

# Kachemak Nordic Ski Club

[www.kachemaknordicskiclub.org](http://www.kachemaknordicskiclub.org)

PO Box 44\*\* Homer, AK 99603-0044 \*\* 235-1406 \*\* 299-3532

Dear Kenai Peninsula Borough:

The Kachemak Nordic Ski Club is proposing to develop a new recreation area at Lookout Mountain off Ohlson Mountain Road above Homer. The club has maintained and groomed ski trails at the "hayfields" for many years, and is currently adding to those trails a new venue designed to international ski competition standards. Since the ground is high and dry, this area has the potential to be a four-season recreation area, and in addition to skiing, the area will provide opportunities for hiking, running, mountain biking, orienteering, and outdoor educational activities. Though this area is well suited for recreation, the steep terrain and numerous gullies render unsuitable for other development, and a dedicated recreation area is an optimal use of this land.

We are very excited about the addition of this recreational opportunity for the residents of Homer. It will greatly add to what is an existing recreation area, and will provide the only place in the Homer area which can be developed to provide shelter, bathrooms and parking for year round outdoor recreation. With dependable snow and the challenging terrain of the site, Lookout's new trails will potentially be one of the most exciting and challenging ski venues in the state, will meet international course homologation standards, and provide a community friendly four season recreation area for all Kenai Peninsula residents.

Surrounding property owners were sent a letter informing them of this potential development in November 2007, and a widely publicized Town Meeting was held on December 8, 2007, to address community questions and concerns. At that meeting, widespread community support for this development was expressed.

A Lookout Mountain Recreation Area is clearly a highest and best use of this land. The Kachemak Nordic Ski Club is an established organization with a long history of community service and development, and with wide based and enthusiastic community support, has the ability to bring this much needed recreation area to fruition. We urge the borough assembly and planning commission to grant the long-term lease necessary to allow us to add this jewel to the Kenai Peninsula Borough.

Sincerely,

Allan Phelps  
President Kachemak Nordic Ski Club