

Resolution of the Bear Valley Community Council

November 11, 2009

WHEREAS, since 1984, the Bear Valley Community Council has spearheaded the creation of Section 36 as wilderness park, and received the support of 33 Community Councils in this effort; and

WHEREAS, the members of the Bear Valley Community Council have a direct and immediate interest in the types and extent of uses that may occur on Section 36 as a consequence of their interest in the preservation of community assets and values (as addressed below) as well as due to the proximity of many homes to the land included in Section 36; and

WHEREAS, the members of Bear Valley Community Council have had a continuous and ongoing concern about crowded access and egress from the "bowl" in which Section 36 and their homes are found, as well as the safety of persons in the area; and

WHEREAS, the members of Bear Valley Community Council have a vested interest in protecting community assets and also being free from nuisances, noise, dangerous conditions, and in exercising their Constitutionally protected right to the enjoyment of the pursuit of happiness;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Bear Valley Community Council seeks the Section 36 park master plan to include the following:

1. The park shall be administered to preserve, protect and enhance its values of wilderness, wildlife, diversification of flora and quiet in such manner as will provide to the citizens of Anchorage a park experience unavailable elsewhere in the Anchorage metropolitan area, in particular so far as possible the experience of solitude in nature;

2. The park shall be developed to provide uses which are not available elsewhere in the Anchorage park system, including but not limited to, the availability of darkness for stargazing and astronomical uses; the maximization of measures which will prevent abandonment of the land by wildlife, such as bear, moose, wolverine, lynx, wolves, coyotes, eagles, migratory birds, rabbits, weasels, and other resident or transient species; the minimizing of structures and appurtenant facilities to enhance the low density/low impact uses of the land;

3. Park uses which will be given priority are those having the lowest impact on the land, including but not limited to such uses as orienteering, hang-gliding, walking, nature hiking, cross-country skiing;

4. Park uses including motorization, such as snow machines, remote operated airplanes, all terrain vehicles, etc., shall be prohibited from the park;

5. Park uses including lighting, sound amplification, mass vehicle parking lots or other indicia of non-small group uses shall be prohibited.

Adopted unanimously this November 11, 2009 by the Bear Valley Community Council.