

## Department of Natural Resources

Anchorage, Alaska

## PRESS RELEASE

## STATE OF ALASKA

For Immediate Release: February 11, 2019

## Alaska State Parks welcomes first "Park Ambassador"

(Anchorage, AK) – In an effort to grow family-friendly opportunities and encourage more visitors to Alaska State Parks, the Division of Parks and Outdoor Recreation is introducing its first State Parks Ambassador program and volunteer Park Ambassador, Erin Kirkland of "AKontheGo."

As Park Ambassador, Kirkland will partner with Alaska State Parks in planning and promoting kid-friendly events and activities, showcasing the State Park system's resources for families and kids, and encouraging families to get outdoors.

"A partnership like this allows us to highlight all that our park areas hold for kids and families," said Matt Wedeking, operations manager of the Division of Parks and Outdoor Recreation. "I'm excited to see where this new partnership leads."

Kirkland is a freelance journalist, publishing the well-known family travel and outdoor website AKontheGO.com. She is the author of the "Alaska On the Go" guidebook series, and an avid supporter of Alaska's State Parks, especially for families.

"I'm thrilled to be working with State Park leadership to help more kids and parents discover what's possible in Alaska's State Park system," she said.

Kirkland and Alaska State Parks are currently planning a "Kids to Parks" event for May 18, 2019 and a Family Adventure Day in August. Follow "AKontheGO" and Alaska State Parks on Facebook and Instagram to stay updated on these events and more.

For more information on Alaska State Parks, visit our website: alaskastateparks.org or find us on Instagram, Facebook or Twitter.

CONTACT: Wendy Sailors, (907) 269-8738, wendy.sailors@alaska.gov