

1 **Appendix A - Glossary**  
2  
3

4 **AAC.** Alaska Administrative Code that includes state regulations.  
5

6 **ACC.** Alaska Conservation Corps.  
7

8 **Access.** A way or means of approach. Includes transportation, trail, easements, rights of  
9 way, and public use sites.  
10

11 **Accessible.** A term used to describe a site, building, facility, or trail that complies with the  
12 Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Accessibility Guidelines and can be approached,  
13 entered, and used by people with disabilities.  
14

15 **ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990).** A federal law prohibiting discrimination  
16 against people with disabilities. Requires public entities and public accommodations to  
17 provide accessible accommodations for people with disabilities.  
18

19 **ADEC.** The State of Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation.  
20

21 **ADF&G.** The State of Alaska Department of Fish and Game.  
22

23 **ADOT/PF.** The State of Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities.  
24

25 **Airboat.** A shallow draft boat driven by an airplane propeller and steered by a rudder  
26 (11 AAC 20.990).  
27

28 **Aircraft.** Any motorized device under 12,500 pounds gross weight that is used or intended  
29 for flight or movement of people or goods in the air (11 AAC 12.340 and 11 AAC 20.990).  
30

31 **All-Terrain Vehicle (ATV).** See Off-Road Vehicle.  
32

33 **Anadromous Stream.** Those water bodies identified by the Department of Fish and Game  
34 under 5 AAC 95.011.  
35

36 **ANCSA.** The Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act.  
37

38 **AS.** Alaska Statutes.  
39

40 **Assembly.** The gathering or meeting of a group of people for a common purpose (11 AAC  
41 12.340).  
42

1 **Bench (Full, Half, Partial) Cut.** The excavation cut into a slope to provide support for the  
2 trail tread surface. “Full” refers to the bench being constructed entirely on an excavated  
3 surface. “Partial” refers to the Bench being constructed in part on compacted fill.  
4

5 **Best Trail Management Practices (BTMPs).** A series of management components  
6 developed to reflect the current “state-of-the-art” practices for effective and efficient trails  
7 management.  
8

9 **BLM.** The United States Bureau of Land Management.  
10

11 **Boat or Vessel.** A device that is used or designed to be used for the movement of people or  
12 goods in or on the water, whether manually or mechanically propelled, but does not include  
13 personal floatation devices or other floats such as inner tubes, air mattresses, or surf boards  
14 (11 AAC 20.990).  
15

16 **Camp and Camping.** To use a vehicle, tent, or shelter, or to arrange bedding, or both, with  
17 the intent to stay overnight in a park (11 AAC 12.340).  
18

19 **Campground.** An area developed and maintained by the division which contains one or  
20 more campsites (11 AAC 12.340).  
21

22 **CIAA.** Cook Inlet Aquaculture Association.  
23

24 **CIP.** Capital Improvement Project.  
25

26 **Citizen Advisory Board.** Appointed by the Director of the Alaska Division of Parks and  
27 Outdoor Recreation, this board assists park staff with management and development issues.  
28

29 **Climbing Turn.** A wide, ascending curve that gradually reverses the direction of the trail  
30 while gaining elevation. Used in favor of Switchbacks on side slopes of less than 22% when  
31 possible.  
32

33 **Clinometer.** A small, hand-held device used to measure grade (or slope) in terms of degrees  
34 or percent. In trails and roads, grade or slope is referred to in percent (%).  
35

36 **Commercial Activity.** The sale of, delivery of, or soliciting to provide, goods, wares,  
37 edibles, or services in exchange for valuable consideration through barter, trade, or other  
38 commercial means; a service offered in conjunction with another sale of goods, wares,  
39 edibles, or services, which service involves the use of state park land or water, is a  
40 commercial activity whether or not it is incidental to, advertised with, or specifically offered  
41 in the original sale; all guide, outfitter, and transportation services are commercial activities  
42 if any payment or valuable consideration through barter, trade, cash, or other commercial  
43 means is required, expected, or received beyond the normal and customary equally shared  
44 costs for food and fuel for any portion of the stay in the park (11 AAC 12.340).  
45

1 **Commissioner.** The Commissioner of the Department of Natural Resources.

