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Elements of a Foundation Statement

The Foundation Statement is a formal description of Kenai Fjords National Park's (park) core mission. It is a foundation to support planning and management of the park. The foundation is grounded in the park's legislation and from knowledge acquired since the park was originally established. It provides a shared understanding of what is most important about the park. This Foundation Statement describes the park's purpose, significance, fundamental resources and values, primary interpretive themes, and special mandates.

The legislation that created Kenai Fjords National Park guides the staff in understanding and documenting why Congress and the president created the park. The Foundation Statement includes the following elements:

- **Purpose Statement**

The purpose statement identifies why Congress and the president established the park as a unit of the national park system. The purpose of the park is based on the enabling legislation.

- **Significance Statement**

Guided by legislation and the knowledge acquired through management, research, and civic engagement, statements of significance define what is *most important* about the park's natural and cultural resources and values.

The significance statements are used to guide planning and management decisions to ensure that the resources and values that Congress and the president wanted preserved are the first priority.

- **Fundamental Resources and Values**

The National Park Service works to preserve those resources and values fundamental to maintaining the significance of Kenai Fjords National Park. Through identifying and understanding the resources and values that support each significance statement, managers and their staff gain a clearer understanding of what is truly most important about the park. That which is *most important* about the park could be jeopardized if these resources and values are degraded.

- **Primary Interpretive Themes**

Primary interpretive themes describe the key stories or concepts that will help visitors understand and appreciate the purpose and significance of the park. The primary interpretive themes provide the foundation on which the park's educational and interpretive program is based.

- **Special Mandates**

Special mandates are legal requirements and administrative commitments that apply to the park. These special mandates may include direction from Congress or formal agreements with other public or private entities that are consistent with NPS legal mandates and policies. The special mandates are identified to ensure their consideration in planning and decision making for Kenai Fjords National Park.

Establishment of Alaska National Parks

The National Park Service Organic Act of 1916 states that units of the national park system are established to “conserve the scenery and the natural and historic objects and the wild life therein and to provide for enjoyment of the same in such manner and by such means as to leave them unimpaired for the enjoyment of future generations.” This statement represents the most basic mission of Kenai Fjords National Park.

Most of the national parks in Alaska, including Kenai Fjords National Park, were established or expanded under the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (ANILCA), which was adopted on December 2, 1980. ANILCA’s passage culminated more than 20 years of deliberation on federal land claims after Alaska statehood.

Prior to Alaska becoming a state in 1959, nearly all land was federal. The Alaska Statehood Act granted the state the right to select 104 million acres of federal land. Within a few years the state land selection process began to include lands traditionally used by Alaska Natives. This led to objections which eventually resulted in a freeze on further state land selections pending Congressional settlement of the Native claims.

In 1971 Native claims were resolved by passage of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (ANCSA). This act, in addition to Native land claims, also provided for withdrawal of 80 million acres for possible designation as national parks, fish and wildlife refuges, national forests, and wild and scenic rivers. Kenai Fjords National Park is among those park areas first established in 1978 by Presidential Proclamation by President Carter when he withdrew over 100 million acres of federal land, including 56 million acres as national monuments.

ANILCA mandates the specific purposes for each park established. Providing for ANILCA’s mandates and special uses makes management of Alaska parks unique within the national park system.

We care for those special places in Alaska saved by the American people as a part of a national system of parks so that all may experience our heritage. We serve residents and visitors who seek inspiration, recreation and education, as well as those who come for traditional activities, subsistence and scientific study. We cooperate with local communities, tribes and others to protect the natural and cultural resources in these special places for this and future generations to experience and enjoy.

Alaska Region Mission Statement (2004)

Summary

PURPOSE STATEMENT

Kenai Fjords National Park preserves the scenic and environmental integrity of an interconnected icefield, glacier, and coastal fjord ecosystem.

