

The Alaska Huts proposal is in trouble. The Forest Service formally halted the *Huts* environmental impact statement and ‘returned the proposal’ to us in May, stating they no longer believed our proposal was financially viable. Our board is weary after months of trying to establish closer communications with the Forest Service. While a meeting with the Forest Service is likely in September, we worry that we are frittering away funds during this long waiting period. With these issues in mind, we are determined to make a responsible decision about how to proceed at our September meeting. Your comments **prior to September 17** are welcome.

Our main choices are (1) dissolve the organization and donate hut funds to a suitable organization, (2) suspend activity for a limited time to allow the Forest Service more time to respond to our recent communication, (3) assuming positive communication with the Forest Service, push forward with steps needed reanalyze the financial picture and revise the proposal. The board believes that Chugach National Forest is the best location for a hut-to-hut trail and is not prepared to start over in a new location, but that path is possible under some kind of reorganization.

Your Input Requested. We posted information, including correspondence between Alaska Huts and the Forest Service, at www.alaskahuts.org. We encourage your comments and questions.

- **Email:** mailbox@alaskahuts.org
- **Call:** President Michael Henrich, 632-6440; Exec. Dir. John Wolfe, 279-4663.

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

