

## **Appendix G—**

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Comments Related to  
Current State of Rail and Road

Comments Related to Alternatives

Comments Related to Safety Implications

Comments Related to Impacts on Environment and How Commenter was Affected

Comments Related to Cost

Data Categories for Responses

*Note: All respondents were asked to provide comments on each of the three scenarios. Only responses that were deemed relevant to each scenario are presented. Some responses contained information from multiple scenarios.*

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Table 1. Subcategories of Comments Regarding Safety

Table 2. Subcategories of Comments Regarding Safety

Table 3. Subcategories of Comments Regarding Safety

Table 4. Subcategories of Comments Regarding Cost

## Background

The North Campus Planning Subcommittee (NCPS) has been meeting every other week from April 2003 until October 2005 about the North Campus Area. One of the first things they did was to determine what impact it would have on the UAF Fairbanks communities. Three public meetings were held to seek input from these communities. The meetings were held at different locations to facilitate representation from different segments of the public. The meeting locations and times were:

• April 15, 2003, University of Alaska Fairbanks West Center - the proposed location was reading room, university of Alaska Fairbanks, 1000 University Drive, Fairbanks, AK 99775. The meeting was well attended by faculty and staff.

• April 22, 2003, Fairbanks City Hall - the proposed location was the MA Building population. This meeting was held from 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm, which generated a good turn-out.

• April 29, 2003, Fairbanks City Hall - the proposed location was community members of Fairbanks. This meeting was held from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm, drawing individuals with differing work schedules to attend.

On April 29, 2003, the Geophysical Institute (the urging of this location) was faculty, staff, and students with home departments on UAF's West Ridge. The

An eight-page self administered survey and printouts of the posters were distributed to those attending the meetings. The survey consisted of 40 questions with a Likert Scale response format (i.e., "strongly agree"; "agree"; "neutral"; "disagree"; "strongly disagree") ranging from acceptable to highly unacceptable. The Likert Scale response format allows for systematic tabulation of results and comparisons across questions.

The survey had several sub-components. The first section of the survey presented hypothetical scenarios and asked series of questions regarding each hypothetical scenario. The next section asked specific questions about walking briskly. This section was centered around transportation issues such as cost of fuel, time spent commuting, convenience, and general health benefits.

It is important to note that those who completed the survey were self-selected. The sample frame consisted of only those who attended the meetings and were given and took a survey given to everyone who attended the meeting. Those who completed the survey may those who attended the meetings; statements generalizing these results to the full population of UAF faculty, staff and students or Fairbanks residents cannot be made.

surveys (Table 2). The specific issues 1 poster prompted the most comments, followed by specific issues 2 and CT.

Table 2: Area on Posters Survey that Prompted Written Comment<sup>1</sup>

Comment Location	# comments	%	Comment Location	# comments	%
Specific Issues 1	227	65.3	Specific Issues 2	143	39.7
CT	33	9.2	Specific Issues 1 & 2	33	9.2
Specific Issues 1 & 2	33	9.2	Other	11	3.1
Total	338	100.0			

\*bold = Specific Issues

\*\*bold = Specific Issues and CT

Comments from Specific Issues posters were distributed across all three locations. The comments from the Specific Issues 1 poster were the most numerous, followed by the Specific Issues 2 poster and the CT poster.

#### Results

##### Comments about the Video Survey

These were 108 comments written on the last line and attributed to the poster at one of the meeting locations, after the survey process explained in the pamphlet, on written on the survey and referred to as comments on survey (Table 3).

Table 3: Where the Written Comments were Shared

Comments on Survey	Frequency	Percent
Comments on Survey	33	30.4
Interview	24	22.2
Video	75	21.6
Total	108	100.0

Comments on Survey were categorized by location, prompt, interview or video comment.

Comments at the Noel Wien library were prompted by Specific Issues 1 & 2.

Comments at the Center were prompted by all three Specific Issues posters and the Video Statements Posters.

These comments were distributed across various locations on the posters under headings or

An eight-page self administered survey and printouts of the posters were distributed to those attending the meetings. The survey consisted of 30 questions with a Likert-Scale response format (i.e., a response scale ranging from strongly agrees to strongly disagrees) acceptable to highly unacceptable. The Likert-Scale response format allows for systematic tabulation of results and comparisons across questions.