2  
3 **Compaction.** The compression of aggregate, soil, or fill material by tamping or trail traffic.

4  
5 **Conservation Easement.** A restriction placed on a piece of property to protect its associated  
6 resources. As defined in statute, a conservation easement is: A nonpossessory interest of a  
7 holder in real property imposing limitations or affirmative obligations to retain or protect  
8 natural, scenic, or open space values of real property, ensure its availability for agricultural,  
9 forest, recreational, or open space use, protect natural resources, maintain or enhance air or  
10 water quality, or preserve the historical, architectural, archaeological, or cultural aspects of  
11 real property (AS 34.17.060).

12  
13 **Contour Trail** (also a Curvilinear or Traverse Trail). Concept whereby the trail is designed  
14 to rise and/or descend gradually along natural contours. The alignment crosses the contours  
15 at a shallow angle so that the natural drainage patterns are easily maintained during the  
16 construction process.

17  
18 **Control Point.** A specific point, area, or feature that is important in trail layout. Positive  
19 Control Points are places you want the trail to go to or near (such as trailheads, scenic points,  
20 good water crossings, other trails, etc.). Negative Control Points are places you want to stay  
21 away from (such as hazards, sensitive habitat, private property, etc.).

22  
23 **Crib (or Crib Wall).** A retaining device used to support the trail tread or backslope,  
24 typically composed of wood or rock.

25  
26 **Critical Edge.** The outside (downslope) edge of the tread, most pronounced on a bench cut.

27  
28 **Culvert.** A pipe or box-like structure of wood, metal, plastic, concrete, or rock that conveys  
29 a water course under a tread.

30  
31 **Curvilinear (Trail) Layout.** Concept whereby the trail layout is designed to rise or descend  
32 gradually along natural contours. The alignment crosses the contours at a shallow angle so  
33 that the natural drainage patterns are easily maintained during the construction process. See  
34 also Contour Trail.

35  
36 **Design Parameters.** Technical specifications for trail construction and maintenance, based  
37 on the Designed Use and Trail Class.

38  
39 **Design Turn Radius.** The minimum horizontal radius required for various user groups to  
40 navigate a curve in a single maneuver; this includes switchbacks climbing turns and  
41 horizontal turns.

42  
43 **Designed Use.** The intended use that controls the desired geometric design of the trail, and  
44 determines the subsequent maintenance parameters for the trail.

- 1 **Developed Facility.** Includes a building, boat ramp, campground, picnic area, rest area,  
2 visitor information center, swim beach, trailhead, parking area, and a developed ski area  
3 (11 AAC 12.340 and 11 AAC 20.990).  
4
- 5 **Difficulty Level.** The degree of challenge a trail presents to an average user's physical  
6 ability and skill, based on trail condition and route location factors such as alignment,  
7 steepness of grades, gain and loss of elevation, and amount and kind of natural barriers that  
8 must be crossed.  
9
- 10 **DMLW.** The State of Alaska Department of Natural Resources, Division of Mining, Land  
11 and Water.  
12
- 13 **DNR or Department.** The State of Alaska Department of Natural Resources.  
14
- 15 **DPOR or Division.** The State of Alaska Department of Natural Resources, Division of  
16 Parks and Outdoor Recreation.  
17
- 18 **Director.** The Director of the Division of Parks and Outdoor Recreation, Department of  
19 Natural Resources, or the Director's authorized agent (11 AAC 12.340).  
20
- 21 **Easement.** An interest in land, of specified dimensions, owned by another that entitles its  
22 holder to a specific limited use.  
23
- 24 **EPA.** United States Environmental Protection Agency.  
25
- 26 **EVOS.** Exxon Valdez Oil Spill.  
27
- 28 **Fall-line.** The path water flows down a slope under most circumstances.  
29
- 30 **Full Bench (Construction) Cut.** Trail structure used to create a tread along a Contour Trail,  
31 whereby the tread is built entirely on an excavated surface (no fill) which is less subject to  
32 compaction, erosion and surface slumping. It is the preferred method of bench construction  
33 on trails construction on side slopes >30%. See also Partial Bench Cut.  
34
- 35 **Firearm.** Includes a pistol, rifle, shotgun, revolver, mechanical, gas or air-operated gun  
36 (11 AAC 12.340 and 11 AAC 20.990).  
37
- 38 **GeoBlock.** A trademark name structural geogrid material (see Porous Pavement Panel).  
39
- 40 **Geotextile (Geofabric, Filter Fabric).** A pervious, woven or non-woven, petrochemical  
41 fabric that provides a stable base and separation layer used in a variety of applications  
42 including aggregate capping.  
43
- 44 **Grade.** Relative steepness (rise and fall) of the trail as compared to a flat horizontal plane.  
45 Trail steepness is measured in grade as a percentage.

