

Division of Parks
and
Outdoor Recreation
Strategic Plan

Questionnaire Responses

August 21, 2006

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Alaska State Parks Strategic Plan Comments

Recreation - General

~Additional Services: Maps of trails, maintained trails, current maps of rivers with river distances and descriptions.

~Additional Programs: Development of more non-motorized winter opportunities (ski & snowshoe trails, sledding hills, etc.)

~10 Year Improvement: Maintenance (regular) of facilities and enforcement of regs.

~Additional Facilities: Emergency phone numbers helpful - know someone who had skied in a white-out at Hatcher Pass and had cell phone and a way to call for help. Keep tables and waste collections (tied down) available.

~Adequate Facilities: Yes, I utilize the parks as I can. The one in Cooper Landing area is very helpful as it is available during the winter. I utilize more than the three I marked above - I use all parks' areas from time to time all summer along the Parks Highway and the Seward/Sterling Highways. I am proud of our parks, the staff manning them, and the leaders in the State Park System.

~10 Year Improvement: Not sure...just upkeep of what we have. Denali State Park is beautiful. Wherever scenery (scenic areas) are an enrichment, it is very nice to have a pull-off area to view, meditate, take pictures...

~Additional Programs: All of your examples!

~10 Year Improvement: Less regulation.

~Adequate Facilities: In some cases, yes. The Chena Rec Area seems to be in pretty good shape.

~Additional Programs: I think the boating safety program is a good one.

~Additional Facilities: I would like to see a diversity of offerings commensurate with different tastes. Some park areas benefit from maintaining a rustic, low-to-zero facilities environment. My enjoyment of parks comes with the opportunity of having choices - do I want the more crowded, facility-rich environment, or would I like a more natural, less-populated experience (however, one which includes trails)? Having both options available to me is most important.

~Additional Services: I like to take my dog places. Allowing pets and not having leash laws, but more "use as appropriate" (as when others are around) type rules, as he likes to chase his ball, is best for us, and may be the only way we'll go out to parks for him to recreate with us. But I do not consider any of the other examples provided to be of much consequence.

~Adequate Facilities: Yes, I do. I have never been to a single state park that does not have adequate and maintained facilities that are consistent with what I expect.

~10 Year Improvement: Room for both motorized and non motorized recreation, it seems like too many areas are being opened up to motorized use.

~Additional Programs: weather conditions, avalanche reports

~Additional Facilities: Also believe it is great that pets can come in, but it should be clearly posted to keep them on a leash at ALL times or a ticket with a charge to for loose pets. Also Alaskans and tourists alike should clean up behind their animals.

~Adequate Facilities: I believe so. I think there is a great combination of well developed, accessible sites and less developed wilderness opportunities. I have never been disappointed by any aspect of our parks, except perhaps preserving access to public lands across private holdings.

~Additional Programs: OHV parks. These can be money makers if managed well.

~Additional Facilities: Chugach and Kodiak. I have lived here 30 yrs. And over that time, use them all about equally. I also spend time in the northern region.

~Adequate Facilities: The cabins at Byers Lake were a wonderful idea. In other words, Byers Lake offers the potential to be a "resort" SP.

~10 Year Improvement: Keep dogs out of the parks. Keep dogs of the parks, keep dogs out of the parks. I know this is impossible. As a backcountry hiker, after 30 yrs here, I am totally irate about the flagrant disregard people have for the dogs on leash rule. At Caines head, a rottweiler was off leash and came at my son. I yelled at the other people and they thought it was funny. I now carry a walking staff and bear spray and have had occasion to threaten to use it. I have no doubt that one day I will use it. People must be fined as they are if they park without a sticker...\$100 per offense. Get number for people like me to call and I will call and report Dog, date, time and location every time I see it. I will report license plate when I can.

~Operation Funding: backcountry permit system.

~Additional Facilities: More online information about kayak/canoe options.

~Adequate Facilities: We stopped camping and fishing because it was so crowded.

-Additional Services: Site maintenance, noise curfew enforcement.
-Adequate Facilities: I think at the major facilities there has been pretty good improvements.
-10 Year Improvement: I'd like to see that it still remains useable to all user groups not limited to certain groups.

-Additional Facilities: The PUC are wonderful. I'd like to see more and arranged that so a loop trip could be made. Like Colorado creek to Angel Creek, e.g.
-10 Year Improvement: Less is more - I'd like to see as little development as possible.

-Adequate Facilities: What we have is wonderful but with our much increased population we need more access points and trails, parking at trailheads, more campgrounds and toilet facilities. Summer buses to major trailheads like Glen Alps.

-Additional Services: Informational services, such as pointing out if bears have been in area, which campsites are available, etc.
-Adequate Facilities: Yes, although I'd like to see the current facilities maintained better.
-10 Year Improvement: I don't agree with the privatization of the parks. I'd like to see them maintained by the state (provided there is proper funding), and work toward establishing more parks.

-Adequate Facilities: No they tend to favor only popular areas and too few of them. For example I think you could do a lot better down at the dip net areas.

-10 Year Improvement: As a ATV'er and snowmachiner, facilities to attract more winter use of the parks, but integrating joint use by skiers, hikers and snowshoers. Sharing of space as seen in Turnagain Pass.

-Additional Services: Trail head security.

-Additional Programs: Off road vehicle programs.

-Additional Services: River/lake conditions
-Additional Programs: Overall support of RESPONSIBLE OHV use. More Tread Lightly type publicity.

-Adequate Facilities: State parks are too developed. Only construct what you can maintain. Rural campgrounds should not be contracted out.

-Adequate Facilities: Services should really be minimal for parks to be natural and wild. I really think they are adequate now but if development is to happen, I like to see it geared toward non-motorized activities and providing facilities that encourage and help people to pack out what they pack in, and also educational programs.

-Additional Facilities: limited development

-Adequate Facilities: why no trash pickup?
-Additional Programs: No. I do not want a complicated system - just make nature accessible (trails) and provide toilets, picnic tables and fire pits. Let nature do the rest.

-10 Year Improvement: Less deferred maintenance logs. Lets do the work!

-Adequate Facilities: No, for a state that has such a focus on tourism the state legislature has forgotten the state parks and waysides. Canada puts us to shame and sets the bar of expectation for facilities in the mind of tourists. When they get to our state they receive disappointment. It has also forgot that winter is over 7 months long and that to increase winter tourism and that to increase winter tourism we need to follow examples set by our northern areas such as Minn., Wis., Ontario to name a few.

-Adequate Facilities: If there is an extremely large boom in population, some measures should be taken to prevent parks from being overwhelmed.

-Adequate Facilities: We were very glad to see the improvements at Independence Mine. Upkeep is important and so are repairs.

-Additional Programs: Thank you for your work in creating thriving public parks, as well as inviting community input!

-Adequate Facilities: I think the past closings of some of the facilities was a mistake. Some of the unique small use areas get shut down in favor of the bigger more popular area, but some of us like to "get away" and not be in the popular use areas.

-Additional Programs: No.

~Adequate Facilities: The parks need to be open year round.

~Additional Facilities: I do not believe additional facilities are needed.

~Additional Services: Planned group activities for all ages.

~Adequate Facilities: No - would love to see everything funded and stocked to the max, but understand that this is an unreasonable request.

~Adequate Facilities: I'm not sure what all is out there. I don't know what each park provides, offers, or what you can do in them. I look for family friendly state parks.

~10 Year Improvement: Websites with information on what to do.

~Adequate Facilities: NO, I thought the bird-watching Hut put up at Deep Creek should have been a Shower Facility, it would have been more utilized and a better way to spend the money.

~10 Year Improvement: We have NO park on Birchwood Loop in Chugiak. But we have a ski chalet that the gate is locked on 99% of the time. Then we sit back and wonder why the children do what they do.

~Adequate Facilities: No, inadequate. We have miles and acres or areas that have no support. I see lots of areas littered with toilet paper and trash.

~Adequate Facilities: I don't believe that we need MORE services. However, please maintain the ones that we do have.

~10 Year Improvement: No NEW improvements, but please maintain what we have.

~Additional Services: Maintenance of existing facilities.

~Additional Programs: Before programs are added to the expenses, facility maintenance, upgrades, and construction of new facilities should be our number one priority. We spend so much to get visitors here, only to have few and poor facilities for them, let alone for those of us who live here and use the parks.

~Adequate Facilities: Yes, in the few I use.

~Additional Programs: No.

~Adequate Facilities: No way!!! Look on the ground--places that have 'recently' been designated State Parks without adequate funding (in the 80's and 90's) are getting heavy recreation use without site improvements to channel and mitigate the impacts of us (e.g., Kenai SRMA, on SRMA lands around Kenai Lake). Hatcher Pass SMA, which is 'owned' by DNR Lands but managed by Parks, is a virtual 'free-fire' zone in the winter, with the dramatic increase in snowmachine traffic and other winter backcountry uses resulting in lots of conflict, safety problems, etc. etc. State Rec Rivers are another example for the summer . . .

~Adequate Facilities: Nice Place, we enjoyed ourselves! Thanks for the stickers.

~Additional Services: More winter recreation

~Adequate Facilities: No, can't go to Olnes anymore - staff and service to Olnes/Chatanika.

~Adequate Facilities: Yes.

~10 Year Improvement: Vandalism stopped.

~Additional Programs: None. I prefer our parks remain primitive in nature.

~Additional Programs: None that I can think of.

~Additional Programs: Leaving the parks in their natural state, reducing ATV, snowmachine and mountain bike traffic and prohibiting hunting and trapping.

~Additional Programs: I would implore State Parks to take care of basic necessities before adding new programs.

~Additional Facilities: Safe trail head parking.

~Additional Services: The park areas should be safe, clean and neat but they should retain their wilderness aura.

~10 Year Improvement: I'd like to see all the current parks usable on a regular basis (weather dependent).

~Adequate Facilities: From what I can see - there are plenty of facilities available.

~Additional Programs: Being able to hunt and hike and bicycle and run - with dogs (need to put out plastic bags).

~Adequate Facilities: Limit fishing hours to allow for more bear fishing. No fishing on far (east) bank. (including by bridge)

~Adequate Facilities: No. Park use is expanding. Facilities and opportunities to use the park need to be expanded to address this.

~Adequate Facilities: There are marine areas in southeast that could be included in an expanded marine park system.

~Adequate Facilities: The only time I ever have problems with capacity is camping on a holiday weekend. For the most part, using the State park system lets me feel like I am alone in the world and there is no one else around. I love that feeling!

~10 Year Improvement: Managing the volume of people to wilderness areas.

~Additional Programs: Provide bear proof containers for rent to those traveling into areas with bears.

~Additional Services: Control of activities incompatible with a quiet appreciation of nature (e.g. motorized recreation).

~Adequate Facilities: They have met my current needs adequately.

~Additional Services: Law enforcement, public information.

~Adequate Facilities: No. Alaska has world class resources but the Alaska State Park system over the last decade has been sorely neglected by politicians. One needs only look to Canada and see what a real park system looks like.

~Additional Facilities: CLEAN facilities.

~Additional Services: Security (catch the bums that are breaking into cars).

~10 Year Improvement: We are getting to the point, at least in Southcentral, where we are loving our parks to death. The greater the population, the greater the need for parks.

~Adequate Facilities: No, the lack of funding for up keep is not sufficient much less deal with differed maintenance.

~10 Year Improvement: Management of ASP should be done by people that know what parks are all about and what they mean to Alaskans both as recreation and as visitors dollars brought into the state. It always seems ASP funding done by the 'hand-me-down' system. Basically what ever is left over after funding other projects. This puts ASP in a perpetual state of funding crises. The operation and management of parks needs to left to Dir. Of State Parks... Not the legislators.

~10 Year Improvement: Maintain what we have.

~10 Year Improvement: Better policing of the SRA targeting vandals which inflict more damage than anything else. Better enforcement of the boating laws on the rivers in the recreation areas.

~Additional Facilities: I think most State Park units are as developed as I would like to see them. Better and more consistent maintenance is recommended.

~Adequate Facilities: I've spent part of the last four summers visiting different state park units throughout the state and find most of them to be adequate.

~10 Year Improvement: Eliminate concessionaires operating park units.

~10 Year Improvement: More effort to control ATV's. ATV's are tearing-up tundra plants, loudly invading animal habitats, making hunting too easy, and polluting streams and air.

~Adequate Facilities: I think it is adequate and the current facilities are very well maintained - great job!

~10 Year Improvement: I would like to see a management plan that encourages sustainable use and discourages unsustainable uses of the State Park System. That includes to limit motorized users to even a smaller area than what currently is in plan.

Management needs to focus on the population centers of the State, since most problems arise with population.

State Park should focus on educating users to sustainably use the Park in order to maintain its character and have the most intruding users pay for what they destroy.

~Additional Facilities: I am happy with the current facilities and am not in favor of additional conversion of natural habitat to facilities listed above unless there is a demonstrated need.

~10 Year Improvement: Not really. Improving on those that you currently have, maintaining them and providing more places to go to would help.

~Additional Facilities: All of the above depending on the area, facility, and needs.

~Additional Facilities: I would like to see year round maintenance at the Denali view pull out at mile 135.2. You spent millions to build a new view pull out that is not open during winter (6-8months) and tear out the old one that was open year round. Yet you can't spend a few hundred extra to just plow the area out.

-Additional Services: In some parks they appear to be adequate but all services are not available in all parks.

-Adequate Facilities: Yes, but the state should send more funding for adequate maintenance on these facilities.

-Additional Facilities: Education boards which seek to address the problem of animosity/discordance among user groups. Many different people and groups benefit from the parks in many different ways. We all enjoy our parks for the same general reasons- the chance to get outside and appreciate our beautiful natural areas. Whether we do it on horses, skis or mountain bikes is irrelevant. We need to educate on the importance of our similar goals, such as keeping development from encroaching on our natural areas instead of fighting with each other.

-Additional Services: Increased surveillance of parking lots, i.e. cameras to reduce auto break-ins and illegal dumping of trash.

Extended programs with schools focusing on conservation and environmental awareness. Lets show children how important our natural areas are, and how irreplaceable they are. Help our community understand that natural area is of more value to our children than baseball fields, that it nurtures creativity, independence and appreciation of our world. Why aren't more kids playing in the beautiful woods and meadows that we have?

Better balance between user and interest groups.

-Adequate Facilities: There is adequate state park area. We just need equal use of these areas.

-Adequate Facilities: The number and type of facilities and services is adequate, but not great. Considering that many locals and visitors enjoy the vast beauty of Alaska, our state parks should be the best anywhere, and they are not. It is not necessary to have big neon signs about the parks, but providing enough information about them in enough places so that people want to visit them, and providing essential services (clean campgrounds and toilets) will go a long way toward getting people to visit, and pay for parking or camping.

-10 Year Improvement: I would like to see politics taken out of the parks system. I know that would be hard to do, but I remember the nightmare when several state parks were closed to the public for lack of funds several years back, and that was just stupid. It seemed that the parks that were closest to the population centers of the state were closed, to cause the biggest impact.

-10 Year Improvement: Take good care of what we have!

-Additional Programs: I would like to see the state parks take on a snowmobile safety program and snowmobile nature guiding program.

-Adequate Facilities: I would like to see the Deep Creek site be left open later in the fall so local silver fisherman could use it.

I know tourism is important to our state but when the tourists come, trample our stream banks, leave their trash and take our fish I get a little disturbed. I would like to see more focus put on facilities that benefit folks that live here year-round.

-Adequate Facilities: Kenai parks become very crowded during the summer.

-Adequate Facilities: More lights.

-10 Year Improvement: Better connecting trails throughout the city. Better multi use facilities so all families and athletes can enjoy the system. Create a fast lane for faster athletes?

Bike trails on the roads!

My son is 12 and a serious road biker. He gets yelled at all the time from drivers that don't understand how to share the road. Other major cities have bike lanes to create a safer environment on the road. Anchorage should encourage more different types of transportation with gas prices rising.

-Additional Facilities: The rest is just fluff - and State Parks should ABSOLUTELY NOT BE LOCKED. What is the deal the "Closed for the Season"? It should say "Closed to the Local People that live here Year Round; We Only Care About MONEY"

-Additional Services: Keep the Parks clean and under control. If patrons are out of control or breaking the law - CALL THE TROOPERS. Other than that, just let people enjoy their relaxation.

-Adequate Facilities: I am a long time state park user and really appreciate the variety and scope of activities that one can do in the parks.

The state parks should be for the people of Alaska to use and enjoy forever. Uses should include hunting and snowmobile access in winter. More marked trails and parking, especially for winter use are needed. Denali State Park is just out my back door and I use it a lot for hunting, boating and snowmachining. It is an example of a park that needs more parking and trails and signs. By all means don't lock us out of any more areas. I will be watching as the strategic plan is developed and will make more specific comments as things develop. I live in Trapper Creek and have property just outside Wood-Tikchik in Dillingham.

-Additional Services: More parking lot surveillance, to lower vandalism and burglary.

-Additional Services: Rescue coordination services.

-Adequate Facilities: No. No accommodation for winter motorized recreation exists. All grooming is done by various snowmobile clubs. Parking areas are rarely plowed to accommodate needed parking for winter recreationists.

~Adequate Facilities: No, of course not. Deferred maintenance is obviously a growing problem.

~10 Year Improvement: Establish a Talkeetna Mountains State Park (it's time to start planting the seeds!). People had the foresight to create Chugach State Park. With the growth in the Mat-Su Valley the Talkeetnas are due.

~Additional Services: Plowed parking areas in the winter months and winter trail grooming.

~Adequate Facilities: Most of the time the number of facilities is adequate, popular weekends can be crowded but that's to be expected. We tend to return to the same parks. The type of the facility in the locations we visit is adequate: we can park our motorhome in the space provided, there's adequate space to spread out in the camp site, access to water, toilets and trash is good. Most of the time the services provided (e.g. access, trash collection) are adequate.

~10 Year Improvement: Some camp sites need attention to their amenities such as repairs to fire rings, paving, toilet repairs. Regular servicing and maintenance of the facilities is very important. I like the park system we have, it's generally user friendly and not too fancy. There's a feeling that one is actually camping in Alaska, not visiting a commercial vacation resort.

~Adequate Facilities: Please... we do not need more parks closed to winter or summer recreational use.

~Additional Facilities: Fairer time use for areas. Motorize users can't use an area when it is non-motorized time, but Non-motorize can use the area when it is open to motorized use. In other words non-motorized can use the land 100% of the time while motorized users are restricted. This is not fair and balanced.

~Adequate Facilities: We've got a huge park system but very few facilities and a pitiful number of staff. We need more facilities to spread use away from a handful of heavily-visited sites. We need better management of those sites (more staff) but we also need more staff to take care of new sites. Campground hosts are great but cannot substitute for commissioned LE rangers or trained interpretation staff. Also need more maintenance staff so rangers don't have to clean toilets and stock TP.

There is a huge demand for outdoor rec in AK and our state park system is wonderful. It should be seen as an asset equal to the national park system here (and I work for NPS). State Parks needs a realistic budget and staffing levels. Our state leaders are shooting themselves in the foot by failing to staff and promote the full potential of our state parks. I moved here for quality of life and as an AK resident, I demand better! Visitors deserve to see our state in its full glory, too.

~10 Year Improvement: Here in Anchorage Chugach SP is the focus of outdoor rec. We could be using this park to help instill wildlands ethics that would then be practiced when residents visit other areas of the state, including other estate parks, general state lands, and federal lands. It would be great if AK, federal agencies, and NGOs could work together on this.

~Adequate Facilities: not for winter use! Snowmobiling is a growing winter activity, but is inadequately addressed by the State Parks Service.

~10 Year Improvement: improvements aimed at better access.

~Additional Programs: "how to" course on cross country skiing, mountain biking, bear avoidance, etc...

~Adequate Facilities: the current facilities are sufficient for my uses

~10 Year Improvement: Acceptance of annual parking pass at all SP (privately operated included) A slightly higher price is acceptable for this.

~Adequate Facilities: No, I would like to see more accessible winter recreational opportunities.

~10 Year Improvement: More winter recreational opportunities for snowmachiners.

~10 Year Improvement: a more open and fair system of management. It seems to me that if there is a conflict it's the snowgoes that are singled out and ran off yet there has never been a case where the skier has lost any ground.

~Additional Facilities: Non motorized areas. Respect the quiet.

~Adequate Facilities: My needs are minimal so the facilities are fine. It does look like there is a need to encourage people to walk or bike to the parks instead of driving. The parking lots overflow.

Access to CSP from Anchorage's Hillside should be assured as we develop the area.

~10 Year Improvement: Stick to the basics. Build enough so use doesn't wreck the park.

~Additional Facilities: Public use cabins along a multiple day trail network (winter or summer)

~10 Year Improvement: I would like to see the parks and rec areas remain open

~Adequate Facilities: closures have been the biggest problem in the past as well as funding for trailhead maintenance.

~Adequate Facilities: NO way---those parks are a mess and the ones that the state has decided to turn back such as the one on the Chatanika River and Olnes Pond are now half filled with full time camping residents, even in the winter. No one has the authority to make them leave. The toilets are in bad shape and most if not all the infrastructure the state invested in has been stolen or vandalized. Charge us a fee - but don't abandon us.

~10 Year Improvement: Just commit to being consistent with gradual improvements that will last.

~Additional Programs: I do like the online reservation systems. They have worked well for us.

~10 Year Improvement: Eliminate the deferred maintenance backlog, and focus on maintaining trails and providing new access points.

~10 Year Improvement: Expansion of the park system to accommodate growing demand and protect important resources. Elevate SP more into the general public consciousness perhaps collaborating with other agencies and private organizations for events and outings.

~Additional Programs: Focus on non-motorized use since maintenance and grooming is less impact on environment. ORV use on non state park land is increasing rapidly so providing the non-motorized quiet areas in state parks becomes more important. Especially important during summer but more consideration for skiing/snowshoeing in winter also important. Balance use and mitigate conflicts.

~Adequate Facilities: No. The State took a real step backwards a few years ago when they privatized and shut down a number of campground areas. That seems incredibly short sighted in a state that is trying to promote tourism.

~10 Year Improvement: cooperation to help manage adjacent areas.

~Additional Programs: All of the examples sound good. Cooperation to help manage adjacent areas.

~10 Year Improvement: More education on proper trail and water use etiquette, more education on what bank fisherman should do or not do to decrease river bank erosion. For example, Willow Creek had virtually no bank erosion when it was boat access only and then the tremendous amount of erosion that has occurred after road access was completed which allowed high numbers of bank fisherman.

~Additional Services: Have trail etiquette signs at trailheads to encourage users to stay on the trails and avoid trampling the surrounding vegetation. Promote leave no trace hiking.

~Adequate Facilities: Despite the items listed above, I believe that we have the greatest park system in the country.

~Adequate Facilities: In the northern region yes, but I am not sure whether existing facilities provide the opportunity desired closer to the larger population centers or areas visited by cruise ship industry. User surveys (not random surveys of the population) that include non-residents may better define where facilities or services are lacking by perception of people who actually visit park units.

~Adequate Facilities: In some areas, yes. In others, no. Seems like there are "hot spots" where everyone likes to go. This is a big state, and I would like to see more of it.

~10 Year Improvement: opening up more areas to offroad vehicle use and recreational mining.

~Adequate Facilities: boating safety programs

~10 Year Improvement: Stop motorized vehicles from damaging the trails.

~Additional Services: Trash Pickup.

~Adequate Facilities: Yes. A lot of them are closed now no need to open more until the ones that are there are able to be staffed and kept open.

~10 Year Improvement: re-open closed areas.

~Additional Services: trash pickup, school group activities.

~10 Year Improvement: leave them open

~Additional Services: trash pickup for those that haven't figured the whole pack it out thing.

~Additional Services: Minimal, just maintain trailheads and facilities, keeping open for public use.

~10 Year Improvement: It's about access and recreation.

~Additional Programs: No, I just like to hike.

~Additional Services: The level of services I have used around the state is perfect at this time.

~Adequate Facilities: The majority of the private sector survive by default whereas the State Parks does work and provides services as they should be.

~Adequate Facilities: Alaska has plenty of state park units but almost all are incredibly underfunded or unfunded.

~Additional Programs: No.

~Adequate Facilities: No! You can drive, during winter months, from Fairbanks to Wasilla before you can find a restroom. All highway rest areas, (with the exception of a few turnouts, (without facilities), are closed, unplowed and locked up, once tourists leave. Night travelers are left to answer nature's call in driveways or anywhere close to roadside due to weather conditions during winter months.

~Additional Programs: Give them a BATHROOM! Plow out the turnouts and rest areas so an RV can find a place to park along the highway system.

-Adequate Facilities: Pretty good. The trails and parks around Ketchikan are first rate and are used heavily. The local Ranger is awesome and has always been helpful. They seem understaffed at the parks and there is an obvious lack of money spent in our area.

-Adequate Facilities: Number and type are OK, but need more upkeep, maintenance.

-Adequate Facilities: KBSP is a GEM, it needs more \$.

-Additional Services: All the examples.

-Additional Facilities: Eklutna Lake is perhaps the best model of what I would like to see. There are facilities to accommodate all levels of users without conflicts. It is a great multi-use recreational facility.

-Adequate Facilities: No. I believe too much emphasis is on fishing.

-Adequate Facilities: Woefully inadequate for Chugach SP. Improve park access, parking, and trail system to meet the growing need.

-Adequate Facilities: Maintenance, maintenance, maintenance. I believe the facilities are adequate but need funding to be maintained. I believe the services are minimal and should be funded by state government for more effective public use (as opposed to outsourcing services to private vendors). Trail maintenance is a major issue for me. We have magnificent parks, which need funding and organization to be maintained.

-Additional Programs: My focus is more on facilities than programs.

-Additional Facilities: By the way... I use many other State Parks other than the 3 I am asked to list as favorites. My comments are intended to apply to all, rather than just the 3.
-10 Year Improvement: I would like to see the minimization of motorized access to State Parks--if not the elimination of motorized access, then sharp horsepower and size limitations.

-Additional Services: winter snowmachine trail grooming

-Additional Programs: Reduced horsepower laws on Susitna Valley rivers. If a 35hp limit is good for the Kenai River, it should be implemented on more fragile Susitna Valley Rivers like the Little Susitna River, the Deshka River and Alexander Creek. The way these rivers are abused by over-powered boat traffic is criminal. The State Parks should become involved and advocate 35hp rules in Susitna Valley waters.

-Adequate Facilities: Yes.

-Adequate Facilities: More people are using the out of doors; I see the need growing. In the Juneau area, I believe lots of people camp unregulated areas, creating sewage and garbage problems.

-10 Year Improvement: None keep as same

-Adequate Facilities: No, I see parks continuing to close areas or turn them over to private contractors and I disagree with that. We need modern, clean, open facilities run by park employees!

-Additional Facilities: Would like to keep the areas as free of these facilities as possible.
-Additional Services: None:

-Additional Programs: All of the above would benefit the state and its users.

-Adequate Facilities: Difficult question. I'd like to see parking areas at some of the access points, but I don't want to see overcrowding either. I know that the Canyon road area is being worked out with a land purchase, but will it now be ruined by too many people? Same goes for South Fork, E.R. and Bear Valley. South Fork is a favorite because it's not very crowded. But, when a larger parking area goes in (which is obviously needed), what will happen? In Bear Valley there are access points beyond the snobby, gated Honey Bear, but I don't want to see that area overrun either.

-Additional Facilities: I do a lot of hiking, hunting, cross-country skiing and bicycling. I would like to see more of these activities in the parks.
-Additional Programs: Hunting is very important to me. I hope that the parks are kept open for hunting. One of the biggest threats to hunting is the loss of habitat and places to hunt.

~Adequate Facilities: I think our state parks are poorly maintained and do not provide adequate services.
~10 Year Improvement: Improved maintenance. Make them more visitor friendly (interp. displays, toilets, trail markers, etc.)

~Adequate Facilities: Grindall Island marine Park has a cabin to maintain, but no boat is available to get out there. Parks has to beg the Coast Guard to take them out once a year or so.

~Additional Services: Bear human relationships is one of the most critical factors in the Chilkoot Lake area.

~Additional Services: year round services! Most everything is geared to summer tourist. Trail heads, roadside toilets, winter grooming of trails, development of skiing and snowmachine parking areas needs to be provided for the residents.

~Adequate Facilities: At the height of June and July on the Kenai - of Course not.

~10 Year Improvement: Year round use - provide for our spring/fall/winter user groups.

~Additional Services: Maintenance services only at our local state park areas.

~Additional Programs: I have no specific program requests for the Parks in my area, and do not recognize winter use of the Park facilities beyond the need for access to the beaches.

~10 Year Improvement: Keep motorized use to a minimum

~Additional Programs: all

~10 Year Improvement: Clearly defined usage areas for the various types of recreation popular in the state.

~Adequate Facilities: I think compared to Oregon, Nebraska and Georgia, Alaska State Parks have few services and limited opportunities for the public. I would like to see more parks designated because we have fantastic scenic areas to highlight and protect, and I think tourists and locals would go to them.

~Adequate Facilities: of the parks I use they are adequate.

~Additional Facilities: NO SKI area at Hatchers on Gov. Peak area.

~10 Year Improvement: Education to stop ATV and horses from ruining trails.

~Additional Programs: Programs to close certain trails to ATV traffic.

~Additional Services: None. Just keep the parks open and enforce people to keep the parks clean.

~Adequate Facilities: Yes. At this time I do not see any problems.

~10 Year Improvement: Open up more of the parks for motorized use and do not shut any down in the process.

~Additional Facilities: We love these parks and many of us live here because we enjoy the state all year round.

~Adequate Facilities: There is a good number of facilities they are just closed for much of the year.

~10 Year Improvement: Operating the parks YEAR ROUND! I am from Minnesota originally and grew up cross country skiing and snowmobiling all winter in open State Parks!

~Additional Facilities: The existing facilities are sufficient.

~Adequate Facilities: I would like more areas open for snowmachining in the winter as there are many more parks open for x-country skiers, and the summer time, which is harder on the environment all areas are open and most of the people using them are from out of state. In contrast, in the winter most of the people using the parks for riding are local tax payers that general on an average make more money than x-country skiers; hence paying more for park usage.

~Additional Services: winter trail grooming, trash pick-up, beach care, clean bathrooms.

~10 Year Improvement: More grass and better beaches.

~Adequate Facilities: at current could use some better upkeep but for the most part doing well.

~Repair Funding: Just upkeep of current facilities and more open access are the main concerns at this point.

~Additional Services: Basic campground maintenance including trash pickup if (bear resistant), trash containers are provided.

~10 Year Improvement: facilities expansion in-line with increased use.

~Additional Services: trash pickup should be mandatory in parks that actually have staff, but I'm more of a "hands off" camper as far as staff provided services go. I'm sure the tourists would enjoy a more hands on type of service though.

~Additional Facilities: I am happy with the facilities I have used at the state parks.

~Additional Services: the services I have used have been good.

~10 Year Improvement: more open land to snow machines, less worry on the environmentalists.

~Adequate Facilities: too much closed off for pre-reservation and out of state, need more walk in.

~10 Year Improvement: year-round opening even if no facilities like running water, toilets. (i.e. Riley Creek Campground in Denali NP open all winter.)

~Additional Services: they are doing fine right now.

~Additional Services: enforcement of park rules

~Additional Services: security

~10 Year Improvement: winter sports emphasis

~10 Year Improvement: Better and more maintenance. Totem Poles need repairs, paint and cleaning on a regular scheduled cycle.

~10 Year Improvement: efficiency. I have seen a complete lack of efficiency here. Presence. This organization needs to make a reputation for itself in good light of AK residents.

~10 Year Improvement: Continue with quiet and nature oriented policies.

~Additional Facilities: I agree with the mix we currently have at AKSP throughout the state. However, I do not all existing facilities are maintained well enough - this requires more funding and thus, more staffing.

~Additional Services: The admin. Bldg should be put on the historic register, remodeled inside and much more 'inviting' to the public.

~Additional Facilities: the same diversity and mix as the AK State Parks system currently offers.

~Adequate Facilities: quantity seems good, I would prefer more focus on maintenance.

~Additional Programs: No, just provide space for people to fish, hunt, trap, travel, view, etc.

~Additional Services: In Kepler-Bradley, the sewer system to the new hospital has cut a huge road through the corner of the park, bi-secting a trail and inviting ORV access. Why is this allowed?

~Additional Facilities: comments submitted with Northern Region Office.

~Adequate Facilities: I feel bad for all Alaskans who have to camp in parks where you can't even have a picnic or stop by to visit your family camping (for an evening) without being taxed \$5-\$15 fee for each vehicle at one camp site. To enjoy a family picnic without have to pay a fee (mind you this is one vehicle, hoping you can cram all your family into one car) you must eat your food in less than 30 mins. Now that is stress relief and a fun afternoon in the park.

~10 Year Improvement: I get a lot of feed back from out of state people, which is not all good. But I still stick up for the state I love, hoping we will wake up and offer more for the fees we charge in the parks. Just look at what the tourists are used to and more than willing to pay for if they have that option. Better parks would bring more happy tourists to our state. They are all used to some very nice parks in the lower states and would love to have that here. Lots of things could be done.

~Operation Funding: The annual pass should be returned to the residents of AK. We live here and deserve the break. Thank you.

~Adequate Facilities: No, they are over crowded and over used.

~Adequate Facilities: The facilities that are generally available are fine (although it would be nice if the state would commit to re-opening some state park areas that have been shut down periodically (e.g., Little Nelchina).

~10 Year Improvement: More zoning and separation of motorized and non-motorized uses.

~Additional Facilities: That needs to be a park by park issue

~Additional Facilities: Non-motorized areas should be provided in some state parks.

~Additional Services: Parks on the road system and near Fairbanks and Anchorage obviously need more services.

~Adequate Facilities: in places too many services and facilities are provided.

~10 Year Improvement: Expansion, improved maintenance, return of seasonal camping pass with provisions for senior citizens, reduction in vandalism, year round operation.

~Additional Facilities: Leave it as it is. If people want subdued environments with toilets and parking lots go to the lower 48.

~Additional Services: None. Use the "if you pack it in pack it out" mentality. The state doesn't need to waste our tax money providing services to those that don't live in the area or state.

~Operation Funding: The quality services I require are less state and federal fees and restrictions on the use of the land that is supposed to be for my use.

~Repair Funding: It shouldn't. Again, its Alaska, leave it wild as it is. Don't pave it into submission.

~Adequate Facilities: It is really a shame that we live in a state that has billions of dollars in budget surplus money with a park system that is this neglected. I spoke to many out of state visitors that were very disappointed with this park too. I left a day early because I was so tired of bushwhacking my way through supposed trails.

~Additional Facilities: there needs to be some improvements made to the facilities the park rangers work in. For example in Ketchikan, the park ranger has to use a porta potty. There is no running water or toilet at her office. I think this is shameful.

~Adequate Facilities: It seems that occasionally, during the summer it is difficult to find a place to camp (due to crowds.)

~10 Year Improvement: I'd like to see upgrades made to the facilities that the park ranger uses, i.e. running water, and indoor bathroom.

~Adequate Facilities: I believe the current number, facilities and services available may not be adequate for the future visitation needs likely to occurred as use increases. I strongly believe that maintenance of present infrastructure is the priority but use and demand should be the primary guides in constructing new facilities and services.

~Adequate Facilities: State park areas are ok.

~10 Year Improvement: Contract out to private enterprise as much as possible.

~Adequate Facilities: Control of speed in the parks is a problem of both cars and ATVs. Why not use drainage ditches or dips to help control speed. The portable speed bump is driven around or moved out of the way. Signs could be placed to show the speed dip and 5 MPH limit. Kids on ATVs race around the parks, the dips would slow them down.

~Additional Services: trash pick up.

Alaska State Parks Strategic Plan Comments

Recreation - Trails

~Additional Services: Trail maintenance both winter and summer.

~Additional Facilities: cross country ski trails.

~Additional Facilities: More trails, especially for mtn. biking.

~Additional Facilities: non-motorized trails

~Adequate Facilities: We need more non-motorized trails.

~10 Year Improvement: more non-motorized trails

~Additional Facilities: More trails, particularly non-motorized. A bike path.

~Additional Facilities: Spend most of the time on the trail system

~10 Year Improvement: increased multi-use trail system

~Additional Services: winter trail grooming

~Additional Facilities: Remote public use cabins and small hiking/biking trails to them would be great in the Chugach! More cabins in PWS would also be great. I personally think there are enough groomed ski trails in Anchorage so it is not necessary to groom trails in the Chugach.

~Additional Services: Winter trail grooming.

~Additional Facilities: Some trails are heavily used; there need to be more trails so they don't get over-used.

~10 Year Improvement: well maintained trails, more trails.

~Adequate Facilities: I would like to see a few more emergency shelters along the trail systems for skiers who cannot make it between the cabins or in case of bad weather.

~10 Year Improvement: more trails.

~Additional Facilities: Day use hiking opportunities. Deferred maintenance on the Divisions trail system.

~Additional Services: Trails maintained using today's best management practices.

~10 Year Improvement: The State Park Trail System inventoried and routine maintenance, deferred maintenance, and capital projects identified and prioritized.

~Additional Facilities: Trail systems.

~Additional Services: Trail maintenance and winter grooming.

~Adequate Facilities: There are not enough trail systems for hiking, mountain biking, skiing.

~10 Year Improvement: Trail systems.

~Additional Facilities: I particularly like to fish, so I always appreciate trails to waterways and along waterways - where bank stabilizing areas to angle from the shore would be helpful to minimize resource damage while maintaining accessibility.

~Additional Services: Winter trail grooming, signage, maps, GPS trail/facility downloads.

~Adequate Facilities: Trail marking and mapping is inadequate.

~10 Year Improvement: Well maintained, marked and mapped Hiking, rafting, skiing, 4-wheeler, and snowmachine trails.

~Additional Facilities: A trail system for winter and summer use. Skiing and other winter travel modes could be expanded greatly.

~Additional Services: Winter trail grooming in areas where skiing trails are provided and/or snowmachine trails.

~10 Year Improvement: Better maps of trails systems on all state lands, not just state parks. Need to make better use of trails, forest roads on other state lands. It's hard to find any information on state forest roads and trails, and general state lands.

~Additional Facilities: non-motorized (and maintained) trails.

~Additional Services: trail grooming (winter) and maintenance (summer)

~Adequate Facilities: more trail maintenance needed and enforcement of non-motorized rules.

~10 Year Improvement: Keep ORV's from trashing all the trails and streams! In high ORV use areas, install geoblock and bridges.

Enforcement to keep ORV users off non-motorized trails.

-Additional Facilities: trails are in need of better maintenance and marking.
-Additional Services: trail maintenance and marking, grooming in winter.
-Adequate Facilities: No, poor trail maintenance and under funding by the state.
-10 Year Improvement: Trails, more of them and better maintained all around.

-Additional Facilities: hut to hut system for year round use.
-10 Year Improvement: Hut to hut system

-Additional Facilities: Non-motorized trails.
-Additional Services: Trail maintenance.
-Adequate Facilities: Yes, although I think there could be more non-motorized trails with access points.
-10 Year Improvement: Improved non-motorized trail systems.

-Additional Services: Trail grooming/maintenance

-Additional Services: Winter trail grooming with signage.
-10 Year Improvement: As a ATV'er and snowmachiner, facilities to attract more winter use of the parks, but integrating joint use by skiers, hikers and snowshoers. Sharing of space as seen in Turnagain Pass.
-Additional Programs: Interpretive signs along the trail and not just at trail heads.

-Additional Facilities: Snowmobile areas with marked & groomed trails; keep snowmobile areas open.

-Additional Facilities: Trails groomed, more areas to ride snowmachines, four wheelers, trail bikes.
-Additional Services: Summer and winter trail grooming, make areas to ride four-wheeler, trail bikes, bikes, walking tails. Winter skiing trails and snowmachine areas.
-Additional Facilities: trails

-Additional Services: Winter trail grooming is nice

-Additional Services: Winter trail grooming for snowmobilers.

-Additional Facilities: trails that can sustain 4x4's.

-Additional Facilities: Hiking ONLY and SKI ONLY TRAILS!
-10 Year Improvement: Keep and increase land base. Improve hiking and winter skiing trails, including signage on those trails.
-Additional Facilities: OHV trails

-Additional Facilities: maintained ski trails, mountain bike trails in summer, and maintained snow machine trails.
-Additional Services: winter trail grooming ski and motorized
-Additional Services: summer maintenance of ATV and hiking trails.
-10 Year Improvement: trail access and trail head development, trail and state lands protection to preserve use
-10 Year Improvement: OHV accommodation

-Additional Facilities: access to trails, trails
-Additional Services: winter trail grooming near population centers
-10 Year Improvement: more trails

-Additional Facilities: hiking and mtn biking trails, ski and snowshoe trails;
-Additional Services: winter trail grooming, trail head signage for alerts and info. Trail maps.
-10 Year Improvement: hiking and biking trails, trails system and PUC.

-Additional Facilities: trails (motorized and non-motorized)
-Additional Services: trail grooming and maintenance

-Additional Services: Winter trail grooming.

~Additional Facilities: Hiking trails
~Additional Services: maintained trails summer and winter

~Additional Services: winter trail grooming
~Adequate Facilities: yes, but would like to see more non-motorized trails both winter and summer.
~10 Year Improvement: increase in trail maintenance, decrease in ATV use on non-improved trails

~Additional Facilities: Non-motorized trails.
~Additional Services: Trail maintenance.
~Adequate Facilities: Yes, although I think there could be more non-motorized trails with access points.
~10 Year Improvement: Improved non-motorized trail systems.

~Additional Facilities: off road vehicle trails.
~10 Year Improvement: More off road use areas

~Additional Services: Winter trail grooming for snowmobile. Marked trails with speed and safety signs.
~Adequate Facilities: Yes, I would just like to see more multi use trails and certain user groups not get eliminated from use of the areas. Such as Kachemak Bay to PWC should be opened back up and not discriminated against. Closing Lost Lake to snowmobiles should be a dropped topic and never brought up again. Leave the snowmobiles use this area. The parks need to be open year round.
~10 Year Improvement: Dedicated multi use trails to include motorized vehicles for accessing the back country.

~Additional Facilities: Winter trail grooming, biking trails.
~Additional Services: Winter trail grooming.
~10 Year Improvement: Multiuse trails.

~Additional Services: winter trail grooming

~10 Year Improvement: Better trail systems that provide for hiking and biking in summer, winter ski and snowshoe trails but also areas for snowmachines that is not conflicting with the peaceful, quiet trails that non motorized people enjoy.

~10 Year Improvement: The two items I would like to see improved are access to Chugach State Park (more means of legally accessing the park) and improving the surfaces of the many of the trails in the parks. I feel that there are a lot of trails in the park that began as social trails are now, more or less, official trails. These trails have not been constructed with sustainability in mind. An inventory of the trails in the park and ways to improve them would be great.

~Additional Services: Trail grooming.

~Additional Services: Winter trail grooming.

~Additional Facilities: Improved sustainable trails, maintained on a regular basis, to replace existing trails and/or provide sustainable access to areas already getting casual use. Trails in AK State Parks should be the statewide model for sustainability and conservation; instead their abysmal condition reflect the Legislature's disdain for all things involving Parks, and their attempt to starve Alaska State Parks to death!
Most trails open to mountain biking (damage to trails to date has been done by non-bikers, poor design, construction-by-foot traffic, and no maintenance). No reason to exclude one class of user that arguably has the same or less impact on trails than hikers.

~Additional Facilities: Trails.
~Additional Services: Trail maintenance.
~10 Year Improvement: Trail maintenance.

~Additional Facilities: Trails.
~Additional Services: Trail grooming, signage on trails.

~Additional Facilities: x-c ski trails.
~10 Year Improvement: Get trails into place so stuff doesn't get trampled as more people come.

~Additional Facilities: Managed trails around these sites would be really marvelous as well.
~Additional Services: Managed trails.
~10 Year Improvement: A more user friendly trail system utilizing maps, trail markers, and visitors centers (whether large and manned, or just small outposts with information). Just posts like the one at Elderberry Park in Anchorage near the Oscar Anderson House are very helpful in giving information for an area and enticing visitors to use the area.

