



THE STATE
of **ALASKA**
GOVERNOR SEAN PARNELL

ANILCA Implementation Program

OFFICE OF PROJECT MANAGEMENT & PERMITTING

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August 25, 2014

Beth Pendleton, Regional Forester
USDA Forest Service, Alaska Region
Attn: 2800 Manual Supplement
P.O. Box 21628
Juneau, AK 99802-1628

Dear Ms. Pendleton:

The State of Alaska reviewed the proposed supplement (R-10 2800-2014-1) to Forest Service Manual 2800, which guides mining operations on Admiralty Island and Misty Fjords National Monuments on the Tongass National Forest. The following comments represent the consolidated views of the State's resource agencies.

The State supports the Forest Service's efforts to provide policy guidance to officials responsible for authorizing mining operations on Admiralty Island and Misty Fjords National Monuments consistent with Sections 503 and 504 of the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (ANILCA), which expressly authorized development of valid mining claims at Quartz Hill and Greens Creek, subject to reasonable regulation and reasonable lease terms and conditions.

We appreciate the Forest Service's thorough efforts in recognizing applicable laws, related ANILCA legislative history, and existing implementing regulations at 36 CFR 228.80 in the development of the guidance document.

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

