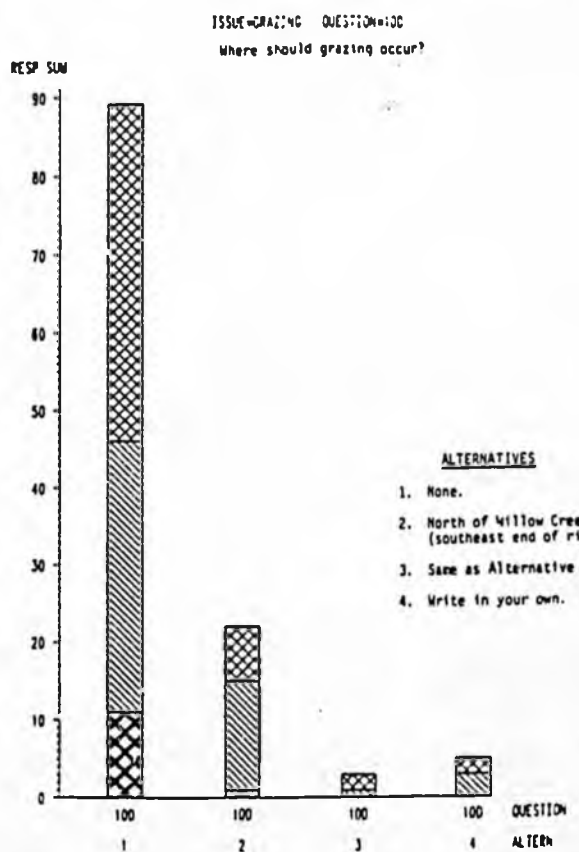
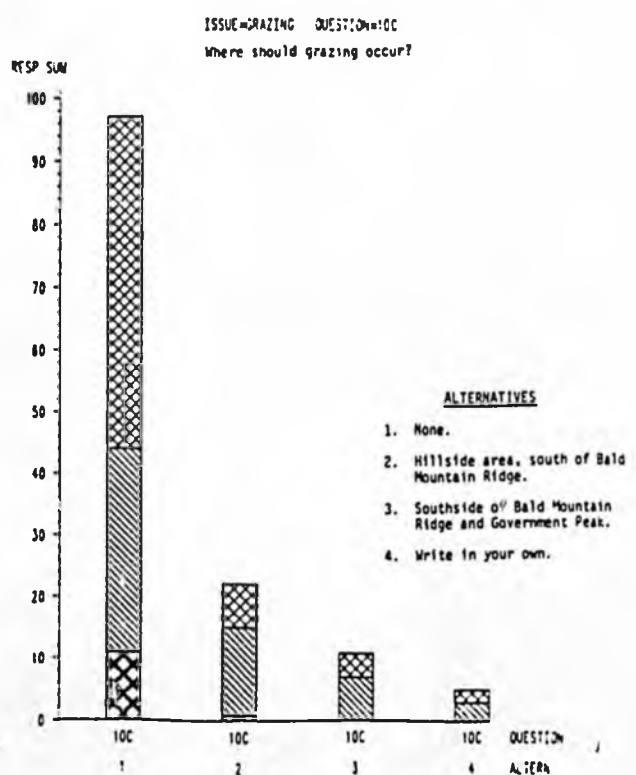
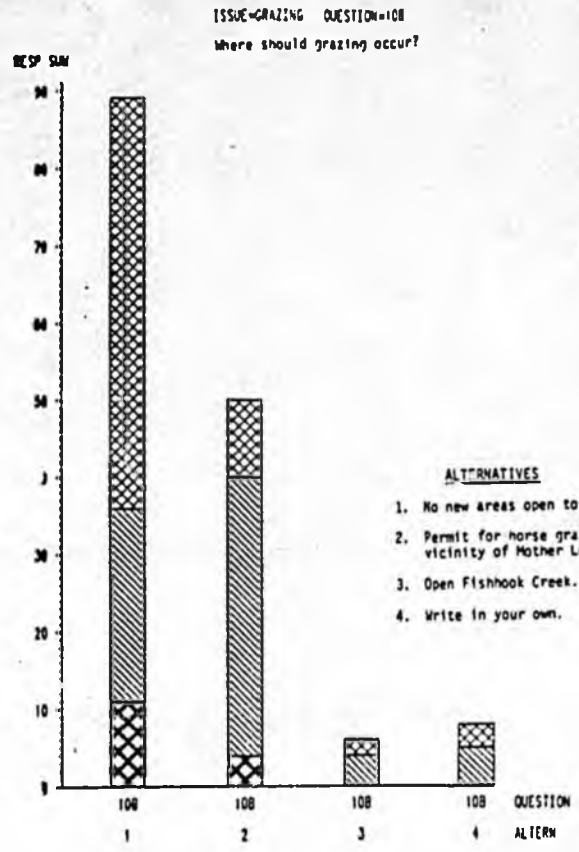
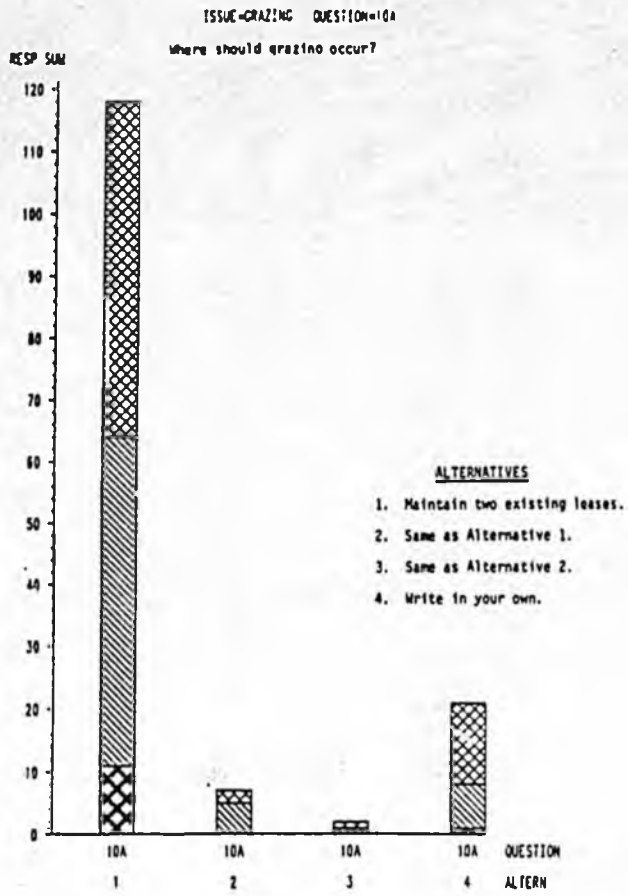
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