

Alaska

The 1986 Alaska Interagency Moose Workshop, hosted by NPS this year, was held in Anchorage March 6. Approximately 60 participants discussed topics on habitat relationships, behavior, immobilization, predator-prey relationships, and harvest management. The workshop was followed by the Alaska Chapter of The Wildlife Society's annual meeting which focused on predator management issues in Alaska. Layne Adams, Gary Vequist and Al Lovaas of NPS spoke at the meetings.

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Dr. L. David Mech, USFWS Wildlife Research Biologist and world renowned wolf expert, is working

through the USFWS-NPS Master Memorandum of Understanding in cooperation with the natural resource management staff at Denali National Park and Preserve to study the distribution, demography, and prey relationships of wolves in the park. The project, which includes radiocollaring and intensive monitoring of wolves in the park, was initiated in February 1986 and is expected to continue through 1988.

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The NPS is proposing to dismantle a fish ladder located on the Brooks River in Katmai NP and to restore the river bank to a natural condition. The Alaska Department of Fish and Game is strongly opposed to the proposal. The ladder was constructed at Brooks Falls in 1949-1950 by the Bureau of Commercial Fisheries to assist the natural passage of sockeye salmon over the falls. Presence of the ladder is of course contrary to present NPS management policy. Genetics research and salmon escapement counts suggest the ladder has been ineffective anyway. Kathy Joep of Katmai has recently completed writing an EA on the subject.