



INTERIOR TRAILS PRESERVATION COALITION

ITPC

Friday, January 7, 2011

Dianna Leinberger
DNR, DMLW, Northern Region Lands Section
3700 Airport Way
Fairbanks, AK 99709-4699

Ms. Leinberger,

The Interior Trails Preservation Coalition supports efforts by the Division of Parks and Outdoor Recreation to gain easements for the Chena Dome Trail in places where the trail strays outside the Chena River State Recreation Area.

This trail has been around for more than 30 years. It provides a tremendous alpine hiking experience to residents of interior Alaska as well as visitors to the area. Being less than an hour drive from Fairbanks makes it easily accessible to a large population. Many people use either end of this loop trail for day hikes, and the trail's rugged nature keeps its far reaches relatively quiet for hikers looking for solitude.

We understand that the Division of Parks and Outdoor Recreation has applied for 25-foot-wide easements along sections of the trail where it strays outside the Chena River State Recreation Area. These sections are at about Miles 3 to 4 and Miles 15 to 16 on the trail and total about 4 miles of trail. The easements will make it easier for DPOR to manage the trail and will ultimately protect the trail.

Please grant these easements for the benefit of the residents of interior Alaska and all the visitors who come looking for a remote, alpine hiking experience.

Sincerely,

Eric Troyer
Vice President

ITPC

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