

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 10/10/2018 7:17:45 PM

First name: Martin

Last name: Carreon

Organization:

Title:

Comments: Hi, My name is Martin Carreon. I'm a Realtor and tournament bass fisherman in Northern California and visit Cordova, AK annually with a group of 5 friends to fish during the Coho run. I have fallen in love with the landscape and fishery and have added friends to our annual trip every year.

I had the idea of wanting to start a guiding business/service for a couple of reasons, two of which are that I love to teach, and also that I would love to get people to come out to Cordova and experience the town and way of life as I feel that Cordova is very underrated. I recently came out for 2 weeks early September 2018 and heard several groups of fisherman say that this was a terrible year of coho fishing and that they're not coming back. Fortunately for my colleagues and I we have been able to figure out patterns for catching these coho and managed to catch limits of coho salmon before noon every day that we fished. We caught our fish in the Alaganik slough as well as "18-mile creek" and had a blast. My reason for submitting this comment, I noticed on page 210 (Attachment of referenced page attached) of the Revised Land and Resource Management Plan for Chugach National Forest, It states the following for the Copper River Delta:

"Provide for a wide variety of multiple use opportunities, consistent with the conservation of fish and wildlife, within one-quarter mile either side of existing roads."

Another section I would like to quote,

"Continue the policy to not issue outfitting and guiding special use permits for fishing and hunting in the western Copper River Delta."

I absolutely agree with staying consistent with the conservation of fish and wildlife and ADFG laws and practices. My comment is only subject to/regards guide fishing for Coho salmon in the fall (mid August to mid September). I wanted to ask if there could be some extra consideration in granting a special use permit to guide in the freshwater for silver salmon in the western Copper River Delta (Alaganik slough/18 mile creek to be specific). It would be my dream to be able to offer a guiding service where I guide from shore, I would provide tackle, fishing rods, knowledge, hiking equipment/tackle in and out for clients, teaching clients about conservation considerations and proper salmon handling, and overall, manifesting others love for Cordova to come back in the future. I have a large group of interested/prospective clients that I know that would love to hire me as a shore fishing guide in Cordova. I have told them all that regardless of being able to get a guiding license I would love for them to come visit and fish with me for fun, however, If I'm able to get a license/permit to guide on Alaganik Slough and charge for my service, I would love to be able to recoup costs for equipment and properly advertise and support Cordova's local economy. Thank you for the opportunity to present my comment, I really do appreciate it.

Best Regards, Martin Carreon