Kenai Fjords Visitor Survey 2012

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

COASTAL BACKCOUNTRY



Survey ID:		
Date:		
Time:	 	
Location Survey	Administered:	
Commercial or	Private Group:	
Tour Company:		 _
Weather:	Warm	
	Cool	
	Sunny	
	Partly Sunny	
	Cloudy	
	Foggy	
	Rain	

OMB Control Number: 1024-0224 Current Expiration Date 8/31/2014 For the purposes of this review and submission the justifications for each question or section of questions is highlighted in a shaded text box above each question. These text boxes will not be printed on the final version of the surveys. The Topic Areas noted are consistent with the currently approved pool questions for the NPS Programmatic Review Process (1024-0224 – Current Expiration Date: 8-31-2014). The questions that are slight variations are denoted as such..

Dear Kenai Fjords National Park Visitor:

The National Park Service is conducting this survey to learn more about our visitors' experiences in the backcountry coastal areas of the park and the conditions they encounter so that we can improve our service to you. You are one of a select number of people randomly chosen for this survey, so your opinions are important to us. The survey takes about 15minutes to complete and all of the information collected will be anonymous. Please read each question carefully.

Section A: Trip Characteristics

We would like to know more about your backcountry experience in Kenai Fjords National Park. Please answer the following questions to the best of your ability.

Topic Area 1 – GR3

1. How many people (including you) are in your personal group today? Your "personal group" is anyone you are visiting the park with, such as spouse, family, or friends. It doesn't include the larger group you may be traveling with, such as a tour group or school groups.

Nι	ım	ber	ot	peop	le:				

Topic Area 1 – GR1

- 2. On this visit, what kind of personal group (not guided tour/school group) were you with? Please circle only one.
 - a. Alone

c. Family

b. Friends

- d. Family and friends
- e. Other (Please describe: _____

Topic Area 1 – GR2

- 3. On this visit, were you and your personal group with any of the following types of groups? Please circle all that apply.
 - a. Guided tour group
 - b. School/educational group
 - c. Commercial tour
 - d. Other organized group (Please describe:

Тор	ic Area 3 –	TRANS1
	How did yo a. b. c. d.	ou access the coast? (Please circle all that apply.) Sea kayak Chartered water taxi Commercial outfitter service Sea plane Helicopter
	g.	Other (Please specify:)
Тор	ic Area 3 –	TRIPC8 (variation)
5.		I you describe your trip to the coast? Day trip (did not spend the night in the backcountry) → Proceed to Question 8 Multi-day trip (spent 1 or more nights in the backcountry)
Тор	oic Area 3 –	TRIPC8
6.	What was	the length of your trip in days?
		Length of trip: days
Тор	oic Area 3 –	TRIPC3
	Did you spo a. b. c.	end the night at any of the following areas? (Circle all that apply.) Aialik Public Use Cabin Holgate Cabin North Arm Cabin Kenai Fjords Glacier Lodge Backcountry campsite (Please specify areas:
)
Тор	oic Area 1 –	VISITHIS2

- 8. Have you visited Kenai Fjords National Park before this trip?
 - a. Yes
 - b. No \rightarrow Proceed to Question 10

If YES, approximately how many times have you visited Kenai Fjords National Park before this trip?

Number of previous visits:

Topic Area 6 – EVALSERV3

9a. What did you enjoy most about your visit?

Topic Area 6 – EVALSERV2

b. What did you enjoy <u>least</u> about your visit?

Topic Area 6 - OPMGMT1

c. If you could ask the National Park Service to change some things about the way it manages Kenai Fjords, what would you ask it to do?

Topic Area – PREF1

10. Below is a list of possible reasons for visiting Kenai Fjords National Park. For each item please indicate 1) how important the reason for visiting is to you, and 2) the extent to which you were able to achieve each motivation. (Circle one number under IMPORTANCE and one number under ACHIEVED for each item.)