SIGNIFICANCE STATEMENTS

1. Kenai Fjords National Park protects the Harding Icefield and its outflowing glaciers, where the maritime climate and mountainous topography result in the formation and persistence of glacier ice.
2. Kenai Fjords National Park protects wild and scenic fjords that open to the Gulf of Alaska where rich currents meet glacial outwash to sustain an abundance of marine life.
3. Kenai Fjords National Park protects an outstanding example of a subsiding coastal mountain range with steep-sided fjords, drowned cirques, and jagged islands.
4. Kenai Fjords National Park protects a rich diversity of terrestrial and marine life in their natural state.
5. Kenai Fjords National Park provides opportunities to experience, understand, and appreciate the scenic and wild values of the Harding Icefield, its outflowing glaciers, coastal fjords, and wildlife and to comprehend environmental change in a human context.

Location



Park Map



Park Purpose

Kenai Fjords National Park preserves the scenic and environmental integrity of an interconnected icefield, glacier, and coastal fjord ecosystem.

Specifically, Section 201 of the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (ANILCA) states that the park shall be managed for the following purposes, among others:

- To maintain unimpaired the scenic and environmental integrity of the Harding Icefield, its outflowing glaciers, and coastal fjords and islands in their natural state;
- and to protect seals, sea lions, other marine mammals, and marine and other birds and to maintain their hauling and breeding areas in their natural state, free of human activity which is disruptive to their natural processes.



Icefields and Glaciers

SIGNIFICANCE STATEMENT

Kenai Fjords National Park protects the Harding Icefield and its outflowing glaciers, where the maritime climate and mountainous topography result in the formation and persistence of glacier ice.

FUNDAMENTAL RESOURCES AND VALUES

- **Icefields**
The park protects the Harding Icefield, part of the Grewingk-Yalik Icefield, and their outflowing glaciers. Glacier ice covers approximately half of the park.
- **Climate Processes**
Cold temperatures and heavy precipitation from the Gulf of Alaska maintain the park's glacier ice. The glacier ice accumulates and melts in response to changes in the climate.
- **Exit Glacier**
The park provides visitors with access to Exit Glacier in order to learn about outflowing glaciers, glacier ice, and the Harding Icefield.
- **Science & Education**
The park provides visitors with opportunities to research, monitor, and interpret glacier ice and its response to global climate change.



Northwestern Glacier is a tidewater glacier located in the central portion of the park.

PRIMARY INTERPRETIVE THEME

The Harding Icefield and its outflowing glaciers are dramatic illustrations of our changing planet. They allow us to imagine past ice ages, gain an understanding of ongoing glacial processes and see ourselves in the context of geologic time.

Fjords

SIGNIFICANCE STATEMENT

Kenai Fjords National Park protects wild and scenic fjords that open to the Gulf of Alaska where rich currents meet glacial outwash to sustain an abundance of marine life.

FUNDAMENTAL RESOURCES AND VALUES

- **Marine Ecosystems**
The park supports a rich tapestry of marine and coastal life resulting from the Gulf of Alaska and its interaction with the Harding Icefield's outflowing glaciers.
- **Forest Ecosystems**
The park preserves the northern most edge of the temperate rain forest and provides a living laboratory to study plant succession as it occurs in the fjords, from bare moraine to fully developed forest.
- **Wildness**
The park preserves the natural processes and wild character of Kenai Fjords National Park. The protected beaches and coves in the fjords are buffered from the Gulf's crashing waves by rugged headlands and expanses of shear cliffs.
- **Shared Stewardship**
With vessel traffic in the fjords and mixed jurisdiction across islands, mainland, and marine waters, thoughtful and coordinated management is required for shared stewardship.

- **Scenery**
The park protects the scenery that reveals the power and contrast of sea, mountains, and ice. This includes the pockets of temperate rainforest that soften the stark glacial landscape.



Northwestern Fjord, with the Striation Island in the background, is part of the interconnected fjord ecosystem.

PRIMARY INTERPRETIVE THEME

The park, working in shared stewardship, maintains wild and intact, coastal marine ecosystems.

