

## **PUBLIC SAFETY**

---

### **1. RESCUE PLAN**

Encourage development of a comprehensive rescue plan for the management unit by using the State Trooper Statewide Search and Rescue Plan, and initiating coordination among all local rescue teams. A cooperative rescue plan should be initiated between rescue technicians on the east and west sides of the pass. The Mat-Su Borough Emergency Services or other organizations could be encouraged to participate in training procedures as well.

### **2. EMERGENCY PHONE-RESCUE CACHE**

An emergency telephone and emergency rescue caches should be installed near intensive use areas including recreation sites, parking lots, and/or trailheads.

### **3. OTHER PUBLIC SAFETY GUIDELINES**

Other public safety guidelines are incorporated in Chapter Three within the "Transportation and Access" (page 158, 1.g), "Snow Avalanche Safety Program" (page 180), and "Recreation" (page 139, Guideline 3).

### **4. DISCHARGE OF FIREARMS**

To enhance public safety in high public use areas, the discharge of firearms should be prohibited in certain areas within the Hatcher Pass Management Unit. The Matanuska-Susitna Borough is the preferred jurisdiction to implement this guideline.

State law prohibits the discharge of firearms from on or across a highway or trail (AS. 11.61.220 (a)(2) and 11.81.900 (a)(24)).

In addition shooting should be prohibited in the following high public use areas:

**Hatcher Pass Road, East, Pass Area.** Within 1/2 mile of either side of the Hatcher Pass Road from where the road enters the management unit on the east side at approximately Milepost 7.8 to the turn off to upper Willow Creek Valley at approximately Milepost 20.5.

**Gold Cord Road.** Within 1/2 mile of either side of the Gold Cord Road from its junction with the Hatcher Pass Road to Independence Mine State Historic Park.

**Gold Mint Trail.** Within 1/2 mile of either side of the Gold Mint Trail from the Gold Mint Trailhead to Archangel Creek, and the cleared site north of Archangel Creek at the junction with the Little Susitna River.

Developed Recreation Facilities. Within 1/2 mile of developed public and private recreation facilities; this includes:

a. Independence Mine State Historic Park

b. Summit Lake State Recreation Site

c. Campgrounds, picnic sites, developed wildlife viewing sites, public use cabins, and other recreational facilities which may be developed in the future.

d. Private recreation facilities such as within the proposed ski area/four-season resort or groomed winter trails.