

*The Board of Game deferred proposal 22 from the January 2022 Central and Southwest Region meeting to the March 2022 Statewide Regulations Meeting.*

## **PROPOSAL 22**

### **5 AAC 99.025. Customary and traditional uses of game populations.**

Determine customary and traditional uses of the Nushagak Peninsula caribou herd in Game Management Units 17A and 17C – Nushagak Peninsula, Bristol Bay.

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** Under AS 16.05.258, the Board of Game (board) is required to identify game populations, or portions of populations, that are customarily and traditionally taken or used for subsistence. Under 5 AAC 99.025, in 1988, the board made a positive customary and traditional use (C&T) finding for caribou in Units 9A, 9B, 17, and 18, with an amount reasonably necessary for subsistence (ANS) of 2,100– 2,400 caribou. Generally, the Board of Game makes C&T findings for specific caribou herds. In early 1988, most caribou taken in Unit 17 were from the Mulchatna caribou herd (MCH). Therefore, the information provided to the board in support of the positive C&T determination generally addressed uses specific to the MCH. Since 1988, however, two distinct caribou populations have been present in Unit 17: the MCH and the Nushagak Peninsula caribou herd (NPCH). A customary and traditional use finding specific to the NPCH herd has not been made. The department is proposing the board make a C&T determination specifically for the NPCH.

Following the C&T determination for caribou in Unit 17, caribou were reintroduced to the Nushagak Peninsula to provide additional caribou hunting opportunities. The NPCH primarily occupies the approximately 425 square mile Nushagak Peninsula, which is the portion of Units 17A and 17C south of the Igushik River, the Tuklung River, and the Tuklung Hills, and west to Tvativak Bay. Prior to 2016, caribou hunting on the Nushagak Peninsula was limited to federally-qualified subsistence users under permit FC1702. In 2016, an area within the Nushagak Peninsula was opened to hunters using the state RC501 permit to increase harvest and lower the population of the Nushagak Peninsula herd, which had exceeded population objectives. With a reported harvest of 378 caribou during the 2016–2017 season, and 100 caribou during the 2017–2018 season, the population estimate declined from 1,294 in 2016 to 822 in 2019. The NPCH is now closer to the optimum level of 750.

The Department of Fish and Game (department) will prepare a report with information relevant to the eight criteria (5 AAC 99.010) that the board uses to identify game populations with customary and traditional uses, to assist the board with this finding.

If the board chooses to make a positive C&T finding for the Nushagak Peninsula caribou herd, the department will also provide options for the board to consider establishing an ANS.

**PROPOSED BY:** Alaska Department of Fish and Game (HQ-F20-034)

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*The Board of Game deferred proposal 100 as amended to apply statewide from the January 2022 Central and Southwest Region meeting to the March 2022 Statewide Regulations Meeting.*

**PROPOSAL 100**

**5 AAC 92.095. Unlawful methods of taking furbearers; exceptions.**

Remove the requirement that traps and snares for beaver be submerged in Unit 16 as follows:

For a solution remove the restriction in the trapping regulations on page 31 in Unit 16 that states a trap must be submerged.

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** For fall beaver trapping. I would like to change the part that snares and traps must be submerged from September 24 - November 9.

During the fall on the river, water fluctuates and usually goes down. An example would be you set a trap that is submerged. The next day you come back and water has dropped over six inches so the trap is exposed. You now have an illegal set trap because the trap is not submerged.

**PROPOSED BY:** James Hoehn

(EG-F19-148)

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*The Board of Game deferred proposal 199 from the January 2022 Central and Southwest Region meeting to the March 2022 Statewide Regulations Meeting.*

## **PROPOSAL 199**

### **5 AAC 92.550. Areas closed to trapping.**

Prohibit trapping within 50 yards of multi-use trails and trailheads in Units 13, 14, and 16 as follows:

### **5 AAC 92.550. Areas Closed to Trapping in Game Management Units 13, 14, and 16**

(1-6) No change.

Add:

### **(7) 50 yards from either side of the following trails and trailheads in Units 13, 14, and 16:**

*Note: Maps for the following proposal are available on the Board of Game proposal book webpage at: [www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=gameboard.proposalbook](http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=gameboard.proposalbook) or by contacting ADF&G Boards Support Section in (907)465-4046.*

<b>GMU</b>	<b>Trail Name</b>	<b>Description (as described in the 2016 Matanuska-Susitna Borough Recreational Trails Management Plan)</b>	<b>Map</b>
13A	Alfred Creek	Multi-use year round trail that is accessible from Belanger Pass Trail and Caribou Creek Trail. Alfred Creek Trail is considered part of the historic Chickaloon-Knik-Nelchina Trail and has a RS2477 designation. Shown on Map 3. Noted in the 1984 and 2000 MSB Trail Plans.	3
13A	Belanger Pass	Multi-use year round trail that provides access to a residential area and mining claims in the Talkeetna Mountains then continues on to the old mining area along Alfred Creek. It designated as a RS2477 trail. Shown on Map 3. Noted in the 1984 MSB Trail Plan.	3
13A	Boulder Creek	Multi-use year round trail is accessible from the Purinton Creek Trail and trailhead. It is part of the historic Chickaloon-Knik-Nelchina Trail, it has a RS2477 designation. Shown on Maps 2 and 3. Noted in the 1984 and 2000 MSB Trail Plans.	2,3
13A	Caribou Creek	Multi-use year round trail that begins near the bridge crossing on the Glenn Highway and heads north alongside the river to the headwaters and Chitina Pass, where it connects with Boulder Creek Trail. Part of the historic Chickaloon-Knik-Nelchina Trail, it has a RS2477 designation. Shown on Map 3. Noted in the 1984 and 2000 MSB Trail Plans.	3
13A	Chickaloon	Multi-use primitive trail that runs east-west between King River and Chickaloon River, it is part of the historic Chickaloon-Knik-Nelchina Trail and has a RS2477 designation. Shown on Map 2. Noted in the 1984 and 2000 MSB Trail Plans.	2
13A	Crooked Creek	Multi-use year round trail located north of Eureka and accessible from Monument Trail and Belanger Pass Trail. Part of the historic Chickaloon-Knik-Nelchina Trail, it has a RS2477 designation. Shown on Map 3. Noted in the 1984 and 2000 MSB Trail Plans.	3
13A	Crosswind Lake	Multi-use winter trail which is part of a large system of trails that start in Lake Louise and connect to a system of winter trails to the east toward Glennallen. It is groomed and marked every winter by volunteers from Lake Louise. Shown on Map 4. Included in the 2007 amendment to the 2000 MSB Trail Plan.	4
13A	Dan Creek	Multi-use year round trail that is used to access the area west of Caribou Creek. Shown on Map 3. Noted in the 1984 MSB Trail Plan.	3
13A	Eureka East	A multi-use winter trail that is part of a large system of trails connecting Eureka with Lake Louise. Groomed by volunteers from Lake Louise and Eureka. The trail has been surveyed and an easement reserved for public use. Shown on Map 4 . Included in the 2007 amendment to the 2000 MSB Trail Plan.	4

13A	Eureka West	Multi-use winter trail which is part of a large system of trails connecting Eureka with Lake Louise. It is groomed by volunteers from Lake Louise and Eureka and well marked for winter travel. The trail has been surveyed and a public recreation trail easement reserved. Shown on Maps 3 and 4. Included in the 2007 amendment to the 2000 MSB Trail Plan.	3, 4
13A	Gunsight Mountain (Squaw Creek)	Multi-use year round trail that begins south of Gunsight Mountain from a new trailhead facility on the Glenn Highway and heads north along the base of the mountain toward the Squaw Creek where it eventually connects to the Squaw Creek Trail (part of the Chickaloon-Nelchina-Trail). Shown on Map 3. Noted in the 1984 MSB Trail Plan.	3
13A	Hicks Creek (aka Pinochle)	Multi-use year round trail that begins on the Glenn Highway (a few miles east of HicksCreek crossing) and heads north toward the headwaters of Hicks Creek. It provides access to the Chickaloon-Knik-Nelchina Trail. It has a RS2477 trail designation. Shown on Map 3. Noted in the 1984 and 2000 MSB Trail Plans.	3
13A	Index Lake	Hiking trail north of the Glenn Highway to Index Lake, near Victory. It has a RS2477 trail designation. Shown on Map 3. Noted in the 1984 MSB Trail Plan.	3
13A	Jackass Canyon	A year round hiking trail alongside Jackass Creek from Glenn Highway to Matanuska River. Shown on Map 3. Noted in the 1984 MSB Trail Plan.	3
13A	Jan Lake Loop	A multi-use winter trail that is part of a large system of trails east of Lake Louise. The trail has been surveyed and an easement reserved for public use. Shown on Map 4. Included in the 2007 amendment to the 2000 MSB Trail Plan.	4
13A	John Lake (Eureka area)	A multi-use winter trail that is part of a large system of trails starting at Lake Louise. Groomed by volunteers from Lake Louise. It heads south from Lake Louise to John Lake and onto Eureka and the Glenn Highway. Shown on Maps 3 and 4. Included in the 2007 amendment to the 2000 MSB Trail Plan.	3,4
13A	Lake Louise - Mendeltna	A multi-use winter trail that is part of a large system of trails starting at Lake Louise. Groomed by volunteers from Lake Louise. It heads south from Lake Louise to the Mendeltna area on the Glenn Highway. Shown on Map 4. Included in the 2007 amendment to the 2000 MSB Trail Plan.	4
13A	Little Nelchina River	Multi-use year round trail that is accessible from the Nelchina Town Trail. It is a primitive route that follows the Little Nelchina River west from the Nelchina Town Trail toward the headwaters of the Little Nelchina River. Shown on Maps 3 and 4. Noted in the 1984 MSB Trail Plan.	3, 4
13A	Monument	Multi-use year round trail that begins where Crooked Creek and Alfred Creek Trails merge, then eventually turns into the Nelchina Town Trail. Shown on Map 3. Noted in the 1984 MSB Trail Plan.	3
13A	Moore Lake	Multi-use winter trail which is part of a large system of trails connecting Eureka with Lake Louise. It is groomed by volunteers from Lake Louise and Eureka, and is well marked for winter travel. Shown on Map 4. Included in the 2007 amendment to the 2000 MSB Trail Plan.	4
13A	Nelchina Town	Multi-use year round trail is accessible from the Old Man Creek Trail and also connects to Monument. It is part of the historic Chickaloon-Knik-Nelchina Trail. Shown on Maps 3 and 4. Noted in the 1984 MSB Trail Plan	3, 4
13A	North-South Seismic	A multi-use winter trail which is part of a large system of trails starting at Lake Louise. Groomed by volunteers from Lake Louise, it connects to a system of winter trails to the east toward Glennallen. This trail has been surveyed and a public recreation trail easement reserved. Shown on Map 4. Included in the 2007 amendment to the 2000 MSB Trail Plan.	4
13A	Old Man Creek	Multi-use year round trail that provides access to Monument and Nelchina Town Trails. This trail is a well established, heavily used trail and is part of the historic mining routes connecting to the Chickaloon-Knik-Nelchina Trail. It has a RS2477 trail designation. Shown on Maps 3 and 4. Noted in the 1984 and 2000 MSB Trail Plans	3, 4

