

# KENAI FJORDS VISITOR SURVEY 2012

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

COASTAL BACKCOUNTRY



Survey ID: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Time: \_\_\_\_\_

Location Survey Administered: \_\_\_\_\_

Commercial or Private Group: \_\_\_\_\_

Tour Company: \_\_\_\_\_

Attendant: \_\_\_\_\_

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.

Number of people: \_\_\_\_\_

**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:

\_\_\_\_\_)

**Topic Area 3 – TRANS1**

4. How did you access the coast? (Please circle all that apply.)
- a. Sea kayak
  - b. Chartered water taxi
  - c. Commercial outfitter service
  - d. Sea plane
  - e. Helicopter
  - f. Private watercraft
  - g. Other (Please specify: \_\_\_\_\_)

**Topic Area 3 – TRIPC8 (variation)**

5. How would you describe your trip to the coast?
- a. Day trip (did not spend the night in the backcountry) → Proceed to Question 8
  - b. Multi-day trip (spent 1 or more nights in the backcountry)

**Topic Area 3 – TRIPC8**

6. What was the length of your trip in days?
- Length of trip: \_\_\_\_\_ days

**Topic Area 3 – TRIPC3**

7. Did you spend the night at any of the following areas? (Circle all that apply.)
- a. Aialik Public Use Cabin
  - b. Holgate Cabin
  - c. North Arm Cabin
  - d. Kenai Fjords Glacier Lodge
  - e. Backcountry campsite (Please specify areas: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_)

**Topic Area 1 – VISITHIS2**

8. Have you visited Kenai Fjords National Park before this trip?
- a. Yes
  - b. No → 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 least 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.)

	IMPORTANCE					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.)

Statement	LEVEL OF AGREEMENT					
	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
l. 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





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 prefer to see?

Photo number: \_\_\_\_\_

c. Which photograph shows the number and types of boats that is so unacceptable that you would no longer visit the fjords? In none of the photographs represent this condition, you may indicate that.

Photo number: \_\_\_\_\_

OR

θ None of the photographs are so unacceptable that I would no longer visit the fjords.

d. Which photograph shows the condition at which you think management action should be taken to limit boats within the fjords? 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

θ None of the photographs show a condition at which boats should be restricted from accessing the fjords.

OR

θ 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.)

Not at all Crowded	Somewhat Crowded	Moderately Crowded	Extremely Crowded
1      2	3      4	5      6      7	8      9





θ None of the photographs show a high enough level of environmental impact to justify management intervention at backcountry campsites.

OR

θ There should be no management intervention at backcountry campsites.

e. Which photograph looks most like the amount of environmental impact you typically saw at backcountry campsites?

Photo number: \_\_\_\_\_

OR

θ 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.*

##### Topic 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: \_\_\_\_\_

##### Topic Area – GEND1

18. What is your gender?

- a. Male
- b. Female

##### Topic Area – ED1

19. What is the highest level of formal education you have completed? (Circle one number.)

- a. Less than high school
- b. High school graduate/GED
- c. Vocational/trade school certificate
- d. Some college

- 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](mailto:Laura_Phillips@nps.gov) (email).