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New Report Puts Numbers on Outdoor Recreation Spending and Jobs in Alaska

March 6, 2019 ANCHORAGE, AK—The University of Alaska Center for Economic Development has completed a new report, funded in part by the Alaska Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development. The study focuses on the impacts of outdoor recreation as economic development in Alaska, and provides new numbers to quantify the industry's contribution to the state's economy.

"Alaskans have one of the highest rates of outdoor participation in the nation," said Nolan Klouda, executive director for the Center for Economic Development. "Outdoor amenities are part of the quality of life that attracts people and businesses to our state."

Alaskan visitors and residents spend 10 million participation-days each year engaged in an outdoor recreation activity. Sixty-one percent of visitors to Alaska participate in at least one outdoor recreation related activity during their stay. Participants spend \$3.2 billion on outdoor recreation trips annually in Alaska. About one in ten jobs is tied to outdoor recreation spending. Hunting alone supports 1,475 jobs, \$54 million in wages, and generates \$131 million in business revenue.

See the full report for the economic impacts of outdoor recreation by twelve specific activities types at bit.ly/AKOutdoorRec.

About the University of Alaska Center for Economic Development (CED)

CED is a university-based partnership promoting economic diversity through entrepreneurship, community building, and action oriented strategy. CED is one of 52 University Centers designated by the U.S. Economic Development Administration and is a program of the UAA Business Enterprise Institute.

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