

# **Written Public Comment**

**(received between  
11/14/16 – 11/15/16)**

**From:** Smith, Miri K (DOR)  
**To:** ["Marta Poore"](#)  
**Cc:** [Williams, Stephen F \(DOR\)](#); [Lawrence, Carley J \(DOR\)](#)  
**Subject:** RE: Deer Mountain Logging  
**Date:** Tuesday, November 15, 2016 4:33:00 PM

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Hi Marta:

Thank you for taking the time to submit your comments below. We will make sure the full Board of Trustees receives them.

Have a great evening!

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Miri K. Smith-Coolidge  
Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority  
Phone: 907.334.2533  
Cell: 907.632.1836  
Fax: 907.269.7966  
Email: [miri.smith-coolidge@alaska.gov](mailto:miri.smith-coolidge@alaska.gov)

[www.mhtrust.org](http://www.mhtrust.org)

-----Original Message-----

From: Marta Poore [<mailto:martapoore@gmail.com>]  
Sent: Tuesday, November 15, 2016 12:47 PM  
To: Trust Land Office (DNR sponsored) <[mhtlo@alaska.gov](mailto:mhtlo@alaska.gov)>  
Subject: Deer Mountain Logging

I want to express my concern with the way AK Mental Health Trust has threatened my community with logging. This was not an attempt to garner community support but a threat to destroy Ketchikan's primary tourist icon. My concerns include the following:

I hike the trail weekly during the summer. It is heavily used by tourists as well as locals. There was a landslide on Deer Mountain within the last 5 years without logging. The steep incline makes logging dangerous for anyone living below not to mention effects on water and sewage. Liability costs in case of instability would not be worth the income from logging this site. There is talk of 40% logging. This cannot be done without a significant impact to Ketchikan.

Obviously we all support a land exchange. Equally obviously, we cannot log Deer Mountain.

Marta Poore  
POB 7801  
Ketchikan, AK 99901  
[martapoore@gmail.com](mailto:martapoore@gmail.com)

**From:** Smith, Miri K (DOR)  
**To:** ["Rep. Andy Josephson"](#)  
**Cc:** [Williams, Stephen F \(DOR\)](#); [Lawrence, Carley J \(DOR\)](#)  
**Subject:** RE: Deer Mountain and Petersburg Area Tracts  
**Date:** Tuesday, November 15, 2016 4:31:00 PM

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Hi Representative Josephson:

Thank you for taking the time to submit your comments below. We will make sure the full Board of Trustees receives them.

Have a great evening!

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**Miri K. Smith-Coolidge**  
**Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority**  
Phone: 907.334.2533  
Cell: 907.632.1836  
Fax: 907.269.7966  
Email: [miri.smith-coolidge@alaska.gov](mailto:miri.smith-coolidge@alaska.gov)

[www.mhtrust.org](http://www.mhtrust.org)

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**From:** Rep. Andy Josephson [mailto:Rep.Andy.Josephson@akleg.gov]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 15, 2016 12:31 PM  
**To:** Trust Land Office (DNR sponsored) <mhtlo@alaska.gov>  
**Subject:** Deer Mountain and Petersburg Area Tracts

Dear Trust:

I oppose your logging the above-noted areas. Strongly. I don't doubt that your enabling statutes call for aggressive capital investments. I do wonder what the impact on the mental health of southeast Alaska residents would be if you continue to promote logging in people's backyards.

I would recommend you generate revenue from a tourism-related operation.

The real question is this: at what point will authorities like yours (and the Universities) with lands in trust, take account of sustainability, and the overall quality of people's lives? I suspect, without reviewing your enabling act, that there is some discretion that you could properly utilize to change course and do something with your assets that is less destructive.

