

Draft Montana Creek Trail, Cabin and Access Plan

December 22, 2022

Notes and Details on Proposed Map Trails

1A and 1B. Reconstruct Existing Trails from Montana Creek Road to Windfall Lake Access Road. Improve drainage and tread, construct alternate trail access away from creek where possible.

2A and 2B. Consider developing either the existing Lake Creek Trail or 25 Mile Road to the primary access for winter motorized use to Spaulding Meadows. Assess routes for topography and climate to determine the best shoulder season access to higher elevations. Consider a parking area at a higher elevation. Develop maintenance and management partnerships.

- 3. **Construct new Mendenhall Glacier Area Access Trail to connect to Montana Creek Rd.** Include winter connection along or near the road to the groomed trail to allow for continuous ski access. Work with partners on maintenance, management and grooming.
- 4. **Construct a new trail on the north east side of Montana Creek.** This trail could include a loop into the McGinnis Creek area. Further study this area for impacts to mountain goats, and creek system. Work with partners on design, maintenance, management and grooming.
- 5. Construct new Montana Creek Road to Lake Creek/Spaulding Meadows connector trail.

 Topographical and in the field analysis needed to identify if appropriate slopes can be constructed.
- 6. Construct new John Muir- Auke Nu Lake Creek Connector Loop trail.

Work with partners on design, maintenance, management and grooming.

7. Construct new John Muir Cabin to Peterson Lake Cabin connector trail.

This trail could include a loop to the base of Auke Mountain. Work with partners on design, maintenance, management and grooming.

- 8. Construct new Peterson Lake Trail to new cabin to Montana Creek Trail connector.
- 9. **Construct trail extending from 25 Mile Road to connect to new cabin.** Work with partners to design, manage and maintain the trail for winter motorized use.

See trail 2A and 2B for assessment of higher elevation primary access and parking.

10. Construct University- Auke Lake – Auke Bay Elementary – Auke Nu Community connector trail. Connect existing and social trails between community facilities and access points to neighborhoods. Work with the University of Alaska and the Juneau School District on trail design to ensure community connections.

Additional Items Recommended in Plan (from public comments)

- Consistent wayfinding and interpretive signage across land ownership. This may include speed limits or other considerations for multi-use where appropriate.
- Warming shelters and covered structures may be added, for example covered picnic tables or warming shelters in remote areas. Consider using proposed cabin as a daytime warming shelter.
- Bathrooms at trailheads if no public bathrooms are nearby.
- Repair and rehabilitate resource damaged areas due to human causes. Prioritize sensitive areas.
- Prioritize accessibility for trails, trailheads and facilities.