Kenai Fjords National Park preserves a complex ecosystem where mountains, ice and oceans meet. The diverse species that inhabit this juncture inspire appreciation for the interconnectedness between all living things and the physical world they inhabit.

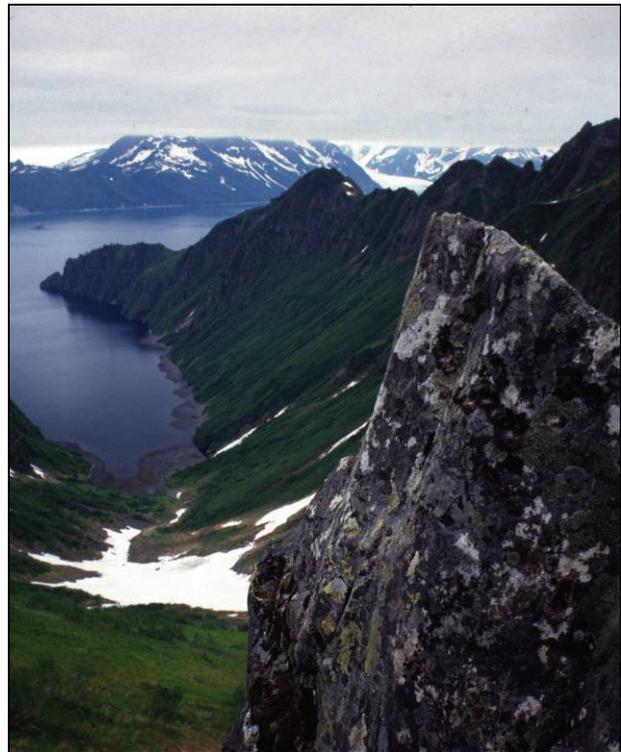
Geologic Processes

SIGNIFICANCE STATEMENT

Kenai Fjords National Park protects an outstanding example of a subsiding coastal mountain range with steep-sided fjords, drowned cirques, and jagged islands.

FUNDAMENTAL RESOURCES AND VALUE

- **Physical Record**
The park protects an active landscape shaped by mountain building, glacial erosion, and subsidence.
- **Geologic Study**
The park staff, working with partners, coordinates scientific study and analysis of the region's geologic processes and resources.
- **Interpretation/Education**
The park staff, partners, and stakeholders interpret and provide opportunities for learning about this dynamic landscape.



Aialik Bay is an iconic fjord landscape and a popular destination for visitors.

PRIMARY INTERPRETIVE THEME

Located at an active tectonic plate boundary, Kenai Fjords National Park is shaped by dynamic earth forces, punctuated by periodic cataclysmic events that challenge human understanding.

Wildlife

SIGNIFICANCE STATEMENT

Kenai Fjords National Park protects a rich diversity of terrestrial and marine life in their natural state.

FUNDAMENTAL RESOURCES AND VALUE

- **Terrestrial Wildlife**
The park protects habitat and populations of terrestrial wildlife, ranging from brown and black bears, mountain goats, and iceworms.
- **Marine Mammals**
The park contributes to the protection of marine mammal populations and their habitat, including seals and sea lions.
- **Birds**
The park protects habitat for populations of marine and terrestrial birds.
- **Wildlife Viewing**
At Kenai Fjords, park personnel collaborate with partners and stakeholders to ensure appropriate viewing ethics that help to protect the wildlife resources.
- **Scientific Research and Monitoring**
The park staff facilitates and supports cooperative research to understand and protect wildlife populations and their habitat.
- **Partnerships/Interagency Cooperation**
The park staff contributes to the collaborative resource management relationships that are imperative to protecting species whose habitats are not wholly within park boundaries.



Sea otters are a common site in the coastal waters of the park.

PRIMARY INTERPRETIVE THEME

Kenai Fjords National Park preserves a complex ecosystem where mountains, ice and oceans meet. The diverse species that inhabit this juncture inspire appreciation for the interconnectedness between all living things and the physical world they inhabit.

