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Organization:

Title:

Comments: March 8, 2024

?Dear US Forest Service Caretakers,

When Congress passed, and President Carter signed into federal law (yes, I'm old enough to remember President Carter) the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act designating this area as Wilderness, there was direction for the US Forest Service to create policy that should phase out all unauthorized cabins and how to do so, so that it should return to and remain Wilderness.

My family and I are writing to ask our US Forest Service to continue and follow the original intent of this Act, to protect our unique and unparalleled US Alaskan Wilderness, and not change, in any way, the 5 year renewable special-use permits, that are NOT transferable, and assists over time in returning the land to Wilderness by terminating the use of these unauthorized cabins upon the death of the "last immediate family member residing in the cabin on Dec 3, 1980."

We believe that the US Forest Service's proposed removal of restrictions from these special permits, including the number of times a permit for an ANILCA cabin may be reissued or who may be listed on that permit, is detrimental to the original ANILCA intent, the Wilderness Act and our very special state of Alaska. These proposed changes will never allow these ANILCA cabins to return to the Wilderness as intended.

My family and believe that the ANILCA is perhaps the greatest piece of conservation legislation ever passed, something that could not occur again today. That is not to say, that we do not recognize the immense complexities it has left to the Forest Service and all Alaskan land managers over the past 40 years and for the future.

However, regarding these pre Dec 1980 privately owned but unauthorized cabins, my family and ask you to PLEASE leave this ANILCA directed 1987 US Forest Service Policy UNCHANGED and DO NOT RESCIND the 1987 well-defined, plain English, Dear Alaskan Letter 2709.11-2006-3, Ch 40, Exhibit 2.

Sometimes, the best thing is actually to do nothing. We believe this is one of those cases.

You got it right the first time. Thank you for considering our opinions and all that you do for Alaska and our country. You are appreciated.

Respectfully,

JK & Family

Anaheim, CA