

PROPOSAL 82 – 5 AAC 92.530. Management areas. Create a management area for the Mat-Su Borough’s Government Peak Recreation Area in Unit 14A as follows:

5 AAC 92.530 Management areas.

(##) The Matanuska-Susitna Borough's Government Peak Recreation Area – (see State of Alaska, Hatcher Pass Management Plan, Government Peak management unit, Northern and Southern Development areas)

(A) the area consists of borough-owned lands within the Government Peak management unit under the Hatcher Pass Management Plan;

(i) the area is open to hunting by bow and arrow only.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? The Matanuska-Susitna Borough has lands in the Northern and Southern Development areas of the Government Peak management unit near Hatcher Pass which have been developed with trails for biking, hiking, and skiing. The highly developed nature of this area has resulted in some concerns with hunting regulations and the use of firearms. This area is identified under 11 AAC 96.014(b)(3)(E) which states:

(E) in the High Glacier Peaks, Government Peak, Independence, and Mile 16 management units and in portions of the Archangel and Reed Lakes/Little Susitna management units, as shown on the *Hatcher Pass Special Use Area Map 2*, a person may not use or discharge a firearm except for the purpose of lawful hunting; however, a person may not use or discharge a firearm for any purpose

(i) within the Independence State Mine Historical Park, the Summit Lake State Recreation Site, and the Northern and Southern Development areas in the Government Peak management unit;

There is a need to update the ADF&G Hunting Regulation Booklet for Unit 14A to identify the Northern and Southern Development areas of the Government Peak management unit as restricted areas for firearms. The ADF&G Hunting Regulations Booklet is highly regarded by the public, and adding the information to show that these areas are off limits to firearms for any purpose needs to be publicized.

Please reference: The State of Alaska, Hatcher Pass Management Plan; and the Matanuska-Susitna Borough, Government Peak Unit Asset Management and Development Plan.

PROPOSED BY: Matanuska-Susitna Borough, Land and Resource Management Division
(EG-F17-026)