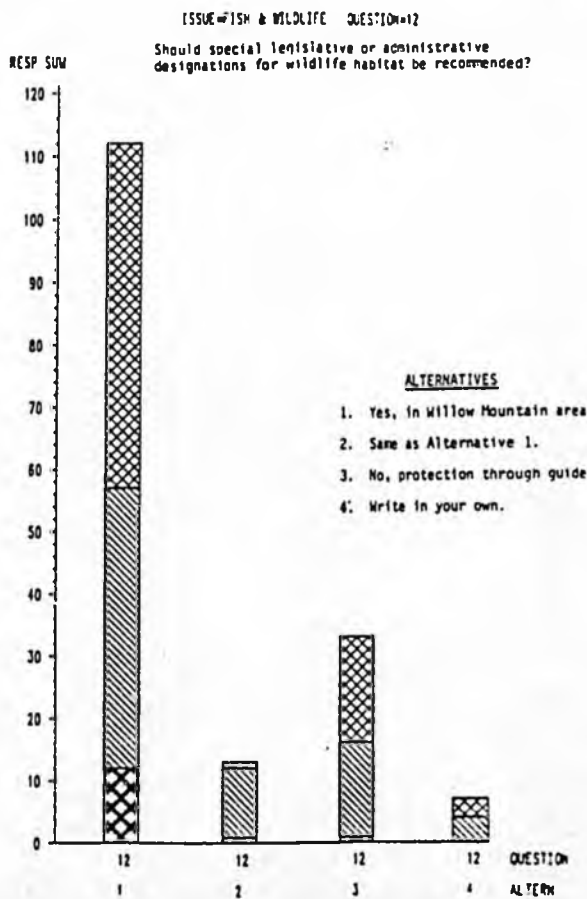
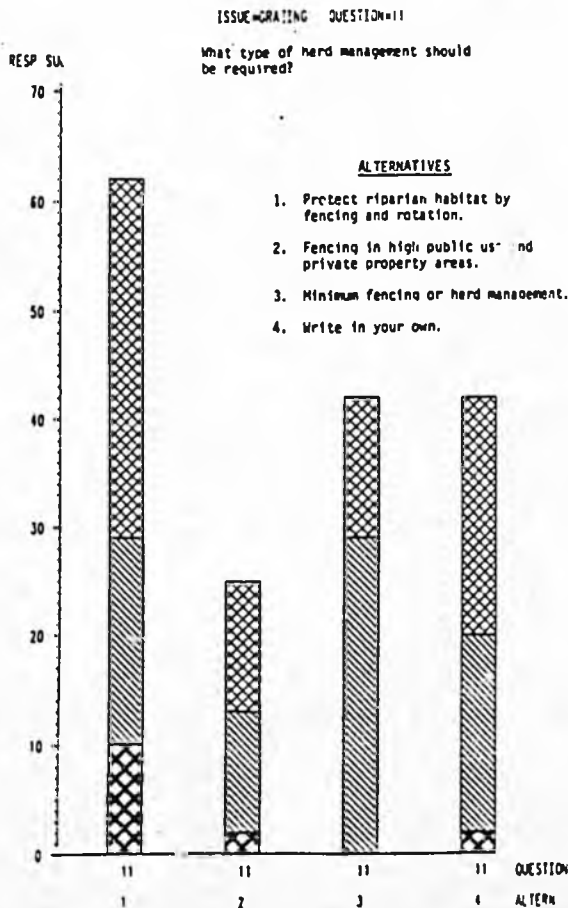
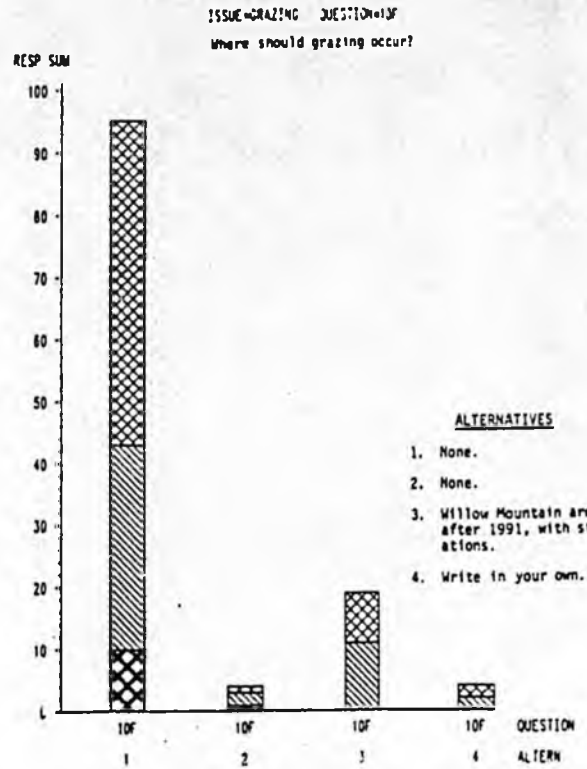
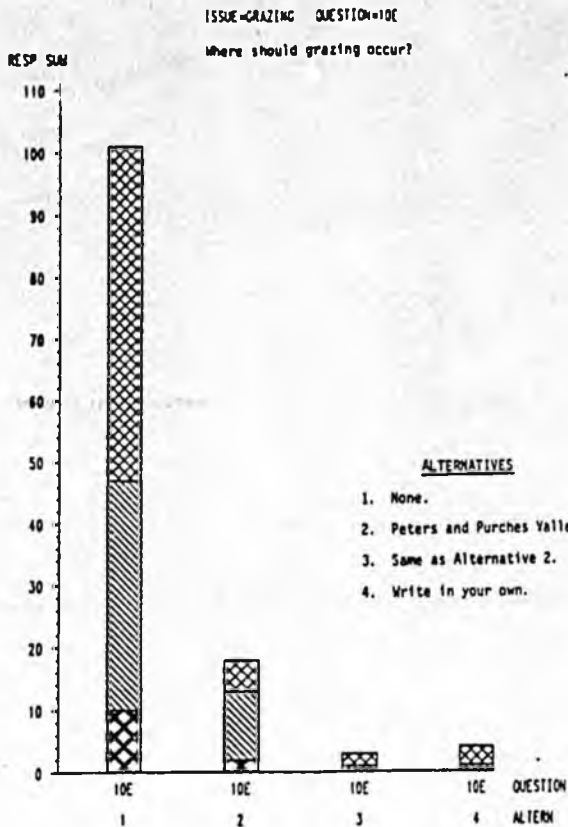
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