

DO YOU KNOW WHAT'S COMING TO OUR NEIGHBORHOOD???

Dear Maud Road Neighbor:

Are you aware that the State of Alaska is going to put in an unsupervised shooting range close to our neighborhood?

That's right. The State, without the neighborhood's input, decided to put in a 100' x 600' rifle range near Mud Lake and Jim Lake on the one-lane Maud Road Extension. This is going to be an unsupervised range – no restrictions on who uses it day or night, whether they're drunk or sober, or how old they are!!!! No environmental impact study was done.

DNR is legitimizing and allowing increasing shooting, an activity which has disturbed our peace in our homes, on the trails and on the water.. Our long-time complaints were ignored. While DNR's easement application implies that, "small trees will be removed/chipped, and natural topography will be utilized and dug up to create the 20' backstop berm and the 10' sidestop berms, DNR clearcut the site of commercial-size birch trees adjacent to the long-time shooting alley which is chock-full of toxic lead deposits and other contaminants from 20-plus years of use. Snow melt, seasonal runoff, rain and natural springs drain into the hillside and down to the lakes and into Jim Creek.

Many of us moved here to have safe access to the trails and lakes. We use the narrow road for running, biking, horseback riding and fourwheeling. DNR already has collected \$20,000 in donations from Friends of NRA and intends to put the range up against the cliffs – that's great, the noise will be echoing off those cliffs. We've all heard gunfire coming from there. Can you imagine what it will be like when there's a shooting range?

Noise travels!! Can you imagine the shooting day and night?
Can you imagine who's going to be driving up and down Maud to get there???

If you want to have some say in what goes into your neighborhood, respond in writing to the application documents submitted by Knik River Public Use Area Manager (KRPUA), David Griffin, with a copy to our Assembly Representative, Lynne Woods. In addition, **please contact everyone of influence you know who cares enough about our community to make a difference.**

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Site Easement ADL 230693-Rifle Range
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Very important, your comments have to be at DNR by 5:00 pm, May 6, 2009. The complete packet is available from david.griffin@alaska.gov or via download from our website. (see below). Your comments should be based on the typed and hand-written statements and assumptions Mr. Griffin made in his 2 applications:

- 1) The Easement for the Rifle Range and Materials Site; ADL230693
- 2) The Mat-Su Coastal Zone Management Plan Review.

Butte Area Residents Civic Organization (BARCO) has printed copies of Mr. Griffin's application available if you don't have online access : <http://www.buttealaska.org/Riflerange/ReviewPackageADL230693.pdf> (4.92 MB)

For more information or offers to help the community with this issue, please contact us. Here are photos of the long-time shooting alley Mr. Griffin is referring to in his initial application. The actual site is over to the left but not visible in these photos.
http://throughthelens.myphotoalbum.com:80/slideshow.php?set_albumName=album04&utm_source=share&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=slideshow

Swans at Jim Lake, April 19, 2009



Hillside Waters Flowing Across Long-Time Shooting Alley, April 19,



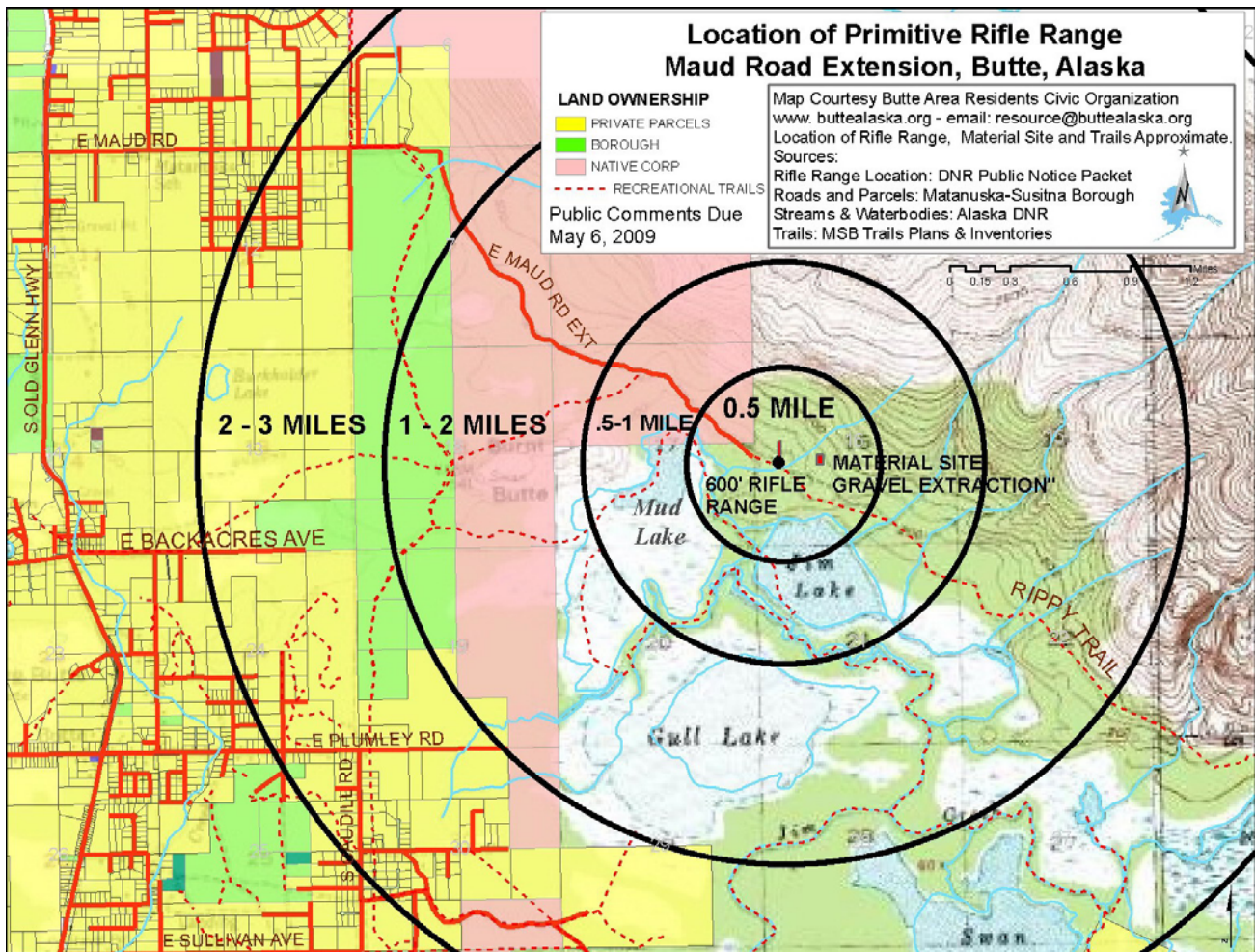
Clear-Cut Rifle Range Easement Site To the left of old site

DNR Application for Easement ADL230693:

"This project is about the development of a small-scale rifle range. The project will not affect coastal uses and resources. The project is located within an upland forest."

DNR Application for Coastal Management Review ADL230693:

"This project is not economically or physically dependent on a coastal location. The site has a long history of recreational target shooting and just happens to fall just inside the coastal zone boundary."



Our mission is to protect and improve the quality of life and economic opportunities for residents and protect the environment of our public lands in Butte, Alaska