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First name: Gary Last name: Stears Organization:

Title:

Comments: I am writing today in support of the purposed changes that will allow for the authorization, renewal or reissuance of special use permits of ANILCA cabins for traditional and customary uses that are compatible with the purposes for which the unit or area was established.

In 1969 my wife's grandfather and three of his close friends built a cabin, following the rules and guidelines of the Forest Service, in Seymor Canal on Admiralty Island. For the last 32 years I have been involved with the care, maintenance, and use of this cabin, and in 2010 became the special use permit holder. I was always aware that I was the "last" one to hold the permit and at times it weighed heavily on me knowing that at some point it was my responsibility to ensure this cabins footprint no longer existed. Although memories would not be lost, the structure that created them would create no more.

We have always done our due diligence in meeting the requirements of our permit by replacing in kind that which requires repair, or tending to anything detailed upon inspection of the site by those who have oversight. We strive to maintain a minimal footprint by allowing others to use the cabin only when accompanied by an individual who has a monetary and vested interest, of which as of now are only three. The cabin is stocked with supplies and open for those who may find themselves in an emergency situation and in dire need of shelter. This cabin has always been and always will be used for traditional and customary purposes while maintaining the minimal footprint mentioned earlier.

I am excited about the possibility of being able to pass this cabin on to my daughters for their and their families future use and fully support the purposed changes.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment,

Gary Stears.