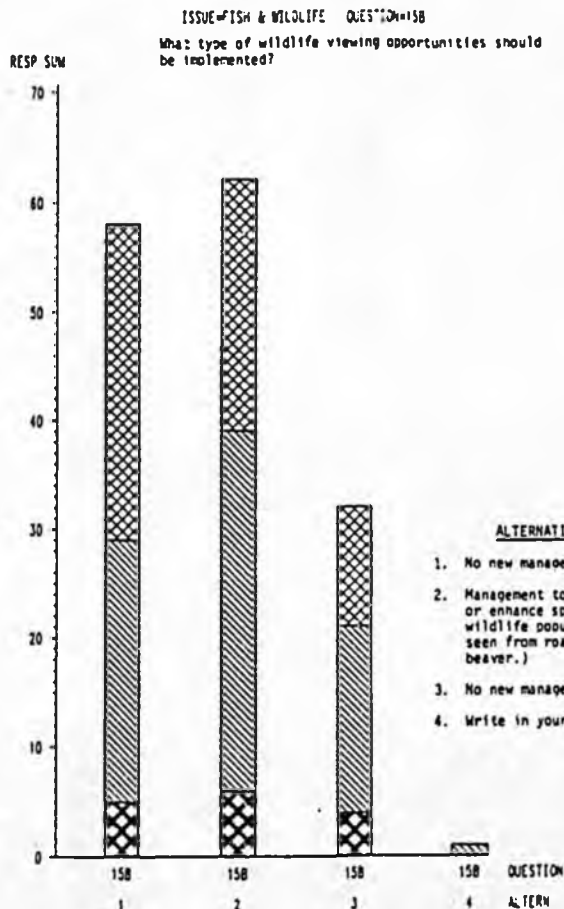
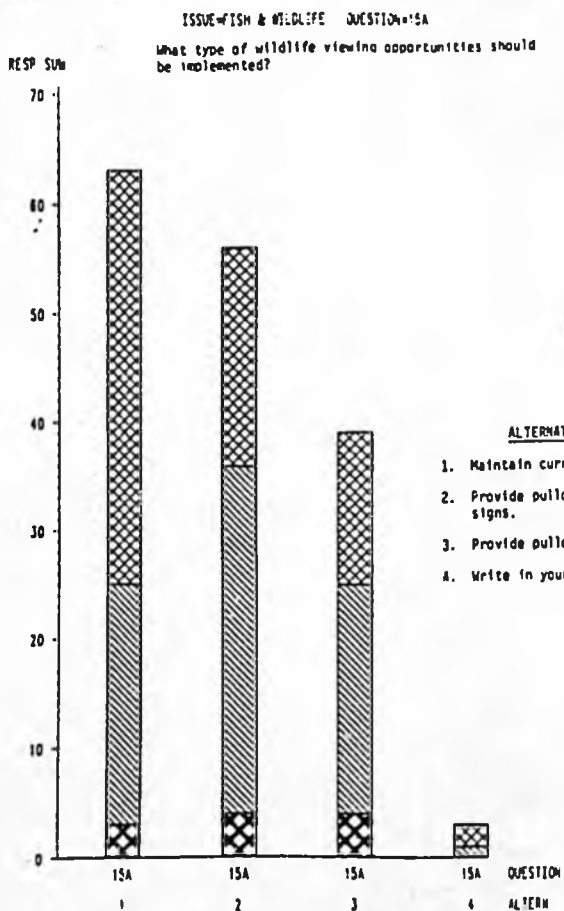
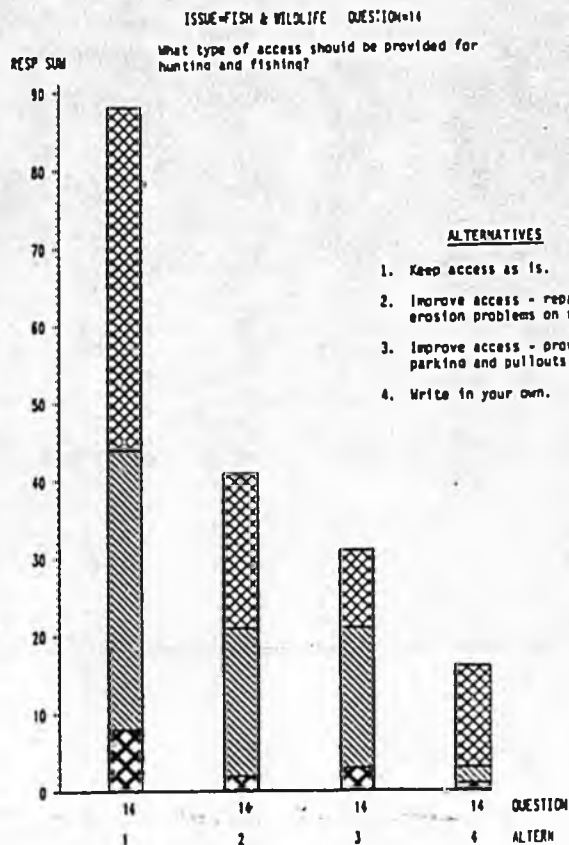
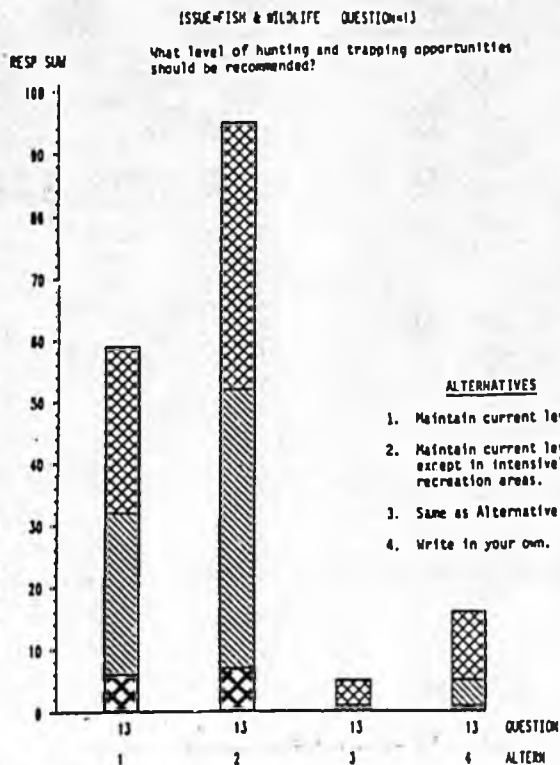
LEGEND LOC 1 WILLOW 2 WASILLA 3 ALHORAGE



