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First name: Kerry

Last name: Watson

Organization:

Title:

Comments: I am against placing a cabin at Perseverance Lake, one of the proposed actions listed in the Ward Lake Recreation Area Improvements Project.

I believe there is a high likelihood that a cabin there would be vandalized and/or be trashed (including with literal trash) by irresponsible individuals. Even if individuals are required to reserve such a cabin, what occurs during the unoccupied times? Is a Forest Service employee going to check on the cabin at regular intervals? Defacing and trash at the Deer Mountain shelter(s)* over the years are an example of what I feel is likely to also occur at a potential Perseverance cabin. (*The current shelter on Deer Mountain is the third that I have seen in my more than 40 years as a Ketchikan resident.) I have hiked Deer Mountain numerous times, summer and winter, over the years. One winter hike is vivid in my memory for the amount of trash I found at the shelter (shelter previous to current one). I hauled out what I could, but there was too much for me alone to pack; and in addition, someone had defaced the map posted inside with expletives. The current shelter was marked up soon after being constructed; and similarly collects trash or at the least discarded belongings that users are too lazy to carry back out. If that occurs on Deer Mountain, which is clearly a more difficult hike than Perseverance, what is likely to occur with a shelter at Perseverance?

I do understand the objective to provide a road accessible cabin for those who cannot afford or who do not have access to the fly-in or boat-in Forest Service cabins; and for those with mobility issues. However, it seems prudent to first see how the plan's proposal for a cabin at Signal Creek works out before proceeding with a cabin at Perseverance. Secondly, is there a reason a second cabin couldn't also be tried at Last Chance, if the Signal Creek cabin works well, and NOT at Perseverance. Those with mobility issues will presumably not be hiking up to Perseverance.