

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 2/5/2024 6:08:22 PM

First name: David

Last name: Martin

Organization:

Title:

Comments: The purpose of this letter is to provide public comment relative to the USFS proposed revisions to aspects of the Forest Service Handbook (FSH), Region 10 Supplement for special uses administration (FSH 2709.11-2021-01) to provide updated direction on authorizing individual use, privately owned cabins under Section 1303 of the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (ANILCA) - commonly referred to as "ANILCA cabins." If these changes are approved and finalized, this action would also make obsolete a 1987 "Dear Alaskan Letter (2709.11-2006-3, Ch 40 "Exhibit 2").

Please include my comments of support in the public record.

I would like to express my thanks to USFS staff for bringing these proposed changes forward. For many owners of ANILCA Cabins adopting these revisions will make the reissuance of the Special Use Permit easier while still "meeting the congressional direction of ANILCA, as expressed through Senate Committee Report 96-413, that nothing shall preclude the continued permitting of cabins for traditional and customary uses. Permitting should be utilized for the continuation of this lifestyle wherever possible and where continuation would not constitute a direct threat to or significant impairment of the National Forests."

On a personal note, our family has maintained a permitted individual-use, privately owned cabin in the Tongass National Forest for several generations. If adopted by the USFS, these revisions will make the reissuance of the Special-Use Permit easier on all parties to obtain and help to ensure the cabins continued "Traditional and Customary use" into the future.

I fully support this action and the ability to preserve the Alaskan lifestyle and share that with future generations.

If you have any questions regarding these comments, please do not hesitate to contact me.