Dear Alaskans,

On behalf of the Department of the Interior’s Alaska employees and contractors, we extend our heartfelt gratitude to the organizations, businesses, and individuals who offered concern and support during the partial government shutdown. So many Alaskans, businesses, and organizations stepped up to provide what assistance they could, including offers of free coffee, food, financial assistance, or fun activities.

The Department of the Interior has more than 3,000 employees and contractors working in Alaska to manage federal public lands and resources, provide life-saving information on natural hazards, and uphold our trust responsibilities to Alaska Natives. Our work is varied and spans the entire state. From small rural communities to urban centers like Anchorage, Juneau, and Fairbanks, our employees and contractors are your friends and neighbors.

While many of us pride ourselves on being resilient and resourceful, as fellow Alaskans, we know the importance of community, where friends and neighbors step in to help when the going gets tough. We are enormously grateful to have our dedicated employees and contractors back on the job in communities across the state and look forward to serving all of you in the months and years to come.

Thank you fellow Alaskan families, friends and neighbors!

Sincerely,

/S/ Aimee Devaris
Regional Director, U.S. Geological Survey

/S/ Mark E. Fesmire
Alaska and Pacific Regions Director, Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement
/S/ Kevin Fox
Regional Director, Office of Aviation Services

/S/ Herbert C. Frost
Regional Director, National Park Service

/S/ Philip Johnson
Regional Environmental Officer – Office of Environmental Policy and Compliance

/S/ Dr. James Kendall
Regional Director, Bureau of Ocean and Energy Management

/S/ Joshua M. Kindred
Regional Solicitor, Office of the Solicitor

/S/ Ted A. Murphy
Acting State Director, Bureau of Land Management

/S/ Eugene Peltola
Regional Director, Bureau of Indian Affairs

/S/ Greg Siekaniecz
Regional Director, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

/S/ Stephen Wackowski
Senior Advisor for Alaska, Department of the Interior