

# STATE OF ALASKA

**FRANK H MURKOWSKI**  
**GOVERNOR**

## ANILCA IMPLEMENTATION PROGRAM

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February 15, 2006

James P. Corless  
Superintendent  
Klondike Gold Rush National Historical Park  
P.O. Box 517  
Skagway, AK 99840

Dear Mr. Corless:

The State of Alaska reviewed the Environmental Assessment (EA) for the proposed relocation of Sheep Camp Campground on the Chilkoot Trail within the Klondike Gold Rush National Historical Park. The following represents the consolidated views of State resource agencies. The Alaska Department of Natural Resources, Office of Project Management and Permitting will conduct a separate review of the proposed project for consistency with the Alaska Coastal Management Program.

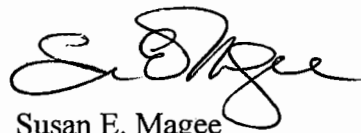
We strongly support the Service's intention to relocate Sheep Camp Campground, a portion of the Chilkoot Trail and the "Zig Zag Bridge" from their current flood-prone locations to nearby areas that are stable and safe, and that avoid or minimize impacts to sensitive natural and cultural resources. This effort will ensure safe and adequate facilities to meet the needs of park users, while protecting park resources. However, portions of the proposed project are affected by the nearly complete Falls Creek land exchange between the State and the Service. Please clarify these effects and relationships in your final decision document.

We note this EA did not include a socio-economic review and value estimates for the alternatives and reiterate the importance of including this information in all EA's. It is essential that the public understand the fiscal consequences of each alternative to ensure informed consideration. Please refer to the June 18, 2004 memorandum from the Service's Regional Director for Alaska entitled "*NEPA Document Improvements: Presenting facility cost figures, conducting socioeconomic analyses, and considering ANILCA Section 1306.*"

James P. Corless, Superintendent  
February 15, 2006  
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Thank you for this opportunity to comment. Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "S. Magee". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letter of the first name being a large, stylized 'S'.

Susan E. Magee  
ANILCA Project Coordinator

cc: Sally Gibert, ANILCA Program Coordinator