



South Denali Visitor Center Complex **Interpretive Master Plan**

August, 2009

Front Cover: Denali and the Ruth Glacier rise above the braided Chulitna River, as seen from the visitor center site on Curry Ridge. November, 2007

Facing Page: The 20,320 foot summit of Denali, the tallest mountain in North America, is a must-see for Alaska visitors. November, 2007

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August, 2009



Prepared by:

Schmeeckle Reserve Interpreters
University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point
Stevens Point, WI 54481

Phone: (715) 346-4992, E-mail: schmeeckle@uwsp.edu
Web: <http://www.uwsp.edu/schmeeckle>

Planners: Ron Zimmerman, Michael Gross, and Jim Buchholz

Submitted to:

Alaska Department of Natural Resources
Division of Parks and Outdoor Recreation
550 W. 7th Avenue, Suite 1340
Anchorage, AK 99501-3565



National Park Service—Alaska Region
240 W. 5th Avenue, Room 114
Anchorage, AK 99501



Matanuska-Susitna Borough
350 East Dahlia Avenue
Palmer, AK 99645-6411

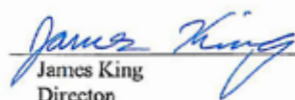
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The completion of the South Denali Visitor Center Interpretive Master Plan marks one more milestone in a long process that started over 40 years ago when a vision to create a visitor center in the area was first proposed. A new visitor center in Denali State Park on Curry Ridge has the potential to allow both residents and visitors to have a "Denali experience" that would not otherwise be possible with existing facilities.

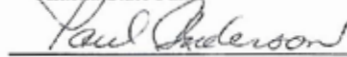
This plan is an exciting step in ensuring that the project is completed with the utmost consideration to providing quality opportunities for people to view Mt. McKinley and the spectacular subalpine around lake 1787. The plan recommends ways to minimize adverse affects on the natural resources as well as reducing visual impacts of the built environment. The research and thought that has been put into the location of the visitor center, road alignment, transportation, parking, trails, interpretive displays, building style and other details will help guide the development of a world class facility that will be enjoyed by millions of people.

In planning for additional recreational opportunities in the South Denali region the planners for this project conducted a thorough outreach with multiple public meetings, a discussion forum on their web page, and an open willingness to accept telephone and email comments, all in an effort to capture participant's comments for inclusion. We are pleased with the scope and quality of their work and believe that the resulting South Denali Visitor Center Interpretive Master Plan is an excellent document that will guide the development of the South Denali Visitor Center Complex. We extend a hearty thank you to everyone one who has participated in the process and encouraged this great project.



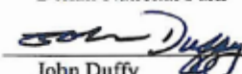
James King
Director
Alaska State Parks

Date: July 30, 2009



Paul Anderson
Superintendent
Denali National Park

Date: July 30, 2009



John Duffy
Borough Manager
Matanuska Susitna Borough

Date: July 31, 2009

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Tundra plants on the higher elevations of Curry Ridge. November, 2007



Lesser Yellowlegs on Curry Ridge. June, 2008



Alpine Azalea on Curry Ridge. June, 2008

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Narcissus-Flowered Anemone and spider on Curry Ridge. June, 2008



Frigid Arnica on Curry Ridge. June, 2008

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