Alaska Public Lands

What are public lands?
Public lands are areas set aside by Alaskans and the American people for a variety of purposes. The public entrusts state and federal agencies to regulate and protect these lands. Some public lands are designated as parks, forests, or refuges; others as wild rivers, historic areas, or wildlife sanctuaries. Public lands are areas set aside by Alaskans and the American people.

Why are public lands important?
Public lands in Alaska are home to amazing animals and entire ecosystems. They protect unique cultural and historical treasures. Alaska Natives and rural residents practice subsistence and traditional lifestyles in these places. Many public lands provide recreational opportunities unsurpassed anywhere else in the world.

What can I do on public lands?
You can hike, fish, camp, boat, bird, etc., watch wildlife, and experience the beauty of Alaska's natural resources in their pristine state. You can fish, pan for gold, gather firewood, climb, and snowmobile. The possibilities are endless.

Why should I care about public lands?
Alaska's public lands provide a backdrop for expanding our vision of ourselves and the world. They are windows to the past and investments in the future.

Alaska's Public Lands
Over 80% of Alaska's land is state and federal land.
Over half of the nation's national park acreage is found in Alaska.
The nation's two largest national forests reside in Alaska.
Alaska is home to over 50% of the nation's wildlife refuge acreage.