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First name: Barbara

Last name: Maxwell

Organization:

Title:

Comments: From: Barbara Maxwell

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the proposed revision of the regional policy for authorizing certain privately-owned cabins in the Tongass and Chugach National Forests.

My husband and I and our four children have been fishing and hunting at Twenty Mile River in the Chugach National Forest since 1954. We purchased the first cabin in 1959 and later after that facility was destroyed in the 1964 earthquake, we purchased the second cabin, that was originally a trappers cabin which was built in the 1940's. We have maintained the cabin continuously and at considerable expense, as well as complying with USFS requirements.

In the last 70 years we have enjoyed the benefits of hunting and fishing to sustain our family, utilizing the cabin in accordance with customary and traditional purposes. The cabin is also used for family recreation. Taking great care of the National Forest and the waterways has always been a priority of our family and the importance of good stewardship of our natural resources has been passed down now, to four generations of Maxwell's and their families.

In addition, my husband and I, our children and grandchildren have assisted and continue to assist from time to time, boaters, hunters and snow machine riders who were in distress. This has included assisting with the recovery of swamped boats and stranded boaters or boats with engine failures, avalanche incidents, and other urgent situations. Traditional and customary purposes includes people helping people in what sometimes can be life threatening accidents. This has included offering refuge to individuals in peril, in our special use permit cabin.

I sincerely appreciate the opportunity for our family experience the natural setting of Twenty Mile River while demonstrating and teaching the importance of good stewardship of the National Forest, it's wildlife, and waterways.

Thank you again for the opportunity to share my comments regarding this very important matter.

Sincerely,

Barbara Maxwell