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25  
26  
27  
28  
29  
30  
31  
32  
33  
34  
35  
36  
37  
38  
39  
40  
41  
42  
43  
44

**Grade Control.** Fundamental part of Sustainable Trail construction whereby strict trail grade restrictions are placed in the design parameters, primarily to minimize erosion due to natural forces and trail users.

**Grade Reversals (or Grade Dip).** A short change from positive (climbing) grade, to negative (descending) grade for approximately 6 to 12 feet designed into the trail alignment to shed water. Grade reversals are an important component in Contour Trail construction. See also Rolling Grade Dip.

**Green Infrastructure.** An interconnected network of green space (hubs + corridors) that conserves natural ecosystem values and functions and provides associated benefits to human populations.

**Guideline.** A specific course of action that must be followed when a DPOR resource manager permits, leases, or otherwise authorizes use of state lands. Guidelines range from giving general guidance for decision-making or identifying factors that need to be considered, to setting detailed standards for on-the-ground decisions.

**Half Rule.** A trail's grade should not exceed half the grade of the sideslope. If the grade is steeper than half the grade of the sideslope, it is considered a Fall-line trail.

**Hardening.** Any number of methods of strengthening a tread surface in response to degradation or to better accommodate a particular type of use. Examples include: aggregate capping, boardwalk or puncheon construction, turnpiking, or the use of porous pavement panel.

**HCC.** Homer Cycling Club.

**HEA.** Homer Electric Association.

**ILMA.** Interagency Land Management Agreement.

**Integrated Water Control.** Instituting water management into basic trail design, usually during construction. Primary components include Grade Reversals and Outslope.

**Kachemak Bay Water Trail.** A 125-mile route extending from the Homer Spit east along Kachemak Bay to the head of the bay, and further along the southern side of the bay to the City of Seldovia.