~Additional Services: Winter trail grooming.
~10 Year Improvement: Trails.

~Additional Services: Winter trail grooming.

~Additional Services: Winter trail grooming.
~10 Year Improvement: Plowing and trail grooming.

~Additional Facilities: I'd like to see more updated information on trail conditions. For example, if I go hiking in Kachemak Bay State Park, it would be nice to know when the trail was cleared last. Again, more information about access points and trail conditions would be useful (I would also add more information about avalanche conditions. I do realize that there is a legal risk to giving information, but the risk is greater by not giving information.

~Adequate Facilities: No. Need greater access to the mountains and more information about trail conditions (particularly in less traveled areas).

~Additional Services: Trail grooming.
~10 Year Improvement: More access/trails.

~Additional Facilities: Winter trails are hard to keep up, but ski trails are certainly nice to have.

~Additional Facilities: trails

~Additional Services: Maintain what you have like trails and don't charge people to use them or park!
Stop grooming winter trails in Nancy Lake and instead provide firewood for the PUC's.

~Adequate Facilities: Yes, if they were maintained.

~Additional Facilities: More loop trails or trails that are connected to other trail systems.

~Additional Facilities: Motorized trails.

~Additional Facilities: Hiking and cross-country ski trails.

~Additional Services: Summer AND winter trail maintenance/grooming (for hiking/skiing only--NO motorized vehicles!!).

~Adequate Facilities: Additional trails for both hiking and cross-country skiing, especially in areas farther away from Anchorage, would be great.

~10 Year Improvement: Improved access/facilities for hiking and cross-country skiing.

~Additional Services: Winter trail grooming would be nice.

~10 Year Improvement: I like being able to cross country ski, but I don't think the state should have to provide grooming of the trails - provided, however, that there are no user fees.

~10 Year Improvement: More established trails, and more of them restricted to non motorized use only.

~Additional Facilities: More hiking trails (separate from snowmobiles and four wheelers).

~Additional Services: Winter trail grooming.
~Additional Programs: Winter trail grooming.

~Additional Services: Winter trail grooming.

~Additional Facilities: More trails, especially for mountain biking!

~Additional Services: Winter trail grooming and summer trail maintenance.

~Additional Facilities: Marked/defined trails.

~Additional Facilities: Improved (and perhaps expanded) trails.

~Additional Services: Trail maintenance, which is sorely lacking.

~Adequate Facilities: No. As a longtime state park visitor and advocate, I know that Alaska's State Parks have been under funded for years, which has meant that basic park maintenance can't be done. Prime examples include trails in both Chugach and Denali state parks; though these are two of Alaska's "gems," their trails are in sad shape. Many stretches that pass through wet areas have become mud bogs, and bridges, and walkways are in various states of disrepair. It's shameful, actually.

~10 Year Improvement: Needs/improvements to make: much-improved trail maintenance, and expanded trail systems in some parks, but only if they can be adequately maintained.

~Additional Facilities: Trail improvement, maintenance, construction.

~Additional Services: Winter trail grooming.

~10 Year Improvement: Better trails, expand trails for bicycles.

~Additional Programs: Better trail maps.

-Additional Services: Winter trail grooming.

-10 Year Improvement: Renovation on parts of the Montana Creek and Windfall Lake trails. I would like to see a renovation much like that of the Herbert River trail if possible.

-Additional Facilities: Good trails.

-Additional Services: Trail grooming and repair suitable for skiing, biking and hiking.

-Additional Services: Winter trail grooming.

-Additional Services: Winter trail grooming.

-Additional Services: Trail development.

-Adequate Facilities: More trails

-10 Year Improvement: More trails.

-Additional Programs: More money for rec trail grants.

-Additional Services: Trail maintenance.

-Additional Services: Signage on trails for orientation.

-Additional Programs: Grants for trail building which MUST have interpretive signage.

-Additional Services: Winter trail grooming.

-10 Year Improvement: Some accessible park trails and camp facilities for persons with disabilities.

-10 Year Improvement: Better control of ATV traffic to help keep the trails in better shape.

-10 Year Improvement: Trail enhancement.

-Additional Facilities: Non-motorized trail systems.

-Additional Services: Summer trail maintenance, trail signage.

-Adequate Facilities: Trail maintenance could be better, especially in slowing the creation of multi-path trails up frequently-hiked peaks, such as those in the Anchorage bowl.

-Additional Facilities: TRAILS, TRAILS, TRAILS!! Especially in high use areas such as for example the Wolverine Trail in the Chugach, erosion is the number one problem.

In recent years we saw more people using trails in the Chugach foothills, as well as an increase in the frequency of thunderstorms over the summer. The trail up Wolverine widened in recent years and people trample all over the place.

The solution: Educate the public by putting up signs to stay on trails, leave no trace, and visit sustainably. Build good trails with gravel flown in by helicopter in high problem areas, good trails are trails that won't wash out after thunderstorms and can deal with a large number of hikers - we DO NOT have these kinds of trails in most areas.

-Additional Services: 1. Organize and lead volunteer groups to build and maintain trails. 2. Enforcement of hiking regulations and sustainable use regulations in the park, such as leave no trace camping, stay on trails, etc.

-10 Year Improvement: Motorized use trails need to be improved to fight erosion.

More enforcement of trail etiquette is desirable in population centers. I also think that the State Park need to organize a volunteer trail building task force to cost efficiently deal with erosion caused by overuse and a change in weather patterns (climate change).

-Additional Programs: Trail maintenance!

-Additional Services: Trail grooming.

-Additional Services: Winter trail grooming.

-Additional Services: Winter trail grooming.

-Adequate Facilities: If additional cabins are not on your immediate radar then providing additional trails off of the existing ones leading to a nice cleared areas with a barbeque pit, picnic table and toilet, would help.

-10 Year Improvement: Improved access to the more spectacular viewing areas and more trails.

-Additional Facilities: trails

-Adequate Facilities: My guests enjoy hiking trails.

-Additional Programs: More programs to introduce children and their parents of our community to our wild areas.

-Additional Facilities: More snowmachine friendly trails. Motorized users are more restricted than any other users. We need equal rights.

-Additional Services: Winter trail grooming would be nice. But just more motorized use trails would be great.

-10 Year Improvement: Find someone who doesn't want to restrict motorized use. Someone who will treat all users equally.

-Additional Programs: When friends of mine come up hear they can't believe the restrictions put on snowmachiners. In there states all trail systems are for all users no just one or the other. So restrict less.

-Additional Facilities: well-marked trails, winter trail grooming

-Additional Services: winter trail grooming

-Additional Facilities: Non-motorized trails to upper reaches of the rivers, trails that can be used by horses.

-Additional Services: Winter ski/snowmachine trail development and grooming is high on my priority list.

-Additional Services: Groomed snowmobile trails.

-Additional Facilities: Good maps at multiple locations on trails. More lit trails!!!!

-Additional Services: Year round trail grooming.

-Adequate Facilities: Better maps on heavily used trails and marked trails would increase safety.

-Additional Programs: Trails

-10 Year Improvement: For the future I would like to see more designated motorized trails, located to provide access and on suitable terrain to keep any damage to the land to an acceptable level. I do not think the state park system should be little National Parks and basically off limits to any motorized use or development, except for Princess tours.

-Adequate Facilities: The state parks should be for the people of Alaska to use and enjoy forever. Uses should include hunting and snowmobile access in winter. More marked trails and parking, especially for winter use are needed. Denali State Park is just out my back door and I use it a lot for hunting, boating and snowmachining. It is an example of a park that needs more parking and trails and signs. By all means don't lock us out of any more areas. I will be watching as the strategic plan is developed and will make more specific comments as things develop. I live in Trapper Creek and have property just outside Wood-Tikchik in Dillingham.

-10 Year Improvement: More trail management, more trails, more dual purpose trails, either mountain biking and hiking/skiing, or even some motorized accessed trails for the disabled (ATVs).

-Additional Programs: Grants to trail groups, more trails allow more people to be in the parks and each person or group would feel more of a wilderness experience (unlike Flattop, with masses of people like Christmas shopping in a mall).

-Additional Facilities: Groomed and/or marked snowmobile trails. Snowmobile parking areas at trail heads.

-Additional Services: Winter trail grooming.

-10 Year Improvement: Trail marking, trail improvement, trail maintenance (to include grooming of major trails).

-Additional Programs: Grants to snowmobile clubs for grooming of trails.

-Additional Facilities: It is time for more groomed snowmobile / multi-use trails in Alaska. Many lower 48 locations with very successful groomed & well marked trail systems to benchmark from. You will find lots of willing snowmobile clubs throughout the State more than willing to volunteer in the establishment of these multi-use trails.

-Adequate Facilities: In the past 25 years I've seen serious erosion problems develop in the front range of the Chugach, mostly in above timberline areas. A better funded trail crew to address the resource impacts is absolutely necessary. Bring back the YCC and rebuild the ACC!

-10 Year Improvement: Renovate and rebuild the parking lot, trailhead and trail system at Arctic Valley. The Independence Mine renovation is a good model.

-Additional Programs: Grants to trail groups to provide train markers and maintain trails.

-Additional Services: Plowed parking areas in the winter months and winter trail grooming.

-Additional Facilities: More groomed snowmobile trails. More trails marked in winter for safer riding.

-Additional Facilities: Marked and Groomed trails for snowmobiles.

Fairer time use for areas. Motorize users can't use an area when it is non-motorized time, but Non-motorize can use the area when it is open to motorized use. In other words non-motorized can use the land 100% of the time while motorized users are restricted. This is not fair and balanced.

-10 Year Improvement: More areas open to snowmobiling. With the mountainous terrain around Anchorage safe riding areas are limited by non-motorized users claiming a noise free area, or conflict issues. Thus forcing the motorize user to go deep and higher into the mountains where the potential of avalanches exist.

-Additional Programs: Maps of existing motorized trails and trailheads, description of the riding area so a novice rider will not go above his ability for that area.

-Additional Facilities: Better trails -- sustainable trails for various uses, both winter and summer.

-10 Year Improvement: We desperately need to institutionalize a trail planning and maintenance program within our state parks. Most trails in our parks are accidents and are unsuited to the use they get -- unsustainable. We need to assess trail needs across the SP system and come up with a plan for building new, sustainable trails, and for maintaining them. There can be a strong volunteer component to this but it won't happen without some funding and leadership from the Governor, legislature and DNR commissioner down.

-Additional Facilities: marked trails for snowmobiling.

-Additional Services: trail signage for snowmobiling.

-Additional Facilities: Mountain Bike Trails

-Additional Services: Trail Markers, trail maps, comprehensive trail map within Chugach SP.

-Adequate Facilities: Need to include mtn. bike trails as part of the Strategic Plan

-Additional Services: winter trail grooming

-Additional Services: winter trail grooming and marked trails for snowmachines. Other trail systems for cross country skiing and snowshoeing as well.

-Additional Facilities: a system of marked snowmobile trails

-Additional Services: the snowmobile trails should be groomed

-Adequate Facilities: No what, state parks grooms 1 snowgo trail in a park. I'm not talking about trails that are groomed true DNR I'm talking in a park like Denali and I'm talking about (now I know you might not think like this but) cutting down trees and brush so a 12' groomer can go through.

-Additional Facilities: Sustainable single track trails for Mtn. biking and trail running.

-Additional Services: The trail grooming at Glen Alps has been at a nice level. It's good to have when the trails in town are not skiable. Thanks for that.

-Additional Facilities: More multi-use trail systems sustainable and suitable for hiking and mountain biking.

-Additional Services: More serviced to both build and maintain multi-use trail systems.

-Adequate Facilities: No I do not. There are not enough multi-use trail

systems in these vast areas nor is there a concerted effort to build or maintain new and existing trails.

-10 Year Improvement: I would like to see management encourage and promote the construction of multi-use trail systems.

-Additional Facilities: multiple day trail network

-10 Year Improvement: I would also like to see more trails designed for mtn. bikes.

-Additional Facilities: trail heads, trail markers (mileage and info.) trails, bridges,

-Additional Services: Honestly, be aware of trail conditions, encourage safe use of trails, security, perform trail maintenance (not winter trail grooming I don't think that is a user group thing), rescue, mediate use between different user groups and encourage users to perform general maintenance functions.

-Adequate Facilities: I think the state park system should also be more open to mountain bike use in the parks and consider opening more trail for them, or at least maintaining them for them. This comes down to trail design though too and not building fall line trails that erode ways and require really ridiculous water bars just to stay in place or become a complete mud hole.

-10 Year Improvement: Opening of more trails to mtn. bikers.

Outreach to user groups to construct and maintain natural singletrack trails in the park system.

Security at trailheads.

-Additional Facilities: major trail improvements to the Juneau State park Trails and the trails in Point Bridge State Park.

-Adequate Facilities: trails

-10 Year Improvement: State park should focus on physical improvements to the trails

-Additional Facilities: trails and trailheads with security cameras.

-Additional Services: winter trail grooming, summer trail maintenance

-Adequate Facilities: trail maintenance is lacking, especially in high use areas; more trail options should be available in popular areas to help spread out traffic;

-10 Year Improvement: trail maintenance and trail system upgrades. Security at trailheads.

-Additional Programs: cross country ski trail grooming.

-Additional Services: Winter trail grooming and access would be nice. Cutting back the cow parsnip in the summer as much as possible.

-10 Year Improvement: Better trails. Build some additional trails in the hillside area, especially for mtn biking in the summer. Trails should link up with other existing trails in FNBP and Campbell tract area as well as existing trails. The trails on the hill side that do exist to go up peaks, just go straight up the mountain. How about trails that switchback up the hill? These are more sustainable and easier to maintain, and easier for a broad diversity of people to use.

-Additional Programs: Developing more trails for a wider variety of user groups. Keep trails open to biking as this is a very popular way to access the back country, does not use gasoline, and is easy on trails.

-Additional Services: winter trail grooming

-Additional Facilities: More trails accessible to mountain biking
-Additional Services: No winter trail grooming
-Adequate Facilities: I would like to see more trails opened to mtn. biking. Existing trails and a well-designed, sustainably built trail system.
-10 Year Improvement: As mentioned, I would like to see more trails being opened or constructed to offer mountain bikers access to state parks. Currently there are very few areas open to mtn biking. In Chugach SP, for example, the only trails that are technically open are "trails" that were at one time, road beds. Kepler-Bradley has only recently been authorized for Mtn bike use. We Need More!

-Additional Facilities: Trails that are maintained.
-Adequate Facilities: Trailheads could be improved, new trailheads could be built, trails could be maintained.
-10 Year Improvement: focus on maintaining trails

-Additional Facilities: Skiing on the hard bumpy snowmachine trails is awful.

-Additional Services: Also summer nonmotorized trail development and maintenance.
-10 Year Improvement: improved mapping of trail systems and improved trails.
Develop Mtn. biking trails
-Additional Programs: Improved mapping of trail systems, improved trails.

-Additional Facilities: groomed snowmobile trails
-Additional Services: winter trail grooming for snowmobiles
-Adequate Facilities: More groomed snowmobile trails especially in lower hillside area instead of forcing snowmobiles above the tree line into the windblown area and then closing it because of windblown bare spots.
-Additional Programs: More groomed snowmobile trails.

-Additional Services: Upgrade certain trails. Many trails are being widened by "social trails" as hikers try to avoid wet spots. Add small bridges and simple boardwalks in wet areas.

-Additional Facilities: non-motorized trails
-10 Year Improvement: No further expansion of motorized access beyond present levels without full public process, monitoring of motorized trails for maintenance needs or seasonal closure to minimize surface damage that hinders other uses.

-Additional Facilities: offroad vehicle areas, more ATV trails and interconnectivity.
-Additional Services: Winter trail grooming

-Additional Facilities: Close damaged trails to motorized vehicles.

-Additional Programs: grants for trail improvement to reopen grown over trails and right of ways.

-Additional Facilities: An OHV park or trails would be good. Hiking/canoe/ski trails.
-Additional Services: Winter trail grooming
-10 Year Improvement: ski/hike/canoe trails.

-Additional Facilities: Trails for motorized and non-motorized use, established trail heads.
-10 Year Improvement: expanded trails for motorizing and non-motorized use in a balance manner.

-Additional Facilities: sustainable, loop trail systems; secure trailheads;
-Additional Services: Good sustainable trail maintenance.
-Adequate Facilities: No. Many areas such as Chugach and Denali SP areas could use more adequate public access including sustainable trails for access into, through, or connecting with other public lands.
-10 Year Improvement: Better maintenance of existing facilities and trails.

-Additional Facilities: There is a high demand to have public access in state parks with marked, groomed snowmobile trails. Please put that into consideration.

-Additional Services: winter trail grooming, trails for hikers, skiers
-Additional Programs: maintained trails are welcomed.

-Additional Facilities: trails

-Adequate Facilities: I believe we need more OHV trails. There are not enough trails to accommodate the number of OHV users and trails are becoming over used.

-Additional Services: Winter trail grooming for snowmobiling.
-Adequate Facilities: There should be more groomed trails in winter and more plowed lots for parking for snowmobilers.
-10 Year Improvement: Better marking for winter trails.

-Additional Facilities: Chugach SP - hiking; Denali SP - hiking.

-Additional Services: Year long trail maintenance.

-Additional Facilities: Trail signs.
-Additional Services: Winter trail grooming, summer trail maintenance.
-Additional Programs: Trail signage.

-Additional Services: State Parks staff should be marking and signing snowmobile trails, in state parks and outside state parks wherever DNR-sponsored trail grooming is occurring. It's fine to get volunteers to do it for a while but this is something that state parks should provide, just like they do for summer visitors.

Grooming of snowmobile trails should be done by staff to the same level as ski trails are groomed by staff.

-Additional Programs: Developing a coherent snowmobile trail system INSIDE parks as well as outside, to draw outside visitors and develop rental businesses.
Developing a semi-hardened trail system for ATVs INSIDE parks as well as outside, to provide for recreational trail riding.

-Adequate Facilities: Trail system in Chena River area could be expanded and improved (fire losses).

-10 Year Improvement: Better separation of hiking trail from motorized trails. Unless motorized trails are "hardened" they are damaged and our users are effected.

-Additional Programs: Better mapping of trails with GPS coordinates. Perhaps better descriptions of the trails.

-Additional Facilities: Trails.

-Additional Services: Trail grooming.

-Adequate Facilities: Pretty good. The trails and parks around Ketchikan are first rate and are used heavily. The local Ranger is awesome and has always been helpful. They seem understaffed at the parks and there is an obvious lack of money spent in our area.

-Additional Facilities: Good signage, trail maps/trail boards.

-Additional Services: Trail status, trail grooming, enforcement of leashing dogs in the trailhead areas and on the heavily used trails.

-10 Year Improvement: I would like to see more winter access for snowmachines in the parks. Marked trails are needed to improve access. There is a big need for these snowmachine trails because without marks trails the general public do not know where to go. Winter recreation is so important and marked snowmachine trails would encourage people to legally and safely get out and enjoy the parks.

-Additional Facilities: Nature trails, rock climbing areas such as Grapefruit Rocks, trails like Angel Rocks, etc.

-Additional Services: Maintain trails.

-Adequate Facilities: No, build more trails, including self guided nature and points of interest trails.

-Additional Facilities: Hiking trails.

-Additional Services: Winter trail grooming.

-Additional Facilities: Hiking trails.

-10 Year Improvement: Create more trail systems.

-Additional Facilities: Please do whatever you can to support the park's need for trails.

-Additional Facilities: Better trails and signage.

-Additional Services: Winter trail grooming and connect trails to other trail systems.

-Additional Facilities: More marked trails.

-Additional Services: Groomed ski trails.

-10 Year Improvement: Improve the basics: more trails and the marking of current trails.

-Additional Services: Winter trail grooming.

-Additional Facilities: Limited developed trails to accommodate hikers and mountain bikers.

-Additional Services: Back-country or primitive trails and camping areas for those who want a simpler experience.

-10 Year Improvement: Increased primitive trails and camping areas to allow 'backcountry' users to get further away and enjoy more of the natural setting. Some of this may involve acquisition of trail easements.

-Additional Services: Summer trail brushing and improvement.

~Additional Services: Winter trail grooming.
~10 Year Improvement: Preservation and protection of multi-use trails for year around use.

~Additional Facilities: Trails! Trails! Trails! For the self propelled. Hikers and Mountain Bikers.

~Additional Facilities: I would like to see Long Lake SRA developed with trails for hikers and mountain bikers. It is a beautiful place - definitely under utilized and under appreciated. Great birding, natural unique eco systems, access to the Mat River is possible - the list goes on and on - great potential.

Hatcher Pass - although an official state park - it should be. Make more look trails. There are some nice hikes there, but it is really boring to have to go up a trail then turn around and come back the same way. Build more more more miles there! It is an awesome place.

~Additional Services: Trail management and maintenance.

~Adequate Facilities: Destination trails - long trails with nice facilities (camp sites - cabins - shelters) along the way. Look at the Chilkoot and the Resurrection Trail. Great examples of what can be done in Hatcher Pass, Chugach and Denali.

~10 Year Improvement: More and better trails for the average hiker and mountain biker - destination type trail systems - not unlike the Chilkoot and Resurrection Trails.

~Additional Programs: Designate some "state trails" and start to fund them. Trails that are better managed and maintained would really improve everyone's Alaska experience.

~Additional Facilities: Increased mountain bike trails.

~Additional Services: Improved trail maintenance.

~Additional Facilities: Single track hiking and biking trails.

~Additional Facilities: Groomed, marked snowmachine trails.

~Additional Services: Winter trail grooming and marking.

~Adequate Facilities: Somewhat, we have had some groomed, marked trails in the South Denali Petersville area, although I would like to a lot more of these. The trails help families to be able to come out and enjoy a day easy riding and they also provide hardcore riders like myself faster easier access to supreme riding areas. Not to mention how many times I have been lost and come across the marked trail and found my way back. Please give us more marked groomed trails.

~Adequate Facilities: Woefully inadequate for Chugach SP. Improve park access, parking, and trail system to meet the growing need.

~10 Year Improvement: Improved trail system.

~Additional Facilities: Trails.

~Additional Services: Winter trail grooming. Preventative education for trail use to prevent littering, erosion, wildlife abuse, and people getting into unsafe situations which require search and rescue.

~Additional Programs: Improve Middle Fork Trail to narrow mud boggy areas, info to visitors on trail etiquette on Flat Top in the summer (I was up in early summer and found a dozen plastic bottles on the snowfield where people were sliding down.) That place is a free for all in the summer.

~Adequate Facilities: Maintenance, maintenance, maintenance. Trail maintenance is a major issue for me.

~10 Year Improvement: I'd like to see volunteer coordinator positions dedicated to trail maintenance and upkeep.

~Additional Services: Facility maintenance including trails.

~10 Year Improvement: More funding so that trails, cabins and campgrounds can be properly maintained and expanded. There is a tremendous resource out there that people would use and enjoy with a little support from State Parks.

~Additional Services: trail maintenance; and improved signage

~10 Year Improvement: new trails.

~Additional Facilities: Hiking and skiing trails

~Additional Services: trail grooming

~Adequate Facilities: could use more hiking trails.

~10 Year Improvement: Build sustainable trails. Many of the current trails require extensive maintenance that is not being funded and are nearly unuseable.

~Additional Facilities: boat launches, picnic areas, roadside toilets, campgrounds.

~Adequate Facilities: NO! Look at what supplied now. Lack of proper trail heads, no winter or summer restrooms.

~Adequate Facilities: Develop some new non-motorized trail systems/work with local groups to help determine and accomplish this.

~10 Year Improvement: #2: Trail maintenance...rather this than fancy trailheads to overused...suffering trails.

~Additional Facilities: I am a weekly user of the Chugach SP/Hillside area. I would like to see trails maintained for summer and winter use. I don't think we need more facilities. The maintenance of structures is too costly and vandalism unfortunately is too high. Keep trails in good condition and try to reduce vandalism at the trailheads.

~Additional Services: I really like the idea of grooming the powerline trail in the winter especially when snow conditions in the lower Anch. bowl are poor.

~Additional Facilities: Biking and hiking trails with outhouses at trailheads and primitive bridges where the water is ankle deep and or/ five feet wide.

~10 Year Improvement: Trail maintenance i.e. bridges were needed.

~Additional Facilities: Trails that are wheelchair accessible at least as far as a wonderful viewpoint if not to the end of the trail.

-Additional Facilities: general trail maintenance.
-Additional Services: winter snowmobile grooming.
-10 Year Improvement: Better trail maintenance.

-Additional Services: winter trail grooming!!!
-10 Year Improvement: continue to maintain trails and all facilities.
-10 Year Improvement: Add more trails to the system so the use gets spread out and the character of the experience doesn't change.
Groom/maintain winter trails so people can get out and use the parks in winter too! Consider adding lighting to trails near urban environments so they are more user friendly in the winter.

-Additional Services: trail maintenance.

-Additional Services: If you're going to groom winter trails, please don't lay tracks or widen every single trail to make it a skate-skiers trail. I feel that Prospect Heights trails have been ruined in the past couple of years by over-grooming and trail-widening. The trails are like freeways now, instead of backcountry lanes. I don't ski at Hilltop or Kincaid because of the over-abundance of skate-skiers whizzing by hogging up the trails (and I don't like skiing in the straight, groomed tracks. Prospect was my refuge. No longer.
-10 Year Improvement: I'd like to see some of the main hiking trails maintained, but have them still retain their wilderness feel. The Harding Ice Field trail comes to mind ---beautiful trail with boulder steps, well-maintained, but it still feels 'wild' (even though it is heavily traveled.)

-Additional Facilities: We really like the trails and cabins around the Juneau area although the cabin prices are reaching the level where some families may feel they are getting too high. Many trails are in terrible condition, an example is the mucky mess going to Pt. Bridget, one of the more popular places now with three cabins.
-Additional Services: Winter trail at Eagle Beach is great.

-Additional Services: Winter trail grooming if necessary.
-Adequate Facilities: Mostly current facilities are adequate. In some high use areas close to Anchorage or Fairbanks, such as Chena, a larger variety of trails, both summer and winter, would be nice, as well as additional cabins (or Yurts, as a possibly less expensive alternative). It seems that at least on weekends and holidays, all of the existing cabins are booked. Existing cabins are great for weekend use (I.e. easy access, in and out), it would be great, where possible, to have loop trails with one or two cabins for extended trips. The distances between cabins should be moderate for skiers or hiker to be able to easily get from cabin to cabin in a day.
-10 Year Improvement: Improvements to trail system including:
Provide adequate signs and trail markers.
Improve trails in wet/boggy areas to prevent proliferation of side trails (board walks, other improvements. Are there alternative materials for wooden planks that would last longer? Such as recycled plastic boards that are commonly used for decks?
Add additional trails, especially loop trails. Where possible, already existing trails could be connected to offer additional options for day hikes and multiple day hikes.
Develop trail use plans that specify non-motorized vs. motorized vs. mixed uses for new and existing trails as necessary.

-Additional Facilities: maintained trails.
-Additional Services: trail maintenance both summer and winter.

-Additional Facilities: More trails in the parks with information signs are needed.

-Additional Facilities: trails
-Additional Services: winter trail grooming
-10 Year Improvement: trail maintenance.

-Additional Facilities: more hiking/skiing trails.

-Additional Facilities: trail maintenance.
-Additional Services: trail maintenance.

-Additional Facilities: A safe trail (water crossing) on Crow Pass.
-Adequate Facilities: The view from Round Top is almost as nice as the one from Flat Top. If that trail were developed so there was parking and access, it might take pressure off the Glen Alps Trail head.
-Operation Funding: Those of us who like to cross-country ski should be more careful to purchase our trail pins to pay for grooming ski trails.
-Additional Programs: Most of my company tends to want an experience more like what you'd get at Yosemite, Yellowstone or Glacier -- a number of trails for different ability levels, reasonable camping with an operational camp store at the visitor's center, the ability to rent bikes or boats, etc.

-Additional Programs: A true hut to hut trail system.

-Additional Facilities: hiking trails with bridges over difficult crossings.
-Additional Services: Groomed winter trails; maintained hiking trails.
-Adequate Facilities: I'd like more non-motorized trails, and trails with specific destinations, and sustainable trails linked to other trails.
-Adequate Facilities: I'd like trails over the historic trails natives used to travel, with information along the way.
-10 Year Improvement: Hiking trails with scenic destinations, some with information and some linked into trail networks.
Hiking trails with cabins and lodges to hike into.

-Additional Facilities: trails
-10 Year Improvement: trails, trails, trails.

-Additional Facilities: work on trails, bridge across the little Su from Mint trailhead with trails to access the Arcos ridge area.
-Additional Services: Winter trail grooming
-10 Year Improvement: trail work

-Additional Services: Better trail conditions postings, better trail maintenance (clearing throughout the hiking season).

-Additional Services: WINTER TRAIL GROOMING!

-Additional Facilities: More summer and winter trails.
-Additional Services: Better winter/summer trail development and maintenance.
-10 Year Improvement: winter/summer trail development and maintenance.

-Additional Services: trail grooming

-Additional Facilities: trails

-Additional Services: Trail grooming

-Additional Facilities: groomed snowmobile trails, open ATV, motorcycle and ATV areas
-Additional Services: winter trail grooming.

-Additional Facilities: constructed/designed hiking trails (i.e. Ermine Hill trail in Denali SP) that can also be used as a single track ski trails.
Winter trail grooming for skiing would be great.
-Additional Programs: Assisting with more trail systems, especially coordinated with other land managing agencies to provide networks of trails for a variety of backcountry trips.
-Improved trail maps where trails exist.

-Additional Services: HHHMMMMM.....winter trail grooming would be nice.
-Additional Programs: I think there is a need for more off-road vehicle trails, both ATV and snowmachine.

-Adequate Facilities: Lost lake could improve the trail some in the winter up snug road.

-Additional Services: winter trail grooming.

-Additional Programs: snowmobile access trails to prevent damage to the vegetation

-Additional Services: winter trail grooming
-10 Year Improvement: increased access for snowmachines

-Additional Services: winter trail grooming

-Additional Services: maintenance on trails and walkways.

-Additional Services: winter trail grooming and better marking with maps
-Adequate Facilities: Independence Mine badly need trail grooming over the top down to the Willow side.
-10 Year Improvement: More help from the parks in winter trails (i.e. groomed with a Piston Bully with blade and tillers) minimum of two per area.
-Additional Programs: trail hardening for summer trails for bike and ATV where swamp trails are.

~Additional Services: winter trail grooming
~10 Year Improvement: Eliminate the motorized use in the Powerline Pass area (snowmachines and skiers/pedestrians do no mix.)
Establish more trailheads near Anchorage.

~Additional Services: Seasonal trail maintenance - including leading volunteer groups with these efforts.
~10 Year Improvement: improved and maintained trails,

~Additional Services: maintained, clearly marked trails.
~Additional Services: winter trail grooming is essential.

~Additional Services: winter trail grooming for x-country skiers.
~Additional Programs: x-country ski trails
Historic trail preservation.

~Additional Services: trail maintenance, winter trail grooming. Simply maintaining the limited number of backcountry features.
~10 Year Improvement: simple trail and access road maintenance.

~Additional Facilities: Trail availability and maintenance where necessary to accommodate multiple uses.

~10 Year Improvement: Construction of rough bridges over streams along well - traveled trails in the backcountry.

~Additional Facilities: hiking trails
~10 Year Improvement: more trails

~Additional Facilities: the most important thing to me is to keep off-road vehicles off the non-motorized trails because they ruin the trails for non-motorized users. They account for a lot of the trash along the trails.
~10 Year Improvement: Trail maintenance, more switchbacks.

~Additional Services: winter trail grooming

~Additional Services: trail clearing.

~Additional Facilities: more foot trails through the brushy areas and bridges over streams.

~Additional Facilities: In backcountry areas: very few facilities, maintained (existing) trails, managed for more primitive camping/hiking, climbing, etc...
~Additional Services: winter trail grooming would be appropriate in CSP and Ind. Mine area given volume of visitors and interest.

~Additional Facilities: Trails that are not put in by runners who go straight up and cause land erosion. Trail maintenance on existing trails.
~Additional Services: trail maintenance for visibility and safety, provides opportunity for interaction with the public.
~10 Year Improvement: Trail maintenance so we do not loose the trails to wash outs. Trail clearing of existing trails

~Additional Programs: Trail Programs: A. Expand programming to include more outreach and tech. support for trail projects; B. Develop statewide trail planning and construction standards; C. continue a strong Trails Section in the Division that will serve as a focus for statewide trail issues, grants, solutions.

~Additional Services: winter trail grooming
~10 Year Improvement: trail marking trail grooming for growth in winter recreation activities. (i.e. snowmachining, xc skiing, mushing, skijoring.)
~10 Year Improvement: Lots of trails maintenance; some new trails.

~Additional Facilities: non-motorized trails
~Additional Services: trail main.; ski trail grooming
~Adequate Facilities: More trails need to be made and maintained for non-motorized use, skiing, bicycling, hiking
~Additional Services: I think that signs along the trails are adequate.

~Additional Services: Continue the trail clearing required in Kachemak Bay SP due to beetle kill trees crossing the trail.

~Additional Services: winter trail grooming

Alaska State Parks Strategic Plan Comments

Recreation - Facilities

~Additional Facilities: cabins, boat launches, toilets

~Adequate Facilities: more cabins

~Additional Facilities: Public use cabins and campgrounds, but keeping and maintaining the ones we have now should be the priority.

~10 Year Improvement: Maintenance of the facilities that now exist.

~Additional Facilities: public toilets, recycling and garbage facilities, public use cabins,

~Additional Facilities: More trails in general (non-motorized) are always welcome. Trailhead parking with information kiosks and toilets should be standard for every State Park.

~Additional Services: Trash pickup is essential to keeping the parks clean. Without trash service, users get lazy about their waste.

~Additional Facilities: cabins

~Adequate Facilities: No, would like more state park cabins.

~Additional Services: Just a few maintained restrooms at the campgrounds and trailheads.

~Additional Facilities: Hiking Huts, Mooring Buoys, Visitor Centers

~10 Year Improvement: More trails cabins, developed campsites.

~Adequate Facilities: every area needs water and a toilet at the parking lot or trailhead.

~Adequate Facilities: The backcountry could use a system of yurts.

~Additional Facilities: Class A campgrounds that would justify higher user fees. Visitor centers would be a plus with proper funding to operate. Motorized recreation besides snowmachines, 4x4 and ATV users need areas to recreate also. Establish OHV parks with challenging trails, camping and food.

~Additional Facilities: toilets, campgrounds

~Additional Facilities: Roadside toilets, campgrounds, public use cabins

~Adequate Facilities: No, as more people travel and move to Alaska the facilities need to increase not decrease.

~Additional Facilities: Access through subdivisions and parking!

~Additional Facilities: cabins on a few long trails are nice. Also, trailhead facilities such as garbage cans and outhouses help to keep trails cleaner.

~Additional Facilities: PUC's for year round use.

~Additional Facilities: Trash receptacles, pet waste bags, boat launches, campgrounds, bear containers for rent.

~Additional Services: Trash pickup

~Adequate Facilities: Yes, except that we could use a few more remote cabins.

~Additional Facilities: Cabins.

~Additional Facilities: Public use cabins.

~Additional Services: Trash pick-up.

~Additional Facilities: Cabins.

~Additional Services: Trash pickup.

~10 Year Improvement: Maintenance of cabins.

~Additional Facilities: Clean road side toilets year round. Take over management of the roadside pull offs.

~Additional Services: Clean safe well maintained campgrounds.

Expanding the network of campgrounds throughout the road system and seek funding to keep the restrooms on the road system clean and well maintained year round.

-Additional Facilities: Boat launches, adequate parking, toilets, public use cabins, remote developed camp sites.

-Additional Services: Garbage collection.

-Adequate Facilities: Parking and boat launching is inadequate at many locations, there are very few parks with remote developed camp sites.

-10 Year Improvement: Remote developed campsites, remote public-use cabins. These are the kinds of things that attract independent travelers. We should not be funding things that benefit Princess Tours and their clients. The independent tourist spends money in Alaska at Alaskan owned businesses. The Cruise Industry client expenditures primarily benefit the Cruise Industry.

-Additional Programs: Yes to public-use cabins.

-Additional Facilities: Some park areas, like Chena River, benefit from providing camping and picnic areas with toilets.

-Additional Services: Making sure the parking areas are plowed in winter is additionally important. I think trash pick up is a good idea, and perhaps ensuring trash cans are accessible would help that effort considerably.

-Additional Facilities: Public use cabins. Roadside picnic and toilets are nice to have along our highway system. Campgrounds are good for tourists, but I never use them with the family. I camp along the river, or away from formal campgrounds.

Hut to hut system for winter travel would be a good thing to invest in.

-Additional Services: Basic services should be provided, trash, toilets, boat ramps etc.

-10 Year Improvement: A more comprehensive hut to hut system.

-Additional Facilities: Public use cabins.

-Additional Services: Trash pick-up.

-Additional Facilities: Picnic areas, roadside toilets, campgrounds some with pull thru, fire wood to purchase. The more remote campgrounds the more water is needed for drinking and possibly a dump station. Talk to a lot of tourist who would use the campgrounds more if they could get water and dump, but when they have to pack up and drive to a town to dump their motor homes they don't come back out. Tenter's really need water to drink and a clean place for a toilet.

-Additional Facilities: Restroom facilities, sufficient turnaround areas for 5th wheel trailers and boat, ATV and snowmobile trailers.

-Additional Facilities: Overnight cabins, campgrounds, picnic tables, fire pits, and toilets. Visitor centers make sense in some locations. I enjoy the one in Tok.

Group camping area for large parties of campers, such as youth groups, civic organizations, clubs, family reunions, etc.

-Additional Services: latrines, trash pick-up,; overnight cabins maintained and serviced regularly (cabin repairs, wood stove, maintenance, etc).

-Adequate Facilities: NO! Why are toilets boarded at Olnes Pond? How about picnic tables?

-Additional Facilities: snowmachine/ATV ramps (for loading and offloading), outhouses, limited rustic campgrounds, parking areas, backcountry public use cabins.

-Additional Services: trash pickup, outhouse cleaning, plowing.

-Adequate Facilities: yes, possibly more cabins in a wider number of parks.

-10 Year Improvement: Concentrate on maintaining/improving existing facilities and programs

-Additional Facilities: PUC, Outhouses would probably deter people from leaving trash in the woods.

-Additional Services: Espresso stands (just kidding!)

-10 Year Improvement: PUC.

-Additional Facilities: Public use cabins, roadside toilets, campgrounds/day use areas, potable water.

-Adequate Facilities: more public use cabins would be helpful to spend time to explore the areas at the various recreational areas.

-Additional Programs: rental boats

-Additional Facilities: Boat Launches, Outhouses, rustic campgrounds (i.e. tent camping only, not trailer/motorhome accessible)

-Additional Facilities: OHV parks, Roads, campgrounds, cabins

-10 Year Improvement: OHV trails maintenance for sustained access by all user groups.

-Additional Facilities: picnic areas, and campgrounds.

-Additional Services: Parking only, leave the rest to public groups to get involved in (trash pick up, trail grooming).

-Additional Facilities: roadside toilets, free campgrounds

-10 Year Improvement: an off road park area

-Additional Facilities: Better parking areas with amenities. Better snow plowing. Better signage at the Upper Fishhook Parking lot regarding the "PAY" station. Last spring when I went riding up there I was ticketed for failure to pay for parking. With the high snow berms, etc. I just totally didn't see the station. Someone else parked beside me said they didn't see it either but the ranger warned them before they departed the parking lot. I had no such luck.

-Additional Facilities: year-round roadside rest areas

~Additional Services: Trash pick up.

~Adequate Facilities: Yes, but more is always better.

~Additional Facilities: Roadside toilets, cabins, campgrounds, picnic areas, boat launches.

~Additional Services: Winter warm-up shelters, and summer rest areas with toilets.

~Additional Facilities: public use cabins, ice fishing huts

~Additional Services: Regular checks of public use cabins to make sure that they are in good working order (stoves, saws, outhouses...)

~Adequate Facilities: Yes, I have always found more than enough facilities

~Additional Facilities: More public-use cabins, trailheads, canoe (not powerboat) launching sites.

~Additional Facilities: public use cabins, visitor centers, roadside toilets, campgrounds, picnic areas,

~Additional Services: trash pickup

~Adequate Facilities: What we have is wonderful but with our much increased population we need more access points and trails, parking at trailheads, more campgrounds and toilet facilities. Summer buses to major trailheads like Glen Alps.

~10 Year Improvement: more access points, consider a visitor facility at Glen Alps - long term, what about a chalet/warming hut?

~Additional Facilities: roadside toilets and public use cabins

~Additional Services: trash pick up and outhouse cleaning.

Keep gun shooters (drunk ones especially) out of campgrounds and non-developed camping areas.

~Additional Facilities: public use cabins, boat launches.

~Additional Facilities: Public use cabins, boat launches, picnic areas, toilets, campgrounds, etc.

~Additional Services: Trash pickup

~Adequate Facilities: I'd like to see more public use cabins along the river ways that allow folks without snowmobiles to still get out and enjoy the country.

~Additional Facilities: Boat launches, bathrooms, campground, trash pick up

~Additional Facilities: Garbage cans or dumpsters at trailheads. Public roadside and trailhead toilets. Campgrounds. Picnic areas.

~Adequate Facilities: I don't know, I only visited one during my Fairbanks vacation-visit.

~10 Year Improvement: increase public restrooms construction, maintenance, janitorial.

~Additional Facilities: Public use cabins, visitor centers, boat launches, picnic areas, roadside toilets, campgrounds.

~Additional Services: Trash pickup.

~Adequate Facilities: Need camping facilities to minimize remote area environmental damage, along with outhouses.

~10 Year Improvement: Dedicated campsites for above.

~Additional Programs: Developing remote campsites.

~Additional Facilities: PUC's, campgrounds

~10 Year Improvement: more cabins

~Additional Facilities: I would love to see road side stops and/or visitor center with amenities like eco friendly public toilets (and staff to clean them at least a few times a season...), potable water, garbage cans, payphones, maps and historical information. Staffed or unstaffed, these could be a really great resource for travelers.

At some state park sites, visitor center facilities would be a really excellent resource for the community. Smaller visitors centers could really fill a void for smaller communities. Kincaid Chalet in Anchorage is a fabulous community resource, and a lot can be learned from how the community utilizes it. Weddings, birthdays, family reunions, big bbqs. There is a lot of potential for areas like that.

~Additional Facilities: Campground, toilets, water, public use cabins, information about the area with hiking trails and bike trails noted and a dock or boat launch area. Day use area parking would be nice for folks who just want to go canoeing or kayaking on lakes for the day.

~Additional Services: Trash pickup, toilet facility maintenance.

~Adequate Facilities: I believe all of them should have a clean water facility, toilets and a place for trash with trash pickup. Perhaps a day use area with a toilet for us early spring and late fall campers would be adequate? At least we could have a place to park and sleep with a toilet somewhere close.

~Additional Facilities: Toilets, campgrounds, public use cabins, visitor centers.

~Additional Services: Trash pickup.

-Additional Facilities: Trash receptacles and fewer unimproved roads.

-Additional Services: Trash pickup.

-Adequate Facilities: Yes.

-10 Year Improvement: Higher quality facilities and removal of unimproved facilities and roads.

-Additional Services: Maintenance of current facilities.

-Adequate Facilities: Yes.

-Additional Facilities: Public use cabins****, toilets, campgrounds, picnic areas.

-Additional Services: Trash pickup, toilet cleaning and restocking.

-Adequate Facilities: In some locations YES.

In other locations, no--like having Lower Chatanika/Olnes Pond closed. I sure would love to see many more public use cabins in some locations.

-Additional Facilities: Showering facilities in both Deep Creek and Crooked Creek would be wonderful.

-Additional Programs: Do we have a 4-wheeling park? I think I know that answer. Boats are motorized.

-Additional Facilities: Visitor centers work real well in providing info on some of the places that use the most.

As accommodating as roadside toilets may be, I really don't know if that a good idea. Most visitors that do travel up here, they do it in motorhomes which house the proper toiletries.

