

# Speakers' Biographies



## Speakers' Biographies

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### LYUDMILA IVANOVNA AINANA

Chairwoman, Yupik Eskimo Society of Chukotka, Provideniya, Chukotka

Lyudmila Ainana was born in 1934 in the small settlement of Ukigyagak, located at the southern end of Unazik (Chaplino) Spit. Ainana graduated from Gertzen Leningrad Pedagogical Institute with a degree in elementary education (Russian and Eskimo languages) and taught in many elementary schools of Chukotka Autonomous Region. She has also worked as a research scientist in the Institute of Native Education Issues. Ainana is one of the co-authors of the Eskimo language program for the elementary school and textbooks *Yupigyt Ulyunat*, *Ankhak*, picture dictionary of Eskimo language and language study program for the Native pre-school and kindergarten. She also served as a translator of several fiction books into the Eskimo language. Ainana was one of the cofounders of the Yupik Eskimo Society and is the society's chairwoman. Since 1992 the Yupik Eskimo Society has been a member of the Inuit Circumpolar Conference (ICC) and took part in its general assemblies. The Society works toward the preservation of marine mammal hunting culture and Eskimo language. It participated in numerous projects with the Native organizations in Alaska and was a collaborator on several projects cofounded by the National Park Service's Shared Beringian Heritage Program.

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### ARTUR APALU

Observer, SIKU – Sea Ice Knowledge and Use Project, Yanrakynnot, Chukotka

Artur Apalu lives in the community of Yanrakynnot in Chukotka and works as a ranger in the Russian 'Beringia' Park. He is a life-long subsistence hunter and the head of the local marine mammal hunting association in his native community. Within the 'Beringia Park,' he is responsible for a large stretch of coast from the Senyavin Strait and up to Mechigmen Bay, including a significant inland area. He participated as an observer in several international programs in bowhead whale and Pacific walrus monitoring in the 1990s and 2000s and in the SIKU project in 2007-2009.

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### PAUL APANGALOOK

Yupik Subsistence Hunter, Gambell (Sivuqaq), St. Lawrence Island, Alaska

Paul Apangalook is a life-long subsistence hunter from the Yupik community of Gambell (Sivuqaq) on St. Lawrence Island, Alaska. In 2008–2011 he conducted daily observations of local weather and sea ice conditions under the international SIKU (Sea Ice Knowledge and Use) project. He is a great enthusiast for supporting traditional cultural heritage and indigenous languages. He previously served as mayor of Gambell, head of the local village corporation and of the Gambell IRA Council.

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### RICHARD ATORUK

Inupiaq Dancer and Videographer, Kotzebue, Alaska

Richard Atoruk is a 20 year-old Inupiaq, performing with the Northern Lights Dancers of Kotzebue since he was nine. He has been instrumental in the revitalization of dance in Noorvik and Kivalina. Atoruk moved behind the camera in 2009 for The Lost Dances and other video projects.

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### ALEXANDER BOROVIK

Observer, SIKU – Sea Ice Knowledge and Use Project, New Chaplino, Chukotka

Alexander Borovik lives in the Yupik community of New Chaplino in Chukotka, Russia and works as senior ranger for a large section of the Russian 'Beringia' Park, from Arakamchechen Island up to Imtuk Lake. He is widely respected for his knowledge of the local flora and fauna, as well as traditional subsistence practices of Chukotka indigenous people. He participated in several earlier international studies of Eastern Chukotka, including the international project SIKU.

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### ARON L. CROWELL

Alaska Director, Arctic Studies Center, Smithsonian Institution, Anchorage, Alaska

Aron Crowell is an anthropologist who works with indigenous communities of the north in the field of cultural research, archaeology, oral history and heritage. As Alaska Director for the Smithsonian Institution's Arctic Studies Center, he has curated or co-led major exhibitions, including *Living Our Cultures, Sharing Our Heritage: The First Peoples of Alaska*; *Gifts of the Ancestors: Ancient Ivories of Bering Strait*; *Looking Both Ways: Heritage and Identity of the Alutiiq People*; and *Crossroads of Continents: Cultures of Siberia and Alaska*. His many research articles and books include *Archaeology and the Capitalist World System: A Study from Russian America*. Crowell's Doctorate in Anthropology is from the University of California, Berkeley, and his Master of Arts degree is from George Washington University in Washington, D.C. He is an affiliate faculty member of the University of Alaska.

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### FRANK FERGUSON

Inupiaq Dancer and Videographer, Kotzebue, Alaska

Frank Ferguson is a 20-year-old Inupiaq who has been with *The Lost Dances* project since its inception. Ferguson has performed traditional dance, and his talent creating music was incorporated into the production: his beats are included in *The Lost Dances*.

