

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 10/30/2018 8:00:00 AM

First name: Carol

Last name: Griswold

Organization: Seward Iditarod Trail Blazers

Title: member

Comments: I am resubmitting these comments as I did not find them on your website.

Thank you for this opportunity to comment, attached.

Thank you for this opportunity to comment on the Chugach National Forest Draft Land Management Plan 2018. The following refers to the page numbers in the on-line document.

P 5: Recreation

The CNF needs to do a better job promoting the forest, the Iditarod National Historic Trail, and the activities described in this section, making them easily available to the public.

Some suggestions include publicity, maps, trail guides, handouts in Seward, Portage, and Girdwood, including the Seward Chamber of Commerce, Seward Ranger District office at mile 23.5 Seward Highway, the Begich Boggs Visitor Center, the Alaska Railroad Depots in Anchorage and Seward, the Portage Visitor Information building at the AKRR stop, the Glacier Ranger District office in Girdwood.

Same publicity, maps, trail guides, and handouts on-line on the CNF website.

Interpretive signs at the Spencer Glacier and Grandview Whistle Stops, Victor Creek trailhead, and other INHT access points.

Provide INHT interpretive signs/informational kiosk like that at Mile 12 at the Mile Zero site in Seward in collaboration with the Kenai Mountain-Turnagain Arm National Heritage Area and City of Seward.

Advertising, videos, articles in The Milepost, Alaska Magazine, local media (Seward Journal) and on-line; inclusion in the Alaska App Your Mobile Guide to Alaska; Girdwood Visitor Center on-line, and more prominence on Google with improved search feature for INHT.

Post a DOT highway sign (both sides of the sign post and both sides of the highway) at the Seward Ranger

District office at mile 23.5 Seward Highway.

The CNF needs to reach out to publicize their accomplishments, such as the trail work on the Johnson Trail and other sections of the INHT.

P 5: National Trails

This is a good description of the southern portion of the INHT.

Line 5: Correct [ldquo]Roadhouses and dog barns associated with the trail system arewere located about every 20 miles along its route.[rdquo]

Line 6: Correct [ldquo]The trail was primarily a winter-use trail system traversed with the aid of dogs and sledssled dogs.

6. Collaborative Partnerships

Include Seward Iditarod Trail Blazers, Iditarod Historic Trail Alliance, BLM, City of Seward, Kenai Peninsula Borough (land manager), Alaska Trails.

P 32 Iditarod National Historic Trail

Desired Conditions 1-4 good summary and description

P 35 Strategies

Suitability of Lands:

Table 4 on page 35

Add INHT as a use and recreational activity for MA 4 S, MA 5 S, MA 6, MA 8 S

Add INHT for day-use facilities in MA 2 C, MA 4 S, MA 5 C, MA 6 C, MA 8 S

P 40 Forest-wide Objectives and Management Approaches, Collaborative Relationship Strategy

Recreation and Outreach: Management Approaches:

Add: Develop collaborative partnership strategies with the Iditarod Historic Trail Alliance, Seward Iditarod Trail

Blazers, iTREC, NPS (Passport Stamp location at KEFJ Visitor Center in Seward), Alaska Railroad, and BLM to raise public awareness of the INHT in the Chugach National Forest.

P 42 Partnership Opportunities:

Add: Collaborate with the Alaska Railroad and INHT partners to provide accurate information on CNF and INHT in the Alaska Railroad Tour Guides interpretation program, Panoramas on-train magazine, and other media.

Collaborate with the NPS to provide accurate information on the INHT in the CNF at the passport stamping station in KEFJ Visitor Center in Seward.

Collaborate with iTREC and BLM to add information on the INHT to their websites and programs.

P 43 Access and Infrastructure

Add: Install DOT-approved road signs designating INHT along highway through CNF and at trail crossings.

P 79 Special Area Standards and Guidelines

1. Include INHT in Seward Highway Corridor Partnership Plan re: interpretive signs and trailheads within the Seward Highway corridor

3. Change: [Idquo]Activities within the 1000-foot trail corridor for the Iditarod National Historic Trail should be consistent with the current Iditarod National Historic Trail comprehensive management plan (Bureau of Land management 1986. [Guideline]

Glossary

P 141

Add [Idquo]Iditarod National Historic Trail[rdquo] in separate entry under [Idquo]I[rdquo]

P 144

Add [Idquo]National Historic Trail[rdquo] in separate entry under [Idquo]N[rdquo]

Other: mark INHT at Mile 12 crossing with signs on both sides of sign post

Establish and mark the INHT crossing at Primrose; the trail currently disappears and there is no connection. Keep the trail on the east side of the road from Divide to Primrose.