A big no on campgrounds inside of state parks, maybe the outskirts but not the interior.

-Additional Facilities: Many facilities are already there. They are nice accommodations. More cabins and toiletries are always useful though.

-Additional Services: Trash.

-Adequate Facilities: I have not had a chance to utilize a=many of the available facilities. But, often it is because they are already in use. Adding to the number would give more opportunities for use.

-Additional Facilities: Picnic areas, roadside toilets (maintained), campgrounds & boat launches.

-Additional Facilities: Expanded trailheads, and/or intercept trailheads/parking and/or shuttles to get people into popular areas.

More public use cabins, for access in all kinds of recreational settings (i.e., road access, motorized and non-motorized backcountry access).

-Additional Facilities: I would like the following facilities provided in AK state parks areas: public use cabins, visitor center, picnic areas, roadside toilets, and campgrounds. I prefer campsites that have trees and bushes between each site. It would also be nice if, every so many miles, there could be a dump site and Potable water available. Picnic sites should have bear-safe trashcans. Could roadside toilets have anti-biotic gel available? It's also good if instructions could be posted on how to use the roadside toilets - some don't seem to know. When our children were young - they enjoyed the visitors centers so much. So did my husband and I. We never used a public use cabin because they were so remove. I do think they are a good idea though.

-Additional Services: Trash pickup is important.

-10 Year Improvement: Clean bathrooms, available potable water, available dump sites, bear proof trash cans.

-Additional Facilities: More public use cabins.

-Additional Facilities: Trails, toilets.

-Additional Services: Trash pickup--get community groups to do it.

-Adequate Facilities: Need more restrooms.

-Additional Facilities: Toilets, boat launches to include pwc, snowmobile/ATV trailer parking.

-Additional Services: Trash pickup, winter snowplowing of the parking lots.

-Additional Facilities: PUC

-Adequate Facilities: Yes, a few more cabins on well established trails.

-Additional Facilities: Toilets.

-Adequate Facilities: More outhouses would be nice.

-Additional Facilities: Roadside toilets.

-Additional Facilities: Would also like to see more bridges (e.g., off Turnagain trail to the Ramp/Wedge).

-Additional Facilities: Keep picnic and toilet areas. Keep campgrounds and/or cabins that we have already...add as you see more usage. Cabins are an expense for upkeep - signage helps most people who care to take care of cabin and cabin area (signage about how to keep cabin clean and in repair). Boat launches are helpful...I know this was nice at Harding and Birch which I was used to.

-Adequate Facilities: There are few places one can stop in winter for bathrooms and our families from Homer are glad for the availability there.

-10 Year Improvement: Picnic areas available.

-Additional Facilities: Roadside toilets are a much needed feature for our visitors and residents alike. Campgrounds, public use cabins and picnic areas are a far higher priority than visitor centers.
-Additional Services: Trash pick-up.
-Adequate Facilities: Again, roadside toilets are needed throughout the road system. These need not be "first-class" facilities. Just a basic toilet would be fine. We must provide these facilities to our visitors, especially the older visitor.

-Additional Facilities: Roadside toilets. Picnic areas. Public Use cabins.
-Additional Services: Trash disposal.
-Adequate Facilities: Very much appreciate having public use restrooms along the major highways, but wish the picnic/trash areas were better maintained.

-Additional Facilities: Backcountry PUC's, Visitor Centers, Trailheads and toilets, campgrounds, boat launches
-Additional Services: Trash pick-up, clean fire pits of trash and ash, clean up litter and toilet facilities

-Additional Facilities: Campgrounds and public use cabins.
-Additional Services: Trash pickup.
-Adequate Facilities: Public use cabins would be quite the luxury.

-Additional Facilities: Bear viewing sites

-Additional Facilities: Hardened camp sites on long trails and outhouses to go with them. Bear hangs or bear boxes. Preserve the site or it will be destroyed.

-Additional Facilities: Cabins, visitor center, boat launches/dock, toilets/latrines, campgrounds, fire pit.
-Additional Services: Camp/cabin maintenance.
-Adequate Facilities: Plenty of options, maybe more maintenance on the cabins? (Painting, new tablecloth, etc.)
-10 Year Improvement: New furniture, public use kayaks & other boats.

-Additional Facilities: Public use cabins, boat launches, picnic areas, many more roadside toilets, campgrounds.
-10 Year Improvement: Cabins.

-Additional Facilities: Primitive. Provide water where people can fill up containers. Provide public outhouses. And provide fire pits. And garbage cans.
-Additional Services: Trash pickup is nice.
-10 Year Improvement: More camping facilities. Places where people can put their tents for the night or longer.

-Additional Facilities: Cabins, camping areas.
-Adequate Facilities: The cabins at Bridget are good I would like to see more.

-Additional Facilities: Roadside toilets, picnic tables, campgrounds.

-Additional Facilities: Roadside toilets. Would like to see better and more campgrounds near high activity areas. No more parking lot campgrounds for Alaska.
-Additional Services: Yes trash pickup. We visit Upper Michigan once a year and our biggest problem is trash/garbage and they do not provide visitors anywhere to put it. What are you supposed to do take it home on the plane? Provide trash pickup.

-Additional Facilities: The backcountry - cabins with boats to play around on lakes are great as well.

-Additional Facilities: Public use cabins.
-Adequate Facilities: We can always use more cabins near Juneau.
-10 Year Improvement: More cabins.
-Additional Programs: A golf course with interpretative stations.

-Additional Facilities: Picnic areas, roadside toilets, information about the area; hikes, boating, wildlife - plant and animal, public use cabins.

-Additional Facilities: Clean toilets. Campgrounds and picnic areas.
-Adequate Facilities: If all the parks areas were functioning at 100%, the facilities and services would be adequate. Unfortunately, I don't think they are due to increased costs of simple maintenance (trash and toilets, etc.).

-Additional Facilities: Roadside toilets; campgrounds.
-Additional Services: Trash pickup.
-Adequate Facilities: The number of campgrounds seems adequate. We rarely are unable to find a campsite within a reasonable distance of our planned destination. Toilet cleaning and trash pickup are usually satisfactory except in high use areas (e.g., Glen Alps parking area).

-Additional Facilities: Public use cabins.
-10 Year Improvement: Needs/improvements to make: expanded public use cabin system.

~Additional Facilities: Boat launches.

~Additional Facilities: Public use cabins.

~Additional Facilities: Roadside toilets.

~Adequate Facilities: I would prefer to see roadside toilets at the major trailheads in the Juneau State Trails System.

~Additional Facilities: Varies according to specific park. Picnic areas in some; roadside toilets; campgrounds, where appropriate; public use cabins are a lower priority.

~Additional Facilities: Clean toilets. Level spaces for RVs. Most of the parks in Anchor Point and Deep Creek need to be updated. They are too narrow for the current larger RVs with all the slide outs. Many of the spots are not level. Many times I have had to use over six 2x6s to get level. Every spot should have a table and a fire ring. Most RVers like their own table. WHERE ARE THE CLEANING TABLES FOR CLEANING FISH. A LOT OF PEOPLE USE YOUR PICNIC TABLES AND LEAVE A MESS FOR THE NEXT PERSON. Have camper friendly rangers who stop and talk with the campers as they make their rounds. HAVE BETTER CONTROL OF THE ATVs THAT RACE AROUND THE CAMPGROUNDS. HOST NEEDS TO ENFORCE YOUR RULES.

~Additional Services: Yes pickup is needed. When the front of the dumpster is full park personnel need to use a push pole to push the material to the back.

~10 Year Improvement: Expand the parking sites for RVs. Better updated toilets.

~Additional Facilities: Public use cabins, campgrounds, restroom facilities.

~Adequate Facilities: Yes, although there is not enough patrolling at Kaslof River areas at all. We were down there for personal use setnetting and the amount of human waste back in the woods (there was nowhere else to go) was truly sickening. It is a public-health hazard.

~10 Year Improvement: Cleaner parks, more basic facilities such as outhouses and signage, and upkeep of what we have rather than building more.

~Additional Facilities: I would like to see additional campgrounds, especially on the Kenai Peninsula. This is mainly to facilitate holiday weekend demand. If new campgrounds were built, I suggest having the camp spaces further apart with additional tent camping areas.

~Additional Services: I would like to see additional trash pickup and outhouse cleaning.

~Adequate Facilities: I would like to see more public use cabins and better enforcement of not allowing commercial businesses having their clients book up all of the premium times.

~10 Year Improvement: Enforcing litter regulations.

~Additional Facilities: Composting or other environmentally sensitive toilets (not flush), tent camping campgrounds.

~Additional Services: Trash pick-up (though wouldn't it be nice if people would pick up after themselves).

~10 Year Improvement: Composting toilets.

~Additional Facilities: Cabins, campgrounds.

~Adequate Facilities: More cabins.

~10 Year Improvement: More winter use cabins in backcountry.

~Additional Facilities: Boat launches, public use cabins.

~Additional Facilities: Public use cabins, recycling facilities, campgrounds.

~Additional Services: Trash pickup.

~Additional Facilities: Roadside toilets, campgrounds for parks on the road system. Public use cabins for remote areas. Cabins would best be placed near water to facilitate easier maintenance / accessibility.

~Additional Services: Trash pickup, restroom upkeep.

~Additional Facilities: Public use cabins. Kayak launches.

~Additional Services: Trash pickup.

~Adequate Facilities: We could use more cabins in the Juneau area.

~10 Year Improvement: Construct some new cabins. No to visitor centers which require fulltime staffing. Some accessible park trails and camp facilities for persons with disabilities. Improved kayak launch sites in SE Alaska.

~Additional Facilities: Potable drinking water during the summer months.

~Additional Facilities: Trash facilities are lacking in some parks, especially those managed by commercial or non-profit entities. Alaska can always use more roadside toilets. Shower facilities in the parks closer to urban areas.

~Adequate Facilities: I've spent part of the last four summers visiting different state park units throughout the state and find most of them to be adequate. The only area camp sites were unavailable was around Cordova. A state park with a campground on the Dalton Highway between Cold Foot and Deadhorse would be a plus. I realize there isn't any state land there, but perhaps an exchange could be made.

~Additional Programs: Grants to trail groups, like hut-to-hut programs.

-Additional Facilities: Public use cabins, boat rentals.

-Adequate Facilities: Need more cabins, it is almost impossible to rent one.

-Additional Services: I support using citizen efforts for trash pickup.

-Adequate Facilities: Yes, at least for me. However, I prefer to experience state parks via camping and don't require more picnic tables and cabins. Is funding adequate to maintain the facilities State Parks has now? Before I would support additional facilities, I need to know more about the financial status and any stress on current visitor facilities.

-Additional Facilities: Public use cabins, picnic areas, roadside toilets, campgrounds, boat launches, barbeque pits.

-Adequate Facilities: The number of winter cabin facilities on the Chena Hot Springs SRA are not adequate. We find that there is a huge demand for these cabins during spring break.

We have resorted to Arctic Oven tent camping during this time. However, this requires planning ahead by going one week before the planned trip and breaking trail and padding down an area for camping with snowshoes. Therefore, if additional cabins are not on your immediate radar then providing additional trails off of the existing ones leading to a nice cleared areas with a barbeque pit, picnic table and toilet, would help. Maybe you can devise a way of creating some type of platform on which to set the tent. We currently take 4x8 sheets of plywood cut in half (2x8 to fit on our sled) and use it as a floor under the tent, which works well as the snow does not melt and create sink holes below you when you sleep. Before this we used to resort to cutting tree limbs for bedding below the tent floor.

-Additional Facilities: Road side toilets, visitor centers, picnic areas, trash pickup

-10 Year Improvement: Improved toilets

-Additional Facilities: Visitor Centers

-Additional Facilities: public use cabins, day use areas, large group sites

-Additional Facilities: Picnic areas, boat launches

-Additional Facilities: Public use cabins, campgrounds
providing essential services (clean campgrounds and toilets)

-Additional Facilities: Cabins, toilets, campgrounds

-Additional Services: trash pickup

-Additional Facilities: sufficient parking areas for trucks and snowmobile trailers.

-Adequate Facilities: No. Although Nancy Lake area has a reasonable number of public use cabins, neither the Denali SP or Willow Creek SRA areas do not have a sufficient number of cabins to support winter snowmobiling in that area.

-Additional Facilities: toilets so tourists quit using my driveway.

-Additional Services: Organizing trash pick up days, especially along the rivers after Memorial Day weekend would be wonderful. I think there are plenty of local groups and individuals to help it someone would organize it.

-Additional Facilities: Campgrounds, boat launches.

-Additional Services: Kenai

-10 Year Improvement: Better RV support, i.e. dump stations, fresh water source.

-Additional Facilities: Gas for snowmobiles.

-Additional Facilities: Roadside toilets, picnic areas, camping facilities, emergency phones. More multi use opportunities for all kinds of fitness types/levels.

-Additional Services: Poop bags, trash pickup.

-Adequate Facilities: No, my family uses the "facilities" at the nearest tree!

-Additional Programs: Bike rental facilities. Small (non-motor) boat renting facilities like at Eklutna.

-Additional Facilities: I would like to see ALL roadside pull outs have toilets for YEAR ROUND use.

-Adequate Facilities: No, some campgrounds are so overcrowded it is disgusting, who wants to camp in a big gravel parking lot? Camping should be a wilderness experience, with space for some nature between campsites, not parking on top of each other.

-10 Year Improvement: More construction of secluded campgrounds.

-Additional Programs: No, guild the campgrounds - put in Hosts and let it ride.

-Adequate Facilities: The state parks should be for the people of Alaska to use and enjoy forever. Uses should include hunting and snowmobile access in winter. More marked trails and parking, especially for winter use are needed. Denali State Park is just out my back door and I use it a lot for hunting, boating and snowmachining. It is an example of a park that needs more parking and trails and signs. By all means don't lock us out of any more areas. I will be watching as the strategic plan is developed and will make more specific comments as things develop. I live in Trapper Creek and have property just outside Wood-Tikchik in Dillingham.

-Additional Facilities: 1. Roadside toilets, 2. Picnic areas, 3. Campgrounds, 4. Visitors centers.

~Additional Facilities: Snowmobile warming huts.

~Additional Facilities: Alpine Visitor and Education Center at Arctic Valley.

~10 Year Improvement: Renovate and rebuild the parking lot, trailhead and trail system at Arctic Valley. The Independence Mine renovation is a good model. Work with the Anchorage Ski Club, Inc. to develop their lodge into an Alpine Visitor and Education Center (ERNC, Eielson Visitor Center, Begich-Boggs are good models). Winter yurts to ski or mush to in Ship Creek Valley.

~Additional Facilities: Working public toilets, picnic areas, and campgrounds. More visitor centers and interpretive information would also be nice to have.

~Additional Services: Regular servicing of toilets, and trash pickup year round.

~Adequate Facilities: Most of the time the number of facilities is adequate, popular weekends can be crowded but that's to be expected. We tend to return to the same parks. The type of the facility in the locations we visit is adequate: we can park our motorhome in the space provided, there's adequate space to spread out in the camp site, access to water, toilets and trash is good. Most of the time the services provided (e.g. access, trash collection) are adequate.

~Additional Facilities: More adequate parking areas.

~Additional Facilities: Larger Parking Areas for winter use. Such as snowmobiles with trailers.

~Additional Facilities: Cabins, toilets where appropriate (e.g. restore those by Long Lake), campgrounds, hut-to-hut systems along trails.

~Adequate Facilities: We've got a huge park system but very few facilities and a pitiful number of staff. We need more facilities to spread use away from a handful of heavily-visited sites. We need better management of those sites (more staff) but we also need more staff to take care of new sites. Campground hosts are great but cannot substitute for commissioned LE rangers or trained interpretation staff. Also need more maintenance staff so rangers don't have to clean toilets and stock TP.

There is a huge demand for outdoor rec in AK and our state park system is wonderful. It should be seen as an asset equal to the national park system here (and I work for NPS). State Parks needs a realistic budget and staffing levels. Our state leaders are shooting themselves in the foot by failing to staff and promote the full potential of our state parks. I moved here for quality of life and as an AK resident, I demand better! Visitors deserve to see our state in its full glory, too.

~Additional Facilities: Roadside winter parking areas big enough for RV's with toilets. Security cameras at the parking lots. Dumpsters with pickup.

~Additional Facilities: Campgrounds and boat launches are great first editions but all of the above mentioned facilities enhance access to public lands in a positive way.

~Adequate Facilities: I like the established camping facilities on the Little Su and I think it's a good model to copy elsewhere. I wish the upper parts between Houston and the lower river had similar facilities. In the six consecutive years that we have been floating the river I've noticed a steady increase in the use of the river along with a steady increase in the misuse of the area. Though its not SP land, it is something well worth preserving as wild and scenic in some manner. I think that will be especially true if a proposed bridge near Big Lake goes in.

~Additional Facilities: Secure parking areas, roadside toilets

~Additional Facilities: roadside toilets, PUC

~Additional Facilities: cabins, picnic areas, campgrounds.

~Additional Facilities: When there are no toilets, people still "go". Toilets are needed and must be maintained.

~Additional Services: It's pathetic that you have to pick up trash in our parks, but if people are tossing it, it needs to be picked up somehow. It's hard to tell that the stations with bags to pick up dog doo are working. Maybe over time they'll change dog owner behavior.

~Additional Facilities: PUC's along trails

~Additional Services: trash pick-up

~Additional Facilities: PUC's, boat launches, picnic areas campgrounds, pit toilets (not Porta Potties!)

~Additional Services: Trash pickup/hauling yeah...but not going around and picking up trash off the ground.

~Additional Facilities: More PUC's.

~Additional Services: Improved facility maintenance.

~Adequate Facilities: No, State Park facilities are often in poor condition and receive little maintenance. Improved cabins, shelters parking, picnic, trails and other facilities are needed.

~10 Year Improvement: State park should focus on physical improvements to the trails, picnic areas, shelters, cabins and parking areas. Energy should also be spent on expanding the state park system such as creating the Islands State Park near Juneau.

~Additional Facilities: PUC's, yurts on trail system.

~Additional Services: trash pickup

~Adequate Facilities: A visitor center on the Anchorage Hillside that offered an interpretive displays, warm-up place in winter, toilets, small scale activity center like Eagle River Visitor Center would be terrific.

-Additional Facilities: Public use cabins on longer trails for overnight trips. Toilets and parking at trailheads.
-Additional Services: Trash pickup is big.
-Adequate Facilities: There could be more road-side camping places, but not for RV's for tent camping. I feel more people should be encourage to experience the out of doors, which is not in an RV (my opinion).

-Additional Facilities: Public use cabins connected with a hut to hut system running in various directions from Anchorage and other accessible points. Warming huts for skiers, even if unheated.
A dining and drinking facility near nexus of CSP/gasline/Bicentennial Park (uphill from Bivouac Trailheads)

-Additional Facilities: roadside toilets, campgrounds
-Additional Services: Facilities and grounds maintenance and clean up.
-Adequate Facilities: The basic facilities seem adequate. It would be nice to secure adequate funding to maintain them.

-Additional Facilities: roadside toilets and campgrounds

-Additional Facilities: safe parking areas.
-Additional Services: Human waste management, trash pick up.
-Adequate Facilities: The number and type of facilities available should be expanded. Visitor centers or nature centers could be built or upgraded. Campgrounds could be improved....

-Additional Facilities: PUC's for non-motorized areas. Nancy Lake has no PUC's on the north side of the parkway off the ski trails.
Secluded, quiet camping areas, Bear proof receptacles. Picnic areas and toilets.
-Additional Services: Trash pick up. Maintenance of existing facilities at minimum, enhancement as affordable.
-Adequate Facilities: Lack of PUC's in nonmotorized area of Nancy lake.
-10 Year Improvement: just pure fun like canoeing the Nancy Lake system. Parks sponsored backpack and camping outings. Winter camping.

-Additional Facilities: We would really like to see the state provide more roadside toilet facilities with maintenance to help with the sanitary, littering problems, particularly in heavily used areas, but don't know if State Parks has the ability to do that.
-Additional Facilities: Over all trails, campgrounds, visitors centers, restoration of stream banks, cabins are all good. Boat launches need to be appropriately, placed and consider impacts & balance recreation with wildlife disturbance.

-Additional Facilities: Boat launches, snowmobile loading/unloading ramps.

-Additional Facilities: Larger parking areas for some trailheads. Outhouses for some trailheads.

-Additional Facilities: Backcountry cabins.
-Additional Services: Trash pickup at campgrounds and roadside pull-offs (which should have toilets).

-Additional Facilities: PUC's, campgrounds.
-Additional Services: Trash pickup

-Additional Facilities: Winter use cabins in non-motorized part of the Chena Rec area.
-Adequate Facilities: Adequate.

-Additional Facilities: PUC's

-Additional Facilities: PUC's, roadside toilets.
-Adequate Facilities: Yes, there is plenty now.

-Additional Facilities: Public use cabins would be nice. We use the Nancy Lakes cabins a lot.
-Adequate Facilities: I'm OK with the number of facilities. As said above, more PUC's would be nice but what is there now is OK.
-10 Year Improvement: PUC's, OHV parks,

-Additional Facilities: Boat launches for river access. Dumpsters for disposing of trash would be helpful too, but not as important.
-Adequate Facilities: No. I would like to see a off high-way vehicle park, specifically to provide access and recreation for motorized users in a particular area. Not to replace typical trail access, but to provide another means of recreation for those just looking to get out for a short trip.
-10 Year Improvement: see comment on developing OHV park.

-Additional Facilities: non-motorized hand boat launch sites and suitable parking.

-Additional Facilities: Camping areas for tenters only, partying free zones - no loud music, raucous groups.. etc.. PUC's, Picnic Areas.
-Adequate Facilities: No - we need more. We need the ones that have been closed due to financial mismanagement reopened and refurbished.
-10 Year Improvement: More parks, more camping grounds, better maintenance and clean up.

-Additional Facilities: PUC's, roadside toilets, campgrounds, picnic areas...at a minimum.
-Additional Services: trash pick-up, outhouse maintenance including toilet paper supply. Saws at cabins with stands for sawing wood, if it is not supplied. Cabins with stoves and gas lights.
-Adequate Facilities: I can't now distinguish between BLM and State Cabins, but I am really pleased when finding a maintained trail in the winter, a lantern, a cook-stove in decent condition, a good wood stove, some mats on the beds and an outhouse in good condition.
-10 Year Improvement: More cabins at distance off the road accessible for hikers/skiers.

-Additional Facilities: Roadside Toilets, picnic areas and campgrounds. A few PUC's ok for winter use. Boat Launches.
-Additional Services: Toilet pumping (roadside pullouts in Alaska get DISGUSTING) from human waste left behind every bush in some areas.....having clean outhouses is a great service, and much better for the environment!
-Adequate Facilities: More state parks with facilities for camping.

-Additional Facilities: Additional boat launches on both the Kenai and Kasilof, especially the lower Kasilof.
-Adequate Facilities: Facilities are adequate in that they augment what is available via the private sector and at the same time do a much better job.

-Additional Facilities: Boat launches with docks. Campgrounds.

-Additional Facilities: all of the above
-Additional Services: trash pick up
-Adequate Facilities: No. Toilet facilities are woefully inadequate and they are not kept up, especially on weekends when you know a gazillion people will be using them, such as July 4 weekend.

-Additional Facilities: Plowed parking lots in winter time for snowmobiling.
-10 Year Improvement: Better parking lots.

-Additional Facilities: Denali SP - hiking, campgrounds, visitor facilities; Valdez - Copper River area units - camping, roadside toilets, snowmobile access.

-Additional Facilities: Boat launches.
-Additional Services: Trash pickup, outhouse cleaning.

-Additional Facilities: Roadside toilets available and open, (with maintenance), all year long. Picnic area improvements and more campground facilities.
-Additional Services: Trash/grounds pickup, restroom maintenance and provisions.
-10 Year Improvement: REST AREAS, (lighted, heated and open), during winter season!

-Additional Facilities: Public use cabins, toilets, picnic areas, grills, food storage lockers.
-Adequate Facilities: I would like to see public use cabins, since they are so popular and are often fully booked.
-10 Year Improvement: I would also like to see more public use cabins added.

-Additional Facilities: Plowed parking lots for winter users-not locked gates saying "closed for season". Winter is a season and people do want the same amenities that summer visitors have. It's like State Parks treats tourists better than local residents.
-Adequate Facilities: Of course not. You know yourself that toilets, trash cans and campgrounds are crowded most of the time, with more people using facilities for longer periods. Winter maintenance is virtually non-existent, with minimal plowing and locked gates, as mentioned above.

-Additional Facilities: Campgrounds, roadside toilets, picnic areas.
-Additional Services: Trash pickup, clean toilets.
-10 Year Improvement: Make sure the campgrounds are well-maintained.

-Additional Facilities: Public use cabins, rec areas.

-Additional Facilities: Toilets.
-Additional Services: Trash pickup.
-Adequate Facilities: Toilets, trash cans, and trash pickup should be provided at all sites for vehicle traffic to pull off road, look-outs, picnic and campsites, and at heavily used campsites on rivers.

-Additional Facilities: Visitor centers, picnic areas, roadside toilets, campgrounds, boat launches, and more parking/access to the heavily used areas.
-Additional Services: Campground hosts, trash pickup, outhouse cleaning, trail status, trail grooming, incentives for the public to clean up/pick up litter, parking lot/trailhead security, enforcement of leashing dogs in the trailhead areas and on the heavily used trails; free day use/or relief from fee if litter is picked up.

-Additional Facilities: Cabins, boat launch @ Chena pump, access to Tanana River, roadside toilets, campgrounds, and picnic areas.
-Additional Services: Maintain campgrounds and facilities.
-10 Year Improvement: Open and improve Chena pump boat launch and picnic area as a park unit.
-Additional Programs: Expand roadside toilet facilities, maintain more of year.

-Additional Facilities: Public use cabins, boat launches, roadside toilets, bear-proof dumpsters.
-Additional Services: Trash pickup.

-Additional Facilities: Public use cabins.
-Adequate Facilities: No, more backwoods or deep woods facilities needed, off the main road system.

-Additional Facilities: Please do whatever you can to support the park's need for mooring buoys, cabins.

-Additional Facilities: Camper hookups - water and power at campgrounds and more sites at some campgrounds. Roadside rest areas with toilets and maybe snacks and drinks.
-Adequate Facilities: No - I require the use of a CPAP at night because of sleep apnea. Most state areas I have been to do not have power and have quiet hours so I cannot run my generator. This drives me to private campgrounds although I prefer the state ones.
-10 Year Improvement: South Raleigh Lake Campground needs huge improvements and other campgrounds built in Nancy Lake State Park.

-Additional Facilities: Toilets, garbage pickup, more remote and easily accessed public use cabins.
-Additional Services: Better trash pickup.
-10 Year Improvement: Improve the basics: upkeep of current parks and trash removal.

-Additional Facilities: All of the examples.
-Adequate Facilities: No.

-Additional Facilities: Public use cabins.
-Additional Services: Trash pickup.

-Additional Facilities: A mix of facilities to accommodate day users and campers; developed facilities & primitive or limited developed areas. Toilets, picnic areas, campgrounds, boat launches where appropriate; backcountry camping areas.
-Additional Services: Developed facilities near the highway for some users. Back-country or primitive trails and camping areas for those who want a simpler experience.
-10 Year Improvement: Increased primitive trails and camping areas to allow 'backcountry' users to get further away and enjoy more of the natural setting. Some of this may involve acquisition of trail easements.

-Additional Services: Trash pickup at sites with high number visitors.

-Additional Facilities: At most, boat launches and public use cabins.
-Additional Services: Trash pickup.
-Adequate Facilities: Yes.
-10 Year Improvement: I would like to see a moving away from a philosophy of building facilities within the parks for visitors, or at least direct the majority of use to a few places.

-Additional Facilities: Public use cabins, secure year-around parking lots.
-Additional Services: Trash pickup.
-Adequate Facilities: Of course I always wish there were more parks, but I do wish there were more public use cabins available further off the road system - accessible by dog team, snowmachine, ATV.

-Additional Facilities: Cabins are nice, but just some nice back country camping sites with leveled tent sites, modest toilet facilities, would be nice too.
-Adequate Facilities: Destination trails - long trails with nice facilities (camp sites - cabins - shelters) along the way. Look at the Chilkoot and the Resurrection Trail. Great examples of what can be done in Hatcher Pass, Chugach and Denali.

-Additional Facilities: Increased "hut" or cabin systems to support multiple day backcountry hiking/mtn. biking/skiing.
-Additional Services: Improved trash pickup.
-Adequate Facilities: No, many of the cabins seem to be over utilized possibly due to a lack of cabins for use and a high number of users. Parking at major trailheads seems adequate but smaller trailheads such as South Fork and Ram Valley have very poor parking and limited access points.

-Additional Facilities: Campgrounds, public use cabins, roadside toilets, rest areas.
-Additional Services: Trash pickup, roadside toilet maintenance, campground rules enforcement.
-Adequate Facilities: No. there is an increased use of SP campgrounds and facilities. I would like to see some new camping facilities developed in our state parks, particularly in Mat-Su and perhaps in Chugach SP.
-10 Year Improvement: Perhaps an on-line reservation system expanded to campgrounds would help. I would like to see additional rest areas/roadside toilets between Anchorage and Mat-Su.

-Additional Facilities: Too many RV camp sites and not enough tent camping facilities.
-Additional Services: Trash service, more bear proof food containers as found in Denali NP, more bear proof garbage containers at trailheads and parking lots. Expand parking at high volume trailheads, i.e.... Symphony Lakes TH.
-10 Year Improvement: Expanded public use cabin system.

-Additional Facilities: Public use cabins, roadside toilets, picnic areas.

-Additional Services: Trash pickup.

-Adequate Facilities: Between Anchorage and Fairbanks too many of the pullouts without toilets are getting used as outhouses. We need signs with info on where the toilets are or more toilets, or stiffer fines for littering. I have led bike groups through the area and some of the pullouts are repulsive.

-Additional Programs: Careful consideration on the proposed improvements to the back side of Flat Top. Please help keep that an area for locals without a massive parking lot.

-Additional Facilities: I use the public use cabins frequently. I think maintenance of the current cabins and other facilities would be a better use of funds than the building of new ones. I'd like to see a Chugach State Park visitor center (as opposed to just the CSP headquarters at Potter). The CSP is phenomenal and it would benefit tourists and others to have a nice visitor center facility to show it off!

-Additional Services: Winter snowplowing of trailheads. Water wells, and trash pickup.

-Additional Facilities: All of the above except visitor centers.

-Additional Services: Facility maintenance including cabins, campgrounds (toilets, trashcans).

-10 Year Improvement: More funding so that trails, cabins and campgrounds can be properly maintained and expanded. There is a tremendous resource out there that people would use and enjoy with a little support from State Parks.

-Additional Facilities: Fewer (that is to say, nor more, or none) luxuriously built and furnished in-park Ranger and Staff facilities. Along with there being few or no human artifacts in State Parks, let the staff who administer our parks live and work under the same conditions that everyone visiting must.

-Additional Services: Few to none. See above.

-Adequate Facilities: No. There is too much meddling and construction. See above.

-Additional Facilities: PUC's, signage, picnic areas, roadside toilets, unimproved campgrounds.

-Additional Services: trash pickup.

-Adequate Facilities: The parks presently designated are convenient. New Public use cabins in other areas both in remote locations and some near, but not directly on, highways would be good.

Additional maintenance would be welcome. For example, the King Mountain State Rec. Area we recently used needs considerable maintenance to its facilities and looks shabby.

-10 Year Improvement: Better maintenance; new public use walk in cabins in areas not presently served by the state or feds.

-Additional Facilities: PUC's, campgrounds

-Additional Services: trash pick up

-Adequate Facilities: more camping sites, most facilities adequate but could be better maintained.

-Additional Facilities: The eagle preserve needs some boat launches on the river for rafts and jet boats, I recommend one at the 21 mile turn out where there is now a pretend one but not a real one. Also there needs to be a public restroom at 21 mile turn out, presently Chilkat Guides maintains a portable toilet there that the public often uses. Since the walkway the state built has no view out into the river, 21 mile is the best scenic turn out and where people stop the most. Also at 14 mile and 10 mile there should be designated boat launch sites, both have been used extensively for many years, but since they are not designated as such there are ongoing issues with fish and game about bank erosion.

-10 Year Improvement: A remote cabin at seduction point would be a great addition to the park as the trail is too long for most to hike out and back in a day. But make the cabin open to all with the bunks first come first serve basis, not a reservation system. Users could sign in at the trail head so that others would know how many users there are ahead of them. With a reservation system, a large cabin is often reserved by only a couple of people. The cabin could be built and maintained by the local alpine club if that would be acceptable to the State. Also the trail could be extended around the point to Mud Bay to make a loop out of it. Trails with huts like those in New Zealand would make Southeast AK much more enjoyable for hikers.

-10 Year Improvement: Winter useable trailheads and restrooms.

-Additional Facilities: cabins, toilets, bear proof garbage units.

-Additional Services: Continue the free bear container borrowing! THANKS! Trash pickup.

-Adequate Facilities: was....but numbers are increasing and cabins are being booked so far in advance....haven't been able to use them.

Now that reservations are simply on the Internet....so many out of state bookings in advance, are bumping the local users...quotas?...as in person requirement for permits?

-10 Year Improvement: #1 More remote cabins.

-Additional Facilities: Visitor Centers should be carefully planned only for high volume sites where costs can be recovered from a small fee.

-Additional Facilities: Other sites might justify Disney style development. Certainly we need some of these sites for handicap access and less outdoor adventurous people.

-Adequate Facilities: I want to compliment the dramatic improvement in road side facilities I visited between Haines and Anchorage this summer. My last trip there was 15 yrs. Ago and I am very pleased with the upgrades. Thanks to whoever helped with that.

Have large, well distributed SP areas that are basically preserved for low impact uses: hunting, fishing, hiking, camping. Develop higher impact areas only as needed after proper evaluation and public input.

-Adequate Facilities: Like I said in the first response unless facilities can be properly maintained they should not be built. Maintenance and proper upkeep is critical, and can be monumental financial drain. Better to keep things simple, i.e. well maintained trails and interpretive signs.

-Additional Services: Trail maintenance and more parking at popular trailheads.

-10 Year Improvement: More parking even if parking fees are increased and yearly parking fees.

~Additional Facilities: Minimal services to minimize costs of usage - trailhead parking, latrines.

~Additional Facilities: Amenities for Scuba divers. There are hundreds of certified divers in Alaska and no parks or facilities are provided for them. We have world class diving in Alaska. It is the best kept secret in the state. If promoted like the fishing and kayaking it could bring thousands of new tourists into the state. We have no underwater parks in Alaska. Smitty's Cove in Whittier is the last place in South Central Alaska where divers can drive to the site and make a safe entry into the water. This area needs to be protected. Until the last 20 years Smitty's Cove was officially known as "divers cove". In May Alaska Marine Lines/Lynden Transport spent \$70,000 putting a man made artificial reef in the cove for National Marine Fisheries to study. NMF has spent \$56,000 on the project as well. This project has enhanced the diving but the area and investment need to be protected from vandals dragging their anchor through it. Hundreds of divers utilize the cove year round. We need paved parking area and a shelter to change into our gear. All we ask is the amenities offered to other outdoor enthusiasts in Alaska. I would appreciate any consideration you might give this matter. You would be doing a service for the divers, the City of Whittier and the State of Alaska as a whole. Thank you.

~Additional Services: bathrooms, shelters, trash pickup.

~10 Year Improvement: Provide more camp grounds or camping spaces in existing camp grounds.

~Additional Programs: Developing an underwater park in Smitty's Cove, Whittier, AK.

~Additional Facilities: Kiddie playgrounds, PUC's and campgrounds, toilets, covered picnic areas.

~Additional Services: evening bonfire, trash pickup and latrine detail. A dumpster just past trailhead for disposal of dog poop and plastic bag dispensers at the trail head to encourage their human caretakers to be good stewards.

~10 Year Improvement: covered viewing area and toilets close to Adlersheim/Sunshine Cove, in 2 locations--where people stop to watch humpbacks and sea lions feeding, and where people camp on the beach.

A winter weather station and daily report from the Eagle Beach campground to encourage cross-country skiers to head out there.

~Additional Facilities: PUC's with heat source

~Additional Services: Cabin maintenance.

~Adequate Facilities: More cabins in S.E.

~Additional Programs: Hunting, fishing, and outdoor trail access and boat launch facilities are the main priorities.

~Additional Facilities: Toilets, picnic areas, campgrounds, boat launches.

~Additional Services: trash pickup - or have programs that encourage user groups to adopt an area for trash cleanup.

~10 Year Improvement: Expand facilities as use increases.

~Additional Facilities: Minimal: campsites, bear proof containers, pit toilets or other low maintenance. Do like the Forest Service type cabins with stoves.

~Additional Services: users should pack out trash.

~10 Year Improvement: maintain forest service cabins.

~Additional Facilities: roadside toilets, campgrounds

~Additional Services: trash pickup

~Additional Facilities: Clean up after your dog stations, roadside toilets, larger parking areas.

~Additional Services: Trash pickup would be nice.

~Additional Services: I think parks should have waste receptacles to reduce litter. I pack out what I pack in.

I do a bicycle trip up north every summer. Some parks don't have potable water and for me this is important.

Toilets are a very important item!

~Adequate Facilities: In the Juneau area the parks are used quite heavily. There are some roadside areas that could be expanded into parks with toilets and water.

~Additional Services: trash pickup is required.

~Additional Facilities: PUC's, public yurts (seasonal or year round), pull-outs/picnic areas with water pumps

~Additional Services: Basic maintenance and trash pickup.

~Additional Facilities: toilets, viewing areas.

~Additional Facilities: Public use cabins, hardened campsites, bear-proof food storage.

~Additional Facilities: decent toilets. Fix and maintain the picnic tables and fireplaces, and camping platforms in the marine parks. More and better RV sites are needed, with electricity and plumbing, and a park employee to collect fees and keep order.

~Additional Facilities: A good visitor center and ranger office included would be nice.

~Adequate Facilities: No. The toilets at Settler's Cove are falling apart, the tables and fireplaces are old and decrepit. Lots of long put off maintenance is needed.

-Additional Facilities: Chilkoot lake needs only some signage to keep traffic flow better managed and some better de-odorizing in the restrooms. A supply of firewood would be nice. Mosquito lake needs better restrooms and the boat launch is poor. Also need wood.
Chilkat Bald Eagle Preserve needs several hardened boat ramps for the public and needs to have some more restrooms available.

-Additional Facilities: RV parking
-Additional Services: trash pickup

-Additional Facilities: more PUC's and developed campgrounds.
-Adequate Facilities: The Kenai River does not have a public boat ramp from the Soldotna bridge to the Moose Range boundary on the Funny River side of the river. That's over 20 mile section. The Kenai River also needs a public boat ramp in the lower section of the river below pillars and above the City Dock. The Kasilof needs a public boat ramp down near the mouth. Your off season services and facilities are definitely inadequate - non-existent in areas.
-10 Year Improvement: Maintain and improve existing facilities.
-10 Year Improvement: Develop needed public boat ramp/parking/associated facilities on our state waters, especially the Kenai River and Kasilof River.

-Additional Facilities: boat launches, picnic areas, roadside toilets, campgrounds, day parking, boat/trailer parking, garbage dumpsters, firewood supply for campfires.

-Additional Facilities: PUC's, campgrounds,
-Additional Services: trash patrol

-Additional Services: Toilets at trail heads
-Adequate Facilities: no. Parking on weekends is often a problem. There is no toilet at the South fork Eagle River Trailhead (to Emerald and Symphony lakes) and the woods have gotten yucky! Also, I've lived in Anchorage for six years and don't know if there is a Visitor Center for Chugach. If there is one, it doesn't seem centrally located or well advertised.

-Additional Facilities: trailhead toilets, campgrounds, tent only camping areas (NO generators!), remote established campsites (hike in to a good tent site and covered cooking area nearby.)
-Adequate Facilities: More camping in the Denali Area, or specific RV parking areas, near the highway, would be nice. Toilets, toilets, toilets and maybe bear proof trash at some of the roadside parks are very helpful, since out state transportation department does so little of this.
-Operation Funding: Very popular backcountry areas could use outhouses/pit toilets (Eagle River for site, Snowbird Glacier come to mind.) Not a major development but something that could keep pristine areas clean for large numbers of users.
-10 Year Improvement: Very popular backcountry areas could use outhouses/pit toilets. Eagle River ford site, snowbird glacier, high on Flattop, a mile or two down powerline pass come to mind. Not a major development, but something that could keep popular areas clean for large numbers of users.
-Additional Programs: A true hut to hut trail system.

-Additional Facilities: PUC's, boat launches, Visitor Centers and campgrounds.
-Additional Services: I'd like wildlife viewing opportunities in protected areas. State Parks in other states have visitor's centers and viewing decks, some handicapped accessible, and they seem popular.
-Adequate Facilities: I'd like hike-in lodges and long hiking trails with cabins, like the Resurrection Pass System.
-Adequate Facilities: I'd like visitor's centers and activities focusing on outdoor recreation and education.
-10 Year Improvement: Visitor centers.
-10 Year Improvement: cabin and lodges on hiking trails.

-Additional Facilities: cabins, boat launches, toilets, campgrounds, day picnic areas
-Additional Services: trash pick up

-Additional Facilities: toilets
-Adequate Facilities: It would be nice to have a toilet at the top of hatches in the parking area.

-Additional Facilities: PUC's, remote campsites
-Adequate Facilities: More remote cabins would be nice, either to hike to or to fly-in to. Better toilets or cleaner at cabins i.e. china pool lake toilet.
-10 Year Improvement: Maintain or upgrade the facilities we already have.

-Additional Facilities: Plowed parking lots.

-Additional Facilities: Parking lots and toilets. BIG parking lots useable in winter time
-Additional Services: Plowed parking lots large enough to park many trucks and trailers.

-Additional Facilities: Roadside toilets

-Additional Facilities: public use cabins, boat launches, toilets, campgrounds, picnic areas, beaches, snowplowing, winter use.
-Additional Programs: rentals

-Additional Services: trash pickup.
-Additional Facilities: plowed parking, bathrooms

-Additional Facilities: campgrounds in road accessible sites with adequate bear resistant trash receptacles as needed.
Picnic, camping areas and restrooms in roadside units.

-Additional Facilities: Visitor Centers. Picnic areas, boat launch, toilets, campgrounds, trash collection.

-Additional Facilities: I would like to see marine park system provide mooring buoys in PWS. They would probably be best if placed in anchorages that have good protection from bad weather but marginal anchor beds so that people could still securely anchor independently in the freq. used anchorages with better holding bottoms. This would open up more room for recreation boaters in PWS. As far as park improvements go, mooring buoys are relatively inexpensive and would improve the safety and security of recreational boaters.

-Adequate Facilities: No, we need more marine facilities like boat accessible campgrounds and mooring buoys.

-Additional Facilities: toilets and more pull-offs.

-Additional Services: winter grooming, trash pickup and plowing.

-Adequate Facilities: wish there was a camp ground more towards Eureka more. But the ones that are there now seem pretty good.

-Additional Facilities: PUC's, picnic areas

-Additional Facilities: More campgrounds with potable water and dump sites.

-Adequate Facilities: The SP are lacking adequate potable water for campers and motor homes along with gray and black water dump stations.

-10 Year Improvement: All the SP under one system and able to be used by everyone. If you are going to have a park for people to use, you will also need some services to go along with that. Restrooms, water, etc..

-Additional Facilities: PUC's, picnic areas, toilets, trash collection and removal, boat launches, paragliding sites, improved parking, snowmobile facilities.

A Visitor Center located at the old Nike Missile site.

-Additional Facilities: cabins, launches, toilets, campgrounds

-Additional Services: trash pickup

-Adequate Facilities: restroom and parking facilities have room for improvements.

-10 Year Improvement: improved boat launches.

-Additional Facilities: PUC's, boat launches, toilets

-Additional Services: trash pickup

-Adequate Facilities: No. Better trash facilities.

-10 Year Improvement: more boat launches

-Additional Facilities: Visitor center.

