



# Ugashik Narrows Project

Contacting visitors to gauge  
the quality of their experience  
and their impact on the  
fishery.



# The role of Friends:

- Provide a questionnaire that targets important topics.
- Support two volunteers.
- Publicize results.



# Step 1: What information do we want to collect?

- Talk with staff and others to find out what concerns exist.
- Find legal surveys we can use to gather information to help Refuge managers make decisions.

# Alaska Peninsula National Wildlife Refuge and Friends of Alaska National Wildlife Refuges



## Visitor Use Survey: a standard approved form, legally adjusted.



### National Wildlife Refuge Visitor Survey

**PAPERWORK REDUCTION ACT STATEMENT:** The Paperwork Reduction Act requires us to tell you why we are collecting this information, how we will use it, and whether or not you have to respond. The information that we collect in this survey will help us understand visitor satisfaction with and use of National Wildlife Refuges and to make sound management and policy decisions. Your response is voluntary. An agency may not conduct or sponsor and you are not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB Control Number. We estimate it will take an average of 15 minutes to complete this survey. You may send comments concerning the burden estimate or any aspect of the survey to the Information Collection Clearance Officer, Fish and Wildlife Service, 4401 North Fairfax Drive, MS 222-ARLSQ, Arlington, VA 22203. This survey form was created using questions contained in the USFWS visitor satisfaction survey titled "National Wildlife Refuge Visitor Survey." These questions and many other approved questions can be found in the complete survey OMB CONTROL #1018-0145 EXPIRATION DATE 6/30/2013.



**U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
National Wildlife Refuge System  
Fishing Report**

OMB Control Number  
1018-0140  
Expires 4/30/2015

Name of Refuge: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Fishing area (description): \_\_\_\_\_  
 Angler name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 City, State, ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Date of fishing: \_\_\_\_\_ Time: From: \_\_\_\_\_ am/pm To: \_\_\_\_\_ am/pm  
 Total hours fished: \_\_\_\_\_ Number in party: 1 2 3 4 5 Other: \_\_\_\_\_

	Freshwater Fish					Other (Specify)	Saltwater Fish		Other (Specify)
	Grayling	Dolly Varden	Rainbow	Pike	Other (Specify)		Salmon	Other (Specify)	
Number caught									
Number released									

**Friends of Alaska National Wildlife Refuges**

*The Friends of Alaska National Wildlife Refuges promote the conservation of all Alaska National Wildlife Refuges through understanding and appreciation, assisting the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and through outreach to decision makers.*

**Fishing Report, Ugashik Narrows, Alaska Peninsula National Wildlife Refuge**

**Purpose:** We are gathering data to help measure the health of the local fishery.



Date of fishing: \_\_\_\_\_ Time: From: \_\_\_\_\_ am/pm To: \_\_\_\_\_ am/pm  
 Total hours fished: \_\_\_\_\_ Number in party: 1 2 3 4 5 Other: \_\_\_\_\_

	Freshwater Fish				Other (Specify)	Saltwater Fish			Other (Specify)
	Grayling	Dolly Varden	Arctic Char	Other (Specify)		Silver (Coho)	Sockeye (Red)	Pink Salmon	
Number caught									
Number released									

Tackle:

- Single hook     Barbed hook     Fly rod  
 Treble hook     Barbless hook     Spinning rod

