



Alaska Region Social Science Research Plan

Workshop Questions: Opportunity for Public Input

The Alaska Region of the National Park Service has entered into an agreement with the NPS Social Science Program and Texas A&M University to develop a social science needs assessment and research plan. This plan will identify and prioritize needed social science studies in the Alaska Region and its individual parks.

Using input from workshops involving Alaska Region NPS staffs, partners, and other stakeholders, a social science research plan will be drafted for the region that includes 2 key components:

- 1) A Needs Assessment identifying important social science issues at the regional and park levels;
- 2) An Action Plan prioritizing research needs and describing steps to address the issues identified in the needs assessment.

The needs assessment identifies continuing and new social science research important to park management and planning. The assessment will be conducted using a series of facilitated workshops attended by NPS managers and selected partners and stakeholders. In addition, input is being sought from those unable to attend the workshops and other interested parties.

Following are the questions posed at the workshops:

1. **What are the most important social science issues in Alaska requiring more research over the next 7-10 years?**
2. **Who are the players in getting the research done? For example: Who might do the work? Who might have access to data that would be necessary to conduct various priority research projects? Who might fund the work?**

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