

# Frontcountry Management Plan

National Park Service

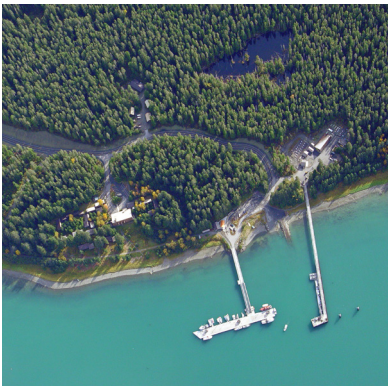
ALASKA



Huna Tribal House



Glacier Bay Lodge



Aerial view of Bartlett Cove's Public Dock and vicinity



Forest Trail

## Envision the Future

The National Park Service (NPS) is pleased to announce its intent to plan for the future of the Frontcountry areas of Glacier Bay National Park (park). The park's "Frontcountry" primarily includes Bartlett Cove where the core administrative facilities for the park and visitor services are located (see map right, and on page 3). The Frontcountry is distinct from the "Backcountry" areas of the park that include more than 2.6 million acres of designated Wilderness.

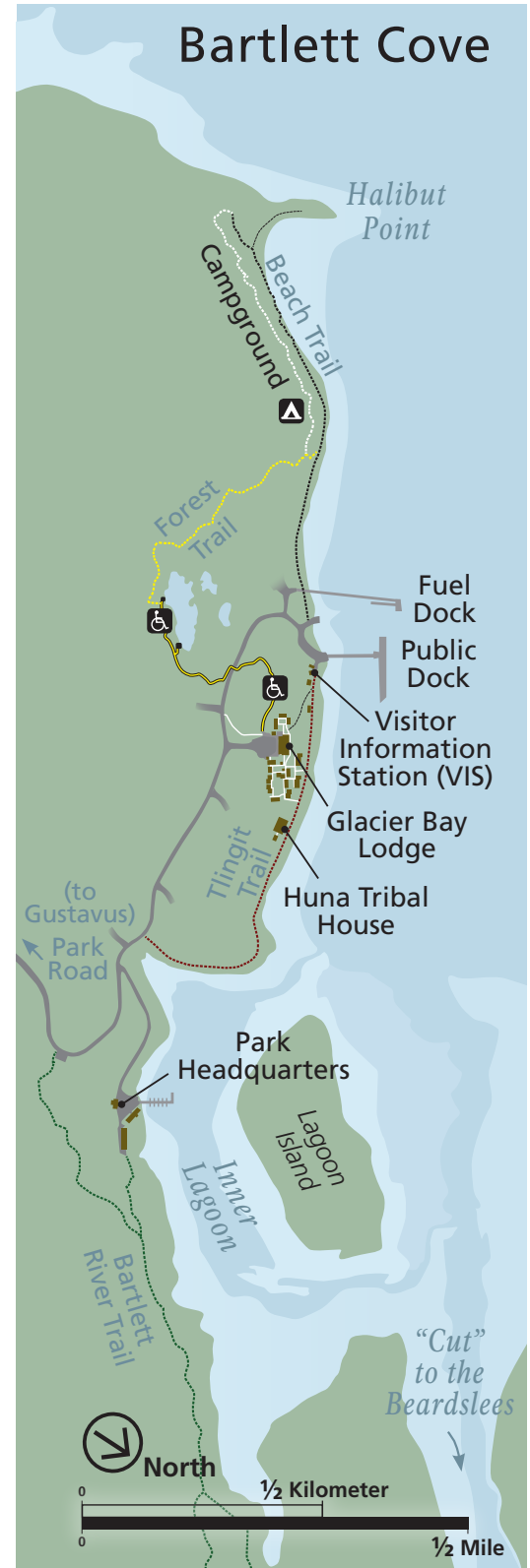
Planning will consider different ways of managing the Frontcountry as:

- A focal point for park-related services and operations;
- A gateway to Glacier Bay and launching point for backcountry excursions; and
- A destination that welcomes all to explore and connect with the park's ever-changing natural environment, scientific legacy as a living laboratory, and Huna Tlingit heritage and renewed living cultural traditions.

## Key Issues

This plan is being initiated to help the park manage its Frontcountry to address:

- Visitor opportunities and how they could be expanded, including around the new Huna Tribal House;
- Sustainable tourism, including enhancing Glacier Bay Lodge's economic viability and service;
- Visitor access, wayfinding, circulation, and related design, including to serve ferry-based visitors;
- Bartlett Cove marine vessel access and management;
- Park administrative facilities and operations; and
- Stewardship of the park's natural and cultural resources in a changing environment.



# A Renewed Vision

## Letter from the Superintendent



Dear Friends,

During this National Park Service centennial year, we are looking forward with excitement to the grand opening of the Huna Tribal House.

