

[5]Z. PUBLIC RECREATION [DEVELOPMENTS]

a. **Parking.** Large, expansive parking lots are inappropriate in this area. Several small-to-moderate sized lots are preferred to disperse different user groups. Where possible, parking lots will not be immediately adjacent to the road. The lots will be screened from the roadway where possible and made more visually harmonious through use of topographic variation, boulders, and/or vegetative screens where possible.

Parking and pullout areas have been preliminarily identified by the Department of Natural Resources at sites of interest. Prior to development, any site should receive a technical evaluation for avalanche hazard, roadway safety, design feasibility, and cost.

b. **Recreation Area -- Subunit B** (formerly Eastern Hillside p. 224 of original plan): The 1986 plan recognize[s]d strong local interest in establishing the area below 1500 feet in Sections 22, and 27-30, T19N, R1E, Seward Meridian (and the east ½ of Section 31, T19N, R1E, Seward Meridian in the Hillside subunit), as a State Recreation Area. (This is the area formerly identified as Section 3 in the Hillside subunit; see figure 7, page 222) While this area does not currently meet the criteria used in other areas in the management unit of being an intensively used area in need of enforcement and facilities and is not proposed for inclusion in the Hatcher Pass Public Use Area, if the proposed resort is not built, at a future time re-evaluation of regional growth patterns, watershed management and recreational needs may determine that such a designation is appropriate.

c. **Campgrounds and Picnic Sites** The proposed campground and picnic area(s) will be located in the Little Susitna River corridor at sites where trees provide opportunities for screening sites from each other and from the road corridor. [ON THE WEST SIDE OF THE ROAD WITH SITES SCREENED FROM EACH OTHER AND THE ROAD BY TREES AND WITH A ONE-WAY ROAD LOOP TO MINIMIZE INTERSECTION HAZARDS AND CONSTRUCTION COSTS. THE PROPOSED PICNIC AREA(S) WILL BE LOCATED BETWEEN THE RIVER AND THE HATCHER PASS ROAD, AND VEGETATIVE AND TOPOGRAPHIC FEATURES WILL BE USED FOR SCREENING] to the greatest extent possible. The Division of Parks and Outdoor Recreation will perform a site analysis and recommend the appropriate sites in consultation with the Department of Fish and Game. These sites will be developed under an interagency land management agreement by the Division of Parks and Recreation.

The Department of Transportation and Public Facilities and the Department of Natural Resources should coordinate on future plans for road improvements or realignment to maximize compatibility with campground and picnic site locations.