13A	Purinton Creek	Multi-use year round trail that heads north from the Glenn Highway then west to Boulder Creek where it connects to the Boulder Creek Trail. It has a RS2477 designation. Shown on Maps 2 and 3. Noted in the 1984 and 2000 MSB Trail Plans.	2, 3
13A	Sheep Mountain Trail System	Sheep Mountain Trail System is a well-established trail system along the Glenn Highway on the south side of Sheep Mountain. This year-round trail is used by diverse groups including hikers, berry pickers, mountain bikers and hunters in the summer months and by dog mushers, skiers and snowshoers in the winter months. The Sheep Mountain 150 dog mushing race uses a portion of this trail system. Much of the trail system is located on state lands.	NA
13A	Squaw Creek	Multi-use year round trail is accessible from the Caribou Creek Trail and Gunsight Mountain Trail. Part of the historic Chickaloon-Knik-Nelchina Trail, it has a RS2477 designation. Shown on Map 3. Noted in the 1984 and 2000 MSB Trail Plans.	3
13A	Startup Lakes	Multi-use year round trail that runs east from Belanger Pass Trail to the Start Up Lakes and east to the Eureka area. It has a RS2477 trail designation. Shown on Map 3. Noted in the 1984 MSB Trail Plan.	3
13A	Tahneta Pass	Multi-use trail that accommodates year round use with trailhead parking on the Glenn Highway. The trail provides access to the Squaw Creek Trail, just east of Gunsight Mountain. It has a RS2477 trail designation. Shown on Map 3. Noted in the 1984 MSB Trail Plan.	3
13A	Tolsona	A multi-use winter trail that is part of a large system of trails starting at Lake Louise. Groomed by volunteers from Lake Louise. It also connects to a system of winter trails to the east toward Glennallen. Shown on Map 4. Included in the 2007 amendment to the 2000 MSB Trail Plan.	4
13A	Tyone Creek	Multi-use year round trail that is accessible from the Nelchina Town Trail. It is a primitive route that follows Tyone Creek west from the Nelchina Town Trail toward the headwaters of Tyone Creek. Shown on Map 4. Noted in the 1984 MSB Trail Plan.	4
13A	Weiner Lake-Meadow Creek	A year round hiking trail just north of the Glenn Highway and Weiner Lake. Shown on Map 2. Noted in the 1984 MSB Trail Plan.	2
13A, 14B	Chickaloon River	Multi-use year round primitive trail that follows the Chickaloon River along the west side from the old town site of Chickaloon to the headwaters. It is a very primitive route, but it is possible to travel over the pass at the headwaters and drop down to the headwaters of the Talkeetna River. This trail has a RS2477 designation. Shown on Map 2. Noted in the 1984 and 2000 MSB Trail Plans.	2
13B	Clearwater Creek	Multi-use year round trail that connects the Denali Highway with Valdez Creek Trail and McLaren River Trail. The area and trails are managed by BLM. Shown on Map 13. Noted in the 2000 MSB Trail Plan.	13
13B	Hatchet Lake	A multi-use year round trail accessible from the Denali Highway. Shown on Map 13. Noted in the 1984 and 2000 MSB Trail Plans. Area and trail managed by BLM.	13
13B	McLaren River	Multi-use year round trail that runs north-south along the west side of the McLaren River then heads west toward the Clearwater Mountains. The area and trail are managed by BLM. Shown on Map 13. Noted in the 2000 MSB Trail Plan.	13
13B	Susitna River (aka Susitna-McLaren)	Multi-use year round trail accessible from the Denali Highway. Area and trail managed by BLM. Shown on Map 13. Noted in the 1984 and 2000 MSB Trail Plans.	13
	Valdez Creek	Multi-use year round trail that begins at the end of Valdez Creek mining road heading east toward Clearwater Creek Trail and Clearwater Mountains. The trail and area are managed by BLM. Shown on Map 13. Noted in the 2000 MSB Trail Plan.	13
13B	Windy Creek	Multi-use year round trail that starts just east of the Susitna River crossing on the Denali Highway and runs east along the Windy Creek drainage, eventually	13

		connecting to Valdez Creek Trail. It has a RS2477 trail designation. The trail and area are managed by BLM. Shown on Map 13. Noted in the 2000 MSB Trail Plan.	
13D	Blueberry Hill	Multi-use year round trail is actually a road maintained by a private communications company to access equipment located on a hill south of the Glenn Highway. This road is used as a trail year round for hunting and fishing; and provides access to the Goober Lake Trail and the Nelchina River Trail. Shown on Map 3. Noted in the 1984 MSB Trail Plan.	3
13D	Camp Creek	A year round hiking trail that leads south from the Glenn Highway to the canyon walls above the Matanuska River. A small wayside on the southside of the highway provides off highway parking. Shown on Map 3. Noted in the 1984 MSB Trail Plan.	3
13D	East Fork (of the Matanuska River)	Multi-use winter trail accessible from Goober Lake Trail up the East Fork Matanuska River. Shown on Map 3. Noted in the 1984 MSB Trail Plan.	3
13D	Goober Lake	Multi-use year round trail, primarily used in winter to access Nelchina River area from the Glenn Highway. Shown on Map 3. Noted in the 1984 MSB Trail Plan.	3
13D	Majestic Valley Ski Trails	Year-round multi-use, non-motorized trails crossing state and private land located on the south side of the Glenn Hwy at about Mile 115. These trails receive light to moderate use by skiers and snowshoers in the winter months and by hikers in the summer months. One loop of ski trails mapped.	NA
13D	Muddy Creek-Tatondan	Multi-use winter trail that crosses the frozen Matanuska River (near Muddy Creek) to Tatondan Lake. It has a RS2477 trail designation. Shown on Map 3. Noted in the 1984 MSB Trail Plan.	3
13D	Nelchina River (Eureka-Nelchina-Barnette)	Multi-use year round trail located south of the Glenn Highway and used to access the Nelchina River and Glacier. It has a RS2477 trail designation. Shown on Map 3. Noted in the 1984 MSB Trail Plan.	3
13D	Trail Lakes (Eureka area)	Multi-use year round trail that provides access to small lakes south of the Glenn Highway near MP 118. Shown on Map 3. Noted in the 1984 MSB Trail Plan.	3
13E	Butte Creek	Multi-use year round trail that starts west of the Susitna River Bridge on the Denali Highway and heads southwest toward the headwaters of Butte Creek. The trail and area are managed by BLM. Shown on Map 13. Noted in the 2000 MSB Trail Plan.	13
13E	Chase	A multi-use trail located adjacent to the Alaska Railroad line north of Talkeenta that provides an access route for Chase residents. It is also used by recreationalists. Shown on Map 11. Noted in the 2000 MSB Trail Plan.	11
13E	McWilliams Gold Creek	A multi-use trail with year round use, it is approximately 16 miles long and accessible from the Alaska Railroad (mile 263) just north of the old town of Curry. This trail is designated as a RS2477 route. Not mapped. Noted in the 2000 MSB Trail Plan.	NA
14A	17 Mile Lake	Multi-use year round trail located in the Matanuska Valley Moose Range and accessible from Buffalo Mine Road or Jonesville Road. Shown on Maps 1, 2 and 5. Noted in both the 1984 and 2000 MSB Trail Plans	1,2,5
14A	3 Mile Lake	Multi-use year round trail that begins just west of Knik Lake. It is believed to be part of the Herning Trail (Knik-Talkeetna Mail Trail) that started in Knik and headed north toward Big Lake and the Willow-Hatcher Pass area. Shown on Map 6. Noted in the 1984 MSB Trail Plan.	6
14A	7 Mile Canoe Trail	Non-motorized over-water summer route connecting Wasilla, Cottonwood, Mud and Finger Lakes. Portages maintained by Matanuska-Susitna Borough Parks Division. Put-in and parking available at Finger Lake State Recreation Area and Wasilla Lake Park. State park use fee collected at Finger Lake and city fee at Wasilla Lake. A recent development displaced one of the portages. Shown on Map 5. Noted in the 2000 MSB Trail Plan; and Hatcher Pass Management Area Plan.	5