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### YURIY VALENTINOVICH GERASIN

Consul General of the Russian Federation, Seattle, Washington

Yuriy Gerasin is Consul General of the Russian Federation in Seattle, Washington, a post to which he was appointed in 2008. He carries the first rank of a diplomatic advisor. Gerasin began his work at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in 1978 and has worked in various diplomatic positions at the ministry's central office and abroad. He also has served in various detail assignments in Romania and the United States. Prior to his present position, Gerasin was the Head of the Personnel Department at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Gerasin is a graduate of the Moscow State Institute of International Relations and the Diplomatic Academy. He is fluent in English, Romanian and French.

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### TED GOEBEL

Professor of Anthropology, Center for the Study of the First Americans, Department of Anthropology, Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi, Texas

Ted Goebel is a professor of Anthropology at Texas A&M University. He earned his Ph.D. in Anthropology at University of Alaska Fairbanks in 1993, and since then has conducted archaeological research in Siberia, Alaska and western United States. Goebel's research focuses on the Ice Age peopling of the Americas. In 2000 he led excavations at the famous Ushki Paleolithic site in Kamchatka and for the past decade has investigated Bonneville Estates Rockshelter, Nevada, where his team has unearthed evidence of Paleo-Indian hunter-gatherers dating to as early as 13,000 years ago. Most recently Goebel has been conducting field research in Alaska, focusing on Ice Age archaeology on the Seward Peninsula as well as the Interior.

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### VICTORIA GOLBTSEVA

Senior Specialist, Laboratory of Multi Discipline Studies of Chukotka (Chukotka Center), Northeastern Institute of Multi Discipline Studies, Far Eastern Branch of the Russian Academy of Sciences, Anadyr, Chukotka

Victoria Golbtseva works at the Department (Laboratory) of Complex Studies of Chukotka, of the Research Center "Chukotka" in Anadyr, Russia. Originally, from the Chukchi community of Uelen on the Arctic coast, she started her career teaching her Native Chukchi language at the local high school. She currently works on the documentation of traditional ecological knowledge and subsistence practices of Chukotka indigenous people. She is active in the local grassroots movement in Chukotka aimed at supporting Native languages and cultural heritage.

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### BIVERS GOLOGERGEN

Subsistence Hunter/User, Member of Eskimo Walrus Commission, Nome, Alaska

Bivers Gologergen was born in Savoonga on St. Lawrence Island and was raised in Nome. He actively hunted for whales and walrus in Savoonga for many years. Since his move to Nome with his family seven years ago, he continues his subsistence way of life. Gologergen works for the Nome Eskimo Community and represents Nome subsistence hunters on the Eskimo Walrus Commission.

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### WILLIE GOODWIN

Subsistence Coordinator and Community Liaison, Western Arctic Parklands, National Park Service, Kotzebue, Alaska

Willie Goodwin began working for the Western Arctic National Parklands (WEAR) as Special Assistant to then Superintendent Dave Spirtes. Presently, he is the Native Liaison and Subsistence Coordinator for WEAR. In this capacity, he works with all the tribes and organizations that use the parks within WEAR (Kobuk Valley National Park, Noatak National Preserve, Bering Land Bridge National Preserve and Cape Krusenstern National Monument).

Prior to his work with the National Park Service, Goodwin was Land Director for NANA Regional Corporation and the Kikiktagruk Inupiat Corporation.

Goodwin has been involved with Native Village of Kotzebue's bearded seal satellite tagging project for the last seven years.

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### SVEN D. HAAKANSON, JR.

Executive Director, Alutiiq Museum, Kodiak, Alaska

Sven Haakanson was born and raised in the rural Kodiak Island community of Old Harbor, Alaska, as a member of the Old Harbor Alutiiq Tribe. He holds a B.A. in English from the University of Alaska Fairbanks and a Ph.D. in anthropology from Harvard University. Since 2000, Haakanson has worked to share Native American perspectives with museums and museum practices with Native people as executive director of the nationally acclaimed Alutiiq Museum, a Native cultural center in Kodiak, Alaska. Haakanson has made collections more accessible to Native communities by researching objects in the world's museums and developing traveling exhibits, educational programs and resources around the information they hold. He is especially known for the Giinaquq: Like a Face project. This award winning collaboration with the Château-Musée of Boulogne-sur-Mer, France, brought 19th century Alutiiq masks to Alaska for exhibit, reuniting the Alutiiq community with rare ancestral ceremonial objects.