		IMP	ORTA	NCE		ACHIEVED						
	Not at all important	Slightly	Moderately	Very	Extremely important	Not at all achieved	Slightly	Moderately	Fully achieved			
a. To learn about the cultural history of this area	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4			
b. To learn about the natural environment of this area	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4			
c. To be with family and/or friends	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4			
d. To get exercise	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4			
e. To experience solitude	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4			
f. To experience peace and tranquility	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4			
g. To view wildlife	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4			
h. To view natural scenery	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4			

i. To view glaciers	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4
j. Other (please specify:)	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4

Section B: Perceptions of Experience

Topic Area 4 – TpB1

We would like to know how you feel about your experience in the backcountry at Kenai Fjords National Park.

11. The following statements relate to your backcountry experience at Kenai Fjords. Please indicate the degree to which you agree or disagree with each statement. (Circle one number for each item.)

	LEVEL OF AGREEMENT											
Statement	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neither Disagree Nor Agree	Agree	Strongly Agree	Don't Know / Doesn't Apply						
a. Opportunities to view wildlife are sufficient	1	2	3	4	5	6						
b. There are too many kayak groups on the coast	1	2	3	4	5	6						
c. There are too many tour boats	1	2	3	4	5	6						
d. There is too much noise from motor boats	1	2	3	4	5	6						
e. There is too much noise from visitors	1	2	3	4	5	6						
f. Visitors are harassing wildlife	1	2	3	4	5	6						
g. Visitors are damaging ghost trees	1	2	3	4	5	6						
h. Trampled vegetation is a problem at backcountry campsites	1	2	3	4	5	6						
i. Soil erosion is a problem at backcountry campsites	1	2	3	4	5	6						
j. Litter is a problem at backcountry campsites	1	2	3	4	5	6						
k. The presence of tent rocks/rock piles left by visitors is a problem at backcountry campsites	1	2	3	4	5	6						
I. Trampled vegetation is a problem at landing beaches	1	2	3	4	5	6						
m. Soil erosion is a problem at landing beaches	1	2	3	4	5	6						
n. Litter is a problem at landing beaches	1	2	3	4	5	6						
o. Managers should heavily restrict use of backcountry campsites.	1	2	3	4	5	6						

Section C: Visitor Standards of Backcountry Social and Resource Conditions
We would like to know more about your view of *social and resource conditions* in the coastal backcountry of Kenai Fjords National Park. To help judge this, please rate each of the following conditions by indicating how acceptable you find them. A rating of "-4" means the condition is "highly unacceptable," and a rating of "+4" means the condition is "highly acceptable." (Circle <u>one</u> number for each condition)

Topic Area 5 - VERP1 (variation)

12a. We would like to know how many other kayak groups you think it is acceptable to see each day without causing you to feel too crowded. Please rate the acceptability of each of the following numbers of other kayak groups seen per day. A rating of -4 means the time is "highly unacceptable", and a rating of +4 means the time is "highly acceptable". (*Circle one number for each line*.)

Very Unacceptable	Very Unacceptable	Unacceptable	Very Unacceptable	Unacceptable	Ver Menacceptabl e	Unacceptable Unacceptable	Very Unacceptable Moderately	Unacceptable	Unatrapiable Very Unatreptable Umactoomable	Hacceptable	very Gnapt table	- Амесения	Highly Signerable bearing	sheepate SEEEEEE	Jacept Jacepte Jacepte	Slight Constitution	Unatieptiepte	Sing Hace en a Blable		SligHTMCARCEPAShole	Unacceptable	Slightly Acceptable Slightly Acceptable Slight Wednesday	Slig Miscon Pale Slig Mable	Actional Manchenation	SWEAT WAXER BRIDE	Acceptable	Signivancementie	Moderatelly	Slighttyetotableable	Very Acceptable Modenalgiy	Slig MW 996349Eable	Very Acceptable	hanne hanne
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			2 of	thei	r ka	yak	gro	ups	5				-4	-	3		-2		-1	()	1	2	2	3		4						
			4 other kayak groups					-4	-	3		-2		-1	()	1	2	2	3		4											
			6 ot	thei	r ka	yak	gro	ups	i				-4	-	.3		-2		-1	()	1	2	2	3		4						
			10 (othe	er k	ayal	k gr	oup	os				-4	-	3		-2		-1	()	1	2	2	3		4						
			14 (othe	er k	ayal	k gr	oup	os				-4	-	3		-2		-1	()	1	2	2	3		4						
			18 other kayak groups					-4	-	.3		-2		-1	()	1	2	2	3		4											
			Mo gro			18	oth	er I	kaya	k			-4	-	.3		-2		-1	()	1	2	2	3		4						

b.	What is the	number	of other	kayak gro	ups per	day t	hat you	would	<u>prefer</u> to	see dur	ing your
	trip?										