The survey had several subcomponents. The first section of the survey presented hypotheses

regarding the responses to the survey questions regarding each of the

specific areas of concern (e.g., the survey asked questions regarding the

importance of community involvement, the survey asked questions regarding the

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a. Encourage specific issues  
b. Encourage 1 & 2  
c. Encourage 1, 2 & 3

d. Encourage 2 specific issues  
e. Encourage 3 specific issues

f. Encourage 1, 2 & 3

g. Encourage 1, 2, 3 & CT

h. Encourage 1, 2, 3 & CT

i. Encourage 1, 2, 3, CT

j. Encourage 1, 2, 3, CT & Specific Issues

k. Encourage 1, 2, 3, CT & Specific Issues

l. Encourage 1, 2, 3, CT & Specific Issues

m. Encourage 1, 2, 3, CT & Specific Issues

n. Encourage 1, 2, 3, CT & Specific Issues

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y. Encourage 1, 2, 3, CT & Specific Issues

z. Encourage 1, 2, 3, CT & Specific Issues

aa. Encourage 1, 2, 3, CT & Specific Issues

bb. Encourage 1, 2, 3, CT & Specific Issues

cc. Encourage 1, 2, 3, CT & Specific Issues

Table 3. Comparison of area that Prompted Comment and how Comment was Obtained.

	Comments	Comments	Comments	Comments	Comments	Total
Comments	0	0	0	0	1	1
Dogs on trails	0	0	11	0	0	11
Erosion	0	0	4	0	0	4
General	0	6	33	0	6	33
Lights	24	3.3	Ski/jor	3	4	

Table 4. Category of Written Comments.

Category	Count	Percent	Category	Count	Percent
Comments	14	34.8	Comments	14	34.8
Recreational	43	100.0	Comments	43	100.0
Access	33	4.5	Comments	33	4.5
Walkers	29	4.0	Comments	29	4.0
Dogs	28	3.8	Comments	28	3.8
Parking	28	3.8	Comments	28	3.8
Lights	0	0	Comments	0	0

Table 6: Evolution of  $C_{\text{FC}}$  vs.  $\Delta$ .Table 11: Evolution of  $C_{\text{FC}}$  vs.  $\Delta$ .

### *Survey*

staff felt taking no action to reduce conflicts between recreationists

and outreach and recreation is unacceptable.

- \* The approach to reduce these conflicts with the most acceptance was requiring

adherence to existing regulations.

respondents were similarly dissatisfied with agency resources in general.

Survey

One hundred and twenty-eight individuals completed the survey. Since the respondents were self-selected, the response rate cannot be calculated. Because the results were not based on a representative sample, no inference can be made about the entire population.

Survey

response collapsed into acceptable, neither-acceptable categories. The results across all response categories appear in Appendix A.

Survey

Survey

### *Hypothetical Buffer Scenario C*

It has been proposed to widen a one-mile segment of an existing trail. The wider skiskiing in the winter. However, widening the trail would decrease from seven to five miles of the winter recreation area.

#### Hypothetical Future Scenario 4

A research project is proposed that would require a specific research site in North Campus to be free of any shade from beneath trees and shrubs. The new research area will change White

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**Questions Regarding Branches / Tree Removal**

**Questions Regarding Trail Surfaces, Permafrost Issues, and Damage to Roots**

### *Questions Regarding T-Field Road*

x of winter trails groomed for skate and classic cross-country skiing.



### Questions Regarding Ski Trails

The 3rd field, *Road*, is one area where a relatively high amount of conflict seems to occur. There is, among recent statistics, a record showing that 50% of all accidents in the United States occur on roads.

Currently in the North Campus Area, there is a no parking zone between 8:00 AM and 4:00 PM.



