

# Southeast Cabin permits to open in April

The Alaska Department of Natural Resources (DNR) announced last month that a sixty-day, one-time only application period for personal use cabin permits in Southeast Alaska will open the first of April.

Paula Burgess, Southeast Regional Manager for DNR's Land and Water division, said that this is part of the state's program to phase out unauthorized use of state land and resources by eventually converting existing unauthorized structures to public use.

Burgess explained that the permits would allow for continued use of recreational cabins built before August 1, 1984 on state lands anywhere in Alaska east of the 141st meridian.

"We are making a major effort to get the word out before the application period begins," said Burgess, "because this is the only chance people will have to file for existing unauthorized cabins in Southeast Alaska." Burgess added that filing periods were opened earlier this year by DNR

for cabins on state land in the Northern and Southcentral regions.

Under regulations now in effect, a permit may be issued for personal--not commercial--use of a structure for up to six years. A permit may be renewed consecutively over the lifetime of the original applicant.

Burgess said that those who apply for a permit to use a structure must be able to document their prior use and occupancy as well as their investment in the structure. She further emphasized that a permit granted under this program does not give the permit holder an interest in the land or establish a preference right for subsequent lease or purchase.

Applications can be picked up at any Department of Natural Resources Regional Office of Land and Water Management.

They must be returned to the Department of Natural Resources' Southeast Regional Office, 400 Willoughby Avenue, Suite 400, Juneau, Alaska 99801.