



## United States Department of the Interior NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Wrangell-St. Elias National Park & Preserve  
Mile 106.8 Richardson Hwy. P.O. Box 439  
Copper Center, AK 99573-0439  
907 822 5234 Fax 907 822 7216  
<http://www.nps.gov/wrst>



December 2, 2015

Dear Interested Party:

The National Park Service (NPS) is considering a proposed land exchange in Wrangell St. Elias National Park and Preserve (WRST). Mr. Mat Worker is the owner of two private parcels within WRST. He has proposed to trade one of those parcels for additional land at the other. The two parcels that he owns are at the Kuskulana Glacier in designated wilderness and in the Snag Creek drainage northeast of Chisana. See attached maps for the location of these two parcels.

The Snag Creek parcel (tract WRST 32-109, 35.91 acres) is in the upper Snag Creek drainage. The property is about 20 miles to the northeast of Chisana and about 16 miles to the west of the U.S.-Canada border. The closes road is about 35 miles away. The sole access to the property is via small airplane. Mr. Worker has built a small cabin and a few outbuildings on the property. Current access is via an existing airstrip on upper Snag Creek. This airstrip is in the floodplain and was partially washed out in 2013. The strip is characterized by the landowner as being unstable and unsafe and not a reasonable means of access.

The Kuskulana parcel (tract WRST 20-119, 39.93 acres) is at a location where the Kuskulana Glacier splits and is about one mile inside the designated wilderness boundary. This parcel was recently purchased by Mr. Worker and is accessed via walking from an ORV trail or the Nugget Creek airstrip. There are only historic items and old mining adits located on this property. There are no modern structures.

Mr. Worker has proposed to the NPS that he exchange the Kuskulana parcel for land of equal value adjacent to his Snag Creek parcel. Mr. Worker would then construct an airstrip on the acquired Snag Creek parcel. The airstrip would be approximately 1,200 feet in length. Vegetation would be cleared to ground level in a 20 foot swath using a chainsaw and a walk-behind DR brush-cutter. Within this area, low spots would be filled in utilizing material from on site and using hand tools. Brush 30 to 40 feet on either side of the main landing area would be cut to 18 inches or less. The constructed airstrip would be on private land and would not be available for public use.

This letter serves as a notice to interested stakeholders regarding the proposed land exchange. This is an opportunity to submit comments on the proposal. Your comments will be used to identify issues and to develop alternatives to the proposal. You can submit comments in one of several ways:

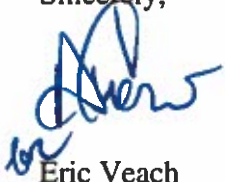
- Electronically by going to the NPS Planning, Environment, and Public Comment website at: <http://parkplanning.nps.gov/projectHome.cfm?projectID=60458>. Comments should be submitted in regards to the public scoping letter that is posted on this site. You can submit comments directly on the site.
- Comments can be e-mailed to: [bruce\\_rogers@nps.gov](mailto:bruce_rogers@nps.gov)

- Comments can be submitted through the mail to: Wrangell St. Elias National Park and Preserve; ATTN: Bruce Rogers; P.O. Box 439; Copper Center, Alaska 99573

Please submit comments no later than January 10, 2016.

Thank you for your interest and participation.

