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United States Department of the Interior



BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
Alaska State Office
222 West Seventh Avenue, #13
Anchorage, Alaska 99513-7504
www.blm.gov/alaska

September 9, 2019

Subject: Invitation to Consult on Alaska Native Vietnam Veterans Land Allotment,

Dear Native Corporation Leader:

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) is working on implementing the requirements set forth in Public Law 116-9 of the John D. Dingell Jr., Conservation, Management and Recreation Act enacted March 12, 2019. We are inviting Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (ANCSA) corporation participation in consultation on the Alaska Native Vietnam Veterans Land Allotment section (Section 1119) of the Act.

The Secretary of Defense in coordination with the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) and the BLM all have responsibilities for identifying the Native Vietnam era Veterans who are eligible to participate. BLM is additionally responsible for identifying available lands, maps, and promulgating the rules for issuing the title documents to the eligible individuals. A summary of the Act and some frequently asked questions can be found at: <https://www.blm.gov/programs/lands-and-realty/regional-information/alaska/land-transfer/ak-native-allotment-act/alaska-native-vietnam-veterans-land-allotment>.

We would like to hear from you to discuss BLM's responsibilities and approach towards implementation of this portion of the Act. BLM is scheduling a presentation with opportunities for comment and further consultation in person on Wednesday October 16, 2019 prior to the opening of the 2019 Alaska Federation of Natives Conference in Fairbanks. Your input and guidance are important and we are committed to creating a meaningful and respectful consultation between ANCSA corporation leadership and BLM officials. Your thoughts and input will inform us as we develop the rules, available land areas and further outreach.

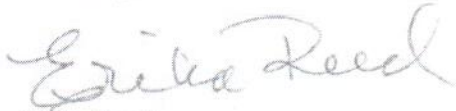
Please consider setting aside time to attend.

WHERE: Wedgewood Resort, 212 Wedgewood Dr., Fairbanks, AK 99701

WHEN: 7:00 – 9:00 p.m., October 16, 2019

If your corporation can not make this event and would like to consult further on this matter, please contact Ralph Eluska at 907-271-3325 (email reluska@blm.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Erika Reed". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name and title.

Erika Reed
Deputy State Director,
Lands, Cadastral & Pipeline Monitoring