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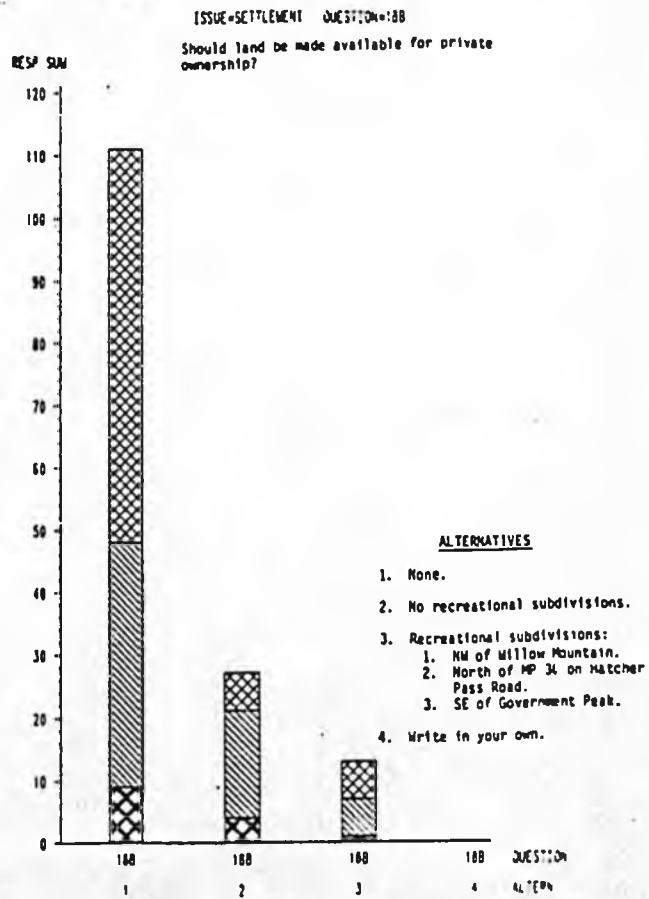
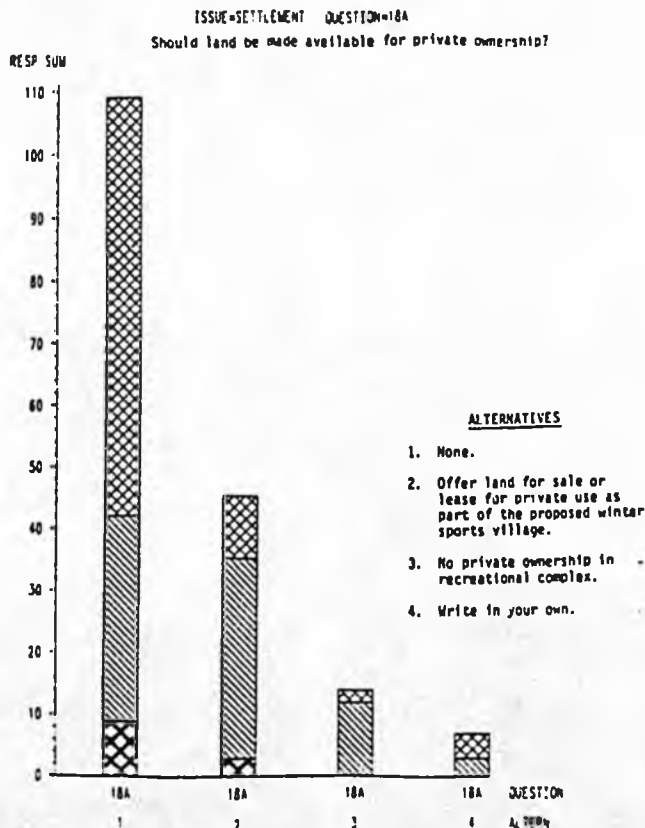
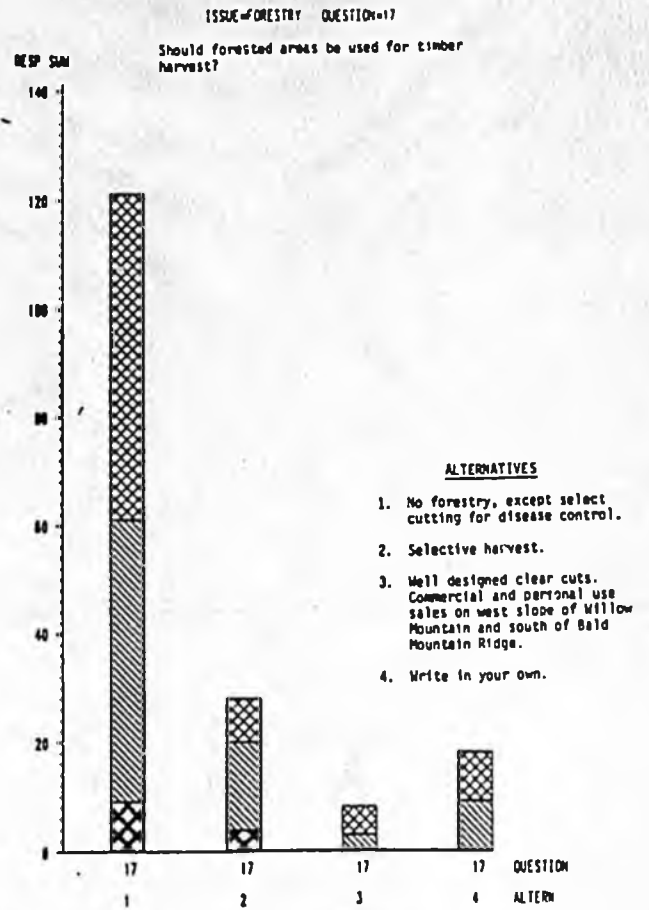
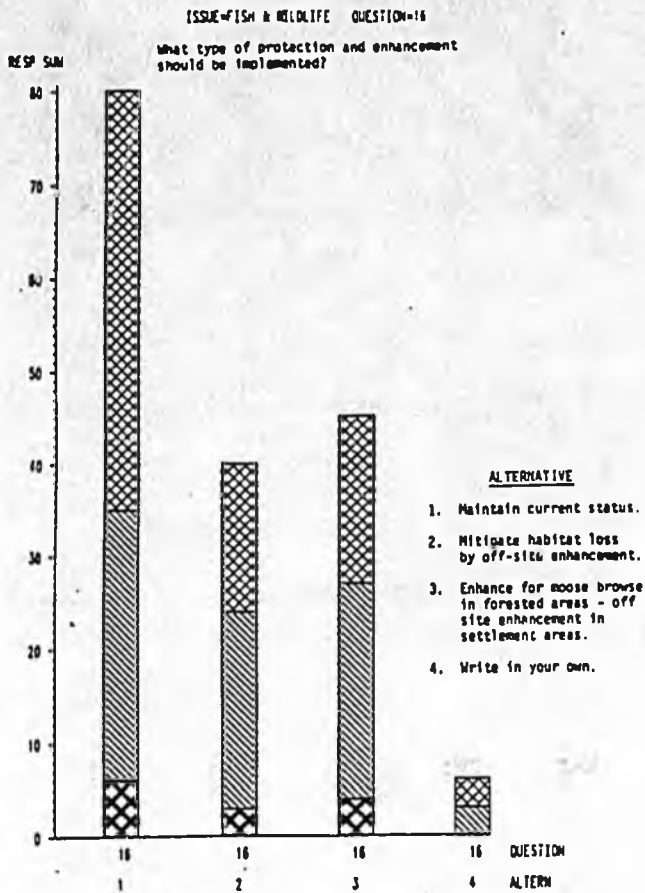