-Additional Services: trash pickup

-Additional Facilities: toilets, campgrounds, some cabins,

-Additional Services: Trash pick-up a must

-Adequate Facilities: Nancy Lake area needs one more campground around Tanaina Lake or maybe North Rolly. Willow Creek needs more campground spaces.

-Additional Facilities: roadside toilets

-Adequate Facilities: Most facilities south of Anch. Are great. Except locked gates in Winter.

North of Anchorage needs rest stops and bathrooms.

-Additional Facilities: PUC's, roadside toilets, picnic areas. Dog poop bags, trash containers, campgrounds, boat launches, visitor centers.

-Additional Services: trash pickup

-Adequate Facilities: No, the number of car break ins and vandalism is too high. Establish a visitor's center and caretaker facility at Glen Alps and Prospect Heights trailheads.

-10 Year Improvement: install concession operated parking control at Glen Alps

Establish caretaker facilities at Glen Alps and Prospect Heights trailheads.

-Additional Services: I think the restroom cleaning and trash pickup should be better funded and/ or contracted to allow more frequent maintenance of these two critical tasks.

-10 Year Improvement: updated campground information, improved daily maintenance of facilities.

-Additional Services: As for other services SP staff should provide, I think everyone expects trash pick-up (a growing problem in AK!) and clean outdoor toilets.

-Additional Services: We don't need more paved parking lots or more Visitor Centers (which add high overhead costs).

-Additional Facilities: Roadside toilets at 21mile Haines Hwy. Boat launch, parking and toilets at Wells Bridge, Approximately 25 mile Haines Hwy.
Improved rd. access to raft put in site at the confluence of the Little Salmon and Tsirku Rivers.
Improved raft haul out area at the 21 mile Haines Hwy. roadside pullout.
Larger covered area at the 21 mile Haines Hwy roadside pullout.
-Additional Services: trash pick up, toilet pumping.
-Adequate Facilities: Currently there is no proper access point on the Tsirku River for regularly scheduled rafting operations. There is a need for room to operate two rafting operations on both the Tsirku and Chilkat Rivers. Industrial scale river rafting should have a separate starting point than small scale commercial operation or the smaller family oriented operations become lost in the crowd.

-Additional Facilities: Picnic areas and toilets. Not so much because I need them, but because so many visitors do and will leave a mess if it's not provided. Trash pickup
-10 Year Improvement: Trash collection and clean up.

-Additional Facilities: Depends on the place. Boat launches where needed/appropriate "remote" cabins where appropriate, such as off-road areas in Chena Rec Area. Shooting ranges where feasible, such as Chena Rec Area.
Public toilets where people congregate, such as boat launches, shooting ranges, camping or picnic areas. "Minimum tool" provisions for camping, picnicking.
-Additional Services: trash pickup
-Adequate Facilities: Yes. My impression is that in many areas the facilities are overbuilt - as to camping, picnicking.
A boat launch that needs improvement is the Chena Pump Rd. site. Boat Launches demand more maintenance to serve well.

-Additional Facilities: Bridges in backcountry areas like Clear Creek, Thunder Creek, North Fork E.R., Icicle Creek, and the West Fork of the Eklutna River.
Trailheads with legal access and parking in areas like Ram Valley, Rabbit Creek, Bear Valley and Hunter Creek.
-Additional Services: Periodic Trash pickup, outhouse pumping and snow plowing for parking.
-Adequate Facilities: There are a lot of facilities within a quarter mile of the road system. There are virtually no facilities (such as bridges) for backcountry users.

-Additional Facilities: PUC's, campgrounds, parking.
-Adequate Facilities: I think that we need more trailheads/parking to continue access to areas in the Anchorage Bowl that are becoming closed off to the public.
-10 Year Improvement: More cabins

-Additional Facilities: cabins and campgrounds, but I like wild and (?) parks to remain undeveloped (camping only).
-Adequate Facilities: need facilities upgrade

-Adequate Facilities: (bathroom facilities (YUCK!)) It is a shame that the true Alaskans can't enjoy clean parks. All parks could use some major road work into parks.

-Additional Facilities: trailhead parking

-Additional Facilities: foot bridges
-Additional Services: Trash pickup

-Additional Facilities: At front country and trailheads: parking, restroom facilities, boat launches and primitive camping (where appropriate).
-Additional Services: trash pickup/facilities maintenance (or contracted), maintaining and planning of trails and access routes.

-Additional Facilities: PUC's should be carefully placed to avoid interference with other uses. For example, in Shoup Bay the McAllister cabin takes up a beach that has been a traditional place to picnic and day area. People staying in the cabin think they own the beach as well.
-Additional Facilities: small parking lots with some type of toilet facility

-Additional Facilities: PUC's, toilets, warming shelter
-Additional Services: cleared parking space at trailhead
-10 Year Improvement: adequate facilities, cabins, parking and restrooms.

-Additional Facilities: Rest stops with toilets and trash disposal facilities.
-Adequate Facilities: No. Too much is either contracted out or closed.

-Additional Facilities: PUC's, benches on trails.

-Additional Facilities: campgrounds, cabins
-Additional Services: Trash pickup; firewood in campgrounds
-10 Year Improvement: Improved parking and use areas in Parks Highway fishing areas.
Building and maintenance of non-motorized trails (such as Eagle Trail near Tok). Campground hosts in high use campgrounds, winter use campgrounds.

-Additional Facilities: PUC's, restroom facilities and more campgrounds.
-10 Year Improvement: I would like to see more campsites in our parks, especially in the summer when we have such a large number of visitors.

-Additional Facilities: I would like to see more permanent mooring buoys placed within the Marine Parks throughout the State system for motorized boaters visiting the parks. Continue to expand the construction of PUC's.

-Additional Facilities: The most useful facilities parks can provide are toilets and garbage containers.

-Adequate Facilities: DOT/PF should be encouraged to provide more roadside pullouts w/toilet facilities on the road system.

-Adequate Facilities: The older parks in Ninilchik need modernization. The sites are TOO small for the current size RVs. The new RVs exceed 40 feet with slides on both sides. Plus they tow another vehicle. The sites are short and NOT LEVEL!!! I tried a number of sites in the View and couldn't find a fairly level one. In some cases the drop from front to back is more than 12 inches in a 20 foot span. This doesn't count the drop to the sides of the site. All sites need to be leveled and increased in size for the newer RVs.

Each site needs a table and a fire ring. Campers want their own and first come first served is not the way to get campers. Even when Deep Creek was upgraded there was a shortage of tables and rings. The reason given was NO MONEY for improvement or upgrading of the parks.

Why must campers move after 14 days, especially when the park is not full. They are paying the nightly fee for their site. If it's a popular campground you need limits. But if the park is empty or not full, why force a camper to move. When forced to leave an empty camp they may not come back. You do need the fee to operate the parks.

Deep Creek is a fishing camp, what happened to the fish cleaning table??? All parks that fishing is one of the main activities need a cleaning table. People are using the picnic tables to clean the fish and not cleaning the table. I don't like to pull into a site with a stinking table. I do clean my table after cleaning fish.

-Additional Facilities: campgrounds, and PUC's for recreational purposes like snowmobiling.

-Adequate Facilities: No. I believe with the amount of snowmobilers that visit these areas would like a few more cabins with stocked firewood to warm up.

-10 Year Improvement: More cabins throughout the most popular snowmobiling areas like Summit (site of arctic man) and Cantwell snowmobiling areas. These cabins should be located back in the mountains on most popular snowmobile routes and free of charge, even if they aren't stocked with firewood, they should have a wood stove to keep the place warm.

Alaska State Parks Strategic Plan Comments

Recreation - Interpretative Programs

~Additional Facilities: Interpretive trails
~Additional Services: interpretive signage

~Additional Services: Guided walks would be nice for different age groups; separate hikes for seniors or adults only, families with children. Hiking, canoe/kayak, cross country ski, orienteering, fishing/fly fishing, biking events/education. Alaskans are getting fatter and it would be nice to introduce more people to the outdoors by teaching them how for free. Many families don't get out because classes are expensive and then the gear added on top of that.

~Adequate Facilities: cabins are often filled and unavailable

~Additional Services: I don't think you need nature walks. I don't know that you need to focus on school groups, many other organizations do that type of work. Scouts, 4H, and a variety of other non-profits do outdoor education events and activities. The parks can be a location for that to happen, but don't need to provide the service.

~Additional Programs: Some interpretive material are good, but don't go overboard. I don't come to the park to learn about nature, but enjoy interpretive information on historical items such as mines, roadhouses etc.

~Additional Services: I think, from a visitor standpoint, guided walks are a great way to get in touch with Alaska and a wonderful tool for educating the public about our natural resources. Though, from the standpoint of an Alaskan resident, such offerings are not as valuable.

~Additional Programs: Not boating safety program.

~Additional Programs: bear safety programs, winter camping classes, educational materials

~Additional Services: signs about the area

~10 Year Improvement: Would like to see the State Park system more handicap friendly, large print signs since many of our tourists are older and the place that do have signs telling of the area are in small print or faded and difficult to read.

~Additional Facilities: Interpretive signs along the easily accessible trails are nice touches for visitors, families and handicapped folks and can go a long way toward public education in a variety of areas.

~Additional Services: Closer to an urban area, opportunities for school activities and a guided nature walk could be helpful. Farther from a community though, I don't think school activities or guided nature walks are necessary.

~10 Year Improvement: I would like to see staff change... from trooper and rule focused to people and building-connection-to-the-earth focused. The Kenai is an example where staff as trooper puts a wrong emphasis on parks. No doubt there is heavy use. But, there are city cop, fish and game cops and state troopers on the river and on the road. The park rangers are hired to be cops that is what they do. On the Deshka last year, I watched the park ranger boat roar upriver, waking me in my boat and ignoring a campfire blazing on my side of the river...the campers had left it burning when they broke camp. I stopped four times last summer and put out fires that people had left burning...this was the day AFTER the memorial day weekend. The park rangers want to go fast, they like power the boats, they like to drive their trucks...they don't like to teach classes, lead talking sessions, have campfire talks, identify people paths, and generally be customer service agents. On the Kenai, I have observed them "enforcing" a regulation regarding staying off some portion of the riverbank and ignoring people throwing trash in the river. I think that the training they need is customer service rather than trooper.

~Additional Programs: Interpretive materials development has been a crippled effort from the start.

Generally, a graphic artist cranked out the stuff. Vicki, Hope, the ACAC started some good stuff. Then, computers took over and in the Engineering section, somebody kept somebody on the dime to keep cranking stuff out. Now, I see handwritten signs about grizz on the trailhead below Wolverine. I also hear that the trail along McHugh is closed because of a grizz with cubs. You know what I saw? Do you know what two other runners saw? We saw a black with 3 cubs. Now, not to say I haven't seen grizz sign in the middle fork region. But the blackie was right there at Rainbow and three cubs would make any mom edgy. So, where was the interpretive focus? Get people there, talk about it, make it into something interesting...instead, all that is done that I know of is that the trail was closed for a time. And, Mr. Park Ranger continued to make his rounds car to car and planted tickets on those with no stickers. That is what is wrong with state parks.

~Additional Programs: Outreach, school programs, naturalist, survival classes. Major Visitor center.

~Additional Facilities: Good info and maps at trailheads--paper maps available to take with an d pay for via requested donation box.

~Additional Programs: interpretive materials

~Additional Services: guided nature walks, other conservation education opportunities, displays, info on environmental sound hiking and camping practices.

~Additional Programs: developing interpretive materials and displays, talks at schools.

~10 Year Improvement: More guided tour options for our visitors.

~Additional Programs: Interpretive signs along the trail and not just at trail heads.

~Additional Services: Wildlife sightings (areas and species)

~Additional Facilities: trail guides

~Additional Programs: interpretive materials

~Additional Programs: Interpretive signs could be installed at historic trailheads. There is a massive need for education about these trails. For example, many people (even Alaskan residents) think the Iditarod Trail was used to deliver the Diphtheria serum to Nome. A single trailhead in Nenana was the actual start of the drive to Nome, as well as an old mail trail, and one of the first, if not the first, telegraph routes to reach the Bering Sea/Norton Sound. Many of these trails may soon be lost from eradication by overgrowth.

~Additional Programs: interpretive materials, children's programs.

~Additional Facilities: Visitor / information signs definitely, centers in the higher populated areas. Nature walks with informative signs.

~Additional Services: Guided nature/wildlife walks would be fantastic.

~Additional Services: Interpretive walks on accessible trails.

~Additional Programs: Environmental Education programs. Other states have well developed interpretive programs, why doesn't Alaska?

~Additional Services: Info upon entrance.

~10 Year Improvement: Continued education.

~Additional Facilities: interpretation kiosks

~Additional Programs: Boating safety should be in the coast guard.

~Additional Programs: Making interpretive materials available is nice. Certainly not required.

~Additional Facilities: I'd like to see more updated information on trail conditions. For example, if I go hiking in Kachemak Bay State Park, it would be nice to know when the trail was cleared last. Again, more information about access points and trail conditions would be useful (I would also add more information about avalanche conditions. I do realize that there is a legal risk to giving information, but the risk is greater by not giving information.

~Additional Facilities: More interpretive signage.

~10 Year Improvement: Entrance and informative signs as designed but not yet built iron rangers.

~Additional Services: School activities, more tours into the mines at Hatcher Pass.

~Adequate Facilities: Need more activities at the parks.

~Additional Programs: Interpretive materials about history, rock geology stuff, ecosystems, plant identification, animal info. LOTS more signage and interpretive panels. Stuff like at the glacier outside of Valdez or the Glenn Highway panels at the Fairgrounds or the nice Independence Mine panels.

~Additional Services: Interpretation rangers and interp training for LE rangers.

~Additional Facilities: interpretive trails

~Additional Services: Interpretive services . . . Current rangers are swamped with law enforcement duties and can't focus on this desperate need for traditional natural history interpretation plus other important messages that also need to be disseminated in many ways, like: * Leave No Trace; * Tread Lightly and other conservation-promoting trail use practices.

~Additional Facilities: Visitor centers and/or trail markings/markers are especially helpful where population is greater and there are children taken to the trails - teachers love this, for instance.

Encourage visits with park attendees; most folk like to talk with rangers and park helpers for information and for just visiting.

~Additional Services: Might give a time for a guided nature walk - doesn't have to be all day.

~Additional Programs: Come into the schools and let teachers know. Tell teachers about any area that would lead to outdoor education and to taking pride in Alaska's parks. Tell teachers how to, where to hold classes and give them a theme for that class. Tell teachers who is available to help them develop their class experience. Interpretive materials for self-guided walks important.

~Additional Facilities: Avalanche awareness and wilderness awareness (wildlife) are great for visitors that aren't aware of the dangers that are present in Alaska's greatest parks.

~Additional Services: School group trip activities are always nice, as well as guided nature walks.

Wildlife and wilderness awareness.

~Adequate Facilities: I think they are fine the way they are. Areas like Denali and Hatcher's Pass may need more avalanche and wilderness awareness programs or centers, but they are sufficient enough.

-Additional Services: School group activities, evening presentations.
-Additional Programs: School programs.

-Additional Facilities: Information about the area; hikes, boating, wildlife - plant and animal.
-Additional Services: Guided walks, school group trip activities, winter trail guided walks or ski tours, question and answer.
-10 Year Improvement: Websites with information on what to do, how to access the activities a park has to offer, guided tours for those that do not know.
-Additional Programs: Interpretive materials, maps on what to do in the park.

-Additional Services: Guided nature walks, as well as assistance in planning your own nature walk (maps/advice/etc).
-10 Year Improvement: A more user friendly trail system utilizing maps, trail markers, and visitors centers (whether large and manned, or just small outposts with information). Just posts like the one at Elderberry Park in Anchorage near the Oscar Anderson House are very helpful in giving information for an area and enticing visitors to use the area.

-Additional Services: The kinds of services State Parks staff could provide that our family would enjoy are: guided nature walks, school group trip activities, campfire stories, identifying flowers and birds walks, and perhaps photo tips. I think people would be interested in the type of jobs available in State Parks.
-Operation Funding: Do Park Rangers give talks and demonstrations at schools? What about scouts volunteering for some activities? Perhaps projects could tie into their badges.
-10 Year Improvement: More education about: area, native peoples of AK, conservation of wildlife and habitat, etc.
-Additional Programs: Education about safety, interpretive materials, (create that "sense of wonder").

-Additional Services: Increased ranger presence and perhaps more ranger led-programs (which of course would require bigger staffs).
-Adequate Facilities: I also believe that the larger, wilderness parks need increased park staffs, to increase the ranger presence and also the possibility of ranger-led programs.

-Additional Services: Interpretive opportunities.

-Additional Programs: Brochures with interpretive information could be made available at entrances.

-Additional Services: Nature walks, talks or information kiosk about the areas trails for unguided hikes or bike rides.

-Additional Services: Guided nature walks, school group activities.

-Additional Services: Interpretive programs.

-Additional Programs: Interpretive materials, youth education programs, trail maps.

-Additional Services: Signage on trails for orientation.
-Additional Programs: Programs on outdoor survival, plant identification. Grants for trail building which MUST have interpretive signage.

-Additional Services: Information brochures and signage.
-Additional Programs: Maps and interpretive handouts. Limited signage on trails and at scenic or historic points.

-Additional Facilities: Some parks could use new and/or bigger visitor centers with displays and staff to answer questions about the particular area.
-Additional Services: Except in the park units close to a good-size community, it is difficult to provide adequate staff to conduct nature walks. Self-guided walks are a good substitute.
-Additional Programs: Training for volunteer groups in the development of interpretive materials. I am familiar with the work done by the parks graphic dept. and think they do a wonderful job. However, often there is a need for materials that are ephemeral and thus don't need to be so well-done, permanent, and expensive.

-Additional Programs: Interpretive material!

-Additional Services: Nature walks, interpretation, educational services.
-Adequate Facilities: More guided walks.
-10 Year Improvement: Protect our wild lands they are in peril. Just keep a preservation mission. Education will help do that.
-Additional Programs: Interpretive materials.

-Additional Services: I support guided nature walks and school group activities to further educate the public, especially urban children on the environment, conservation, wildlife management, and how the protection of natural habitats such as wetlands, provide benefits including flood control, contaminant removal, wildlife habitat, and ground water recharge.

-Additional Services: Guided nature walks. More information centers

~Additional Services: Park information/ orientation.

~Adequate Facilities: No, Visitor information services are largely missing.

~10 Year Improvement: Visitor information services.

~Additional Programs: developing interpretive materials

~Additional Programs: child interpretive type play areas that introduce kids to our woods, swamps etc....

~Additional Services: guided nature walks

~Additional Programs: I think interpretive materials would be helpful, so that people know where to look for wildlife, and how to enjoy our parks better. A cassette tape or CD about the area for people driving through the Chugach area (or the whole Kenai Peninsula) like the "Road to Hana" CD on Maui would probably be a popular item for tourists, and could make some money for the parks.

~Additional Programs: Interpretive signs!

~Additional Programs: I would like to see the state parks take on a snowmobile safety program and snowmobile nature guiding program.

~Additional Services: School and general group trip activities.

~Additional Programs: Trail maps that visitors can carry with them at the start of trails.

~Additional Programs: Snowmobile safety courses in cooperation with snowmobile clubs. Avalanche awareness training.

~Additional Services: Guided nature walks and hikes along the front range of the Chugach are a great idea.

~Additional Facilities: More visitor centers and interpretive information would also be nice to have.

~Additional Services: Start back up "Ride with a Ranger" where snowmobiler could go out with a ranger and explore have points of interest explained by a ranger or park staff.

~Additional Programs: Maps of existing motorized trails and trailheads, description of the riding area so a novice rider will not go above his ability for that area.

~Additional Services: Interpretive program should include not only nature themes but history, geography and wildlands ethics.

~10 Year Improvement: Here in Anchorage Chugach SP is the focus of outdoor rec. We could be using this park to help instill wildlands ethics that would then be practiced when residents visit other areas of the state, including other estate parks, general state lands, and federal lands. It would be great if AK, federal agencies, and NGOs could work together on this.

~Additional Services: Guided walks and school trips are nice, but if you are tight on \$, stick to basic maintenance.

~Additional Facilities: education

~Additional Services: I am also a large advocate for nature education, but don't think the "main rangers" should be doing this. This can probably be done by volunteers, user groups and more entry level staff.

~Additional Facilities: educational kiosks

~Additional Services: educational programs

~Additional Services: interpretive programming

~Additional Programs: I think you can always do more in the education world.

~Additional Services: School group activities, nature walks, fun events, educational programs as affordable and grow a group of volunteers to do events/walks.

~10 Year Improvement: More and better advertised bird, plant, hiking, geologic study, cultural study outings

~10 Year Improvement: Education of Leave No Trace and taking care of our outdoors.

~Additional Programs: Interpretive and educational materials but first focus on getting people outdoors and active by holding specific events.

~10 Year Improvement: More nature centers.

~Additional Programs: More nature centers.

~10 Year Improvement: More education on proper trail and water use etiquette, more education on what bank fisherman should do or not do to decrease river bank erosion.

~Additional Services: Have trail etiquette signs at trailheads to encourage users to stay on the trails and avoid trampling the surrounding vegetation. Promote leave no trace hiking.

~Additional Programs: Interpretive panels at trailheads and roadside pulloffs are nice when people are visiting a new area so they can appreciate what they are seeing. They will be vandalized, but just make them easy to repair/replace.

~Additional Services: guided nature walks, school group activities.

~Additional Programs: Developing interpretive materials.

-Additional Programs: Education programs focusing on safety and the states generally allowed uses for use of state land. Get people to understand what they can and cannot do, and how to minimize conflicts with other users on the trails and water ways.

-Additional Services: Interpretive signs and displays are nice, as are fliers on natural phenomenon for the area.

-Additional Programs: Canoe classes? Canoe Alaska offers very limited classes; someone needs to offer basic classes for various age groups starting with 8-10 years old. Interpretive materials are great for families. Evening programs are also great in group campgrounds, not really wanted or needed in smaller more remote campgrounds. Chena Lakes is a great spot for this sort of thing.

-Additional Programs: Interpretive materials on the trails are always interesting.

-Additional Services: Nature walks

-Additional Services: Guided nature walks.

-Additional Services: Interpretative signs and educational posters, ecology information, etc.

-Additional Facilities: Good signage, trail maps/trail boards.

-Adequate Facilities: No, build more trails, including self guided nature and points of interest trails.

-Additional Programs: Develop self guided interpretive nature and point of interest trails.

-Additional Services: School group activities.

-10 Year Improvement: More interpretive displays.

-Additional Services: Information pamphlets with various maps of trails and topo maps of the area.

-Additional Programs: Developing interpretive materials and their availability on line.

-Additional Services: Nature programs in the camping area and self guiding nature trails.

-Additional Services: Informational walks.

-10 Year Improvement: Increased interpretive materials in the developed areas would help introduce basic users to natural and cultural features of the area.

-Additional Services: Guided nature walks.

-Additional Programs: I think the State Parks would be a perfect place to develop interpretive materials.

-Additional Services: Daily programs in the summer.

-Additional Programs: Your examples listed are great with the addition of add'l programming in heavily visited areas.

-Additional Services: Interpretive kiosks with trails and hazards. More educational programs for school groups.

-10 Year Improvement: More educational programs for all user groups.

-Additional Programs: Interpretive materials for "leave no trace" park use ethic.

-Additional Programs: improved signage and more detailed mapping.

-Additional Services: Education - bear safety- environmental conservation.

-Additional Services: I teach in the ASD and try to take students on hikes in CSP every year. I've tried in the past to have a ranger meet our group of students/parents to talk with us about the park. This should be a priority with CSP. Stressing the importance of the park and good park behavior will pay off handsomely in the future.

-Additional Programs: guided ranger hikes

-Additional Services: signage about the areas plants, animals, history, and geology.

-Additional Programs: Interpretive signs at whale-viewing point near Adlersheim would be very nice.

Interpretive signs along road at head of Point Bridget trail about the muskeg meadow which is just off the road. Wheelchair access down into that meadow for only about 1/4 mile, it's such a lovely spot. At end of wheelchair access, a covered viewing pavilion with benches would be nice. Less able folks could probably negotiate that quite easily.

-Additional Services: nature walks, information centers.

~Additional Services: guided walks perhaps by trained volunteers; not enough parks staff to do this.

~Additional Services: As above, it all depends on which unit you are talking about. Guided walks are out of the question due to staffing and probably not needed as this is already filled by a group in Juneau.

~Additional Facilities: Interpretive signs

~Additional Facilities: interpretive displays

~Additional Programs: developing interpretive materials

~Additional Services: naturalist programs

~Additional Programs: Yes, educational materials and programs on the lifecycles of salmon, the interdependence of fish, bears, tree, moose, eagles, etc., real scientific information presented in a factual manner, not more cartoons or Disneyesque misinformation.

~Additional Services: guided nature walks

~Adequate Facilities: Yes, I have good access to the parks and never have trouble with parking or trail maintenance.

~Additional Facilities: narrative/interpretive/educational sites.

~Additional Programs: Summer programs such as boating safety, and efforts to educate user groups, such as fishermen and clambers, as to the vulnerability of the environment and conservation of the resource would certainly be worthwhile.

~Additional Services: interpretation of natural history

~Additional Facilities: reasonable maps and signs.

~Additional Services: maps (or info. About where besides REI the maps might be found)

~Additional Facilities: informational kiosks or centers covering wildlife, geology and historic native routes and settlements.

~Additional Services: I would definitely use guided nature walks

~10 Year Improvement: Educational programs in conjunction with parks

Ranger led tours and walks and activities.

~Additional Programs: The examples would all be useful. I'd also make us of classes in Nordic skiing, fishing, edible native plants, and other things of that nature.

~Additional Services: nature walks, school activities

~Additional Services: school trip activities, nature center at Hatchers Pass all winter, especially with school opportunities.

~Additional Facilities: informational kiosks or other facility at heavily used trailheads or picnic/camping areas.

~Additional Facilities: interpretive trails.

~Additional Services: interpretive activities, including but not limited to walks, trash pickup, school groups, hosting research, volunteer support and coordination.

~Additional Programs: interpretive signs are great (i.e. McHugh Creek is nicely done.)

~Additional Programs: avalanche safety clinics and warning systems, weather reporting systems.

~Additional Services: school activities

~Additional Programs: classes on how to find your way out if you get lost.

~Additional Facilities: Guided walks or hikes. Totem Bight SP needs an eagle cam for viewing the nest and activities of the resident eagles.

~Additional Services: guided walks or hikes

~Additional Facilities: Informational Kiosks

~Additional Services: Educational activities, interpretive talks. Simple things like SP pamphlets available on the Ferry Systems, or an info. booth at the Harbor in Whittier to explain and inform people to the location and facilities that are available thanks to the AKSP in PWS

~Additional Programs: interpretive materials to educate the public. Cross country ski programs.

~Additional Services: If the basics were better funded, then it would be nice to have staff available for outreach activities such as guided activities and informative presentations.

~10 Year Improvement: Better outreach to the public: better maps, information about the parks

~Additional Programs: I'd be happy to help develop informative programs, especially those involving maps and/or spatial data organization. (help inventory and put together a database of park GIS layers for example.)

~Additional Services: I would not expect guided nature walks to happen at each and every SP, but these programs are good offerings at the park's most popular, highest usage areas. I am currently enrolled in the Interpretive naturalist Certification Program of Alaska, studying AK's natural history for a special certification to lead nature walks, conduct nature programs, etc. The INCPA program is a terrific program for AK SP to tap into for additional volunteers, and for mutually supportive goals and needs. (for example, all INCPA candidates must achieve 60 hours of natural history instruction time.) INCPA is primarily coordinated by BLM through the Campbell Creek Science Center, and perhaps as many as 30 Alaskans are currently seeking INCPA cert. I don't believe SP is a current sponsor, but they should be. This is just a suggestion for more partnerships that could be developed.

~Additional Services: interp. Signs

~Additional Programs: developing interp. Material

~Additional Services: Educating people, especially children, about nature and the creatures that live in our parks so that they learn to appreciate the natural environment and respect the non-human inhabitants rather than race through it on their dirt bikes and jet skis. Also, school group activities is a good idea, as are nature walks. Again, keeping motorized vehicles off non-motorized trails is important.

~Additional Services: nature walks

~Additional Facilities: interpretive displays

~Additional Services: interpretive displays

~Additional Services: Trail map signs

~Additional Programs: Interpretive materials ad a nice touch about local history.

~Additional Services: some interpretive stuff

~Additional Programs: better interpretive materials.

~Additional Services: perhaps visitors to AK would like to have guided walks but most residents are fine the way things are.

Alaska State Parks Strategic Plan Comments

Recreation - Access

~10 Year Improvement: Better Access

~Adequate Facilities: No, better access like to McHugh peak from Potter Creek, Mile High Saddle, and Mt. Baldy.

~Additional Programs: Better access

~Additional Programs: A golf course with interpretative stations.

~Additional Facilities: I particularly like to fish, so I always appreciate trails to waterways and along waterways - where bank stabilizing areas to angle from the shore would be helpful to minimize resource damage while maintaining accessibility.

~Additional Facilities: The trailhead and parking areas need to give better access.

~Additional Facilities: more access points and parking for greater number of people in urban areas such as Chugach SP.

~Adequate Facilities: Greater number of access areas in Anchorage area would provide greater number of visitation to parks by Anchorage residents and thus a healthier resident population and a greater number of individuals with an appreciation for our state parks.

~Adequate Facilities: More river access sites as the road infrastructure develops. Provide access and take out points for water based recreation.

~10 Year Improvement: Take over management (as long as a fiscal note is attached) of the DOT, and Fish & Game Access Sites that are being managed by those departments as waysides, river access sites.

~Additional Facilities: More roads for access to State Parks, kayak/canoe access to lakes and rivers.

~Additional Facilities: More access points into the Chugach would be great.

~Adequate Facilities: I have never been disappointed by any aspect of our parks, except perhaps preserving access to public lands across private holdings.

~Additional Facilities: great access

~Adequate Facilities: Access is another huge issue. Many of the SP areas are just for the rich (fly in) or those that know how to get to it. A large segment of Alaskan residents are not aware of the resources the SP can offer.

~10 Year Improvement: greater access to remote areas and new streams/rivers and lakes to disperse the concentration of current users.

~Additional Facilities: Access to trails.

~Adequate Facilities: What we have is wonderful, but with our much increased population we need more access points and trails, parking at trailheads, more campgrounds and toilet facilities.

Summer buses to major trailheads like Glen Alps.

~10 Year Improvement: more access points.

~10 Year Improvement: Better access.

~10 Year Improvement: More and better access.

~10 Year Improvement: Increased access to parks via roads.

~10 Year Improvement: Better access to public land. Stop reducing motorized access.

~Adequate Facilities: Yes, although I think there could be more non-motorized trails with access points.

~10 Year Improvement: More access/trails.

~Additional Facilities: Greater access to state park, particularly in Bear Valley to McHugh Peak. At the very least, it would be good to know what access points are legal (on public land) and which ones are not. I use the access point to Rabbit Lake quite a bit (South of flattop), but never know how legal it is... More information would be desirable. I think most people do their best to avoid going on private property, but it is sometimes difficult (especially when property owners put no trespassing signs on public roads; e.g., Bear Valley [where, FYI, I happen to live]). I'd like to see more updated information on trail conditions. For example, if I go hiking in Kachemak Bay State Park, it would be nice to know when the trail was cleared last. Again, more information about access points and trail conditions would be useful (I would also add more information about avalanche conditions. I do realize that there is a legal risk to giving information, but the risk is greater by not giving information.

~Adequate Facilities: No. Need greater access to the mountains and more information about trail conditions (particularly in less traveled areas).

~10 Year Improvement: The primary improvement would be access to state park.

~Adequate Facilities: Yes, but efforts to improve access to more places would be great, especially as packrafting is getting popular . . . It would be nice to have access to more river put-ins.

~Additional Facilities: More access via roads to remote areas of parks.

~Additional Services: More open facilities in the winter time. Many area closed or locked.

~Adequate Facilities: Yes, although I think there could be more non-motorized trails with access points.

~10 Year Improvement: Opening some of the locations that have shut down.

~10 Year Improvement: The two items I would like to see improved are access to Chugach State Park (more means of legally accessing the park) and improving the surfaces of the many of the trails in the parks.

~Adequate Facilities: I also think that the areas are not open in spring early enough for Alaskan's who like to get out in April and May, and they are not kept open long enough in the fall for berry pickers going out for a weekend hunt for lowbush cranberries the end of Sept or Oct.

~10 Year Improvement: Easy access to parks.

~10 Year Improvement: Year long use of parks if applicable to the park.

~Additional Facilities: Improved (and increased) trailhead access, particularly in Chugach State Park.

~10 Year Improvement: Needs/improvements to make: improved trail access, particularly at Chugach State Park.

~10 Year Improvement: Improved access/facilities for hiking and cross-country skiing.

~10 Year Improvement: Better winter access. Don't close the gate to bird ridge trailhead!

~Additional Facilities: Cabins would best be placed near water to facilitate easier maintenance / accessibility.

~10 Year Improvement: Some accessible park trails and camp facilities for persons with disabilities.

~10 Year Improvement: Improved access to the more spectacular viewing areas and more trails.

~Adequate Facilities: More access points into our state parks would be nice.

~Additional Programs: In reference to user groups it is important that all user groups have access to parks. Parks are not just for certain type of person. All users who submit responsible use plans should be given equal consideration. It seems that some groups have more weight, perhaps due to "grandfather" rights, than other groups. As a member of a newer organized group, I feel we deserve equal access and weight in how parks are managed and trail usage/building is evaluated.

~10 Year Improvement: For the future I would like to see more designated motorized trails, located to provide access and on suitable terrain to keep any damage to the land to an acceptable level.

~Adequate Facilities: Most of the time the services provided (e.g. access, trash collection) are adequate.

~Adequate Facilities: Yes and no. I think that the state park system is pretty good though I think the main thing, particularly with the Chugach state park is access. There is limited access to the parks, and where there is sometimes it is obscure/hidden and highly inconvenient (Glenn Alps Parking Lot for example).

~Additional Facilities: Trail access for hikers, mountain bikers and horses.

~10 Year Improvement: Urgent: Expand trail access points into CSP from Anchorage and the road system.
Buy or negotiate parking and trailheads in conjunction with MOA and other entities.
Seek funding from non-profits or federal sources to buy critical access points before development precludes any access.

~10 Year Improvement: providing new access points

~Additional Facilities: Better maintenance of park access roads.

~10 Year Improvement: Improve roads - i.e. grading the gravel roads more often.

~Additional Facilities: There is a high demand to have public access in state parks with marked, groomed snowmobile trails. Please put that into consideration.

~Adequate Facilities: Too much fluff, not enough access.

~Additional Facilities: More parking/access to the heavily used areas.

~Adequate Facilities: No. Parking/access to Chugach is far below what is needed, as with other units.

Wood-Tikchik is relatively inaccessible, and very expensive to access. Would like to see some way to promote park use once people get there. I can't afford to go there now.

~10 Year Improvement: Easy and free access.

~Additional Facilities: Increased trailhead access especially in higher density populated areas.

~Adequate Facilities: Parking at major trailheads seems adequate but smaller trailheads such as South Fork and Ram Valley have very poor parking and limited access points.

~Additional Facilities: More access points into the Chugach State Park.

~Adequate Facilities: Woefully inadequate for Chugach SP. Improve park access, parking, and trail system to meet the growing need.

~10 Year Improvement: Better park access.

~Additional Programs: For the future: How about access to areas blocked by Elmendorf between Arctic Valley and Stuckagain?

~10 Year Improvement: I'd like to see continued work on the access issues which will continue to become more heated with land development.

~Additional Facilities: Launch areas do not have to be costly to build or maintain simple access to the river is all that is needed. And some vehicle access. On the upper Tsirku it would be great to be able to separate the Jet boat launch area and the raft launch area to eliminate conflicts there. An upper launch area that was used for many years by rafters was cut off by flood waters a couple of years ago, if the road was extended a hundred yards, that upper access would once again be viable.

~10 Year Improvement: Chilkat SP park road should remain open until the snow closes it, just because the campground closes there is no reason that the public shouldn't be able to use the boat ramp. It is a burden in the fall and spring not to have access to the boat launch.

~Additional Programs: Wheelchair access down into that meadow for only about 1/4 mile, it's such a lovely spot. At end of wheelchair access, a covered viewing pavilion with benches would be nice. Less able folks could probably negotiate that quite easily.

~Additional Facilities: More parking, more trail heads.

~10 Year Improvement: More trail heads, more parking.

~Adequate Facilities: OK...really don't want everything to be equally accessible. I support access for people with disabilities but want to assure that most of our areas (actually all of the designated parks and wilderness areas) support 'remote' wilderness experience (recreational/research/no resource development)

~Additional Facilities: More access points to hiking areas.

~Additional Facilities: Better access thru parking and trails for the Chugach Hillside and Eagle River Areas.

~Additional Services: Parking/access at trail heads -- it is really frustrating that rich landowners have been able to block access to popular trails such as the one to Round Top and Mt. Magnificent. Some of the parks just aren't reachable by ordinary people at all. Wasn't there talk about a southern access to Denali through the State land there?

~10 Year Improvement: Better access to the Chugach trail system.

Access to those areas.

~Additional Programs: I understand there is a wonderful set of linking lakes in the Kenai region that are great for canoeing. Access, however, is a problem since there don't seem to be rental facilities at the lake and many of us don't have the ability to haul something on/in our cars to that region. One of the biggest problems in this state is getting to the parks.

Southern access to Denali that has reasonable hiking and camping options. The national park is horribly frustrating in that you have to cram yourself on a very uncomfortable school bus or else be able to manage backcountry hiking and camping.

~Adequate Facilities: In general yes. Given limited funds I think SP does pretty well. More trailheads and access are more important to me for the parks than cabins or visitor centers.

~10 Year Improvement: More emphasis on good public access to park perimeter areas.

~Additional Programs: North Anchorage needs more access to Chugach SP. Possibly via Ram Valley, Ship Creek Valley, upper Stuckagain Heights. My guests love the roads in the Hatcher Pass area that take drivers above tree line. Berry Pickers do to.

~Additional Facilities: Parks need to be open in the winter for the residents NOT just in the summer for the tourists!

~Adequate Facilities: Winter openings is what we need and some largest lots for the residents to experience AK in the winter time!

~Additional Facilities: cleared parking in winter

~10 Year Improvement: more areas for snowmachines

~Additional Programs: More areas for snowmachines

~Adequate Facilities: yes, if access were available.

~10 Year Improvement: More access, less closures of areas.

~Additional Programs: Groom trails or find accessible areas that accommodate spreading resident recreation opportunities further beyond the limited road access that AK has. Encourage access through inter government ties (BLM, Native Land Owners, Fed Parks, Etc..) opening up opportunity for long distance rides and treks into the back country or village even village access.

~10 Year Improvement: resolve and provide adequate access to the Chugach SP from anchorage through the private lands that border the park (which currently limit trailheads and access points in the Anchorage Bowl.)

~Additional Facilities: better access to the parks for all users.

~Adequate Facilities: No, access to the parks has always been a problem. Trespass access is a problem. Chugach is especially bad for this.

~10 Year Improvement: A better gating system for winter and spring access to Hatcher's Pass. The current road gates are located a mile from the summit pass. In the early summer the road is always dry and free of snow with the exception of the snowdrift at the very top. Having a secondary gate and parking would greatly improve access to summit lake and the surrounding area.

~Additional Facilities: do not lock gates to trailheads for the entire winter.

~10 Year Improvement: Quit closing and open more areas to motorized use.

~Adequate Facilities: Open Bird Ridge and other facilities on Seward Highway earlier in the year and establish more trailheads near Anchorage.

~Adequate Facilities: I think the number of 'official' trailheads should be increased so that the current risk of losing access to subdivision developments can be eliminated. An updated analysis should be conducted to determine existing access points and which of those (or are there areas where future access should be considered) are to be prioritized for official park access points.

~10 Year Improvement: clear points of access

~Additional Facilities: Improved rd. access to raft put in site at the confluence of the Little Salmon and Tsirku Rivers.

~Adequate Facilities: Currently there is no proper access point on the Tsirku River for regularly scheduled rafting operations. There is a need for room to operate two rafting operations on both the Tsirku and Chilkat Rivers. Industrial scale river rafting should have a separate starting point than small scale commercial operation or the smaller family oriented operations become lost in the crowd.

~10 Year Improvement: simple trail and access road maintenance.

~10 Year Improvement: We don't need really big projects, just slightly improved access.

~10 Year Improvement: Plan for multiple access uses and maintain the access routes accordingly.

~10 Year Improvement: Obtaining legal (and reasonable convenient) access to all areas of our public parks.

~Additional Facilities: better access to Anchorage areas that are getting closed off.

~Adequate Facilities: I think that we need more trailheads/parking to continue access to areas in the Anchorage Bowl that are becoming closed off to the public.

~10 Year Improvement: better public access in Anchorage Bowl

~Adequate Facilities: There are not enough access points to the park. This concentrates everyone into a few areas. We need more legal access with adequate parking.

~10 Year Improvement: more access.

~10 Year Improvement: Fight to Preserve the few access points left for Chugach SP. Don't rely exclusively on the municipality to save the access routes by subdivision and zoning maneuvers.

~Operation Funding: developing additional access points to SCP would be a good place to start.

~Additional Facilities: access to the park

~Adequate Facilities: There is not enough access points at old established access places, that now have been closed by private people. That of course was lack of long range planning which is what I suppose this exercise is about.

~Adequate Facilities: 4. For backcountry climber community safe parking area and multiple access points make the Parks backcountry usage more readily available.

~Additional Facilities: better access to trails

~Adequate Facilities: trailheads being lost

~Adequate Facilities: More facilities need to be added, i.e. more access points in high use areas such as the Little Susitna River.

~10 Year Improvement: Expansion of existing high use areas (more access points along the Little Susitna River).

~Adequate Facilities: Its more than adequate. The harder it is to get to it the less pressure we will have in the parks.

~Additional Facilities: continue to identify more legal access points to Chugach State Park.

~Adequate Facilities: Actually, the state needs more roads.

Alaska State Parks Strategic Plan Comments

Natural & Cultural Resources - General

~10 Year Improvement: Increased attention to management of invasive species and preservation of natural ecosystems

~10 Year Improvement: A preservation of wild areas.

~Additional Programs: Reclaim historic transportation routes (i.e. the Martin/Dunbar Trail) even if it is not within the Park. These trails are historic resources that need protection.

~Additional Services: displays, info on environmentally sound hiking and camping practices.

~10 Year Improvement: state lands protection to preserve use

~10 Year Improvement: more protection of the environment.

~Adequate Facilities: Should Nancy Lake be a resort park? Would it become too developed for the loons?

~Adequate Facilities: Yes, too many services would take away from the nature experience (i.e. putting a snackbar at Glen Alps.)

~10 Year Improvement: More protection of remote areas and continued protection of sensitive environments.

~Additional Services: Information on trails, flora and fauna of the area.

~10 Year Improvement: Not sure, but maintain the wilderness values as much as possible.

~10 Year Improvement: More hands-off, less restrictive use regulations. Unless it physically damages the vegetative mat, all uses should be allowed.

~10 Year Improvement: More education about: area, native peoples of AK, conservation of wildlife and habitat, etc.

~10 Year Improvement: Optional power.

~Additional Programs: None. I prefer our parks remain primitive in nature.

~Additional Programs: I don't come to the park to learn about nature, but enjoy interpretive information on historical items such as mines, roadhouses etc.

~10 Year Improvement: Work on the image as a steward of the land. Work on preservation image and practice. While you provide recreation opportunities, don't forget that a park also provides a place outside of development. Don't get carried away. Development in parks should be done with the intent to preserve the natural setting and natural resources, not provide for yahoo fun.

~Additional Facilities: I prefer the fewest facilities possible with the least intrusion on wildlife and natural habitats.

~10 Year Improvement: No motorized recreation, green operations (use of biofuels, efficient park vehicles, renewable energy sources, composting toilets, green building of visitor centers).

~Additional Programs: Limited signage on trails and at scenic or historic points.