**KAP.** Kenai Area Plan.

**KBCS.** Kachemak Bay Conservation Society.

- 1 **KBFRFCHA.** Kachemak Bay and Fox River Flats Critical Habitat Areas Management Plan  
2 (1993).  
3
- 4 **KBSP.** Kachemak Bay State Park.  
5
- 6 **KBSWP.** Kachemak Bay State Wilderness Park.  
7
- 8 **Knicks.** A semi-circular, shaved down section of trail, about 5 -10 feet in length, and canted  
9 to the outside with exaggerated outslope. Most commonly employed as a maintenance action  
10 on existing low gradient trail sections. A Knick is smooth and subtle, often an unnoticeable  
11 feature to users.  
12
- 13 **KNSC.** Kachemak Nordic Ski Club.  
14
- 15 **Latrine.** Vault toilet or bathroom facility.  
16
- 17 **LDA.** Legislatively Designated Area.  
18
- 19 **Logging Out.** Clearing a trail of fallen trees.  
20
- 21 **LWCF.** Land and Water Conservation Fund. A federal program which provides monies and  
22 matching grants to federal, state, and local governments for the acquisition and/or  
23 development of land and water for public outdoor recreation use.  
24
- 25 **Managed Trail.** A state park trail that has some type or level of Managed Use. To qualify  
26 as a Managed Trail, one or more of the following must apply: 1) The trail is depicted on a  
27 state park map distributed for public use; 2) The trail is maintained by park staff or  
28 volunteers on a regular schedule (up to several years interval) for public use purposes; 3) The  
29 trail is, or was, constructed for public use; 4) The trail is abandoned or closed to public use  
30 but is used for administrative purposes; or 5) The trail is signed or marked by state parks for  
31 public use.  
32
- 33 **Managed Use.** The type of use that is actively managed and appropriate on a trail,  
34 considering the design and management intent.  
35
- 36 **Maximum Trail Grade.** A defined maximum tread grade that can be constructed along the  
37 trail.  
38
- 39 **May.** Same as “should”, see Should.  
40
- 41 **Micro-cache.** A geocache less than 100 milliliters in size.  
42
- 43 **Motorized Vehicle.** A motorized device for carrying persons or objects over land, water, or  
44 through the air, and includes automobiles, snowmachines, bicycles, off-road vehicles, boats,  
45 and aircraft (11 AAC 21.290).

1  
2 **National Register of Historic Places.** The nationwide catalog of significant historic  
3 districts, sites, buildings, structures and objects established by the National Historic  
4 Preservation Act of 1966 and maintained by the U.S. Secretary of the Interior (11 AAC  
5 16.900).

6  
7 **NPS.** National Park Service.

8  
9 **Obstacles (Natural).** Objects that add challenge by impeding travel. They include: rocks,  
10 roots, logs, holes, ledges, drop-offs, etc.

11  
12 **Off-Highway Vehicle (OHV).** A motorized mechanical device used for carrying persons or  
13 objects over land or water, including automobiles, motorcycles, snowmachines, all-terrain  
14 vehicles, and motorized boats. May also be referred to as: All-Terrain Vehicle (ATV), or  
15 Off Road Vehicle (ORV).

16  
17 **Off-Road Vehicle (ORV).** A motorized vehicle designed or adapted for cross-country  
18 operation over irregular terrain, consisting of more than one drive wheel or track, having a  
19 gross vehicle weight less than 1,500 pounds or exerting less than eight pounds per square  
20 inch ground pressure, and that is 64 inches wide or less, and does not include snowmobiles  
21 (11 AAC 20.990). See definition above also.

22  
23 **Organic Soils.** The term is also used to refer to the upper most layer of dark surface soil that  
24 has a high organic material content. Organic soils have a propensity of readily absorbing and  
25 holding water and are poorly suited as a trail tread material.

26  
27 **Outslope.** The amount the tread slopes from side-to-side to promote drainage off the trail  
28 instead of down the trail.

29  
30 **Partial Bench Cut.** A trail structure used to support the tread along a Contour Trail,  
31 whereby the tread is partially supported by an excavated bench cut into a side slope and  
32 partially supported by a fill section of compacted excavated material. See also Full Bench  
33 Cut.

34  
35 **Permit.** A written authorization to engage in uses or activities that are otherwise prohibited  
36 or restricted (11 AAC 18.200).

37  
38 **Personal Watercraft (PWC).** A vessel that is less than 16 feet in length, propelled by a  
39 water-jet pump or other machinery as its primary source of motor propulsion, and designed  
40 to be operated by a person sitting, standing, or kneeling on the vessel, rather than by a person  
41 sitting or standing inside it. (11 AAC 20.990).

