Division of Wildlife Conservation Eddie Grasser, Director Region IV, Regional Office 1801 S. Margaret Drive Palmer, AK 99645



Alaska Department of Fish and Game Doug Vincent-Lang, Commissioner PO Box 115526 Juneau, AK 99811-5526 www.adfg.alaska.gov

ADVISORY ANNOUNCEMENT For Immediate Release: July 6, 2022 **CONTACT:** Todd Rinaldi Regional Management Coordinator Phone: 907-861-2105







Matanuska Valley Moose Range Trail Reroute and Habitat Remediation

(Palmer) – Construction last week on a cooperative project by the Matanuska-Susitna Borough (MSB), Alaska Department of Fish and Game, and U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service to reroute an unsustainable trail off Wendt Road in Palmer that currently braids through a significant portion of wetlands degrading fish and moose habitat in the Matanuska Valley Moose Range (MVMR). Trail relocation and habitat remediation will include closing off the unsustainable and unsanctioned trails, rehabilitating sections of Wasilla Creek and unnamed tributaries, constructing engineered stream fords, and installing an off-road vehicle bridge with a 10,000 lb. capacity. This work is intended to provide a safe and reliable route for motorized and non-motorized trail users and eliminate water body crossings by motorized recreationists, which lead to streambank degradation and damage to salmon spawning and rearing habitat. The project is planned to be completed by September 2022 with the new bridge installed by August.

The MVMR was established in 1984 primarily to maintain and enhance moose populations and habitat and other wildlife resources of the area and to perpetuate multiple uses of the area, including fishing, grazing, forest management, hunting, trapping, mineral and coal entry and development, and other forms of public use. The Department of Fish and Game has management of fish and game resources, and the Department of Natural Resources holds the surface and subsurface responsibility in the MVMR.

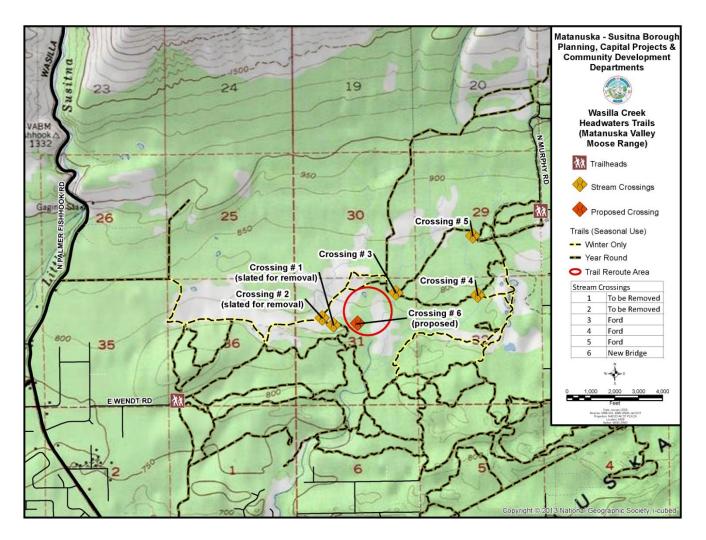
Visitors to the MVMR are asked to adhere to designated reroutes and trail crossings.

For additional information regarding the project, please visit the project webpage on the Borough website or contact MSB Project Engineer Mike Campfield at <u>mike.campfield@matsugov.us</u> or 907-861-7719.

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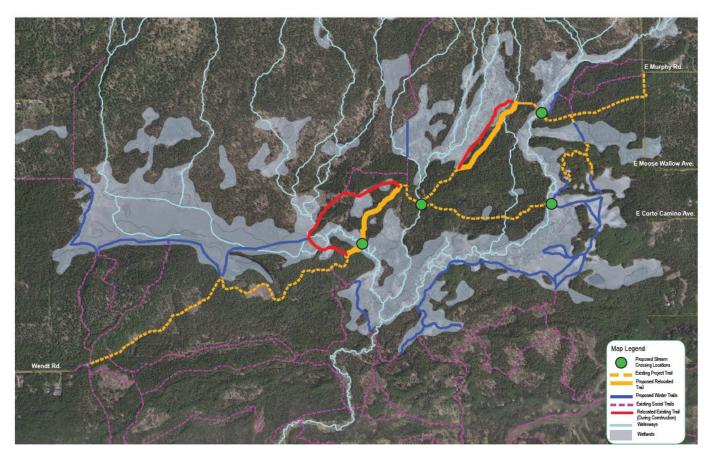
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Wasilla Creek Headwaters Trailhead Project Trails and Wetlands