Changes  
needed to  
the USFWS  
form



Legal form  
created  
through  
Friends





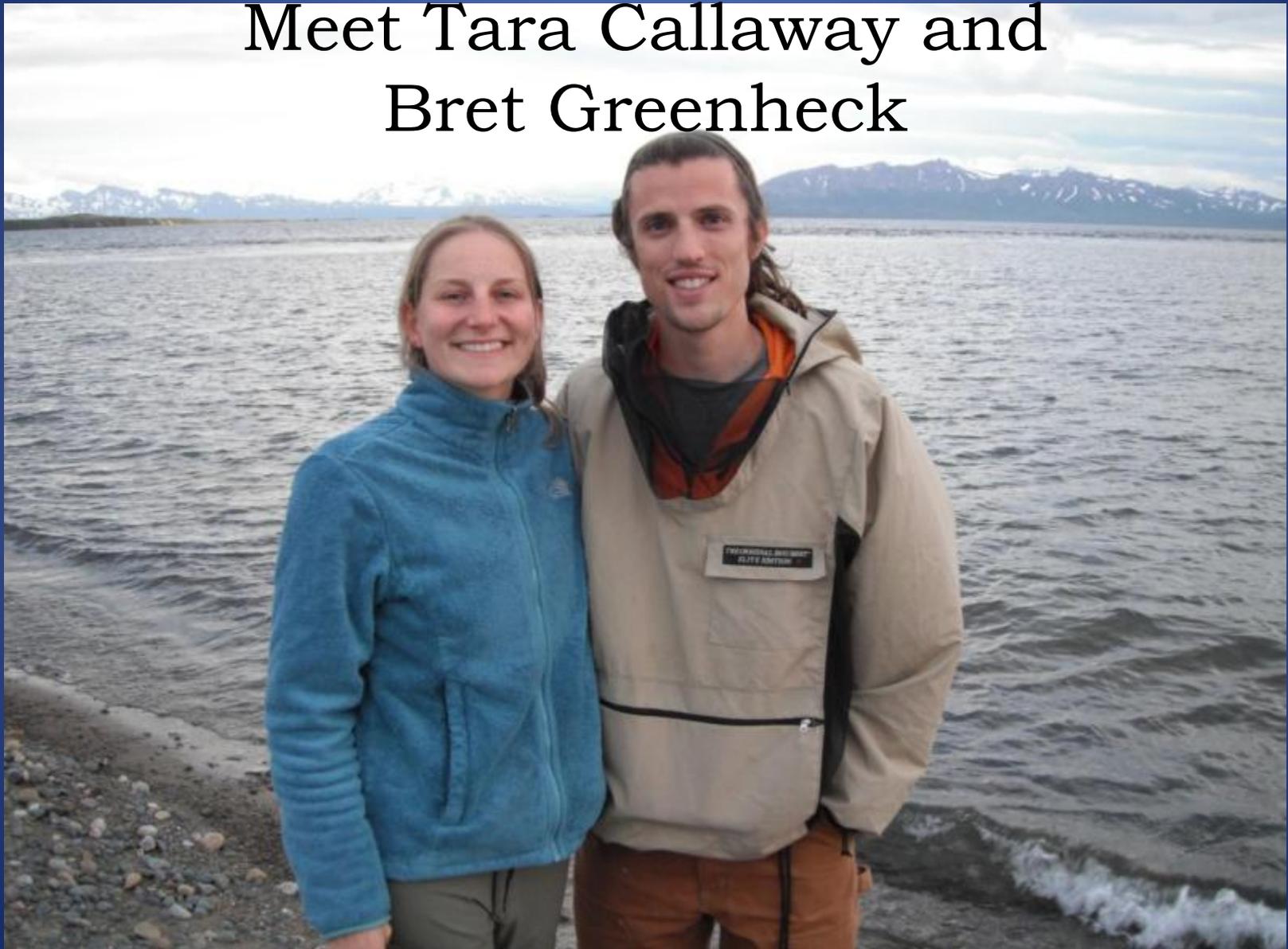
## Step 2: Recruit volunteers

- At least 2 volunteers needed.
- Must be willing to be in field for extended period of time.
- Need good communication and camping skills.

**Alaska Peninsula National Wildlife Refuge and  
Friends of Alaska National Wildlife Refuges**



**Meet Tara Callaway and  
Bret Greenheck**



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## Step 3: Getting ready

- Training
- Purchasing food
- Assembling gear



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## Step 4: Into the field!