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In 2007, his work was honored with a MacArthur Foundation Fellowship. In 2009, he was awarded a four-month sabbatical from Alaska's Rasmuson Foundation to continue his study of Alutiiq collections stored in European museums. Haakanson has extensive teaching experience, working annually with teens throughout the Kodiak archipelago to lead arts workshops and conduct archaeological fieldwork. Additionally, he serves on the boards of directors for many cultural organizations, teaches as an adjunct faculty member at Kodiak College and maintains an active research program. He is systematically documenting Kodiak's prehistoric petroglyphs and continues to publish his research on the Nenets culture of Siberia. In addition, he is an accomplished artist, known for his carvings and photography. Haakanson is married to Kodiak educator Balika Finley Haakanson. They have two daughters.

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### D'ANNE HAMILTON

Executive Producer of *The Lost Dances*, Kotzebue, Alaska

D'Anne Hamilton is a former award-winning Inupiaq journalist. She served as Producer/Host of National Native News and the Training Center Director for Koahnic Broadcast Corporation, which provides media training nationwide. Hamilton is currently creating a media training center in Kotzebue.

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### FRANK HAYS

Superintendent, Western Arctic Parklands, National Park Service, Kotzebue, Alaska

Frank Hays currently serves as the superintendent of the Western Arctic Parklands, headquartered in Kotzebue, Alaska. The Western Arctic Parklands is composed of Bering Land Bridge National Preserve, Kobuk Valley National Park, Cape Krusenstern National Monument and Noatak National Preserve. Together the four units total 11 million acres.

Before coming to Alaska, Hays was the Pacific area director for the National Park Service, overseeing the Pacific West Region's Honolulu office. This office provides technical services and policy oversight for the 11 national park areas

in the Pacific. Before that, he was superintendent of Manzanar National Historic Site in California, where he oversaw operations of that national historic site, which preserves and interprets the cultural and natural resources associated with the internment of Japanese-Americans during World War II.

Hays began his career with the National Park Service in 1980 as a seasonal park ranger at Zion National Park. He received his Bachelor of Science in Renewable Natural Resources degree from the University of Arizona and a master's degree in Public Administration with Honors from Northern Arizona University.

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### NORMAN JAYO

Director/Trainer, *The Lost Dances*, Kotzebue, Alaska

Norman Jayo has trained Native Americans in media for two decades. His dramatic work on virtual reality and the future of technology won two gold medals representing the United States at the Prix Italia in Urbino and Pesaro, Italy.

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### CHARLIE JOHNSON

Executive Director, Alaska Nanuuq Commission, Nome, Alaska

Charlie Johnson is an Inupiat Eskimo who resides in Nome, Alaska. He graduated in 1966 from the University of Oregon, with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Math and Business Administration. He is the executive director for the Alaska Nanuuq Commission (ANC) and represents Alaska villages on a range of matters regarding the polar bear, including conservation, management and research. The ANC produced a three-year report on polar bear habitat use in Chukotka (Russia) based on the traditional knowledge of hunters and elders of that area. Johnson currently holds the Circumpolar Arctic Research seat on the Alaska Native Science Commission. Prior to his position with the Alaska Nanuuq Commission, he served as the executive director for the Eskimo Walrus Commission, representing Alaska Villages on a range of matters concerning walrus conservation, management and research. He holds the distinction of having served as the president of Bering Straits Native Corporation (1983-1988), the president of

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Kawerak, Incorporated (1976-1983), the chairman of the Alaska Federation of Natives (1981-1983) and the vice president of the Inuit Circumpolar Conference. Appointments include U.S. Arctic Research Commission under President George H. Bush; Alaska Science Review Group; National Marine Fisheries Service; U.S. Delegation Arctic Council; and Member, CAFF Working Group International Arctic Social Science Committee.

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### CAROL ZANE JOLLES

Ph.D., Associate Professor of Anthropology, Anthropology Department, University of Washington, Seattle, Washington

Carol Zane Jolles is an Associate Professor in the Anthropology Department at the University of Washington in Seattle, Washington, where she is a member of the department's research faculty.

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### VLADILEN KAVRY

Chukchi Subsistence Hunter, Umky Patrol (Polar Bear Patrol), Vankarem, Chukotka

Vladilen Kavry is a life-long resident of the Russian province of Chukotka. Born in the village of Vankarem in the Iultin District of Chukotka, Kavry now lives in the town of Amguema. Kavry, a hunter, has participated in several seminal projects, documenting traditional knowledge of Chukchi people regarding climate change and polar bears. A former head of the Russian polar bear commission of the Association of Traditional Marine Mammal Hunters of Chukotka, Kavry is now a member of the science advisory committee to the U.S.-Russia Polar Bear Commission. Kavry is one of the founders of the "Umky" (polar bear) patrol, a community-based initiative that involves reducing conflicts between humans and polar bears; conducting observations of polar bears in their spring and fall migrations and protecting walrus and their coastal habitat during their increasing land-based period each fall.

