

United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Wrangell-St. Elias National Park & Preserve Mile 106.8 Richardson Hwy. P.O. Box 439 Copper Center, AK 99573-0439 907 822 5234 Fax 907 822 3281 http://www.nps.gov/wrst



August 20, 2014

To Whom it May Concern:

Wrangell St. Elias National Park and Preserve is considering the issuance of a special use permit to an individual who owns property at Solo Creek in the northeastern portion of the park. The special use permit would be for the harvest of 50 - 80 standing dead trees for house logs. Logs harvested on NPS lands would be used on private land for the construction of a cabin as a primary residence. The park's subsistence log policy covers the non-commercial subsistence harvest of house logs in accordance with ANILCA and Title 36 CFR Part 13.485. The park has determined that the applicant meets the requirements for eligibility, including:

a) Applicant lives within the park boundary and has demonstrated a customary and traditional use of park resources; and

b) Applicant has explored reasonable alternative sources for logs.

The applicant would harvest standing dead trees in an area approximately five miles from the inholding on Solo Creek. The harvest would take place in an area where the north fork of the White River has changed channels, resulting in dead and dying trees. The harvest area is located in section 22, T.1S., R.21E. Access will be via snowmachine and would occur under conditions of adequate snow cover (6") and frozen ground.

In compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), NPS is writing an Environmental Assessment (EA) displaying the environmental effects of this proposal. NPS is accepting comments on this proposal to use in developing issues and alternatives to be analyzed in the EA. Comments should be submitted no later than September 20, 2014. You may submit comments on this proposal in one of three ways:

- By submitting comments through the PEPC website at: http://parkplanning.nps.gov/projectHome.cfm?projectID=59614
- By e-mailing Bruce Rogers, park planner, at bruce_rogers@nps.gov
- By writing to the following address: Wrangell St. Elias National Park and Preserve, Attn: Bruce Rogers, P.O. Box 439; Copper Center, AK 99573.

Thank you for your interest in this project.

Sincerely,

Rick Obernesser Superintendent