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## Setting up camp



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## Making contacts



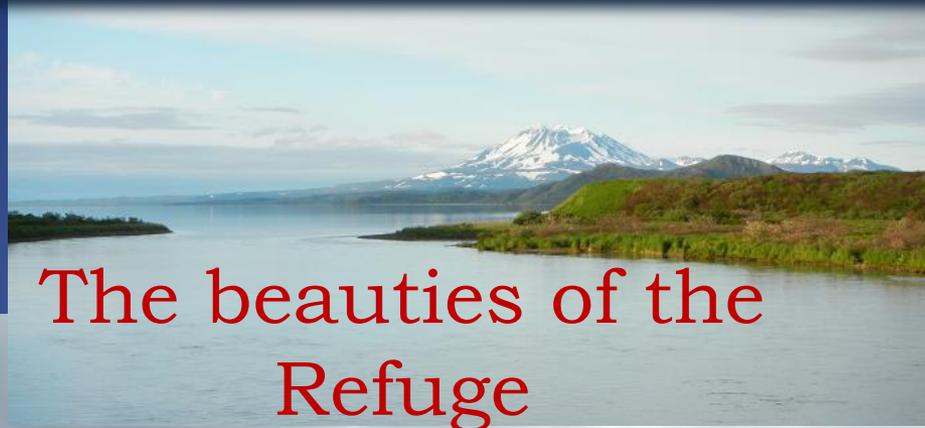
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## Additional duties



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The beauties of the  
Refuge



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## Wildlife



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## Survey results

Table 1. Comparison of angler hours, catch and harvest

Survey Year	Survey Time Period	Total Anglers	Total Angler Hours	Fish Catch	Fish Harvest
1988	15 June-22 Sept.	279	1,063.00	2,226	423
1998	20 June-14 Sept.	348	1,340.38	2,184	67
2012	13 July-28 Sept.	290	1,693.50	4,664	94

Comparing 1988 to 2012, there was a 4% increase in total anglers interviewed. There was a 59.3% increase in total angler hours, resulting in a 109.5% increase in the number of fish caught. The harvest of fish decreased 77.8%. Comparing 1998 to 2012, there was a 16.7% decrease in total anglers interviewed but an increase in total angler hours (26.3%) and fish caught (113.6%). There was a 40.3% decrease in fish harvested.

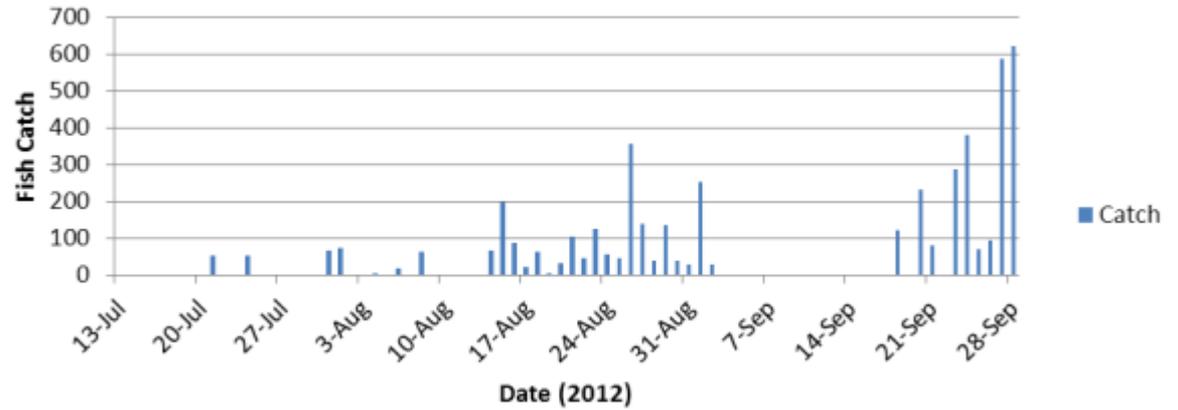
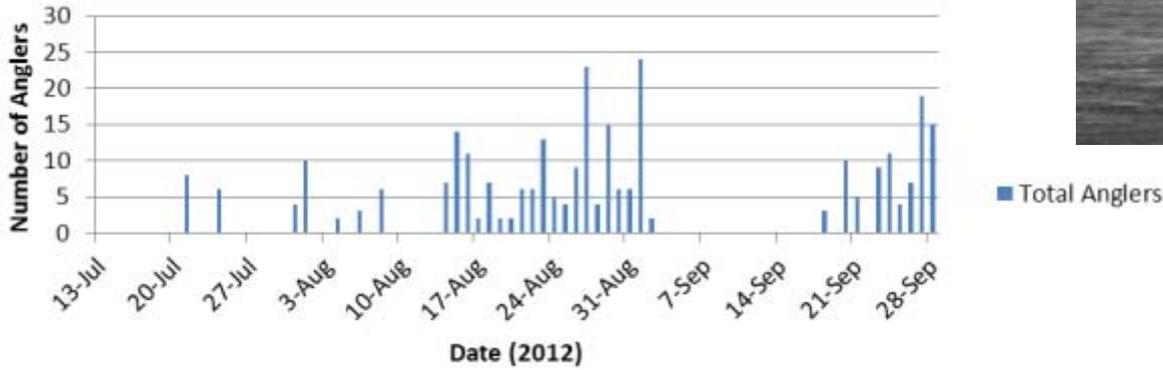
Table 2. Comparison of fish species caught

Survey Year	Grayling	DV/AC	Lake Trout	Silver Salmon (Coho)	Sockeye Salmon (Red)
1988	203	1,360	22	349	292
1998	991	878	24	177	100
2012	187	4,002	19	288	136

\*DV/AC refers to Dolly Varden and Arctic Char as prior reports combined these two species due to common improper identification by anglers and guides.

In 1988, 61.1% of the fish caught were DV/AC as compared to 40.2% in 1998 and 83.5% in 2012. The percentage of Arctic grayling caught has decreased from 45.5% in 1998 to 4.0% in 2012.

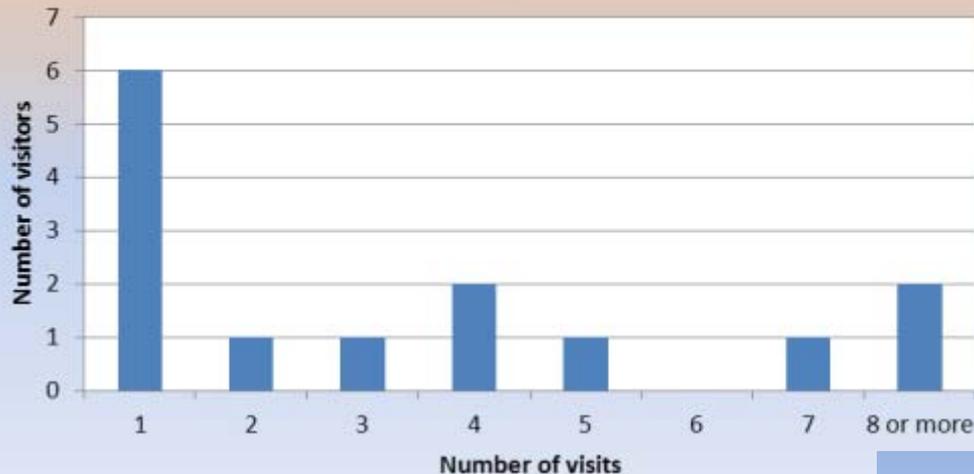
# Alaska Peninsula National Wildlife Refuge and Friends of Alaska National Wildlife Refuges