14A	Almond Lake	A multi-use winter trail accessed from Willow West Gateway Trailhead, or Willow Community Center. Shown on Map 7. Included in the 2006 amendment to the 2000 MSB Trail Plan.	7
14A	Archangel	Use varies - year round trail managed by Alaska State Parks for backcountry access. Used for access to Reed Lake Trail and Fern Mine Trail. Shown on Maps 1 and 2. Noted in the 1984 MSB Trail Plan; and Hatcher Pass Management Area Plan.	1, 2
14A	Aurora Sled Dog	Non-motorized winter trail system for dog sled racing and training. Maintained and managed by volunteers of the Aurora Dog Mushers Club. Trailhead parking south of Big Lake Road on Aurora lease site. Shown on Map 6. Noted in the 1984 and 2000 Trail Plans.	6
14A	Bald Mountain	Multi-use year round trail, some of which lies within the Hatcher Pass Management area. Shown on Map 1. Noted in both the 1984 and 2000 MSB Trail Plan; and Hatcher Pass Management Area Plan	1
14A	Baxter Mine	Multi-use year round trail located in the Matanuska Valley Moose Range and accessible from Buffalo Mine Road or Jonesville Road. Shown on Maps 1, 2 and 5. Noted in the 1984 MSB Trail Plan	1,2,5
14A	Bench Lake	Multi-use year round trail which accesses Bench Lake from the town of Houston or from the old landfill road northeast of the Parks Highway. Shown on Map 1. Noted in the 1984 and 2000 MSB Trail Plans.	1
14A	Big Lake #5 – Iron Dog Connector	Big Lake Trail #5 is a well-established trail along a seismic line located north of Flat Lake. This year-round trail is used primarily in the winter by snowmobilers, dog mushers, skiers and snowshoers, with portions of the trail seeing summer time use by ATVs and hikers.	NA
14A	Big Lake Trail #1 – Klondike Inn and Call of the Wild Tract	This trail is a well-established trail along seismic lines on the north side of Big Lake and loops up around the Horseshoe Lake area. This year-round trail is used primarily in the winter by snowmobilers, dog mushers, skiers and snowshoers, with portions of the trail seeing summer time use by ATVs and hikers.	
14A	Big Lake Trail #10 – Cow Lake and Nancy Lakes Trail	A well-established trail located along a seismic line between Cow Lake and Manta Lake to the northeast. This year-round trail is used primarily in the winter by snowmobilers, dog mushers, skiers and snowshoers, with portions of the trail seeing summer time use by ATVs and hikers. This trail is located entirely on Mental Health Trust lands.	NA
14A	Big Lake Trail #14 – Purinton Junction and Susitna River Loop Trail	A well-established trail located along seismic lines from Susitna Parkway southwest to Flathorn Lake and then northwest to the Susitna River. This year round trail is used primarily in the winter by snowmobilers, dog mushers, skiers and snowshoers, with portions of the trail seeing summer time use by ATVs and hikers. Segments of the trail in the Flathorn Lake area have public use easements on state and borough lands (ADL 229108).	NA
14A	Big Lake Trail #15 – Marion Lake Trail	Big Lake Trail #15 is a well-established trail located along seismic lines south of Marion Lake. This year-round trail is used primarily in the winter by snowmobilers, dog mushers, skiers and snowshoers, with portions of the trail seeing summer time use by ATVs and hikers. A portion of the trail exists on the 16 Mile trail easement. This trail is located primarily on state and borough lands.	NA
14A	Big Lake Trail #2 – Beaver Lakes and North Little Su Trail	A well-established trail on the north side of Big Lake and runs through the Beaver Lakes area. This year-round trail is used primarily in the winter by snowmobilers, dog mushers, skiers and snowshoers, with portions of the trail seeing summer time use by ATVs and hikers.	
14A	Big Lake Trail #3 – Beaver Lakes Loop Trail	A well-established trail located north of Big Lake and south of the Little Susitna River. This year-round trail is used primarily in the winter by snowmobilers, dog mushers, skiers and snowshoers, with portions of the trail seeing summer time use by ATVs and hikers.	

14A	Big Swamp	Multi-use winter trail west of Willow and accessible from Willow West Gateway Trailhead or Nancy Lake State Recreation Area. Shown on Maps 6 and 7. Amendment to the 2000 Trail Plan adopted in 2007.	6,7
14A	Boot Lake	A multi-use winter trail accessible from Willow West Gateway Trailhead or Willow Community Center. Shown on Map 7. Included in the 2006 amendment to the 2000 MSB Trail Plan.	7
14A	Burnt Butte Trail	A multi-use year round trail that provides a connection between the Rippy Trail and the Plumley-Maud Trail. This trail crosses Eklutna Native Corporation lands and has a 17b public use easement, which is 25' wide and restricted to non-motorized uses. Shown on Map 5. Noted in the 1984 MSB Trail Plan.	5
14A	Butterfly Lake (aka Cow Lake)	Non-motorized over water route from the Little Susitna River to Butterfly Lake. This is part of the Nancy Lake State Recreation Area trail system and managed by State Parks. Shown on Maps 6 and 7. Noted in the 1984 MSB Trail Plan.	6,7
14A	Carpenter Creek (Bartko Homestead)	A multi-use year round primitive trail east of Clark Wolverine Road heading east above the Matanuska River. A portion of this trail crosses land owned by Moose Creek-Chickaloon Native Corporation and has a 17b easement reserved for public use. Shown on Maps 1, 2 and 5. Noted in both the 1984 and 2000 MSB Trail Plans.	1, 2, 5
14A	Corral Hill	Multi-use winter trail west of Willow accessible from Willow West Gateway Trailhead or Nancy Lake State Recreation Area. Shown on Map 7. Amendment to the 2000 Trail Plan adopted in 2007.	7
14A	Cottonwood Creek Wetlands Trail	Cottonwood Creek Wetlands Trail is located off Hayfield Road in the Knik-Fairview area. This trail is used in the winter by hikers, skiers, snowshoers and snowmobilers, and in the summer/fall by hikers, hunters and ATVs. Motorized use subject to seasonal conditions set forth by Alaska Department of Fish & Game.	NA
14A	Craigie Creek Trail	Use varies – year round trail within the Hatcher Pass Management area. Un-maintained trail with roadside parking off Hatcher Pass Road. Shown on Map 1. Noted in the 1984 MSB Trail Plan; and Hatcher Pass Management Area Plan.	1
14A	Crevasse-Moraine	A non-motorized year round trail system maintained by the Matanuska-Susitna Borough for hiking, running, Nordic skiing, mountain biking, horse back riding and snowshoeing. A user fee is collected at the trailhead south of Palmer-Wasilla Highway. Shown on Map 5. Noted in both the 1984 and 2000 MSB Trail Plans.	5
14A	Crooked Lake	Multi-use winter trail with limited roadside parking off of West Papoose Twins Road; or it can also be reached from the Iron Dog Trail, with parking on Big Lake when frozen. This trail serves as an alternative route for the Iron Dog, which it connects with just east of Susitna Station. Shown on Map 6. Noted in the Big Lake Community Comprehensive Plan.	6
14A	Elks Lake	Multi-use year round trail from the Glenn Highway to Elks Lake Camp. Located in the Matanuska Valley Moose Range. Shown on Maps 1, 2 and 5. Noted in the 1984 MSB Trail Plan	1,2,5
14A	Envy	Multi-use year round trail that runs alongside Caudill Road and is primarily used by Butte residents to access the Jim Creek area. Shown on Map 5. Noted in the 1984 MSB Trail Plan.	5
14A	Eska Creek Falls	Pedestrian year round trail located north of Sutton and accessible from the old Eska Mine Road. Shown on Map 2. Noted in the 1984 MSB Trail Plan.	2
14A	Fern Mine	Pedestrian year round trail within the Hatcher Pass Management area. Maintained by Alaska State Parks for backcountry access to Talkeetna Mountains. Shown on Maps 1 and 2. Noted in the 1984 MSB Trail Plan; and Hatcher Pass Management Area Plan.	1, 2
14A	Figure 8 Lake Loop	A multi-use winter trail system west of the Point Mackenzie area. MSB fees collected for parking at maintained trailhead north of Point MacKenzie Road. Shown on Map 6. Included in the 2004 amendment to the 2000 MSB Trail Plan.	6



