



March 18, 2008

Mr. Forrest Cole, Forest Supervisor
Tongass National Forest
648 Mission Street
Ketchikan, Alaska 99901

Re: Eleanor Island

Dear Mr. Cole:

Thank you for your letter dated March 6, 2008, advising of planned Forest Service actions to remove the cabin on Eleanor Island commencing on or after May 12, 2008, with a scheduled completion of removal by August 1, 2008.

As you know, H.R. 3560, the Southeast Alaska Native Land Entitlement Finalization Act, has been introduced in the House of Representatives and a hearing was held before the House Committee on Natural Resources on November 14, 2007. Included in this legislation is the right for Sealaska to select Eleanor Island, and particularly the area where the cabin in question exists. H.R. 3560 has bipartisan support and could pass the House in this session of Congress.

In addition, we expect that a Senate version of H.R. 3560 will be introduced shortly after the Easter Recess. The Senate version of the legislation will also likely include language that will allow Sealaska to make selections on Eleanor Island. Sealaska remains hopeful that legislation will be enacted this year and signed by the President.

Sealaska's Board of Directors has identified Eleanor Island for selection due to its "cultural, traditional and historic significance." Native people throughout Southeast Alaska were engaged in fox farming, as introduced by non-Native Western influences, over 100 years ago. There are very few of these sites still in existence and Eleanor Island is a splendid example of this type of activity, blending Native cultural values with the values introduced by non-Native trading companies and settlers coming to Southeast Alaska. This site would qualify as a place of "cultural, traditional, and historic significance." For these reasons, Sealaska once again requests that the Forest Service delay any action to dismantle the Eleanor Island cabin, pending outcome of the Federal legislation. At this time we view the cabin as an important asset of the property.

A delay of the Forest Service action does not injure the public because: first, the Forest Service has already seized the cabin; and, second, if Congress does not enact legislation, the Forest Service can remove the cabin at a later date. The current expedited removal schedule is unnecessary.

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From Sealaska's perspective removal of the cabin would not serve the public interest. With passage of legislation, Sealaska will obtain title to Eleanor Island in fee simple, including the land and all structures and appurtenances located thereon. These are assets of value that Sealaska hopes to acquire pursuant to the pending federal legislation.

Please contact me at your earliest convenience so that we can discuss these issues. I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

SEALASKA CORPORATION



Richard P. Harris
Executive Vice President

cc: Chris McNeil
Ron Wolfe
Stephen F. Sorensen
VanNess Feldman