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### IGOR KRUPNIK

Anthropologist, Curator of the Arctic and Northern Ecology Collections, Arctic Studies Center, National Museum of Natural History, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C.

Igor Krupnik is a cultural anthropologist and curator at the National Museum of Natural History, Smithsonian Institution in Washington, D.C. His field of interests includes subsistence, ecological knowledge and cultural heritage of polar indigenous people. He was among the first scientists to turn to indigenous observations and knowledge as a source of records on modern Arctic climate change. He initiated and coordinated the international SIKU project in Alaska and Russia in 2006-2010.

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### GUY MARTIN

Shared Beringian Heritage Program Panel Member, Nome, Alaska

Guy Martin, Nome resident, has worked for many years on Native issues in the Beringia region. He has worked for Kawerak, Incorporated and the Eskimo Walrus Commission on subsistence issues in conjunction with various state and federal agencies. He was a founder of the Alaska Department of Fish and Game Advisory Committees on Subsistence and has worked with the State of Alaska on other issues regarding Native subsistence rights. At the Bering Straits Native Corporation, Martin first served as the village land manager, working with 20 villages on land conveyance in the Bering Strait. He was appointed by the Governor of Alaska as a commissioner on the Local Boundary Commission and was a liaison to the Army Corps of Engineers on land issues. He is the past president of the Arctic Native Brotherhood Trust and the Nome Eskimo Community, both serving the Nome area. He was awarded the David M. Hopkins Award in 2009 by the National Park Service's Shared Beringian Heritage Program for his dedication to the land and people of Beringia and continues to serve as a Beringia Panel member. He currently serves on the board of directors of the Bering Straits Foundation, which awards scholarships to local students.

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### JACOB MARTIN

Senior Student, Nome Beltz High School, Community Activist, Nome, Alaska

Jacob Martin is a senior at Nome Beltz High School. In 2010, he participated in an exchange program organized by the Nome Community Center, in which he traveled to Chukotka, Russia, and enjoyed the great hospitality. In 2011, he attended the Alaska Native Science and Engineering Program where he studied geology and mathematics. Martin grew up interacting with houseguests from Russia, whom he gave local rides and tours around the Nome road system. In his spare time, he loves to spend time in the outdoors.

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### SUE MASICA

Regional Director, Alaska Region, National Park Service, Anchorage, Alaska

Sue Masica became the NPS Regional Director for Alaska in September 2008. In this capacity, she oversees all NPS operations in the state of Alaska, encompassing 16 park units, 2 affiliated areas, 54.7 million acres, 1,000 employees during the summer and a budget of about \$100 million. She also oversees partnership and outreach programs supporting recreation and natural and cultural resource protection.

Prior to coming to Alaska, Masica served as the NPS Associate Director for Administration; Associate Director for Park Planning, Facilities and Lands; and most recently, as the Chief of Staff. In each of these positions, she served as a key advisor to the NPS leadership on matters related to policy, budget, congressional and Department of the Interior relations and personnel. In recognition of her leadership, Masica received the Presidential Rank of Meritorious Executive in 2004.

Prior to joining the National Park Service in 1998, Masica served 10 years on the staff of the United States Senate Committee on Appropriations as staff director of the Subcommittee on the Department of the Interior and Related Agencies, during which time she was actively involved in formulating decisions affecting the NPS budget and policy matters.

Masica began her federal career as a Presidential Management Intern with the Department of the Interior. She earned a Master of Public Affairs degree from the University of Texas (Lyndon B. Johnson School of Public Affairs) and a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science from Austin College.

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### CHANDA MEEK

Assistant Professor, Political Science, University of Alaska Fairbanks

Chanda Meek is an assistant professor of political science at the University of Alaska Fairbanks (UAF). A graduate of UAF's School of Natural Resources & Agricultural Sciences, she was the school's first graduate with a Ph.D. in Natural Resources and Sustainability. She has a strong orientation to science and interdisciplinary work. She also is interested in how policies can help sustain communities and the environment and exploring policy aspects of some of the big emerging challenges in Alaska, such as climate change, marine shipping and endangered species.

Meek's Ph.D. dissertation compared the policy implementation process for managing bowhead whale and polar bear subsistence hunting in Alaska, focusing on how and why agency approaches to conservation differ. She learned that successful research with communities in Alaska depends on creating a social network. Her research often took her to Barrow and Wainwright, where she interviewed whaling captains and polar bear hunters about how they interact with regulatory systems.

Prior to her work at UAF, Meek worked in California as director of a conservation nonprofit organization related to the boreal forest and then as a coastal planner for the California Coastal Commission.

Meek earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Marine Biology at Huxley College of the Environment, Western Washington University, and a Master's of Environmental Studies at York University in Toronto.