14A	Fish Creek	A multi-use winter trail that follows the drainage of Fish Creek and provides a route between the Flathorn Lake Trail and the Pipeline Trail. This trail has been surveyed and a public recreation trail easement reserved. Shown on Map 6. Noted in the 2000 Trail Plan.	6
14A	Fish Creek Trail	This is a multi-use, winter trail that crosses state and borough land with no nearby trailhead. Part of the State's Susitna Corridor Trail from Big Lake to Denali State Park overlaps this trail. Fish Creek Trail is located between the Iron Dog Trail and Big Swamp Trail southwest of Red Shirt Lake. The winter-use trail is located entirely on state and borough lands and is used by snowmobilers and dog mushers. This trail will be an important connecting link in Alaska State Parks' Susitna Corridor Trail.	NA
14A	Flat Horn Lake Connector Trail	Flat Horn Lake Connector Trail: Flat Horn lake Connector Trail is a well-established trail that runs between the Little Susitna Public Use Site and Flat Horn Lake. This trail is used primarily in the winter by snowmobilers, dog mushers, skiers and snowshoers. The trail runs along seismic lines and is located on state lands.	NA
14A	Flathorn Lake	A multi-use winter trail from the Point MacKenzie area to the Susitna River. This trail has been surveyed and a public recreation trail easement reserved. MSB fees collected for parking at maintained trailhead north of Ayshire Road. Shown on Map 6. Noted in the 2000 Trail Plan.	6
14A	Flathorn Lake Connector	Multi-use winter trail that is used to access the Iron Dog to the north. It serves as access to the Iron Dog and other trails to the north. Shown on Map 6. Noted Big Lake Community Comprehensive Plan	6
14A	Friday Creek	Multi-use year round trail accessible from the Knik Glacier Trail, with off-road parking near Sullivan Road. Located in the newly established Knik River Public Use Area, under State management. This trail has a RS2477 designation. Shown on Map 5. Noted in the 1984 MSB Trail Plan.	5
14A	Glacier Creek (Snowbird Mine / Snowbird Hut)	Pedestrian year round trail within the Hatcher Pass Management area, it provides backcountry access to Talkeetna Mountains (by way of the Reed Lake Trail). Trailhead parking off Archangel Road. Shown on Maps 1 and 2. Noted in the 1984 MSB Trail Plan; and Hatcher Pass Management Area Plan.	1, 2
14A	Government Peak Recreation Area Trails	There are 4 miles (6.5 km) of Nordic skiing/hiking trails built for all skill levels. There is an additional 4 miles of bike trails intertwining with the skiing/hiking trails. Below the Chalet there is a sledding hill for all ages. The ski trails area maintained by the Mat-Su Ski Club for both summer and winter use. Mountain bike trails are maintained by the Valley Mountain Bikers and Hikers.	NA
14A	Haessler-Norris Sled Dog	An extensive system of dog sled trails maintained by mushers in the Willow area. No established trailhead, but some off road parking near Four Mile Road south of Hatcher Pass Road. Shown on Map 2. Included in the 2004 amendment to the 2000 MSB Trail Plan.	2
14A	Houston Lake Loop (aka Muleshoe Lake)	Multi-use winter trail that goes north from Big Lake to Houston Lake and loops back. Shown on Maps 1, 6 and 7. Noted in the Big Lake Community Comprehensive Plan.	1,6,7
14A	Hunter Creek	A primitive hiking trail that follows the Hunter Creek drainage south from Knik River Road. There is a small parking area east of the bridge that crosses Hunter Creek. Shown on Map 1. Noted in the 1984 MSB Trail Plan	1
14A	Iditarod Link	A primitive winter route that follows a seismic line that connects the Pipeline Trail to the Iditarod Trail and Flathorn Lake Trail. This trail has been surveyed and a public recreation trail easement reserved. MSB collects fees for parking at maintained trailhead north of Ayshire Road. Shown on Map 6. Noted in the 2000 Trail Plan.	6
14A	Iditarod-Pipeline	A multi-use winter trail that follows a seismic line connecting the Iditarod Trail and Flathorn Lake Trail. This trail has been surveyed and a public recreation trail	6

		easement reserved. MSB fees collect for parking at maintained trailhead north of Ayshire Road. Shown on Map 6. Noted in the 2000 Trail Plan.	
14A	Iron Dog	Multi-use winter trail is legally accessed by crossing Big Lake and Flat Lake and following Flathorn Lake Connector northwest. Usually groomed by the Big Lake community, with parking and access available in several locations on Big Lake when frozen. Shown on Map 6. Noted in the 2000 Trail Plan and Big Lake Community Comprehensive Plan.	6
14A	John Lake	A multi-use winter trail accessed from Willow West Gateway Trailhead, or Willow Community Center. Shown on Map 7. Included in the 2006 amendment to the 2000 MSB Trail Plan.	7
14A	Jonesville Mine	A multi-use year round trail located west of Sutton in the Matanuska Valley Moose Range. It connects with a larger system of trails in around the old coal mines. Shown on Maps 1 and 2. Noted in the 1984 MSB Trail Plan	1,2
14A	King River (aka Chickaloon-Knik-Nelchina)	A multi-use year round trail located in the Matanuska Valley Moose Range east of Sutton. This trail is part (or a branch of) the Chickaloon-Knik-Nelchina Trail and has a RS 2477 designation. Shown on Map 2. Noted in both the 1984 and 2000 MSB Trail Plans.	2
14A	Knik Glacier (aka Jim Creek)	Multi-use year round trail following the north side of Knik River to Knik Glacier. Located in the newly established Knik River Public Use Area, under State management. This is a RS2477 designated route. Shown on Map 5. Noted in the 1984 and 2000 MSB Trail Plans.	5
14A	Knob Creek (Knob Hill)	Multi-use year round trail located in the Matanuska Valley Moose Range and accessible from Jonesville Road. Shown on Map 2. Noted in the 1984 MSB Trails Plan	2
14A	Lazy Mountain Southside (Lazy Moose)	A pedestrian trail traversing the southwest flank of Lazy Mountain, provides an easier route up Lazy Mountain than the original trail. Shown on Map 5. Included in the 2008 amendment to the 2000 MSB Trail Plan.	5
14A	Lazy Mountain	A pedestrian year round trail maintained by the Matanuska-Susitna Borough for hiking. MSB fees collected for parking at trailhead south of Huntley Road. The trail has been surveyed and a public easement acquired. Shown on Map 5. Noted in both the 1984 and 2000 MSB Trail Plans.	5
14A	Long Lake Connector	A non-motorized year round trail located between Matanuska Lakes State Recreation Area to the Crevasse Moraine Trail System. The trail provides an important link between these larger trail systems. The land it crosses is primarily owned by the University of Alaska. Shown on Map 5. Noted in both the 1984 and 2000 MSB Trail Plans.	5
14A	Long Lake Interconnect (Willow Area)	A short trail within a road right of way between Long Lake and Willow Community Center. Part of a large multi-use winter trail system accessible from the Willow Community Center and West Gateway Trailhead. Not mapped. Included in the 2006 amendment to the 2000 MSB Trail Plan.	7
14A	Lucky Shot	A multi-use winter trail just south of Willow Creek, it is part of a large system of winter trails accessed from Willow West Gateway Trailhead, or Willow Community Center. Most of the trail falls within the boundaries of the Willow Creek State Recreation Area. Shown on Map 7. Included in the 2006 amendment to the 2000 MSB Trail Plan.	7
14A	Matanuska Greenbelt / Crevasse Moraine / Single Track: Moose, Bear, and Fox Trails	Moose, Bear, and Fox Trails Single-track, non-motorized bicycle trails connecting to both the Matanuska Greenbelt and Crevasse Moraine trail systems. The Fox Trail is about 1.2 miles and the Bear Trail is about 0.9 miles long.	NA
14A	Matanuska Lakes/ Kepler-Bradley	A pedestrian year round trail system located within the Matanuska Lakes State Recreation Area and maintained by Alaska State Parks for hiking and lake access.	5

