

APPENDIX

APPENDIX ONE : CHUGACH STATE PARK ENVIRONMENTAL ATLAS

EXPLANATION

The atlas is an in-depth resource document containing text, maps, graphs, and charts focusing on Chugach State Park. Limited copies are available for loan from the Division of Parks. For further information call:

Division of Parks
619 Warehouse Ave., No. 210
Anchorage, Alaska 99501
274-4676

or

Chugach District
2601 Commercial Drive
Anchorage, Alaska 99501
279-3413

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APPENDIX TWO: GUIDELINES FOR TRAIL DESIGN

POLICY GUIDELINE No. 5

In the past, various trails have been constructed to varying configurations and specifications, some with good results and some not so good. The purpose of this guideline is to establish criteria for conformance in trail construction on a statewide basis.

After the need for a trail has been established and the trail is determined to be consistent with planning objectives in the master plan of the park area or the statewide trails program, a field study team should be assembled to locate and mark the desired trail. This field team might consist of the District Superintendent, District Ranger, Chief of Park Development and the supervisor of the trail construction crew.

The following criteria should be adhered to during the location and construction of trails within State Parks:

1. Every effort should be made to locate the trail in such a manner that it will blend harmoniously with the natural topography and vegetation of the area.
2. The alignment of a trail should not necessarily be designed for expedience, but rather to provide the opportunity for interesting viewing or to reach an interpretive or natural feature along an aesthetically pleasing route.
3. The grade of a trail should not be steeper than 15%, except in extreme cases, and should when possible, be held to a maximum of 10%. In short stretches of not over 150 feet and in very exceptional cases a grade up to 20% may be permitted, but only after it has been determined that other alternatives are too costly in terms of price or environmental considerations.
4. The attached figure (intentionally omitted) on clearing requirements for trails should be adopted in practice. In some cases, trail width will necessarily vary, due to terrain features or unusual circumstances, but for the most part, the trail should be cleared for a width of four feet.
5. The trail should be cleared as high overhead as can be reached. It is desirable, however, to leave a high overhang of branches whenever the type of forest growth will permit. An occasional low branch or other feature that may enhance the beauty of the trail may be left uncut provided that the feature is not a safety hazard. As in the case of trail width, discretion is needed.
6. Large trees should be cut only when it is impracticable to build around them. Trees and brush should be cut as close to the ground as possible. This practice will discourage resprouting and minimize tripping hazards.
7. Brush and logs from clearing should be disposed of or cut, removed and stock-piled for future usage as firewood, etc. Cut vegetation which cannot be utilized should be disposed of farther into the woods. It is essential that all evidence of construction outside of the trail prism be held to a minimum.
8. Precipitation and run-off characteristics in a locality should be observed to properly determine the methods best suited for the disposal of drainage water. A dip in the grade of a trail is one means of disposing of drainage water. Where it is not practical to dip the grade, water breaks or culverts should be provided.

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Alaska State Parks thanks Peter Martin, one of Chugach State Park's closest friends. His photographs are used throughout this plan.