Human Experience

SIGNIFICANCE STATEMENT

Kenai Fjords National Park provides opportunities to experience, understand, and appreciate the scenic and wild values of the Harding Icefield, its outflowing glaciers, coastal fjords, and wildlife and to comprehend environmental change in a human context.

FUNDAMENTAL RESOURCES AND VALUE

- **Archeological and Historic Resources**
The park staff collaborates with partners to inventory, document, and provide stewardship for an in situ record of prehistoric and historic use.
- **Native Values**
The park respects the values of the Alutiiq people to maintain physical, cultural, and spiritual ties to the land and resources of the park.
- **Collections**
The park preserves a collection of scientific specimens, artifacts, archives, and oral histories that document the natural and cultural history of the area.
- **Research**
The park serves citizen-scientists as a living laboratory for education, exploring, and research.
- **Partnerships**
The park staff works collaboratively with stakeholders to ensure opportunities for research, access, and interpretation.
- **Access**
The park provides visitor access to resources such as Exit Glacier, Harding Icefield, and the system of fjords through park programs and a system of partnerships.

- **Recreational Opportunities**
The park provides for a broad range of accessible recreational activities and opportunities.
- **Interpretation/Education**
The park staff and partners provide a variety of opportunities for visitors to form their own connections with the significance inherent in the park resources.

PRIMARY INTERPRETIVE THEME

The history of human experience at Kenai Fjords National Park illustrates how people adapt to variable and extreme conditions, and how human actions and changing attitudes about the land can impact the environment over time.

Obvious signs of ocean and climate change at Kenai Fjords National Park offer opportunities for individuals to connect personally to global issues and to contemplate their impacts.

Kenai Fjords National Park is a living laboratory for studying, understanding, and appreciating changes in the marine and terrestrial ecosystems such as biologic succession, climate change, and effects on individual species.

Special Mandates and Administrative Commitments

English Bay Easements for Subsistence Access and Use

This administrative commitment is through a deed for the purchase by the National Park Service of lands conveyed to English Bay. English Bay retains rights to cultural resources on all purchased lands, and a subsistence easement exists on a portion of the purchased lands

Shareholders shall have the right to enter upon and travel across the granted lands for the purpose of engaging in lawful customary and traditional uses (hereinafter “subsistence uses”) of wild, renewable resources for direct personal or family consumption as food or clothing; for customary trade and barter, or sharing for personal or family consumption. While engaging in subsistence uses on the granted lands, shareholders may use timber which is fallen and dead for fuel, tools, emergency shelter or transportation. The taking of fish and wildlife hereunder shall be governed by the laws of the United States and the State of Alaska in the same manner as though the granted lands were privately owned and not part of Kenai Fjords National Park. The rights reserved herein do not authorize the taking of wild, renewable resources for sport or commercial purposes or the conduct of commercial activities within the park.

Further excepting and reserving to Grantor, to the extent that it holds such ownership, or its successors, agents and assigns (collectively referred to hereinafter as “Grantor”), from the lands so granted hereby, all historic and prehistoric archeological and cultural artifacts.

Subsurface Rights to Lands Purchased by the National Park Service

Through Section 14(f) of ANCSA, Chugach Alaska Corporation retains subsurface rights to all previously conveyed lands purchased by the National Park Service.

Mechanized Access of the Harding Icefield

Public Law 96-487

SEC.201(5). In a manner consistent with the foregoing, the Secretary is authorized to develop access to the Harding Icefield and to allow use of mechanized equipment on the icefield for recreation.