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### DENISE L. MICHELS

Mayor, Nome, Alaska

Denise Michels was elected to serve as mayor of the City of Nome, population 3,545, in the October 2003 municipal election. Born and raised in Nome, she is the first Alaska Native to serve in this capacity and the first woman elected to the post. As chief executive officer, she works closely with an appointed city manager, the Nome City Council and other elected and appointed boards and commissions. The mayor is the chief spokesperson for the city, representing community legislative priorities to the Alaska Legislature and the U.S. congressional delegation. She continues to focus on public safety, community, economic and infrastructure development and promotes bringing diverse groups and residents together.

The position of mayor in Nome can be characterized as a “full time job with part-time pay.” Kawerak, Inc., a Native not-for-profit service organization, employs Michels as director of transportation. In this position, she is responsible for overseeing the development and implementation of strategies for transportation and public infrastructure.

As a businesswoman, she and her husband, Terry Michels, have owned and operated several businesses in Nome. A carpenter by trade, Terry Michels has most recently upgraded buildings for rental units.

Michels is an active participant in regional planning activities and currently holds the position of immediate past president for the Alaska Municipal League, past president for the Alaska Conference of Mayors, past co-chair of the Public Works and Infrastructure Committee, as well as other various ad hoc appointments. Michels is a shareholder of Bering Straits Native Corporation, Sitnasuak Native Corporation and is a Nome Eskimo Tribal Member. She strongly believes in giving back to her community and has served on numerous boards. She is a member of the Alaska Airlines Northwest Community Advisory Board, the Resource Development Council and Northern Waters Task Force. She is a

former member of the following: BLM's Resource Advisory Council, Chair of the Governor's Transition Team for the Department of Military and Veterans Affairs, Advisory Committee member of the Alaska Military Force Advocacy and Structure Team, stakeholder for DOTPF's Long Range Transportation Plan 2010 update and member of the Governor's Sub-Cabinet on Climate Change – Adaptation Advisory Work Group-Public Infrastructure.

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### PEGGY O'DELL

Deputy Director for Operations, National Park Service, Washington, D.C.

Peggy O'Dell serves as the National Park Service Deputy Director for Operations. She has a major role in managing the National Park Service's (NPS) annual budget of \$3.1 billion and more than 20,000 employees who serve in 394 national parks and offices around the nation. She oversees every aspect of park operations, including the preservation and protection of 84 million acres, 100 million museum objects, 27,000 historic structures and 85,000 miles of rivers and streams. In addition, she oversees recreation, education and hospitality services for the more than 285 million people who visit national parks every year, generating \$12 billion in local economic impacts. Beyond parks, O'Dell has responsibility for the National Park Service's community-based historic preservation programs from the National Register of Historic Places, to national heritage areas, to a tax credit program that annually leverages more than \$5 billion in private investment to rehabilitate historic buildings for new uses.

O'Dell served as regional director of the NPS National Capital Region the two years prior to her present appointment and before that was superintendent of the National Mall and Memorial Parks in Washington, D.C. She began her 30-year National Park Service career as a seasonal interpreter at Jefferson National Expansion Memorial in St. Louis while attending college at the University of Missouri, where she earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in history. She also managed the interpretation and education programs at Ozark National Scenic Riverways in Missouri, served as superintendent of Jewel Cave National Monument in South Dakota and was deputy manager of the National Park Service's interpretive design center in West Virginia.

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### JEANETTE POMRENKE

Superintendent, Bering Land Bridge National Preserve, National Park Service, Nome, Alaska

Jeanette Pomrenke currently serves as superintendent of the 2.5 million acre Bering Land Bridge National Preserve headquartered in Nome, Alaska. Pomrenke has an extensive background in administration and management. Before her present position, she was the transportation program director of Kawerak, Inc. in Nome and was responsible for the planning, development and implementation of Kawerak's transportation program. Prior to that, she was the planning, development and tribal services director for Nome Eskimo Community.

This is Pomrenke's second tour with the National Park Service (NPS): from 1994 to 1998 she worked as an interpretation ranger at Bering Land Bridge. She is expert in the preserve's natural and cultural history and its current subsistence uses. She won the NPS Freeman Tilden Alaska Area Award for Excellence in Interpretation in 1997.

Pomrenke graduated from Linfield College in McMinnville, Oregon, in 1994. She holds a Bachelor of Science degree in general science. She is lifelong resident of the Bering Strait region; her parents are Joe and Grace Cross. She is a tribal member of Nome Eskimo Community and one of the troop leaders of the Farthest North Girl Scout Troop 156, also based in Nome.