		A State Park use fee is collected at the park entrance north of Glenn Highway. Shown on Map 5. Noted in both the 1984 and 2000 MSB Trail Plans.	
14A	Matanuska Moose Range Trails (Wasilla Cr Trails #14)	Matanuska Moose Range Trails are located between Palmer-Fishhook Road and Sutton. Portion of this trail system is documented as part of the original easement application (AOL 229485) for Sutton area trails on state lands. This trail system is currently being groomed and is used in the winter by snowmobilers, skiers, dog mushers, snowshoers and mountain bikers. The trails are used in the summer by hikers, mountain bikers, equestrians, ATVs and OHVs.	NA
14A	Matanuska Peak	A pedestrian year round trail maintained by the Matanuska-Susitna Borough. MSB fees collected for parking at trailhead located at the east end of Smith Road. The trail has been surveyed and a public easement acquired. Shown on Map 5. Noted in both the 1984 and 2000 MSB Trail Plans.	5
14A	Meadow Lakes Community Trails	Trail routes are primarily along existing roads and section line easements that provide recreational opportunities within the community and connectivity with and access to broader trail systems in the Hatcher Pass Management Area and the Willow area. These year-round multi-use trails are used by hikers, equestrians, and ATVs in the summer and by skiers, dog mushers, and snowmachiners in the winter.	
14A	Metal Creek	Multi-use year round trail accessible from the Knik Glacier Trail, with off-road parking near Sullivan Road. Located in the newly established Knik River Public Use Area and under State management. This trail has a RS2477 designation. Shown on Map 5. Noted in the 1984 MSB Trail Plan.	5
14A	Mint Glacier (Little Susitna River)	Pedestrian year round trail managed by Alaska State Parks for hiking and backcountry access. Shown on Maps 1 and 2. Noted in both the 1984 and 2000 MSB Trail Plans; and Hatcher Pass Management Area Plan.	1, 2
14A	Moorehouse	A hiking trail that follows a bench along the west side of Lazy Mountain, from Clark Road to Wolverine Creek. Shown on Maps 1 and 5. Noted in the 1984 MSB Trail Plan.	1,5
14A	Moose Creek Branch RR	A trail atop the old rail corridor owned by the Alaska RR and permitted to the Borough for use as a pedestrian trail. Access is from the parking lot at the Moose Creek State Wayside. Shown on Maps 1, 2 and 5. Noted in the 1984 MSB Trails Plan.	1,2,5
14A	Moose Lick – Government Peak Trail	Trail extends north from N. Moose Lick Circle up the southern side of Government Peak within the southeastern area of the Hatcher Pass Management Area. The lower portion of the trail receives year-round use, from hikers and equestrians in the summer and skiers and snowshoers in the winter. The upper portion of the trail is primarily summer use only by hikers. This trail will provide an alternate means of access to the Government Peak Recreation Area Nordic ski area.	
14A	Morgan Horse Trail	A non-motorized year round trail that follows a section line south from the Lazy Mountain Trailhead to Smith Road and then to Maud Road. It connects the Lazy Mountain area with the Knik River area. Shown on Map 5. Noted in both the 1984 and 2000 MSB Trail Plans.	5
14A	Mud Lake (Nancy Lake)	Multi-use winter trail accessible from Willow West Gateway Trailhead or Nancy Lake State Recreation Area. Shown on Map 7. Amendment to the 2000 Trail Plan adopted in 2007.	7
14A	Old Government Peak (Fishhook Creek)	Pedestrian year round trail/ The trail was once a road leading to the mining areas east of Government Peak. Shown on Map 1. Noted in both the 1984 and 2000 MSB Trail Plans; and Hatcher Pass Management Area Plan.	1, 2
14A	Old Hunters	Part of a large multi-use winter trail system accessible from the Willow West Gateway Trailhead or Nancy Lake State Recreation Area, and groomed by volunteers from Willow. Shown on Map 7. Included in the 2006 amendment to the 2000 MSB Trail Plan.	7

14A	Oswald	Multi-use year round trail that is accessible from the Knik Glacier Trail which is primarily used for hunting. It is a steep primitive trail which follows a ridge along the west side of Friday Creek. Shown on Map 5. Noted in the 1984 MSB Trail Plan.	5
14A	Palmer-Sutton RR (aka Matanuska Branch RR)	Pedestrian year round trail that follows an abandoned rail corridor from Palmer to Sutton, and which is permitted to the MSB for pedestrian trail use. Roadside parking off Eagle Street in Palmer and at Moose Creek State Wayside. Shown on Maps 1, 2 and 5. Noted in the 2000 MSB Trail Plan.	1,2,5
14A	Permanente (aka Castle Mountain)	A multi-use year round trail with limited roadside parking off the Glenn Highway. Located in the Matanuska Valley Moose Range. Shown on Map 2. Noted in both the 1984 and 2000 MSB Trail Plans.	2
14A	Pioneer Ridge/Austin Helmers	Pedestrian year round trail up the northeast flank of Pioneer Peak. Named for Austin Helmers who located and helped develop this route to the summit. It is minimally maintained by the Matanuska-Susitna Borough for hiking. Shown on Map 5. Noted in both the 1984 and 2000 MSB Trail Plans.	5
14A	Pipeline	A multi-use winter trail that follows a large gas pipeline corridor toward the lower Susitna River Basin from Point MacKenzie area. The trail has been surveyed and an easement reserved to the Susitna River. The MSB collects fees for parking at maintained trailhead north of Ayshire Road that provides access to this trail. Shown on Map 6. Noted in the 2000 Trail Plan.	6
14A	Plumley-Maude	A multi-use year round trail maintained by the Matanuska Susitna Borough, with trailhead parking north of Plumley Road, or off road parking at the east end of Maud Road. The trail crosses Borough-owned land and is reserved for recreation. Shown on Map 5. Noted in both the 1984 and 2000 MSB Trail Plans.	5
14A	Premier Mine	Multi-use year round trail located in the Matanuska Valley Moose Range and accessible from Buffalo Mine Road or Jonesville Road. Shown on Maps 1, 2 and 5. Noted in the 1984 MSB Trail Plan	1,2,5
14A	Purchases Creek	Multi-use year round trail, a portion falls within the Hatcher Pass Management area. Roadside parking off Hatcher Pass Road. Shown on Map 1. Noted in the 1984 MSB Trail Plan; and Hatcher Pass Management Area Plan.	1
14A	Red Shirt-Nancy Lake	Uses vary seasonally. Most of the trail is located within the Nancy Lake State Recreation Area and maintained as access for fishing at Red Shirt Lake. Shown on Maps 6 and 7. Noted in the 2000 MSB Trail Plan.	6
14A	Reed Lake – Snowbird Mine	Pedestrian year round trail within the Hatcher Pass Management area. Maintained by Alaska State Parks for hiking and backcountry access. Trailhead parking off Archangel Road. Shown on Maps 1 and 2. Noted in the 1984 MSB Trail Plan; and Hatcher Pass Management Area Plan.	1, 2
14A	Reflections Lake Trail	Reflections Lake Trail is located south of Palmer just off the west side of the Glenn Highway on the north side of the Knik River. This year-round trail is used in the winter by hikers, skiers and snowshoers, and in the summer/fall by hikers, hunters and fishermen.	NA
14A	Rippy Trail	A multi-use year round trail located in the newly established Knik River Public Use Area, which is under State management. There is limited parking near Jim Lake and Mud Lake. Shown on Map 5. Noted in the 1984 MSB Trail Plan.	5
14A	Rolly Creek	Multi-use winter trail southwest of Willow and accessible from Willow West Gateway Trailhead or Nancy Lake State Recreation Area. Shown on Map 7. Amendment to the 2000 Trail Plan adopted in 2007.	7
14A	Scout Ridge Loop Trail	Scout Ridge Loop Trail is a well-established trail located off Hayfield Road in the Knik- Fairview area. This year-round trail is used in the winter by hikers, skiers and snowshoers, and in the summer by hikers.	NA
	Sexton (aka River Road)	A multi-use year round trail located in the newly established Knik River Public Use Area, and under State management. The trail provides access to the Jim Creek and Knik River areas. There is trailhead parking south of Sullivan Road near the corner of Caudill Road. Shown on Map 5. Noted in the 1984 MSB Trail Plan.	5

14A	Sunset Trail	A year-round, multi-use trail that runs west from Knik-Goose Bay Road along section line easements and connects to the 3-mile Lake Trail. This trail is used year-round by hikers, ATVs, and equestrians in the summer and by dog mushers and snowmachiners in the winter. The route provides an important connection from the Knik-Goose Bay separated pathway to the 3-mile Lake Trail, Herning Trail, and the Iditarod Trail.	
14A	Swan Lake Canoe (aka Jim-Mud Lake Canoe)	A water route for canoes and kayaks located in the newly established Knik River Public Use Area under State management. There is a put-in and small parking area near Mud Lake, just south of the Maud Road Extension (Rippy Trail). Shown on Map 5. Noted in both the 1984 and 2000 MSB Trail Plans.	5
14A	Upper Willow Creek	Use varies - year round trail within the Hatcher Pass Management area. Unmaintained trail with roadside parking off Hatcher Pass Road. Shown on Map 1. Noted in the 1984 MSB Trail Plan; and Hatcher Pass Management Area Plan.	1
14A	Wasilla Creek Headwaters	A multi-use year round trail with a small trailhead at the east end of Wendt Road. Located in the Matanuska Valley Moose Range, some of the area is managed by Division of Forestry. Access is also available from Murphy Road, just west of Buffalo Mine Road. Shown on Maps 1, 2 and 5. Noted in both the 1984 and 2000 MSB Trail Plans.	1,2,5
14A	West Bodenburg Butte	A pedestrian year round trail maintained by the Matanuska-Susitna Borough for hiking. MSB fees collected for parking at a trailhead off Mothershead Lane (just south of Bodenburg Loop Road). This trail was built by the Borough in 2002 to replace the privately owned trail on the southeast side of the butte. Shown on Map 5. Noted in the 2000 MSB Trail Plan.	5
14A	Wet Gulch (Baldy Mountain)	Multi-use year round trail, a portion falls within the Hatcher Pass Management area. Roadside parking off Hatcher Pass Road. Shown on Map 1. Noted in the 1984 MSB Trail Plan; and Hatcher Pass Management Area Plan.	1
14A	Willow Sled	Multi-use year round trail, some of which falls within the Hatcher Pass Management area. Roadside parking off Hatcher Pass Road. Shown on Maps 1 and 10. Noted in both the 1984 and 2000 MSB Trail Plan; and Hatcher Pass Management Area Plan.	1,10
14A	Willow Swamp	Part of a large multi-use winter trail system accessible from the Willow West Gateway Trailhead or Nancy Lake State Recreation Area. This trail has been surveyed and a public use recreation trail easement reserved. Shown on Map 7. Included in the 2006 amendment to the 2000 MSB Trail Plan.	7
14A	Willow West Gateway	Multi-use winter only trail that is the primary route from a trailhead on Crystal Lake Road that leads west to a system of winter trails near the Susitna River. The trail is groomed and maintained by volunteers. Shown on Map 7. Included in the 2006 amendment to the 2000 Trail.	7
14A	Windsock	A multi-use winter trail accessed from Willow West Gateway Trailhead, or Willow Community Center. Shown on Map 7. Included in the 2006 amendment to the 2000 MSB Trail Plan.	7
14A	Wishbone Hill	Multi-use year round trail located in the Matanuska Valley Moose Range and accessible from Buffalo Mine Road or Jonesville Road. Shown on Maps 1 and 2. Noted in the 1984 MSB Trails Plan	1,2
14A	Wishbone Strip Mine	A multi-use winter trail accessible from Buffalo Mine Road and Jonesville Road, it is located in the Matanuska Valley Moose Range. Shown on Maps 1, 2 and 5. Noted in the 1984 MSB Trail Plan	1,2,5
14A	Wolverine Canyon	Multi-use year round trail used to access the Wolverine Creek Trail. Shown on Maps 1 and 5. Noted in the 1984 MSB Trail Plan.	1,5
14A	Wolverine Creek	A multi-use year round primitive trail with limited roadside parking off Clark Wolverine Road. It follows the creek on the northeast side of the drainage to the headwaters. Shown on Map 5. Noted in both the 1984 and 2000 MSB Trail Plans.	5