~10 Year Improvement: The State Park should focus on keeping the Park the way it is, wild and scenic.

~10 Year Improvement: Protect our wild lands they are in peril. Just keep a preservation mission. Education will help do that.

~Adequate Facilities: In the past 25 years I've seen serious erosion problems develop in the front range of the Chugach, mostly in above timberline areas. A better funded trail crew to address the resource impacts is absolutely necessary. Bring back the YCC and rebuild the ACC!

~10 Year Improvement: Here in Anchorage Chugach SP is the focus of outdoor rec. We could be using this park to help instill wildlands ethics that would then be practiced when residents visit other areas of the state, including other estate parks, general state lands, and federal lands. It would be great if AK, federal agencies, and NGOs could work together on this.

~Additional Facilities: retain some primitive use areas for quiet nature trails, wildlife and habitat protection.
~10 Year Improvement: Expansion of the park system to accommodate growing demand and protect important resources.
~10 Year Improvement: Accommodate and provide for out of state tourism but not at expense of habitat, quiet recreation and local residents.

~Additional Facilities: consider impacts & balance recreation with wildlife disturbance.
Improving boat access to lakes that have nesting loons or are important for other nesting waterfowl might result in motorboat access that would disturb the wildlife. In such areas restoration of stream banks limitation of motorized use might be more appropriated.

~Additional Facilities: river bank erosion protection from people.

~Additional Services: More available natural and social history of each unit.
~Additional Programs: development of natural and cultural history information.

~Additional Services: Interpretive signs and displays are nice, as are fliers on natural phenomenon for the area. Trash pickup is essential throughout AK.

~10 Year Improvement: seems like a lot of people, both Alaskans and visitors, enjoy public land, but degradation from high use of these areas will continue to occur if they are not managed well. Good management necessitates good funding.

~Additional Programs: Perhaps, if motorized users helped maintain trails they would realize how damaging motorized users can be if the trails are not properly hardened.
~10 Year Improvement: Better separation of hiking trail from motorized trails. Unless motorized trails are "hardened" they are damaged and our users are effected.

~10 Year Improvement: Segregate user groups on trails when erosion and trail damage reduce recreation experience and trail conditions (as horse trails designated just for horses away from other user groups).

~10 Year Improvement: Stream bank restoration.

~10 Year Improvement: Increased interpretive materials in the developed areas would help introduce basic users to natural and cultural features of the area.

~10 Year Improvement: Preservation and protection of multi-use trails for year around use.

~Adequate Facilities: Please consider other user groups. There are some, you know.

~10 Year Improvement: Significantly limit the motorized vehicle access and usage in the park land. The present ratio between motorized access and non-motorized is extremely biased to the motor-user group. Also, require significant noise suppression on motorized vehicles that use state park land.

~10 Year Improvement: Balanced motorized and non motorized areas.

~10 Year Improvement: I would like to see any improvements reflect a philosophy of careful planning to maximize benefits and minimize the visual impact on the area. When I hear terms like "biggest improvements" I imagine projects like McHugh Creek and Bird Ridge which looks terrible. Please consider aesthetic appearance of areas before blasting out something new.

~Additional Facilities: None. Leave It As It Was!
The last thing we need is more of the "Hotelling" of natural areas. The price of entry ought to be the absence of convenience, rather than some fee that falls hardest upon the poorest for "services" provided that take away from the wilderness experience, rather than adding to it.

~Additional Services: Few to none. See above.

The only infrastructure or services that the State ought to provide, in my view, are only and exclusively those necessary to protect the land and landscape from specific and measured human impacts... e.g. Where boat launchings across unprotected beach or riverbank are damaging the land, a concrete boat ramp might be in order; The last approach I would advocate, though, is a proactive and 'anticipatory' administrator-kingdom building effort to provide lots of services and facilities. The ethos needs to be one of minimalist conservatism when it comes to building or providing anything on State Parks.

~Adequate Facilities: If nothing else, please recall that the raison d'etre for State Parks is NOT to provide State of Alaska Park Managers, Rangers and Staff a comfortable and ever-expanding sinecure, but to set aside wild land in close proximity settled areas for ordinary people to visit and enjoy.

At the same time, it must be emphasized that the price of entry ought and should be coming to the land on its terms and not our (human) terms. We (the people) ought to be willing to pay the price of entry in the only true coin that close attention to nature, and close contact with nature demands: honest physical and mental effort.

Let us not try to take the camping and hiking out of camping and hiking--even in recreational, day-use areas this ethos and esthetic needs to remain in the forefront of Park Management awareness. Please, please, don't go the route of "Yellowstone-izing" Alaska's State Parks.

~10 Year Improvement: #3: Look to need to permit certain overused areas...this is down the road...but eventually numbers will increase and the areas will suffer for it.

-Additional Facilities: I'm most interested in seeing SP land preserved in there natural condition for traditional uses such as hunting, fishing, camping, hiking, etc..

-Additional Facilities: Wilderness is, well, wilderness. Too much service/development will diminish what makes the site desirable. Some sites might be best left untouched except for organized garbage clean up after abusive users.

-Additional Facilities: Amenities for Scuba divers. There are hundreds of certified divers in Alaska and no parks or facilities are provided for them. We have world class diving in Alaska. It is the best kept secret in the state. If promoted like the fishing and kayaking it could bring thousands of new tourists into the state.

We have no underwater parks in Alaska. Smitty's Cove in Whittier is the last place in South Central Alaska where divers can drive to the site and make a safe entry into the water. This area needs to be protected. Until the last 20 years Smitty's Cove was officially know as "divers cove". In May Alaska Marine Lines/Lynden Transport spent \$70,000 putting a man made artificial reef in the cove for National Marine Fisheries to study. NMF has spent \$56,000 on the project as well. This project has enhanced the diving but the area and investment need to be protected from vandals dragging their anchor through it. Hundreds of divers utilize the cove year round. We need paved parking area and a shelter to change into our gear.

All we ask is the amenities offered to other outdoor enthusiasts in Alaska. I would appreciate any consideration you might give this matter. You would be doing a service for the divers, the City of Whittier and the State of Alaska as a whole. Thank you.

-Adequate Facilities: More than adequate. Would like to see more focus on pristine wilderness w/o these facilities.

-10 Year Improvement: A priority to keep all areas from becoming like "parks" in the lower 48. Preserve the "wildness" of the areas.

-Additional Programs: Perhaps educating our children about the importance in preserving wilderness for future generations.

-Additional Programs: I don' know, I do know that the Haida dancers perform in the Totem Bight house once a month and they are very good. I've seen them twice. More of that sort of thing would be good. A carving shed to repair and carve new poles is a natural for the park, although I know that politics and Saxman has interfered with that idea. I still think Totem Bight should have a carving shed regardless of the opposition. After all, it is a Historical park honoring native culture.

-Additional Services: Bear human relationships is one of the most critical factors in the Chilkoot Lake area.

-10 Year Improvement: I am in favor of increased privatization of the management of many park areas. Contracting to private business could allow Parks to reduce their need for seasonal and volunteer staffing, and for essential field staff to focus on primary job functions.

As improvements, I would like to see more effort by parks to interface with surrounding private entities, such as local resident and business communities, to provide and promote our Parks areas as the greatest access to our natural resources, supported by a shared vision and goals which will protect and preserve the beauty of our Park areas, in harmony with the surrounding environment, while encouraging greater use and enjoyment by both residents and visitors alike. Our Parks should be destinations for our visitors as well as the playground for proud residents who recognize that the resources managed by State parks are our heritage, and that we should all be custodial in our interest.

-10 Year Improvement: More focus on natural quiet as an important park resource. I like visiting State Parks to get some relief from urban sights and sounds. In SP I have been woken by many generators, gunshots (not from hunters or in defense), highway sounds and low flying aircraft. It would be nice to be able to take my family someplace quiet in this state, without having to fly in to a remote location.

-10 Year Improvement: Historical features and activities highlighted in parks.

-Additional Programs: visitor kiosks that describe fish, birds and surrounding landscapes.

-Adequate Facilities: NO! Totem Bight SHP needs a summertime guide, interp. Program, so the culture and totem poles are represented correctly, by knowledgeable guides.

-Additional Services: The admin. Bldg should be put on the historic register, remodeled inside and much more 'inviting' to the public.

-Additional Facilities: In smaller parks, preserve as much as possible the natural environment as an oasis in increasing suburban development. Just enough amenities to keep people from littering.

-Additional Programs: We recommend Funding studies that fully evaluate the impacts of 32 passenger jet boats on sensitive Chilkat salmon spawning and rearing habitat in the Preserve. DNR has proposed that sufficient water depths will protect the spawning and rearing areas, but there have been no studies to determine what that depth is for this size boat. Also studies are needed to map rearing habitat and to measure stream bank erosion in the smaller channels where the boats are currently allowed.

Since DNR continues to issue non-competitive commercial permits for jet boat tours in the Preserve, the strategic plan should provide adequate funding for personnel and studies, and place a high priority on monitoring and enforcement of permit stipulations.

-Additional Services: wildlife protection.

-Additional Services: Bear abatement

-10 Year Improvement: too many state park areas are becoming over-used by motorized users (who have much greater winter access to backcountry areas.) Motorized users should be relegated to more remote areas so that human-powered winter activities (which have a more limited range) are not impinged upon. Myself and friends have given up on some park areas (Denali SP, Ind Mine) in winter because snowmachine use occurs to close to the road system, cabins, etc making ski trips to lakes/cabins no longer enjoyable (let alone quiet)

~10 Year Improvement: Dedication to the parks remaining public and wilderness areas remaining in the parks.

~Adequate Facilities: Having firewood available at campgrounds would eliminate defacing of trees and removal of underbrush around campgrounds.

~10 Year Improvement: Continue emphasis on maintaining a wilderness experience past developed access points. Park management should begin to limit commercial operations if they begin to negatively affect the public's experience. Examples of this are already occurring on federal lands as the number of commercial operations increase. The arrival of guided group of 15 individuals on a beach where one is camped is the most significant impact that has affected my recent experiences. I do not wish for the continued expansion of commercial operators to the point of degrading the experience on State park lands we have become accustomed to.

Alaska State Parks Strategic Plan Comments

Financial Management - General

~Operation Funding: user fees for cabins, taxes (general fund?)

~Operation Funding: General fund, parking fees and user fees.

~Repair Funding: General fund.

~Operation Funding: Primarily general fund, with user fees and state park passes/support groups to augment (i.e. "friends of X state park)

~Repair Funding: General fund, federal funds.

~Operation Funding: All of those - general fund, user fees, and concession fees. As a user who appreciates the outdoors, I don't mind paying user fees. But I don't think they should be more than they are as some families will be turned away.

~Repair Funding: State budget. I know it's a tough sell in the legislature, but recreation and resources are an important part of our state.

~Operation Funding: I wish I knew.

~Repair Funding: see above

~Operation Funding: All of the above, grants, non-profits, dedicated funds from fees, e.g. PUC into maintenance fund.

~Repair Funding: CIP, grants, healthy op. budget, dedicated user fees, backcountry permit system.

~Adequate Facilities: Charge for those lovely cabins on that lovely lake. Put a restaurant and bring in a band, etc. Keep canoes for rent (the same on Nancy Lake). Re: Nancy Lake; Loons nest there! The place is dotted with private landowners. Yet, there is the SP system. How much revenue does SP earn from the canoe concession there? How about firewood? How about good drinking water? Should Nancy Lake be a resort park? Would it become too developed for the loons?

~Operation Funding: I have begun to address this above. You need to get a legislative fix so that SP can generate revenue and use its profits for itself without having to beg from the general fund. Look at other states and see how it is done...right now, AK has money. It is a good time to look at WHY parks has always been a beggar agency. The staff did a good job acquiring State Park land in the 70's plan, but there was never a commitment on the part of the legislature to match the land with needed maintenance money. Alaska has always gone for the fed. Buck and then when the match program went away, so did the state commitment.

~Repair Funding: As above, become a revenue generating org. That puts profits back into maintenance. Charge for using the marine system. Look at what they do in the islands off of Seattle. Marvelous harbors and bays with marine stops. The marine SP should definitely be self supporting. Charge enough to put on a new roof every ten years on cabins built at the marine parks.

~10 Year Improvement: I would like to see the parks become self sufficient.

~10 Year Improvement: Get the legislative fix. Don't be shy about limiting use at the resort parks and in the wilderness parks. Find out why parks has always been the beggar division in an underfunded department. Look at the salaries and predictability that folks who work for Labor and Transportation give their people. Hello, just because federal funds make it possible doesn't mean it is right to sell DNR short.

~Adequate Facilities: No, Budgetary constraints on State Parks has hamstrung their ability to perform their mission.

~Repair Funding: through legislative designated funds.

~Operation Funding: user fees, taxes

~Repair Funding: user fees, taxes

~Operation Funding: general fund

~Repair Funding: general fund

~Operation Funding: User fund and taxes

~Repair Funding: Taxes

~Operation Funding: I think the user fees should go directly back to the parks and NOT into a general fund. Any concessions that are run should also go back to the parks, but I don't really like any of the services that are provided by concessionaires in any of the parks I've visited anywhere in the country. I'm not well versed in the funding of parks, so I feel I can't yet address this question. Sorry!

~Repair Funding: They should be part of the budget....again I need more info on current funding.

~Operation Funding: Reasonable user fees

~Repair Funding: through park fees, firewood sales

~Operation Funding: gen. fund, user fees.

~Operation Funding: General fund / user fees.

~Repair Funding: Same.

~Operation Funding: general fund taxes OR a tax fund specifically for parks OR oil Revenue---keep a % of each check sent to indiv. Alaskans from that revenue and keep it for Parks only.

~Repair Funding: Oil rev. or general fund.

-Operation Funding: User fees.
-Repair Funding: General funds.

-Operation Funding: A highway gas tax of 10% for ORV's/Boats is used in Calif. To help fund the park system. They also have a green sticker for ORV's which is required when using their trails. A non profit State Parks Foundation which solicits members through mass mailings and gives out perks like a free day use pass to members as part of the package. The following goals for the foundation: 1. Push officials to dedicate adequate funding for state parks, 2. Provide financial assistance to ensure that parks stay open and that essential educational programs continue, 3. Restore, protect, and care for the cultural & historic assets.
-Repair Funding: CIP's from the state, grants, and money through private enterprises.

-Additional Services: Free day use.
-Operation Funding: The state should collect a small fee added to every vehicle registration to maintain and build boat launches, and therefore make boat launching free to state residents. The fees for boat registrations should be used for boat launching and parking (services that DIRECTLY benefit power boaters), NOT for bureaucrats in Anchorage and for LAME advertising and NOT for enforcement.
-Repair Funding: The legislature should fund these things from the general fund as capitol projects that allow for infrastructure that enhances economic development for tourism, especially independent tourists, rather than Cruise Industry tourists.

-Operation Funding: Though I understand the legislative fiduciary that is state parks' legacy (you guys never get enough funding), I firmly believe that user fees should not be increased. This is especially important during times of high unemployment and low discretionary income in our state. However, I do not know enough about available funding resources to determine the best way to cover the involved fixed costs. Maybe increased law enforcement could generate funds by issuing citations.
-Repair Funding: See above comment.

-Operation Funding: A mix of funds, GF should cover the basics and then user fees provided they are dedicated to the purpose and not just back to the GF. Larger projects should be capital items and addressed via the normal budget process.
-Repair Funding: CIP budget.

-Operation Funding: All of those - general fund, user fees, and concession fees. As a user who appreciates the outdoors, I don't mind paying user fees. But I don't think they should be more than they are as some families will be turned away.
-Repair Funding: State budget. I know it's a tough sell in the legislature, but recreation and resources are an important part of our state.

-Operation Funding: Gen. fund, our state is rich in oil revenue now.
-Repair Funding: gen. fund.

-Operation Funding: gen. fund + user fees + concession fees
-Repair Funding: Depends, great number of funds are available through grants at this time due to the obesity epidemic. State workers can come up with creative partnerships to increase use of parks and find funding for necessary construction.

-Operation Funding: general fund, mostly.
-Repair Funding: general fund, user fees.

-Operation Funding: User fees, tax dollars
-Repair Funding: User fees

-Operation Funding: State should pay for it, we are the wealthiest state in the union.
-Repair Funding: No construction.

-Operation Funding: I like the idea of user fees going back to the state parks.
-Repair Funding: Through the budget. Less SP applications to the state rec trails, grants would be good.

-Operation Funding: User fees for overnight stays; no charge for picnics and day use; and subsidies as needed.
-Repair Funding: The park service should have an adequate budget from State funds.
-10 Year Improvement: Better funding and maintenance. This is a state which profits from tourism. It makes sense to fund outdoor recreation areas. This is a state which attracts residents who appreciate the great outdoors. It does not make sense to cut outdoor recreation facilities. Our beautiful park areas are something to encourage the enjoyment of by the people who live here.

-Operation Funding: Gen. fund, user fees, concession fees, community fundraisers
-Repair Funding: General fund

-Operation Funding: user fees should not be put into the general fund but designated for parks, concession fees, bonds. Some local clubs donate their extra money at the end of each fiscal year. If donations could be earmarked for improvements in particular locations, donations might increase. (I am assuming that donations can't currently be earmarked so I may be wrong on that.)
-Repair Funding: user fees and bonds, grants see above about designating user fees for park use only.

-Operation Funding: sell the private jet and use that money for state parks.
-Repair Funding: surplus funds that are budgeted for new roads should be used instead to maintain the existing infrastructure, including the park facilities.

- Operation Funding: General fund, concession fees, user fees
- Repair Funding: General fund, concession fees, user fees. Major construction should be avoided, and only that which can be maintained in conjunction with all other parks facilities should be constructed.

- Operation Funding: User fees for heavily used parks, such as near Anchorage. Slight increase in taxes.
- Repair Funding: Federal grant money, slight increase in taxes

- Operation Funding: Only very basic funding from the general fund should be used. A user fee should be paid by the people using the park for more involved funding.

- Operation Funding: Tax the smokers and drinkers. (yes, I drink)

- Operation Funding: user fees, general fund
- Repair Funding: general fund, grants

- Operation Funding: General fund, user fees, concession fees.
- Repair Funding: Capital Projects.

- Operation Funding: form the general fund. It is a shame that we have such wealth from our oil yet the state gives the oil away and then charges residents user fees.
- Repair Funding: general fund.

- Operation Funding: A combination of user fees and general fund money - balanced is okay.

- Operation Funding: User fees.
- Repair Funding: User fees.

- Operation Funding: general fund, user fees

- Operation Funding: Definitely through the state's general fund, because it improves the quality of life. I'd like to see a seasonal state income tax, a portion of which would be set aside for AK State Parks, because much of that funding would come in via tourists who are using those facilities. User fees should go directly to maintaining park areas.
- Repair Funding: Grants, user fees, state funding and possible federal funding.
- 10 Year Improvement: I don't agree with the privatization of the parks. I'd like to see them maintained by the state (provided there is proper funding), and work toward establishing more parks.

- Operation Funding: It's too bad our state legislature has been so awful on this issue! They should provide more funding. If they don't, then we need to ensure that ALL fees are provided back to the State Parks for use and that the state park budget is not cut to account for fee revenue!! State Parks should not be penalized if they're doing a good job providing a service people want to pay for. I'm not sure if this opportunity exists, but people with low incomes should be given the opportunity to obtain a State Parks camping and parking pass for a reduced rate, so they are not kept from visiting state parks.
Continue your volunteer programs, I think you already have a State Parks Friends group to help raise money for the parks?? Or at least specific ones? That's another option.
- Repair Funding: ask the legislature for grants; look for partners with local sporting goods stores and local and national manufacturers, other grant opportunities?

- Operation Funding: general fund first (state income tax-duh!) plus user fees where appropriate (campground, boat launches, cabins.)
- Repair Funding: same

- Operation Funding: User fees, season tickets, concession fees, general state funding.

- Operation Funding: I believe that natural resource extraction whether it is oil, timber, fish, mineral should be taxed more with that portion dedicated to SP which promotes a renewable industry. I believe that SP areas on the Kenai or other remote areas should be open to exploration for Natural Gas and if found, taxes be extracted to help fund the SP. Otherwise a greater alliance on the general fund not just user fees should fund the parks.
- Repair Funding: Oil tax/ state profits should be used to fund capital projects.

- Operation Funding: gen. fund
- Repair Funding: gen. fund

- Operation Funding: general fund and concession fees should be first, user fees should be last.
- Repair Funding: see above

- Operation Funding: General Fund.
- Repair Funding: General Fund.

- Operation Funding: General fund.
- Repair Funding: Capital budget.

-Operation Funding: General fund. User fees are already high enough. I'd rather pay taxes and see the parks be accessible to everyone.
-Repair Funding: Ditto above.

-Operation Funding: I am fine with user fees and general funds.
-Repair Funding: From the federal, state, and local governments.

-Adequate Facilities: I realize that taxes need to pay for these things. Perhaps if, at voting time, it could be explained how present funds are spent and why more money is needed and where. Perhaps more money would be allocated.

-Operation Funding: How is the general fund used to maintain park areas? Yes, user fees are important but, if they are too high, large families may not be able to afford it. Concession fees are good, if not too high. Perhaps a naturalist-author or photographer could give a talk and sell their books with the parks sharing in the profits? (They would be supporting the parks too.) Also, perhaps a children's nature author & illustrator could do the same. Stuffed animals of those found in the surrounding area could be sold at visitors centers. CDs of birds and animals of the area could also be sold. Could Wildberry candy in shapes of AK wildlife be sold too? If things couldn't be sold on site, perhaps catalogues of available items could be available and a web site?

-Repair Funding: General fund, taxes (these need to be explained better), State funding, and Federal funding, local communities could also be involved if they are profiting from increase in tourism to the area. Appeals to philanthropists.

-Operation Funding: By renting out the visitors center for community use, or by small fees for services (like \$1-5 per person for a nature walk).

-Repair Funding: Initial construction should be funded primarily through grants. Future construction and upkeep should be funded by user fees and maintaining grants (if you can get 'em).

-Operation Funding: User fees are okay but should not be the sole support. It is nice to get out in the summer for a weekend camping trip but fuel and food are a big cost and adding another 20 or 30 dollars on top of that to park in a campground for 2 or 3 nights adds up.

I think the state government needs to provide from the general fund, taxes, oil monies etc. a generous amount to the state parks for amenities and facilities.

-Repair Funding: User fees and government assistance.

-Operation Funding: User fees, general fund, taxes.

-Repair Funding: Taxes.

-Operation Funding: General fund as well as user fees.

-Repair Funding: General fund.

-Operation Funding: The State Parks should be able to keep all of the revenue from the fees. Since we are talking about state parks, the state should make sure that there is adequate funding (through the General Fund) for all other needs of the park system.

-Repair Funding: Same as above.

-Operation Funding: User fees would be first. You play, you pay.

I am not sure how state funding works, but I have always been in favor of a Seasonal (or non-resident) sales tax. And, if all fails, an income tax to generate more funds from the folks who live out of state, but work up here (slope workers, commercial fisherman from Washington, etc.).

-Repair Funding: I think that lots of initial construction projects (such as road ways) are federally funded, but the maintenance of those roads are not. It would be ideal if we could re-direct some of the new construction costs into up keep on what already exists.

With record profits for the oil companies, maybe there would be area sponsorships "WELCOME TO BP'S OLNES POND CAMPGROUND" and paint the area yellow and green.

Also, while the state is making some extra \$\$ from oil, it would step up and do some major upkeep on some of the locations that have been left to wither away.

-10 Year Improvement: Have some kind of fund to buffer the bad times with the good.

-Operation Funding: I have NO problem paying the user fee and have even bought a season pass in the past. I have heard that the season pass is no longer available? Is this true? Hopefully the tourists are being charged the same?

-Repair Funding: From the fees collected by the visitors.

-Additional Facilities: Increase parking fees.

-Operation Funding: Parking fees, camping fees, guided walks should have fees, and just General Funds. User fees should only be applicable to parks that include rafting, 4wheeling and other motorized sports.

-Repair Funding: The state, possibly a state tax.

-Operation Funding: There are several possibilities. As long as the use fees and such stay at a low, reasonable amount, maybe implementing a couple of ways would be good. Small user fees for example.

-Operation Funding: General funds and fees collected.

-Repair Funding: General funds.

-Operation Funding: General fund but . . . Allow Parks to recover all user fees and not have to go to Legislature annually for approval . . . also,
* Allow people to provide a part of the Permanent Fund dividend to AK State Parks.
* A portion of state gas taxes were IDed for Alaskan trails: pass legislation to garner those funds.
* OHV licensing/registration, like snowmobile registration, should be implemented, and dedicated to trails within parks to compensate for the massive damage caused by OHV's on the remainder of general state lands.
* Get the Rasmusson Foundation and/or other state leaders to do a feasibility study on the establishment of a State Parks Commission that would have the ability to levy and leverage a separate revenue stream from the (now receding in the future) day when a state income tax becomes a reality, and guide the spending of those funds.
* Establish a large corpus of funding, the interest on which can be used for both capital and parks O&M . . . perhaps by getting a time percentage of Permanent Fund diverted to establish such a corpus.
-Repair Funding: Pass legislation to enable AK Industrial Dev. and Export Authority, and/or other similar sources, to provide funding for capital improvements in AK state parks.
* See development of corpus, etc. above.
* Pulltabs for parks (yeck, but . . .)

-Operation Funding: All of the above.
-Repair Funding: See above.

-Operation Funding: Parks are very important to visitors & residents. State should provide more funding.
-Repair Funding: Same.

-Operation Funding: Concession fees, and an optional check off on tax forms.
-Repair Funding: Grants?

-Operation Funding: A portion should be the general fund, user fee's should typically cover the expenses for operating most parks. The heavier used ones I would suggest probably make money, the smaller ones don't.
-Repair Funding: General Fund.

-Operation Funding: General fund.
-Repair Funding: General fund.

-Operation Funding: general fund and user fees.
-Repair Funding: gen. fund.

-Operation Funding: User fees. I'd be happy to pay more for my yearly park permit. It's too cheap for what we get.
-Repair Funding: Good luck figuring it out...

-Operation Funding: User fees (do not load on concession fees as they become more and more private and spendy; use only sparingly). User fees the best. I like the ones along the Peninsula and along the trail on the mountain area in Anchorage and so on. General fund necessary, too.
-Repair Funding: General; grants; and maybe personal envelopes with explanation of project and asking for donation.

-Operation Funding: Those you have mentioned are a good start.
-Repair Funding: As mentioned above.

-Adequate Facilities: No. Parks budget has not allowed for adequate maintenance of what they have already and there is much room for new facilities and improvements within existing park units.
-Operation Funding: The state legislature should step up and do their job. User fees may need to be increased but not without study and public review. They seem adequate for now. However, capitalizing on the tourism dollar should be looked at. But, definitely, the state legislature has been too deep with their cuts.
-Repair Funding: The state legislature should see the value in maintenance and upgrade of existing facilities but they don't want to.
-10 Year Improvement: A stable funding base so Parks can plan and not have to react.

-Operation Funding: General fund and user fees - concession fees where applicable, but I don't believe this pertains to all park areas.
-Repair Funding: Grants, general fund and user fees.

-Operation Funding: Public user fees and general fund.
-Repair Funding: General fund.

-Additional Facilities: None. It seems to be a problem to maintain facilities and the fees associated with using the federally funded facilities currently on the hwy system is ridiculous. I pay for these facilities every time I drive my vehicle and the double dipping by DPOR has to stop!
-Operation Funding: Your already funded but choose to use the money on other things than maintaining what you have. No more money for overhead in parks!
-Repair Funding: Cruise boat passengers and other private groups like NWF, WWF, Sierra Club.....if they want to save the world, put their money where there mouth is!

-
- Operation Funding: State Parks license plates; annual camping passes; user fees direct to parks; donation boxes at popular park areas.
-Repair Funding: Guaranteed maintenance funds built into specific facilities management.
-
- Operation & Repair Funding: State Parks passport books (like the national parks) each park has a stamp that you can get. It would be a great collector's item for visitors and locals. Make it nice, quality.
-Repair Funding: ORV and snowmobile registration fees - a portion should go to SP.
-Operation & Repair Funding: DOT should manage roadside facilities or at least give parks funds to do so. Roadside facilities and the piss poor (pun intended) state of pull outs is not a parks issue but the public seems to think it is.
-
- Operation Funding: User fees, concessions fees & general fund equally.
-Repair Funding: General fund.
-
- Operation Funding: General fund.
-Repair Funding: General fund and Capital Budget Appropriations.
-
- Operation Funding: General fund and user fees.
-Repair Funding: General fund and user fees.
-
- Operation Funding: User fees.
-Repair Funding: Registration.
-
- Operation Funding: General fund, concession fees, user fees (but allow state parking permit to cover them in order to share the burden with tourists).
-
- Operation Funding: Primarily general fund supplements by user fees at campgrounds.
-Repair Funding: General fund.
-
- Operation Funding: User fees.
-Repair Funding: Solicit contributions from private individuals and businesses who would sponsor construction or pay for annual maintenance fees.
-
- Operation Funding: First, the money that state parks earn -- for instance through parking fees at Chugach State Park -- should go directly back into the parks, rather than the general fund. Additional money can be raised through park visitor fees, for instance more places where parking fees are collected, and perhaps an increased in concession fees. I believe that locals and visitors who help pay for state park maintenance and management will have an increased interest in the quality of those parks.
-Repair Funding: Through the general fund, especially now that the state has a surplus of money to work with.
-
- Repair Funding: If the state weren't so wealthy right now, I'd say a user fee. But a few campgrounds here and there aren't going to break the bank. And certainly for just parking and walking around or cross country skiing on ungroomed trails - there shouldn't be any user fees.
-Additional Programs: I don't think user fees are necessary now. I find it hard to believe that I have to pay to go and walk, etc., on state land.
-
- Operation Funding: General fund. User fees.
-Repair Funding: General fund.
-
- Operation Funding: User fees.
-Repair Funding: User fees, federal and state grants. Tourism fees.
-
- Operation Funding: State sales taxes. Get taxes from locals and tourist. Every other state in the U.S. has sales taxes why can't we.
-Repair Funding: Again sales taxes.
-
- Operation Funding: General fund and user fees. There should NOT be concessions.
-Repair Funding: General fund, volunteer efforts and in conjunction with groups such as trail mix and saga.
-
- Operation Funding: The general fund should be the major source. Anyone using the parks to generate income should be paying a concession fee. User fees are reasonable at this point.
-Repair Funding: General fund. I think volunteers can be used more than at the present time.
-
- Operation Funding: User fees and concession fees with some general funding.
-Repair Funding: Bonds and general funding.
-
- Operation Funding: 1st preference: sales tax. 2nd preference: general fund.
-Repair Funding: 1st preference: sales tax. 2nd preference: general fund.
-
- Operation Funding: User fees are well worth their price. I think they are underutilized. A state tax that is only in place in the summer would also be a suggestion. That way, some of the tourists would be helping to pay for the services.
-Repair Funding: CIP programs.
-
- Operation Funding: All of the above.
-Repair Funding: General fund and user fees.
-

-Operation Funding: General fund, perhaps some low user fees that don't block access to nature for the poor.
-Repair Funding: General fund.

-Operation Funding: General funds.
-Repair Funding: General funds.
-Additional Programs: More money for rec trail grants.

-Operation Funding: General fund, facility improvement bonds, user fees.
-Repair Funding: New construction capitol budget, some kind of revolving maintenance fund for repairs, based on a depreciation formula.

-Adequate Facilities: No, funding constraints have limited access and needed maintenance has been deferred. Groups like Eagle River Nature Center help with funding/volunteers, but the ability for non-profit "friends of" groups to help the parks is limited.
-Operation Funding: All of the above.
-Repair Funding: All of the above.

-Operation Funding: User fees should always be kept by state parks. However some park facilities cannot collect fees or does not generate enough funds to maintain the park. The General Fund should be used to supplement the ASP budget.
-Repair Funding: Construction and major repair funding should be awarded based on need, relevance and contribution to visitor satisfaction. Funding should come from the general fund or perhaps a segregated fund set up much like the perm fund.
-10 Year Improvement: Management of ASP should be done by people that know what parks are all about and what they mean to Alaskans both as recreation and as visitors dollars brought into the state. It always seems ASP funding done by the 'hand-me-down' system. Basically what ever is left over after funding other projects. This puts ASP in a perpetual state of funding crises. The operation and management of parks needs to left to Dir. Of State Parks... Not the legislators.

-Adequate Facilities: I do not want to see fee parking areas increase.
-Operation Funding: No to daytime parking fees. No to trailhead fees. Yes to cabin fees. Yes to overnight camping fees. Yes to seasonal passes.
-Repair Funding: CIP budget requests (parks should be a major emphasis of tourism industry). Foundations. Community and national volunteer maintenance programs.
-10 Year Improvement: No to fee parking lots where visitors only wish to walk for a few hours.
-Additional Programs: Not highly developed infrastructures that are expensive to maintain or staff.

-Operation Funding: Increased fines and community service in the parks for offenders.
-Repair Funding: Through state and federal funds, and grants.

-Operation Funding: Basically, I feel the general fund should finance state parks, especially providing adequate staffing. I do not object to user fees for specific purposes -- camping, day use of picnic areas -- especially if they are equitably applied.
-Repair Funding: Through grants, local donations of materials and manpower, and of course, the general fund.
-Additional Programs: Training for volunteer groups in such areas as funding.

-Operation Funding: General fund and user fees.
-Repair Funding: General fund and user fees.

-Operation Funding: Through taxes and fees, paid by: 1. All Alaskans. Or 2. All Alaskans and visitors (international tourists). Or 3. By motorized users of the State Park who cause the most damage to wildlife and the environment. A motorized user tax would be a fair way to internalize the costs these users create through damaging the environment and annoying other non-motorized users.
The reason: It would provide an incentive for State Park visitors to use sustainable types of recreation such as hiking, biking, and skiing. This would improve health and be more sustainable for the environment.
-Repair Funding: See above.
-10 Year Improvement: State Park should focus on educating users to sustainable use the Park in order to maintain its character and have the most intruding users pay for what they destroy.

-Operation Funding: User fees AND general fund And concession fees are required.
-Repair Funding: The big fat state of Alaska and the bloated oil companies.

-Operation Funding: I am in favor of modest fees for all users. I am also in favor of the state realizing the wonders of Alaska's state parks and establishing adequate funds to support these areas.
-Repair Funding: State budget.
-Additional Programs: I have a research project on the Chena Rec Area - it would be nice to be able to compete for a small research funding grant each year. However, I could not pass the straight face test and ask for funding if salaries, facilities, training, benefits, and maintenance of state parks are jeopardized by inadequate state funding.

-Operation Funding: User fees are probably the best as most folks using these facilities are used to it.
-Repair Funding: General fund or a fund drive requesting donations. Maybe talking to outdoor/recreational stores such as those selling snow machines for donations may help.

-Adequate Facilities: Of course not. State Parks is woefully inadequately funded by the State of Alaska for the large amounts of lands and visitors to the park that need to be managed. The revenue stream has been increased, but the State's unwillingness to permit revenues to go back into the parks which generated the revenues is extremely frustrating and is a dis-incentive to fund park improvements. A more realistic level of funding for both State Parks and local parks staff and routine and major maintenance budgets needs to be developed and maintained. It is ludicrous that parks revenues must be put back into the General Fund and cannot be returned to fund that parks which generated that revenues.

-Operation Funding: See above -- remove requirement that revenues be returned to the General Fund, and enable revenues to directly fund park improvements and park staffing. Increase General Fund support for State Parks. Increasing user and concession fees may or may not be realistic depending on the park or the use being charged. This should be a local decision rather than requiring a standard statewide charge when each location has different constraints.

-Repair Funding: There are multiple sources of funds for capital projects: State General Funds, Fish and Game Dingle Johnson or other fish-enhancement related funding for boat launches etc., STIP Federal Highway funds, various grant sources, foundation funds, private sector contributions, etc. The important thing is to build in depreciation when a structure is built and maintain routine and major maintenance budgets which all State Parks projects can compete for. If a project is ineligible one year but continues to deteriorate, it should rise in priority until at some point it is funded. There seems to be no reasonable, progressive process at present: the decisions seem to be made on a political or squeaky wheel basis.

-10 Year Improvement: Substantial increase and stability in State Parks statewide budget.

-Additional Programs: Sitka needs more basic support from State Parks, not spreading out the meager amount of resources available. Boating safety programs were once viewed as a source of revenue to help pay the State Parks Ranger, but this apparently never materialized. If there is funding available, there are plenty of State Parks uses for these funds in Sitka.

-Adequate Facilities: No, probably due to budget reductions. Having traveled widely in the lower 48, especially in western states, we found most state parks have a day use fee of \$5.00 per vehicle and a \$10 or \$15 overnight stay fee if they have a campground. Most do this with envelopes the driver fills out for the money (vehicle license, state, etc), then drops in a secure steel locked box or tube. A ranger can cruise the park to check on compliance (part of envelope is placed in windshield) but no one is stationed at the entrance. I believe the money captured goes to park maintenance, not the state's general fund.

-Operation Funding: user fees, see above.

-Repair Funding: User fees plus state general funds. General fund payback could come from future fees when the size/cost of a project is too large to fit in usual annual budget, i.e. like a no interest loan from the state general fund. For example, major highway and bridge construction projects usually collect fees for use during the projected life of the project which pays for maintenance and/or paying off bonds.

-Adequate Facilities: No. Program is critically, chronically underfunded and under-staffed. The only services that the local parks can provide for is basic routine maintenance. The Sitka area needs an additional position that functions at a higher level than the technician level. An additional Ranger would allow for time to be spent working with the Advisory Board, project funding and development, grant writing, interagency coordination, etc...

-Operation Funding: General fund and fees.

-Repair Funding: General fund, grants, sportfish access fund and fees.

-10 Year Improvement: Higher levels funding for mtc. for maintenance to existing facilities and development of new ones and for staffing to provide for a broader range of services and functions.

-Additional Facilities: I would like to see year round maintenance at the Denali view pull out at mile 135.2. You spent millions to build a new view pull out that is not open during winter (6-8months) and tear out the old one that was open year round. Yet you can't spend a few hundred extra to just plow the area out.

-Operation Funding: User fees and concession fees

-Repair Funding: general fund

-Operation Funding: general fund

-Repair Funding: general fund

-Adequate Facilities: Yes, but the state should send more funding for adequate maintenance on these facilities.

-Operation Funding: Utilize a concessionaire, convince the state legislature of the importance of the parks system to AK residents and visitors alike and try to get some of the oil revenue set up for a consistent stream of funding for parks maintenance and operations.

-Operation Funding: general funds, user fees and charitable fund raisers.

-Operation Funding: If snowmachiners got equal trail rights, they would pay for parking. User fees would work best.

-Repair Funding: Government funding, private donations

-Adequate Facilities: pay for parking or camping.

-Operation Funding: I think that state parks should be funded from a combination of all three.

-Repair Funding: General fund and user fees. The parks that get more use should have better facilities. The people that use the lesser-used parks probably don't want more facilities!

-10 Year Improvement: I would like to see politics taken out of the parks system. I know that would be hard to do, but I remember the nightmare when several state parks were closed to the public for lack of funds several years back, and that was just stupid. It seemed that the parks that were closest to the population centers of the state were closed, to cause the biggest impact.

-Operation Funding: User fees

-Repair Funding: User fees

-Operation Funding: by sufficient appropriation by the state legislators. In contrast to the budget flowing through the oil and gas division, the state parks division is a dirty unwanted step-child.

-Repair Funding: by sufficient appropriation by the state legislators.

-Operation Funding: User fees with a break arranged for locals.
-Repair Funding: Providing recreation opportunities for people that live here is very important and should be funded from the general fund.
Facilities such as camp sites should have a substantial user fee that would, at least, mostly pay for their maintenance.

-Operation Funding: General fund.
-Repair Funding: General fund.

-Operation Funding: All of the examples are fine. The Parking lot fee that exists now is fine. I have no problem supporting our trails.
-Repair Funding: Taxes, oil money! Corporate sponsors?

-Operation Funding: General fund.
-Repair Funding: General fund, cut administration.
-10 Year Improvement: Less administration cost.

-Operation Funding: General fund, concessions fees and user fees are all good, but the largest portion should come from the general fund, user fees should be low enough that people of modest incomes could still visit the parks.
-Repair Funding: From the general fund or from donations that allow the donator to have a plaque or sign noting the contribution to the bridge, or campground or facility.

-Operation Funding: Portion of snowmobile registration fees should be allocated to winter park maintenance and services that directly benefit snowmobilers.
-Repair Funding: Capital funding from the Legislature.

-Operation Funding: Ongoing education to businesses and chamber of commerce's statewide on the economic value of parks. Perhaps partner with some of the tourism businesses to do an outreach and education program on the economic value of parks.
Some parks need to remain free for low income users.
-Repair Funding: Consider establishing an 'Alaska State Parks Foundation' modeled after the MOA's Anchorage Park Foundation. This gets tricky though because then the public and the legislature state passing funding expectations on to the foundation. Non-profits and individuals - when everyone in the state should be sharing the burden. Consider making the requirement that foundation funds can only be used when legislative or other public funds are matched.
The state parks foundation could be set up in the Alaska Community Foundation, whose assets have recently grown to 17 million.

-Operation Funding: Higher user fees, higher percentage of the general fund. The user fees should only go to the park system, not the general fund.
-Repair Funding: By the above answer.

-Operation Funding: I think the funding should be a combination of general funds and user fees. If there are vendors providing services in the park (can't think of any), concession fees should also be charged.
-Repair Funding: Again, I think a combination of general funds and user fees should be used to fund park construction and repairs. Those people who use the parks should help pay for them, but the fact we have parks at all is a benefit to everyone.

-Operation Funding: Members in the snowmobiling community have no problem with doubling our registration fees if the money is going to go back into the ground to provide services for snowmobile use. Such as grooming, signage, improved parking, safety, etc.
-Repair Funding: 1. Grants. 2. Capital improvement. 3. Increase user fees.

-Operation Funding: User fees and concession fees can help but they will never substitute for the realistic and appropriate funding obligation from the General Fund. Our legislature should be ashamed of itself, especially at a time of such high oil tax receipts (which would, by the way, be even higher if the Legislature had done its job in Juneau this session instead of spending time rewarding special interest groups with property tax exemptions that violate our state and federal constitutions!). We need to bring AK park funding to at least 25th out of the 50 states, not 49th as is now the case. It should be 1st but that's probably too much to expect.
-Repair Funding: Annual maintenance line item in state budget. Construct nothing you can't afford to maintain, but make that maintenance budget realistic for the number of acres and sites we need to provide.
-10 Year Improvement: A commitment from the Governor and legislature to support our state park system as a priority in a state with so much natural beauty and with a population that is so highly involved in outdoor recreation.
We desperately need to institutionalize a trail planning and maintenance program within our state parks. Most trails in our parks are accidents and are unsuited to the use they get -- unsustainable. We need to assess trail needs across the SP system and come up with a plan for building new, sustainable trails, and for maintaining them. There can be a strong volunteer component to this but it won't happen without some funding and leadership from the Governor, legislature and DNR commissioner down.

-Operation Funding: Gen. fund, some users fees (if not excessive, and something is actually provided with the fee collected. State is already getting registration fee money. Less needs to be spent on admin. And more on actual benefits to the users.
-Repair Funding: same
-10 Year Improvement: Less admin and "study" expenses. Put the money where it will show. Example: recent trail grooming money was largely spent on administering the grants for grooming, not grooming itself.

-Operation Funding: User fees are appropriate funding for those things related to actual use, such as roads, enforcement and ongoing maintenance.
-Repair Funding: Gen. fund monies are appropriate to a degree because they enhance the State's attractiveness to visitors, which I believe benefits us all.

-Operation Funding: Create and sell an annual park pass that is valid for all locations. The AK annual park pas is only valid at certain locations. ERNC requires its own annual pass. This is inefficient and inconvenient. Establish a flat rate, per car, fee to access any state park.

-Repair Funding: By sales of the annual park pass and day-use fees.

-10 Year Improvement: Create and sell an annual SP pass that is valid for all locations.