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### MILLE PORSILD

Founder of NOMADS Adventure & Education Inc., GoNorth! Adventure Learning, Minneapolis, Minnesota

Mille Porsild, founder of NOMADS Adventure & Education Inc., PolarHusky.com, and the non-profit organization GoNorth! Adventure Learning, is a pioneer in the field of online education and adventure learning. A strong voice in Arctic education, Porsild has dog-sledded the circumpolar Arctic on 16 extensive expeditions in the past 19 years.

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### PAT POURCHOT

Special Assistant to the Secretary for Alaska Affairs, U.S. Department of the Interior, Anchorage, Alaska

Pat Pourchot was appointed by Secretary of the Interior Ken Salazar as his Special Assistant on Alaska Affairs in 2009. Pourchot spent seven years with the Department of Interior in the 1970s, including working with the Bureau of Land Management on environmental issues surrounding the transport of Alaska oil to U.S. markets. He left the department to work on Capitol Hill, where he helped fashion the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act and worked on oil and gas, mining, forestry and environmental issues.

In 1981, Pourchot was the land manager for the Alaska Federation of Natives and then worked as resource manager for one of the Alaska Native regional corporations. He held leadership positions in both the Alaska House of Representatives and Alaska Senate. Pourchot served under former Governor Tony Knowles as his Legislative Director and then as his Commissioner of the Alaska Department of Natural Resources (DNR). At DNR, he oversaw state oil and gas leasing, large mine developments, state parks and state land and water management. Before being appointed to his current position, he was the senior policy representative for Audubon Alaska.

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### LILY RAY

Social Scientist, Kawerak, Incorporated, Nome, Alaska

Lily Ray is a social scientist for Kawerak, Inc.'s Department of Natural Resources. She currently leads Kawerak's Ice Seal and Walrus project, which documents seal and walrus subsistence use areas and traditional knowledge of these species. Ray has a Ph.D. in Geography from Clark University and participated in the Resilience and Adaptation interdisciplinary graduate program at the University of Alaska Fairbanks. Her previous work includes documentation of wildfire traditional knowledge in Interior Alaska and research on the potential for community involvement in wildfire management.

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### DAN REIFSNYDER

Deputy Assistant Secretary for Environment, U.S. Department of State, Washington, D.C.

Dan Reifsnnyder became deputy assistant secretary for environment in the Bureau of Oceans, Environment and Science on August 20, 2006. He is responsible for a broad suite of issues related to environmental protection and conservation, including transboundary air quality, protection of the stratospheric ozone layer, international chemicals management, the transboundary movement of hazardous wastes, persistent organic pollutants, environmental aspects of free trade agreements, international forestry conservation, biological diversity, desertification, wildlife conservation and the protection of wetlands and coral reefs. In these areas, he leads the U.S. delegation under multiple bilateral and multilateral treaties and agreements.

From 1989 to 2006 Reifsnnyder served as director of the Bureau's Office of Global Change, where he developed and implemented U.S. policy on global climate change. He played a key role in crafting a wide range of presidential initiatives, including the Asia Pacific Partnership on Clean Development and Climate, the Methane to Markets Partnership, the International Partnership for the Hydrogen Economy, the Group on Earth Observations and the Carbon Sequestration Leadership Forum. He was also instrumental in launching or reinvigorating 15 bilateral climate change agreements and in establishing the U.S. Climate Change Country Studies Program, the U.S. Initiative on Joint Implementation and the International Coral Reef Initiative. From 1989 to 2006, he helped shape the work of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change and co-chaired its Financial Task Team. He was alternate head of the U.S. delegation in negotiations that led to the U.N. Framework Convention on Climate Change.

Reifsnnyder served as Visiting Lecturer in Public and International Affairs at Princeton University's Woodrow Wilson School (1999-2000) and as a Research Fellow at Tufts University's Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy (2000-2001).

He was deputy director of the Bureau's Office of Cooperative Science and Technology Programs (1987-89) and Atlantic Desk Officer in the Office of Fisheries Affairs (1984-87). He came to the Department of State after 10 years with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration in progressively responsible positions. While at NOAA, Reifsnnyder helped negotiate the Pacific Salmon Treaty with Canada, the Convention on Future Multilateral Cooperation in the Northwest Atlantic and the Convention on Salmon Conservation the North Atlantic Ocean.

Reifsnnyder holds a J.D. degree from George Washington University (1981), an M.A. degree in Russian Area Studies from Georgetown University (1976) and an A.B. degree in political philosophy from Trinity College (CT) (1972). He studied at the Institut d'Etudes Politiques (Paris) from 1970-71 and at Leningrad State University (summer 1974). He is a member of the Virginia State Bar and the District of Columbia Bar and has been admitted to practice before the U.S. Supreme Court and the Court of Appeals for the 4th Circuit. He has received numerous awards, including the Department of State's Superior Honor and Meritorious Honor Awards. He has been a member of the Senior Executive Service since 1994 and in 2005 received the Presidential Meritorious Rank Award.