42  
43 **Porous Pavement Panel.** A permeable, rigid, multi-pocketed structural geogrid, typically  
44 plastic, that is used to harden areas of saturated or unstable soils without the use of gravel  
45 infill, bridges, or boardwalks. e.g. GeoBlock.

- 1  
2 **Protrusion.** An object that protrudes from the surface of a trail.  
3  
4 **Retaining Wall (Revetment).** See Crib.  
5  
6 **Rolling Grade Dip.** A trail structure that utilizes a ramp-like excavation, a flat-bottomed  
7 drain, and a built up compacted soil dam to direct water off the tread. Typically utilized as a  
8 maintenance structure on existing trails.  
9  
10 **Route.** See Social Trail.  
11  
12 **ROW.** Right-of-way. The legal right to cross the land of another.  
13  
14 **RV.** Recreational Vehicle, such as a motor home or camper.  
15  
16 **SCORP.** Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan.  
17  
18 **Shall.** Same as “will”, see Will.  
19  
20 **Short Pitch Maximum.** See Maximum Trail Grade.  
21  
22 **Should.** States intent for a course of action or a set of conditions to be achieved. Guidelines  
23 modified by the word “should” state the plan’s intent and allow the manager to use discretion  
24 in deciding the specific means for best achieving the intent or whether particular  
25 circumstances justify deviations from the intended action or set of conditions.  
26  
27 **Sideslope.** See Slope.  
28  
29 **Slope.** Refers to the relative steepness of the natural terrain. Slope can be calculated by  
30 determining the vertical rise over a given horizontal distance, but is more often directly read  
31 from a slope measurement instrument called a Clinometer. Slope can be expressed in  
32 degrees, but for trail use is more commonly expressed as a percentage  
33  
34 **Snow Trails.** Trails that have a surface consisting predominantly of snow or ice, which are  
35 designed and managed to accommodate use on that surface.  
36  
37 **Snowmobile (snowmachine).** A self-propelled vehicle intended for off-road travel on snow,  
38 having a maximum width of 50 inches and a curb weight of not more than 1,000 pounds,  
39 driven by one or more tracks in contact with the snow, and steered by one or more skis in  
40 contact with the snow (11 AAC 20.990).  
41  
42 **Social Trail** (also a Route). An unplanned, usually unmaintained and typically undesirable  
43 trail alignment that develops informally as a result of public route pioneering, overuse,  
44 degraded trail avoidance, or generally poorly planned trail design.  
45

1 **SRS.** State Recreation Site.

2

3 **State.** The State of Alaska.

4

5 **Surface Protrusions.** Surface imperfections that are within the acceptable challenge level  
6 for the trail and do not obstruct the managed uses of the trail. Examples include rocks, roots,  
7 holes, stumps, or fallen logs.

8

9 **Sustainable.** Capable of being continued with minimal long-term effect on the environment  
10 and meets the needs of the present generation without compromising the ability of future  
11 generations to meet their needs.

12

13 **Sustainable Trail.** A trail that conforms to its terrain and environment, is capable of  
14 handling its intended use without serious degradation, and requires minimal maintenance.

15

16 **Switchback.** A sharp turn in the tread alignment, often 180 degrees, used to gain elevation  
17 on steep side slopes (typically required on slopes above 22%).

18

19 **TBLH.** Tutka Bay Lagoon Hatchery.

20

21 **Ten-Percent Average Grade Guideline.** Refers to the practice of keeping the average trail  
22 grade or overall trail grade from exceeding 10% along the alignment of the trail.

23

24 **Terra Trails.** Trails that have a tread surface consisting predominantly of native soil or  
25 rock, which are designed and managed to accommodate use on that surface. A Terra Trail  
26 may also have sections of boardwalk, or other hardened tread.

27

28 **Tethering.** Fastening or restraining an animal so that it can range only within a set radius  
29 (11 AAC 20.990).

30

31 **TMO.** See Trail Management Objective.