Thanks for your consideration,

Andy Josephson  
4859 Pavalof Street  
Anchorage, Alaska 99507

**From:** [Williams, Stephen F. \(DOR\)](#)  
**To:** [Rebecca Knight](#)  
**Cc:** [Smith, Miri K \(DOR\)](#); [Lawrence, Carley J \(DOR\)](#)  
**Subject:** Re: Cmts. for AMHT Nov. 16-17 Board of Trustees mtg.  
**Date:** Tuesday, November 15, 2016 3:29:18 PM

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Good afternoon Rebecca-

Thank you for taking the time to put your thoughts in writing and submitting your public comment. Your email below is being forwarded to the board of trustees.

Have a nice day!

Steve

Steve Williams  
Chief Operating Officer  
Alaska Mental Health Trust  
Direct (907) 269-7697  
Cell (907) 748-7418

On Nov 15, 2016, at 4:18 PM, Rebecca Knight <[bknight15@icloud.com](mailto:bknight15@icloud.com)> wrote:

Please see the attached for the upcoming, Nov. 16-17 AMHT Board of Trustees meeting.

Please include it in the packet for the meeting.

Thank you,

Rebecca Knight

<Knight\_Cmts. to AMHT Bd. Trustees\_15Nov16.pdf>

**From:** [Williams, Stephen F. \(DOR\)](#)  
**To:** [Mike](#)  
**Cc:** [Lawrence, Carley J \(DOR\)](#); [Smith, Miri K \(DOR\)](#)  
**Subject:** Re: Comments for 11-17-2016 AMHT meeting  
**Date:** Tuesday, November 15, 2016 2:02:30 PM

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Good afternoon Mike-

Thank you for taking the time to put your thoughts in writing and submitting your public comment. Your email below is being forwarded to the board of trustees.

Have a nice day!

Steve

Steve Williams  
Chief Operating Officer  
Alaska Mental Health Trust  
Direct (907) 269-7697  
Cell (907) 748-7418

On Nov 15, 2016, at 2:58 PM, Mike <[mstainbrookak@hotmail.com](mailto:mstainbrookak@hotmail.com)> wrote:

Hello,

Thank you for taking my comments regarding Mental Health Land near Petersburg. The AMHL adjacent to Petersburg that has been identified as a risk for landslides should Not be logged. If the land exchange does not go through gambling with public safety should NEVER be an option.

The financial goals of the Trust should never compromise the the health and safety of the public.

Thank You. Michael Stainbrook

PO 2052

Petersburg AK 99833

**From:** Smith, Miri K (DOR)  
**To:** ["Marvin Scott"](#)  
**Cc:** [Williams, Stephen F \(DOR\)](#); [Lawrence, Carley J \(DOR\)](#)  
**Subject:** RE: Comments on proposed timber sale on Deer Mountain  
**Date:** Tuesday, November 15, 2016 8:49:00 AM  
**Attachments:** [image002.jpg](#)

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Hi Marvin:

Thank you for taking the time to submit your comments below. We will make sure the full Board of Trustees receives them.

Have a great day!

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**Miri K. Smith-Coolidge**  
**Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority**  
Phone: 907.334.2533  
Cell: 907.632.1836  
Fax: 907.269.7966  
Email: [miri.smith-coolidge@alaska.gov](mailto:miri.smith-coolidge@alaska.gov)

[www.mhtrust.org](http://www.mhtrust.org)

**From:** Marvin Scott [mailto:[marvinscott@gmail.com](mailto:marvinscott@gmail.com)]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 15, 2016 8:47 AM  
**To:** Smith, Miri K (DOR) <[miri.smith-coolidge@alaska.gov](mailto:miri.smith-coolidge@alaska.gov)>  
**Subject:** Comments on proposed timber sale on Deer Mountain

**Marvin L. Scott**  
706 Bayview, Ketchikan, AK 99901 | 907.617.7091 | [marvinscott@gmail.com](mailto:marvinscott@gmail.com)

November 15<sup>th</sup> 2016

Board of Trustees  
Alaska Mental Health Trust  
Alaska Mental Health Trust Land Office  
2600 Cordova Street, Suite 100  
Anchorage, AK 99503

Dear Board of Trustees:

I'm writing you today to express my belief that your decision to proceed with timber sales on Deer Mountain and Petersburg are not in the best interest of your

beneficiaries. To proceed with these timber sales is a violation of your fiduciary mandate to make decisions in the best interest of your beneficiaries.

