



THE STATE
of **ALASKA**
GOVERNOR MIKE DUNLEAVY

ANILCA Implementation Program

OFFICE OF PROJECT MANAGEMENT AND PERMITTING

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January 21, 2020

Phadrea Ponds, Acting NPS Information Collection Clearance Officer
National Park Service
1201 Oakridge Drive
Fort Collins, CO 80525

Re: OMB Control Number 1024-0281

Dear Ms. Ponds:

The State of Alaska reviewed the Information Collection Federal Register Notice *Glacier Bay National Park and Preserve Bear Sighting and Encounter Reports*. The following comments represent the consolidated views of state resource agencies.

The State provided comments on this information collection request previously in a letter dated November 23, 2016. Those comments remain relevant; therefore, we adopt them by reference and reiterate our request that completion of the forms remain voluntary. It is likely that most visitors would reach out to park staff in the event of a negative bear encounter or inappropriate activities regardless and both forms contain 24-hour emergency contact information, which should be adequate to address visitor safety and compliance issues. We support the dissemination of visitor information that educates the public on bear safety and "Leave No Trace" practices and explains the benefits of reporting observations to encourage participation. Voluntary compliance combined with education outreach would allow the Service to obtain the desired information without inadvertently subjecting visitors to the threat of citation or intrusion on their personal experiences.

Thank you for this opportunity to comment. Please contact me at (907) 269-7529 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "S. Magee".

Susan Magee
ANILCA Program Coordinator