*Number of responses shown on the vertical axes varies with each issue.

MANAGEMENT ALTERNATIVES FOR HATCHER PASS MANAGEMENT PLAN, BY ISSUE AND LOCATION

(Prepared by DGGS, Resource Analysis Section)*

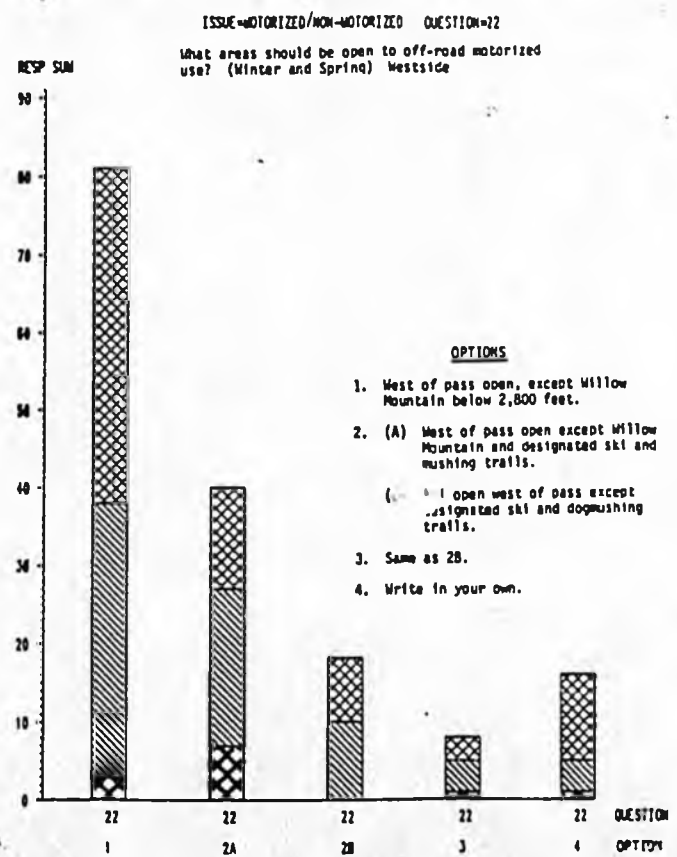
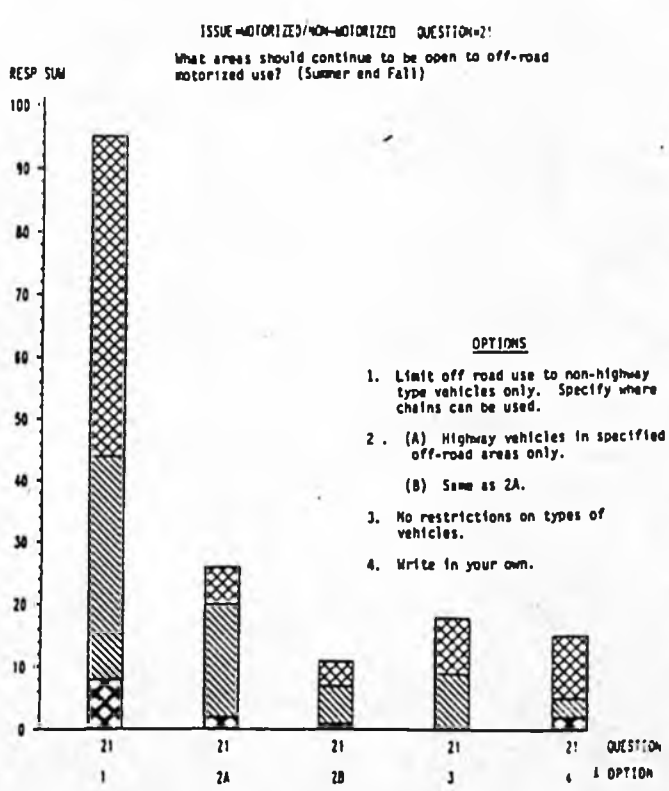
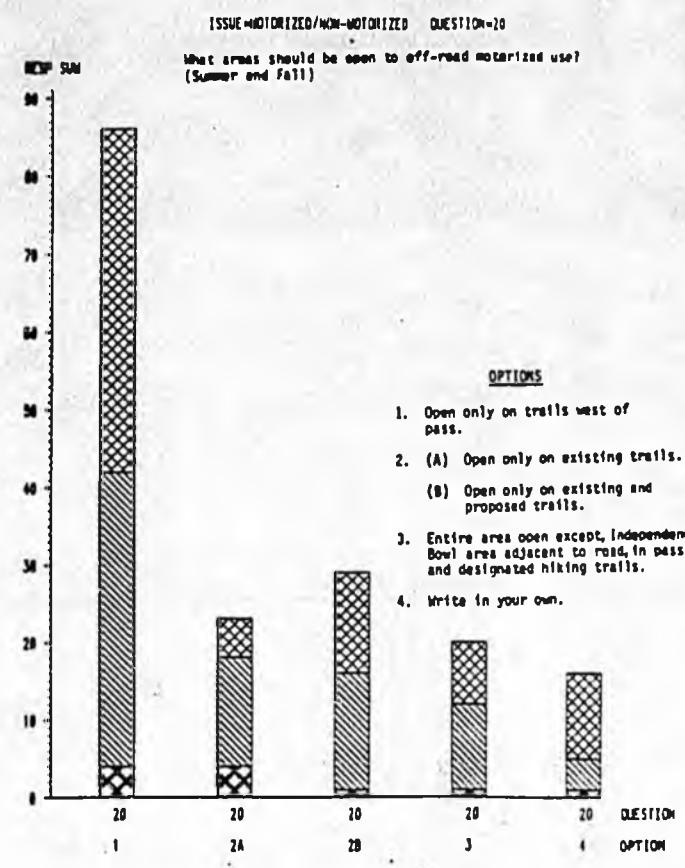
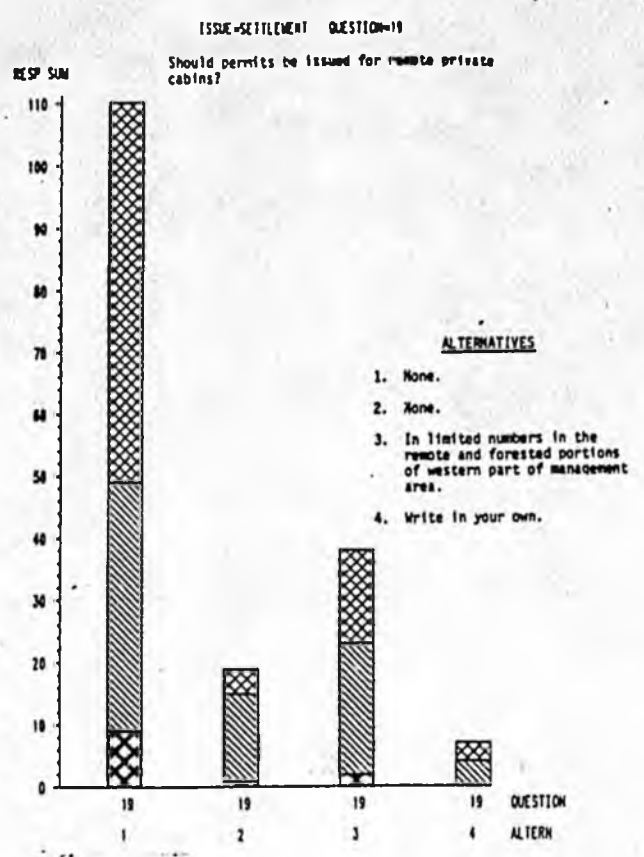
LEGEND: LOC  1 WILLOW  2 MASILLA  3 ANCHORAGE