The Trust has a responsibility to avoid incurring risks to the corpus of the Trust. The risk I refer to is the realistic risk of a life threatening land slide that is likely occur if logging proceeds on the slopes of Deer Mountain in Ketchikan, and the slopes above the Mitkof highway in Petersburg.

I wish to present to you two probable scenarios that illustrate my point about how timber sales in these two areas are a violation of your fiduciary mandate to make decisions in the best interest of your beneficiaries.

As you should be well aware, recent landslides on logged slopes in Oso, WA killed 43 people, and resulted in out of court settlements of \$60 million dollars. When compared to the projected \$2 million profits from the Deer Mountain timber sale, this is a small profit compared to the huge liability of potential landslide risk and subsequent class action lawsuits.

The steep slopes of the proposed Deer Mountain timber sale are located directly above two residential developments of Forest Park and Saxman. In each of these areas, many more than just 43 people reside. I personally have relatives that live in both Forest Park and Saxman. I care for these family members and fear for their safety should development be allowed on the mountain slopes above them.

Local residents are well aware of the landslide potential of Deer Mountain. Only a few years ago a medium sized landslide swept down Deer Mountain near your proposed timber sale, taking out a portion of the trail and traveling hundreds of yards down the mountain side. Landslides on the slopes of Deer Mountain and the Mitkof Highway are a very realistic concern, even without selective logging activity. I realize that Mr. Slenkamp retorts that the AMHT has completed it's own risk assessment, however, I must question the due diligence of this assessment. Has a Geotechnical Survey been conducted? Even then, don't you realize that logging on steep slopes above residential developments poses a very realistic liability? No one can guarantee that landslides won't occur on a steep slope if even light selective logging occurs. The fact that trees would be taken and if a subsequent landslide happens, the AMHT is then liable. Let's further keep in mind that out of court settlements are usually far less than in court settlements. Picture a landslide destroys half of Forest Park and kills 100+ residents of Ketchikan. In court damages could exceed \$200+ million. This potential liability is not in the best interest of the AMHT beneficiaries.

The second scenario I wish to illustrate today is in regards to your own beneficiaries. I also have a close relative that is a beneficiary of Mental Health services in Alaska. Should a landslide occur killing people, and should a lawsuit seeking damages be successful, the AMHT board will have inconclusively violated your fiduciary mandate to make decisions in the best interest of your beneficiaries. At this point, you are not only liable to the people who your decisions killed, but also to your beneficiaries. A realistic scenario then, is to be presented with another class action lawsuit from your own beneficiaries this time. The lawsuit would contend that the AMHT board knew the potential of a landslide on slopes of Deer Mountain. And yet proceeded anyway.

Thus putting the beneficiaries' Corpus at risk and thus violating your fiduciary mandate to make decisions in the best interest of your beneficiaries. The potential settlement for this second class action lawsuit could reasonably meet or exceed whatever settlement that would be reached with the victims of said landslide.

In conclusion, two potential class action lawsuits and many lost lives, all for a very small profit in terms of the overall value of AMHT's Corpus. As mentioned. I have both relatives whose lives you put at risk for landslides and relatives that are beneficiaries of the AMHT. Should a landslide occur, myself and my family will be the first of many to sign on to the subsequent class action lawsuits that are likely to follow. We will seek the maximum settlement and bring full accountability to the AMHT for these shortsighted profits.

I ask you to seriously consider these scenarios. To proceed with timber sales on both Deer Mountain and above the Mitkof Highway is a direct violation of your fiduciary mandate to make decisions in the best interest of your beneficiaries.

