## STATE OF ALASKA

## ANILCA IMPLEMENTATION PROGRAM

## FRANK H MURKOWSKI GOVERNOR

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June 27, 2006

Allison Banks Glacier Bay National Park & Preserve PO Box 140 Gustavus, AK 99826

Dear Ms. Banks:

The State of Alaska reviewed the Glacier Bay National Park and Preserve's Dry Bay Off Highway Vehicle Use Environmental Assessment (EA) scoping newsletter. This letter represents the consolidated views of State resource agencies.

We appreciate the National Park Service (Service) recognizes the importance of designating and managing off-highway vehicle trails in the Dry Bay area for all purposes. We are supportive of the effort to identify and accommodate existing uses in the route designation process and appreciate the Service's willingness to work with the State to provide access while protecting park resources.

The newsletter indicates there will be crossings at both anadromous and resident fish streams. We suggest the Service include recommendations for preferred crossing types based on an evaluation of site specific habitat conditions and function, area fish species and long-term maintenance considerations. A biologist from the Alaska Department of Natural Resources, Office of Habitat Management and Permitting is available to accompany park biologists in the field to discuss appropriate crossing alternatives. If the Service anticipates posting signs at designated stream crossings, we request the signs cite the State's Title 41 authority.

The State will need detailed maps and proposed stream crossing prescriptions for the Alaska Coastal Management Program consistency review and Title 41 Fish Habitat Permit review. This information may either be included in the EA or provided separately when the Service submits a consistency determination for the proposed project to the Alaska Department of Natural Resources, Office of Project Management and Permitting. If you have any questions about the consistency review process, please contact Joe Donohue at (907) 465-4664. For information about Title 41 Permit requirements, contact Jackie Timothy at (907) 465-4275.

Thank you for this opportunity to comment.

Sincerely,

Susan E. Mage

ANILCA Project Coordinator

cc: Sally Gibert, ANILCA Program Coordinator