NRM 365 – Principles of Outdoor Recreation Management, fall 2018 
 
Instructor: Dr. Peter J. Fix 
Time: 5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. M&W; Location: 305 O’Neill, in person lecture 
Office: 323 O’Neill; Office hours: 3:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. M & W., or by appt. 
Telephone: 474-6926 
E-mail: pjfix@alaska.edu 
 
Catalog Description 
Theories, practices, economics and problems fundamental to the use of land and related natural resources for 
recreation. The course focuses on human dimension related issues faced by recreation managers and research 
to address those issues. 
 
Course Goals and Objectives 
The goal of this course is to have students become familiar with the concepts that form the contemporary 
foundation of outdoor recreation management. To achieve this goal, the course is divided into four sections. 
The first section provides a broad overview, the second section discusses fundamentals of management, the 
third section focuses on recreation management frameworks and case studies, and the final section will 
discuss recent trends of focusing on the “bigger picture.” 
 
Student Learning Outcomes 
Upon successful completion of this course, the students will be able to: 


2 
Quizzes: Short quizzes covering material in the course readings will occur during class periods. These quizzes 
will not be announced ahead of time. 
 
Exams: Three exams will be given. The first two exams will have an in-class portion and a take-home portion. 
The third exam will be a take home exam due during the final exam period. 
 
Class Participation 
It is expected that students not only attend class, but show up prepared and ready to participate in 
discussions. 
 
 
Grading 
The final grade will be based on a combination of the exams, assignments, and quizzes.

3 
Also, please read following document that explains how to properly cite sources: http://library.uaf.edu/ls101-
citing. Plagiarism is a major ethical violation and is grounds for course failure. 
 
Disability Services 
If you have a disability that you believe will affect your performance in this course, please speak with me 
directly AND contact the Disability Services in 208 Whitaker Building, uaf-disability-services@alaska.edu, 
phone 474-5655. Every effort will be made to accommodate you in accordance with the Americans with 
Disabilities Act. Further information is available at their website at http://www.uaf.edu/disability/. 
 
Writing Center 
The writing center in 801 Gruening Building can assist with your writing skills. 
 
Student protections and services statement 
Every qualified student is welcome in my classroom. As needed, I am happy to work with you, disability 
services, veterans' services, rural student services, etc to find reasonable accommodations. Students at this 
university are protected against sexual harassment and discrimination (Title IX), and minors have additional 
protections. As required, if I notice or am informed of certain types of misconduct, then I am required to 
report it to the appropriate authorities. For more information on your rights as a student and the resources 
available to you to resolve problems, please go the following site: www.uaf.edu/handbook/ 
 
UA is an AA/EO employer and educational institution and prohibits illegal discrimination against any individual: 
alaska.edu/nondiscrimination. 
 
The tentative course schedule appe4legalpule

4 
Sept. 12 History of the recreation management field: part II current state 
 Exploration of issues: Grand Staircase of Escalante National Monument and Bears Ears, Sage Grouse, 
Malheur National Wildlife Refuge occupation, Recaptures canyon, etc. 
 Reading list (material for your assignment): could watch entire no man’s land video (available on 
Amazon Prime), Wiles, T. (2018) After Malheur, side effects of the Bundys’ extremism linger, High 
Country News, June 14, 2018; Petrzelka, P. & Marquart-Pyatt, S. (2015). Perceptions of power and 
manner of designation: impact on trust. Society & Natural Resources, 28: 1261-1277, Gelles, D. (2018). 
Patagonai v. Trump. New York Times, May 5, 2018, 
http://www.wbur.org/hereandnow/2017/12/05/trump-national-monuments-utah-official (pro 
shrinking); Segerstrom. C. (2018). Sage grouse shake-up alienates conservationists. High Country 
News, May 24, 2018; Maffly, B. (2018). Utah public-lands bill that would protect 1 million acres, 
establish a Jurassic National Monument is drawing fire from conservation groups. Salt Lake City 
Tribune, May 11, 2018); Davidson, L. (2017). Appeals court upholds conviction of San Juan 
Commissioner Phil Lyman for leading protest ATV ride, Salt Lake City Tribune, October 24, 2017, (video 
from those on the protest ride) https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=d-8TOaXYg4I. 
Assignment due: What era are we currently in? How do current events relate to the future of outdoor 
recreation management? 2 – 3 pages. Weighted 2x. Papers will be discussed in class on this day. 
Sept. 17 Outdoor recreation resources: public sector providers

5 
Assignment due: What do you see as the future of outdoor recreation? Increasing/visitation, diversity, impacts 
of climate change. (Approx. 1 page.) 
 