Sincerely,



Marvin L. Scott  
Alaskan Native and lifelong resident of Ketchikan, Alaska



**Marvin L. Scott**

706 Bayview, Ketchikan, AK 99901 | 907.617.7091 | marvinscott@gmail.com

November 15<sup>th</sup> 2016

Board of Trustees  
Alaska Mental Health Trust  
Alaska Mental Health Trust Land Office  
2600 Cordova Street, Suite 100  
Anchorage, AK 99503

Dear Board of Trustees:

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The Trust has a responsibility to avoid incurring risks to the corpus of the Trust. The risk I refer to is the realistic risk of a life threatening land slide that is likely occur if logging proceeds on the slopes of Deer Mountain in Ketchikan, and the slopes above the Mitkof highway in Petersburg.

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Local residents are well aware of the landslide potential of Deer Mountain. Only a few years ago a medium sized landslide swept down Deer Mountain near your proposed timber sale, taking out a portion of the trail and traveling hundreds of yards down the mountain side. Landslides on the slopes of Deer Mountain and the Mitkof Highway are a

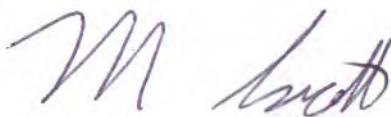
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In conclusion, two potential class action lawsuits and many lost lives, all for a very small profit in terms of the overall value of AMHT's Corpus. As mentioned. I have both relatives whose lives you put at risk for landslides and relatives that are beneficiaries of the AMHT. Should a landslide occur, myself and my family will be the first of many to sign on to the subsequent class action lawsuits that are likely to follow. We will seek the maximum settlement and bring full accountability to the AMHT for these shortsighted profits.

I ask you to seriously consider these scenarios. To proceed with timber sales on both Deer Mountain and above the Mitkof Highway is a direct violation of your fiduciary mandate to make decisions in the best interest of your beneficiaries.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "M Scott".

**Marvin L. Scott**  
**Alaskan Native and Lifelong resident of Ketchikan, Alaska**

**From:** [Williams, Stephen F \(DOR\)](#)  
**To:** [none none](#)  
**Cc:** [Lawrence, Carley J \(DOR\)](#); [Smith, Miri K \(DOR\)](#)  
**Subject:** RE: Ketchikan mental trust lands, deer mt logging comment  
**Date:** Monday, November 14, 2016 7:20:54 PM

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Good evening Perry-

Thank you for taking the time to put your thoughts in writing and submitting your public comment. Your email below is being forwarded to the board of trustees.

Have a nice day!  
Steve

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907.269-7697 (direct)  
907.748.7418 (cell)  
[www.mhtrust.org](http://www.mhtrust.org)

-----Original Message-----

From: none none [<mailto:perryk@yahoo.com>]  
Sent: Monday, November 14, 2016 6:55 PM  
To: Williams, Stephen F (DOR) <[steve.williams@alaska.gov](mailto:steve.williams@alaska.gov)>  
Subject: Ketchikan mental trust lands, deer mt logging comment

Hello,

My name is Perry Klein. I grew up in Southeast Alaska, living in small communities such as Hoonah, Angoon, Cape Pole and Thorne Bay. I graduated from Ketchikan high school and went on to earn a BS in Chemistry at the University of Alaska. Then returned to live in Ketchikan. Over the years I've watched the timber industry dwindle, starting around president Bill Clintons first term. Ketchikan is slowly starving with very few quality year round jobs remaining that aren't state or federally funded. Many people feel that logging in general is obscene and damaging to the environment. Quite a few of these people don't realize they live in and around relatively young clear cuts both in the city and borough of Ketchikan, bear valley area, Karlson ford / Walmart area, Totem bight historical park, lunch creek trail and state park. I feel that the selective logging of the Deer Mt parcel is not only your right by law as the trustees but in addition it will provide needed income to locals and the city gov., how ever short lived that it might be. It's my hope that the land is logged and the newer inhabitants of town might come to realize that there is no harm in logging and it is truly a renewable resource.