Participants

Kenai Fjords National Park

Connie Anthony, Administrative Officer
Peter Armato, Director, Ocean Alaska Science and Learning Center
Janette Chiron, Acting Chief Ranger
Shelley Hall, Chief of Resources
Sharon Kim, Chief of Resources
Fritz Klasner, Natural Resource Program Manager
Shannon Kovac, Cultural Resource Specialist
Jeff Mow, Park Superintendent
Jim Pfeifferberger, Education Specialist
Richard Proctor, Maintenance Work Leader
Kristy Sholly, Interpretive Operations Supervisor/Chief of Interpretation

Alaska Regional Office

Zach Babb, Outdoor Recreation Planner
Joan Darnell, Team Manager, Environmental Planning and Compliance
Chuck Lindsay, Physical Scientist, Southwest Alaska Network
John Morris, Interpretation Specialist
Bud Rice, Environmental Protection Specialist
Michael Shephard, Network Coordinator, Southwest Alaska Network

Denver Service Center

Stephan Nofield, Community Planner

Appendix A – Legislation

Appendix A includes selected excerpts from ANILCA that are most relevant for the day to day management of Kenai Fjords National Park.



The arrival sequence to the Exit Glacier visitor center illustrates the impacts of climate change on park resources.

An Act

To provide for the designation and conservation of certain public lands in the State Dec. 2, 1980 of Alaska, including the designation of units of the National Park, National [H.R. 39] Wildlife Refuge, National Forest, National Wild and Scenic Rivers, and National Wilderness Preservation Systems, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. This Act may be cited as the “Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act”.

* * * * *

TITLE I—PURPOSES, DEFINITIONS, AND MAPS

PURPOSES

SEC. 101. (a) In order to preserve for the benefit, use, education, and inspiration of present and future generations certain lands and waters in the State of Alaska that contain nationally significant natural, scenic, historic, archeological, geological, scientific, wilderness, cultural, recreational, and wildlife values, the units described in the following titles are hereby established.

(b) It is the intent of Congress in this Act to preserve unrivaled scenic and geological values associated with natural landscapes; to provide for the maintenance of sound populations of, and habitat for, wildlife species of inestimable value to the citizens of Alaska and the Nation, including those species dependent on vast relatively undeveloped areas; to preserve in their natural state extensive unaltered arctic tundra, boreal forest, and coastal rainforest ecosystems; to protect the resources related to subsistence needs; to protect and preserve historic and archeological sites, rivers, and lands, and to preserve wilderness resource values and related recreational opportunities including but not limited to hiking, canoeing, fishing, and sport hunting, within large arctic and subarctic wildlands and on freeflowing rivers; and to maintain opportunities for scientific research and undisturbed ecosystems.

(c) It is further the intent and purpose of this Act consistent with management of fish and wildlife in accordance with recognized scientific principles and the purposes for which each conservation system unit is established, designated, or expanded by or pursuant to this Act, to provide the opportunity for rural residents engaged in a subsistence way of life to continue to do so.

* * * * *

TITLE II—NATIONAL PARK SYSTEM

ESTABLISHMENT OF NEW AREAS

SEC. 201. The following areas are hereby established as units of the National Park System and shall be administered by the Secretary under the laws governing the administration of such lands and under the provisions of this Act:

(5) Kenai Fjords National Park, containing approximately five hundred and sixty-seven thousand acres of public lands, as generally depicted on map numbered KEFJ-90,007, and dated October 1978. The park shall be managed for the following purposes, among others: To maintain unimpaired the scenic and environmental integrity of the Harding Icefield, its outflowing glaciers, and coastal fjords and islands in their natural state; and to protect seals, sea lions, other marine mammals, and marine and other birds and to maintain their hauling and breeding areas in their natural state, free of human activity which is disruptive to their natural processes. In a manner consistent with the foregoing, the Secretary is authorized to develop access to the Harding Icefield and to allow use of mechanized equipment on the icefield for recreation.

* * * * *

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

SEC. 203. Subject to valid existing rights, the Secretary shall administer the lands, waters, and interests therein added to existing areas or established by the foregoing sections of this title as new areas of the National Park System, pursuant to the provisions of the Act of August 25, 1916 (39 Stat. 535), as amended and supplemented (16 U.S.C. 1 et seq.), and, as

appropriate, under section 1313 and the other applicable provisions of this Act: Provided, however, That hunting shall be permitted in areas designated as national preserves under the provisions of this Act. Subsistence uses by local residents shall be allowed in national preserves and, where specifically permitted by this Act, in national monuments and parks.