His languages are French and Russian.

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### MARTIN ROBARDS

Director, Arctic Beringia Program, Wildlife Conservation Society, Fairbanks, Alaska

Martin Robards is the Director of the Wildlife Conservation Society's Arctic Beringia Program. He earned his bachelor's degree in Marine Biology from Liverpool University (England), his master's degree in Fisheries Conservation from Memorial University of Newfoundland (Canada) and his Ph.D. from the University of Alaska. He is an avid explorer and accomplished marine ecologist and policy analyst who has worked extensively with indigenous communities and their representatives in the Arctic, particularly the Siberian Yupik communities of St. Lawrence Island in Alaska. Despite a penchant for the high latitudes,

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he has contributed to field research efforts on Egypt's Red Sea Coast, in the Bangladesh Sundarbans and around Tasmania. Robards also has worked for two years in Washington, D.C., informing policy makers about the challenges of implementing regional-scale policies concerning the conservation of marine mammals in remote subsistence-dominated environments. His goal is to encourage the development and implementation of conservation policies that are more responsive to new scientific understandings and the changes in ecological, social and economic conditions of the Arctic. He has published over 30 scientific articles, served as a reviewer for numerous scientific journals and is affiliate faculty with the University of Alaska.

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### IRINA YUR'EVNA RYABUKHINA

Head, Committee for Sports and Tourism, Chukotka Autonomous Okrug, Anadyr, Chukotka

Irina Ryabukhina is a graduate of Volgograd State University with a degree in literature management. She began her career in 1990 in Petropavlovsk-Kamchatskiy, where she worked at the children's day care center. From 1992 to 2003, Ryabukhina was a manager/executive director of the Customs Department, Director of the Department of Operational Work and advisor for the president of the Pacific Network Company. From 2003–2005, she was a chief specialist in customs processing and operational work at Ferguson Simek Clark Company in Anadyr. From 2005–2008, Ryabukhina served as a manager of customs processing at Ferguson Simek Clark International. Ryabukhina was appointed to her present position in 2008.

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### REBECCA TALBOTT

Chief of Interpretation and Education, Alaska Region, National Park Service, Anchorage, Alaska

Rebecca Talbott is a practitioner in the field of environment and natural resources management. Since 1984, she has worked across the public and private sectors, including federal and state government (principally the National Park Service and U.S. Forest Service), nonprofit organizations and foundations

and academic institutions. Her work has increasingly focused in the area of public/private partnerships and the engagement of broader constituencies in the stewardship of natural resources.

Talbott currently serves as the Chief of Interpretation and Education for the Alaska Region for the National Park Service Alaska Region. Previously she served for two years as the projects coordinator for the Shared Beringian Heritage Program, where she worked closely with the coordinators and researchers advancing our understanding and knowledge of this region.

Talbott earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Forestry from Oregon State University (1985). She was awarded a Loeb Fellowship at the Graduate School of Design, Harvard University (2000-2001) and completed a master's in environmental science and policy from the Kennedy School of Government, Harvard (2002).

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### MEAD TREADWELL

Lieutenant Governor, State of Alaska, Juneau, Alaska

Mead Treadwell was elected as Alaska's Lieutenant Governor in November 2010. Lt. Governor Treadwell places a priority in fulfilling his constitutional duties, supporting Alaska's governor and being accessible to Alaskans. He is committed to strengthening Alaska's economy by filling the trans-Alaska pipeline, helping get a gas pipeline built, bringing affordable energy to Alaskans and standing up to the federal government to ensure access to our natural resources. Treadwell brings a record of private and public sector success to the job of lieutenant governor. He is recognized as one of the world's Arctic policy experts.

Treadwell was appointed to the United States Arctic Research Commission by President George W. Bush in 2001 and designated by the President as the commission's chair in 2006. Under his leadership, a new United States Arctic Policy was developed and adopted by President Bush and is now being implemented by the Obama administration. Treadwell resigned from the commission in June 2010 after he filed to run for lieutenant governor.

## Speakers' Biographies

Treadwell also recently resigned as the chairman and chief executive officer of Venture Ad Astra, an Anchorage company, which invests in and develops new geospatial and imaging technologies. He helped launch a series of technology, manufacturing and service companies, two of which - Digimarc and Emberclear - trade on public stock exchanges.

