

Ed King

From: Rod Arno <rodarno@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, February 12, 2024 12:40 PM
To: House Resources
Cc: AOC Board
Subject: HB281 - Feb. 12, 2024

Chairman Tom McKay and House Resource Committee members,

February 12, 2024

The Alaska Outdoor Council (AOC) represents thousands of Alaskans who recreate on public lands in Alaska. AOC applauds Governor Dunleavy's efforts to get Alaskans outdoors for their mental and physical wellbeing. At this time AOC can not support **HB281 Remote Recreational Cabin Sites**.

Do to the federal landowners relentless efforts to restrict all but local use on 222 million acres of Alaska AOC feels it would be in Alaska's outdoor folks best interest to keep state public lands open for public use. That position is consistent with both state law **AS 38.04.015 Public Interest in Retaining State Land in Public Ownership** and **Title 8, Section 1, 3, and 4 of the Alaska State Constitution**. Making state lands, public resources, available to the public for their benefit is subject to preference among the beneficial uses. When remote; choice, safe, cabin sites pass into private lands those lands would no longer be open to the public for their enjoyment at no cost.

Random single cabin sites on state lands could affect the state's ability to prescribe control burns without additional cost to the state of mitigating fire damage to remote recreational cabins. Random cabin sites could be constructed with a one mile radius of some Alaskans registered bear baiting site make them out of compliance with their permit.

DNR's Land Conveyance Sections has made state lands available to Alaskans for decades.

These lands are contiguous, making their appearance on the landscape that much easier for land and resource managers. On an average since 2015 around 95 Alaskans have bought sites.

Plus another 75-143 parcels were sold over the counter worldwide

The Alaska Outdoor Council would prefer appealing the Remote Recreation Cabin Site permits AS 38.05.600 until such time as the state regains resource management on the +60% of federal lands. State lands are becoming more valuable to Alaska's outdoor folks as we loose opportunities to access federal public lands.

Thank you for your consideration
Rod Arno
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Sent from Rod Arno's iPad.