14A	Woodcutter	Multi-use winter trail southwest of Willow accessible from Willow West Gateway Trailhead or Nancy Lake State Recreation Area. Shown on Map 7. Amendment to the 2000 Trail Plan adopted in 2007.	7
14A	Young Creek	A multi-use year round trail located in the Matanuska Valley Moose Range. Shown on Map 2. Noted in both the 1984 and 2000 MSB Trail Plans.	2
14A, 16A	Iditarod Common Use Reroute	Iditarod Common Use Reroute Trail Is a proposed reroute of a well-established trail to move it off private property and on to public (borough) lands. The trail is used by winter recreationists including dog mushers, skiers, snowshoers, snowmobilers and mountain bicyclists. The route is used in the Excursion 120, Knik 200, Klondike 300, Junior Iditarod and Nome Sign 40 dog mushing races. The trail runs along seismic lines and through swamps.	NA
14A, 16B	Iditarod (Historic)	Multi-use winter trail, portions of the route are surveyed, most is not used. Portions that cross Matanuska Susitna Borough-owned land have been reserved. This is a RS 2477 designated route and it managed by the Bureau of Land Management. Shown on Maps 6 and 8. Noted in the 1984 and 2000 Trail Plans.	6,8
14B	Bluff Trail	A multi-use trail with year round use that follows the bluff along the south bank of Twister Creek. The trail can be accessed from Rubberneck at the end of Christiansen Lake road. The trail is proposed to extend to the Spur Road. The trail connects to downtown Talkeetna in winter, but dead-ends in summer. Shown on Map 11. Noted in the 2000 MSB Trail Plan.	11
14B	Canyon Creek	Multi-use year round trail, a portion falls within the Hatcher Pass Management area. Roadside parking off Hatcher Pass Road. Shown on Map 1. Noted in the 1984 MSB Trail Plan; and Hatcher Pass Management Area Plan.	1
14B	Central	Multi-use year round trail within the Kashwitna Management Plan Area. Roadside parking off Hatcher Pass Road. The trail has been surveyed and a public recreation trail easement reserved. The trail provides access to Willow Mountain and Mail Trail. Trailhead parking available at Willer-Kash Road. Shown on Maps 1 and 7. Noted in the Kashwitna Management Area Plan.	1,7
14B	Dorothy Jones Trail / Su Valley Ski Trail	Trail system consists of a series of loops built on rolling hills between the Su Valley High School and Montana Lake. There are varying levels of difficulty from novice to expert. One short loop circles a small pond for winter use.	NA
14B	Emil J. Stanec Dog Sled	An extensive system of dog sled trails north of Willow Hatcher Pass Road and maintained by mushers in the Willow area. The trails are accessible from the Talkeetna Mail Trail and the East Gateway Trailhead off Shirley Towne Road, just north of Hatcher Pass Road. Shown on Maps 1 and 7. Included in the 2006 amendment to the 2000 MSB Trail Plan.	1,7
14B	Emil Lake	Multi-use winter trail used by the Montana Creek Dog Mushers Association (MCDMA) for their longer races. There is trailhead parking at the Montana Creek Dog Mushers race staging area. Shown on Map 10. Noted in the 1984 MSB Trail Plan.	10
14B	Grey's Creek	A short pedestrian trail which begins on the Parks Highway and is used almost exclusively for fishing along Grey's Creek. Shown on Map 7. Noted in the 2000 MSB Trail Plan.	7
14B	Luthman (aka Montana Falls)	Multi-use year round trail that follows the Middle Fork of Montana Creek from Yoder Road and provides access to the 80 foot waterfall. Shown on Map 10. Noted in the 1984 MSB Trail Plan as the Montana Falls Trail.	10
14B	Mail (Herning) (Tank)	Multi-use year round trail within the Kashwitna Management Plan Area, most of which is classified for forestry and managed by Division of Forestry. Trailhead parking available at Willer-Kash Road. The trail has been surveyed and a public recreation trail easement reserved. Shown on Map 1 and 7. Noted in the 2000 MSB Trail Plan and Kashwitna Management Area Plan.	1,7
14B	Mail Trail Connector	Multi-use year-round trail that connects the Mail Trail with the Central Trail. Within the Kashwitna Management Plan Area, most of which is classified for forestry management and managed by the Division of Forestry. This is an	1,7

		unmaintained trail with trailhead parking at Willer-Kash Road. The trail has been surveyed and a public recreation trail easement reserved. Shown on Maps 1 and 7. Noted in the Kashwitna Management Area Plan.	
14B	Mail Trail Re-Route	Multi-use winter trail just south of Hidden Hills Road in the Kashwitna River area. The trail was put in by residents of the Caswell Lakes area to provide a connection to the old Talkeetna Mail Trail (aka Tank Trail and aka Herning Trail). The trail has been surveyed and a public recreation trail easement reserved. Shown on Map 7 and 10. Noted in the 2000 MSB Trail Plan.	7,10
14B	Montana Creek 50 Mile	A multi-use winter trail used by the Montana Creek Dog Mushers Association (MCDMA) for their longer races. Accessible from the Montana Creek Dog Mushers Club and race staging area. Shown on Map 10. Noted in the 1984 MSB Trail Plan.	10
14B	Montana Creek Dog Mushers/Sled System	on-motorized winter trail for dog sled races and training. It is maintained and managed by the Montana Creek Dog Mushers Association. There is trailhead parking at the Montana Creek Dog Mushers Club and race staging area. Portions are designated a RS2477 route. Shown on Maps 9 and 10. Noted in the 1984 and 2000 MSB Trail Plans.	9,10
14B	Montana Creek Falls (aka MCDMA 50 Mile Race)	Multi-use year round trail that ascends a ridge from the South Fork Montana Creek Trail to a ridge overlooking Montana Creek Falls and the Middle Fork of Montana Creek. Shown on Map 10. Noted in the 1984 MSB Trail Plan, and shown as part of the MCDMA 50 Mile Race Trail.	10
14B	N. Fork Kashwitna (Drew's Knob)	A primitive route accessible via the Montana Creek Dog Mushers Trail System or Sheep Creek drainage. Shown on Map 10. Noted in the 1984 MSB Trail Plan.	10
14B	Old Lake (aka Old Town Road)	A multi-use trail with year round use located which provides access between Christiansen Lake Road and Beaver Road just east of Talkeetna. Shown on Map 11. Noted in the 2000 MSB Trail Plan.	11
14B	Old RCA	A multi-use trail with year round use just north of Christiansen Lake near Talkeetna. The trail connects to the Ridge Trail and Old Lake Trail, creating a loop. The trail can be accessed from Comsat Road and Rubberneck. Shown on Map 11. Noted in the 2000 MSB Trail Plan.	11
14B	Rainbow Lake	A primitive, remote route, used mostly in winter, that follows the North Fork of the Kashwitna River, north toward Sheep River and on to Rainbow Lake. Shown on Map 10. Noted in 1984 MSB Trail Plan.	10
14B	Ridge Trail	A multi-use trail with year round use that connects to several trails east of Talkeetna. The trail can be accessed from Beaver Road or Comsat Road. Efforts are underway to develop a recreation management plan for Borough owned lands that underlie the trail and reclassify those lands as public recreation. Shown on Map 11. Noted in the 2000 MSB Trail Plan.	11
14B	S. Fork Montana Creek	Multi-use winter trail that follows the South Fork of Montana Creek from Yoder Road to the small lake near the headwaters of the creek. Shown on Map 10. Amendment to the 2000 Trail Plan adopted in 2004.	10
14B	Shirley Lake	A multi-use winter trail just south of Willow Creek, it is part of a large system of winter trails accessed from Willow West Gateway Trailhead, or Willow Community Center. Shown on Map 7. Included in the 2006 amendment to the 2000 MSB Trail Plan.	7
14B	Ski Hill	A Nordic ski trail system just west of the Talkeetna Spur Road. The trail system has been surveyed and a recreational trail easement has been obtained. The trail system is managed and maintained by volunteers from the Denali Nordic Ski Club. Shown on Map 11. Noted in the 2000 MSB Trail Plan.	11
14B	South Fork Loop (aka MCDMA 50 Mile Race)	Multi-use year round trail primarily used in winter by dog mushers for training. Shown on Map 10. Noted in the 1984 MSB Trail Plan.	10

