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October 23, 2002

Regional Forester
USDA Forest Service, Alaska Region
P.O. Box 21628
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1628

Dear Mr. Bschor:

This letter is a Notice of Appeal filed pursuant to 36 CFR part 217, page 46 in the Record of Decision. The decision that I am appealing is the Preferred Alternative as described in the FEIS and the resulting Revised Forest Plan, specifically areas available for motorized and non-motorized winter activities, with modifications as further described in the ROD, as stated on page 3 of the ROD. The document in which the decision is contained is the Revised Land and Resource Management Plan of the Chugach National Forest Record of Decision, R10 MB-480b. The date of the decision was May 31, 2002 and the Deciding Officer is Regional Forester Dennis E. Bschor.

The specific portions of the document to which I object are the closing of the Crescent and Carter Lakes area, Trail River Campground, and the areas along the Seward Highway from Moose Pass to Summit Lake to all winter motorized use. I object to these portions of the document for the following reasons:

This decision affects Moose Pass more than any other populated area, yet **there were NO public meetings in Moose Pass to discuss the "preferred alternative" that was ultimately chosen.** No one in the community was made aware of what this plan encompassed until it was made official. This is in direct violation of the Forest Service's own EIS 3-508 and of 36 CFR 219.12.

The financial viability of numerous small businesses in the Moose Pass area, including restaurants and bed & breakfasts, will undoubtedly be severely impacted by this plan. Despite this fact, **there were NO economic impact studies done and no input sought from local business owners.** This is in direct violation of 36 CFR 219.21. This decision will not only hurt current business but will also thwart future recreation-related business opportunities as well as the real estate market.

On a more personal level, I have lived in Moose Pass for 19+ years and have fished, hunted, and trapped consistently during the winters in the Carter/Crescent Lake, Tern Lake, and Summit Lake areas. These activities played a MAJOR role in my decision to live in this remote area and continue to be very important to me. This ban will effectively eliminate my ability to conduct these traditional activities for the duration of the life of the Forest Plan (10-15 years), assuming it can even be reversed or amended in the distant future.

My wife and I have spent the last year and a half constructing a cabin that we intended to use as a year-round bed & breakfast. Due to our close proximity to Carter Lake trailhead, our goal had been to market this B&B as an ideal wintertime lodging option for the many snowmachine users that frequent the area.

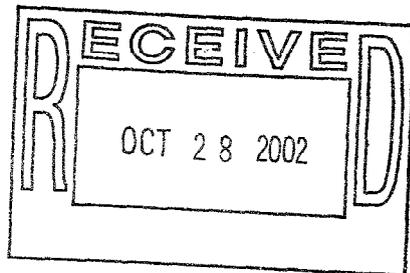
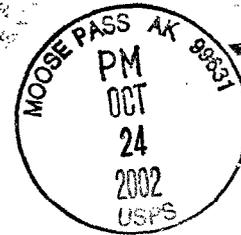
This decision is anti-family, anti-business, and anti-recreation. It is the antithesis of the Chugach National Forest's own slogan, "Land of Many Uses" and of the Forest Service's policy of availability to all user groups (i.e., young, old, disabled, motorized, non-motorized). I would like to see the new Forest Plan amended to include ALL of the user groups mentioned above.

Sincerely,



Thomas A. Lindquist

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