



Denali State Park Trail Management Plan

Why do we need this plan?

A Trail Management Plan will provide a framework for future use and management of the park's trails.

This will be Denali State Park's first Trail Management Plan.

Alaska State Parks is leading the planning process.

Trail planning specialists who work for the NPS Rivers, Trails and Conservation Assistance (RTCA) program are providing technical support.

For more information about RTCA, go to: www.nps.gov/rtca



Rivers, Trails and Conservation Assistance Program

The Denali State Park Trail Management Plan will adhere to:

Alaska State Parks Strategic Plan

<http://dnr.alaska.gov/parks/plans/strategicplan.htm>

Denali State Park Management Plan

<http://dnr.alaska.gov/parks/plans/denali/denali.htm>

Alaska State Park Trail Management Policy

<http://dnr.alaska.gov/parks/plans/denali/trailmngtpolicy031009.pdf>

Alaska State Parks Mission Statement*

The Division of Park 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.

*From the Alaska State Parks Strategic Plan (November, 2006)

Additional guidance for the plan:

Denali State Park Mission Statement

Denali State Park shall be managed and developed in a manner compatible with the following goals:

I. Protect the natural and cultural resources of the park and ensure that the park's resources are maintained to allow for the public's experience and understanding of the unique natural features that are found in this part of Alaska.

II. In a manner that is compatible with Goal I, provide for a variety of opportunities for visitors to the park to experience and understand the park's natural and cultural resources, including viewing Denali.

Park facilities shall be designed and developed to support the public use and understanding of the park and its resources and not serve as attractions in and of themselves.

III. In a manner that is compatible with Goals I and II, recognize and accommodate, in so far as reasonable, the diverse needs of different types of visitors to the park. Avoid conflicts between different groups of visitors or between visitors and park resources.

(Draft) Vision for Denali State Park Trails

A trail system which allows for optimum (=best possible) outdoor recreational use of the area while protecting the natural and cultural resources of the park.

Goals

- ♦ Build and maintain sustainable trails
- ♦ Preserve and maintain the public's substantial investment in trails and related facilities
- ♦ Provide park staff with clear direction on which to base work plans and funding requests
- ♦ Other as identified through planning process



The plan area is all of Denali State Park.

Issues to be addressed include:

- Operations and maintenance of existing trails;
- Opportunities for new or improved trails and trail connections;
- Access to trails, including trail head facilities;
- Education and information related to trail use;
- Classification of trails based on a primary use (for example, hiking, skiing, snowmachining);
- Other issues identified during the planning process