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

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

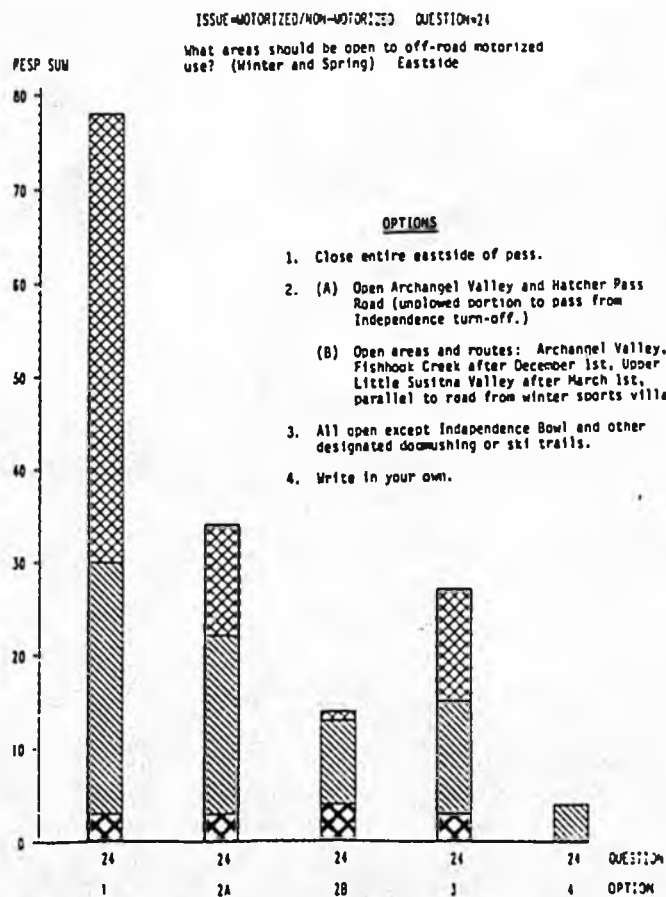
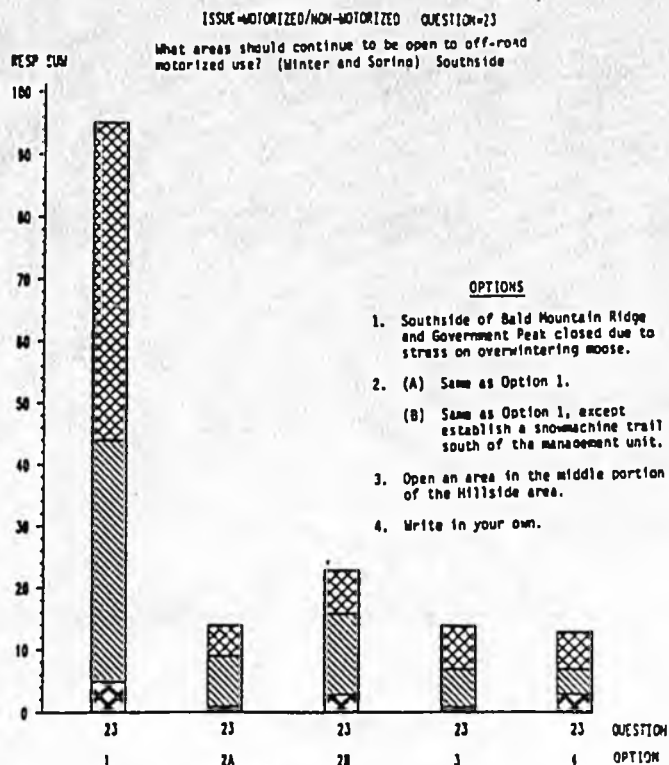
LEGEND: LOC  1 WILLOW  2 BASILLA  3 ANCHORAGE



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

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

LEGEND LCC  1 WILLOW  2 WASILLA  3 ANCHORAGE



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

III. ORAL COMMENTS

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

Willow

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

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

Wasilla

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

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

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

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

Anchorage

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

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

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

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

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

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

IV. LETTERS FROM THE PUBLIC

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

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

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

Letters from groups:

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

A summary of these letters is available on request.

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



Alaska Department of
**NATURAL
RESOURCES**

OFFICIAL BUSINESS
STATE OF ALASKA
STATE PENALTY FOR
PRIVATE USE



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

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

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

1 IN THE SENATE

BY KERTTULA

2

SENATE BILL NO. 334

3

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4

FOURTEENTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

5

A BILL

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

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

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

9

ARTICLE. 2. HATCHER PASS PUBLIC USE AREA.

10

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

11

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

12

Hatcher Pass Public Use Area.

13

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

14

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

15

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

16

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

17

trapping;

18

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

19

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

20

other public recreation area activities;

21

(3) protect the water quality and scenic resources within

22

the Hatcher Pass Public Use Area.

23

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

24

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

25

face estate within the Hatcher Pass Public Use Area consistent with

26

the purposes of AS 41.23.100.

