ISER to study recreation

The Institute of Social and Economic Research (ISER) of the University of Alaska is seeking to gather information from Alaskans about their recreational habits, needs, and attitudes.

The study will focus on the importance of hunting and fishing to Alaskans' personal livelihood and how these activities will be affected by change. The study is a cooperative effort of four government agencies: The National Park Service, U.S. Forest Service, U.S. Bureau of Land Management, and the Alaska State Parks Division as well as the University of Alaska and the University of Washington.

The study is intended to provide federal and state resource managers with "baseline data" on current recreational patterns. This, said ISER spokesman Susie Wolfer, will allow them to make comparisons in the future, and to have a solid basis for managing and planning.

The interviews will be conducted throughout the state in the months of May and June.