14B	Sunshine	A historic route used primarily in winter. Montana Creek Dog Mushers Association (MCDMA) use portions of the trail for their longer races. There is trailhead parking at the Montana Creek Dog Mushers Club and race staging area. Shown on Maps 9 and 10. Noted in the 1984 MSB Trail Plan.	9,10
14B	Talkeetna Lakes Park	A trail system for skiing, hiking and mountain biking located within the Talkeetna Lakes Park. Construction of a trailhead facility at the park entrance was completed in 2007. Shown on Map 11. Noted in the 2000 MSB Trail Plan.	11
14B	Talkeetna Mail-Central Connector	Multi-use year-round trail that connects the Mail Trail with the Central Trail. Within the Kashwitna Management Plan Area, most of which is classified for forestry management and managed by the Division of Forestry. Shown on Maps 1 and 7. Noted in the Kashwitna Management Area Plan.	1,7
14B	Talkeetna River Trail	A multi-use trail with year round use that runs along the Talkeetna River Slough from the corner of F-street and Beaver Road upriver to the start of the Ridge Trail. Shown on Map 11. Noted in the 2000 MSB Trail Plan.	11
14B	Twister Creek Winter Trail	A multi-use winter trail just south of the Talkeetna Airport that connects the Old Lake to the Ski Hill area. The trail traverses lands owned by a Native corporation, the State of Alaska and the Alaska University. Shown on Map 11. Noted in the 2000 MSB Trail Plan.	11
14B	Upper S. Fork Montana Creek	Multi-use winter trail that heads northeast from South Fork Montana Creek Trail up the smaller drainage of the Upper South Fork. Shown on Map 10. Noted in the 1984 MSB Trail Plan.	10
14B	Willow Mountain	Multi-use year round trail, portions are within the Kashwitna Management Plan Area, most of which is classified for forestry and managed by Division of Forestry. This is an unmaintained trail with trailhead parking available at Willer-Kash Road. Shown on Maps 1 and 7. Noted in the Kashwitna Management Area Plan.	1,7
14B, 16A	MCDMA 300 Mile Race	Multi-use winter trail used by the Montana Creek Dog Mushers Association (MCDMA) for their longer races. Accessible from the Montana Creek Dog Mushers Club and race staging area. Shown on Maps 9 and 10. Noted in the 1984 MSB Trail Plan.	9,10
14B, 16A	Parker Lake	A multi-use winter trail accessible from the Susitna Landing a privately run parking– staging area on the Susitna River. The trail has been surveyed and an easement reserved for public use. Shown on Maps 7, 9 and 10. Noted in 2000 MSB Trail Plan.	7,9,10
16A	Amber Lake Trail	Multi-use winter trail that heads west from the Parks Highway to Amber Lake. It connects with Oilwell Road and other winter trails in the area. Shown on Maps 9 and 12. Noted in both the 1984 and 2000 MSB Trail Plans.	9, 12
16A	Black Creek (Collinsville)	Multi-use year round trail that leaves the Petersville Road near the Forks Roadhouse and travels west toward the mining district. It is still used as a freight trail for mining operations west of Peters Creek. Shown on Map 12. Noted in the 1984 and 2000 MSB Trail Plans.	12
16A	Cache Creek	Multi-use year round trail that connects Black Creek Trail to the Peters Hills and Cache Creek mining areas. The trail has been surveyed and the RS2477 route documented. Shown on Map 12. Noted in the 1984 and 2000 MSB Trail Plans.	12
16A	Chulitna Bluff	Multi-use winter trail that begins on E. Susitna River Road. A trailhead at Mile 122 of the Parks Highway provides parking and access to the trail. Shown on Map 11 and 12. Noted in 2000 MSB Trail Plan.	11,12
16A	Deep Creek	A multi-use winter trail just east of Petersville Road, it is accessible from the winter trailhead near Kroto Creek. This trail has been surveyed and a public recreation trail easement reserved. Shown on Map 12. Noted in the 2004 Amendment to the 2000 MSB Trail Plan.	12
16A	Deshka Crossover Trail	This is a multi-use, winter trail that crosses state and borough, with a trailhead at Deshka Landing in Willow. Part of the State’s Susitna Corridor Trail from Big Lake to Denali State Park overlaps this trail.	NA



16A	Deshka Su Trail	This is a multi-use, winter trail that crosses state and borough land with a trailhead at Deshka Landing and Susitna Landing. Part of the State Parks Susitna Corridor Trail from Big Lake to Denali State Park overlaps this trail. It is a winter-use trail located entirely on state lands, is groomed and marked and is used by snowmobilers and dog mushers.	NA
16A	Dutch Hills (aka Peters Creek or Dutch Creek)	Multi-use year round trail that follows old mining roads to the Dutch Hills area. The trail has been surveyed and the RS2477 route documented. Shown on Map 12. Noted in the 1984 and 2000 MSB Trail Plans.	12
16A	E. Petersville Road	Multi-use year round trail which is actually along the unmaintained portion (Mile 19 and beyond) of Petersville Road. It is often groomed in winter by volunteers of the snowmachine clubs in the area. This is a RS2477 designated route. Shown on Map 12. Noted in both the 1984 and 2000 MSB Trail Plans.	11, 12
16A	East-West Express	Multi-use winter only trail that runs from a trailhead on the Parks Highway to the Deep Creek Trail. It intersects several trails to the south. It is usually groomed by volunteers from the local snowmachine club. Shown on Maps 11 and 12. Noted in the 2000 MSB Trail Plan.	11,12
16A	Gopher Creek Loop	A multi-use year round trail located north of Petersville area accessible from the Petersville Road (Trail). Shown on Map 12. Noted in the 1984 MSB Trail Plan.	12
16A	Mona Lakes Trail	Mona Lakes Trail is located primarily along seismic lines west of the Susitna River and travels from the Deshka River northwest to Oilwell Road. The trail is located almost entirely on state lands, including the subdivided lands around the Mona Lakes. This trail system is currently being groomed by various individuals who reside along the trail route and is used in the winter by snowmobilers and dog mushers.	NA
16A	Oilwell Road/Trail	Multi-use year round trail that follows Oilwell Road starting south of Amber Lake. This trail is within a forest management area of the Matanuska Susitna Borough. Shown on Maps 9 and 12. Noted in the 2000 MSB Trail Plan.	9, 12
16A	Parker Lake – Neil Lake	Multi-use winter trail that provides access to Neil Lake from the Parker Lake Trail. It is accessible from the Susitna Landing. Shown on Map 9. Included in the 2007 amendment to the 2000 MSB Trail Plan.	9
16A	Peters Hills	Multi-use winter trail that runs northeast from Petersville Road up and over Peters Hills. Shown on Map 12. Noted in the 2000 MSB Trail Plan.	12
16A	Petersville Road/Trail	Multi-use year round trail which is actually along the unmaintained portion (Mile 19 and beyond) of Petersville Road. It is often groomed in winter by volunteers of the snowmachine clubs in the area. This is a RS2477 designated route. Shown on Map 12. Noted in both the 1984 and 2000 MSB Trail Plans.	12
16A	Safari Lake	Multi-use winter only trail that begins at the Kroto Creek trailhead on Petersville Road and heads north to connect with the East-West Express Trail and others north of Safari Lake. It is usually groomed and maintained by volunteers. Shown on Map 12. Noted in the 2000 MSB Trail Plan.	12
16A	Susitna – Neil Lake Trail	A heavily used, primarily winter trail used by skiers, dog mushers, and snowmachiners. The western portion between Neil Lake and the Deshka River is upgraded to a drivable road surface and is used in the summer by hikers and ATVs. The trail provides recreational opportunities as well as access to private properties on Neil Lake.	
16A	Susitna River Route Trail	This trail is an old overgrown logging skid road northeast of Trapper Creek and runs eastwest between the Chulitna Bluff Trail on the west and the Susitna River on the east.	
16A	Tokositna River	Multi-use winter trail that begins at north end of the Safari Lake Trail in the Petersville area and ends at the Tokositna River. It is accessible from the Kroto Creek trailhead on Petersville Road. Shown on Map 12. Noted in the 2000 MSB Trail Plan.	12