32

33 **Traffic Control Device.** Any physical barrier, including a boulder, ditch, berm, railing,  
34 fence, post, or gate (11 AAC 12.340).

35

36 **Trail.** A linear route managed for human-powered, stock, boats, or OHV forms of  
37 transportation or for historic, heritage or commercial values.

38

39 **Trail Class.** The prescribed scale of trail development, representing the intended design and  
40 management standards of the trail.

41

42 **Trail Corridor.** The total cleared area on both sides of a trail.

43

44 **Trail Hardening.** A technique to improve the surface characteristics of a tread. Usually  
45 applied in wet or boggy ground or to enhance ADA characteristics.

- 1  
2 **Trailhead.** The point at which a trail starts.  
3  
4 **Trail Management Objective (TMO).** Documentation of the management intention of a  
5 trail based on its Designed Use, Design Parameters, and special considerations. TMOs  
6 provide basic reference information for trail planning, management, condition surveys, and  
7 reporting.  
8  
9 **Trail Segment.** A specific section of a trail with identified starting and ending points.  
10  
11 **Trail Standards.** Trail maintenance specifications that define the level of quality and  
12 service the agency intends to provide for the public.  
13  
14 **Trail Structures.** Any component of a trail that has been purposely constructed. This  
15 would include: developed treadway, bench cuts, switchbacks, retaining walls, drainage  
16 devices, culverts, bridges, hand railings, boardwalks, trail signs and posts, etc.  
17  
18 **Trail Type.** A category that reflects the predominant trail surface and general mode of travel  
19 accommodated by a trail. There are three Trail Types: Terra, Water, and Snow Trails.  
20  
21 **Tread.** The wear surface of the trail upon which a user travels. The tread, or treadway, is  
22 the most fundamental component of a trail.  
23  
24 **Tread Creep.** Areas along a contour trail where the tread is sliding downslope due to  
25 compaction, slope failure, or fill failure of a Partial Bench Cut. May be caused by trailside  
26 features such as trees, bushes, roots, or another projection that forces traffic onto the Critical  
27 Edge, compacting it downslope.  
28  
29 **UAV.** Unmanned Aerial Vehicle. Also referred to as a drone.  
30  
31 **USCG.** United States Coast Guard.  
32  
33 **USFS.** The United States Forest Service.  
34  
35 **Vehicle.** A mechanical device for carrying persons or objects over land, water, or through  
36 the air, including automobiles, motorcycles, snowmachines, bicycles, off-road vehicles,  
37 motorized boats, and aircraft. Vehicle does not include non-motorized sailboats, canoes,  
38 kayaks, rafts, sailboards, hang gliders, gliders, or parasails (11 AAC 12.340 and 11 AAC  
39 20.990).  
40  
41 **Vessel or Boat.** A device that is used or designed to be used for the movement of people or  
42 goods in or on the water, whether manually or mechanically propelled, but does not include  
43 personal floatation devices or other floats such as inner tubes, air mattresses, or surf boards  
44 (11 AAC 20.990).  
45

1 **Waterbar.** A trail structure typically constructed of wood, rock, or reinforced rubber and  
2 soil that is set at an angle across tread to direct water off the treadway. Generally being  
3 phased out in favor of Grade Reversals and Outslope integrated into new construction, and  
4 Outslope and Rolling Grade Dips retrofit into existing construction.

5

6 **Water Trail.** Trails that have a surface consisting predominantly of water, which are  
7 designed and managed to accommodate use on that surface, and which may include land-  
8 based portages.

9

10 **Weapon.** Includes a bow and arrow, slingshot, crossbow, and firearm (11 AAC 12.340 and  
11 11 AAC 20.990).

12

13 **Will.** Requires a course of action or a set of conditions to be achieved. A guideline modified  
14 by the word “will” must be followed by land managers and users. If such a guideline is not  
15 complied with, a written decision justifying the noncompliance is required.

16