27

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

28

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

29

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

22 (1) each determination of incompatibility;

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

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

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

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

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

6 Township 18 North, Range 1 West, Seward Meridian

7 Sections 5 - 6

8 Township 19 North, Range 1 East, Seward Meridian

9 Sections 1 - 24

10 Sections 27 - 31

11 Township 19 North, Range 2 East, Seward Meridian

12 Sections 3 - 8

13 Section 9: N1/2

14 Sections 17 - 20

15 Township 19 North, Range 1 West, Seward Meridian

16 Township 19 North, Range 2 West, Seward Meridian

17 Section 1

18 Sections 12 - 13

19 Sections 24 - 25

20 Section 36

21 Township 20 North, Range 1 East, Seward Meridian

②②
②③
OUTSIDE
BOUNDARY

→ Section 1: S1/2, NE1/4

→ Section 2: S1/2, NW1/4

24 Sections 3 - 36

25 Township 20 North, Range 2 East, Seward Meridian

26 Sections 2 - 11

27 Sections 14 - 23

28 Sections 26 - 35

29 Township 20 North, Range 1 West, Seward Meridian

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

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

ATTACHMENT A

Only

HATCHER PASS MANAGEMENT UNIT WITHOUT PROPOSED BOUNDARY EXTENSIONS

Legal Description

SUBJECT TO VALID EXISTING RIGHTS

Seward Meridian;

T18N, R1W
Sections 5, 6

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

T19N, R1E
Sections 1-24, 27-31

T19N, R1W
All

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

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

T20N, R1E

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

T20N, R1W
All

T20N, R2W
All

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

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

T21N, R1E

Section 17: SW 1/4

Section 18: S 1/2

Sections 19-21

Section 22: SW 1/4

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

Sections 28-34

T21N, R1W

Section 2: S 1/2

Sections 3-11

Section 13: S 1/2

Sections 14-36

T21N, R2W

All

T21N, R3W

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

T22N, R1W

Section 31: S 1/2

Section 32: S 1/2

Section 33: S 1/2

Section 34: SW 1/4

T22N, R2W

Sections 19-21

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

Section 25: S 1/2

Sections 26-36

ATTACHMENT B

HATCHER PASS MANAGEMENT UNIT BOUNDARY EXTENSIONS

Legal Description

SUBJECT TO VALID EXISTING RIGHTS

Seward Meridian;

Willow Creek Boundary Extension

T19N, R2W
Sections 2-6

Northern Boundary Extension

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

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

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

ATTACHMENT C

HATCHER PASS MANAGEMENT INCLUDING PROPOSED BOUNDARY EXTENSIONS

Legal Description

SUBJECT TO VALID EXISTING RIGHTS

Seward Meridian;

T18N, R1W
Sections 5, 6

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

T19N, R1E
Sections 1-24, 27-31

T19N, R1E
All

T19N, R2W
Sections 1-6, 12, 13, 24, 25, 36

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

T20N, R1E
All

T20N, R1W
All

T20N, R2W
All

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

T21N, R2E
Sections 14-23, 26-35

T21N, R1E
Sections 13-16
Section 17: S 1/2
Section 18: S 1/2
Sections 19-36

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

T21N, R2W
All

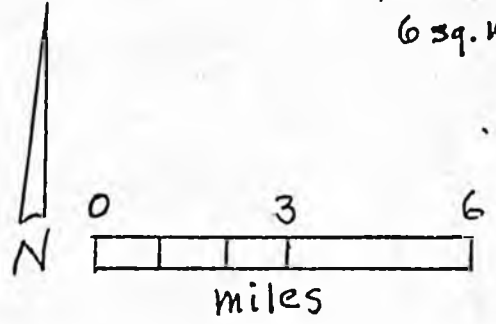
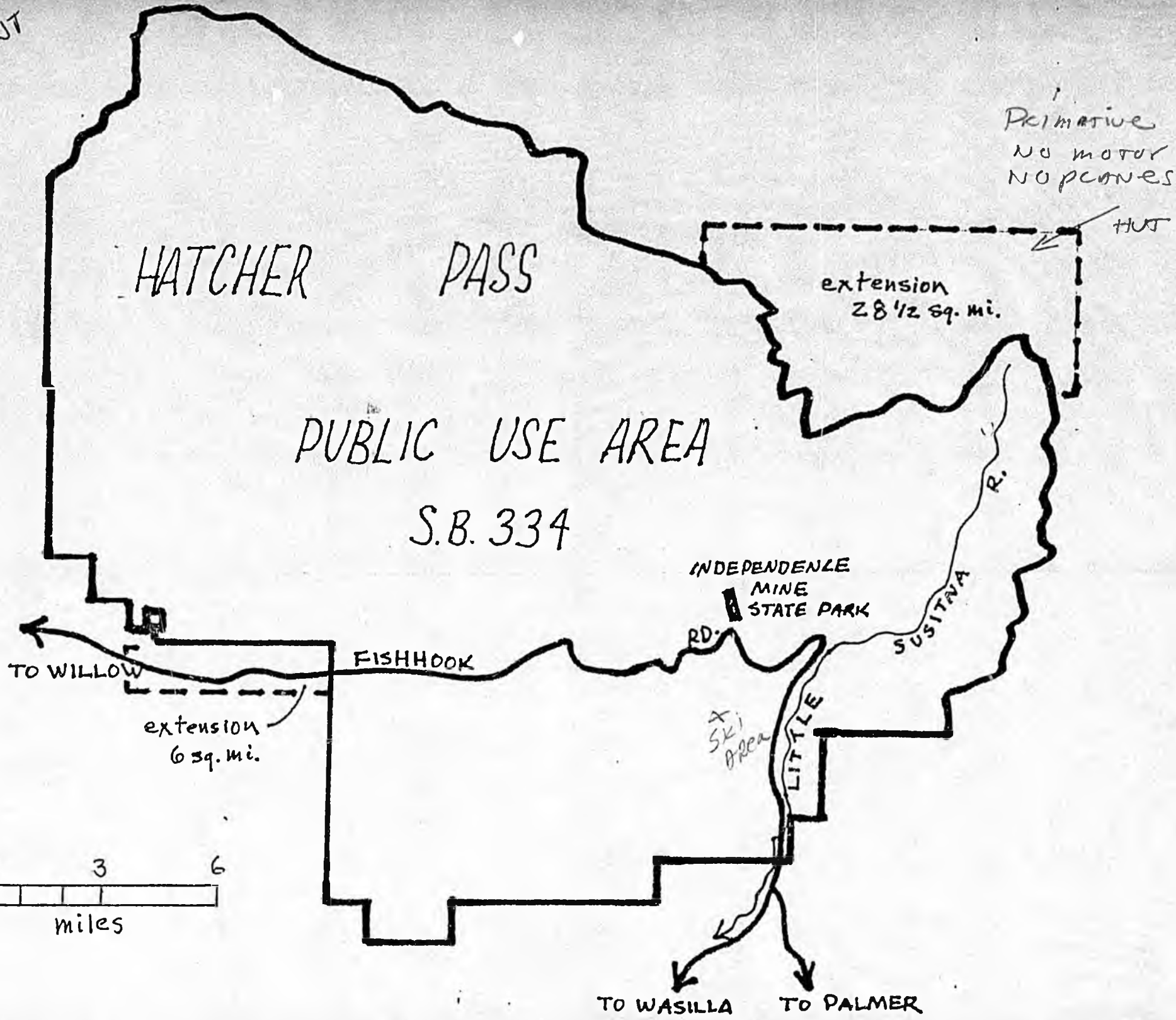
T21N, R3W
Sections 1, 11-14, 23-26, 35, 36