16A	Trapper Lake (aka MCDMA 300 Mile Race)	Multi-use winter trail accessible from the Susitna Landing that crosses the Susitna River when frozen to Trapper Lake. Shown on Maps 7 and 9. Noted in the 1984 and 2000 MSB Trail Plans.	7,9
16A	Trapper Lake Link (aka MCDMA 300 Mile Race)	Multi-use winter trail that provides access to the main route of the Trapper Lake Trail. Shown on Map 9. Noted in the 1984 MSB Trail Plan.	9
16A, 16B	Collinsville	Multi-use year round trail that starts west of Black Creek and heads south west to the old mining town of Collinsville and circles around north toward Chelatna Lake and back along the Kahiltna River. The trail has been surveyed and the RS2477 route documented. Shown on Map 12. Noted in the 1984 and 2000 MSB Trail Plans.	12
16A, 16B	McDougall Seismic (aka Lake Creek-Kahiltna)	Multi-use winter trail that connects the Parker Lake Trail to the old town of McDougall and the Yentna River area. Shown on Maps 8 and 9. Noted in the 2000 MSB Trail Plan, and in the 1984 MSB Trail Plan as the Lake Creek-Kahiltna Trail.	8,9
16B	Fish Lake (Yentna area)	A multi-use winter trail that connects Skwentna to the area near Fish Creek and Lake Creek. Shown on Maps 8 and 9. Noted in the 1984 MSB Trail Plan.	8,9
16B	Hiline Lake – Middle Talachulitna	A multi-use winter trail that connects Skwentna to Hiline Lake and Talachulitna River areas. Shown on Map 8. Noted in the 1984 MSB Trail Plan.	8
16B	Iditarod (Race)	Multi-use winter trail which is maintained by volunteers of the Iditarod Trailblazers. Shown on Maps 6, 8 and 9. Noted in the 1984 and 2000 Trail Plans.	6,8,9
16B	Iditarod Checkpoint (aka Skwentna Cutoff)	Multi-use winter trail running south from the town of Skwentna to the Historic Iditarod Trail. Shown on Map 8. Noted in the 1884 MSB Trail Plan	8
16B	KML (aka Donkey Creek Lake)	A multi-use winter trail, accessed from the Collinsville Trail, it heads south toward the Kahiltna and a private lodge. Shown on Map 12. Included in the 2006 amendment to the 2000 MSB Trail Plan; and noted in the 1984 Trails Plan as Donkey Creek Lake Trail).	12
16B	Shell Lake	A multi-use winter trail that connects Skwentna to the area near Shell Lake. Shown on Map 8. Noted in the 1984 MSB Trail Plan.	8
16B	Sleeping Lady	A multi-use winter trail connecting the Yentna River area to Susitna Mountain (Sleeping Lady) area. Shown on Map 8. Included in the 2004 amendment to the 2000 MSB Trail Plan.	8
16B	Sorenson's Boulevard	A multi-use winter trail that runs between Skwentna and Donkey Creek Lake along sloughs up the Yentna River. Shown on Maps 8 and 12. Noted in the 1984 MSB Trail Plan.	8,12
16B	Susitna Station	A multi-use winter trail that follows a seismic line clearing from Skwentna to the confluence of the Yentna and Susitna Rivers at Susitna Station. Shown on Maps 6 and 8. Noted in the 1984 MSB Trail Plan.	6, 8
16B	Trail Lake Access (Yentna)	A multi-use winter trail that provides access to Trail Lake from the Iditarod trail near the Yentna River. Shown on Map 8. Included in the 2004 amendment to the 2000 MSB Trail Plan.	8
16B	West Line	A multi-use winter trail. An un-maintained trail that runs east of the Skwentna River from Skwentna to the area near Finger Lake and Hayes River. Shown on Map 8. Noted in the 1984 MSB Trail Plan.	8
16B	Whiskey Lake (Skwentna area)	A multi-use winter trail that connects Skwentna to the area near Whiskey Lake and Hewitt Lake. Shown on Map 8. Noted in the 1984 MSB Trail Plan.	8
16B	Yentna Cutover	A multi-use winter trail accessed from the Iditarod trail near the Yentna River. Shown on Map 8. Included in the 2004 amendment to the 2000 MSB Trail Plan	8

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** We seek no-trap setbacks to protect people who recreate and their pets on the area's most utilized multi-use trails.

While most trappers set traps a responsible distance from multi-use trails, dangerous trap placements by some close to trails and trailheads have incurred serious consequences for others who recreate on designated multi-use trails. When this issue was brought to the Matanuska-Susitna Borough (MSB) Assembly in 2017, over 3,500 MSB residents petitioned assembly members to protect multi-use trails after 11 dogs had been caught in traps locally.<sup>1</sup> Land managers and law enforcement do not track trap-safety incidents (pets or humans), so reports are collected ad hoc and considered incomplete. As a result of citizen engagement, the MSB approved trapping regulations on six borough-managed trails and on school grounds, but did not issue regulations for state-managed trails in deference to the regulatory powers of the Board of Game.

While the borough regulations limited trapping on a few trails in 2017, each year since there have been reports of pets in off-leash areas being ensnared or caught in legally set traps near unprotected public trails. Traps near popular recreation areas continue to pose a risk to people who recreate, families with children, and pets during winter recreation.

During the 2020-21 trapping season, the public submitted reports of trap encounters, which were verified to include:

- Dog killed in conibear trap at Crooked Creek Trailhead
- Motocross rider pulled off motorbike from snare in Jim Creek Recreation Area
- Dog caught in snare at Iditarod headquarters on KGB
- Dog caught in snare in Western Matanuska Range Trail system
- Dog caught in snare in Meadow Lakes
- Dog caught in trap near Big Lake Airport

Many people live in Alaska for the year-round recreational activities, and tens of thousands of people in the MSB and surrounding areas enjoy multi-use trails in the region. As summarized by the MSB Trails Information Page, *“Residents and visitors use trails year-round for fishing and hunting, access to remote recreation property, hiking, horseback riding, biking, off-road vehicle riding, skiing, snow machining, dog mushing, skijoring, and snowshoeing. Demands for quality trails increases every year and is expected to continue as visitors and residents get outside and enjoy the MSB's natural beauty and wild country in ever increasing numbers.”*<sup>2</sup> We respect the rights of trappers to utilize multi-use trails, and seek reasonable, regulated boundaries that ensure safe multi-use on the area's most heavily-used trails for thousands of other trail users.

The goal of this proposal is not to unduly restrict trapping, but to protect and reduce the uncertainty for users of multi-use trails by providing defined boundaries on trap placement. Trapping would still be permitted near the above-listed trails, provided they are placed farther than 50 yards from the trail and trailheads.

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<sup>1</sup> “Assembly bans trapping in 8 parks”- March 8, 2017 Press Release, <https://www.matsugov.us/news/assembly-bans-trapping-in-7-parks>

<sup>2</sup> Matanuska-Susitna Borough “About Trails”, <https://www.matsugov.us/trails/about-trails>.

### Why these trails?

Trail selection was an intentional process designed to identify true multi-use trails utilized by a variety of users during the trapping season.

First, we referenced the 2016 Matanuska-Susitna Borough Recreational Trails Plan (Adopted June 2017) for a consolidated list of trails in the proposal area.<sup>3</sup> This comprehensive trails plan includes over a dozen adopted community trail plans under one umbrella, including those of: Big Lake, Chase, Chickaloon, Glacier View, South Knik River, Knik-Fairview, Lake Louise, Lazy Mountain, Meadow Lakes, Point MacKenzie, Sheep Mountain, Susitna, Sutton, Talkeetna, and Willow.

Relative to the thousands of trails identified in MSB Recreational Trails Plans since 1984, 253 trails are considered “regionally significant” in the most recent plan. Regionally significant trails are defined as: “existing or proposed trails requiring borough action that are likely to attract recreationalists due to the quality of the recreational opportunities the trail provides.” Regionally significant trails may be managed by the state, federal or borough governments, and are “considered to be the borough’s highest priority for preservation.”<sup>4</sup>

From the list of 253 Regionally Significant Trails, we further narrowed eligible trails to those that:

- Exist (omitted proposed trails and connectors)
- Have documented year-round use from multiple user groups
- Are regularly maintained for multi-use

The intent is to present a fair list of true year-round multi-use trails for consideration under this proposal.

### Why 50 yards?

Fifty yards is the minimum precedented distance for trap setbacks in Alaska. In Unit 1C, for example, Juneau-area designated trails have a regulated ¼ mile trap setback. For trails outside the Juneau area in Unit 1C, the ¼ mile setback is also applied except for traps with an inside jaw spread of five inches or less, which can only be set if they are at least five feet above the ground and snow *and* are more than 50 yards from the trail. Additionally, in 2019 the Anchorage municipality passed an ordinance for 50 yard no-trap setbacks from designated trails in the Anchorage Municipality.<sup>5</sup> In sum, this distance is precedented as a reasonable compromise between various users, and has been implemented in other areas of the state.

The average backpacking speed is two miles per hour (mph). Assuming trappers are moving between one – two mph, this distance would take between one - two minutes to walk from the trail, and thus presents minimal burden to trappers. Many trappers use snow machines, which would cover this 50-yard setback in less than one minute.

The proposed setback zone does not occupy enough space to significantly limit trapper opportunity. Further, by selecting only the most utilized and popular trails, primitive or trapper-maintained trails are not restricted by setbacks and would not reduce current trapping opportunity.

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<sup>3</sup> 2016 Matanuska- Susitna Borough Recreational Trails Plan (Adopted June 2017), pages 6-1 through 6-47. <sup>4</sup> 2016 Matanuska- Susitna Borough Recreational Trails Plan (Adopted June 2017), Page 5-3.

<sup>5</sup> AO No. 2019-50(S)

The setback distance is small enough to not significantly reduce the Board of Game's ability to manage wildlife. Should trapping of a species within this setback be proven biologically necessary, the board may utilize a temporary permit system that identifies active traps in specific cases or modify the list of trails in the setback system.

In areas that permit off-leash dog use, dogs must still be under voice and sight control to be protected by this setback. For the protection of users and wildlife, dogs must be in voice and sight control in all multi-use settings.

Trappers who follow the Trapper's Code of Ethics' third tenant, to "promote trapping methods that will reduce the possibility of catching non-target animals," already trap away from heavily used trails. This setback will likely not impact trappers who already avoid trap conflicts in multi-use areas.

**PROPOSED BY:** Alaska Wildlife Alliance

HQ-F21-003

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