

LEGISLATION — AN ACT CREATING THE MATANUSKA VALLEY MOOSE RANGE

*Section 1. AS 16.20 is amended by adding new sections to read:

Sec. 16.20.340. PURPOSE. The purpose of AS 16.20.340 - 16.20.360 is to establish the area described in AS 16.20.360 as the Matanuska Valley Moose Range. The primary purposes of the Matanuska Valley Moose Range are to maintain, improve and enhance moose populations and habitat and other wildlife resources of the area, and to perpetuate public multiple use of the area, including fishing, grazing, forest management, hunting, trapping, mineral and coal entry and development, and other forms of public use of public land not incompatible with the purpose stated in this section.

Sec. 16.20.350. DESIGNATION OF MANAGEMENT RESPONSIBILITY. (a) The Department of Fish and Game is responsible for the management of fish and game resources on the state land and water described in AS 16.20.360 consistent with the purposes of AS 16.20.340 - 16.20.360.

b) Management of the surface and subsurface estate is the responsibility of the Department of Natural Resources. After adequate public hearings the Department of Natural Resources shall develop and adopt a management plan for the Matanuska Moose Range that shall reflect the concurrence of the Department of Fish and Game. The management plan shall be adopted, implemented, and maintained within three years of the establishment of the Matanuska Valley Moose Range. The management plan shall be revised, if necessary and appropriate under the same procedure followed for initial adoption. The plan shall provide for roadside recreation sites, including picnicking and camping areas.

(c) The Department of Natural Resources may, after consultation with the Department of Fish and Game, adopt regulations governing the public use of the area. The regulations must include provisions for multiple use, as defined in AS 38.04.910(4) and for public multiple uses listed in AS 16.20.340. Regulations adopted for the Matanuska Valley Moose Range shall not apply to private land within the boundary described in AS 16.20.360.

(d) The area shall be managed to sustain fish and wildlife resources in perpetuity, according to the principle of sustained yield.

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(e) The Commissioner of Natural Resources may acquire in the name of the state, by negotiated purchase only, without an option of first purchase, title or interest in real property lying within the boundaries of the Matanuska Valley Moose Range. The lands described herein are to be managed by the Department of Natural Resources.

Sec. 16.20.360. DESIGNATED STATE LAND AND WATER. The state-owned land and water, vacant and unappropriated, and all that acquired in the future by the state, lying within the boundary described in this section, are designated as the Matanuska Valley Moose Range, and are reserved from all uses incompatible with their primary purposes as public use land. The lands described herein are to be managed by the Department of Natural Resources.

Approved by the Governor: June 1, 1984

Actual Effective Date: August 30, 1984