* * * * *

ALASKA MINERAL RESOURCE ASSESSMENT PROGRAM

SEC. 1010. (a) MINERAL ASSESSMENTS.—The Secretary shall, to the full extent of his authority, assess the oil, gas, and other mineral potential on all public lands in the State of Alaska in order to expand the data base with respect to the mineral potential of such lands. The mineral assessment program may include, but shall not be limited to, techniques such as side-looking radar imagery and, on public lands other than such lands within the national park system, core and test drilling for geologic information, notwithstanding any restriction on such drilling under the Wilderness Act. For purposes of this Act, core and test drilling means the extraction by drilling of subsurface geologic samples in order to assess the metalliferous or other mineral values of geologic terrain, but shall not be construed as including exploratory drilling of oil and gas test wells. To the maximum extent practicable, the Secretary shall consult and exchange information with the State of Alaska regarding the responsibilities of the Secretary under this section and similar programs undertaken by the State. In order to carry out mineral assessments authorized under this or any other law, including but not limited to the National Uranium Resource Evaluation program, the Secretary shall allow for access by air for assessment activities permitted in this subsection to all public lands involved in such study. He shall consult with the Secretary of Energy and heads of other Federal agencies carrying out such programs, to determine such reasonable requirements as may be necessary to protect the resources of such area, including fish and wildlife. Such requirements may provide that access will not occur during nesting, calving, spawning or such other times as fish and wildlife in the specific area may be especially vulnerable to such activities. The Secretary is authorized to enter into contracts with public or private entities to carry out all or any portion of the mineral assessment program. This section shall not apply to the lands described in section 1001 of this Act.

(b) REGULATIONS.—Activities carried out in conservation system units under subsection (a) shall be subject to regulations promulgated by the Secretary. Such regulations shall ensure that such activities are carried out in an environmentally sound manner—

(1) which does not result in lasting environmental impacts which appreciably alter the natural character of the units or biological or ecological systems in the units; and

(2) which is compatible with the purposes for which such units are established.

* * * * *

SPECIAL ACCESS AND ACCESS TO INHOLDINGS

SEC. 1110. (a) Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act or other law, the Secretary shall permit, on conservation system units national recreation areas, and national conservation areas, and those public lands designated as wilderness study, the use of snowmachines (during periods of adequate snow cover, or frozen river conditions in the case of wild and scenic rivers), motorboats, airplanes, and nonmotorized surface transportation methods for traditional activities (where such activities are permitted by this Act or other law) and for travel to and from villages and homesites. Such use shall be subject to reasonable regulations by the Secretary to protect the natural and other values of the conservation system units, national recreation areas, and national conservation areas, and shall not be prohibited unless, after notice and hearing in the vicinity of the affected unit or area, the Secretary finds that such use would be detrimental to the resource values of the unit or area. Nothing in this section shall be construed as prohibiting the use of other methods of transportation for such travel and activities on conservation system lands where such use is permitted by this Act or other law.

(b) Notwithstanding any other provisions of this Act or other law, in any case in which State owned or privately owned land, including subsurface rights of such owners underlying public lands, or a valid mining claim or other valid occupancy is within or is effectively surrounded by one or more conservation system units, national recreation areas, national conservation areas, or those public lands designated as wilderness study, the State or private owner or occupier shall be given by the Secretary such rights as may be necessary to assure adequate and feasible access for economic and other purposes to the concerned land by such State or private owner or occupier and their successors in interest. Such rights shall be subject to reasonable regulations issued by the Secretary to protect the natural and other values of such lands.

