

STATE OF ALASKA

SEAN PARNELL, Governor

ANILCA IMPLEMENTATION PROGRAM Office of Project Management and Permitting

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February 24, 2011

Allison Banks, Environmental Protection Specialist
Glacier Bay National Park and Preserve
P.O. Box 140
Gustavus, AK 99826

Dear Ms. Banks:

The State of Alaska reviewed the Environmental Assessment (EA) regarding a proposed permit for a new commercial fishing cabin at Dry Bay in Glacier Bay National Preserve. The following consolidated state agency comments were compiled by the State's Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (ANILCA) Implementation Program and cover issues relative to ANILCA and other state interests. Any correspondence or response pursuant to the federal Coastal Zone Management Act and the Alaska Coastal Management Program must be provided separately by the Alaska Department of Natural Resources, Division of Coastal and Ocean Management.

Congress recognized the importance of commercial fishing in Dry Bay and other areas of the State, and through ANILCA Section 205, authorized its continuation, including access and support facilities. We support the EA's preferred alternative to issue a permit for the cabin and associated facilities, including access to the existing trail system and commercial fishing areas.

It appears the new site's improved location would minimize resource impacts. The EA also addresses mitigation measures for human waste disposal and references Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) separation distance requirements that would apply should the project include placement of an outhouse at the site, which is located adjacent to Dog Salmon Creek. We recommend providing permittees with the attached DEC Wastewater Program Fact Sheet, which includes more comprehensive guidelines for pit privy design, operation and closure, consistent with regulations at 18 AAC 72.020 (b) and (i).

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

Sincerely,



Susan Magee
ANILCA Project Coordinator

cc: Sally Gibert, ANILCA Program Coordinator