

United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Glacier Bay National Park and Preserve P.O. Box 140 Gustavus, Alaska 99826-0140

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IN REPLY REFER TO: L7617 (Dry Bay)

April 21, 2004

PUBLIC REVIEW Open until May 23, 2004

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT for DRY BAY FACILITY IMPROVEMENTS

Dear Reviewer:

The National Park Service (NPS) is seeking public input on a construction project being considered in the Dry Bay area of Glacier Bay National Preserve, Alaska. The NPS is proposing to construct, reconstruct, demolish and relocate certain visitor and administrative facilities. An environmental assessment (EA) has been prepared for the project. It analyzes three alternatives: (1) "no-action" alternative; (2) relocate the river rafters' takeout point to west of the existing airplane taxiway and reconstruct other facilities near their existing locations (NPS preferred alternative); and (3) relocate the river rafters' takeout point and sewage dump station to west of the airstrip and reconstruct other facilities near their existing locations. Both action alternatives involve relocating the river rafters' takeout point and camp area; clearing an airplane taxiway; closing the existing sewage dump station and nearby pit toilet; building a new dump station with a public pit toilet; rebuilding all ranger station structures except for the ranger cabin; and removing the current public pit toilet at the East Alsek River public use cabin and replacing it with a new toilet in the same vicinity. The EA also presents mitigation measures.

Agencies, organizations, or individuals are invited to file comments. Specific comments on the alternatives and analysis will be most helpful. Your comments will be considered in the preparation of the final decision document. The EA is available online at the park's website at http://www.nps.gov/glba, or in person at park offices in Gustavus and Yakutat, or by mail.

Comments on the EA are requested by May 23rd, 2004 and can be submitted by e-mail to: mary_kralovec@nps.gov; or by mail to: Mary Kralovec, Assistant Chief of Resource Management, Glacier Bay National Park and Preserve, Post Office Box 140, Gustavus AK 99826; or fax at 907-697-2654.

Sincerely,

Tomie Lee
Superintendent