Phase I: Enhanced Slopesill Information

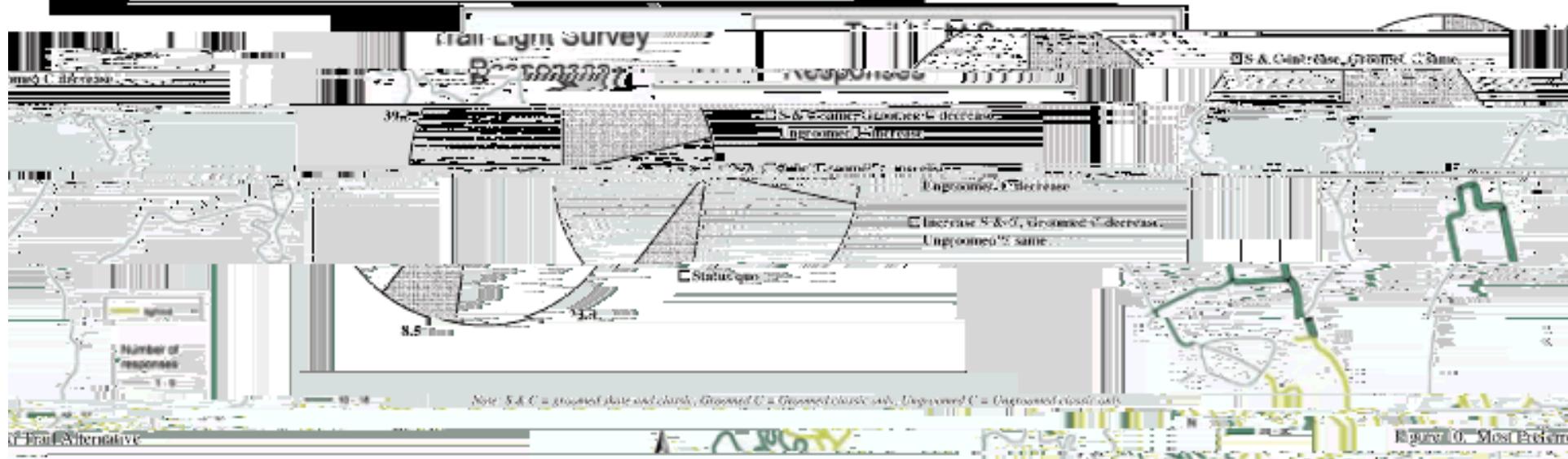


Figure 10. Most Preferred

- Status quo was the most preferred alternative.

If the respondents felt the amount of lit ski trails should be expanded, they were asked to indicate where they thought the additional lights should be located.

The most cited location for additional ski trail lights was the T-bar (1), second most cited locations for additional ski trail lights were midnight express, Big Easy, and the Smith Lake Connector.

Figure 11. Responses to Where Additional Ski Trail Lights Should Be Located

## Cluster Analysis

While the frequencies provide an indication of the acceptability or agreement of specific management issues, it does not give an overall indication to different segments of the respondents. Cluster analysis groups the respondents into groups based on similar response patterns. This provides a segmentation of respondents who hold similar views toward

A cluster analysis was conducted on the scale items and the following items.

Table 15. Results of K-Means Cluster Analysis

	Cluster	1	2	3
Dogs should not be allowed on groomed trails*	1.58	4.46	1.24	
The network of winter walking-trails in the North Campus Area should be expanded	2.72	2.98	3.30	
Close area to outreach and recreation*	5.95	3.69	3.93	
Prune trees or branches for nice and safety*	3.75	4.74	3.96	
Install woodchips on trails*	1.94	2.49	2.11	
Provide wheelchair access in winter	1.76	4.21	2.86	
Scale items—see above for items 10-20				

acceptability of particular management concepts. However, reliability questions and it may be difficult to make meaningful distinctions between groups. This survey consisted of 40 questions, however some questions measured similar concepts. To simplify the analysis, the questions that measure similar concepts can be averaged together to form one score, or scale, for the concept the questions are measuring.

The first step to constructing a scale is to ensure the questions are measuring the same concept. This requires that the items have a high level of agreement. Typically, Cronbach's Alpha, which computes the average of all possible correlations among items to be included in the scale, typically an Alpha value of .6 or higher is taken as an indication the items are measuring the same concept. To be more stringent, an alpha value of .7 was used as the cut-off for this analysis. In other words, if the items had a Cronbach's Alpha of .7 or higher, they

Cluster 2 might be labeled 'walkers / researchers / natural'. This group (12% of respondents) walk their dogs, research, and engage in outdoor activities. They do not allow dogs on trails, although they do like trails. They also want to see more outreach and recreation areas. They are somewhat accepting of the idea of pruning trees and branches for safety.

