



# KETCHIKAN GATEWAY BOROUGH

1900 First Avenue, Suite 115, Ketchikan, Alaska 99901

• Telephone: (907) 228-6605 • Fax (907) 228-6697

Office of the Borough Mayor

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October 6, 2020

Shane Walker, District Ranger  
USDA Forest Service  
Tongass National Forest, Ketchikan Misty Fjords Ranger District  
3031 Tongass Avenue  
Ketchikan, AK 99901

RE: Letter of Support for South Revilla Integrated Resource Project #53477

Dear Ranger Walker:

Please accept this letter of support for Alternative 2 of the South Revilla Integrated Resource Project (SRIRP) proposed action. The Borough recognizes the importance of increases of jobs, labor income from timber and recreation sectors, and expanded access to forest users, both residents and visitors alike. The Assembly believes the South Revilla Integrated Resource Project, including the Shelter Cove Area Recreation Master Plan, as scoped in the project proposal will achieve those objectives.

The South Revilla Integrated Resource Project is consistent with the Ketchikan Gateway Borough's Comprehensive Plan 2020 (Plan) and the Borough's goals for timber, recreation, access, and watershed management and opportunities. Under Goal 901 of the Plan, the Borough supports a recreation system to provide recreational opportunities adequate to serve the present and future population of the Borough, including permanent residents and visitors. The Borough also supports increased access to publicly-owned recreation, forests, and open spaces areas and facilities, including beach and shoreline areas such as the Shelter Cove area, for all Borough residents and visitors, including handicap and disabled individuals (Objective 901.3).

Furthermore, the Borough encourages the development and expansion of the timber industry (Goal 1107). The SRIRP appears to contribute to the expansion of the timber industry by opening up approximately 5,247 acres of old-growth timber and up to 1,239 acres of young-growth timber.

The SRIRP is beneficial to the Ketchikan Gateway Borough due to the proposed variety of activities and management strategies outlined in the project, specifically regarding the timber management, watershed management, recreation management and opportunities, and the access management.

Sincerely,

Rodney Dial  
Ketchikan Gateway Borough Mayor