

# PRD Comments - Mission Statement

Commenter #	Comment
065	The Mission Statement makes no mention of protecting natural resources and that could open the door to misuse of parkland in the future.
075	The Mission Statement uses the phrase "conserves . . . resources"; we recommend that the wording be strengthened by adding "protect and" to the phrase so that future generations of Alaskans will be able to enjoy these same resources.
080	I'd like to see the emphasis reversed and emphasize conservation and interpretation of the various resources. If that isn't done, the outdoor recreation opportunities may disappear over time as carrying capacity (sustainability) of an area is exceeded. Parallel changes would need to be made in many other areas, like the Vision Statement, etc.
081	I disagree with the emphasis of the Draft Plan. The Mission Statement -- which was written to "clarify the agency's reason for existence" -- states that "The Division of Parks and Outdoor Recreation provides outdoor recreation opportunities and conserves and interprets natural, cultural, and historic resources for the use, enjoyment, and welfare of the people." I do not believe that the first reason for DPOR's existence should be to provide "outdoor recreation opportunities." This wording places emphasis on development within the Park system. The first reason for DPOR's existence should be to "conserve" the State Parks; without conservation there will not be any State Parks to enjoy. If people want to go to a developed state park, they can choose nearly any state park in the Lower 48. Although there must be some access to the Parks, there must be preeminent emphasis upon preserving the feral landscape of the Alaska wilderness.
082	I support the comments from others regarding a reference to 'year-round' use. As a northern latitudes state - our park system should most definitely offer opportunities for residents and visitor's every month of the year.
088	The Mission Statement at least mentions natural resources. If the end of the sentence were to say "of present & future Alaskans & visitors" instead of "of the people", it would help to emphasize the importance of stewardship in conserving the natural resource base into the future.
091	Put "provides year round" in Mission Statement and Vision Statement.
096	Mission and Vision: The statements are good as written. The politically charged term "multiple use" should not be added (as representative Mike Kelly suggested). The Division of Parks is frequently mediating between the motorized users and the quiet users. Multiple use results in multiple abuse.