

THE 1 GREATER 1 SITKA
chamber
OF COMMERCE

May 7, 2012

Sitka Outdoor Recreation Action Plan
Steering Committee
204 Siginaka Way
Sitka, AK 99835

To whom it may concern:

This is a letter of support for the Sitka Sustainable Outdoor Recreation Action Plan. This project addresses two core goals of the Greater Sitka Chamber of Commerce: economic growth in the community and quality of life in Sitka.

The incredible scenery, rich cultural history, abundant wildlife, recreation opportunities, and community of Sitka offer remarkable experiences for visitors and residents. Recreation and tourism are strong segments of the Sitka economy. This plan recognizes that Sitka already has a robust collection of recreation infrastructure and proposes new projects that complement and expand upon Sitka's outstanding outdoor recreation system. A focus on sustainability ensures that priority projects are ones that will contribute to the local economy for years.

Recreation opportunities improve quality of life and contribute to overall positive community character. The plan's emphasis on balance contributes to a strong, durable local economy, a vital community, and a healthy natural environment.

This plan is right for Sitka because of the attentiveness on building partnerships and setting priorities. Since the committee depended on extensive community and visitor input and collaboration of many stakeholders, this is a plan that can be truly sustainable providing balance, partnerships, and community support.

Sincerely,

Gerry Hope



President
Greater Sitka Chamber of Commerce