This banner year also marks an occasion when we are initiating a Frontcountry Plan to ensure that Glacier Bay is relevant to and accessible by a diversity of people, while its natural and cultural resource values remain well-preserved for future generations.

You can help us by participating in the Frontcountry scoping and planning process. Join us at our community events, or provide input online to help us better align our visitor activities with changing trends and needs.

Thank you for your interest in Glacier Bay National Park and Preserve.

**Philip Hooge, Superintendent**  
Glacier Bay National Park and Preserve



*Planning will consider Bartlett Cove's water access and the needs of visitors arriving by water.*



*Planning will also consider the needs of visitors arriving by road, including circulation, wayfinding, parking, and related design in Bartlett Cove.*

## Planning Process and Timeline **UPDATED!**

The NPS is preparing its Frontcountry Management Plan and an Environmental Assessment (EA) in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), which requires federal agencies to analyze impacts to the environment for any major federal action. Milestones in the NEPA process and an anticipated timeline are as follows:

Summer 2016	Scoping	Public Scoping begins June 14 and ends October 14, 2016	WE ARE HERE
Winter 2017	Management Alternatives	NPS staff review Scoping Public Comments NPS staff develop Frontcountry Management Alternatives	
Spring 2017	Draft Plan	NPS staff analyze Frontcountry Management Alternative impacts and write an Environmental Assessment for Public Review*	
Summer 2017		DRAFT Environmental Assessment Public Meetings and Comment Period (60 days)	
Fall 2017	Final Plan	NPS Prepares a Final Plan and Selects the Alternative to be Implemented	

\* The 1970 National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) requires federal agencies to assess the environmental effects of their proposed actions prior to making decisions. It is anticipated that an Environmental Assessment (EA) will be the appropriate level of NEPA assessment for this planning effort.