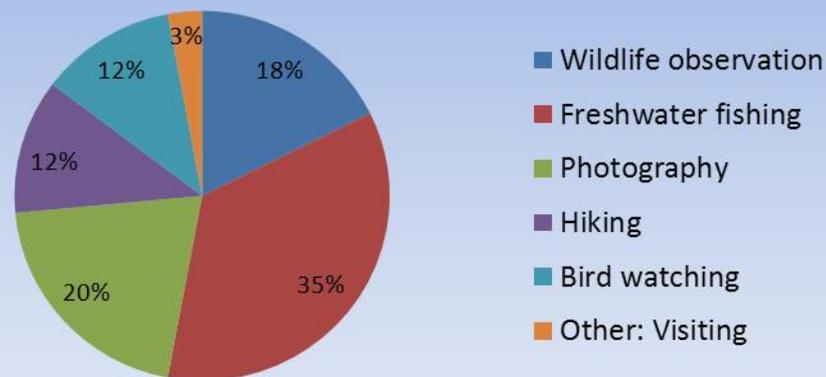
# Alaska Peninsula National Wildlife Refuge and Friends of Alaska National Wildlife Refuges



## How many times have you visited this Refuge?



## Why did you visit this Refuge?



# Alaska Peninsula National Wildlife Refuge and Friends of Alaska National Wildlife Refuges



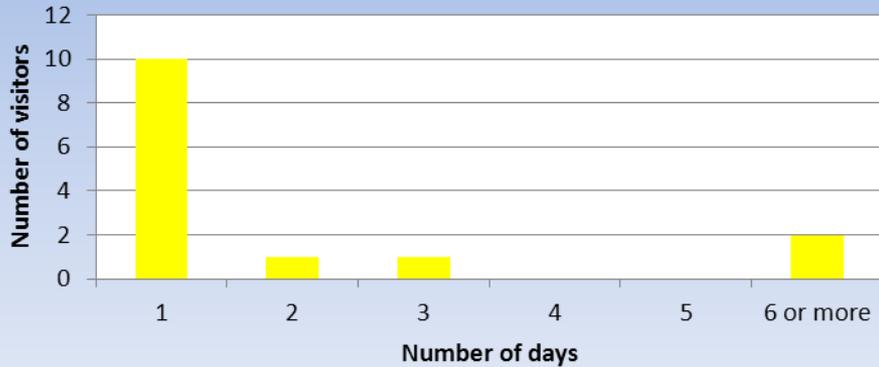
Angling: the chief  
reason for people  
to visit



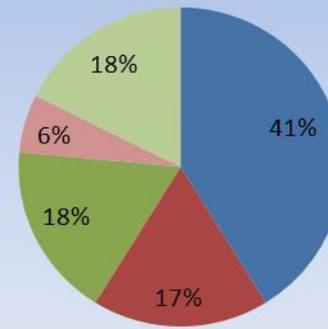
# Alaska Peninsula National Wildlife Refuge and Friends of Alaska National Wildlife Refuges



## How many days are you spending at this Refuge on your visit?

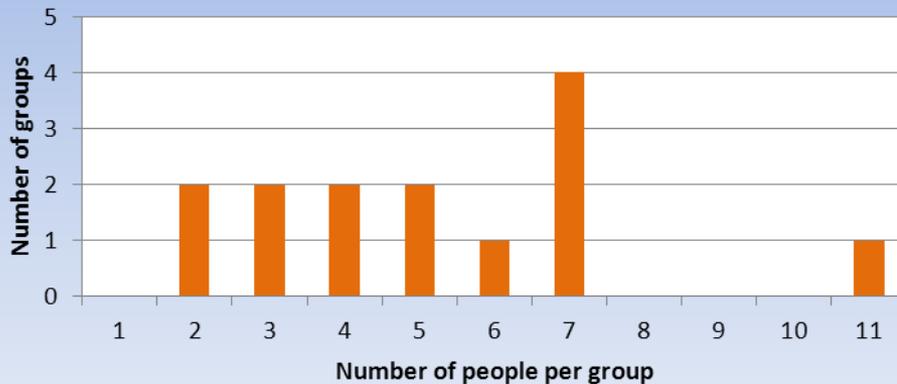


## How did you first learn or hear about this Refuge?



- Friends or relatives
- Recreation club or organization
- People in the local community
- Refuge printed information
- Refuge website
- Other website
- Television or radio
- Newspaper or magazine
- Other (fishing community x2, lodge owners)