Preferred number of other kayak groups seen per day: _____

c.	What is the maximum number of other kayak groups per day that you think you could see
	before you would no longer visit the coast? If you would continue to visit the coast
	regardless of the number of other kayak groups seen, you may indicate that.

Maximum number of other kayak groups seen per day before you would no longer visit the
coast:

OR

OR

- $\boldsymbol{\theta}\,$ I would continue to visit the backcountry regardless of the number of other kayak groups seen
- d. What is the maximum number of other kayak groups seen per day that you think the

 National Park Service should allow on the coast? In other words, at what point do you think
 visitors should be restricted from accessing the coast? If you think the number of kayak
 groups should not be restricted, you may indicate that.

Maximum number of kayak groups seen per day that should be allowed:	

- θ The number of kayak groups should not be restricted.

For the following questions in this section, we have prepared series of photographs illustrating conditions that could be encountered in Kenai Fjords National Park. The photographs can be found in the binders that accompany this survey. Please rate each photograph by how acceptable you find the condition illustrated. A rating of "-4" means the photograph is "highly unacceptable," and a rating of "+4" means the photograph is "highly acceptable." (Circle one number for each photo.)

Topic Area 5 - VERP1

13a. We would like to know how many and what types of boats could be in the fjords without you feeling too crowded. To help judge this, we have a series of photographs that show different numbers and kinds of watercrafts in an area of the fjords. Please rate each photograph by indicating how acceptable you find it based your perception of level crowding shown. A rating of -4 means the condition is "highly unacceptable", and a rating of +4 means the time is "highly acceptable". (*Circle one number for each line*.)

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	Photo 2	-4	-3	-2	-1	0	1	2	3	4				
	Photo 3	-4	-3	-2	-1	0	1	2	3	4				
	Photo 4	-4	-3	-2	-1	0	1	2	3	4				

Photo 5	-4	-3	-2	-1	0	1	2	3	4
Photo 6	-4	-3	-2	-1	0	1	2	3	4
Photo 7	-4	-3	-2	-1	0	1	2	3	4
Photo 8	-4	-3	-2	-1	0	1	2	3	4

b. Which photograph shows the number and types of boats you would <u>prefer</u> to see?
Photo number:
c. Which photograph shows the number and types of boats <u>that is so unacceptable that you would no longer visit the fjords</u> ? In none of the photographs represent this condition, you may indicate that.
Photo number:
OR
$\boldsymbol{\theta}$. None of the photographs are so unacceptable that I would no longer visit the fjords.
d. Which photograph shows the condition at which <u>you think management action should be</u> <u>taken to limit boats within the fjords</u> ? If you think access should not be restricted at any point represented in the photographs, or not restricted at all, you may indicate that.
Photo number:
OR
$\boldsymbol{\theta}$. None of the photographs show a condition at which boats should be restricted from accessing the fjords. OR
$\boldsymbol{\theta}$ Boat access to the fjords should not be limited.
e. Which photograph looks most like the number and type of boats you typically saw during your trip in the backcountry?
Photo number:
Topic Area 5 – CROWD1
14. How crowded did you feel during your trip to the coast? (Circle one number)

14. How crowded did you feel during your trip to the coast? (Circle one number.)

Not	at all	Some	what		Mode	erately	Extre	mely
Crov	wded	Crov	vded		Crov	wded	Crow	vded
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9

15a. Use of backcountry campsites can result in environmental impact. How much impact do you think is acceptable to see at backcountry campsites along the coast? A rating of -4 means the time is "highly unacceptable", and a rating of +4 means the time is "highly acceptable". (*Circle one number for each line*.)

Very Unacceptable	Unacceptable Very Unacceptable	Unacceptable Very Unacceptable Moderately	Unacceptable Very Unacceptable	Vellpeksastaliste Signtly UMaderpishe	Velyngwanzepathole Slightly Moderately		ve Vighattebla bie Ver Vistaerse et	Slightly Acceptable Malephanye Line assettable	Slight Maggeptable	Slightweightenble Wilder Stable Wasself Stable	Slight Balling State Sta	Signature Signat	Signification of the control of the	Signiy Acceptable Highty Acceptable Very Acceptable	Slighty of the state of the sta	Signoperates ble	Acceptable	Ve wodestable Acceptable	Very Acceptable Acceptable
				Photo 1		-4	-3	-2	-1	0	1	2	3	4					
				Photo 2		-4	-3	-2	-1	0	1	2	3	4					
				Photo 3		-4	-3	-2	-1	0	1	2	3	4					
				Photo 4		-4	-3	-2	-1	0	1	2	3	4					
				Photo 5		-4	-3	-2	-1	0	1	2	3	4					

	Photo 4	-4	-3	-2	-1	U	1	2	3	4	
	Photo 5	-4	-3	-2	-1	0	1	2	3	4	
	n photograph shosites?				ndition	you w	ould <u>r</u>	<u>orefer</u> t	o see a	t back	country
	Photo numb	er:									
longe	n photograph sh er camp at back indicate that.										
Phot	o number:										
OR											
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<u>Servi</u> mana camp	n photograph shoce should allow agement action osites? If you this photographs,	at bacl should ink mar	kcountr be take nageme	ry camp en to lir ent actio	osites? I mit the on shou	n othe amou Ild not	er wore nt of e	ds, at w nviron ken at a	hat po mental any poi	int do impac nt repi	you think t at resented
Phot	o number:										

OR

$\boldsymbol{\theta}$. None of the photographs show a high enough level of environmental impact to justify management intervention at backcountry campsites.
OR
$\boldsymbol{\theta}$ There should be no management intervention at backcountry campsites.
e. Which photograph looks most like the amount of environmental impact you <u>typically saw</u> at backcountry campsites?
Photo number:
OR
$\boldsymbol{\theta}$ I did not visit any backcountry campsites.
Section D: Background
We would like to collect some background information. Please answer the following questions to the best of your ability.
Горіс Area 1 – RES1
16. Do you live in the United States? a. Yes (if so, what is your ZIP code?) b. No (If not, what country do you live in?)
Topic Area 1 – AGE2
17. In what year were you born? Year born:
Горіс Area – GEND1
18. What is your gender?
a. Male b. Female
a. Male

d. Some college

10

- e. Two-year college degree
- f. Four-year college degree
- g. Graduate degree

Topic Area 1 – RACE/ETH2

- 20. Are you Hispanic or Latino?
 - a. Yes, Hispanic or Latino
 - b. No, not Hispanic or Latino

Topic Area 1 - RACE/ETH 4

- 21. What is your race? (Please circle one or more.)
 - a. American Indian or Alaska Native
 - b. Asian
 - c. Black or African American
 - d. Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander
 - e. White

Topic Area 3 – ACT25 (variation)

- 22. Does anyone in your group have a physical condition that made it difficult to access or participate in park activities?
 - a. Yes
 - b. No

If YES, because of the physical condition, what specific problems did the person have? (Please circle all that apply.)

- a. Hearing (difficulty hearing ranger programs, guides, audiovisual exhibits or programs, or information desk staff, even with hearing aid)
- b. Visual (difficulty in seeing exhibits, directional signs, visual aids that are part of a program, even with prescribed glasses or due to blindness)
- c. Mobility (difficulty in accessing facilities, services, programs, even with walking aid and/or wheelchair)
- d. Other (Please explain)

Topic Area 6 – OPMGMT3

23. Is there anything else you would like to tell us about your visit to Kenai Fjords National Park?

Thank you for your help with this survey! Please return this questionnaire to the surveyor.

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: The National Park Service is authorized by 16 U.S.C. 1a-7 to collect this information. We will use this information will be used by park managers to learn more about our visitors' experiences in the backcountry coastal areas of the park and the conditions they encounter. Your responses are voluntary and completely anonymous. A Federal agency may not conduct or sponsor and you are not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB Control Number and expiration date.

BURDEN ESTIMATE STATEMENT: We estimate that it will take an average of 15minutes to complete this questionnaire. Please direct any comments that you have concern this collection to Laura Phillips, Ecologist, Kenai Fjords National Park, (907) 422-0540, Laura Phillips@nps.gov (email).