Treadwell first came to Alaska as a teenager in 1974 and worked as a volunteer intern in Wally Hickel's office. It was the beginning of a friendship that lasted 38 years. After graduating from Yale, Treadwell moved to Alaska in 1978 and worked as lead political reporter for the ANCHORAGE TIMES. In 1980, he was part of a team of writers who won the Blethen Award, a top prize for investigative reporting in the Pacific Northwest. In 1982, after completing his MBA at the Harvard Business School, Treadwell joined former Governor Hickel and former Governor Bill Egan as founders of the Yukon Pacific Corporation, which started the all-Alaska gas pipeline project.

During the 1989 *Exxon Valdez* oil spill crisis, Treadwell went to Cordova and served as the city's director of spill response. He worked with Cordova citizens and Alaska's congressional delegation to launch the Prince William Sound Science Center, home of the Prince William Sound Oil Spill Recovery Institute. He also worked with Southcentral coastal communities, Congress and the oil industry to create the Prince William Sound Regional Citizens Advisory Committee.

When Wally Hickel was elected to his second term as Alaska's governor, he appointed Treadwell to serve as Deputy Commissioner of the Department of Environmental Conservation. Treadwell helped write Alaska's new environmental protection regulations and established the environmental crime unit for the state. He represented Alaska on the U.S. delegation that established the eight-nation Arctic Council, and supported Governor Hickel's establishment of the Northern Forum. Over the years, Treadwell has held leadership positions in a wide range of policy, professional, public service, governmental and international organizations. He served as a member of the board of the Alaska Science and Technology Foundation from 1994 to 1999 and helped establish the Kodiak

Launch Complex. Treadwell was elected a Fellow National of the Explorers Club in 2002 and chairs the North Pacific Alaska Chapter of the Club. He is past president of the Alaska World Affairs Council, the Japan America Society of Alaska and the Visual Arts Center of Alaska. As a founder of the Alaska State Chamber of Commerce Siberian Gateway Project, he worked to open the Alaska-Russia border in 1988. He has served as a board member of Commonwealth North, the Great Alaska Council of the Boy Scouts, the Healthy Alaska Natives Foundation and the Alaska-Siberia Research Center.

Treadwell was a Senior Fellow of the Institute of the North, an endowed public policy research program founded by Wally Hickel to focus on Alaska and Arctic natural resource issues, governance of public assets, geography and national security. His efforts there helped establish missile defense in Alaska and strengthened our alliance in this area with Japan.

With his late wife Carol, he has three children. In her memory, he served as president of the Millennium Society, an international charity that raises scholarship funds and has established a series of scholarships in science education for young people in Alaska.

## Speakers' Biographies

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### MARGARET WILLIAMS

Managing Director, U.S. Arctic Field Program, World Wildlife Fund, Anchorage, Alaska

Margaret Williams, Managing Director of World Wildlife Fund's U.S. Arctic Field program, leads a team of experts in climate change, wildlife biology, fisheries, oil, shipping and communications to implement an international conservation strategy for the Bering, Beaufort and Chukchi Seas. Williams has focused much of her efforts on Russian conservation issues for nearly 20 years. She founded and for 12 years edited Russian Conservation News, a quarterly journal on biodiversity conservation in Eurasia. Before joining World Wildlife Fund in 1997, Williams worked as a consultant to the World Bank on biodiversity projects in Russia and Central Asia. She graduated from Smith College and received a master's degree from the Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies. She is a lifetime member of the Council on Foreign Relations.

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### EDUARD VITALYEVICH ZDOR

Executive Secretary, Association of Traditional Marine Mammal Hunters of Chukotka, Anadyr, Chukotka

Eduard Zdor is the Executive Secretary of the Association of Traditional Marine Mammal Hunters of Chukotka. He represents hunters in international and regional forums and works closely with the Native community. Zdor has led the association in both regional meetings and international symposiums. He has traveled extensively throughout the Beringia region, both in Chukotka and Alaska, and has attended meetings in support of his organization's goals in every corner of the world.

He was elected by his colleagues to the position and has maintained the support of his constituency. Zdor has been involved in joint Alaska-Chukotka National Park Service projects as a partner and Principal Investigator for about 10 years. Zdor, as executive secretary of the Association of Traditional Marine Mammal Hunters of Chukotka, is required to represent the organization at

meetings and official functions. He represents the hunters by lobbying for more subsistence quotas, as well as developing relationships with other leaders and organizations. He has worked extensively with other indigenous groups in both Alaska and Chukotka and is an advocate for the benefits of shared indigenous knowledge and observation.

Before becoming head of the association, Zdor was the leading specialist at the Agriculture and Food Department at Chukotka Administration, Anadyr. Zdor studied economics at the Commercial School in Vladivostok and finished in April 1991. He also attended the Moscow Humanitarian University, where he completed studies in July 1988.

He is a partner in several Beringia Shared Heritage Program projects. This year Zdor will receive the David M. Hopkins Award, which recognizes Zdor's commitment to his people

