



On nice days the view out the front door can't be beat.

Location:

Matanuska Glacier, adjacent to the Scandinavian Glacier, about 18 miles from the parking lot at the terminus of Matanuska Glacier, 8 1/2 miles from Bock's Den. Elevation: 5150 feet. Built: 1990.

Access:

Fly in:

A gravel Super Cub strip exists about 1/4 mile from the hut. It is a one-way-only landing and take-off and requires tundra tires, but is in excellent shape. The club built a small 'taxi stand' next to the strip for storage of gear. From the strip, simply head uphill on tundra benches for about 700 feet to find the hut.

In winter, a landing can be (and has been) made on the Scandinavian Glacier, a five-minute ski from the hut.

Walk in:

From Bock's Den go to the overlook behind the hut and scout out the best route, probably requiring traveling north to a place suitable to get onto the ice. Just below the hut is too broken. Once on the ice begin to diagonal to the left, aiming for Fog Peak (8555) and the area just below the west face. (In winter, continue on the Matanuska Glacier because there may be avalanches along the edge.) Don't get

off the glacier below the icefall near Fog or you'll have problems getting past it. Get off the ice easily below the west face where a large avalanche zone comes down. You will not need to get back onto the glacier from here to the hut in summer.

Once off the ice, you can follow the trough east of the glacier without much difficulty, eventually reaching the creek which drains from the airstrip area and disappears under the glacier. Follow this creek up to the airstrip, crossing it to find the 'Staheli Taxi Stand' along the edge. From the strip, the hut is not visible. Climb up grassy benches, or continue to the moraine adjacent to the Scandinavian Glacier and ascend 700 feet. The hut is located very close to the moraine, directly across from Denmark Peak.

Water: In summer, look about 40 yards behind the hut for small rivulets draining from the ice. These may be frozen in the morning.

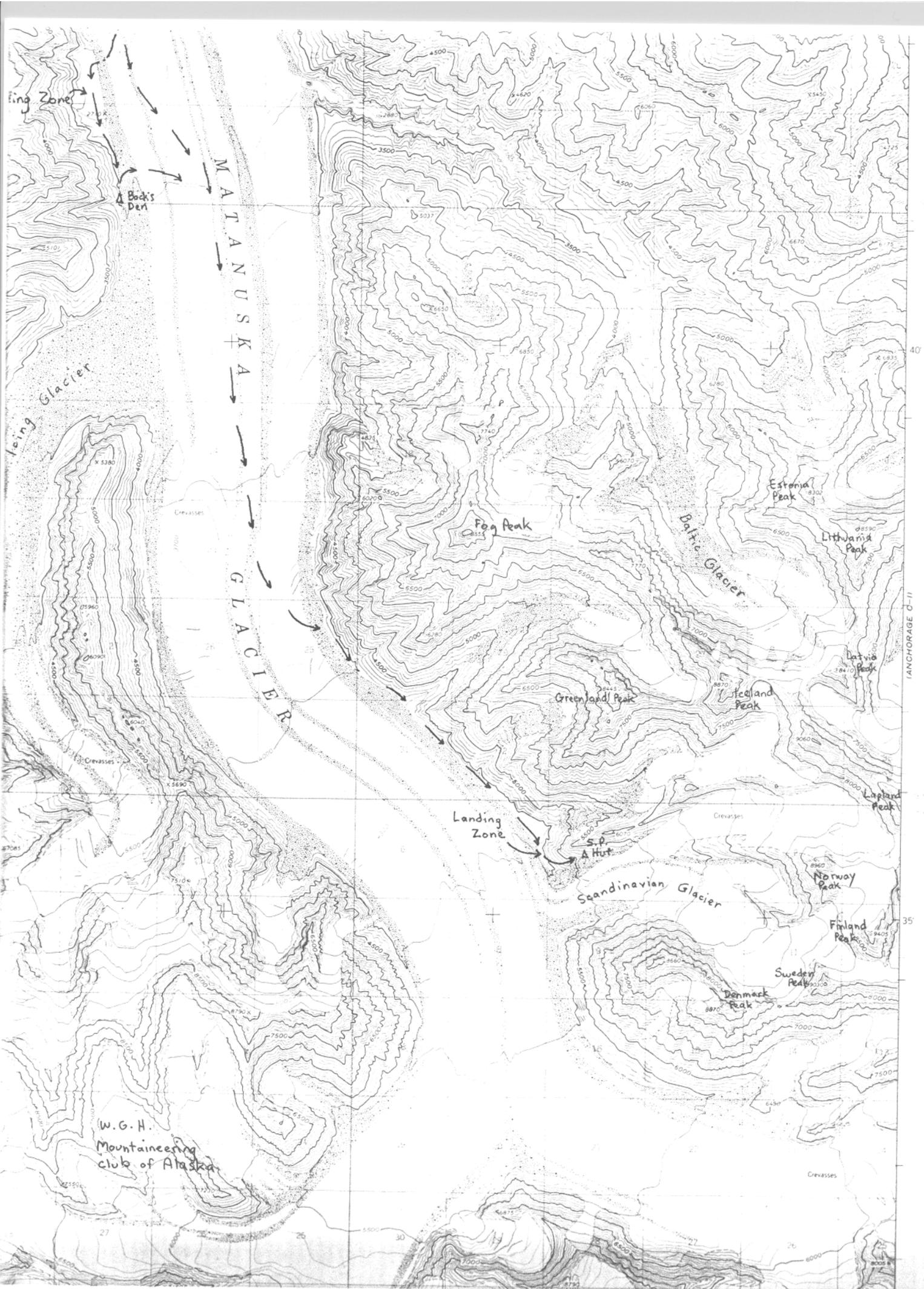
Outhouse: About 30 yards from the front door, going northwest.