-Operation Funding: general fund and user fees. Most funding should be from the state general fund with maintenance covered by user fees such as camping and parking fees.

-Repair Funding: construction of new facilities and major repair should be from the state (capital funds).

-Operation Funding: use the snowmobile registration fees, and put them to use for grooming and marking trails.

-Repair Funding: User fees and yearly pass fees??

-Operation Funding: the funding for groomed trails is already in place all we need is for you to let us put the trails in.

-Repair Funding: user fees are ok but it has to be fair I have brought up the idea before that if the SP would sell a vest that shows you have paid to use the park and I mean everyone it wouldn't matter if you are just out for a hike or berry picking or even snowmobiling the state park would generate a lot of money and only the users would pay for the parks.

-Operation Funding: You probably need a combination of funding sources. The parking fee is generally reasonable. I buy tow passes and on a per use basis, it's cheap fun. I'd like a lower cost parking sticker for motorcycles. My bike does not hog a parking spot so you should encourage that. The sticker should also be smaller. I'm not sure where I'd want to put the sticker on my bike but the big sticker won't work. (I have never gotten a ticket for not paying to park my motorcycle so you may have a policy of letting them park free. Thanks!

You could charge more to park at popular trailheads and less for the lightly used trailheads. That might get a better balance of use. For example, the upper Huffman trailhead could be \$3 to park and Glen Alps \$6. never forget to include Ted Stevens on your list of funding sources.

-Repair Funding: See above. Keep things simple.

-Operation Funding: Both general funds and user fees.

-Repair Funding: general funds and user fees.

-Adequate Facilities: When there is funding to open all the parks and recreation areas - then yes.

-Operation Funding: general fund

-Repair Funding: general fund and user fees. The legislature should allocate adequate money every year.

-Operation Funding: Parking passes and use fees that go directly to the state park and not right back into the general fund. If the parks are generating the income they should be the ones that get to use it. They should also have friends of specific parks funds, etc. I am personally not aware of any SP 'concessions'. I think also encouraging additional donation at the iron maidens would be perhaps helpful. Only of course if it could be considered a donation to that specific trail and it didn't go into the states general funds.

-Repair Funding: Annual parking passes, day parking (iron maidens), outreach to user groups to perform the maintenance repairs and provide them the training to do so; but also give those user groups willing to help some more flexibility in the use of the park system. (I.e. mountain bikes can cover a lot of trail in a day doing trail clearing and maintenance / using bike trailers and just in general. Opening up trails to mountain bikes and encouraging them (with permit) to do so I think would be good. I personally just ran a crew down the USFS Russian Lakes trail and we easily covered 22 miles in a day clearing nearly 50 trees off the trail.

-Operation Funding: The use of public land for hunting, fishing, hiking, skiing, picnicking, snowmobiling, boating and other uses helps boost our economy and the physical and mental health of individuals. All of the gear that is purchased to participate in the above mentioned activities supports whole stores and those that work in them. Use of public land also attracts a lot of tourism and the money they leave, to our state. In addition, the improved physical and mental health of those using parks reduces medical costs that the state may otherwise be responsible for paying. Our state receives a lot of benefit from our parks and it is okay to pay for them out of general state funds. Charging user fees just discourages use. This can be seen in state park day use areas where use numbers significantly drop after a fee is imposed. Overnight facilities and boat launches may be okay to charge for but most day use facilities such as picnic areas, trails and parking areas should remain free.

-Repair Funding: Maintenance and construction money should come from the state general fund and not users fees. We have the richest state in the country, why are we nickel and diming those who like to use the parks system?

-Additional Services: fee collection enforcement

-Operation Funding: combo of user fees and general fund

-Repair Funding: combo of user fees and general fund

-10 Year Improvement: enforcement of user fees.

-Operation Funding: General Fund, the state could cut a bigger piece of the oil pie, user fees could help but should not be so high as to limit access by lower income people.

-Repair Funding: bonds?

-Operation Funding: Elect sympathetic legislators that recognize the economic value of CSP. Send them on trips to Europe, where high value is placed on park functions.

-Repair Funding: no ideas.

-Operation Funding: gen fund. User fees. Endowments (how about a permanent fund for parks). Concession fees.

-Repair Funding: State General Fund, Private contributions, non-profit groups access to grants.

-Operation Funding: Fees for sure options on the PFD to donate to your favorite SP. Create a 'friends of SP' non profit and an endowment with fund raising to be sustainable in the future.

-Repair Funding: Create priorities based on this survey and needs assessment. Contract with a rehab or training program. Or hire interns and grow your own rangers.

-Operation Funding: General fund. Providing for open space and public recreation is inherently governmental and should be funded entirely by the legislature. The parks should not have to feel compelled to concession out services; they should do so when another outfit could meet a legitimate park need better than the park itself. A nominal user fee is acceptable; however, even the current \$40 parking pass for Chugach has become prohibitive for some people.

-Repair Funding: general fund.

-Operation Funding: User fees, concession fees, fundraisers (grow the Friends of State Parks membership and contributors), general fund, Borough bed tax.

Adequate funding requires a combo of funding sources. The Friends of State Parks groups can be good partners in fundraising and should be promoted more publicly.

-Repair Funding: Same as above with public press announcements/fundraisers to bring issues to the public. I rarely see announcements of park projects/funding via newspaper or radio.

-Operation Funding: Although willing to pay user fees, they seem somewhat unfair because rich and poor pay the same. So general funds from taxes are fairer. However a case can be made for paying for what you use and the majority of Alaskans do not support taxes. So user fees are probably the best bet. If there are user fees then there needs to be the annual pass program needs to continue with the funds going to support the Parks not into general State funds. It is annoying to find a place has a user fee requirement and not have the ability to buy an annual pass instead of a day pass.

-Repair Funding: State Taxes, work with user groups, apply for grants.

-Operation Funding: Parking fees, concession fees, general funds.

-Repair Funding: general fund

-Additional Programs: I think you are a waste of our money and just get in the way and take away jobs that should be in the private sector.

I think you should get out of the business and turn all parks over to private enterprise. The State has no business being in this business!!

-Operation Funding: general funds. (as you know, park user fees are directed to the general fund. Better educate the legislature about the value of the parks.

-Repair Funding: General fund appropriation. If the legislature creates parks, it must maintain them!

-Operation Funding: Operations and maintenance from general fund, new projects from user fees and volunteer labor (e.g., backcountry cabins and trail construction.)

-Repair Funding: Major maintenance from combo of general funds and capital improvements project, new construction primarily from user fees and matching grants (capital improvements project as secondary source.)

-Operation Funding: gen. fund, user fees

-Repair Funding: bonds

-Operation Funding: Alaska legislature should increase funding to SP.

-Repair Funding: Combination of grants, legislative funding and volunteers.

-Operation Funding: general fund and user fees.

-Repair Funding: User fees if they are enough only use general funds if user fees aren't able to cover costs.

-Operation Funding: general fund

-Repair Funding: grants

-Operation Funding: If the user/concession fees get too high, no one will use the parks. You already have to pay to park almost everywhere. If more funding is needed the general fund is a good place. Keep the politicians from wasting it on something useless.

-Repair Funding: Same. General Fund.

-Operation Funding: general fund. Perhaps a small annual fee to registering ATV's and other OHV's, similar to the snowmobiles currently. Money should be directed to motorized programs in the park system.

-Repair Funding: general fund.

-Operation Funding: It should be funded from the general fund. If not, how about a check off for a user selected amount from the PFD?

-Repair Funding: This should be funded from the general fund. I think it's unfair for the state to use limited grant funds for construction and maintenance when many user groups have no other source or very limited sources for funding their recreational projects.

-Operation Funding: User fees are fine; most expenses should come from the general fund. I'm happy to pay taxes for better parks.

-Repair Funding: General funds. Donations. Have a web site for donating to special projects, I would donate to anything in my area.

-Operation Funding: User fees, definitely. General fund would be great PR for Alaska citizens and tourists.

-Repair Funding: general fund.

-Operation Funding: Gen. fund --- public trust doctrine says I am owner of Alaska's resources, my state government says we have funding excess, so how about using some of that to provide camping areas so people can enjoy "my" land without trashing it?

-Repair Funding: Gen. fund.

-10 Year Improvement: Keep it funded.

-
- Operation Funding: User fees and State wide head tax of some sort or some how. Perhaps an "RV" rental tax to cover costs of campgrounds as well as a rental boat tax.
- Repair Funding: general fund and user fees, more developed areas should have higher user fees.
- 10 Year Improvement: The season pass costs should be increased. Perhaps a tiered structure to keep them affordable to seniors or tied to PFD eligibility get a pfd, then get a reduce senior season pass rate.
-
- Operation Funding: User fees, concession fees
- Repair Funding: grants, user fees, enlist the help of OHV clubs and organizations
- Additional Programs: grants to trail groups
-
- Operation Funding: User fees, concession fees.
- Repair Funding: User fees, general fund, concession fees.
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- Operation Funding: General fund and user fees.
- Repair Funding: General fund.
-
- Operation Funding: Since the legislature seems intent spending millions on out of state consultants to tell them what they want to hear, it's unlikely they will appropriate sufficient funds to support state parks. Dedicated user fees are the best option left for AK SP. I don't have a problem with \$40 day use permit, or \$10/night tent camping fee. In more remote areas local contractors can probably better market local SP units as part of their tourism marketing. Valdez - Copper River SP units do a good job of connecting local contractor businesses to managing local SP units. Concession fees are good too as long as the concessionaire sees they are getting something out of it.
- Repair Funding: Ideally from capital appropriations. Short of that maybe create an endowment combining public appropriations and private (tax exempt) contributions and use the interest off the endowment for construction and repairs.
- 10 Year Improvement: No lose any more ground.
-
- Operation Funding: Sell off parks with no access.
- Repair Funding: Wallop-Breau, Dingle Johnson.
-
- Operation Funding: GENERAL FUND. Pretty tough to collect user or concession fees during the winter season.
- Repair Funding: Capitol funds or minor public works project funding.
-
- Operation Funding: User fees supplemented by general fund and some concession fees (although I wouldn't like to see the parks over-commercialized).
- Repair Funding: User fees and general fund.
-
- Additional Services: Its wrong that the skiers, who pay nothing into the state treasury, other than parking fees, get staff dedicated to trail maintenance and snowmobilers, who pay registration fees and fuel taxes into the treasury, have to do it.
- Operation Funding: Make park use strictly fee-based as long as the fees can be rolled back into the park without being grabbed by the legislature. The best idea yet to make everyone pay a fee to use the parks is a bib or badge or best that is numbered and given to fee payers, which must plainly displayed while in a park. No bib/badge/vest, no admittance.
- Repair Funding: General funds could cover these costs, although if a fee-based system as described above were in place there would be no problem improving and maintaining facilities.
-
- Operation Funding: General fund and user fees.
- Repair Funding: From the State's general fund; recoup costs as least partially through users fees.
-
- Adequate Facilities: Pretty good. The trails and parks around Ketchikan are first rate and are used heavily. The local Ranger is awesome and has always been helpful. They seem understaffed at the parks and there is an obvious lack of money spent in our area.
- Operation Funding: Well, I can't tell you where it should come from but the legislature or general fund should pony up better than they do. I just came back from a trip to Louisiana, probably the poorest state in the nation, and they have paved roads into their parks, groomed trails, etc. It is first rate. Don't know where the funds come from but their general parks are a cut above ours in terms of money spent. Alaska is the richest state and I don't think we spend much at all on ours. It's a disgrace overall. That's not to say you don't do a good job with the money you have; I'm saying the state needs to provide you with more money to continue to do your work.
-
- Operation Funding: General fund; Permanent Fund; keep user fees and concession fees to a minimum to allow for more use. With all that money in the Permanent Fund, there is no reason for nickel and diming the public with rising user fees.
- State agencies should look at other states that receive state/Indian gaming/lottery monies for support (especially see Arizona, which supports a large percentage of its Department of Game/Fish from lottery ticket purchases). It is time for Alaska to come into the modern world and realize the benefits of this way of raising lots of soft money. Efforts should be made to create a gaming commission and gaming money allocation.
- Repair Funding: Same as above. We already have the money and the potential to make the money.
-
- Operation Funding: Mostly general fund, tourism taxes, some user and concession fees.
- Repair Funding: General fund capital budget.
-
- Operation Funding: User fees, general fund, percentage of hunting/fishing licenses.
- Repair Funding: General fund.
-
- Operation Funding: Lower upper administrative costs.
- Repair Funding: Lower upper administrative costs.
-

-Operation Funding: User fees, raise snowmobile registration to be more near what other states charge and use this money for grooming.
-Repair Funding: General fund.

-Operation Funding: I think all of the examples listed are fair so should continue. I pay for a season pass and have no problem with that or having monies come from the general fund as in the long run it benefits all Alaskans.

-Repair Funding: Majority should come from the general fund followed by user and concession permit holders.

-Operation Funding: Ideally from the general fund. I believe public park lands should be affordable for all. Keep fees to 0. Realistically, user fees should be kept to a minimum. I'm against concessionaires in state parks.

-Repair Funding: General fund and direct appropriations to the state legislature.

-10 Year Improvement: More money for Parks!

-Operation Funding: A combination of general fund and user fees.

-Repair Funding: State funds and bonds.

-Operation Funding: I support a combination of funding sources. Basic maintenance and support should come from the general fund. User fees are appropriate and a fair way to insure that those who use the state parks share in their support. I support concession fees as long as a park unit doesn't begin to feel or look like a major concession.

-Repair Funding: Again, a combination of general fund and user fees. While user fees are appropriate, if they become too high, either use of the park units will fall or not all citizens will be able to enjoy them.

-Operation Funding: State parks should be funded by general fund. Our beautiful state parks are tremendous asset to Alaska. Forget about concession fees.

PEOPLE SHOULD BE ABLE TO BUY A SEASON PASS THAT INCLUDES CAMPING!!!!

-Repair Funding: General funds.

-10 Year Improvement: Enough support and funding by state for maintenance to keep current areas open for public use and in good condition.

-Operation Funding: General fund, and an option to purchase a yearly pass.

-Repair Funding: General fund.

-Operation Funding: I think it needs to be funded by a variety of sources - including, but not limited to your examples listed.

-Repair Funding: Same as above.

-Operation Funding: All of the above. The parks and trails should not be short changed.

-Repair Funding: Much of the big expense comes in operating the roadside campgrounds, which are generally used by our visitors. How about a tourist tax?
Increase user fees.

-Operation Funding: Through our oil royalties and taxes....since the trailhead parking fees have been introduced, where does that money go? Our state government should be able to adequately fund for public land without having to create additional user fees. Access to parks should be available to all.

-Repair Funding: See above answer.

-Operation Funding: General fund provided that there is a surplus (as in ability to balance budget). I am ok with user fees, but the state can do more to legislate funding to fund construction of campgrounds and day-use facilities. We all need to encourage each other to get outside and exercise a little.

-Repair Funding: Construction of park facilities should be funded by general fund and on-going maintenance should be funded by user-fees. The state should enforce, arrest, and convict violators who deface park facilities. Also follow-up with a requirement that violators pay the cost of repairs to damaged facilities.

-Operation Funding: General fund.

-Repair Funding: I don't know.

-Operation Funding: Park fees & fines. Public and private fund raisers via auctions, races, music events, art work and publications. Tax deductible contributions specifically designated for park use.

-Repair Funding: Park fees & fines. Public and private fund raisers via auctions, races, music events, art work and publications. Tax deductible contributions specifically designated for park use.
Provide a fair & open bid process to contract private companies for conducting the work.

-Operation Funding: All of the above.

-Repair Funding: All of the above.

-Adequate Facilities: Maintenance, maintenance, maintenance. I believe the facilities are adequate but need funding to be maintained. I believe the services are minimal and should be funded by state government for more effective public use (as opposed to outsourcing services to private vendors). Trail maintenance is a major issue for me. We have magnificent parks, which need funding and organization to be maintained.

-Operation Funding: Combination of general fund and user fees. A balance between the two seems to be occurring already, though I don't believe adequate information is provided to public to recognize that the park fees goes into the general fund and is not dedicated to parks. It seems the funding should be proportional to the needs of the park and the interest. Operational budgets should reflect the greater state budget due to oil revenues.

-Repair Funding: The same way they are funded for other state departments. State Parks are a valuable asset for the people, just as other departments, such as Department of Transportation. It would also be helpful to change the regulations so people could offer donations to specific state parks, which they use frequently, such as a Friends of the Chugach State park group. I'd like to see it made as easy as possible to give a donation to a specific state park that would remain dedicated to that park unit or even specific area within a unit.

-10 Year Improvement: I'd like to see dedicated funding to parks based on park fees so people recognize their money is going directly to the source.

-Operation Funding: General fund - State land and parks belongs to all Alaskans, and we should pay for their stewardship through the State budget. Only in that way can the resources be properly managed, with facilities and services that will continue to attract and support residents and visitors to enjoy and appreciate the land. High one-time user fees discourage use, while funding through the State budget assures that park facilities are there when visitors or vacation time allow people to go out and enjoy them.

-Repair Funding: Again, through the State budget for all the above reasons.

-10 Year Improvement: More funding so that trails, cabins and campgrounds can be properly maintained and expanded. There is a tremendous resource out there that people would use and enjoy with a little support from State Parks.

-Operation Funding: NOT with entry fees or "user fees", as though on were going to the movies or a concert or something! NO!

These lands are our natural heritage, and there should be no impediment to anyone, however rich or poor to entry and enjoyment of them. The right and proper source for funding the minimal requirements for staff and maintenance must be the public treasury through allocation from the general fund.

Much research, in a wide variety of fields, has shown that there are numerous direct and indirect public benefits that come from the opportunity for all citizens to enjoy access to and appreciation of the Wild (as Gary Snyder has termed it). If for no other reason--speaking to those who don't believe in such venerable traditions and values as a 'natural heritage'-- that these clearly demonstrated public benefits flow from un-obstructed access to wild land, nearby and farther away, let there be NO user fees of any kind, forever.

(In fact, let the Management staff of the State Park system welcome a Constitutional Amendment to this effect.)

I would not propose concession fees as a source of revenue as there ought to be little or no concession services on State Parks--no matter the pressure from business interests to the contrary. Let the principle be this: If it is necessary for the good operation and healthy maintenance of the park, let it be, by necessity, free of charge to all.

It must be added that a key path to maximizing resources must be found in fostering a significant public interest and effort in volunteer work with and in the State Park system. The techniques for this are many and varied. Finding out what works and what to do is a matter of simply looking--doing a little research--and creatively borrowing widely.

-Repair Funding: NOT through user fees and the like. See above.

Allocations from the General Fund by the Legislature is the right and proper source of funds for projects and maintenance.

-10 Year Improvement: See above.

-Operation Funding: These facilities, areas and sites are public goods given their location and more primitive and attractive services for the car camper and tent camper. Private companies do provide more complete facilities for RVs and people seeking showers, laundry, TV, electricity, etc.

The state sites are not really a very potentially profitable operation for the private entrepreneur and, as other public goods, should be provided mostly as a service to the public. In general, a small user fee could be charged on the sites and user pass system for persons intending to use more than one site, area or cabin, could also be initiated. Concessions are best left to the privately owned sites.

-Repair Funding: The capital costs should be borne by the state. A state program or expansion of existing programs for young people, outdoor groups or the unemployed to assist in construction or maintenance would be a good idea.

-Operation Funding: General fund First, then nominal user fees and concession fees.

-Repair Funding: General fund with a certain percentage paid by user fees, similar to the local match done for schools and roads. If users aren't willing to fund 10 or 20% of the cost, then maybe it isn't worth doing. I would sometimes prefer no or very limited facilities instead of a \$5 parking fee. I would prefer the \$10,000 spent on paved parking or a fancy kiosk be spent on the trail or an outhouse, or else not spent at all.

-10 Year Improvement: I would prefer to fund a trail fund than fund Kiosk and paved parking, and I should be able to choose this with my user fees.

-Additional Facilities: The guided public taken down the river by Chilkat Guides represents the largest block of public users, and they are the only ones besides the guided jet boat public that have to pay an entry fee to use the Preserve. Yet, the State refuses to spend any money to provide service for them. I think that this is unfortunate and unjust.

-Operation Funding: Parks are set aside for everyone, everyone should share in their maintenance, therefore general fund dollars should be used to fund the parks.

If user fees are to be charged, then all users should pay the same fees. It is not right that those members of the public who choose to visit their parks with a guide should have to pay an entry fee, while those who visit on their own do not have to pay. If anyone pays everyone pays.

If public services are deemed appropriate in a park, then charging concession fees simply increases the cost of those services to the public. They are simply another way of assessing taxes without calling them taxes.

-Repair Funding: general fund

-Operation Funding: user fees

-Operation Funding: 1. The fees that are asked of users now should be designated! And not put into a general fund. 2. Fees should be fair....assure that motorized recreation and the corporate (princess/guides) are paying fees...as the foot traffic does to use areas. 3. Find ways to enforce these. 4. Create non-profit "friends of AK state parks" for additional fundraising.

-Repair Funding: 1. From designated funds from user fees. 2. Allocated funds from state budget. 3. Tax the large corporate users....Princess. 4. Develop aggressive volunteer program...work with trail organizations...incentives (so many work hours=yr passes).

-Operation Funding: I like general fund financing so no one is excluded from access to state parks. Management of state parks is a very small portion of any state's budget. I pay lots of taxes that benefit others and that's fine, it makes our state a better place for all of us. If I get more use from state parks than from schools, I'm glad someone else is getting more use from our schools.

-Repair Funding: general funding appropriations.

-Operation Funding: User fees that can be legislated to go directly into the park. Keep the park pass system but do not raise the price. Lobby state for more funding to cover park expenses. I know use is increasing every year in the Chugach yet funding is not keeping pace.

-10 Year Improvement: More funding to maintain parks resources and continual trail improvements.

-Adequate Facilities: With the money your budget provides you are doing an incredible job. We love our state parks.

-Operation Funding: User fess at parking lots, like now. More money in the general fund from the state, and concession fees.

-Repair Funding: With general funds and an increased budget.

-Adequate Facilities: Yes. If you build any more the maintenance costs will get out of hand.

-Operation Funding: General fund. You are not doing the public any good by increasing user fees. This makes going to the parks elitist. You need to make it easy for anyone to go to the parks cheaply to promote public support for parks.

-Repair Funding: General fund. Get the oil companies to pair a fair share of their profits in taxes to the State of Alaska.

-Operation Funding: general fund, user fees, concession fees and donations.

-Repair Funding: state and fed grants and user fees.

-Operation Funding: combo of all 3. If you have cabin rentals, definitely user fees. Picnic areas and parking for day use should be general fund and concessions if possible.

-Repair Funding: general fund.

-Operation Funding: User fees should be given back to state parks and not just to the general fund. User fees should be reasonable.

-Repair Funding: Through user fees.

-Operation Funding: Gen. funds/handshake with USFS/ Conservation group support.

-Repair Funding: Conservation Group support as well as soliciting Corporate support.

-Operation Funding: Mostly out of the gen. fund. Some user fees but not many. Parks belong to all and must be kept affordable to all.

-Repair Funding: General fund -absolutely! WE seem to have plenty of money for road improvements - why can't we maintain and improve our parks?

-Operation Funding: Because of my desire to keep these areas "wild" funding would not be necessary.

-Repair Funding: same as above.

-Operation Funding: User fee and gen. fund. Minimal concessions should be in place as an 'as needed/wanted' per unit area. Fines for littering, vandalism, hunting/fishing violations.

-Adequate Facilities: I know that manpower and funding are big problems and more of both are needed.

-Operation Funding: General fund and user fees.

-Repair Funding: The State of AK should self fund these items or hold fundraisers.

-Operation Funding: General fund and user fees. I have no problem with the State Park Passes and hope the state will contribute more money to park up-keep and operations. I do resent having to pay a concession fee to park at Arctic Valley during summer. How about enforcing the dog laws and fining people? Think of all of the money you could make.

-Repair Funding: Gen. funds, grants, user fees, voluntary fees.

-Operation Funding: State funding and user fees. A user card that is good for all state parks would be appealing to me. Then I could use parks up north without having to stuff money into locked containers. That requires I carry a lot of small bills when I am biking.

-Repair Funding: General funds and user fees. Parks that have commercial use should charge a fee for this.

-Operation Funding: Day use fees are counterproductive and folks resent paying \$5 to park and walk through an area which in the past has always been open. That is not to say that user fees are not okay in some areas. The amount of \$ generated from day use is nominal and does little to fund parks. SP's needs to do a comprehensive look at fees for day use/CG's/cabins and see what really makes sense and what people are comfortable with. Just like the state ferry system, SP's will never pay for itself nor was it ever intended to pay for itself. We need a bond issue to pay for the backlog of CIP needs. As employee levels are stagnant and facilities go down hill the legislature needs, through active involvement by the commish. And director, to ramp up funding in all areas. It is a shame the parks are in the lousy condition they are.

-Repair Funding: See above. Greater appropriations by the legis. And possibly a bond to cover CIP needs.

-Operation Funding: Combo of gen. fund and user fees for specific facilities / services (e.g. campground fees, fees for cabin use.).

In general, I believe that State parks should be funded by the state out of general funds and should be open to anyone regardless of their financial means (i.e. no entry fees!) I would be perfectly happy to pay taxes to fund SP, if necessary!

-Repair Funding: See above! The Division of Parks and Outdoor Recreation should be adequately funded to operate and maintain existing parks and for possible expansions where user demand is high.

-Operation Funding: combo of gen. fund and user fees.

-Repair Funding: combo of general fund and volunteer programs.

-Operation Funding: gen. fund, user fees, annual passes.

-Repair Funding: Perhaps working in concert with organizations like the nature conservancy, trail user groups and private conservation orgs. Co sponsored fund raisers....o, and the state could PONY UP AND PAY FOR IT!!!!

-Operation Funding: I've heard that the budget for State parks has gone up hardly at all over the past 10 years. Naturally, the parks are getting run down. Definitely more is needed from the general fund. I don't know about concessions fees. Maybe Totem Bight could be run as a concession. If user fees are to be charged, the improve the parks so that people won't mind paying a fee, and have a collection booth at the entrance. Do Not rely on the "honor" system to get people to pay a fee. That only leads to dishonesty and cynicism and disrespect from the public. People don't mind paying a "user" fee if there is something worthwhile to use and if it is properly collected and policed.

-Repair Funding: I don't know how it is done now, but how about presenting a special request for funds to the legislature each year for a specific improvement in each area. Ear mark it for that area. Let the local parks board decide on the project that they want done in their area, and let them lobby their own legislators for that project. Do this every year on another project. Do them one at a time.

-Operation Funding: User fees, the current concession fees insure that commercial users are paying more than their fair share, the general public is paying nothing and is causing most of the damage.

-Repair Funding: User fees, kept in the local area where the money is generated, it does no good to generate funds in one area and then have that money all spent somewhere else. If this is done soon the public will grow angry over paying monies to improve their favorite site and never seeing the improvements.

-Operation Funding: User fees.

-Repair Funding: User fees and legislative appropriation.

-Operation Funding: The user and concession fees need to stop going into the general fund and be returned to Parks budget. A high percent of the fees collected on the Kenai need to stay in the area, and similar across the state. In addition, the general fund needs to continue to support our parks system.

-Repair Funding: major capital projects should be approved through the general fund.

-Operation Funding: Use of the general fund as well as user fees and concession fees, are all essential. I feel that commercial operators/ users such as charter boat and guide services should not only pay a permit fee, but also pay access fees at a higher scale than the general public and local users. Recognizing that State parks provides the only access (for all of the public) to so much of our resources should be the basis for increased State Gov. budget funding, rather than as fees to park visitors. We cannot afford to discourage visitors to our Parks, and must maintain affordable access and use by our local residents. In our specific area, there is no public means/source of generating funds to support Parks projects, except to lobby government in support of specific problems presented to our local advisory committee.

-Repair Funding: St. gov. budget proposals, legislative funding priorities, collaboration with DOT as well as fed parks, on many specific long term development plans.

-Operation Funding: all of the above

-Repair Funding: all of the above

-Operation Funding: I think a combination of funding sources. First of all, it is a state resource and money from the general fund would be reasonable. Second, user fees do make sense, those of us who use the parking lots, toilets and trails do pay our \$40 permit fee per year, but maybe that needs to be increased a bit. Third, if some of the areas (flattop) were a bit more developed, a concession stand would probably make enough to help maintain that well-used trail. As much as I hat 4-wheelers, it does seem reasonable to identify a section of park land they could use and change them an access fee (with any ATV's found in inappropriate areas being sold to fund trail repair costs)

-Repair Funding: Do we know for sure how many people use the parks? It might be reasonable to ask the state for a per-person level of funding with those areas that get used more receiving more funding for major repairs, etc. Perhaps there would also be groups (besides the mountain biking group) that would be willing to assist with building or maintaining the parks.

-Operation Funding: General fund and modest, broad based user fees (like parking fees). State income or sales tax funds? It is sad to compare National Forest and State Park campgrounds in Alaska and realize the Feds spend more on their Alaska facilities than our own state does.

-Repair Funding: All fees raised by parks should be kept by SP, not put into the general fund to be reallocated.

-Operation Funding: When I use services I am happy to pay fees. I now that only covers a tiny portion of the actual cost, and I believe the gen. fund should be one source. I would approve local taxes if, in return, state parks were expanded and services were provided.

-Operation Funding: general fund, season parking tickets, commercial use fee's

-Repair Funding: General fund.

-Operation Funding: gen fund.

-Repair Funding: I don't know enough to answer.

-Operation Funding: We're already paying user fee's, how about money from oil royalties, considering the oil companies in Alaska net profits in the Billions!!!!!!!!!!!!

-Repair Funding: Quit trying to build the damn bridge in Ketchikan, that would serve a few, and use the money for the recreation of all the people of the state, plus bringing more visitors. We also have a large prison population that sit on their asses getting a degree in law instead of repaying their debt to society. Get them out there and do some construction, trail maintenance, etc..

-Operation Funding: gen fund. User fees add up for myself. Considering I ride snowmobiles in the parks 70-100 times a year.

-Repair Funding: Use some of the states cash resources.

-Operation Funding: All of the above if necessary. I for one would pay a higher registration fee on my snowmobile annually if needed. Parking fees are also an option for winter use, just like a boat launch...10 dollars to launch your sleds and park is a minor fee to play in SP.

-Repair Funding: gas tax, registration fees, same as above.

-Additional Facilities: It seems the park lacks the funds to maintain what we have now, do we need new facilities?

-Operation Funding: We have user fees now. I hate to see a large \$\$ increase. Grants? Hire a staff grant writer.

-Repair Funding: Temporary user fees to fund new construction.

-Operation Funding: all of the above. Not sure about how parks are funded other than taxes and user fees.

-Repair Funding: Taxes and user fees.

-Operation Funding: Some of all...gen. fund, user fees, and concession fees.

-Repair Funding: How ever they can...we need to keep AK parks in good shape.

-Operation Funding: User fees, state funding or federal. I think the best thing would be a gas station that specializes in back country gear from snowmobiling to skiing.

-Repair Funding: same.

-Adequate Facilities: Private enterprise could provide best the best service for improvement.

-Operation Funding: private entrepreneurial business ventures monitored or managed by State Parks. Do not assume that large scale vendors (princess, Holland America, and ARAMARK) are the best choice for opportunities in Alaska.

-Repair Funding: Use currently available funding. Do not grow Staffing or build/rent more tashmahalls on expensive real estate in Anchorage, Seward, Fairbanks or Juneau. This use of money is very poor management.

-Operation Funding: Most funds should come from the gen. fund. AKSP are an incredible resource to residents and visitors alike. WE should be showcasing our parks and recreation facilities and using them to attract and satisfy residents and visitors instead of trying to contract them out to private operators or closing them down for lack of funding. They are a great bargain for the state, compared to other programs, SP are not even close to significant expenditure for AK and should not be allowed to deteriorate further.

-a state parks "sticker" for a car or boat would be an additional way to raise revenue, like the annual Chugach sticker - very acceptable.

- any entity doing business in a SP should be paying a franchise fee or concession fee if they are not already.

-Repair Funding: There should be a cyclic maintenance fund that is available through the general fund, with routine maintenance needs such as painting, roof repairs/replacement and other predictable needs that is available on an annual basis for a prioritized list of projects prepared by SP. The legislature could approve these or just make "x" dollars available and let SP allocate to the highest priority needs.

-Major construction and one time repairs should have a fund source from the general fund; a prioritized project list could be prepared and presented for approval.

-Adequate Facilities: Nope. Parks have been making lemonade from lemons in their budgets for years.

-Operation Funding: general fund, user fees, concession fees, grants.

-Repair Funding: general fund and user fees.

-10 Year Improvement: Personnel and maintenance money.

-Additional Facilities: Maybe implement a "rental" system like the DNR cabins in PWS. A person could reserve a tie on one for a few dollars a night.

-Operation Funding: I think that basic maintenance should be split between the general fund and user fees. Well maintained park facilities with fresh paint and dry wood available for the fire pit are a draw for tourists (and locals) who's locally spent money benefits all Alaskans. This is my justification for using gen. fund money. But, I think it's too much to ask of the users of a particular facility to help pay for trash collection, toilet maintenance, and on-site managers when necessary. Maybe a 75% GF, 25% user fee split. Or fully fund the operating costs from the GF and use the fees for minor improvements and maintenance.

-Repair Funding: Through the gen. fund.

-Operation Funding: I would like the price of the boat launches to go back down to \$5 instead of \$10. I have been launching from the Salcha River for several years and there has been no improvement in the launch or the road to the launch and now the price has raised to \$10 to launch my boat every time. I can just as easily go to the gravel bar and launch for free. I don't mind paying but I would like to see some improvements for the money I am spending.

-Repair Funding: I don't mind paying for services as long as I can see some kind of benefit from the money I am spending.

-Operation Funding: user fees work for me, but need to be enforced more to make more money, I think.

-Repair Funding: State money.

-Operation Funding: usage fees high enough as is. Elect supportive politicians.

-Repair Funding: Legislate

-Operation Funding: User fees of course would most certainly be mandatory, but you could also raise money by passing legislation to sell passes to Alaskans who have motorhomes and campers on a yearly permit of about say \$150. This would of course be only for AK residents for self use only. In the legislation it could be worded to say that any commercial motorhomes for rent could no use a res. Permit, but instead have a 7 day permit for \$75 or a 10 day permit for \$100 and then a 20 day for \$180 and finally a 30 day for \$270. Each time the commercial motor home would be rented, the rentee would have to option to buy one of these permits or pay the standard fees. By doing it this way, you could divert funding to the State instead of these rented motor homes to go with private parks that charge anywhere between \$12 and \$25 per night. Also have stiff fines for any commercial operators who try to get a residential yearly permit or for AK res. Who rent out their motor homes. If a motor home is rented out than you can't get a yearly permit on it. The fines could start at \$1000.00 and go on up from there depending how long the parties have defrauded the State. You already have permits for day use and took away our camping permits. Lets get the camping permits back so us res. Can afford to camp.

-Repair Funding: Same as ~Operation Funding

-Operation Funding: User fees, concession fees, state budget

-Repair Funding: state budget

-Operation Funding: partial general fund and user fees are OK, if they are an annual fee.

-Repair Funding: same

-Operation Funding: This State is rich enough to more than adequately fund from the gen. fund.

-Repair Funding: CIP's

-Operation Funding: a combo of gen. fund and concession fees. Our state needs to spend some of its large stash of surplus funds on back maintenance, improvements, upgrades and new construction. Our Ranger station has no toilet or running water.

-Repair Funding: gen fund and partnering with service orgs. Locally. Volunteer labor has also been helpful in the past. Our state has been overlooking SP needs for many years.

-10 Year Improvement: the need for an annual budget, so scheduled work is done when needed and not back logged.

-Operation Funding: user or concession for users should pay for the places they use.

-Repair Funding: grants are a great way. Also gen fund should help for some. Gas taxes for grooming machines!

Registration fee for snow vehicle should be increased to \$10.00 per year.

-Operation Funding: general fund and donations, user fees where it is reasonable.

-Repair Funding: Develop a grant writing committee and work on acquiring these funds, plus with an increased presence and better image, people may be more willing to donate or assist in the appropriation of funds for such projects.

-Operation Funding: We need to charge the people that do not currently pay for any maintenance: hikers, bikers, and runners. Motorized users pay to register their machines, however non-motorized users do not pay. Shoe tax? Bike registration? Ski/snowboard tax or registration?

-Operation Funding: State Parks needs a larger capital and O&M budget from the Gen. fund. Also, increase user fees and establish concession fees at high use areas (Glen Alps) similar to Eagle River.

-Repair Funding: from gen. fund and DOT funding for enhancements (similar to ISTEPA)

-Operation Funding: 1 - More support from the legislature for the gen. fund. We are a very wealthy state! 2 - I'd be curious to find out how user fees compare elsewhere. They seem reasonable to me now and I'm not sure raising them would help with the overall shortage issues. 3 - I don't know exactly how the foundations operate, but I would hope they have specific projects they fund and would continue to do so. 4 - Where appropriate (the larger more commercial areas) - concession fees should be applied. Again, these should be in sync with elsewhere in the country.

-Repair Funding: Absolutely through capitol budget! Operations budget should be drastically increased to cover all basic maintenance, including trails!

-Operation Funding: No user fees will possibly replace Gen. fund revenues. The problem has always seemed to be that when oil prices wildly fluctuate, so has the gen. fund budget. It's about time that we made a serious, statewide commitment to adequately fund our SP system. We are the state the rest of America turns to for "doing it right" regarding development of parks -- we have the biggest, most beautiful system, yet we woefully under fund ours. Politically, basic infrastructure, i.e., roads, bridges, docks, etc... take priority and parks (as well as public libraries) are generally considered feel-good, community assets we get around to funding as soon as everything else is taken care of.

-Operation Funding: Should ballot proposition #2 (cruise ship head tax) pass this fall, I am in support of diverting a portion of the future funds collected under this program to be designated for state parks maintenance.

-Repair Funding: Again, I don't see any solution except a major boost to the Gen. fund.

-10 Year Improvement: More public money devoted to the AK SP system overall.

-Operation Funding: the \$3 per person user fee that goes into effect in 2007 will generate several hundred thousand dollars of revenues in a short time from the commercial operations within the Chilkat Bald Eagle Preserve. That money should be dedicated to improving conditions for commercial companies that are currently receiving little or no benefit from the \$2 per person user fees that commercial co. currently collect within the preserve and pass on to AKSP. Dedicating the commercial use fees to enhance the guest experience within the preserve will greatly benefit the quality of experience for the clients of the commercial companies operating within the Eagle Preserve, the independent visitors to the Preserve, the residents of the Haines Borough, and the growth of AKSP.

-Repair Funding: In addition to the \$3 per person user fees, AKSP should explore all avenues of public funding assistance, which could include Federal, State, and Borough financial assistance.

It is likely that Fed. Funding could possibly be procured for improvements and access to the Chilkat River because it is a navigable waterway. There may be federal funds available within the scope of the upcoming Haines Highway Realignment Project. Department of Commerce and Economic Development should be explored for possible improvements that will aid the commercial companies. Additionally funding by grants could also be explored. Also, sales tax money from the sale of sporting goods could be tapped for recreation based projects.

-Operation Funding: State parks can be an even bigger tourist draw (with their accompanying spending in all sectors.) Since tourism is a business benefiting the entire state more funding should come from the general fund. Parks should not have high user fees making them cost prohibitive for everyone to enjoy.

-Repair Funding: as above. With emphasis on maintenance of existing rather than new construction.

-Operation Funding: gen. fund, user fees. If there are concessionaires there should be fees.

-Repair Funding: from above fees.

-Operation Funding: General fund. If necessary (although in this time of record high oil prices, it might be unnecessary), the state should adopt a taxation system, such as an income tax, to fund SP. We have a wonderful resource that we have consistently under funded; this is a travesty.

Parks should be available to all of the public, not just the public with money to spare. While \$40 a year may not be much to some, there is a segment of the public for whom \$40 a year is significant.

-Repair Funding: from the general fund.

-Operation Funding: A combo of different types of funding, including user fees.

-Operation Funding: all of the above, in that order.

-Operation Funding: gen. fund and user fees

-Repair Funding: gen. fund

-10 Year Improvement: User fees used locally

-Operation Funding: Our annual passes were taken away, our parks were closed and now we must deal with a fee every time you turn around. And don't expect to be able to drive into a park just for fun, that too must be done under 30 mins. So nice to be timed on everything we do.

The poor AK seniors who must pay \$15 a night on fixed income really limits their options to enjoy their time. All AK res. should be allowed to buy an annual pass again, as in the past. Why are only the disabled residents given a break? It's time to look at the whole picture, we all live and work in this beautiful state. The parks are for everyone, not just tourists.

-Operation Funding: gen. fund, state funding. I am not in favor of situations like the ERVC where I have to pay another parking fee to a concession. As far as I can see, the State built the parking lot, the State maintains the parking lot, the State owns the parking lot and my State parks parking sticker is all I should need to use the ER trail system. I have no interest in using the visitor center. Why should I pay the trolls who do nothing that I need or want for their fee?

-Repair Funding: Through State funding. The legislature needs to wake up and provide funding.

-Operation Funding: General fund and concession fees. Anyone making a profit off the public resources their fair share.

-Repair Funding: General fund. If we can afford a jet for the Gov., we can afford a few more trails maintenance.

-Additional Services: State park system fees are an appropriate mechanism for funding this activity.

-Adequate Facilities: Alaska has the best State Parks in the country and yet we have an administration and legislature that do not recognize this and do not commit necessary funding to maintain and improve the park system as population grows.

-Operation Funding: SP have been long-neglected by the state (namely the legislature) and before fees are increased again, the state needs to make a greater financial commitment to SP via gen. funds.

-Repair Funding: Capital budget and bonding. Cooperative funding efforts between for-profit, non-profit, state.

-Operation Funding: Through a combo of user fees, concession fees and the gen. fund. Wise use of funds is as important. For example, as a concessionaire, I don't mind the fees as long as it's well spent on facilities.

When I see money going into admin. The fee charging I'm bothered. When SP checks guide qualifications, first drug testing programs etc they are essentially repeating things the Coast Guard and insurance Companies already do. If SP checks for is taken care of, the insurance company won't issue a policy without guide qualifications and the Coast Guard doesn't issue licenses without drug testing.

I'd be interested to see an analysis on what admin. Of concession fees costs in PWS against what they collect.

-Repair Funding: gen. fund.

-Operation Funding: I'm very opposed to collecting fees unless the fees I pay go directly into a local fund!!!!

Europe has excellent insurance coverage at very reasonable rate that most climbers purchase yearly to help offset rescue costs.

A general fund that is locally funded should stay local. The parking fees I've had to pay over the past 4-5 years had not shown up as any direct benefit to our park. In fact I think there is less service now than when the fees started.

Cut admin. Fluff! Put the money into service and field work.

-Repair Funding: Fees collected locally could be one source of funding. Use of organization/volunteer groups. Use of people who use the Park for competitive events. These competition people have tons of energy. Get them to donate some of that energy into the park!

There should be an ongoing fund for repairs even as trails/buildings etc. are being planned. There should be plans on how repairs will be funded before new service is added.

~Operation Funding: 1. Stable and Adequate Budget: a. strive to fund park units closer to real costs and/or national standards; b. Develop system to fairly allocate funding resources statewide; c. Develop alternatives to user fee programs such as a small recreation tax applied to outdoor recreational equipment in-lieu of additional site based user fees that require a great deal of staff time, infrastructure and revenue accountability to maintain; d. Change the state fiscal year to a calendar (or federal) year to avoid the mid-season budget crisis.

~Repair Funding: 2. Deferred maintenance - continue substantial capital infusions to offset the increased costs of park repairs.

~Operation & Repair Funding: 3. Capital Budgets - allocate major funding statewide that target economic stimulation of adjacent communities.

~Operation Funding: User fees

~Repair Funding: user fees

~Additional Facilities: Return of season camping pass

~Operation Funding: general fund only.

User fees if not prohibitive e.g. I'm being \$5'ed to death at some locations. Arctic Valley, I know avoid the area.

