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Comments: Thank you for the opportunity to provide comment on the proposed Herbert Glacier Cabin (project #67953). Grande Portage Resources Ltd (Grande Portage) is supportive of recreation and the concept of a cabin in the Herbert River Valley, while opposed to the cabin location proposed in the scoping document.

Grande Portage is a publicly held junior resource company focused solely on the exploration and development of the New Amalga Gold Project located approximately 18 miles north of Juneau. If developed, this project would create hundreds of new jobs in the Juneau area and generate significant economic activity and tax revenue for both the State of Alaska and the City & Borough of Juneau.

While specific coordinates were not provided within the scoping document, the proposed cabin appears to be located within the boundaries of Federal Mining Claim AKAA 087165 (Herbert 1), originally filed in May 2007 and currently held in good standing by Grande Portage.

Grande Portage Resources is committed to protecting the Herbert River watershed as well as the recreational experience for users of the Herbert Glacier Trail. The conceptual New Amalga Mine would involve selective underground mining and tunneling methods which are protective of the surface above the resource.

Grande Portage will also plan to maintain a minimal footprint by transporting mined material offsite for processing, avoiding the need for chemical gold processing reagents or construction of processing facilities or tailings storage in the Herbert River Valley. Minimal surface infrastructure necessary to support the underground mine will be planned away from the existing Herbert Glacier Trail on the opposite bank of the Herbert River, screened by topographic features and vegetation in order to be protective of the viewshed and soundscape.

The proposed cabin location is on a hillside at a significantly higher elevation than the trail, above the topography being considered to screen potential surface infrastructure. It would be incredibly challenging, likely impossible, to protect the proposed cabin from potential visual and noise impacts with the same effectiveness as the existing trail.

Grande Portage believes that construction of a cabin near the Herbert Glacier Trail would significantly enhance recreational opportunities in the area, and notes that there are numerous other locations along the trail that would provide a similar recreational experience while being more compatible with existing mining overlays and future resource development. Aligned with the United States Forest Service's mandate for multiple use of public lands, Grande Portage is eager to work with the Forest Service to identify alternative cabin locations which would better serve all Tongass National Forest stakeholders over the long term.

Sincerely,

-Kyle Mehalek