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

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

ATTACHMENT
-B-

Primitive
NO MOTOR
NO PLANES



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

January 31, 1986

Dear

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Sincerely,

Mark Gronewald

A Petition

February 1, 1986

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

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

A Petition

February 1, 1986

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

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

A Petition

February 1, 1986

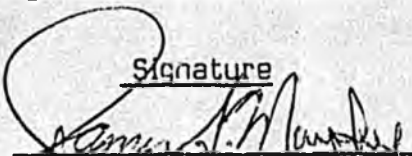

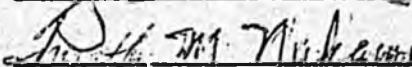
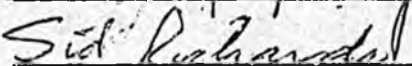

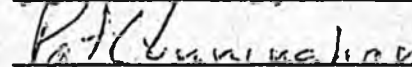
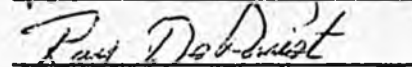
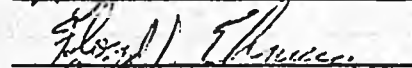
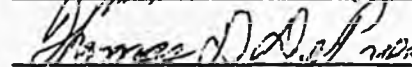

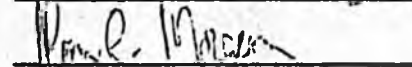
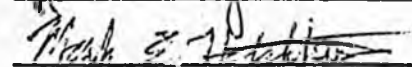



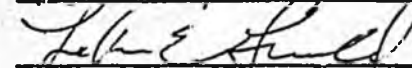
Be it known that we the undersigned hereby acknowledge our opposition to the establishment of a primitive area to the north and east of the present boundaries of the Hatcher Pass Management Unit and are in favor of unrestricted fly-in access to the glaciers located therein.

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

A Petition

February 1, 1986

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

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

February 1, 1966

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

	<u>Signature</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Telephone</u>
1.	Elizabeth A. Smith	305 W Lynn Ave # 3 Palmer	745-7127
2.	Richard K. Hill	Box 1101 Palmer	745-4659
3.	Phyllis W. Hornum	Box 870 361 Wasilla	376-5573
4.	Steve A. Blake	BOX 1152 PALMER	745-6656
5.	Patricia W. Mayer	517 E. Fern, Palmer	745-6308
6.	Sonia M. Kale	SR 3074 Wasilla	376-2734
7.	Mervyn Burlison	Box 195 Palmer	745-4126
8.	Barbara J. Ferraro	Box 340 Palmer	745-3257
9.	Antonette Paugelli	Star Route D Box 9965 Palmer	745-3778
10.	Ruth A. Cape	Box 1982 PALMER	745-3257
11.	Wm. W. Mitchell	Box 137 Palmer	745-3827
12.	Dot Helen	Box 3136 Palmer	745-5340
13.	Sandra P. Stromwald	Box 81537 Wasilla	376-5985
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A Petition

February 1, 1986

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

	<u>Signature</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Telephone</u>
1.	<u>Debra L Pettit</u>	<u>P.O. Box 3336, Palmer (Blencroft Apt. 4/4/86)</u>	
2.	<u>Amy S. Hyde</u>	<u>SR 2138-A Wasilla</u>	<u>376-6578</u>
3.	<u>Lid J Pettit</u>	<u>SRA 6871 Palmer, AK</u>	<u>745-2789</u>
4.	<u>April R Martyn</u>	<u>P.O. Box 149 Palmer</u>	<u>745-3402</u>
5.	<u>Wendee Pegg</u>	<u>P.O. Box 2809 PALMER</u>	<u>745-2668</u>
6.	<u>Steph McOm</u>	<u>P.O. Box 2443 PALMER</u>	<u>N/A</u>
7.	<u>L.F. Franklin</u>	<u>SRA Box 6828 Palmer</u>	<u>745 4684</u>
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MASTER DRAFT

*Amend
P 3 line 4*

Bradley
3/20/86 ✓

ok

Original sponsor: Kerttula

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

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

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

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

9 ARTICLE. 2. HATCHER PASS PUBLIC USE AREA.

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

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

Reverse →

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

18 (2) provide for public recreation activities;

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

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

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

29 (c) After adequate public hearings and with the ^{IN} ~~concurrence~~ ^{CONSULTATION} of

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

8 (d) The commissioner shall designate routes for motorized and
9 nonmotorized access within ^{or across} the Hatcher Pass Public Use Area.

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

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

17 (1) each determination of incompatibility;

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

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

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

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

1 Township 19 North, Range 1 East, Seward Meridian
 2 Section 1: NW1/4NW1/4, NW1/4NE1/4NW1/4, W1/2SW1/4
 3 NW1/4, NE1/4SW1/4NW1/4

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

7 Section 10: E1/2E1/2

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

9 Section 14: W1/2

10 Section 15: E1/2E1/2

11 Section 22: E1/2E1/2

12 Section 23: W1/2

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

14 Section 27: E1/2E1/2

15 Township 20 North, Range 1 East, Seward Meridian

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

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

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

21 Township 20 North, Range 2 East, Seward Meridian

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Effective date

Bradley
4/11/86

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

Original sponsor: Kerttula

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

5 A BILL

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

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

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

9 ARTICLE. 2. HATCHER PASS PUBLIC USE AREA.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

4 (c) The commissioner may not restrict lawful fishing, hunting,
5 or trapping rights allowed under a regulation of the Board of
6 Fisheries or the Board of Game within the Hatcher Pass Public Use
7 Area.

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

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

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

17 (1) each determination of incompatibility;

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

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

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

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

1 Township 19 North, Range 1 East, Seward Meridian

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

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

7 Section 10: E1/2E1/2

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

9 Section 14: W1/2

10 Section 15: E1/2E1/2

11 Section 22: E1/2E1/2

12 Section 23: W1/2

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

14 Section 27: E1/2E1/2

15 Township 20 North, Range 1 East, Seward Meridian

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

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

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

21 Township 20 North, Range 2 East, Seward Meridian

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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