

# Listening Sessions—Subsistence

## Wrangell-St. Elias National Park & Preserve

National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior



### What does subsistence mean to you?

Many Alaskans live off the land, relying on fish, wildlife and other wild resources. Alaska Natives have used these resources for food, shelter, clothing, transportation, handicrafts and trade for thousands of years. Other residents living in rural Alaska depend on local harvests as reliable and economic food sources. For many, subsistence is more than just about economics. It is about who they are; it is a way of life.



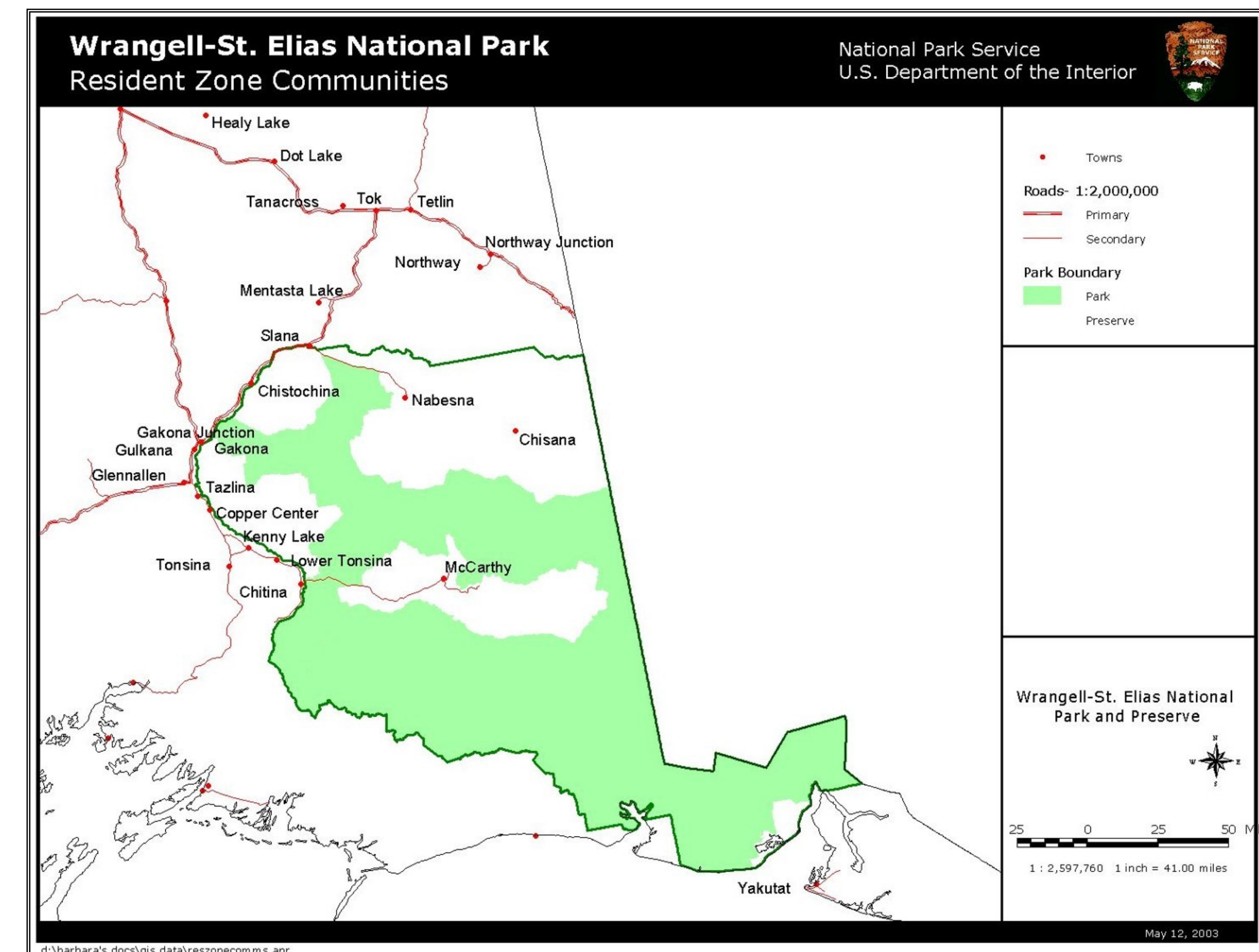
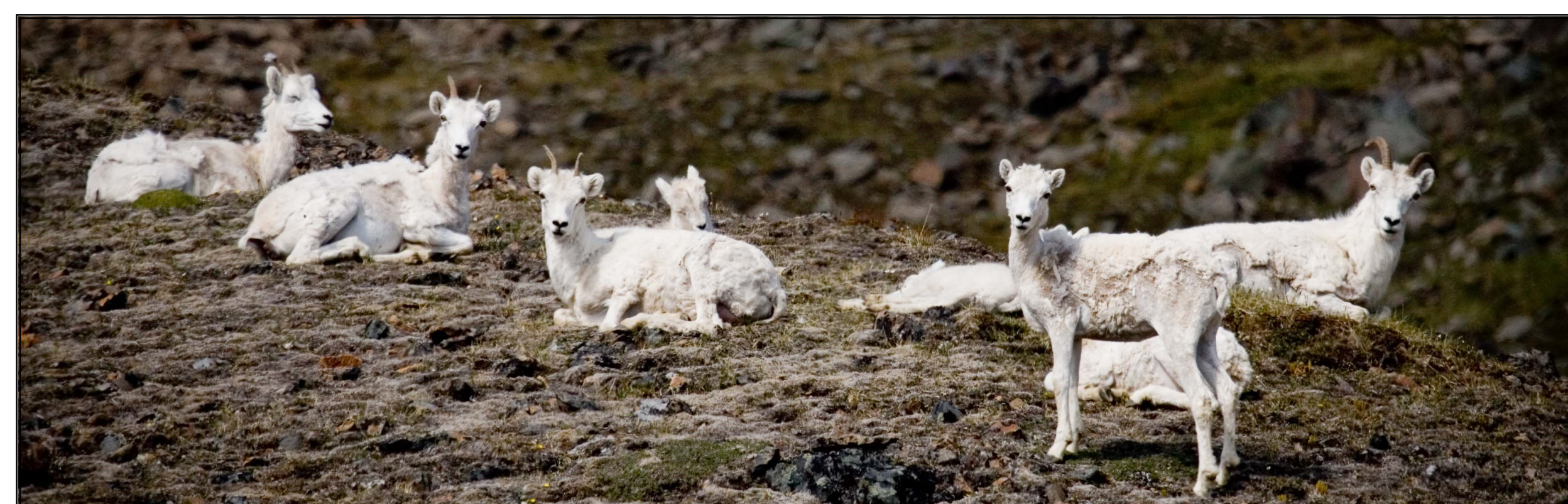
As long as resources and their habitats are maintained in a natural and healthy state, traditional subsistence hunting, trapping and fishing will continue to be allowed in the park and preserve. Subsistence harvest by local rural residents is the priority consumptive use (see the resident zone community map below).

When Congress passed the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (ANILCA), it recognized the important connection between rural subsistence users and the land in allowing for a continued opportunity for a subsistence lifestyle by rural Alaska residents, Native and non-Native.

“The term ‘subsistence uses’ means the customary and traditional uses by rural Alaska residents of wild, renewable resources

- for direct personal or family consumption as food, shelter, fuel, clothing, tools, or transportation;
- for the making and selling of handicraft articles out of nonedible byproducts of fish and wildlife resources taken for personal or family consumption;
- for barter, or sharing...; and
- for customary trade.”

(According to ANILCA, Section 803)



\*\*Subsistence Access is addressed within another poster, refer to the “Access/Non-Federal Lands” Poster

