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May 10, 2002

Robert L. Arnberger Regional Director, National Park Service 2525 Gambell Street, Room 107 Anchorage, Alaska 99503

Dear Rob:

Thank you for the May 1, 2002, response to my letter of April 26, 2002, regarding the Katmai compendium and your thoughts on the lack of common expectations before its implementation for the 2002 season. I appreciate your looking into the matter and share your genuine interest in building a respectful relationship from which we can continue to collaboratively address issues of mutual concern. I also strongly agree that the best way to recover from this situation is to learn from it and fine-tune our methods of consultation and coordination.

I welcome your suggestion to "convene a small working group to critically look at our formal and informal consulting processes." As you know, we have arranged to initiate this evaluation on May 17. I look forward to developing a road map that minimizes process questions in the future. Investing time now to articulate mutually acceptable expectations will free up productive energy to work on more important substantive issues.

In preparation for May 17, I will be reviewing our files for similar but now outdated informal understandings with previous regional directors or superintendents regarding various types of projects. These will provide some useful ideas as we evaluate the best ways to constructively move forward. Once we identify a set of mutually agreeable consultation procedures, it is our hope that they will be adopted and circulated as regional policy. Thus, your laudable intentions won't be forgotten over time through changing personnel.

Thanks again for your responsiveness to our request for a predictable and sustainable process to promote continued constructive dialogue in the future. We will contribute our efforts to achieve this goal.

Sincerely,

/SS/

Sally Gibert State CSU Coordinator cc: Cam Toohey, Alaska Office of the Department of the Interior John Katz, Office of the Governor, Washington, D.C. Deb Liggett, Superintendent, Katmai NP&Pr Gary Candelaria, Superintendent, Wrangell-St. Elias NP&Pr