Steps to this Planning Process

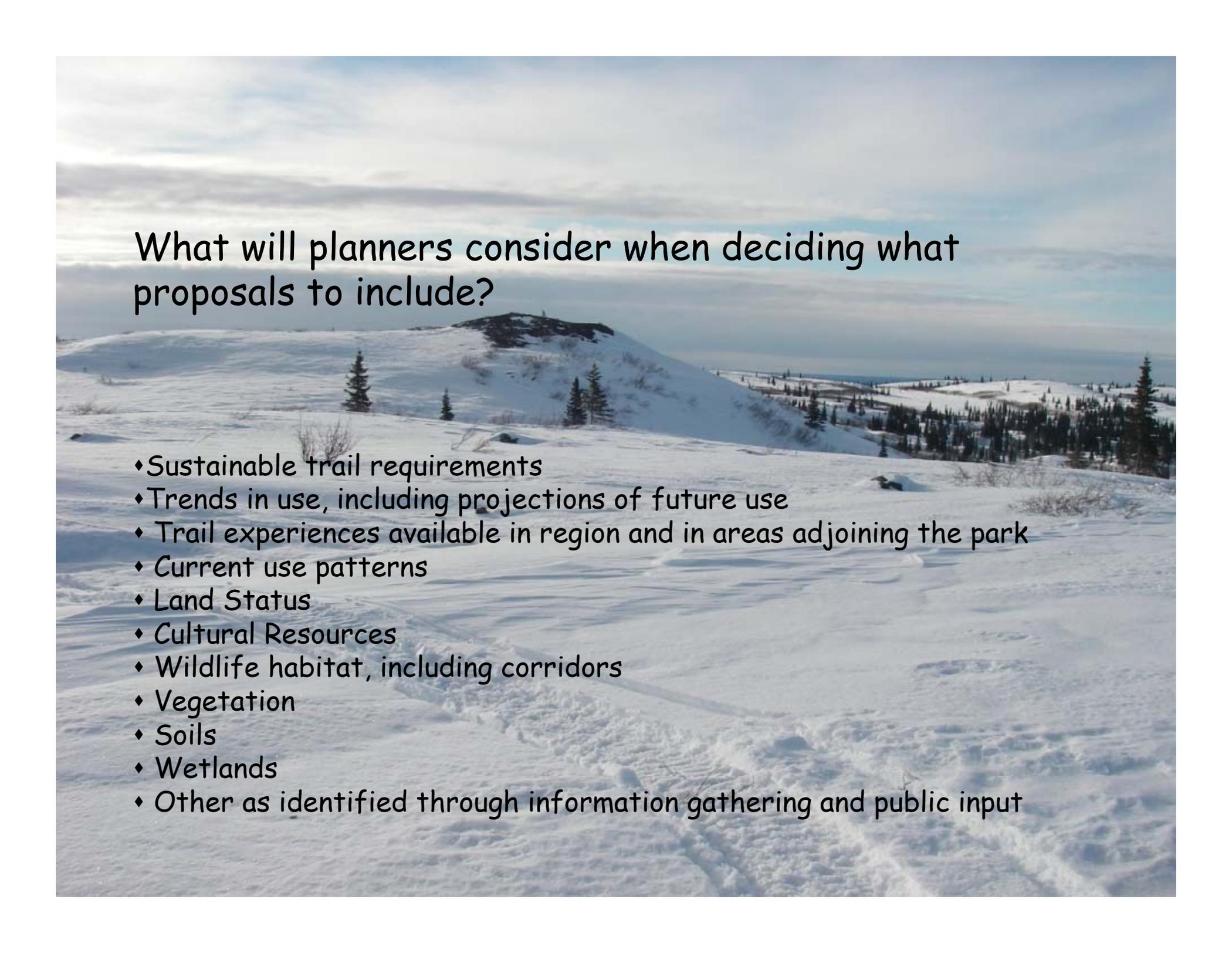
- ◆ Identify issues: Identify issues and concerns through a public involvement process. (*Written comments due by December 15, 2009*)
- ◆ Gather information: Throughout the planning process collect information about trails, trail use and any other material pertinent to the planning process.
- ◆ Prepare draft plan*
- ◆ Public review of draft plan (*with 30-day comment period*)
- ◆ Review agency and public comments and revise the plan as needed.
- ◆ Approve plan: The Director of Parks and Outdoor Recreation approves and signs the plan.
- ◆ Adopt and Implement Plan: Plan provides guidance to staff and clarity to public.

*If warranted, a preliminary alternatives document will be prepared first and put out for public review with a 30 day comment period.

NOTE: The entire process is expected to take approximately 16 months.

How you can participate

- ❖ Current scoping (written comments due December 15, 2009)
- ❖ Join e-mail/mail list (see sign-up sheet at welcome table)
- ❖ Fill out a questionnaire (also available on-line at <http://dnr.alaska.gov/parks/plans/denali/questionnaire.pdf>)
- ❖ Provide comments on draft documents
- ❖ Volunteer your time and energy to care for Denali State Park trails (contact local state park staff for more information)



What will planners consider when deciding what proposals to include?

- ◆ Sustainable trail requirements
- ◆ Trends in use, including projections of future use
- ◆ Trail experiences available in region and in areas adjoining the park
- ◆ Current use patterns
- ◆ Land Status
- ◆ Cultural Resources
- ◆ Wildlife habitat, including corridors
- ◆ Vegetation
- ◆ Soils
- ◆ Wetlands
- ◆ Other as identified through information gathering and public input

Thank you for participating

www.dnr.alaska.gov/parks/plans/denali/denalitrail.htm