# Glacier Bay's Frontcountry

## Context Map

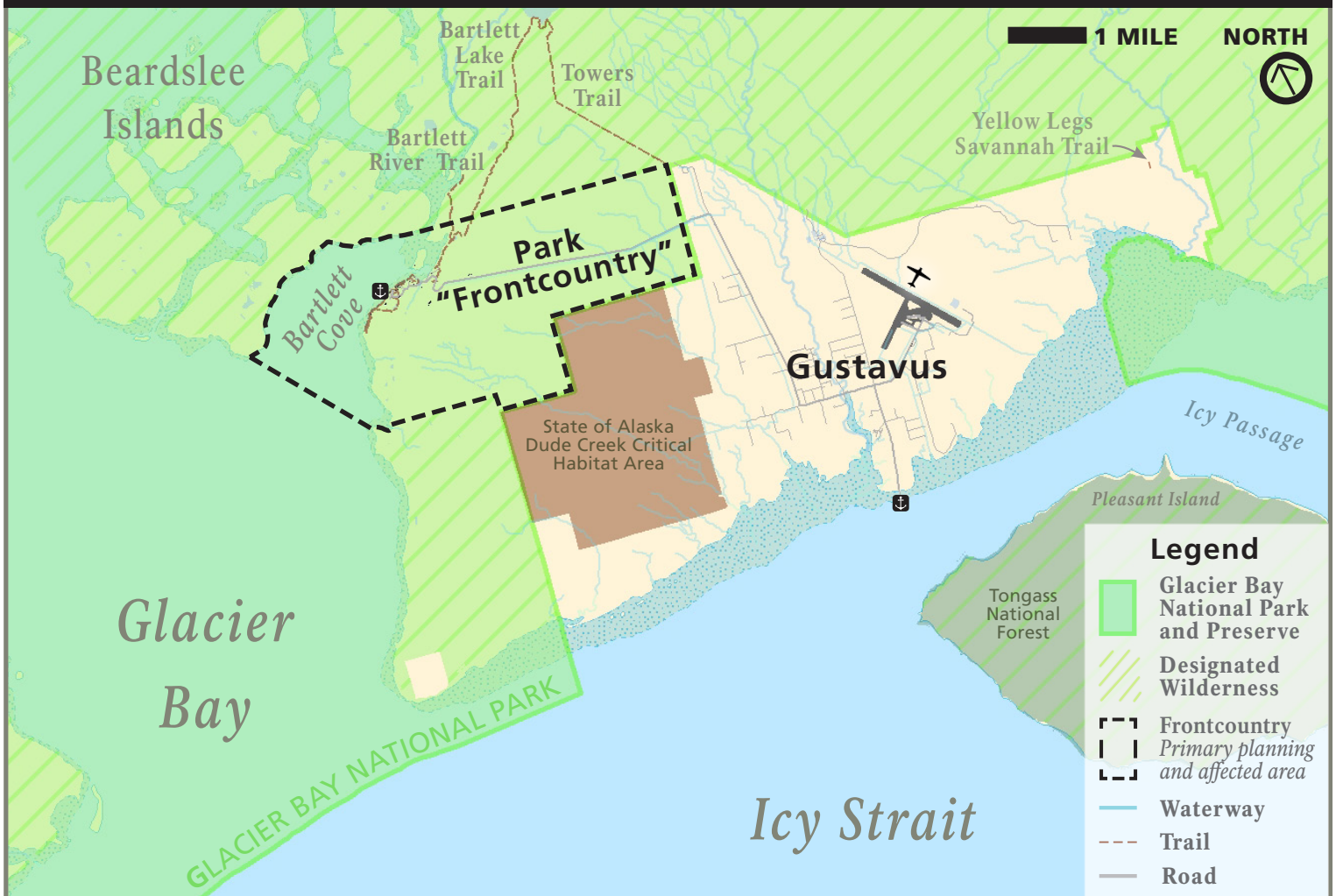


The NPS is beginning planning to re-envision the Frontcountry areas of Glacier Bay National Park. The Frontcountry includes Bartlett Cove and surrounding park lands and waters (see map below). Planning will also have secondary affects in a broader context (see map, left) related to visitor services, access, resource stewardship, and sustainable tourism opportunities.



*Boats moored in Bartlett Cove.*

## Affected Area Map





# Join the Conversation

As an integral part of the planning process, the National Park Service is asking for your input. Broad public participation will help shape the plan by giving us a better understanding of our visitors and their experiences, preferences, and needs. It can also help us identify existing or new opportunities to meet those needs while also achieving our mission to preserve and protect resources.

Public “scoping” is the first step in the planning process, where the public is asked to identify opportunities and concerns to help the park focus its analysis on important issues. The information below describes how you can get involved in scoping and provide input.

## How to Comment



**Submit comments electronically**  
*(preferred method)*

[www.parkplanning.nps.gov/bartlettcove](http://www.parkplanning.nps.gov/bartlettcove) *(full URL)*

[go.nps.gov/BartlettCove](http://go.nps.gov/BartlettCove) *(short link URL)*



**Submit by mail or hand deliver**

Mail your comments to us (see contact info, right) or hand deliver to Bartlett Cove (Park Headquarters' 2nd floor reception desk).

## Questions?

**Please learn more online or  
contact us directly at:**

[go.nps.gov/BartlettCove](http://go.nps.gov/BartlettCove)

[www.nps.gov/glba](http://www.nps.gov/glba)

[www.facebook.com/GlacierBayNationalPark](https://www.facebook.com/GlacierBayNationalPark)

email: [glba\\_public\\_comments@nps.gov](mailto:glba_public_comments@nps.gov)

phone: (907) 697-2675

fax: (907) 697-2654

Glacier Bay National Park and Preserve

P.O. Box 140, Gustavus AK 99826

**UPDATE!**

## Public Scoping Comment Period Extended to October 14, 2016

**UPDATE!**

Given what a busy summer it was for everyone in Glacier Bay National Park's Frontcountry . . .



. . . we are extending public scoping. Please submit your comments by October 14, 2016.

# Glacier Bay National Park & Preserve Frontcountry Management Plan

National Park Service  
U. S. Department of Interior

Alaska



## Public Comment Form Summer 2016

*Please give us feedback! Use this form or comment online (preferred method):*

[www.parkplanning.nps.gov/bartlettcove](http://www.parkplanning.nps.gov/bartlettcove) (full URL)

[go.nps.gov/BartlettCove](http://go.nps.gov/BartlettCove) (short link URL)

**EXPERIENCES . . .** What experience(s) do you value or want to have in the Glacier Bay Frontcountry\*? How are these unique from the rest of the park and/or other parts of Southeast Alaska?

**VISION . . .** The National Park Service envisions the Frontcountry and Bartlett Cove as a destination that welcomes visitors to explore the park's ever-changing natural environment and living cultural connections. What is your vision for the Frontcountry\* and Bartlett Cove?

**ACCESS . . .** Do you see any issues regarding access to the Glacier Bay Frontcountry\*? How are you currently arriving at and moving around in Bartlett Cove? Does this differ from how you would prefer to be arriving at and moving around this area?

**SERVICES . . .** Are there additional visitor services you feel the Glacier Bay Frontcountry\* should provide that would complement those already offered in Gustavus?

**SCIENCE & LEARNING . . .** What opportunities would you like to see Glacier Bay's Frontcountry\* provide to help visitors learn about the ongoing science at the park?

**YOU TELL US . . .** Do you have any other thoughts on visitor opportunities or the management of the Glacier Bay Frontcountry\* that you think the planning team should consider?

Help us keep our contact lists up-to-date and let us know how best to contact you. EMAIL ☐ MAIL ☐

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Organization (if any) \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City / State / Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

**PLEASE NOTE:** Please include your full name and address with the comments, so we may add you to our mailing list for future notices about this process. Before including an address, phone number, email address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, you should be aware that your entire comment including your identifying information may be made publicly available. While you can ask us to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

\* See Scoping Newsletter for details