Cluster 3 represents researchers / science. This group (14% of respondents) restricts research activity with the highest level of unacceptable and control in

## APPENDIX A - ALL RESPONSE CATEGORIES

Hypothetical Scenario 1:

	Slightly disagree	Moderately disagree	Strongly disagree	
12.2	20.9	44.3		
5	16.8	20.4	22.1	
14.9	5.8	4.1	6.6	4.1
6.2	21.2	10.6	14.2	38.1

	II	Highly acceptable	Moderately acceptable	Slightly acceptable	Neither	Slightly unacceptable	Moderately unacceptable	Highly unacceptable
...restrict additional research activity in certain areas of North Campus?	120	28.8	23.3	19.2	4.2	6.7	10.8	10
...restrict additional funding for the research project?	120	10.9	13.3	16.7	9.2	19.1	10.7	11.7

Hypothetical Scenario 2:

	II	Strongly agree	Moderately agree	Slightly agree	Nei
The research project ... should not be allowed.	115	7.8	4.3	7	3
The research project should be allowed, but without funding...	113	11.5	8.8	9.7	14
...require additional research projects in North Campus to be more compatible with other uses?	121	46.3	18.2		
...take no action?	113	2.7	7.1		

Skiers and walkers\*

Entries are percent of respondents involved in activities

	Skiers	Moderately skiers	Skiers who do not allow dogs	Walkers	Moderately walkers	Walkers who do not allow dogs	Action should not be allowed	Action should not be expanded
allowed	123	72	36.7	6.2	55	32	24	10
...close certain trails?	122	6.6	10.7	11.5	2.5	5.7	18	45.1
...close certain parking areas?	121	10.7	16.5	11.6	3.3	7.4	19.8	30.6

on ski trails\*

Entries are percent of respondents involved in activities

	Wds	Moderately wds	Skiers	Skiers who do not allow dogs	Walkers	Moderately walkers	Dogs should not be allowed	Dogs should not be expanded
1	5.5	3.1	3.1	3.1				
1	7.9	11.1	7.9	24.6	32.5			
7	17.7	12.1	4	8.9	16.9			

Entries are percent of respondents involved in activities

	or	5.7	18	45.1	Dogs should not be allowed on groomed ski trails.
...close certain trails?	122	6.6	10.7	11.5	
...close certain parking areas?	121	10.7	16.5	11.6	
...close certain areas to canines?	123	10.6	12.1	18.7	

Entries are percent of respondents involved in activities

	3.3	17.7	34.1	Dogs should not be allowed on maintained walking trails.
...close certain areas to canines?	123	10.6	12.1	
The designated winter dog use trails should be expanded.	124	22.6	17	

Entries are percent of respondents involved in activities

	13.8	21.2	34.9	Dogs should not be allowed on unpatrolled walking trails.
The designated winter dog use trails should be expanded.	124	22.6	17	
The unpatrolled walking trails should be expanded.	125	2.7	7.1	

### Winter / summer trails\*

		Highly acceptable	Moderately acceptable	Slightly acceptable	Slightly unacceptable	Moderately unacceptable	Highly unacceptable
...remove branches to allow more snow to reach the trail?	126	52.8	38.4	13.6	6	4	2
...remove branches for safety reasons?	126	68.3	15.9	6.3	8	5.6	2.4
Scenario C	same	decrease	increase	112	10.7	5.4	18.8
Scenario D	decrease	same	decrease	113	31.0	10.2	18.7

### Ski trails\*

		Types of ski trails	Please indicate your acceptability of each scenario
...remove branches to allow more snow to reach the trail?	125	29.6	12.8
...remove-traffic trees to allow more snow?	125	29.6	15.2
Status quo	same	same	same
Scenario A	increase	deer	deer

**T-Field Road\***

	Never	Hardly ever	Moderately	Often	Slightly	Never	Hardly ever	Moderately	Often
...prohibit wheelied unauthorized access in winter?	4	10.5	10.5	5.6	124	51.6	9.7	8.1	
...require advance notice for authorized unauthorized access in winter?	82	8.5	8.2	0.5	422	38.3	12.4	12.7	
...allow unlimited wheelied unauthorized access in winter?	.8	4.8	8.8	76	125	4.8	2.4	2.4	

i.e. percent of respondents in each category

a. n = number of responses for each item, all other cell entries are

