

By: Matthew Cooper
Introduced: April 22, 2021

FAIRBANKS NORTH STAR BOROUGH

RESOLUTION NO. 2021 – 21

A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING A STATE PARKS RECREATIONAL TRAILS PROGRAM
GRANT TO BUILD FOUR MILES OF TRAIL IN THE BONANZA CREEK AREA TO CONNECT
50 MILES OF FORESTRY ROADS IN THE TANANA VALLEY STATE FOREST

WHEREAS, Fairbanks residents enjoy using trails for all kinds of different recreational activities, including motorized and non-motorized use; and

WHEREAS, All-season trails are especially desirable; and

WHEREAS, While the all-season forestry roads within the Tanana Valley State Forest were built for timber harvest, forestry research, reforestation, and wildland fire protection, they are narrow and scenic, and provide excellent recreation opportunities for a wide range of user groups; and

WHEREAS, The forestry roads in the Bonanza Creek area (including Zasada Road and Bonanza Creek Roads) are already used by bikers, skiers, hunters, snowmachiners, ATV users, dogsledders, runners, and others; and

WHEREAS, The Division of Forestry will complete recreational improvements on the 35-mile Rosie Creek forestry road complex this summer, including road maintenance, directional signs, kiosk and a large parking lot on the Parks Highway; and

WHEREAS, Rosie Creek forestry roads do not connect with the Zasada Road or the Bonanza Creek roads, but only four miles of multi-use trails are needed to connect

34 35 miles of road in the Rosie Creek system with 18 more miles of all-season forestry
35 roads; and

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37 WHEREAS, The new trails would cross the Bonanza Creek Experimental
38 Forest (BCEF), and if approved by the US Forest Service and UAF researchers, the project
39 could provide interpretive information for recreational users about the research going on
40 in the area; and

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42 WHEREAS, The trails would be sited to avoid research sites, weather
43 stations, and other research improvements in the BCEF; and

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45 WHEREAS, The Interior Alaska Trails and Parks Foundation (IATPF)
46 proposes to apply for a State Parks Recreation and Trails Program grant to build the
47 multi-use connector trails between the forestry roads; and

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49 WHEREAS, With the partnership of the Division of Forestry, IATPF would
50 like to demonstrate how forest management can coexist with recreational opportunities.

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52 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Assembly of the Fairbanks
53 North Star Borough supports the efforts of the Interior Alaska Trails and Parks Foundation
54 to pursue grant funding from the Division of Parks and Outdoor Recreation, Recreational
55 Trails Program to connect the existing forestry roads in the Bonanza Creek area with
56 multi-use trails.

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58 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this
59 resolution shall be sent to the Outdoor Recreational Trails Advisory Board.

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ADOPTED THE _____ DAY OF _____ 2021.

Mindy O'Neall
Presiding Officer

ATTEST:

April Trickey, CMC, Borough Clerk