

TRAILS

GOALS

1. Ensure continued opportunities for public use of important recreation, public access, and historic trails of regional and statewide significance.
2. Protect or establish trail corridors to meet projected future use requirements as well as protecting current use.

MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES

a. Trail Buffer Width

Trails of regional or statewide significance on state land will be protected by publicly owned corridors that have a minimum width of 100 feet (50 feet each side of center-line). These corridors should be designed to protect the quality of the experience of the user and to minimize negative effects, such as noise or dust, from adjacent land uses. Corridor widths may be increased to minimize land use and ownership conflicts, to protect the privacy of adjacent landowners, to separate motorized from non-motorized uses, to allow future siting of public facilities, to allow flexibility for rerouting, or to adapt a trail to allow specific public uses or aesthetic or environmental concerns. Corridor widths may vary along the length of a trail because of the above considerations. The width of a corridor on any portion of a trail should also be based on the management intent for adjacent public land as expressed through applicable land use plans. Trail corridors should be designed in consultation with local trail committees and the Municipality of Anchorage.

b. Identification of Trails

Prior to lease or disposal of public lands, trails that merit protection should be identified. The Division of Land will be the lead agency for identification of trails and should consult with local trails committees and the Municipality of Anchorage. In addition, any agency, organization, or individual may identify public trails to be considered for protection.

c. Iditarod National Historic Trail System (INHTS)

The INHTS will be managed consistent with the Memorandum of Agreement between the State of Alaska and the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) covering the INHTS. For permits and leases along the INHTS, the State Office of History and Archaeology will be consulted.

d. Land Use in Trail Corridors

Land use activities within a trail corridor—for example, permits, leases, timber sales, and material sales—should be managed and permits and leases issued so as to not adversely affect trail use or the aesthetic character of the trail. This does not preclude trail crossings or rerouting of trails as described below.

e. Rerouting Trails

Rerouting trails may be authorized to minimize land use conflicts or to facilitate use of a trail if alternate routes provide opportunities similar to the original. If trails are rerouted, provision should be made for construction of new trail segments if warranted by type of use. Rerouting trails should be done in consultation with local trail committees and the Municipality of Anchorage. Historic trails that follow well-established routes should not be rerouted unless necessary to maintain trail use.