

STATE OF ALASKA

SEAN PARNELL, Governor

ANILCA IMPLEMENTATION PROGRAM Office of Project Management and Permitting

550 W. 7TH AVENUE, SUITE 1430
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99501
PH: (907) 269-7529 / FAX: (907) 334-2509
susan.magee@alaska.gov

February 17, 2010

Daniel A. Healey
Acting Superintendent
Kenai Fjords National Park
P.O. Box 1727
Seward, AK 99664

Dear Mr. Healey:

The State of Alaska reviewed the Foundation Statement for the Kenai Fjords National Park. The following comments represent the consolidated views of the State's resource agencies.

We understand direction to prepare Foundation Statements comes from the National Park Service 2006 Management Policies and that information included in these documents will provide a basis for future planning efforts. As such, we anticipate certain information and statements will be duplicated in future planning documents. We are therefore requesting primarily technical clarifications we believe will prove beneficial in the long-term. We are available for follow-up questions or discussions if needed.

Page 4, Significance Statements: Given the numerous recreational visitors (nearly 300,000 annually) and activities available in the Park, it would be appropriate to identify recreational opportunities along with science and education as a fundamental value. While included as a bulleted item under *Human Experience* on page 12, it is not recognized within the formal statement itself or mentioned elsewhere in the document. We recommend incorporating "*recreation*" into both the *Human Experience* significance statement and, given the intent of ANILCA Section 201(5) to "...develop access to the Harding Icefield and to allow use of mechanized equipment on the icefield for recreation" to the *Exit Glacier* bullet under *Icefields and Glaciers* on page 8.

Page 9, Fjords – Significance Statement: We recommend substituting the phrase "*wild and scenic fjords*" with language that would not be confused with federally designated wild and scenic waterways. One way to address this would be to reverse the phrase to "*scenic and wild fjords*." This suggestion also applies to bullet 2 on page 4.

Page 12, Human Experience – Fundamental Resources and Values: The *Access* bullet seems to duplicate access implied in the *Recreational Opportunities*,

Interpretation/Education, and Research bullets. As such, the additional bullet may not be necessary.

Page 27, Appendix B – Legislative History: The subtitle of this Appendix refers to background “*legislation.*” The 1978 Proclamation that follows is an administrative action, not legislation. In addition, as we have stated in our comments for other Foundation Statements, we recommend not including this Proclamation in the document since it has been entirely superseded, as noted.

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', written in a cursive style.

Susan E. Magee
ANILCA Project Coordinator

cc: Sally Gibert, ANILCA Program Coordinator
Joan Darnell, NPS Alaska Region