## How many people are in your group, including yourself?



# Alaska Peninsula National Wildlife Refuge and Friends of Alaska National Wildlife Refuges



## Your experience at this Refuge

Overall, I am satisfied with the recreational activities and opportunities provided by this Refuge.	4.77
Overall, I am satisfied with the information and education provided by this Refuge about its resources.	4.36
Overall, I am satisfied with the services provided by employees or volunteers at this Refuge.	4.62
This Refuge does a good job conserving fish, wildlife, and their habitats.	4.38

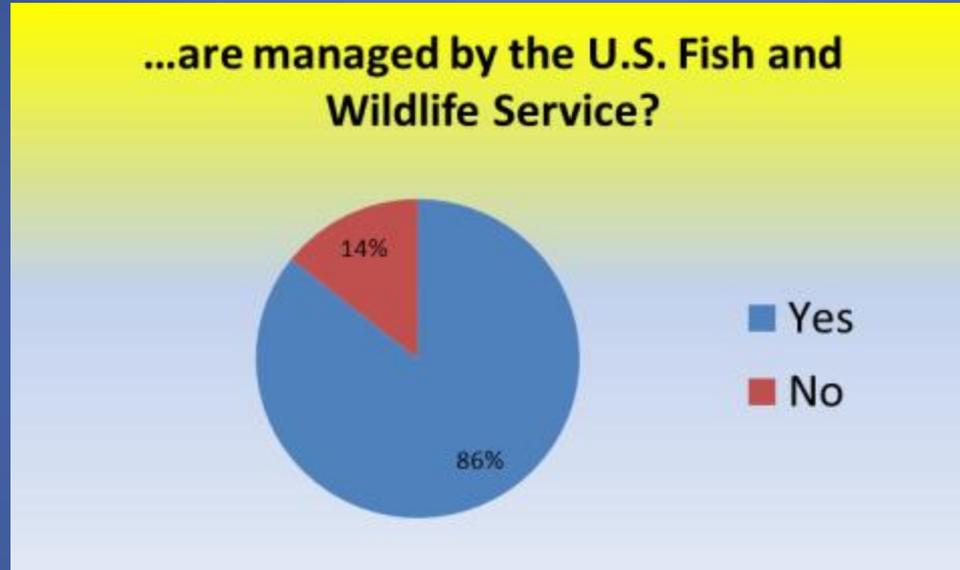


Refuge Services, Facilities, and Activities		
Importance		Satisfaction
3.31	Availability of employees or volunteers	4.92
4.14	Courteous and welcoming employees or volunteers	4.7
3.93	Knowledgeable employees or volunteers	4.46
3.69	Printed information about this Refuge and its resources	4
3.46	Visitor Center	4.2
3.75	Well-maintained restrooms	3.67
3.67	Bird-watching opportunities	3.5
3.92	Opportunities to observe wildlife other than birds	4.11
3.77	Opportunities to photograph wildlife and scenery	4.38
2.62	Hunting opportunities	3.5
4.71	Fishing opportunities	5
3.07	Hiking opportunities	3.33
2.83	Opportunities for canoeing or kayaking	3.67
3.17	Volunteer opportunities	3.89

# Alaska Peninsula National Wildlife Refuge and Friends of Alaska National Wildlife Refuges



Before you were contacted to participate in this survey, were you aware that National Wildlife Refuges:





# What happens next?

- Share results of surveys. Especially share results with local guide and transport companies.
- Look for management options the Refuge has available, and plan.
- Work with Alaska Department of Fish and Game if fishing regulations need to be changed.



# Thank you, Friends!

- Your support in creating a creel survey was essential.
- Your support for Tara and Bret was important.
- Your ongoing support of Refuge projects has real impact!



Please contact:

Visitor Services Manager Julia Pinnix  
with questions and suggestions:

(907) 246-1211

[Julia\\_Pinnix@fws.gov](mailto:Julia_Pinnix@fws.gov)