Accommodations:

A-frame style, sleeps 10, no heat, but it is insulated, no beds, 2-burner Coleman cookstove, lantern, no radio  
please bring your own fuel  
please carry out all your trash



Fly in or walk, it's your choice.



## **Policy: Commercial Use of MCA Huts**

**Approved: MCA Board, August 2002, published in SCREE September 2002.**

### **Background**

Prior to the early 1990's there was minimal commercial operator use of the eight MCA backcountry huts. However, over the past several years, competing use between both private and commercial users has increased markedly. Overall use of the MCA huts is expected to rise for several reasons. First, MCA membership has increased from 400 members in 1995 to approximately 600 members.. Secondly, information on how to access the MCA huts has been published in at least one book ("How to Rent A Public Cabin in Southcentral Alaska, A. Romano-Lax, 1999), as well as Outside Magazine (a 2002 issue).

Much of this competition has centered around the five MCA huts whose land is leased to the MCA by the Alaska Department of Natural Resources (AKDNR) through their section .810(b-d) Public and Charitable lease program. These five huts are the Scandinavia Hut and Bock's Den on the Matanuska Glacier and the Mint Glacier Hut, the Bomber Hut and the Dnigi Hut in the Talkeetna Mountains. The Scandinavia Hut and the Mint Hut receive the highest concentration of users, both private and public. Attachment A is a letter to the MCA from the AKDNR dated March 18, 2002 which **strictly prohibits** commercial use of these five huts under our .810(b-d) lease agreement. This letter also confirms it is the responsibility of the MCA to insure compliance with the terms of the lease. These huts are open to members of the public upon obtaining membership to the MCA.

The three remaining MCA huts are located in the Chugach State Park (CSP) along the Eklutna Traverse. They are Pichler's Perch, Hans' Hut and Rosie's Roost. Increasing private and commercial use is also impacting these huts. The CSP has a draft policy regarding the three Eklutna Traverse Huts in which they state, "In the absence of a property interest being held by MCA, it is the state's position that the huts are publicly owned and are to be managed as public facilities in Chugach State Park. MCA is encouraged to continue to conduct maintenance work on the huts. However, as publicly-owned structures in the park, the state is responsible and liable for these structures." The CSP does not prohibit commercial use of these three MCA huts, although commercial users must obtain a commercial use permit to operate in the CSP.

In light of growing use of the MCA Huts, the MCA has established the following policy regarding the use of the huts by commercial (for profit) companies:

### **Policy**

1. All hut users are strongly encouraged to join the MCA to support maintenance of these structures.
2. The Hut Committee shall contact all commercial operators (guides, outfitters, etc.) known to be using the huts and inform them of hut rules, this policy, and membership applications. Specific reference will be provided to the March 18, 2002 letter from the Alaska Department of Natural Resources stating that commercial use of MCA huts is prohibited at the 5 huts for which MCA has a lease with the State (Mint/Rainery, Bomber, Dnigi, Scandinavian, and Bock's).
3. The Commercial Use of Huts Policy will be posted at all MCA huts
4. Any conflicts between MCA members and commercially operated groups shall be brought to the attention of the Hut Committee Chairperson, who will relay this to the MCA Board.
5. The Hut Committee Chairperson shall contact the commercial operator regarding all conflicts.
6. Conflicts occurring at Eklutna Traverse Huts which are not resolved between the Hut Committee Chairperson and the commercial operator shall be reported to the Chugach State Park.

**Additional Policy for huts under Alaska Department of Natural Resources Jurisdiction:**

1. Signs prohibiting commercial use will be posted at each of the five MCA huts located on Alaska Department of Natural Resources (AKDNR) land: Scandinavia Hut, Bock's Den, Mint (Rainery) Hut, Dnigi Hut and Bomber Hut. A copy of the sign is included in Attachment B. A copy of the March 18, 2002 AKDNR letter will also be posted at the five huts.
2. The Hut Committee Chairperson shall contact the commercial operator regarding reported commercial use of the AKDNR huts to remind them of this policy and request that they discontinue use of these huts.
3. The Hut Committee Chairperson shall contact the Alaska Department of Natural Resources to report any documented commercial use of MCA huts under lease with AKDNR-