

APPENDIX I

Suggested Changes in Future Regulations - Citizen's Input

1. Horses should be restricted to hardened trails and non-alpine areas as a general goal. Monitoring of present use will better determine where future use should be allowed, but it was generally agreed that too many sensitive areas of the park are currently open to horse use. A loss containment policy is presently in effect.
2. Under proposed changes, Peters Creek Valley will be closed to snowmobile use in the future. This recommendation was made by the Chugach State Park Citizens Advisory Board as a condition of approval of this plan, and by many citizens testifying at the three public hearings held to review the draft plan. Three factors contributed to the decision to close Peters Creek Valley to snowmobile use.
 - a) Steep access road grades and limited opportunities to develop adequate parking for snowmobile trailers and off-loading.
 - b) Extreme difficulty in preventing snowmobiles from going beyond the present six mile legal limit and into the wilderness zone beyond.
 - c) This is the only valley on the north side of Chugach State Park (Eagle River, Chugiak and Peters Creek communities) suitable for cross-country skiing and other non-mechanized winter activities which fare best in a quiet, primitive atmosphere.

In addition, it was suggested that future regulations consider time zoning for Eklutna Lake Valley, Bird Creek Valley and Eagle River Valley. Larger blocks of time exclusively for skiers and snowmobilers were suggested to provide a better experience and reduce conflicts. Two or three week to half-winter time blocks were proposed.

3. Motorcycles and four-wheel drive vehicles were suggested for time zoning in Bird Creek Valley and Eklutna Lake Valley. Larger blocks of time were suggested to give hikers and backpackers an opportunity to enjoy these valleys in a quiet, primitive atmosphere. The Chugach State Park Citizens Advisory Board once again reiterated its determination that Eklutna Lake Road between Campground A and Eklutna Glacier should be closed to all motorized uses.
4. Mountain bikes should be allowed to use the following additional trails and routes (they are currently permitted on four trails and trail systems):
 - a) Wolverine Bowl Trail (#401).
 - b) Rabbit Creek Valley Trail (#434) (careful monitoring of use will be required).
 - c) South Bank Eagle River Trail (#220).
 - d) Powerline Trail between the Gasline Junction and Prospect Heights Trailhead.

In general, mountain bikes are probably not appropriate where the trails are so rough or steep that the user spends most of his time watching the tread instead of the surrounding scenery. This is particularly true of non-destination-oriented trails in which the trail itself is the experience.