~Repair Funding: General fund.

~Operation Funding: gen. fund

~Repair Funding: gen. fund; user fees.

~Operation Funding: state general fund, user fees, concession fees.

~Repair Funding: State general fund, user fees, concession fees.

~10 Year Improvement: The elimination of the fee system and mentality that the state is supposed to protect me from myself with more silly rules, gated off areas and fees for my snow machine and boat.

~Operation Funding: I think parks should be funded through the gen. fund as well as user fees (such as for camping sites)

~Repair Funding: Construction and major repairs should be planned and budgeted for. The concept of deferred maintenance is an example of poor planning. There should be 2 types of maintenance, preventative and corrective. Not performing maintenance because of the budget means that the budget was not properly prepared.

~Operation Funding: Gen. fund, Concession fees, user fees

~Repair Funding: State Capital Projects fund

~Operation Funding: User fees and general fund.

~Repair Funding: State capital improvements program.

~Operation Funding: state funded and summer user fees

~Repair Funding: state funded

Alaska State Parks Strategic Plan Comments

Human Resources - General

~Additional Services: I think people would be interested in the type of jobs available in State Parks.

~Adequate Facilities: Facilities are fine, need more rangers.

~10 Year Improvement: More rangers.

~Additional Services: patrols

~Adequate Facilities: Absolutely not!! Not enough staff to manage, maintain and patrol the parks.

~10 Year Improvement: More rangers/techs/trail crews.

More trails cabins, developed campsites. Improved maintenance, tools and equipment.

~Additional Programs: better oversight of parking to prevent vandalism to parks and personal vehicles.

~Additional Services: Increased ranger presence and perhaps more ranger led-programs (which of course would require bigger staffs).

~Adequate Facilities: I also believe that the larger, wilderness parks need increased park staffs, to increase the ranger presence and also the possibility of ranger-led programs.

~10 Year Improvement: Needs/improvements to make: increased staffs, especially at the larger "wilderness" parks.

~Additional Services: Law enforcement.

~Adequate Facilities: The only facilities and services which need to be increased are those related to law enforcement including vehicle safety and vandalism prevention near trailheads.

~10 Year Improvement: Increased law enforcement.

~Additional Services: Trailhead security.

~10 Year Improvement: Better trailhead security.

~10 Year Improvement: stricter control of concessionaires needed, especially in the more remote campgrounds.

~Adequate Facilities: Yes, although there is not enough patrolling at Kasilof River areas at all. We were down there for personal use setnetting and the amount of human waste back in the woods (there was nowhere else to go) was truly sickening. It is a public-health hazard.

~Additional Services: Security in parking areas.

~10 Year Improvement: Also, vandalism in parking areas is a big concern. It would be great to have this addressed.

~Additional Services: Conflict resolution when needed.

~10 Year Improvement: Keep staffing at a level where the areas can operate safely and efficiently.

~Additional Programs: childhood education

~Additional Services: You should relieve LE rangers of their maintenance duties so they can focus on LE duties. More enforcement is needed but not at the cost of maintenance.

Every park should at least have: 1. Enforcement rangers; 2. Technicians (maintenance), a. ACC crew; 3. Interpretive non-commissioned Ranger.

This should be the model and then increase this number per capita visitor or as popularity of park.

People should never be in a state park without knowing they are in a state park.

No one should be camping in a state park and not be informed of how to camp/hike in bear country.

~Additional Facilities: Have camper friendly rangers who stop and talk with the campers as they make their rounds.

~Additional Services: When the front of the dumpster is full park personnel need to use a push pole to push the material to the back.

~Additional Programs: Much expanded bear monitor program as part of park ranger system.

~Additional Services: So try to build up some sort of job class of Interpretive Rangers (what a dream!)

~10 Year Improvement: Staff is doing a fantastic job with no resources--I can't ask for anything more unless more resources show up!!

~10 Year Improvement: I'd like to see more rangers on hand in heavily used areas, to make positive visitor contacts, maintain that the rules of the park(s) are followed and be available to answer questions and chat with visitors. Enjoyment of the parks can be especially enhanced through this type of contact, not just the kiosk.

~Additional Services: winter trail grooming and trash pickup

~Adequate Facilities: The focus on training park rangers as Troopers instead of naturalists has been expensive and a misdirection of staff use for a long time. The SP staff should be able to talk about the area it serves as an interpretive naturalist instead of a maintenance person on a schedule who has to hit every outhouse between Willow and Glennallen.

~Additional Programs: Interpretive materials development has been a crippled effort from the start.

Generally, a graphic artist cranked out the stuff. Vicki, Hope, the ACAC started some good stuff. Then, computers took over and in the Engineering section, somebody kept somebody on the dime to keep cranking stuff out. Now, I see handwritten signs about grizz on the trailhead below Wolverine. I also hear that the trail along McHugh is closed because of a grizz with cubs. You know what I saw? Do you know what two other runners saw? We say a black with 3 cubs. Now, not to say I haven't seen grizz sign in the middle fork region. But the blackie was right there at Rainbow and three cubs would make any mom edgy. So, where was the interpretive focus? Get people there, talk about it, make it into something interesting...instead, all that is done that I know of is that the trail was closed for a time. And, Mr. Park Ranger continued to make his rounds car to car and planted tickets on those with no stickers. That is what is wrong with state parks. Parking lot, river and campground cops we are not. This is an old and tired dialogue. Get out of the rut. Get some new focus. Get some new legislation. Get going.

~10 Year Improvement: Vandalism stopped.

~10 Year Improvement: Adequate staffing. Eliminate concessionaires operating park units.

~Adequate Facilities: Some more park rangers on hand monitoring trail heads and answering questions and monitoring park-use in peak seasons could be helpful.

~Adequate Facilities: Are staff adequately trained and supported?

~Additional Services: This answer presumes there are State Parks staff. With only one Ranger for seven Sitka State Parks, these services are completely unrealistic. If we could just get some summer temporary staff to assist with visitors and routine and major maintenance of Sitka's parks, it would be a huge improvement.

~10 Year Improvement: A statewide Parks Director who strongly supports and communicates with the local park systems.

A reasonable commitment to maintain Sitka's Ranger position and provide temporary summer maintenance staff as well.

~Adequate Facilities: Yes, as visitors increase we'll need more rangers.

~10 Year Improvement: the current system does not have enough rangers to cover the areas of responsibility (i.e. they are spread too thin, they are over committed, they will burn out, then you lose a great resource knowledge base to another department or division.)

~Additional Services: Security? - We are very upset about the lack of porta potties due to vandals! Sorry that this is an issue.

~Additional Services: More parking lot surveillance, to lower vandalism and burglary.

~Adequate Facilities: No, I would like to see more rangers, like twice as many, they could provide more timely information, as in trail conditions, or bear/wild life sightings, this would be the most positive thing you could do to raise your public image. Or get a host at every possible place that people park and hike for extended periods of time.

~Additional Programs: State Snowmobile Safety Program with dedicated staff modeled after the Boating Safety Program.

~Additional Facilities: Secure parking.

~Additional Services: Info on bears and moose, car break-ins, other trail hazards, law enforcement.

~Adequate Facilities: Need more ranger presence to ensure laws are enforced and to provide up to date info and guidance.

~10 Year Improvement: More ranger presence.

~Adequate Facilities: We've got a huge park system but very few facilities and a pitiful number of staff. We need more facilities to spread use away from a handful of heavily-visited sites. We need better management of those sites (more staff) but we also need more staff to take care of new sites. Campground hosts are great but cannot substitute for commissioned LE rangers or trained interpretation staff. Also need more maintenance staff so rangers don't have to clean toilets and stock TP.

There is a huge demand for outdoor rec in AK and our state park system is wonderful. It should be seen as an asset equal to the national park system here (and I work for NPS). State Parks needs a realistic budget and staffing levels. Our state leaders are shooting themselves in the foot by failing to staff and promote the full potential of our state parks. I moved here for quality of life and as an AK resident, I demand better! Visitors deserve to see our state in its full glory, too.

~10 Year Improvement: Development of a statewide advocacy watchdog group to hold the pol's feet to the fire and to help educate the public about the undervalued asset that is the state park system.

~Additional Services: I think enforcement is the most appreciated SP staff service. We can do a good job on our own picking up trash and exploring but convincing others to use resources in a responsible and ethical manner is elusive. For the past two summers I've noticed a great example of what I mean by enforcement on the Little Su near LSPUF. I observed a park ranger picking up other peoples trash, even small amounts of fishing line and on another occasion stopping a group of fisherman from continuing to fish after obtaining a limit. This was a park ranger, not a regular fish and game enforcement officer. Just having someone with a uniform out there improves adherence to established regs.

~10 Year Improvement: An increase in enforcement staff.

Currently I appreciate efforts to involve volunteer help and hope to see that grow. I think it improves public awareness and sense of ownership.

~10 Year Improvement: Increased safety from break in at parking areas (increased enforcement and greater penalties)

~Additional Services: Having people live in their campers and watch the trail heads seems like a good program. I hope that is working well.

~Additional Facilities: Basic Security

~Additional Services: I think that some of the Ranger districts are ridiculously spread out. Why does the Ranger that covers Girdwood also cover Glenn Alps for example. That is ridiculous and way too spread out for the level of use and the amount of accessibility between the two areas. Security at trailheads.

~Additional Services: Presence of park rangers or uniformed personnel to encourage responsible behavior

~Repair Funding: Contract with a rehab or training program. Or hire interns and grow your own rangers.

~Additional Programs: I think you are a waste of our money and just get in the way and take away jobs that should be in the private sector. I think you should get out of the business and turn all parks over to private enterprise. The State has no business being in this business!!

~10 Year Improvement: Increase park staffing.

~Additional Services: ranger presence in general

~Additional Services: Police to enforce the few basic rules.

~10 Year Improvement: increase personnel to manage the units

~10 Year Improvement: Rangers on hand or an easy way to contact authorities, especially at spots like Harding Lake so that idiot drunks and kids are not allowed to be out of control and ruin everyone else's stay.

~Additional Services: Keep the facilities maintained, provide support for educational activities (schools), keep the peace.

~Operation Funding: Cut staff, incorporate into Department of Fish and Game.

~10 Year Improvement: I would like to see the SPS fully funded so that all units are able to be opened and staffed as appropriate. I would also like to see more consistent trail maintenance.

~Adequate Facilities: Pretty good. The trails and parks around Ketchikan are first rate and are used heavily. The local Ranger is awesome and has always been helpful. They seem understaffed at the parks and there is an obvious lack of money spent in our area.

~Additional Services: Campground hosts, parking lot/trailhead security, enforcement of leashing dogs in the trailhead areas and on the heavily used trails.

~Adequate Facilities: On-site rangers.

~10 Year Improvement: More people on the ground.

~Operation Funding: Increase work force.

~Repair Funding: Increase work force.

~10 Year Improvement: Increase work force.

~Adequate Facilities: Locally in the Mat-Su valley, park services have been greatly reduced along with rangers. This leads to more trash, vandalism abuse of the park land. Actually it is quite sad for the great state of Alaska to have it's parks in such poor condition.

~10 Year Improvement: Improve the basics: more rangers.

~Adequate Facilities: Use, for now, but with future population growth, more enforcement may be needed.

~10 Year Improvement: Resume basic maintenance of all park units; where appropriate develop the multi-use facilities such as at Eklutna Lake. If funding permitted, increased park staff presence to discourage vandalism and misuse of park units.

~Additional Programs: Boating safety programs are a must.

~10 Year Improvement: I'd like to see the number of rangers reflect the number of visitors. I'd like to see volunteer coordinator positions dedicated to trail maintenance and upkeep.

-Additional Facilities: Keep trails in good condition and try to reduce vandalism at the trailheads.

-Additional Services: I teach in the ASD and try to take students on hikes in CSP every year. I've tried in the past to have a ranger meet our group of students/parents to talk with us about the park. This should be a priority with CSP. Stressing the importance of the park and good park behavior will pay off handsomely in the future.

-10 Year Improvement: Also, better enforcement at trailheads to reduce vandalism.

-Additional Services: enforcement only

-Adequate Facilities: We need modern, clean, open facilities run by park employees!

-Additional Facilities: site hosts to prevent vandalism and provide information and at least emergency call capabilities.

-Additional Services: guided walks perhaps by trained volunteers; not enough parks staff to do this.

-10 Year Improvement: More employees

-Additional Facilities: Since each unit is different it is difficult to say what is needed. The staff levels even now do not allow for adequate maintenance nor is funding sufficient to even scratch the surface for the CIP list. We should first focus on ramping up the number of employees so basic management/ maintenance can be maintained and at the same time identify a method to fund improvements.

-Additional Services: The FS in Juneau now has volunteers to set x-c snowmobile tracks at the Mendenhall campground and this is an aspect that SP's should consider.

-10 Year Improvement: We need to maintain what we have now and then work on staffing levels and a big overall funding increase. ASP's has a lot to offer but the PR about what and where is just not adequate. A lot has to do with staffing. They need a planner or two to start creating/updating management plans for the parks and adequate on the ground staff for maintenance and enforcement, plus architects/designers/engineers. The plan needs to lay out very clearly the staffing levels over the past years, the number of visitors to the units and number of acres/areas which are and LDA, under ILMA plus those in the area plans which are identified for future SMP's.

-Additional Services: law enforcement.

-Adequate Facilities: The state should strive to re-open closed areas such as the anchor river wayside campground, should shy away from the privatization of what should be public facilities.

-Additional Facilities: park employee to collect fees and keep order.

-Additional Services: In the Ketchikan area, parks staff should include parks' employees giving tours to the cruise visitors coming to Totem Bight St. Park instead of the bus companies. The company tour guides are usually from elsewhere, know nothing of the area, and the turnover of the guides during the summer is frequent. The first guides get some brief training but as the summer goes on, the stories get more and more creative and incorrect, and as the guides quit and others replace them, it just gets worse.

School groups use the parks for survival and sea week lessons and a parks curriculum for school use would be helpful. A parks naturalist could be an excellent resource for different groups.

-Adequate Facilities: The totem poles in Totem Bight are in sad need of maintenance and repair. They are rotting and need help badly. We need to hire people to work on them to refurbish and restore them.

-10 Year Improvement: I don't know how many people you have up there in Juneau, but I'd like to see more "boots on the ground" with tools in hand to work in the parks and fewer in the office.

-10 Year Improvement: More cooperation between the commercial users and the parks management. Better policing to prevent vandalizing, better education of the public on how to conduct themselves in bear areas and wild country.

-Additional Services: Maintenance services only at our local state park areas.

-10 Year Improvement: a reasonable level of management, both of people and animals.

-Additional Services: Police trailheads, patrol for violations (poaching, motorized use of non-motorized or closed motorized sections, out of control dogs.) It would be really nice for the public (and maybe the rangers) to do occasional light patrols of the parks on foot and talk to people. Knowing of a presence of rangers, at least in the perimeter areas of parks, would go a long way towards educating and reminding the public to be safe and to take care of the wonderful parks.

-Additional Services: Park regulations enforced as far as fishing and vehicles on the trails.

-Additional Services: campground hosts.

-10 Year Improvement: Volunteers are great but we need to pay the people that are out taking care of the parks, you would have a lot more getting done. I guess they get a food allowance now but I met one that was fishing to supplement their food, since the amount given wasn't really adequate.

-10 Year Improvement: More rangers out and about, promoting safety, and current registrations to be sure we are generating as much revenue as possible to keep the parks maintained.

-Additional Facilities: Hire a staff grant writer.

~Additional Services: law enforcement, patrol
~Adequate Facilities: No. I do know that DNR-State parks division is severely under funded and needs more funding and staff to meet even the basic needs of the state park system, especially in high demand areas on the Kenai and in the Anchorage urban interface. Given the current budget and staff, the facilities are probably all they can handle maintenance wise. But the existing demand for recreation facilities and areas by Alaskans and visitors has exceeded the ability of the current facilities and services to provide for it in many if not most SP areas.

~Additional Services: enforcement
~Adequate Facilities: How about some maintenance money and staff to go with current facilities, followed by thoughtfully enhancing and extending facilities while ensuring adequate staffing for the new ones?
~Additional Programs: Doing very well in the summer in Kodiak. How about paid staff position to coordinate and conduct it year around here. Other parks could use the same.

~Additional Services: ranger or affiliate presence
~Repair Funding: Develop a grant writing committee and work on acquiring these funds, plus with an increased presence and better image, people may be more willing to donate or assist in the appropriation of funds for such projects.

~Additional Services: Most places staff does not need to provide services.

~Additional Facilities: caretaker facilities for parking lots (surveillance to minimize break-ins)
~Additional Services: establish a presence in winter. Law enforcement.
~10 Year Improvement: More law enforcement.

~Additional Facilities: I agree with the mix we currently have at AKSP throughout the state. However, I do not all existing facilities are maintained well enough - this requires more funding and thus, more staffing.

~10 Year Improvement: more outreach from staff. Interactive web pages where the public can get all the info. They need over the web would be a terrific improvement.

~10 Year Improvement: Additional staff employed by AKSP to assist the local ranger in day to day operations.

~10 Year Improvement: having a reasonable element of security (law enforcement patrols by rangers, police, troopers, fish and wildlife enforcement officers, and even volunteers) at trailheads with prosecution, sentencing, and enforcement for those who break into vehicles.

~10 Year Improvement: enforce non-motorized use where designated.

~Additional Programs: We recommend Providing sufficient staffing in the Preserve to monitor and enforce.

~Additional Services: They have many camp host (from out of state) who really don't care about our state let alone keep the parks clean.

~10 Year Improvement: More rangers, not less. More protection against vandals.

~10 Year Improvement: More rangers, better equipped and trained. Patrol the backcountry once in a while.

~Additional Services: enforcement
~Operation Funding: Additional rangers for CSP
~10 Year Improvement: More enforcement at urban trailheads to reduce break-ins and vandalism - remote camera, personnel, and sting operations.

~Additional Services: Park personnel should be out in the Park, perhaps doing education about park beauty, usage and should re-enforce park rules. E.g.. A park ranger was watching this happen but took no action. Skiers coming down to Prospect Heights trailhead, well in control of themselves but injuring themselves trying to avoid loose running dogs on the trails.

~Additional Services: Planning new trails and having volunteer org. help establish the trails.

~Adequate Facilities: 1. You need to have more park rangers if you want more service. There is an inadequate # of in the field Park Rangers to cover the services currently available. How can you even think expansion unless you solved the personnel problem. Like in every other business the top (admin) is too heavy takes the majority of the money available so the services get cut and the field staff face impossible tasks!!

~Adequate Facilities: 3. Ideally for general inexperience folk, having a Ranger at every major park access like Glen Alps would be great along with picnic area, toilets and informative center, whether it's a bill board form or a visitor center..

~Additional Services: Human Resources: a. Improve recruitment programs to hire quality applicants; b. Employee Retention: 1. Fair compensation, 2. De-emphasis on seasonal permanent positions, upgrade to full-time especially at range 14+, 3. Quality training ops, 4. Position long-term security (stable budgets).
C. Increase professionalism of enforcement rangers: 1. Inclusion into enforcement "community" and union recognition, 20-year retirement, etc.; 2. Hire sufficient maintenance staff to focus rangers on enforcement or management duties; 3. Mandatory full-time status; 4. Improve Field Training and Evaluation Program (FTEP) to include oversight by a lead training ranger/coordinator; 5. Provide funding to allow more cross-training opportunities statewide.

Operational Cohesivity: A. Improve opportunities for staff cross-training statewide; B. Continue strong program of annual Divisional conferences for all staff with meaningful training.

~Additional Services: some security

~Additional Services: security

Alaska State Parks Strategic Plan Comments

Human Resources - Community Outreach

~Additional Services: Winter trail grooming for non-motorized use, trash pick up, invasive species control.

~Additional Services: Public safety, trail maintenance & build more trails.

~Additional Facilities: Education boards which seek to address the problem of animosity/discordance among user groups. Many different people and groups benefit from the parks in many different ways. We all enjoy our parks for the same general reasons- the chance to get outside and appreciate our beautiful natural areas. Whether we do it on horses, skis or mountain bikes is irrelevant. We need to educate on the importance of our similar goals, such as keeping development from encroaching on our natural areas instead of fighting with each other. Extended programs with schools focusing on conservation and environmental awareness. Lets show children how important our natural areas are, and how irreplaceable they are. Help our community understand that natural area is of more value to our children than baseball fields, that it nurtures creativity, independence and appreciation of our world. Why aren't more kids playing in the beautiful woods and meadows that we have? Better balance between user and interest groups.

~Additional Programs: Overall support of RESPONSIBLE OHV use. More Tread Lightly type publicity.

~Additional Services: trail grooming

~10 Year Improvement: upkeep of current infrastructure

~Additional Services: Trash pickup, patrolling for 4wheelers, repairing damage caused by ATV's.

~Additional Services: trash pickup. Backcountry ranger patrols. Hiking/ski trail signage.

~10 Year Improvement: information about trails themselves and the ecosystems they go through. Backpacking info. As well as day trip info.

~Additional Services: winter trail grooming, summer clearing of overgrown trails, trash pick-up.

~Additional Services: enforcement, trash pick-up.

~Additional Services: winter trail grooming, bathroom maintenance.

~Additional Programs: survival courses, safety

~Additional Services: trash pickup and cleaning of toileting facilities

~Additional Programs: trail marking and mapping

~Additional Programs: There should be a SP boating safety program, a sailing institute, a gun club, a bow and arrow hunting club, a tracking club, a glacier hiking club, a fishing club....you name it, everything that people do that is unique to parks should be promoted and should generate revenue. What about an annual fund raiser for every park over a certain number of acres that catches everybody's attention (like a marathon only come up with something new.....)

~Additional Services: more maintenance and clean up of park facilities.

~Additional Services: trash pickup, winter trail grooming

~Additional Services: Nordic ski grooming, education, conservation education, trail maintenance.

~Additional Programs: trail maintenance.

~Additional Services: trash pickup, school group activities

~Adequate Facilities: No, some of the parks are listed as open and they are not open or operational anymore. Web should be updated regularly.

~Additional Services: clean well maintained facilities, a human presence, enforcement of laws against vandals.

~Additional Services: school children education - nature and safety

~Additional Programs: Artistic and personal development workshops such as the one in the newspaper today about field journaling in Denali. Painting/photography, writing, wildflower identification, and other things that do not require intensely developed skills to be enjoyable are very non threatening to new users, and bringing new users to the parks make them a more valuable resource and creates wider social and financial support for the park system.

~10 Year Improvement: Outdoor adventure center for at risk youth in area conveniently located near urban area. (funding is currently available for this type of development.)

~Additional Programs: Outdoor adventure center development (project Adventure type development with ropes course)

~Additional Services: winter trail grooming, trash pickup.

~Adequate Facilities: Despite my initial thoughts it was bad, the management of some SP units by contractors has worked in some areas like the Valdez - Copper River units. AK State Parks should staff major park resources like Chugach SP, Denali SP, Hatcher Pass SP, Totem Bight SP, Sitka Historical SP.

~10 Year Improvement: Make sure the campgrounds are well-maintained.

~Operation Funding: Have the Troopers patrol the trails for DUI and excessive speed.

~Additional Services: The biggest current need is routine maintenance which has had to be neglected. Reasonably clean restroom facilities, trash pickup, and any effort possible to halt vandalism. Once these basic services are covered then additional activities and services could be added where appropriate and where funding permits.

~Adequate Facilities: I think it seems pretty good, but I don't get to all sites to see if services are adequate.

~Additional Programs: Your examples listed are great with the addition of add'l programming in heavily visited areas.

~Additional Services: better winter parking lot clearing.

~10 Year Improvement: I am in favor of increased privatization of the management of many park areas. Contracting to private business could allow Parks to reduce their need for seasonal and volunteer staffing, and for essential field staff to focus on primary job functions.

As improvements, I would like to see more effort by parks to interface with surrounding private entities, such as local resident and business communities, to provide and promote our Parks areas as the greatest access to our natural resources, supported by a shared vision and goals which will protect and preserve the beauty of our Park areas, in harmony with the surrounding environment, while encouraging greater use and enjoyment by both residents and visitors alike. Our Parks should be destinations for our visitors as well as the playground for proud residents who recognize that the resources managed by State parks are our heritage, and that we should all be custodial in our interest.

~Additional Programs: MAPS, maps, maps

~10 Year Improvement: the ability for a person to determine the weather before traveling , for reasons such as being prepared for the right conditions for the activity they want to enjoy.

~10 Year Improvement: Play a larger role in educating the public and the importance of public lands and all the roles they play in providing a healthy environment and a healthy society.

~Adequate Facilities: having a communication system that can reach from any place within the park in long term planning would make it safer for any climbing accident and search and rescue activity.

~Additional Services: Safety. Protection from vandalism. You need to reduce vandalism via increased enforcement and following prosecution.

Alaska State Parks Strategic Plan Comments

Marketing - General

~Adequate Facilities: Provide environmental education in school systems and with local interest groups within the communities similar to the Alaska Boating Safety Classes. State Parks needs more grass roots exposure to the community through outreach events like Hunting/Fishing Day, Outdoor Shows, summer fairs, etc....

~10 Year Improvement: Educational Program and community outreach developed.

~10 Year Improvement: Needs/improvements to make: a public awareness campaign, to increase Alaskans' understanding and appreciation for Alaska's world-class system of parklands.

~Additional Programs: Better advertising of the resources available.

~Additional Programs: bear safety programs, winter camping classes, educational materials

~10 Year Improvement: Focus on creating the image that parks offer the environment where change can happen. People can go to parks and do yoga in the morning and make coffee in the open air. People can walk and sit and smell and taste and touch the earth, flowers, trees, water, air, animals, rocks. They can build fire and watch it talk. They can write about silence (or should be able to). People can listen and hear themselves. Parks needs a motto, a mantra that it sells, sells, sells.

~10 Year Improvement: Develop and advertising program. TV spots, as a profit making agency, Parks can have a presence. Parks offers people a door to the wilderness of Alaska. No other land resource agency does that. The forest service is fed and they are taking our place with their whistle stops. State parks should be doing this and generating revenue in the process.

Why not bring TV shows here? Do a Sesame street series on the land and making it public and a park keeps it "safe" for the future.

Why not encourage artists to paint and publish...look at how much activity has gone to Denali and Yosemite? Why not have an internet site that advertises....again, you need the legislative fix.

~Additional Programs: developing interpretive materials and displays, talks at schools.

~10 Year Improvement: Image! Parks needs to solidify its image with the Alaskan public. Image should be of friendly, informative rangers. Image should be of vast, accessible wilderness. Image should be that parks are part of your community, your schools, your clubs. Image should be that parks serve and educate Alaskans and preserve our outdoor opportunities.

~10 Year Improvement: better services to attract tourism and generate more user fees to support the park system.

~Additional Programs: Come into the schools and let teachers know. Tell teachers about any area that would lead to outdoor education and to taking pride in Alaska's parks. Tell teachers how to, where to hold classes and give them a theme for that class. Tell teachers who is available to help them develop their class experience. Interpretive materials for self-guided walks important.

~10 Year Improvement: Public interest campaigns to generate more support and use of our state parks.

~10 Year Improvement: We have a "cleanup day" every spring in Fairbanks, and it makes a world of difference, all volunteer organized. I know it's not great to have to use volunteers since you never know what turnout you'll get. But a yearly cleanup of state parks could be an event that attracts a lot of attention and gets good results. Publicity is everything.

~Additional Facilities: Wood-Tikchik is relatively inaccessible, and very expensive to access. Would like to see some way to promote park use once people get there. I can't afford to go there now.

~Additional Services: State parks could also do a better job of marketing and publicity to help tourists recognize the value/beauty of a visit to state parks.

~Additional Programs: Continued publicity and marketing for tourists to visit state parks, particularly those areas where large amounts of tourists visit, such as cruise ship locations and Anchorage vicinity.

~10 Year Improvement: More support from the Governor and legislature. A PR campaign needs to be done and kept going to educate the administration and legislature.

~Adequate Facilities: Greater PR/Brochures/web is needed as there are so many sites which folks are not even aware of.

~10 Year Improvement: More info regarding state park options in the rest of the state.

~10 Year Improvement: It's very difficult to research Park information over the web right now. (maps, trail descriptions, campground information, access points, costs for everything, calendar of events in the parks, etc....)

~Operation Funding: there has never been a highly visible public awareness or marketing campaign to call attention to the lack of funding for State Parks. In fact, I'm not even sure most Alaskans realize we have a budget problem. They hear more about how school districts are struggling, or how the local revenue sharing to municipalities has been drastically cut over the years.

~Additional Programs: Be sure to advertise SP to cruise ship passengers who disembark and take their independent itineraries.

Work more closely with all the Convention and Visitors Bureaus throughout the state for leveraging advertising dollars and for getting the word out about our state park treasures.

~10 Year Improvement: A public awareness campaign about the valuable asset parks provide all citizens; a place to cut stress, a place to be away from daily life pressures, a place to view wild life and keep us all in touch with nature. People out of touch with nature living in technology forget that we all still are living by Nature's rules. As a medical person, I know that most of the major diseases we suffer are directly related to stress. Having outdoor parks and activities have proven over and over to benefit the health of the citizens who use these resources.

Alaska State Parks Strategic Plan Comments

Marketing - Brochures

~Additional Programs: Brochures with interpretive information could be made available at entrances.

~Additional Programs: bear safety programs, winter camping classes, educational materials

~Additional Programs: The visitor center downtown is a pain for visitors to get to as parking is a problem. Maps are needed to find your way to this visitor center. Maybe having a booth/kiosk on the Richardson and Parks Hwy a few miles out of town with information/maps will help.

~Additional Programs: Boating safety, outdoor responsibility (safety, respecting the trails/vegetation), dog control/enforcement, incentives to improve/maintain parks (grants, rewards).

~Additional Programs: I really, really, would like a reasonable map of the Chugach trails. I got something from REI and use it in conjunction with the 55 hikes book, but something more would be helpful.

~Adequate Facilities: I think that facilities are abundant, but presence and image of AKSP is almost non-existent. Simple things like SP pamphlets available on the Ferry Systems, or an info. Booth at the Harbor in Whittier to explain and inform people to the location and facilities that are available thanks to the AKSP in PWS. Ideally, AKSP should look at the presence of NPS and NFS and mirror or shadow them where applicable. I am one of the very few SP workers for the Resurrection Bay and PWS area, and know that we are underrepresented and over looked by our users. We do not even have a grasp of what properties in the Sound are actually ours, nor have we planned on or will we even make it to all our properties and camping areas before winter.

Alaska State Parks Strategic Plan Comments

Marketing - Park Information

~Additional Services: some maps.

~Additional Services: signboards with maps and information.

~Additional Programs: maps, highway signs for tourists.

Alaska State Parks Strategic Plan Comments

Partnerships - Trail Groups

~Additional Programs: Grants to trail groups seems to be an effective way to utilize volunteers and save money.

~Operation Funding: Primarily general fund, with user fees and state park passes/support groups to augment (i.e. "friends of X state park)

~10 Year Improvement: development of "friends" groups to act as advocates for parks; parks system should be seen as higher priority for state gov't.

~Additional Services: opportunities for school group activities

~Additional Programs: grants to trails groups

~Additional Programs: Outreach to volunteer organizations and/or schools to do things such as trail maintenance, invasive species removal, colorful and dynamic kiosk displays, etc.

~Additional Programs: Yes to grants to trail groups.

~10 Year Improvement: Development of a grass roots Parks Foundation with political clout and community buy-in.

~Additional Programs: grants to trail groups

~Operation Funding: All of the listed plus developing more friends of Parks to volunteer and help lobby.

~Additional Programs: Grants to groups to help develop OHV facilities would be good.

~Adequate Facilities: The forest service now has concessions handling all their maintenance. I believe the same company has them all. And now, forest service camping is ho-hum...like going to a motel 6 anywhere in the US.

~Additional Programs: There should be a SP boating safety program, a sailing institute, a gun club, a bow and arrow hunting club, a tracking club, a glacier hiking club, a fishing club....you name it, everything that people do that is unique to parks should be promoted and should generate revenue. What about an annual fund raiser for every park over a certain number of acres that catches everybody's attention (like a marathon only come up with something new.....

~10 Year Improvement: The grants to trails groups is a huge problem and you well know that. The ORV's and snowmachines compete for those monies and have gotten grants in the past to place markers that end somewhere.....Ever followed one of those snowmachine paths? After one year...what happened? No follow through. Giving money to the groups doesn't work...organizing and directing the groups in construction and maintenance is the better answer.....

~Additional Programs: grants to trail groups.

~Additional Programs: grants to trail groups.

~Additional Programs: grant to trail groups.

~Additional Programs: Grants to legitimate trail groups are cost effective investments.

~Additional Programs: Increase the trail grants.

~Additional Programs: Grants to trail groups.

~Additional Services: Parking only, leave the rest to public groups to get involved in (trash pick up, trail grooming.

~10 Year Improvement: off road clubs are more than willing to help keep trails open and in good condition.

~Additional Programs: Grants to trail groups. There are many interested parties that would put the money to use maintaining and repairing trails.

~Additional Programs: grants to trail groups

~Additional Programs: So many missed opportunities that need to be taken advantage of. Utilize the folks enrolled in the UAA Interpretation Certification Program. Utilize students in college studying planning, parks, natural resources. There are dozens of programs across the country. Put them to work (not building outhouses).

Encourage research, invite scholars, invite artists, invite events and sports groups.

It is a shame how much of Alaska's talented and inspired students will go to work, intern, volunteer for another land agency.

This should be a major focus as obviously funding is the biggest issue. By solidifying partnerships you can generate funds and save funds.

This brings us to the ACC: This is a highly abused and under utilized corp. Make it work. The ACC is a great asset for parks. It needs to be: 1. standardized. Young people who join the ACC should be guaranteed that they are going to walk away with a rewarding skill set, a substantial skill set. It should be the same as other ACC even if the projects are different. Sure this means training, but it will pay in the long run. It will guarantee crews to work on trails and facilities. It will also help with the image. You already have facilities in place (empty ranger station in Seward, station in Denali, Kachemak Bay, these could be the hubs of an ACC system).

Just ask any kid who has gone through the CCC (California) they loved it, they were turned on to a career and they learned skills. ACC!

~Additional Programs: grants to trail groups, definitely.

~Additional Programs: grants to trail groups

~Additional Programs: Grants to trail groups are always good. The groups can make and maintain some nice trails.

~Additional Programs: Trail grants should be available to all other groups before the funding is used internally for more pa(o)rk projects.

~Additional Programs: Grants to trail groups.

~Additional Services: Alaskans are getting fatter and it would be nice to introduce more people to the outdoors by teaching them how for free. Many families don't get out because classes are expensive and then the gear added on top of that.

~Additional Services: School activities, more tours into the mines at Hatcher Pass.

~Additional Programs: Yes, trail experts to clubs.

~Additional Programs: Grants to trail groups. More kids programs.

~Additional Programs: Trail grant programs, although the recipients really need more technical assistance . . . state parks could develop such a capacity and provide TA as a (required) part of it's grants so as to get a better product for the grant money (esp. rec trail grants).

~Additional Programs: Grants to trail groups.

~Additional Programs: More monies provided to local groups for trail development and a push for bike trails.

~Operation Funding: Could High Schools and Colleges volunteer in this area?

~Additional Programs: Perhaps team up with local colleges to expand education about parks and all that is in it. If people feel more involved with the parks perhaps they would be more willing to pass the necessary up-keep taxes.

~Additional Programs: Grants to trail groups.

~Additional Programs: Grants to multi trail usage groups.

~Additional Programs: Grants to trail groups . . .

~Additional Programs: Grants to trail groups.

~Additional Programs: Grants to trail groups.

~Additional Programs: Grants to trail groups, as noted above.

~Additional Programs: Grants to trail groups.

-
- Repair Funding: Community and national volunteer maintenance programs.
- 10 Year Improvement: Some accessible park trails and camp facilities for persons with disabilities.
-
- Additional Programs: Grants to Twin Bears Outdoor Education Association, Inc. which provides a great service to the community, and children in particular by keeping costs down at the camp.
-
- Additional Programs: Training for volunteer groups in such areas as recruitment, funding, and the development of interpretive materials.
-
- Additional Services: School group activities.
- Additional Programs: Grants to trail groups, like hut-to-hut programs and trail maintenance/building programs.
-
- Additional Programs: I have a research project on the Chena Rec Area - it would be nice to be able to compete for a small research funding grant each year.
-
- 10 Year Improvement: More local control through the local State Park Advisory Board.
Better cooperation between State Parks and other local, state and federal government officials.
-
- Additional Programs: grants to trail groups (e.g. in New England there are numerous Hiking and Climbing clubs that volunteer for trail maintenance.
-
- Additional Programs: Grants to trail groups
-
- Additional Programs: Grants to trail groups evenly distributed and not biased to certain groups.
-
- Additional Programs: Grants to local trail groups is a good opportunity "stretch" funding since local users have a stake in the project and tend to either volunteer more or know where to find volunteer labor.
-
- Additional Programs: Grants to trail groups, more trails allow more people to be in the parks and each person or group would feel more of a wilderness experience (unlike Flattop, with masses of people like Christmas shopping in a mall).
-
- Additional Programs: Grants to snowmobile clubs for grooming of trails.
-
- Operation Funding: Ongoing education to businesses and chamber of commerce's statewide on the economic value of parks. Perhaps partner with some of the tourism businesses to do an outreach and education program on the economic value of parks.
- Additional Programs: Partner with Anchorage Ski Club, APU Outdoor Program and UAA outdoor program and Alaska Avalanche School to provide avalanche and mountain safety education at Arctic Valley. Continue trails grants to non-profits.
-
- Additional Programs: Grants to trail groups to provide trail markers and maintain trails.
-
- 10 Year Improvement: Here in Anchorage Chugach SP is the focus of outdoor rec. We could be using this park to help instill wildlands ethics that would then be practiced when residents visit other areas of the state, including other estate parks, general state lands, and federal lands. It would be great if AK, federal agencies, and NGOs could work together on this. We also need more organizations like the ERNC.
-
- Additional Programs: Grants to snowmobile clubs to mark and maintain trail markers. Example: Curry Ridge Riders are clearing and marking trails in the south Denali area.
-
- Additional Programs: I found the link to this questionnaire in an email from the Single Track Advocates. As a member of the Arctic Bike Club I am impressed with what I hear reported about their activities. I originally moved here from Oregon where we had a similar group that worked with the SP system in the Tillamook State Forest. For a population the size of Anchorage, the Single Track Advocates well rival the efforts of those from a much larger user base. I think every outdoor oriented group deserves that type of relationship with our land managers.
-
- Additional Programs: grants/funding to trail groups would be great.....
-
- Additional Programs: grant to trail groups would be one of the most important ones to me.
-
- Additional Programs: Grants to users is probably a cost effective way to get a lot of the jobs done.
-
- Additional Programs: Grants to trail groups so planning and construction of trails can occur. I think there is a huge volunteer pool from which to draw from and I don't see the State Park taking advantage of this.
-

-Repair Funding: Annual parking passes, day parking (iron maidens), outreach to user groups to perform the maintenance repairs and provide them the training to do so; but also give those user groups willing to help some more flexibility in the use of the park system. (I.e. mountain bikes can cover a lot of trail in a day doing trail clearing and maintenance / using bike trailers and just in general. Opening up trails to mountain bikes and encouraging them (with permit) to do so I think would be good. I personally just ran a crew down the USFS Russian Lakes trail and we easily covered 22 miles in a day clearing nearly 50 trees off the trail.

-Additional Programs: Grants to trail groups and trail building maintenance schools to encourage user group maintenance of trails vs. having to have state funded staff having to perform all of the maintenance.

-Additional Programs: Boost up support and partnerships with nonprofit groups and provide more money for trail and facility grants.

-Additional Programs: Grants to some of the existing groups to help fund trail projects would be good, or work with them in developing new trail systems.

-Additional Programs: Grants! Providing seed money for projects is very important--projects are identified by user groups who can use grant money to leverage other funds to get things done.

-Additional Services: Make volunteering for the parks easy.

-10 Year Improvement: Grants and partnering with trails and conservation groups.

-Additional Programs: All of the above and more grants to trail groups.

-Additional Programs: Having defined volunteer projects (e.g., backcountry cabin and trail construction) that could be advertised for specific dates would help focus local interest in helping State Parks. Contributing to an outdoors legacy is a tremendously rewarding experience, as recounted by many men who worked in the Civilian Conservation Corps during the Great Depression.

-Additional Programs: Grants to trail groups.

-Additional Programs: grants for trail improvement to reopen grown over trails and right of ways.

-Additional Programs: grants to trail groups.

-10 Year Improvement: Why hasn't there been a SP foundation similar to the ANC one established? How about an outreach program to local schools outlining the purposes and opportunities of area park units?

-Additional Programs: Grants to trail groups

-Additional Programs: grants to trail groups.

-Additional Programs: Trails grants are great. Where appropriate allow and support alternative user facilities for such activities as mountain biking, trail bikes and ATV's, snowmachines.

-Additional Programs: Grants to trail groups and actively involving trail groups in maintaining trails.

-Additional Programs: Incentives to improve/maintain parks (grants, rewards).

-Additional Programs: Encourage trails user groups to work together, form more groups and provide money and materials for them to build and maintain trails. This can be financed through snowmobile registration fees.

-Additional Programs: Help with grant money for improving existing trails, construction of new trails and marking of both. Bring trail advocacy people as from IMBA here to help with these projects and spread awareness.

-Additional Programs: Grants for trail groups.

-Additional Programs: Grants to the Valley Mountain Bikers and Hikers for trail development and improvement.

-Operation Funding: The use of contractors has had mixed results. Some park units are well kept up and inviting. Others receive minimal maintenance or have a hostile feel.

-Additional Programs: Definitely grants to trail groups: grants combined with volunteer efforts would increase development of trails and provide a sense of ownership and responsibility to users.

-Additional Programs: Grants to trail groups isn't such a big priority.

-Repair Funding: Create a park foundation - establish a volunteer park stewardship program for kids.

~Additional Programs: Partnering with trail groups and increase the number of grants to trail groups would be very helpful to the state because there are hiking and biking groups who care deeply about our open spaces and would put resources towards trail building and maintenance, but need funding for equipment and supplies. Many hands make light work.

~Additional Programs: Grants to trail groups or snowmachine clubs such as the Curry Ridge Riders.

~Additional Programs: Each, every, any, and all of these ought to both originate with park users and user-groups, and be staffed and run by them, in the main, with only strategic help on the part of Park Management and Staff.
Many of these programs are laudable, but to achieve lasting life as part of the Park System, they need to find committed local constituencies who recognize they are empowered (and relied upon) to create and foster the programs that interest them.
This is, not un-incidentally, a strong argument in favor of the approach noted in the remarks above, in which the State Park system does NOT choose to endlessly construct facilities and provide services (all as part of an expanding bureaucratic kingdom), thereby doing 'for' the people what the people ought to be doing for themselves. If something turns out to be very much needed, let the local citizens be invited to actively participate in meeting the need--modeling the organizational umbrella for the effort after the pattern of the various Friends of the Library that have sprung up in towns and villages all across the State. Funds are quite capable of flowing from the State Park system to properly instituted and vetted local volunteer organizations. Again, numerous models for this already exist, and enjoy excellent track records of success.

~Additional Programs: Grants to trail groups and outdoor recreation groups.

~Additional Programs: Addition of more lands to parks and connections between existing state public use areas to connect trails, protect state public assets, and partnerships with non-profit orgs, foundations and other groups for collaboration on trails and facilities. Support for initiatives such as the Faribanks area Chena Flats Greenbelt is one example. Others may be of value to other communities.

~Additional Programs: Grants to trail groups, especially for trails that link to state parks or that link many other trails together.

~Additional Programs: grants to snowmachine trail groups.

~Operation Funding: create non-profit "friends of AK state parks" for additional fundraising.

~Additional Programs: Grants to trail groups. Am member of Valley Mt. Hiker and Bikers, we advocate and do trail maintenance.

~Additional Programs: Grants to trail groups might be my favorite thing to support. Anything that improves access with minimal impact needs to be seriously considered.