SECTION 2: MANAGEMENT BASICS 
Sept. 26 Gathering data 
 Chapter 15 
 Use estimates utilized by federal agencies 
Oct. 1 Denali National Park Visitor Use Estimation case study 
 Handouts 
Assignment due: Develop a study plan to estimate visitation in Denali National Park and Preserve. Where 
would you sample, what questions would you ask, what would you want to know to determine how many days 
to sample. Could be up to 2 pages, maybe more depending on maps included. 
Oct. 3 Exam 1 
Oct. 8 Policy development and management; planning and science-based management 
Guest speaker: Michelle Ethun, Supervisory Outdoor Recreation Planner, Bureau of Land 
Management, Eastern Interior Field Office 
 Ch 11 
Oct. 10 Negative impacts of recreation use 
Guest speaker Brooks Ludwig, Superintendent, Northern Region, Alaska State Parks 
 Chapter 14 through pg. 216 (up to “Systems for Managing Negative Recreation Impacts”) 
 
 
 
 
 
 
 
 
Oct. 15 Negative impacts of recreation use - conflict 
 Review chapter 14 through pg. 216 (up to “Systems for Managing Negative Recreation Impacts”). 
 Vaske, J. J., Needham, M. D. & Cline jr. R.C. (2007). Clarifying the interpersonal and social values 
conflict among recreationists. Journal of Leisure Research, 39(1), 182-195. 
 Gibson, M. J. & Fix, P. J. (2014) Further clarification of interpersonal conflict versus social values 
conflict: insights from motorized and non-motorized recreational users. Journal of Outdoor Recreation 
and Tourism, 7-8, 1-7. 
Assignment due: Find an example of conflict in AK. Describe the situation and assess whether the frameworks 
apply. (Approx. 1 page.) 
Oct. 17 Influencing and managing visitor behavior 
 Chapter 16 
Oct. 22 Case study of influencing and managing visitor behavior 
Oct. 24 Economics of outdoor recreation: economic impact and benefits 
 Chapter 19, up to “Recreation Entrance and Use Fees” 
 McDowell Group (2010). Economic Impact of Alaska’s Visitor Industry. Report for the State of Alaska, 
Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development, Office of Economic 
Development. 
Assignment due: Results of managing visitor behavior exercise. 
Oct. 29 Recreation user fees 
 Chapter 19, pgs 293-300

6 
 Zaffos, J. (2017). RV industry lobbies to privatize services on public lands. High Country News, September 
29, 2017. 
 Langlois, K. (2017). The price of a National Park fee hike. High Country News, December 14, 2017. 
 Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act available online and on blackboard: 
https://www.law.cornell.edu/uscode/text/16/chapter-87 ; look at 
http://www.fs.fed.us/passespermits/about-rec-fees.shtml ; http://www.westernslopenofee.org/ 
Assignment due: Take a position regarding user fee policy. (Approx. 1 page.) 
 
SECTION 3: OUTDOOR RECREATION MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORKS 
Oct. 31 The Recreation Opportunity Spectrum – Experienced Based Management 
 Ch 12 
 United States Forest Service. ROS users guide. United States Department of Agriculture. 
 In class exercise 
Nov. 5 VERP (and LAC) – a normative approach 
 Ch 14 pg 216 to end 
 Manning (2011). Ch. 6. Indicators and standards of quality: A normative approach. Pgs. 137-150. 
Case study of VERP in Denali National Park Backcountry 
 National Park Service. (2005). Denali National Park and Preserve Backcountry Management Plan. 
Summary. Denali National Park, US Department of the Interior. Denali Park, AK. Skim plan, read Pgs. 
29-43. 
 Park Studies Laboratory, University of Vermont (draft 2009 report). Indicators and standards of quality 
for the visitor experience on the Denali Park Road. Skim report, read Ch. 1 and pgs. 51-71. 
Assignment due: Find an example of the application of ROS, describe how it has been applied. Are there any 
additional recommendations you would make? Explain why or why not. (Approx. 1 page.) 
Nov. 7 Case study of VERP in Denali National Park Backcountry (continued) 
 Fix, P. J. & Hatcher, H. (2011). Monitoring indicators of the visitor experience and resource conditions 
in the Denali backcountry: Summer 2010. Natural Resource Technical Report NPS/DENA/NRTS-2011480. National Park Service, Fort Collins, Colorado. Skim report. 
Assignment due: Construction of norm curves. 
Nov. 12 Beneficial Outcomes Approach to Leisure/Outcomes Focused Management 
 Chapter 13 
 Appendix A 
 Planning for Recreation and Visitor Services. BLM Manual H-8320-I 
 
Section 4: THE BIGGER PICTURE 
Nov. 14 Public Lands Recreation Research Partnership 
 Case study TBD 
Assignment due: Indicators and standards. 
T./ 39.o n19
Nov. 19
 4(g )e
W* n.47 39.Tf
,/F2 n
1 0 0 1 1 /P lD 33>s!Ne0 0 1 10ue
 Exam
98.184 : T./ 39.o19 
e
-e

7 
 Miller A. (2018). Sustainable recreation research workshop: compiled notes (Golden Colorado, April 3 
– 5, 2018. Pages TBA. 
 Selin, S. (ed) (2018). Re-imagining sustainable recreation research. A series of working papers 
compiled for the Sustainable Recreation Research Workshop in Golden, Colorado, April 2 – 6, 2018. 
Pages TBA. 
Assignment due: