

## **ANILCA Implementation Program**

OFFICE OF PROJECT MANAGEMENT AND PERMITTING

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June 12, 2015

Philip Hooge, Superintendent Glacier Bay National Park and Preserve P.O. Box 140 Gustavus, AK 99826

## Dear Mr. Hooge:

The State of Alaska reviewed the Glacier Bay Climate Monitoring Environmental Assessment for the proposed project at Glacier Bay National Park and Preserve. This letter represents the consolidated views of state resource agencies.

We support the National Park Service's intent to install weather/climate monitoring instruments, which would allow continued and improved weather/climate data collection and expand the Service's data collection program. This type of project is specifically allowed under Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (ANILCA) Section 1310(b), which provides for establishment, operation, and maintenance of new facilities for weather and climate research and monitoring within conservation system units, including designated wilderness.

We are also supportive of the proposed wildlife mitigation measures to minimize the project's impacts on wildlife resources. In particular, we support the measures identified to avoid helicopter activity impacts to mountain goats.

Lastly, we note the correct Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Advisory Circular Number cited on page 2-8 (Soundscape) is AC91-36D, and for accuracy, request that the limits and impacts from the advisory be quoted, we suggest the sentence be re-written along the lines of: "In order to reduce adverse impacts to wildlife [italics added] and recreational users, aircraft should make every effort to fly not less than 2,000 feet above ground level, weather permitting, except during landing and takeoff, pursuant to [FAA] Advisory Circular (AC91-36D) "Visual Flight Rules (VFR) Near Noise Sensitive Areas."

Thank you for this opportunity to comment. Please contact myself at 907-334-2563 or <a href="mailto:jennifer.wing@alaska.gov">jennifer.wing@alaska.gov</a> or Sue Magee at 269-7529 or <a href="mailto:susan.magee@alaska.gov">susan.magee@alaska.gov</a>, if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Wing

**ANILCA Project Coordinator** 

cc: Sue Magee, ANILCA Program Coordinator, Allison Banks, NPS GLBA NPP