~Additional Programs: Create a school partnership. Teach the children about the park (guided ranger hikes, etc.) when they are young and you will reap big dividends!

~Additional Programs: Grants to outdoor recreation groups so that they can increase interest in state parks.

~Additional Services: school programs

~Additional Programs: Giver grants to trail groups who are interested in improving/extending trails.

~10 Year Improvement: Increase funding to Fish and Game, other non-development agencies to collaborate on enforcement issues.

~Additional Programs: Trail Mix, Audubon, most local parks and rec departments, scouts, 4H, Elderhostel, etc. Do not favor direct \$\$ support to commercial groups but believe that working together to use the park resources is possible.

~Additional Programs: grants to trail groups.

~Repair Funding: Perhaps working in concert with organizations like the nature conservancy, trail user groups and private conservation orgs. Co sponsored fund raisers....o, and the state could PONY UP AND PAY FOR IT!!!!

~Operation Funding: How about starting a "Friends of the Parks" group to help raise some money, do some volunteering and sell raffle tickets, etc.

~10 Year Improvement: I am in favor of increased privatization of the management of many park areas. Contracting to private business could allow Parks to reduce their need for seasonal and volunteer staffing, and for essential field staff to focus on primary job functions.
As improvements, I would like to see more effort by parks to interface with surrounding private entities, such as local resident and business communities, to provide and promote our Parks areas as the greatest access to our natural resources, supported by a shared vision and goals which will protect and preserve the beauty of our Park areas, in harmony with the surrounding environment, while encouraging greater use and enjoyment by both residents and visitors alike. Our Parks should be destinations for our visitors as well as the playground for proud residents who recognize that the resources managed by State parks are our heritage, and that we should all be custodial in our interest.

~Operation Funding: Sounds like several of the biking groups would be willing to build and maintain trails that would be appropriate for them.

-Operation Funding: State parks can also bring money to businesses in the community, so there could be partnerships between parks and businesses.
-Repair Funding: The general fund and partnerships with local businesses could be used for some construction. Constructions of buildings and bridges could be done in conjunction with vocational schools or engineering classes at the university. Maintenance could be funded through the tax dollars, but also youth programs and vocational rehab. And job services for challenged adults could be used for certain things. Young people needing summer jobs or people with community service obligations might be useful at SP.
Another possibility is to collaborate with non-profit groups who would be willing to run an aspect of a park, and use fees and donations and grants.

-Additional Programs: Grants to trail groups.

-Additional Programs: trail grants for grooming.

-Additional Programs: Grants to trail and user groups. Snowmachiners and mountain bikers.

-Additional Programs: Consider more money be granted and used toward opening state parks to year round use. Encourage access through inter government ties (BLM, Native Land Owners, Fed Parks, Etc..) opening up opportunity for long distance rides and treks into the back country or village even village access.

-Repair Funding: Try to coordinate with sources for volunteer labor like the boy scouts or other civic groups whenever possible to keep the costs down and create a sense of community ownership. If local citizens build a walkway, they are less likely to vandalize it or even allow it to be vandalized by others.

-10 Year Improvement: More public involvement! This is a good start.

-Additional Programs: Maybe implement a trail permit fee/sticker or honor system fee box at trailheads to help with maintenance costs. And coordinate with the ATV and snowmachine clubs for input on where trail maintenance money would be most effective.

-Additional Programs: trail group grants is good

-Additional Programs: boating safety grants (wintertime)

-Additional Programs: grants to trail groups for trail maintenance and expansion.

-Additional Programs: More grants to trail groups for winter trails!

-Additional Programs: Grants to trail groups and organizing volunteer efforts. Coordination with existing groups.

-Additional Services: Seasonal trail maintenance - including leading volunteer groups with these efforts.

-Adequate Facilities: Outreach seems to be a good focus for a foundation

-Additional Services: I would not expect guided nature walks to happen at each and every SP, but these programs are good offerings at the park's most popular, highest usage areas. I am currently enrolled in the Interpretive naturalist Certification Program of Alaska, studying AK's natural history for a special certification to lead nature walks, conduct nature programs, etc. The INCPA program is a terrific program for AK SP to tap into for additional volunteers, and for mutually supportive goals and needs. (for example, all INCPA candidates must achieve 60 hours of natural history instruction time.) INCPA is primarily coordinated by BLM through the Campbell Creek Science Center, and perhaps as many as 30 Alaskans are currently seeking INCPA cert. I don't believe SP is a current sponsor, but they should be. This is just a suggestion for more partnerships that could be developed.

-Additional Services: School group activities are best coordinated through partnerships with other agencies and organizations such as Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Campbell Creek Science Center, Knee-High naturalists, ADF&G, the University, school district, etc...

-Adequate Facilities: Most of my recent experience has been with the Chugach SP. The Eagle River Nature Center, where I occasionally volunteer, has been a great example of a wonderful model of how to apply more public services with private-public partnerships.

-Additional Programs: continue funding the Eagle River Nature Center and think of other creative partnerships and models that could be developed someday.

-Additional Programs: Be sure to advertise SP to cruise ship passengers who disembark and take their independent itineraries.

Work more closely with all the Convention and Visitors Bureaus throughout the state for leveraging advertising dollars and for getting the word out about our state park treasures.

-Additional Programs: grants to trail groups

-Additional Programs: grants to trail groups or anyone willing to undertake the above.

-Additional Programs: grants to non-profit non-motorized groups who are overwhelmed by groups like AK Outdoor Council

-Additional Programs: organizing more volunteer trail maintenance activities

-Additional Programs: Assist outdoor groups (i.e. mountaineering clubs and Boy Scouts) in providing safety training to users and potential users.

-Additional Facilities: get users who trash trails (like mtn runners and bikers) to become responsible for the trail upkeep. Need stronger volunteer group activity and less fear of liability when using volunteers.

-Additional Programs: Grants to trail building groups

-Additional Programs: grants to trail groups is a good one.

Alaska State Parks Strategic Plan Comments

Partnerships - Other

~Additional Services: I would support anything that benefits the kids. The more we teach them about our forests and environment, the better decisions they will make when they are adults.

~Additional Facilities: I would suggest that a partnership be developed with the U.S. Forest Service to evaluate and manage this program. A model to provide this service may be the program employed by the State of Washington which uses a dedicated vessel to place and maintain the mooring buoys.

Alaska State Parks Strategic Plan Comments

Planning - General

~10 Year Improvement: effort to develop mat-su valley state parks

~10 Year Improvement: Consistent management through changes in political administrations. This seems impossible but your survey is certainly a great step in the right direction.

~10 Year Improvement: No more large parks added to the system.

~10 Year Improvement: More hands-off, less restrictive use regulations. Unless it physically damages the vegetative mat, all uses should be allowed.

~Adequate Facilities: We need an expansion of the SP system onto other state land--such as MHT land.

~10 Year Improvement: more land brought into the SP system.

~Adequate Facilities: You are missing 3-4 units in the Kenai area:

Diamond Creek, Baycrest Overlook, Eveline SRS, Cottonwood/Eastland Unit KBSP

~Additional Services: This response is based on a response below. I have advocated for development categories or levels of state parks for as long as I can remember. For example, Kentucky has "resort" parks, and various other categories, with primitive undeveloped as a category. Our equivalent could be in Wood-Tikchik for example.

The resort parks are administered for a profit and those monies are then used to maintain other categories of parks.

How serious is this? Are you going to go after a legislative fix? That is what is needed. How to make parks self-sufficient so that it keeps the money it earns. Parks MUST incorporate tourism into its planning scheme.

~Adequate Facilities: again, depends on the park. I have NOT enjoyed the variegated experience that comes with concessions handling various areas. Some of the sites in Southeast, like Totem Bight are bus stops and picnic spots. I assume tourism companies are charged a commercial fee to unload buses there?

~Adequate Facilities: I think Europe has done a good job of setting up backcountry hiking opportunities. I believe that we have different liability concerns. Again, what about a legislative fix?

~Operation Funding: The problem now is that it is cheaper to camp on BLM land than on SP land that was not the intent when the system was established. SP are for state residents.

~10 Year Improvement: No doubt something has got to be done. As the state rolls on and the tourism companies are taking over the use of our pristine natural resources, who benefits from the money? SP must get out from under the general fund problem and the DNR umbrella. The grim future parallels Texas SP....managed by local gov't. Subject to local development plans....Texas could not afford their system over time and farmed it out as some of SP has done to the Fairbanks Borough. Texas has no income tax.....

~Adequate Facilities: Serve motorized as well as non-motorized users and encourage their representatives to influence the legislature to adequately fund Parks.

~10 Year Improvement: More attention to the users

~10 Year Improvement: Keep the wonderful wilderness that Alaska is known for! Maintain a good balance and separation of motorized and non-motorized areas. Don't overdevelop the parks.

~Additional Programs: I would prefer that the state park system not gear its programs to our of state people but rather in getting people in our state (especially young people - 50% of which are overweight or obese) out and moving their butts.

~Additional Services: They should walk around and take a census from all who use the area, and determine as a whole what should/shouldn't be offered. Monitor the visitors and their stays better, I think it would be more fair if we all had the opportunity to park along the waters edge, but most of the time is taken by the out of state visitors that have planned to stay there for the summer.

~Adequate Facilities: The original State Parks Master Plan from the early 70's envisioned dramatic increases in outdoor recreation, which have likely been surpassed. It also recommended the dedication of a number of other State Parks such as for the entire Hatcher Pass area, in the Klutina Lake area of the Copper Basin, Thompson Pass, etc.

So, AK doesn't have enough parks, and the parks we do have are functioning on only the thinnest of budgets--facilities are old, and services are limited to volunteer partners or concessionaires. Don't expect to see a ranger unless you're dying or have broken the law and been stupid enough to get caught.

~Adequate Facilities: At this time yes. However I have noticed an increase in visitation in the areas I travel to. This increase, if not planned for now could be a problem in the future.

~10 Year Improvement: Planning.

~10 Year Improvement: I think a Strategic Plan is a wonderful idea, and I firmly trust that it will be done well, however quickly.

~10 Year Improvement: Management of ASP should be done by people that know what parks are all about and what they mean to Alaskans both as recreation and as visitors dollars brought into the state. It always seems ASP funding done by the 'hand-me-down' system. Basically what ever is left over after funding other projects. This puts ASP in a perpetual state of funding crises. The operation and management of parks needs to left to Dir. Of State Parks... Not the legislators.

~10 Year Improvement: I would like to see a management plan that encourages sustainable use and discourages unsustainable uses of the State Park System. That includes to limit motorized users to even a smaller area than what currently is in plan.

~Additional Programs: The visitor center downtown is a pain for visitors to get to as parking is a problem. Maps are needed to find your way to this visitor center. Maybe having a booth/kiosk on the Richardson and Parks Hwy a few miles out of town with information/maps will help.

~Additional Facilities: Work through local State Parks Advisory Board to develop specific local area plans...not some generic strategic plan. The local advisory boards should be directly involved in developing the State Parks plan, not notified at the end of the process.

~10 Year Improvement: Establish a Talkeetna Mountains State Park (it's time to start planting the seeds!). People had the foresight to create Chugach State Park. With the growth in the Mat-Su Valley the Talkeetnas are due.

~Adequate Facilities: The number and diversity of parks is excellent. I see long term problems, as usage increases and parks receive less than adequate funding.

~10 Year Improvement: Standard schedule for user surveys (opinion) and use surveys (how much, where, etc.) to keep abreast of changes.

~Operation Funding: I'm happy to pay taxes for better parks, look at the Yukon territory and other Canadian provinces, they have BEAUTIFUL parks, well - kept, really nice. Let's emulate them.

~Adequate Facilities: More public areas would be good ---in other words, more state parks in general with facilities for camping.

~10 Year Improvement: Placed under Fish and Game.

~10 Year Improvement: A recognition of the value of winter users-primarily snowmobilers, be developing and maintaining trails to attract residents and outsiders alike. Long-distance, point to point as well as loop trails will bring untold dollars to the state and higher entrance fees for non-residents (like hunting licenses) will more than cover the costs of a system. A recognition of the fact that denying trails in Denali State Park is not the way to gain friends in the snowmobile community. To say that trails cannot be groomed inside the park because there is no plan is ridiculous, but that's what snowmobilers are told. Parks are for having fun and using, not only preserving.

~10 Year Improvement: Well, there's a piece of land near Ketchikan that's 150 acres and has the most beautiful timber and beach to the ocean. The land is owned however by the Mental Health Trust and they'd like to log it. As citizens we got to spend hours, money, etc. to raise enough hell so that citizens or our borough or trust for public lands or someone will buy it from Mental Health so it doesn't get logged. DNR could trade a few acres to Mental Health and then the state delegate it as a recreational area and it wouldn't have to be kept up by the Park system (as a true park) and the public would have it forever. This could be a real gem for the public and would only cost the state some legal work and voila! It's called Coast Guard Beach. You want information - contact me.

~10 Year Improvement: No private management.

~10 Year Improvement: Working as closely as possible with the Mat-Su Borough to carefully plan the Hatcher Pass area so that it does not lose its current quality.

~Adequate Facilities: It is highly variable across the state. High use areas near population centers (e.g., Eklutna) are well developed with adequate facilities for all users. Others, such as Nelchina, have minimal facilities. This can be good as it gives the user who wants a simpler experience a place to go. Again, I see the most pressing need to be basics (toilets, trash, vandalism prevention, maintenance).

~Additional Facilities: IMPORTANT! It depends on area. No public use cabins in Chugach State Park...leave it as is with wilderness area intact for use by backpackers, without designated trails, etc. Continued facilities adjusted by number necessary to accommodate large increases in use, if that is the case, but keep high quality of campgrounds and areas. MAKE SURE STATE PROVIDES SUFFICIENT MAINTENANCE FUNDING TO KEEP CURRENT AREAS OPEN AND CLEAN AND AVAILABLE FOR PUBLIC USE!!!

~Additional Facilities: I would like to see Long Lake SRA developed with trails for hikers and mountain bikers. It is a beautiful place - definitely under utilized and under appreciated. Great birding, natural unique eco systems, access to the Mat River is possible - the list goes on and on - great potential.

~10 Year Improvement: Significantly limit the motorized vehicle access and usage in the park land. The present ratio between motorized access and non-motorized is extremely biased to the motor-user group. Also, require significant noise suppression on motorized vehicles that use state park land.

~10 Year Improvement: Maintain public input and control. Keep private concessions to a min.

~Adequate Facilities: Let's keep putting pressure on urban developers and assembly people to consider trail access to areas in their planning.

~10 Year Improvement: I would like to see any improvements reflect a philosophy of careful planning to maximize benefits and minimize the visual impact on the area.

~10 Year Improvement: I'd also like to see continued management of parks through DNR and not sold off to private companies.

~Adequate Facilities: The present level of facilities and services is minimal given the resource and the population using the resource. The effects of the budget cuts to State Parks have resulted in a noticeable decrease in the level of service to the public (and to the land).

~Additional Programs: This is, not un-incidentally, a strong argument in favor of the approach noted in the remarks above, in which the State Park system does NOT choose to endlessly construct facilities and provide services (all as part of an expanding bureaucratic kingdom), thereby doing 'for' the people what the people ought to be doing for themselves. If something turns out to be very much needed, let the local citizens be invited to actively participate in meeting the need--modeling the organizational umbrella for the effort after the pattern of the various Friends of the Library that have sprung up in towns and villages all across the State. Funds are quite capable of flowing from the State Park system to properly instituted and vetted local volunteer organizations. Again, numerous models for this already exist, and enjoy excellent track records of success.

~10 Year Improvement: Close the camp ground at Chilkoot State Park. It is not a revenue generator, and it is foolishly placed in dense bear habitat. The road and area are already congested, we do not need to have a campground there, it could be relocated out along the inlet making Chilkoot park a day use park. If the campground was closed then some of that area could be used to alleviate congestion at the boat launch area.

~10 Year Improvement: The biggest improvement would be for the management of the parks to have a backbone and stand up to preserving parks and the surrounding areas. Hatcher Pass is a prime example. That the state will swap park land to facilitate a private development scam is sickening (yes it is a scam because a ski area will never be economically feasible there and this is just a way for JL Properties to profit from more development). Alaska is about open space and wilderness, something the rest of the US doesn't have. SOA admin. Need to get a clue here and realize this.

~10 Year Improvement: marine park systems in SE

~Adequate Facilities: The majority of facilities in SE are simply a line on a map in remote areas which most folks don't even know exist and have no improvements at all, not even mooring buoys. The legislature needs to get on board and make by an LDA the various ILMA's and proposed SMP's a part of the state park system. Once that is done then focus of individual sites to see what is necessary.

~10 Year Improvement: get both consumptive and non-consumptive user groups to work together to define goals that would be of benefit to all, and work with the state to achieve them.

~10 Year Improvement: I'd like to see more decision making on the local level, by people who know what's needed in their area.

~10 Year Improvement: Develop a carrying capacity plan for the Kenai River.

~Additional Programs: the marine parks, like Kachemak Bay seems to hold an opportunity for a complete program from scheduled water taxi service to improvements to access points to an interpretive/education program, to improved trail and cabin maintenance.

~Adequate Facilities: No, we experience seasonal overloads at our local parks during peak salmon runs, and clamming tides, which create serious problems due to a lack of facilities: Inadequate parking spaces for RV and tent campers at Ninilchik. Inadequate toilet facilities, inadequate trash disposal, lack of supervision within the Park during these peak times, and lack of facilities for cleaning fish and disposing of fish waste. The result of these deficiencies is that the visiting user population spills over onto neighboring properties, both private and DOT much to the chagrin of residents and out of State Park control. I am referring specifically to the Ninilchik Beach Park access way at Mission Rd. and the terrible problem with sanitation and trespass on the access areas held by DOT. I feel that it is imperative that State Parks assume a leadership role in gaining participation from State DOT to address this problem, even it means lobbying to expand the park in this area to gain control.

~Additional Programs: Yes, support activities that enhance the residents of the state to the same extent that your department has given access to the tourism industry.

~10 Year Improvement: continue to manage some areas as non motorized, including some lakes and rivers, and add more acres/places to this category of management.

~10 Year Improvement: I briefly reviewed the SCORP report (?) and agree with most of what has been laid out for improvements.

~10 Year Improvement: Please Note: A potential Liability exists for AKSP, commercial motorized tours operators and non-motorized tours operators if commercial permits are awarded to non-motorized commercial operators to operate in the existing area established for motorized commercial tours in the Chilkat Bald Eagle Preserve above Well's Bridge at approximately 25 mile on the Haines Hwy.

~Additional Programs: We recommend Funding studies that fully evaluate the impacts of 32 passenger jet boats on sensitive Chilkat salmon spawning and rearing habitat in the Preserve. DNR has proposed that sufficient water depths will protect the spawning and rearing areas, but there have been no studies to determine what that depth is for this size boat. Also studies are needed to map rearing habitat and to measure stream bank erosion in the smaller channels where the boats are currently allowed. Since DNR continues to issue non-competitive commercial permits for jet boat tours in the Preserve, the strategic plan should provide adequate funding for personnel and studies, and place a high priority on monitoring and enforcement of permit stipulations.

~Additional Programs: I think all of these are available privately and should be outside the scope of SP. SP has made a habit of acquiring lands without having adequate funds for managing their new acquisitions. They need to regroup and concentrate on managing the parks rather than adding new services.

~Additional Facilities: When attempting to expand the use of the park, remember that replacing existing users with motorized users causes increased tracking of trails and areas and DOES NOT expand the use of the park. Motorized users should look to developing unused areas. Both the SP and the Fed planners have taken over areas of high use by skiers and hikers to allow motorized users who have the power to go further out into the Parks but seldom do so. If you look at what has happened to the terrain damage in Hatcher Pass from the 2 motorized groups who have

1. failed to keep their commitment to use and access as a way to travel in the backcountry and
2. the group who makes money from hauling people up Gov. Peak, with long lasting terrain damage for a measly buck, Park usage did not expand, it only replaced a less damaging user, skiing/hiking, with noisy, damaging machines.

~10 Year Improvement: Park Expansion/Retraction: A. Audit all existing units to verify that they should be retained or excessed; B. Develop a list of lands that should be added to the park system: 1. Unique or high-quality attributes warranting special consideration; 2. High economic return to adjacent communities (or the state). C. Develop a list of parks to be excessed; D. Develop a process that makes it easier (legislatively) to add or subtract park units to the system.

Permitting: A. Ease DNR permitting requirements on simple projects within parks, i.e., small trail grants; B. Streamline park permits (special use, park use, commercial use) through a statewide web based system.

~Adequate Facilities: Denali area use is growing and will need upgrades.

Alaska State Parks Strategic Plan Comments

Parks Specific

~Adequate Facilities: No, better access like to McHugh peak from Potter Creek, Mile High Saddle, and Mt. Baldy.

~Adequate Facilities: NO! Why are toilets boarded at Olnes Pond?

~Adequate Facilities: Summer buses to major trailheads like Glen Alps.

~10 Year Improvement: more access points, consider a visitor facility at Glen Alps - long term, what about a chalet/warming hut?

~10 Year Improvement: effort to develop mat-su valley state parks

~Additional Facilities: The PUC are wonderful. I'd like to see more and arranged that so a loop trip could be made. Like Colorado creek to Angel Creek, e.g.

~Adequate Facilities: You are missing 3-4 units in the Kenai area: Diamond Creek, Baycrest Overlook, Eveline SRS, Cottonwood/Eastland Unit KBSP

~Adequate Facilities: Should Nancy Lake be a resort park? Would it become too developed for the loons?

~Additional Facilities: Remote public use cabins and small hiking/biking trails to them would be great in the Chugach! More cabins in PWS would also be great. More access points into the Chugach would be great.

~Additional Facilities: Some park areas, like Chena River, benefit from providing camping and picnic areas with toilets.

~Adequate Facilities: More parking at Salcha. More river cabins in CRSRA. Boat launch in CRSRA.

~Adequate Facilities: I believe the services could be improved in Denali and would welcome the change.

~Adequate Facilities: Camp Twin Bears could use some work, most of the buildings are in OK shape, but regular maintenance on stoves, lights, and facilities in general would improve the overall camp.

~Adequate Facilities: The Chena Rec Area seems to be in pretty good shape, but the trail system and remote cabins could use some work in some areas.

~Additional Facilities: I would like to see additional campgrounds, especially on the Kenai Peninsula. This is mainly to facilitate holiday weekend demand. If new campgrounds were built, I suggest having the camp spaces further apart with additional tent camping areas.

~10 Year Improvement: South Denali visitor center w/hiking trails. Kachemak Bay State Park Visitor Center in Homer.

~Adequate Facilities: We could use more cabins in the Juneau area.

~10 Year Improvement: Improved kayak launch sites in SE Alaska.

~Additional Services: Winter trail grooming would certainly bring more people to the Chena River SRA. Better tent camping sites at Quartz Lake.

~Adequate Facilities: I've spent part of the last four summers visiting different state park units throughout the state and find most of them to be adequate. The only area camp sites were unavailable was around Cordova. A state park with a campground on the Dalton Highway between Cold Foot and Deadhorse would be a plus. I realize there isn't any state land there, but perhaps an exchange could be made.

~Adequate Facilities: Trail maintenance could be better, especially in slowing the creation of multi-path trails up frequently-hiked peaks, such as those in the Anchorage bowl.

~Additional Facilities: TRAILS, TRAILS, TRAILS!! Especially in high use areas such as for example the Wolverine Trail in the Chugach, erosion is the number one problem.

In recent years we saw more people using trails in the Chugach foothills, as well as an increase in the frequency of thunderstorms over the summer. The trail up Wolverine widened in recent years and people trample all over the place.

The solution: Educate the public by putting up signs to stay on trails, leave no trace, and visit sustainably. Build good trails with gravel flown in by helicopter in high problem areas, good trails are trails that won't wash out after thunderstorms and can deal with a large number of hikers - we DO NOT have these kinds of trails in most areas.

~Additional Programs: I have a research project on the Chena Rec Area - it would be nice to be able to compete for a small research funding grant each year.

-Adequate Facilities: The number of winter cabin facilities on the Chena Hot Springs SRA are not adequate. We find that there is a huge demand for these cabins during spring break. We have resorted to Arctic Oven tent camping during this time. However, this requires planning ahead by going one week before the planned trip and breaking trail and padding down an area for camping with snowshoes. Therefore, if additional cabins are not on your immediate radar then providing additional trails off of the existing ones leading to a nice cleared areas with a barbeque pit, picnic table and toilet, would help. Maybe you can devise a way of creating some type of platform on which to set the tent. We currently take 4x8 sheets of plywood cut in half (2x8 to fit on our sled) and use it as a floor under the tent, which works well as the snow does not melt and create sink holes below you when you sleep. Before this we used to resort to cutting tree limbs for bedding below the tent floor.

-Additional Programs: The visitor center downtown is a pain for visitors to get to as parking is a problem. Maps are needed to find your way to this visitor center. Maybe having a booth/kiosk on the Richardson and Parks Hwy a few miles out of town with information/maps will help.

-Additional Facilities: In Sitka, with only one Ranger position and limited park areas where camping could be permitted, most of our parks should concentrate on improving our picnic areas, trails, toilets and other infrastructure. Mosquito Cove Trail would benefit from a public use cabin or at least shelter. Fortunately the Old Sitka Boat Launch facilities are already being upgraded, but this major upgrade should be fully completed in all phases.

-Additional Services: This answer presumes there are State Parks staff. With only one Ranger for seven Sitka State Parks, these services are completely unrealistic. If we could just get some summer temporary staff to assist with visitors and routine and major maintenance of Sitka's parks, it would be a huge improvement.

A reasonable commitment to maintain Sitka's Ranger position and provide temporary summer maintenance staff as well.

-Additional Programs: Sitka needs more basic support from State Parks, not spreading out the meager amount of resources available. Boating safety programs were once viewed as a source of revenue to help pay the State Parks Ranger, but this apparently never materialized. If there is funding available, there are plenty of State Parks uses for these funds in Sitka.

-Adequate Facilities: The Sitka area needs an additional position that functions at a higher level than the technician level. An additional Ranger would allow for time to be spent working with the Advisory Board, project funding and development, grant writing, interagency coordination, etc...

-Additional Facilities: I would like to see year round maintenance at the Denali view pull out at mile 135.2. You spent millions to build a new view pull out that is not open during winter (6-8months) and tear out the old one that was open year round. Yet you can't spend a few hundred extra to just plow the area out.

-Adequate Facilities: No. Although Nancy Lake area has a reasonable number of public use cabins, neither the Denali SP or Willow Creek SRA areas do not have a sufficient number of cabins to support winter snowmobiling in that area.

-Adequate Facilities: I would like to see the Deep Creek site be left open later in the fall so local silver fisherman could use it.

-Adequate Facilities: Kenai parks become very crowded during the summer.

-Additional Services: Kenai

-Additional Programs: Small (non-motor) boat renting facilities like at Eklutna.

-Adequate Facilities: Denali State Park is just out my back door and I use it a lot for hunting, boating and snowmachining. It is an example of a park that needs more parking and trails and signs.

-Additional Programs: Grants to trail groups, more trails allow more people to be in the parks and each person or group would feel more of a wilderness experience (unlike Flattop, with masses of people like Christmas shopping in a mall).

-Additional Facilities: Alpine Visitor and Education Center at Arctic Valley.

-Additional Services: Guided nature walks and hikes along the front range of the Chugach are a great idea.

-Adequate Facilities: In the past 25 years I've seen serious erosion problems develop in the front range of the Chugach, mostly in above timberline areas. A better funded trail crew to address the resource impacts is absolutely necessary. Bring back the YCC and rebuild the ACC!

-10 Year Improvement: Establish a Talkeetna Mountains State Park (it's time to start planting the seeds!). People had the foresight to create Chugach State Park. With the growth in the Mat-Su Valley the Talkeetnas are due.

Renovate and rebuild the parking lot, trailhead and trail system at Arctic Valley. The Independence Mine renovation is a good model.

Work with the Anchorage Ski Club, Inc. to develop their lodge into an Alpine Visitor and Education Center (ERNC, Eielson Visitor Center, Begich-Boggs are good models).

Winter yurts to ski or mush to in Ship Creek Valley.

-Additional Programs: Partner with Anchorage Ski Club, APU Outdoor Program and UAA outdoor program and Alaska Avalanche School to provide avalanche and mountain safety education at Arctic Valley.

-Adequate Facilities: I like the established camping facilities on the Little Su and I think it's a good model to copy elsewhere. I wish the upper parts between Houston and the lower river had similar facilities.

-Adequate Facilities: Access to CSP from Anchorage's Hillside should be assured as we develop the area.

-Additional Services: Why does the Ranger that covers Girdwood also cover Glenn Alps for example. That is ridiculous and way too spread out for the level of use and the amount of accessibility between the two areas.

-Adequate Facilities: I think that the state park system is pretty good though I think the main thing, particularly with the Chugach state park is access. There is limited access to the parks, and where there is sometimes it is obscure/hidden and highly inconvenient (Glenn Alps Parking Lot for example).

~Additional Facilities: major trail improvements to the Juneau State park Trails and the trails in Point Bridge State Park.

~Adequate Facilities: A visitor center on the Anchorage Hillside that offered an interpretive displays, warm-up place in winter, toilets, small scale activity center like Eagle River Visitor Center would be terrific.

~Additional Facilities: A dining and drinking facility near nexus of CSP/gasline/Bicentennial Park (uphill from Bivouac Trailheads)

~10 Year Improvement: Urgent: Expand trail access points into CSP from Anchorage and the road system.

Buy or negotiate parking and trailheads in conjunction with MOA and other entities.

Seek funding from non-profits or federal sources to buy critical access points before development precludes any access.

~10 Year Improvement: In Chugach SP, for example, the only trails that are technically open are "trails" that were at one time, road beds. Kepler-Bradley has only recently been authorized for Mtn bike use. We Need More!

~Adequate Facilities: NO way---those parks are a mess and the ones that the state has decided to turn back such as the one on the Chatanika River and Olnes Pond are now half filled with full time camping residents, even in the winter. No one has the authority to make them leave. The toilets are in bad shape and most if not all the infrastructure the state invested in has been stolen or vandalized. Charge us a fee - but don't abandon us.

~Additional Facilities: PUC's for non-motorized areas. Nancy Lake has no PUC's on the northside of the parkway off the ski trails.

~Adequate Facilities: Lack of PUC's in nonmotorized area of Nancy lake.

~10 Year Improvement: just pure fun like canoeing the Nancy Lake system.

~Adequate Facilities: More groomed snowmobile trails especially in lower hillside area instead of forcing snowmobiles above the tree line into the windblown area and then closing it because of windblown bare spots.

~Additional Facilities: Winter use cabins in non-motorized part of the Chena Rec area.

~Adequate Facilities: No. Many areas such as Chugach and Denali SP areas could use more adequate public access including sustainable trails for access into, through, or connecting with other public lands.

~Additional Facilities: Additional boat launches on both the Kenai and Kasilof, especially the lower Kasilof.

~Additional Facilities: Chugach SP - hiking; Denali SP - hiking, campgrounds, visitor facilities; Valdez - Copper River area units - camping, roadside toilets, snowmobile access.

~Adequate Facilities: AK State Parks should staff major park resources like Chugach SP, Denali SP, Hatcher Pass SP, Totem Bight SP, Sitka Historical SP.

~10 Year Improvement: A recognition of the fact that denying trails in Denali State Park is not the way to gain friends in the snowmobile community.

~Adequate Facilities: Trail system in Chena River area could be expanded and improved (fire losses).

~10 Year Improvement: Well, there's a piece of land near Ketchikan that's 150 acres and has the most beautiful timber and beach to the ocean. The land is owned however by the Mental Health Trust and they'd like to log it. As citizens we got to spend hours, money, etc. to raise enough hell so that citizens or our borough or trust for public lands or someone will buy it from Mental Health so it doesn't get logged. DNR could trade a few acres to Mental Health and then the state delegate it as a recreational area and it wouldn't have to be kept up by the Park system (as a true park) and the public would have it forever. This could be a real gem for the public and would only cost the state some legal work and voila! It's called Coast Guard Beach. You want information - contact me.

~Adequate Facilities: No. Parking/access to Chugach is far below what is needed, as with other units. Wood-Tikchik is relatively inaccessible, and very expensive to access. Would like to see some way to promote park use once people get there. I can't afford to go there now.

~Additional Facilities: Nature trails, rock climbing areas such as Grapefruit Rocks, trails like Angel Rocks, etc. Cabins, boat launch @ Chena pump, access to Tanana River.

~10 Year Improvement: Open and improve Chena pump boat launch and picnic area as a park unit.

~Adequate Facilities: KBSP is a GEM, it needs more \$.

~Additional Facilities: Please do whatever you can to support the park's need for trails. Please do whatever you can to support the park's need for mooring buoys, cabins.

~10 Year Improvement: South Raleigh Lake Campground needs huge improvements and other campgrounds built in Nancy Lake State Park.

~Adequate Facilities: Locally in the Mat-Su valley, park services have been greatly reduced along with rangers. This leads to more trash, vandalism abuse of the park land. Actually it is quite sad for the great state of Alaska to have it's parks in such poor condition.

~10 Year Improvement: Working as closely as possible with the Mat-Su Borough to carefully plan the Hatcher Pass area so that it does not lose its current quality.

~Additional Facilities: IMPORTANT! It depends on area. No public use cabins in Chugach State Park...leave it as is with wilderness area intact for use by backpackers, without designated trails, etc.

-Additional Facilities: I would like to see Long Lake SRA developed with trails for hikers and mountain bikers. It is a beautiful place - definitely under utilized and under appreciated. Great birding, natural unique eco systems, access to the Mat River is possible - the list goes on and on - great potential.
Hatcher Pass - although an official state park - it should be. Make more look trails. There are some nice hikes there, but it is really boring to have to go up a trail then turn around and come back the same way. Build more more more miles there! It is an awesome place.
-Adequate Facilities: Destination trails - long trails with nice facilities (camp sites - cabins - shelters) along the way. Look at the Chilkoot and the Resurrection Trail. Great examples of what can be done in Hatcher Pass, Chugach and Denali.

-Adequate Facilities: Parking at major trailheads seems adequate but smaller trailheads such as South Fork and Ram Valley have very poor parking and limited access points.

-Adequate Facilities: No. there is an increased use of SP campgrounds and facilities. I would like to see some new camping facilities developed in our state parks, particularly in Mat-Su and perhaps in Chugach SP.
-10 Year Improvement: I would like to see additional rest areas/roadside toilets between Anchorage and Mat-Su.

-Adequate Facilities: Somewhat, we have had some groomed, marked trails in the South Denali Petersville area, although I would like to a lot more of these.

-Additional Facilities: More access points into the Chugach State Park.
-Additional Services: Expand parking at high volume trailheads, i.e.... Symphony Lakes TH.
-Adequate Facilities: Woefully inadequate for Chugach SP. Improve park access, parking, and trail system to meet the growing need.

-Adequate Facilities: Between Anchorage and Fairbanks too many of the pullouts without toilets are getting used as outhouses. We need signs with info on where the toilets are or more toilets, or stiffer fines for littering.
-Additional Programs: Improve Middle Fork Trail to narrow mud boggy areas, info to visitors on trail etiquette on Flat Top in the summer (I was up in early summer and found a dozen plastic bottles on the snowfield where people were sliding down.) That place is a free for all in the summer.
Careful consideration on the proposed improvements to the back side of Flat Top. Please help keep that an area for locals without a massive parking lot.
For the future: How about access to areas blocked by Elmendorf between Arctic Valley and Stuckagain?

-Additional Facilities: I'd like to see a Chugach State Park visitor center (as opposed to just the CSP headquarters at Potter). The CSP is phenomenal and it would benefit tourists and others to have a nice visitor center facility to show it off!

-Adequate Facilities: Additional maintenance would be welcome. For example, the King Mountain State Rec. Area we recently used needs considerable maintenance to its facilities and looks shabby.

-Additional Facilities: The eagle preserve needs some boat launches on the river for rafts and jet boats, I recommend one at the 21 mile turn out where there is now a pretend one but not a real one. Also there needs to be a public restroom at 21 mile turn out, presently Chilkat Guides maintains a portable toilet there that the public often uses. Since the walkway the state built has no view out into the river, 21 mile is the best scenic turn out and where people stop the most. Also at 14 mile and 10 mile there should be designated boat launch sites, both have been used extensively for many years, but since they are not designated as such there are ongoing issues with fish and game about bank erosion.
Launch areas do not have to be costly to build or maintain simple access to the river is all that is needed. And some vehicle access. On the upper Tsirku it would be great to be able to separate the Jet boat launch area and the raft launch area to eliminate conflicts there. An upper launch area that was used for many years by rafters was cut off by flood waters a couple of years ago, if the road was extended a hundred yards, that upper access would once again be viable.
The guided public taken down the river by Chilkat Guides represents the largest block of public users, and they are the only ones besides the guided jet boat public that have to pay an entry fee to use the Preserve. Yet, the State refuses to spend any money to provide service for them. I think that this is unfortunate and unjust.
-10 Year Improvement: A remote cabin at seduction point would be a great addition to the park as the trail is too long for most to hike out and back in a day. But make the cabin open to all with the bunks first come first serve basis, not a reservation system. Users could sign in at the trail head so that others would know how many users there are ahead of them. With a reservation system, a large cabin is often reserved by only a couple of people. The cabin could be built and maintained by the local alpine club if that would be acceptable to the State. Also the trail could be extended around the point to Mud Bay to make a loop out of it. Trails with huts like those in New Zealand would make Southeast AK much more enjoyable for hikers.
Chilkat SP park road should remain open until the snow closes it, just because the campground closes there is no reason that the public shouldn't be able to use the boat ramp. It is a burden in the fall and spring not to have access to the boat launch.
Close the camp ground at Chilkoot State Park. It is not a revenue generator, and it is foolishly placed in dense bear habitat. The road and area are already congested, we do not need to have a campground there, it could be relocated out along the inlet making Chilkoot park a day use park. If the campground was closed then some of that area could be used to alleviate congestion at the boat launch area.

-Additional Programs: Reduced horsepower laws on Susitna Valley rivers. If a 35hp limit is good for the Kenai River, it should be implemented on more fragile Susitna Valley Rivers like the Little Susitna River, the Deshka River and Alexander Creek. The way these rivers are abused by over-powered boat traffic is criminal. The State Parks should become involved and advocate 35hp rules in Susitna Valley waters.

-Additional Facilities: Smitty's Cove in Whittier is the last place in South Central Alaska where divers can drive to the site and make a safe entry into the water. This area needs to be protected. Until the last 20 years Smitty's Cove was officially known as "divers cove". In May Alaska Marine Lines/Lynden Transport spent \$70,000 putting a man made artificial reef in the cove for National Marine Fisheries to study. NMF has spent \$56,000 on the project as well. This project has enhanced the diving but the area and investment need to be protected from vandals dragging their anchor through it. Hundreds of divers utilize the cove year round. We need paved parking area and a shelter to change into our gear. All we ask is the amenities offered to other outdoor enthusiasts in Alaska. I would appreciate any consideration you might give this matter. You would be doing a service for the divers, the City of Whittier and the State of Alaska as a whole. Thank you.

-Additional Programs: Developing an underwater park in Smitty's Cove, Whittier, AK.

-10 Year Improvement: covered viewing area and toilets close to Adlersheim/Sunshine Cove, in 2 locations--where people stop to watch humpbacks and sea lions feeding, and where people camp on the beach.

A winter weather station and daily report from the Eagle Beach campground to encourage cross-country skiers to head out there.

-Additional Programs: Interpretive signs at whale-viewing point near Adlersheim would be very nice.

-Adequate Facilities: More cabins in S.E.

-10 Year Improvement: marine park systems in SE

-Adequate Facilities: Difficult question. I'd like to see parking areas at some of the access points, but I don't want to see overcrowding either. I know that the Canyon road area is being worked out with a land purchase, but will it now be ruined by too many people? Same goes for South Fork, E.R. and Bear Valley. South Fork is a favorite because it's not very crowded. But, when a larger parking area goes in (which is obviously needed), what will happen? In Bear Valley there are access points beyond the snobby, gated Honey Bear, but I don't want to see that area overrun either.

-Additional Services: I feel that Prospect Heights trails have been ruined in the past couple of years by over-grooming and trail-widening. The trails are like freeways now, instead of backcountry lanes. I don't ski at Hilltop or Kincaid because of the over-abundance of skate-skiers whizzing by hogging up the trails (and I don't like skiing in the straight, groomed tracks. Prospect was my refuge. No longer.

-Adequate Facilities: In the Juneau area the parks are used quite heavily. There are some roadside areas that could be expanded into parks with toilets and water.

-Additional Facilities: We really like the trails and cabins around the Juneau area although the cabin prices are reaching the level where some families may feel they are getting too high. Many trails are in terrible condition, an example is the mucky mess going to Pt. Bridget, one of the more popular places now with three cabins.

-Additional Services: The FS in Juneau now has volunteers to set x-c snowmobile tracks at the Mendenhall campground and this is an aspect that SP's should consider.

-Adequate Facilities: In some high use areas close to Anchorage or Fairbanks, such as Chena, a larger variety of trails, both summer and winter, would be nice, as well as additional cabins (or Yurts, as a possibly less expensive alternative).

-Adequate Facilities: Grindall Island marine Park has a cabin to maintain, but no boat is available to get out there. Parks has to beg the Coast Guard to take them out once a year or so.

-Additional Services: In the Ketchikan area, parks staff should include parks' employees giving tours to the cruise visitors coming to Totem Bight St. Park instead of the bus companies. The company tour guides are usually from elsewhere, know nothing of the area, and the turnover of the guides during the summer is frequent. The first guides get some brief training but as the summer goes on, the stories get more and more creative and incorrect, and as the guides quit and others replace them, it just gets worse.

-Adequate Facilities: No. The toilets at Settler's Cove are falling apart, the tables and fireplaces are old and decrepit. Lots of long put off maintenance is needed.

-Adequate Facilities: The totem poles in Totem Bight are in sad need of maintenance and repair. They are rotting and need help badly. We need to hire people to work on them to refurbish and restore them.

-Additional Programs: I don't know, I do know that the Haida dancers perform in the Totem Bight house once a month and they are very good. I've seen them twice. More of that sort of thing would be good. A carving shed to repair and carve new poles is a natural for the park, although I know that politics and Saxman has interfered with that idea. I still think Totem Bight should have a carving shed regardless of the opposition. After all, it is a Historical park honoring native culture.

-Additional Facilities: Chilkoot lake needs only some signage to keep traffic flow better managed and some better de-odorizing in the restrooms. A supply of firewood would be nice.

Mosquito lake needs better restrooms and the boat launch is poor. Also need wood.

Chilkat Bald Eagle Preserve needs several hardened boat ramps for the public and needs to have some more restrooms available.

-Adequate Facilities: I was on a hiking trip to the Grewink Glacier area trails of Kachemak Bay State Park earlier this week, July 31-Aug 2. I was extremely disappointed with the condition of this park. The trails are in very poor condition. They are extremely overgrown with devils club, downed trees, etc. The trails are also very poorly marked. Since many water taxis in Homer advertise this park as a destination this should be a crown jewel of our state park system. Instead, it is run down and in bad shape.

-Adequate Facilities: The older parks in Ninilchik need modernization. The sites are TOO small for the current size RVs. The new RVs exceed 40 feet with slides on both sides. Plus they tow another vehicle. The sites are short and NOT LEVEL!!! I tried a number of sites in the View and couldn't find a fairly level one. In some cases the drop from front to back is more than 12 inches in a 20 foot span. This doesn't count the drop to the sides of the site. All sites need to be leveled and increased in size for the newer RVs.

Each site needs a table and a fire ring. Campers want their own and first come first served is not the way to get campers. Even when Deep Creek was upgraded there was a shortage of tables and rings. The reason given was NO MONEY for improvement or upgrading of the parks.

Deep Creek is a fishing camp, what happened to the fish cleaning table??? All parks that fishing is one of the main activities need a cleaning table. People are using the picnic tables to clean the fish and not cleaning the table. I don't like to pull into a site with a stinking table. I do clean my table after cleaning fish.