Sincerely

Perry Klein

**From:** [Williams, Stephen F. \(DOR\)](#)  
**To:** [Valerie Brooks](#)  
**Cc:** [Smith, Miri K \(DOR\)](#); [Lawrence, Carley J \(DOR\)](#)  
**Subject:** Re: Deer mtn  
**Date:** Monday, November 14, 2016 1:26:28 PM

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Good afternoon Valerie-

Thank you for taking the time to put your thoughts in writing and submitting your public comment. Your email below is being forwarded to the board of trustees.

Have a nice day!

Steve

Steve Williams  
Chief Operating Officer  
Alaska Mental Health Trust  
Direct (907) 269-7697  
Cell (907) 748-7418

On Nov 14, 2016, at 2:15 PM, Valerie Brooks <[vebrooks@icloud.com](mailto:vebrooks@icloud.com)> wrote:

The AK mental health trust risks betraying its responsibility to AK citizens by proceeding with the sale and logging of Deer Mtn.

No dollars are worth the destruction of this pristine watershed and recreational area.

We will raise the amount estimated to be the profit to you from this logging and buy the parcel of the trade doesn't take place.

\$350,000 will be a small price to pay for our peace of mind and piece of old growth.

No logging

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Williams, Stephen F. \(DOR\)](#)  
**To:** [cheryl.kilgore@inhc.org](mailto:cheryl.kilgore@inhc.org)  
**Cc:** [Jennifer Lopez](#); [Smith, Miri K. \(DOR\)](#); [Lawrence, Carley J. \(DOR\)](#)  
**Subject:** RE: AMHTA CEO comment letter  
**Date:** Monday, November 14, 2016 1:03:08 PM

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Good afternoon Cheryl-

Thank you for taking the time to put your thoughts in writing and submitting your public comment. Your email below is being forwarded to the board of trustees.

Have a nice day!

Steve

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907.269-7697 (direct)  
907.748.7418 (cell)  
[www.mhtrust.org](http://www.mhtrust.org)

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**From:** Jennifer Lopez [<mailto:Jennifer.Lopez@inhc.org>]  
**Sent:** Monday, November 14, 2016 11:44 AM  
**To:** Williams, Stephen F (DOR) <[steve.williams@alaska.gov](mailto:steve.williams@alaska.gov)>  
**Cc:** Cheryl D. Kilgore <[Cheryl.Kilgore@inhc.org](mailto:Cheryl.Kilgore@inhc.org)>  
**Subject:** AMHTA CEO comment letter

Dear Mr. Williams,

As ICHC is not able to attend public comment, I've attached a letter sent to Governor Walker to use in our stead.

Sincerely,  
Mrs. Lopez

**Jennifer Lopez**  
Executive Assistant  
Interior Community Health Center  
(907) 458-1559 – phone  
(907) 458-1580 – fax  
[jennifer.lopez@inhc.org](mailto:jennifer.lopez@inhc.org)

November 10, 2016

Governor Bill Walker  
Office of the Governor  
P.O. Box 110001  
Juneau, Alaska 99811-0001

Dear Governor Walker:

I write this letter in hopes you'll intervene with the Trustees of the Mental Health Trust Authority on behalf of those of us who serve the beneficiaries of the Mental Health Trust and, in particular, their Chief Executive Officer Jeff Jessee.

Over the last 30-plus years in working in public health and health care, I have so appreciated Jeff Jessee's advocacy and business acumen. He always keeps his clients' in mind and advances their needs while at the same time focusing on the sustainability of the Trust. He's uniquely qualified to do the job he's doing and does it well. For these reasons, and I appreciate the sensitivity of this issue, I hope you'll intervene with the Trustees so he's retained as their CEO.

Sincerely,



Cheryl Kilgore  
Chief Executive Officer