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Organization:

Title:

Comments: March 7, 2024

USDA Forest Service

Regional Forester c/o Jennifer Berger

PO Box 21628

Juneau, AK 99802-1628

Re: ANILCA Cabin Proposed Policy Revision

Dear Ms. Berger,

I have had the opportunity to review the Forest Service's proposed policy revision that would allow for the reissuance of special use permits for ANILCA cabins to allow for traditional and customary uses and would like to offer this letter to support of the proposed revision.

As a lifelong Alaskan, I originally became aware of these cabins through various means including education, literature, and the media. However, in the past 10 years I have become more familiar with them through individuals that have permits for these cabins and have also been to an ANILCA cabin. While there I was able to fish so I could provide my family with sustenance for the winter, observe the peacefulness of such a pristine area while watching various wildlife and birds that were in the area. At the end of each day, I was thankful for the ability to return to a cabin where I could stay warm and safe.

Many who have these special use permits are often worried that future generations of their families will not be able to do the same as these permits expire. These cabins are a part of Alaska and an extremely important part of the traditional gathering of food, local customs, and recreational use. Thus, these are my reasons for supporting the policy change for the reissuance of the special use permits for those special use permit holders who maintain respect for the land and area.

Thank you for the opportunity to express my support for the proposed policy revision.

Rebecca A. Brunger