Sincerely,



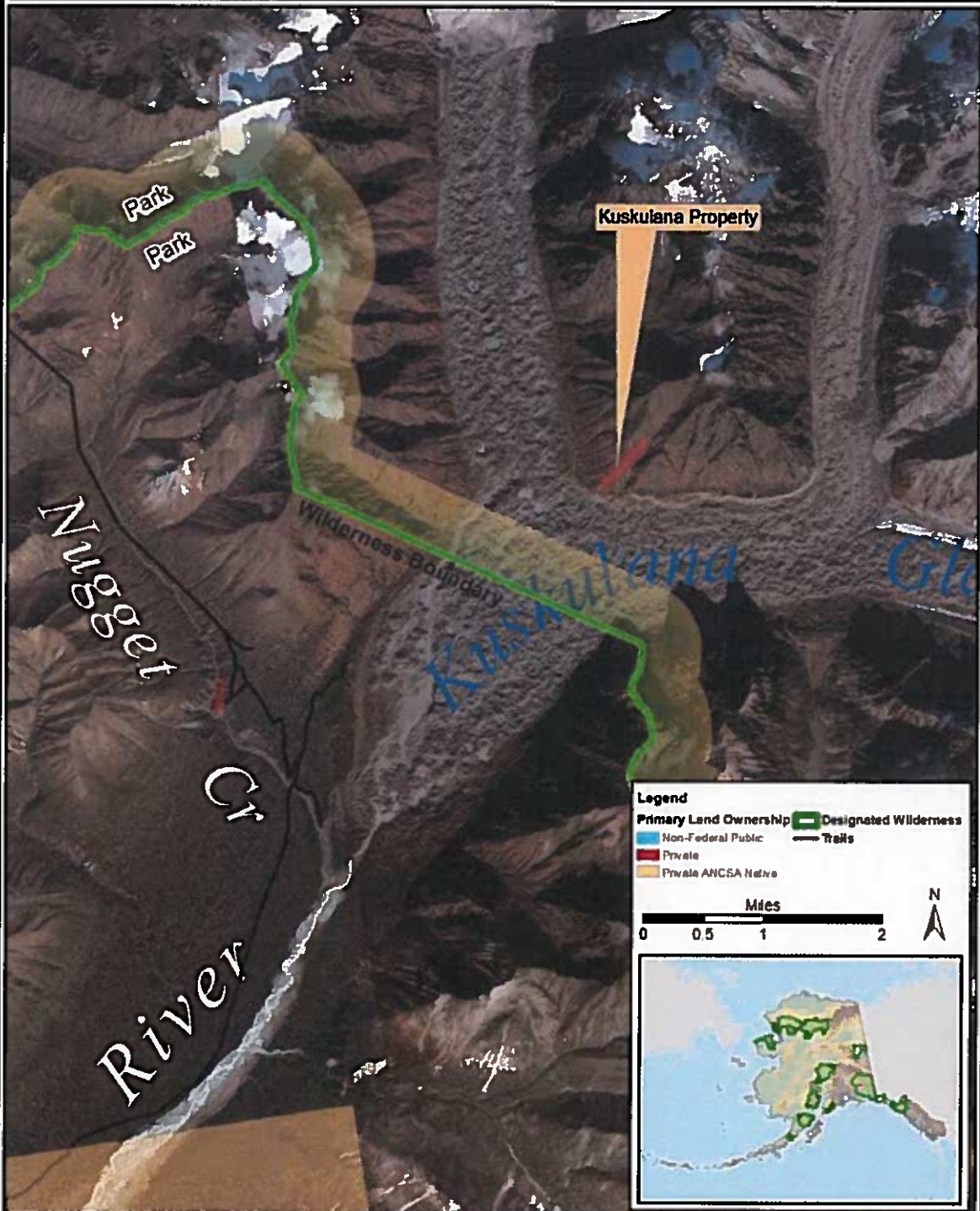
Eric Veach  
Superintendent

TAKE PRIDE<sup>®</sup>  
IN AMERICA 

# Mat Worker, Wilderness Parcel Land Exchange

Private Property Owned by Mat Worker, 39.93 Acres

Willingd St. Elias NP  
Alaska Region  
National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior



ES: data used, esatourimg; area 22, 198; Mat Worker exchange; Kuskulana; Mat Worker; 198; 198; 198

# Mat Worker, Wilderness Parcel Land Exchange

Snag Creek Property Owned by Mat Worker, 35.91 Acres (WRST 32-109)

Wildlife Division  
Alaska Region  
National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior

