ADOPTION OF THE DENALI STATE PARK
MANAGEMENT PLAN

The Commissioner of the Department of Natural Resources finds that the Denali State Park Management Plan meets the requirements of AS 41.21.150-152 and 41.21.022(4) and hereby adopts this plan as policy for the Department of Natural Resources, Division of Parks and Outdoor Recreation which prescribes management of state lands within the boundaries of Denali State Park and Blair Lake, Indian River, and Tokoshta State Recreation Areas including permitting and other department programs and activities. This plan supersedes the 1989 Denali State Park Master Plan.

June 30, 2006

Date

Mike Menge
Commissioner
Alaska Department of Natural Resources

“Develop, Conserve, and Enhance Natural Resources for Present and Future Alaskans.”
June 30, 2006

Dear Alaskan,

The creation of Denali State Park in 1970 and expansion in 1976 was the realization of decades of local, state, and national interest and involvement. Renowned for its wealth of natural resources and recreational opportunities, Denali State Park is one of the jewels of the Alaska State Park System. Sharing a common boundary with Denali National Park and Preserve to the north and the Matanuska-Susitna Borough and state lands to the south, the state park and its surrounding public lands offer limitless outdoor opportunities, spectacular mountain scenery, and an abundance of fish and wildlife.

For the last several years, it has been widely recognized that the northern Susitna Valley is experiencing increasing pressures from private and commercial development as well as by increasing recreational use and tourism. To address these concerns, the State of Alaska along with its partners, the Matanuska Susitna Borough and the National Park Service, embarked on a planning effort to ensure that the increasing development and uses in this area occur in an orderly manner. It was important to the partners to provide for a diversity of uses while being sensitive to the concerns of local residents. Over the course of the planning process, planners made every effort to address and accommodate concerns and desires while fulfilling the mandate of the park’s enabling legislation. This plan represents these efforts and we are proud of the results.

This plan is designed to be used over the next twenty years. As resources become available to State Parks, the recommendations in the plan will be implemented in phases. In addition, State Parks will continue to participate in planning efforts for lands along the park’s boundaries. We look forward to working together with the public, the State Parks Advisory Board, and the South Denali Steering Committee to address the pressing issues in the region, to help achieve the plan’s goals, and to better serve the public.

Sincerely,

Jerry Lewanski

Director

“Develop, Conserve, and Enhance Natural Resources for Present and Future Alaskans.”
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