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Superintendent Named for Western Arctic Parklands

Frank Hays will move from one beach community to another next month, but the contrast could hardly be more striking as he departs Honolulu and heads to Kotzebue, Alaska, where he will take over as superintendent of four National Park Service areas.

Hays has been selected to lead the Western Arctic Parklands, comprised 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.

"Frank brings great management talent to his new position and we look forward to having him in Alaska," said Sue Masica, Alaska Regional Director.

Hays is currently the Pacific Area Director for the National Park Service, overseeing the NPS Pacific West Region's Honolulu office. This office provides technical services and policy oversight for the 11 national park areas in the Pacific. Before his current job, Frank was superintendent of Manzanar National Historic Site in California, where he oversaw operations of that national historic site that preserves and interprets the cultural and natural resources associated with the internment of Japanese-Americans during World War II.

"I'm excited to come to Alaska and work with the residents and visitors to the Western Arctic Parklands," Hays said.

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

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