* * * * *

TEMPORARY ACCESS

SEC. 1111. (a) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act or other law the Secretary shall authorize and permit temporary access by the State or a private landowner to or across any conservation system unit, national recreation area, national conservation area, the National Petroleum Reserve— Alaska or those public lands designated as wilderness study or managed to maintain the wilderness character or potential thereof, in order to permit the State or private landowner access to its land for purposes of survey, geophysical, exploratory, or other temporary uses thereof whenever he determines such access will not result in permanent harm to the resources of such unit, area, Reserve or lands.

* * * * *

TITLE XIII—ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS

MANAGEMENT PLANS

SEC. 1301. (a) Within five years from the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall develop and transmit to the appropriate Committees of the Congress a conservation and management plan for each of the units of the National Park System established or to which additions are made by this Act.

(b) NATIONAL PARK SERVICE PLAN REQUIREMENTS.—Each plan for a unit established, redesignated, or expanded by title II shall identify management practices which will carry out the policies of this Act and will accomplish the purposes for which the concerned National Park System unit was established or expanded and shall include at least the following:

(1) Maps indicating areas of particular importance as to wilderness, natural, historical, wildlife, cultural, archeological, paleontological, geological, recreational, and similar resources and also indicating the areas into which such unit will be divided for administrative purposes.

(2) A description of the programs and methods that will be employed to manage fish and wildlife resources and habitats, cultural, geological, recreational, and wilderness resources, and how each conservation system unit will contribute to overall resources management goals of that region. Such programs should include research, protection, restoration, development, and interpretation as appropriate.

(3) A description of any areas of potential or proposed development, indicating types of visitor services and facilities to be provided, the estimated costs of such services and facilities, and whether or not such services and facilities could and should be provided outside the boundaries of such unit.

(4) A plan for access to, and circulation within, such unit, indicating the type and location of transportation routes and facilities, if any.

* * * * *

NAVIGATION AIDS AND OTHER FACILITIES

SEC. 1310. (a) EXISTING FACILITIES.—Within conservation system units established or expanded by this Act, reasonable access to, and operation and maintenance of, existing air and water navigation aids, communications sites and related facilities and existing facilities for weather, climate, and fisheries research and monitoring shall be permitted in accordance with the laws and regulations applicable to units of such systems, as appropriate. Reasonable access to and operation and maintenance of facilities for national defense purposes and related air and water navigation aids within or adjacent to such areas shall continue in accordance with the laws and regulations governing such facilities notwithstanding any other provision of this Act. Nothing in the Wilderness Act shall be deemed to prohibit such access, operation and maintenance within wilderness areas designated by this Act.

(b) NEW FACILITIES.—The establishment, operation, and maintenance within any conservation system unit of new air and water navigation aids and related facilities, facilities for national defense purposes, and related air and water navigation aids, and facilities for weather, climate, and fisheries research and monitoring shall be permitted but only (1) after consultation with the Secretary or the Secretary of Agriculture, as appropriate, by the head of the Federal department or agency undertaking such establishment, operation, or maintenance, and (2) in accordance with such terms and conditions as may be mutually agreed in order to minimize the adverse effects of such activities within such unit.

* * * * *

TAKING OF FISH AND WILDLIFE

SEC. 1314. (a) Nothing in this Act is intended to enlarge or diminish the responsibility and authority of the State of Alaska for management of fish and wildlife on the public lands except as may be provided in title VIII of this Act, or to amend the Alaska constitution.

(b) Except as specifically provided otherwise by this Act, nothing in this Act is intended to enlarge or diminish the responsibility and authority of the Secretary over the management of the public lands.

(c) The taking of fish and wildlife in all conservation system units, and in national conservation areas, national recreation areas, and national forests, shall be carried out in accordance with the provisions of this Act and other applicable State and Federal law. Those areas designated as national parks or national park system monuments in the State shall be closed to the taking of fish and wildlife, except that—

(1) notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, the Secretary shall administer those units of the National Park System, and those additions to existing units, established by this Act and which permit subsistence uses, to provide an opportunity for the continuance of such uses by local rural residents; and

(2) fishing shall be permitted by the Secretary in accordance with the provisions of this Act and other applicable State and Federal law.

