

**State of Alaska**  
**Department of Natural Resources**

**Notice of Public Scoping for Possible  
Updates and Revisions to DNR Regulations  
Under Administrative Order 266**

**11 AAC 96.014(b)(3)(E), Hatcher Pass Special Use Area,  
Using or Discharging Firearms**

The Alaska Department of Natural Resources is considering whether it should revise its regulations regarding using or discharging firearms in a small portion of the Hatcher Pass Special Use Area to allow for a possible biathlon range. Specifically, DNR is considering revising regulations under 11 AAC 96.014(b)(3)(E) to allow the use or discharge of firearms to allow the establishment of a designated biathlon range within a portion of the Southern Development Area of the Government Peak Unit of the Hatcher Pass Special Use Area as depicted on the map entitled *Hatcher Pass Management Plan Government Peak Unit Potential Shooting Area*.

As a first step, DNR wants to gather views and opinions on the existing regulations from the public regarding the issue of allowing shooting as part of a biathlon range within a portion of this area and on the potential location of a designated biathlon range in the Southern Development Area of the Government Peak Unit of the Hatcher Pass Special Use Area. Currently, a person may not use or discharge a firearm within this area.

The purpose of this notice is to ask the public for their ideas and suggestions for possible changes and improvements to the regulations in 11 AAC 96.014(b)(3)(E) *before* the department undertakes the task of drafting any specific proposed revisions to these regulations for public review. These ideas and suggestions can be as broad or as narrow, or as general or as specific, as a submitter may wish.

The department is not currently proposing any *specific* changes at this time. There are no draft regulations to review. The department is soliciting feedback and comments from the public on how they would change or improve 11 AAC 96.014(b)(3)(E) regarding using or discharging firearms within a designated biathlon range within the Southern Development Area of the Government Peak Unit of the Hatcher Pass Special Use Area before the formal process of drafting any proposed changes begins.

DNR is interested in any suggestions regarding 11 AAC 96.014(b)(3)(E); however, the department is specifically seeking input regarding possibly establishing a designated biathlon range within the Southern Development Area of the Government Peak Unit of the Hatcher Pass

Special Use Area.

Text for existing Hatcher Pass Special Use Area regulations and map entitled *Hatcher Pass Management Plan Government Peak Unit Potential Shooting Area* showing the potential location of a biathlon range is online at <http://dnr.alaska.gov/mlw/hottopics>.

Written suggestions and other input must be received by the department no later than **5:00 p.m. on April 16, 2018** and may be submitted by mail or email to:

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The department will consider the information submitted if and when it proposes regulatory revisions to this Chapter. Any proposed regulatory revisions will subsequently be publicly noticed, and made available for public review and comment under AS 44.62, the Administrative Procedures Act.

The department reserves the right to waive technical defects in this publication. The State of Alaska, Department of Natural Resources, complies with Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. Individuals with disabilities who may need auxiliary aides, services or special modifications to participate in this scoping request may contact the above address, email or the TDD number (907) 269-8411.

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