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Approved: NAME OF APPROVING OFFICIAL
Title of Approving Official
Date Approved: mm/dd/yyyy

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Digest:

2721.53 – Revised to require issuance of an outfitting and guiding permit for commercial point-to-point transportation to, from, and within the Mendenhall Glacier Visitor Center subunit in the Mendenhall Glacier Recreation Area during the cruise ship season, as reflected each year in the calendar published by Cruise Line Agencies of Alaska.
2720.5 – Definitions

Guiding. For purposes of the Alaska Region only, providing for remuneration or other gain to individuals or groups on National Forest System lands:

1. Services or assistance (such as supervision, protection, education, training, packing, touring, subsistence, or interpretation) besides or in addition to point-to-point transportation; and

2. Strictly point-to-point transportation to, from, and within the Mendenhall Glacier Visitor Center subunit of the Mendenhall Glacier Recreation Area during the cruise ship season, as reflected each year in the calendar published by Cruise Line Agencies of Alaska.

2723.3 – Markers, Memorials, and Other Public Monuments

Throughout the history of the National Forests in Alaska, small monuments and crosses have occasionally been placed on the National Forest to commemorate those who have lost their lives in various incidents and vessel sinkings. For vessels lost at sea, these small markers were sometimes placed at prominent points along the shore when the precise location of the vessel sinking was not known.

Traditionally, these markers have been small, unobtrusive, and assembled with native materials such as driftwood and stone, such that the elements of nature made their duration short-lived. As such, these memorials have not been a land or resource management concern. Recently, however, large, permanent memorials have been erected on National Forest System lands in Alaska where they are highly visible, and where they have become a permanent encumbrance on the public’s land. The placement of large, permanent structures creates visual resource management impacts, and has the potential of creating conflicts with other land and resource management objectives. The trend for families and friends to erect these large, permanent markers has generated a need for a management response to preclude these impacts and user conflicts.

For direction on public monuments and other similar uses, consult FSM 2723.31, Marker, and FSM 2723.32, Memorial. National directives prohibit placement of private, personal monuments and markers. The national directives recognize traditional practices in Alaska and allow the Alaska Region some latitude for small, biodegradable, temporary, and unobtrusive memorials.

The intent of the Alaska Region directive supplement is to establish a flexible and equitable regional policy concerning the placement of structures on National Forest System lands that mark or memorialize events or incidents that have resulted in the loss of life. In the Alaska Region, families or friends must meet with the District Ranger prior to placing a small, temporary and unobtrusive memorial. A single, small, private memorial may be erected on National Forest System lands in memory of a person or a tragic event where one or more people have died at sea near or on National Forest System lands. During discussions about
placement of a private memorial, the District Ranger should consider the location, size, permanency, and impact on resources and other forest users. The District Ranger should follow up the discussion with a letter outlining the key points of the memorial policy to the proponents.

Historically, markers or memorials placed on National Forest System lands in the Alaska Region that meet the following size, design, and location criteria have generally not presented a land or resource management concern and may be authorized:

1. **Size.** No more than 4 feet high and 3 feet wide.

2. **Materials.** Driftwood, native stone, or other native materials assembled or held together with biodegradable materials (no human-made materials such as mortar, concrete, or metal).

3. **Placement.** In a location where the marker or memorial is unobtrusive and in an area that does not have high public use (i.e., outside of areas where developed recreation sites, visitor information sites, and historical or archaeological sites are located and outside of areas that are near other authorized uses).

District Rangers shall bring existing or future monuments and memorials into reasonable compliance with this directive supplement. District rangers should use the utmost sensitivity in dealing with people on this delicate and often deeply personal matter. Any proposals for and placement of personal memorials, monuments, or markers that do not meet the standards in this directive supplement will not be authorized and should be removed upon discovery.

**2721.5 – Facility Related Services**

**2721.53 – Outfitting and Guiding Service**

5. Guiding requires an outfitting and guiding special use permit, form FS-2700-4i, with land use fees calculated in accordance with FSH 2709.11, Chapter 30, and the Flat Fee Policy for Outfitting and Guiding Land Use Fees in the Alaska Region, as reflected in the current directive supplement to Chapter 30. Guiding includes:

   a. **Sight-Seeing and Flight-Seeing Trips Provided for a Fee.** Roundtrip automobile, bus, or boat sight-seeing trips and flight-seeing trips provided for a fee have as their principal purpose viewing National Forest System lands, improvements, or resources; have the same general starting and ending point, regardless of the number of stops or landings; and provide for the operator or representative to remain with the clients or, if leaving, to return to the clients within an hour. Other attributes of sight-seeing and flight-seeing trips typically include the offering of interpretative services by the operator or representative.

   b. **Trips that Provide or Facilitate an Outdoor Recreational Experience for a Fee.** Trips that provide or facilitate an outdoor recreational experience on National Forest
FSM 2700 – SPECIAL USES MANAGEMENT
CHAPTER 50 – SPECIAL USES ADMINISTRATION

System lands for a fee involve activities such as fishing, hunting, camping, photography, rafting, kayaking, mountain climbing, nature education, and strictly point-to-point transportation to, from, and within the Mendenhall Glacier Visitor Center subunit during the cruise ship season, as reflected each year in the calendar published by Cruise Line Agencies of Alaska, and other types of outdoor recreational activities.

Strictly point-to-point commercial transportation services to, from, and on National Forest System lands in the Alaska Region other than the Mendenhall Glacier Visitor Center subunit during the cruise ship season, as reflected each year in the calendar published by Cruise Line Agencies of Alaska, do not require an outfitting and guiding permit.

2722 – AGRICULTURE

2722.1 – Crops

2722.16 – Fish Hatchery

On August 14, 1974, the State of Alaska passed legislation authorizing the operation of private, nonprofit salmon hatcheries (AS 16.10.400-470). This use involves the occupancy of National Forest System lands. This program requires close coordination with the State of Alaska. The State must certify the suitability of the water course and issue a permit for the operation of a hatchery. A special use permit will not be issued unless the applicant has a State hatchery permit. Possession of such a permit does not, however, obligate the Forest Service to issue a special use permit as this must be considered with other existing and potential use contracts and permits. See R10 FSH 2709.11, Chapter 40, section 42, for information on permit development and administration.