* * * * *

Appendix B – Administrative History

Appendix B includes a Presidential Proclamation that, while superseded by ANILCA, offers contextual background information regarding the establishment of Kenai Fjords National Park.



Mountain goats are one of the terrestrial species which thrive at Kenai Fjords National Park.

Establishing Kenai Fjords National Monument

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

Kenai Fjords National Monument borders the Gulf of Alaska and includes the Harding Icefield and extensions of mountain peaks out into the sea. The area holds a significant opportunity for geologic study of mountain building and for scientific study of ecological variations from an icecap environment to a marine shoreline environment.

The Harding Icefield, one of the Nation's major icecaps, continues to carve deep glacial valleys through the Kenai Mountains. The mountains themselves illustrate tectonic movement through uplift and subsidence over geologic time. Former alpine valleys are now fjords, and former mountain peaks are now tips of islands and vertical sea stacks.

Between the fjords, richly varied rain forest habitats offer opportunities to study life forms adaptable to the wet coastal environment. On the land these include mountain goat, black bear, otter, ptarmigan, and bald eagle. The area is extremely rich in sea bird life of interest to ornithologists and in marine mammals which come to feed in the fjords from their hauling and resting places on nearby islands. The recovery of the sea otter population from almost total extermination to relatively natural populations in this area is of continuing scientific interest.

Section 2 of the Act of June 8, 1906 (34 Stat. 225, 16 U.S.C. 431), authorizes the President, in his discretion, to declare by public proclamation historic landmarks, historic and prehistoric structures, and other objects of historic or scientific interest that are situated upon the lands owned or controlled by the Government of the United States to be national monuments, and to reserve as part thereof parcels of land, the limits of which in all cases shall be confined to the smallest area compatible with the proper care and management of the objects to be protected.

Now, THEREFORE, I, JIMMY CARTER, President of the United States of America, by the authority vested in me by Section 2 of the Act of June 8, 1906 (34 Stat. 225, 16 U.S.C. 431), do proclaim that there are hereby set apart and reserved as the Kenai Fjords National Monument all lands, including submerged lands, and waters owned or controlled by the United States within the boundaries of the area depicted as Kenai Fjords National Monument on the map numbered KEFJ 90,008 attached to and forming a part of this Proclamation. The area reserved consists of approximately 570,000 acres, and is the smallest area compatible with the proper care and management of the objects to be protected. Lands, including submerged lands, and waters within these boundaries not owned by the United States shall be reserved as a part of the monument upon acquisition of title thereto by the United States.

All lands, including submerged lands, and all waters within the boundaries of this monument are hereby appropriated and withdrawn from entry, location, selection, sale or other disposition under the public land laws, other than exchange. There is also reserved all water necessary to the proper care and management of those objects protected by this monument and for the proper administration of the monument in accordance with applicable laws.

The establishment of this monument is subject to valid existing rights, including, but not limited to, valid selections under the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act, as amended (43 U.S.C. 1601 et seq.), and tinter or confirmed in the Alaska Statehood Act (48 U.S.C. Note preceding Section 21).

Nothing in this Proclamation shall be deemed to revoke any existing withdrawal, reservation or appropriation, including any withdrawal under Section 17 (d) (1) of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (43 U.S.C. 1616(d)(1)); however, the national monument shall be the dominant reservation. Nothing in this Proclamation is intended to modify or revoke the terms of the Memorandum of Understanding dated September 1, 1972, entered into between the State of Alaska and the

United States as part of the negotiated settlement of Alaska v. Morton, Civil No. A-48-72 (D. Alaska, Complaint filed April 10, 1972).

The Secretary of the Interior shall promulgate such regulations as are appropriate.

Warning is hereby given to all unauthorized persons not to appropriate, injure, destroy or remove any feature of this monument and not to locate or settle upon any of the lands thereof.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this 1st day of December, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and seventy-eight, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and third.

JIMMY CARTER